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Unwelcome Newspaper & T.V. Misrepresentation of Aycliffe

Dear Editor,
Through your newspaper I would like to state my shock and dismay to see the Western area of Newton Aycliffe denigrated in the Northern Echo and on the BBC Regional T.V. As one of the local County Councillors I, other community leaders and individuals were not approached or given the opportunity to offer an alternative view to the one presented. In my opinion these news articles were unwelcome and misrepresented the majority of good, productive

and law abiding people who live in this part of the town. The lead instigator Dorothy Bowman, although well intentioned, may have caused more damage to this community than the small number of individuals and families who cause the anti-social behaviour and disruption in the first place.

Mrs Bowman works hard within the local community to ensure it receives its fair share of support and resources, but by focusing Regional attention on sensational headlines such as likened to Channel 4, 'Shameless Estate' only reinforces an already struggling community with an unjustified poor image. Mrs Bowman would be better placed to work with the wider community and support the organisations that are striving to deliver positive outcomes for all residents.



County Councillor
Eddy Adam

employment support, youth work, private landlords and public realm improvements. A third meeting is planned along with estate walkabouts to identify and tackle troublesome tenants and absentee landlords. The Police have also played their part and have taken direct action through arrests, convictions and ASBO's to reduce unwanted behaviour by the small minority of individuals who make people's lives a misery.

Mrs Bowman claimed that 'a lack of funding' is partly to blame for social disorder and the poor environment however, since 2013 funding has been coordinated by local County Councillors Kate Hopper and I, through DCC, GAMP and supported by GATC, these organisations have injected over £50k into the West Division area providing essential resources and support to Schools, Community groups and Western area families who use these valuable services.

The partners have also delivered and supported environmental improvements to such areas as: West Park and the bridges, the removal of old unsightly flowerbeds replaced with daffodil and crocus bulbs including two new flower beds at Silverdale and Eskdale.

In my opinion, by talking the Western area down and amplifying the issues in the press and media exacerbates the situation and will only serve to drive good people away from this area. I would encourage residents to get involved, attend resident and PACT meetings and support the community events.

We all need to support this area, working in partnership, developing positive relationships, tackling head on anti-social behaviour and involving all in the community, this must be a better way to establish real change and improved outcomes for this area of the town.
Cllr Eddy Adam
Durham County Council
Aycliffe West Division
eddy.adam@durham.gov.uk
07900 701966

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I think it is important to provide your readers with a review of the work already going on within this vibrant well established community; Livin the social landlord have established a Western Area Group involving the local County Council Councillors, Police, Resident groups (including Mrs Bowman), and other local partners. They are tasked with looking at ways to tackle issues within the area e.g. anti-social behaviour,

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Garden Theft Mayor Opens Care Home Coffee Bar



Someone entered a garden in Langdale Place last week and stole a child's mushroom ornament house. The family are so disappointed having only moved to the town last September. If anyone has seen or knows anything please ring Kelly on 01325 493142.

High tea and home-made cakes were the order of the day as Rose Lodge Care Home celebrated the opening of a new on-site dementia friendly coffee bar.

The Mayor of Aycliffe Councillor Mrs Mary Dalton officially opened the new café, dubbed 'The Coffee Corner', with a ribbon cutting before joining residents and staff at the home for a chat over tea and cakes.

Diane Tweddle, Activities Coordinator at Rose Lodge who organised the tea party, said: "Residents and staff had a wonderful morning with the Mayor, enjoying tea and cakes while having a lovely chat. We're very proud of our new Coffee Corner."

After a successful opening of a tea room at the home last year proved popular with residents and families, the home decided



to create a new dementia-friendly café for those living in their specialised dementia care unit and their visitors.

The aim of the Coffee Corner is to provide a place where family and friends can enjoy a 'cuppa' and a chat with their loved one in a relaxed setting

with the charm and atmosphere of a contemporary coffee shop where they can help themselves to the self-serve tea and coffee making facilities.

Rose Lodge Home Manager Nicola Wheatley Said: "We feel it's important for families to feel at home here and our self-serve coffee shops are a lovely place for them to socialise with their loved ones where they can help themselves to a cup of tea, just as they would do if they were visiting a relative at home."

"Our new coffee bar is a fantastic new addition to our home for our residents with dementia and is somewhere that they can enjoy visiting while being in a familiar environment where they feel comfortable and safe. We've had great feedback from residents and visitors."

Bereavement Group Launched



Last month saw the launch of the Rubicon Bereavement Support Group at St. Elizabeth's Church, Woodham. The group has been formed by Jan Carr, Lay Minister with the Church of England, to meet the needs of the many bereaved families she meets through the privilege of conducting funerals in the town.

Sooner or later grief comes to everyone, it is no respecter of persons and at the Rubicon, our team of caring people from all walks of life are ready to welcome you and offer support. You may have family and friends to help you through your bereavement but you may also long for someone outside your immediate circle, with the same broken emotional ties, to share your sense of sorrow with.

Your loss may be recent, or you may still feel the emptiness of a bereavement of many years ago and although we are not a counselling service, we can, over a cup of coffee, offer you a listening ear and support in your journey of healing. We meet every Thursday at St Elizabeth's Church Hall between 2pm and 4pm. The No. 7 bus (opposite the Leisure Centre) will drop you at Woodham Green and a short walk up the footpath will bring you to St. Elizabeth's.

If public transport is difficult for you, ring Jan Carr on 01325 321225 or Ernie Temple on 01325 313449, when we will be happy to arrange alternative

travel for you. Hospitality and support are free of charge, a donation of £1 for refreshments will be gratefully accepted.

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Saturday 14th May - "Captain Rock"

They are back! Without doubt the band people have missed the most, are getting together for a few gigs, and wanted one to be here, where they had some awesome performances, this could be the last time so don't miss the one and only 'Captain Rock'.

Gig Pit Review: "Decided to take it easy and drive to The Turbinia in Newton Aycliffe last night to watch Steve, Lewthy, Al and Marky aka 'Captain Rock'. Anyway, I missed most of the first Half . . . what I did see I'll come back to. The second half was a typical CR performance. Steve's a good sound engineer and he had the mix pretty much spot on with it not being too loud and everything cutting through well. The pub was pretty full and the crowd up for some Christmas shennanigans (a Captain Rock thing). Lots of wandering into the crowd, guest appearances galore, standing on chairs, playing the other guitarists guitar with your own baldy head. They even did a couple of Christmas songs at the end getting the crowd to participate. Back to the first set. Despite all the carry on and showmanship that gets the crowd going, 'Captain Rock' are four very good musicians, playing some very good music. Al and Mikey are solid as a rock at the back, Steve's got a great voice and Lewthy's playing is getting better all the time. To prove the point, I'd have to describe 'astronomy' by Blue Oyster Cult which is always the last song of the first set. It has everything in it. It's a long song but it keeps your interest from start to finish with it's highs and lows. Brilliantly executed by the band and undoubtedly the best song of the night"

Saturday 21st May - "Balls of Steel"

For more information on bands go to
www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034
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CHURCHES TOGETHER

Sunday 15th May: Pentecost Sunday, Ecumenical Service in Harvest Church, 3.00pm. All welcome.

Thursday 19th May: Annual General Meeting, 7.00pm, St. Mary's Meeting Room.

20th/21st May: Bucket Collection in Tesco for Christian Aid.

Thursday 26th May: Ecumenical Quiz Night and Pie & Pea Supper, 7.00pm, Xcel Centre.

Aycliffe Village Heritage Centre

Once again St. Andrew's Church at Aycliffe Village throws open the doors each Thursday - 2 to 4pm, starting in May and until the end of September.

If like many you have passed through the village, noticed the church and said you must visit that old church - now is your chance, it is a lovely church; I can assure you.

The original church was built in Saxon times and much of the Saxon stonework is still visible. There are few finer places to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, in pleasant surroundings than this beautiful old church of St. Andrew's.

Take time to look at some of the old tombstones in the old churchyard while you are here or simply steep yourself in the history of the church and its parish.

Stewards will be available to answer any questions or give you a guided tour. Group visits can be arranged at other times. For more information contact D. Herbert 01235 300040

Greenfield Family Fun Day

May Half Term will host our FREE Story Makers Family Fun Day at Greenfield Arts, Newton Aycliffe on Wednesday 1st June 11am - 2pm. Come and join us for a wonderful day celebrating our love of stories and some brilliant creations from Greenfield Community College students. Join in lots of fantastic activities creating your own stories, make mechanical puppets and receive your free kit bag to take home. All are welcome with refreshments and entertainment available, booking not necessary. Don't forget we also have two FREE 'Crazy Craft' sessions available with artist Dawn Belshaw on Thursday 2nd June at the Foundations building in Shildon and Friday 3rd June at the Moore Lane Eco Centre in Newton Aycliffe. Suitable for all ages, under 8's must be accompanied by an adult, booking essential. For more information please speak with a member of our team on 01325 379048 or info@greenfield-arts.co.uk.

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Rev. Debbie Loughran and Rev. Elizabeth Bland
Telephone: 01325-310767 or Telephone: 01325-324622
Website: www.parishofgreataycliffe.co.uk
Methodist Church
Neville Parade & Burnhill Way
Minister: Andrew Bryer - Telephone: 01388-7778207
E-mail: andrew.bryer@methodist.org.uk
Harvest Christian Church Woodham
Pastor Geoff Walvin - Telephone: 01325-308284
Website: www.harvestchristiancentre.
Xcel Church
Aycliffe Business Park
Pastor John Greenow - Telephone: 01325-329500
Website: www.xcelchurch.com

M.P. Phil Shares Concern of Students on Animal Welfare



Children at St Francis Primary School wrote to MP Phil Wilson, to express their concern and sadness that some hens are kept in confined conditions, unable to roam freely. After reading the children's individual letters, Phil was so moved he decided to visit the school to talk to the students about the issue of battery hens. Whilst at the school the children told Phil that they did not think animals should be kept in such small cages, and that they deserved to be able to wander around freely to enjoy their lives. The children also told Phil about all the animals they had seen both in school and out of school, with some children lucky enough to have visited the Pandas at Edinburgh Zoo. During his visit the children also asked Mr Wilson about his job, and what an MP does. Mr Wilson explained to them that he represents all the people that live in Newton Aycliffe and the rest of Sedgefield Constituency in Parliament. He also said a very important part of his job was being able to help his constituents should they have any problems, which is why he has an office in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre. Commenting on his visit Phil said, "It is always great to visit a school and discuss an issue. It is brilliant to see they are both interested in, and care about, the welfare of animals. Ms Lakey has a class of very caring and compassionate students."

Have a Say on Local Issues

Residents in Great Aycliffe & Middridge can find out how local issues are being tackled when the local area action partnership holds their AGM and board meeting later this month. The GAMP Board will be meeting on Tuesday 17 May 2016, between 6pm and 8pm, at Woodham Community Centre, and members of the public are invited to go along to observe proceedings. Local people can also raise any neighbourhood issues that they would like the Board to address. These need to be put in writing and sent in advance of the meeting. The Board will be receiving an update presentation on the Wellbeing for Life programme at the meeting. Anyone who would like to attend the Board meeting should register in advance by ringing 01325 327441, or by emailing gampaap@durham.gov.uk

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Honest John Donations

Honest John has donated cash from his Community Kitty to We-Can Parents Group of £300; Aycliffe Boxing Club £500 and Aycliffe Rugby Club £600. John thanks DISC, his helper Val and all supporters who donate and buy goods from his shop.

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Williamfield Complainant Justifies her Actions

Dear Sir,
You asked me to justify my reasons for bringing attention to this area. We hold a residents' meeting every second Wednesday of each month BUT RESIDENTS ARE AFRAID TO ATTEND AS THEY HAVE BEEN CALLED 'GRASSES' and had their houses 'Egged' and windows broken with abuse shouted at them.
Father Christmas was pelted with beer cans and a youngster brandished a machete in the street. We have drunken brawls, drug raids which have been much more frequent over the past few months.
There are many, many good and caring people in this area but there are quite a lot of people who couldn't care less, allowing their gardens to be untidy and their children/young people to run wild and cause aggravation to residents. There has been no money spent on the immediate Williamfield area for three years. The County Councillors may have spent money in the West Ward but not Williamfield.
I would like it known I DID NOT LABEL THIS AREA



"SHAMELESS" likening it to a TV. SHOW - THIS WAS A LOCAL RESIDENT. As Chairperson of Williamfield Residents group I receive complaints from people regarding the untidiness, anti social behaviour in the immediate area.
I have always passed the complaints on but for the last two years the area has just declined. People have moved out and houses have remained empty and until recently LIVIN have been unable to let these houses. Now that there is a permanent housing/community officer from LIVIN who is accessible and helpful, things are gradually going to change.
If more attention had been given to the area and it hadn't been allowed to deteriorate to the extent it has and action had been taken by the County Council on properties belonging to private landlords, there would have been no need for me to take action.
I can assure you all that if this area is not brought back to the same standard as other areas of the town I will have no hesitation to continue my protest.
There was going to be a Day Of Action organised towards the end of May but this has been cancelled because the Fire Service could not attend. Surely it could have gone ahead and then people would maybe realise the partners, who could make a difference, really meant it.
Dorothy Bowman

Swimathon Aids Local Charities



The annual Swimathon organised by Rotary and Lion Clubs in the area was held at Spennymoor Leisure Centre last Sunday. Teams from local organisations swam in relay in competition for the most lengths swum in 55 minutes and for the highest sponsorship money raised for charity.
Monies raised are shared between the main charity, which this year was SSAFA, and the Swimming Team's own nominated good cause or for their own club funds. The event always has a great atmosphere as swimmers take to the water aiming to beat their record last year.
Chairman Gordon Howe from Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club, thanks all those who took part and supported the swimmers, not forgetting the volunteers who helped with lane counting, selling raffle tickets and the general administration. He looks forward to seeing many more teams taking part next year.



Bewick Crescent Surgery Team with supporters



Newton Aycliffe Boys Brigade

KEEPING THE PUBLIC INFORMED

Dear Sir,
I haven't written to a newspaper before but I would like to mention a few things.
In your edition of the Newton News w/e 29th April 2016 I noticed that Wilmott Dixon propose to build 450 houses on the former Equestrian Centre site and there is to be a public hearing at the Agnew Community Centre on the 24th May with no time given. Contacting the Agnew Centre I am informed this Hearing has been cancelled and they have no information on an alternative date. They are not given prominence? Perhaps it might be an idea for all planning applications to be listed in your paper on a weekly basis so that the public have the chance to comment on such matters. The Council are unlikely to shout it from the rooftops and the housing presently under construction adjacent to the Agnew Centre is a prime example.
I only found out about that consultation when I went along to vote a short time before. If I remember rightly, you yourselves were not aware of the consultation until the last moment when you printed it only a few days before the meeting. Residents living nearby had not been notified either. If the Council are not forthcoming we could do with our local paper pursuing such matters on our behalf as in order to object/comment on matters we need to know about them in the first place.
When is enough - enough? Surely with all the new houses at Cobblers Hall, the 125 at Agnew and the prospect of hundreds more between Aycliffe and Middridge not to mention the possibility of yet more near the A167 and some on the golf course! We do not need another 450 and I don't know if that includes the playing fields that Woodham Academy were looking to sell off.
Newton Aycliffe's infrastructure certainly can't cope. Just try getting a parking space when you have to visit the Doctor at Cobblers Hall and parking in the Town is getting more difficult. Whilst looking for further information on this matter I came across an application for a replacement of the telecommunications mast at Woodham Way. It is proposed that the 11.7m high monopole be replaced by one at 12.5m high (three feet in my 'language') which is quite a jump as well as the installation of 3 no equipment cabinets and associated development.
It is not clear whether these cabinets are extra or replacements but there are already eight cabinets of some sort and a second mast already in place. They are not painted green to blend in with the surroundings and are an eyesore standing alone on the verge when lamp posts are green. How does the public become aware of these things if they are tucked away on websites? Not everyone has a computer nor the time to trawl. I am sure the people in the properties nearby won't be best pleased.
We need someone fighting our corner and your newspaper is just the tool we need. We need to be able to look at the Newton News and see at a glance what is being proposed and how it will affect us in order to have our say. With regard to the public hearing, how are people meant to comment - where are the plans, you cannot voice opinions without first seeing what is proposed and certainly not just at the Hearing itself.
A previous application on this site was turned down because it would have meant access onto the A167 which was considered dangerous (today must be worse), so on that basis where would access be now - through a current estate?
I might be an old pensioner with nothing better to do, but it would be appreciated if you could follow up such matters and advise the community of what is going on in and around their Town. Starting first with prominent information on the proposed development of 450 houses and the revised Public Hearing date and time (hopefully not the afternoon as in the case of the houses adjacent to the Agnew Centre when people are at work). If I hadn't contacted the Agnew Centre, I would be turning up with nobody there!
Jennifer Whatley
PS: A former neighbour of mine who has moved away has said that what she misses most is the Newton News.

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Speeding on Meadowfield

Dear Sir,
I'm contacting you to raise awareness of speeding on a daily basis on the Meadowfield stretch of road between Burnhill Way and Greenfield Way
Over the 16 sixteen years I've lived in Hareson Road people speed along this road aggressively. I have seen speed traps along Burnhill Way but never along Meadowfield Way.
The only reason someone hasn't died is the length of the road so people can see right down it, but still don't know why the police have never patrolled it.
Graeme Parry

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UK Safer, Stronger, and More Prosperous, Outside EU

Dear Sir,
On the 23 June we will go to the polls with the chance to take back control of our country – and stop being told what to do by un-elected and unaccountable foreign bureaucrats.
For too long, we have been a member of this diminishing European club - a club that doesn't serve our interests or listen to our demands.
On 72 occasions since 1996, we have opposed EU policy in the Council of Ministers. On all 72 occasions, we have been outvoted. This statistic proves what pitiful influence we have as a member of the EU.
The message from the Brexit side is very simple. The UK will be safer, stronger, and more prosperous, outside of the EU.
We want to bring back control of our borders and create fairer immigration system that treats people equally, regardless of where they come from in the world.
We don't want open borders with 500 million EU citizens, not to mention the additional 77 million Turks who are set to be granted free movement within the EU - nor do we want to discriminate against Commonwealth citizens, or those from other parts of the world, who find it difficult to come here because of our discriminatory migration

policy.
Instead, we need an Australian-style point's based system so we can control who comes and who goes at our ports.
We want to stop sending £350 million a week to Brussels - and instead put that money towards supporting our schools, hospitals, police and brave armed forces, to name just a few. British taxpayers' money should be spent, or saved, in a way that is decided by elected Britons - and on our own priorities.
The recent budget highlighted the willingness of the government to inflict yet more austerity on the British people. We should all be asking ourselves - what could we do with the £55 million a day we currently give to the EU?
How much public investment, or how many tax cuts for hard-working families, could we introduce if we had control of our own purse strings.
We also want to make our own laws in our own Parliament. The British people should be able to elect a government that has the power to make, amend, and scrap legislation. That same population should have the power to vote in a good Government, and vote out a bad one. This is the definition of a parliamentary democracy.

But, while we remain a member of this unreformed European Union, 75% of our laws will be made abroad, where un-elected officials have the sole power to propose and scrap legislation. At the same time, we should also have the power to sign our own trade deals - trade deals that would boost jobs and investment in the United Kingdom, whilst establishing trade links and relationships the world over.
So, the time has come for us to rejoin the wider world and have a truly global outlook. We are the fifth largest global economy, the second most important defence player within NATO, a country with an incredible history and a fantastic future.
A UK outside of the EU would still be a permanent member of the UN Security Council, be America's strongest and closest ally, retain our seat in the G7 and the G20, and remain at the fore front of the Commonwealth of Nations.
Far from being a leap into the dark, as the 'remain' camp would have you believe, the United Kingdom leaving the European Union would be a leap into the light - into a more prosperous, brighter, global future.
I believe we are good enough, strong enough and significant enough - do you?
John Grant

Aycliffe Entrepreneur Opens Cycle Business



Centre Technician Darran Weston

A new bicycle shop and repair centre opened last weekend in Chilton which promises to offer an unrivalled cycle repair service including full bike repairs to all makes, powder coating of frames as well as anodising and chrome plating renewal.
A 'box supplied' bike assembly service is also available as well as safety checks to new builds and a selection of service plans from £25 (quotes will be supplied for parts before the work is carried out).
The shop will carry a comprehensive range of parts from major manufacturers and suppliers including wheels, tyres, chains etc. On display will be a range of child and adult cycles as well as a selection of road and race bikes for the more discerning rider.
Aycliffe residents, Paul Whiting, the owner, and his Manager Darran Weston are able to supply bikes from economy range to "super" bikes for professionals.
Chilton Cycles and Repair Centre are road and race bike specialists and boast over 30 years experience in the cycling repair trade. Come and talk to our experts before you buy, our advice is free. Discounts are available for Armed Forces, British Cycling members, Benefit claimants. The centre hopes to start a loyalty club as well as helping customers save for that special bike via a Christmas/Savings Club.
Science in Sport (SIS) is very important to serious riders and Chilton Cycles aim to carry a range of nutritional products for cyclists. If you have a favourite food you would like them to stock, let them know.
Darran, the Centre Technician is planning to hold adult bike workshops as well as night rides and guided day rides in the future. If you are interested please contact him on 01388 720371 or email darran@chiltoncycles.co.uk.
The cycle centre website is www.chiltoncycles.co.uk

RE-ELECTED POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

Ron Hogg has been re-elected as Police and Crime Commissioner for County Durham and Darlington. In yesterday's election Ron, the Labour Party candidate, received 63% of the vote.
Commenting on the result, Ron Hogg said: 'I am delighted to have been re-elected as Police and Crime Commissioner for County Durham and Darlington. The increased share of the vote is a fantastic endorsement of what we have achieved over the past four years.
"There are considerable challenges going forward and it is my intention to hold Durham Constabulary to account so that it remains the best police force in the country for as long as possible. This will require a lot of hard work, much of which is already in train. We will need to work with our partner organisations during this



continuing period of austerity to ensure that high quality services are maintained. I look forward to working on behalf of local people to support victims of crime and anti-social behaviour, and to ensure we have an outstanding police force to help keep communities safe."
Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary, Mike Barton, said: "I would like to offer my warm congratulations to Ron and I very much look forward to working with him to ensure we deliver the best possible police service for the people of County Durham and Darlington."
The number of votes cast for each candidate was as follows:
Ron Hogg (Labour): 50,915
Peter Cuthbertson (Conservative): 18,797
Craig Martin (Lib Dem): 10,060
Rejected votes: 1,569
Turnout: 17.7% (2012: 14.7%)

Tap Into The Newton News

Newton News reported Tap Dancing classes starting at Neville Parade Methodist Church and 16 people turned up for the first session, including two men.
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Airing Dirty Linen in Public Probation Service Ruins Town Nature Trail

The Northern Echo, featured former Councillor Dorothy Bowman, who said the Williamfield area is plagued by bad tenants and anti-social behaviour.

The heavy criticism might have been better aired locally through Newton News as the Northern Echo has a poor circulation in the town.

Our regional newspaper's report gave the town a bad name, but then the story was picked up by BBC TV who interviewed Dorothy, giving this problem, (perpetrated by a very small minority), a much bigger exposure over the whole north east.

These sort of complaints only gain publicity because they are sensational and then give the general impression the whole town suffers from problems caused by a few, which is totally untrue!

Generally speaking Aycliffe is a great place to live and has one of the lowest crime rates in the country. We have to accept there are people who cause a nuisance and we have to rely on our local police and the courts to deal with them.

The Ward Councillors are disappointed with the way this was tackled, bringing the Williamfield area and the



Western area Community Centre



Area around Silverdale Shop

whole town into disrepute. Showing the Western Area Community Centre as "Fort Knox" protected by steel shutters did not come across

well either. The police are fully aware of problems caused by a few families, but we all hate to see the whole area denigrated. Perhaps Dorothy didn't contact Newton News because we do not feature items of this nature which publicise the actions of a minority. Readers will recognise we tend mostly to print good news stories.

Newton News spoke to a lady who moved to Aycliffe 66 years ago, who never regrets it, as she loves the flowers, trees and open aspects of the town. "You will find there is a minority causing trouble in most towns and they cannot be allowed to spoil it for their neighbours" said the elderly resident.

Most residents will confirm that comparatively speaking Newton Aycliffe is a nice place to live with good neighbours, a pleasant environment with most of us enjoying a happy life.

Dear Sir,
I got a shock today when the Probation Services had people out litter picking and grass strimming the nature trail by the old railway line at Jowett Way/Simpasture gate area. You would think they were doing a good job - WRONG!

Seven years ago the Town Council planted hundreds of brambles and saplings along the trail to help nature, and

then people on probation come along and started strimming all the newly planted saplings, elder and bramble bushes.

Last week they were there again cutting down the very same area again after years of growth.

I asked them what they think they were doing and got a reply that the County Council had said they could litter pick and cut grass. But this land does not

Aycliffe's Front Line NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

By T/Inspector Mark J Edwards



Mark Edwards here again folks and as I write this report it's a pretty nice sunny morning in Newton Aycliffe, hopefully this is the build up to a glorious summer (if the reports are to be believed!).

Anti-Social Behaviour

I am sure many of you will have seen the recent media attention with regards to the Horndale area, with sensationalist comparisons been made to a certain fictitious televised housing estate. The issues highlighted consisted of anti-social behaviour, activities of unruly tenants, littering and rubbish disposal, amongst other things. I would like to take the opportunity this forum allows me to provide an update from a Policing perspective - a 20 second piece to camera on 'Look North' didn't quite capture the full scale of work ongoing in the area.

Firstly, as the Neighbourhood Inspector for the Newton Aycliffe area, I do not underestimate the impact that the behaviour and issues described have on local residents. The Neighbourhood Policing Team have been engaged with our partners and local councillors for some time working to address the problems.

A multi-agency group was established - that I am part of, and meets regularly to discuss, implement, review and refine strategies and is made up of NPT Officers, representatives from 'LIVIN' Housing, Durham County Council, and County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service. Community Walkabouts have taken place in the area, there has been enforcement action taken against those engaged in anti-social behaviour which has seen the imposition of a Criminal Behaviour Order against one youth, and another who was made subject of an anti-social behaviour order.

There are engagement events planned for the near future and details will be publicised very soon. In the meantime I would like to try and reassure residents that there is much work ongoing behind the scenes between partners and whilst - on the surface, it may seem little progress is being made, the reality of the situation is that many things are taking place.

I am not a lover of stats as a rule however I would like to add that anti-social behaviour levels for Newton Aycliffe as a whole in May so far have been significantly lower than in May last year. In fact - at this time, they are down by 27%, and the current figures for Greenfield and Middridge Ward are currently the greatest in terms of recorded incidents with a 46% reduction in comparison to last year. That's the boring stats out of the way.

Crime and Community Safety

Crime and Community Safety was voted in as a priority for the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP) AAP to focus upon for the year 2016/2017. For those not in the know Area Action Partnerships (AAP's) were set up to give people in County Durham a voice in influencing local matters. The local GAMP AAP board meets a number of times a year and consists of a number of elected members who discuss and review how the AAP is performing against identified priorities whilst managing spending through project approval and evaluation, and working with other partners - the board is made up of elected members from Durham County Council, the GATC, health, Fire, and Police.

Usually there are around 3 priorities identified per year for the AAP to address, with each one having its own Task group established as an 'off-shoot' from the main AAP board itself. At this time the local Neighbourhood Policing Team are working with several local educational establishments working to understand why many young people (who made up a large percentage of the votes) deem crime and community safety an issue.

The group will meet regularly to discuss local issues around this priority and to help implement projects within the area. If you have ideas for projects which relate to this priority, we would like to hear from you. To find out more about GAMP follow the link <http://www.durham.gov.uk/gampaap> or follow them on Facebook. #respectyourstreet

Quite a punchy hashtag don't you think? But it's more than that - it's Durham Constabulary's awareness campaign in the arena of criminal damage. When we talk about volume crime, crimes of damage make up a significant percentage and - certainly from a Neighbourhood perspective, it's important to us that we bring home the consequences of engaging in reckless acts.

A one-off reckless act when young (such as throwing a stone through a window) can have an impact later in life in terms of job opportunities, overseas holidays to countries with strict restrictions in terms of offending history. #respect your street hopes to heighten awareness and hammer home the impact that criminal damage has - education is key. This isn't just specific to Newton Aycliffe - it's County wide, so if you do the whole social media thing check out the hashtag on Twitter and get a flavour of where we're coming from.

Think this report is quite a lengthy this time so I'll bid you all goodbye now...until next time.

Mark J Edwards
Newton Aycliffe Neighbourhood Inspector



belong to the County Council, so I called Great Aycliffe Town Council to inform them what was happening and they too were as shocked as I was.

Why do the Probation Services think it's ok to cut down saplings along a nature trail without permission? They

guilty of gross negligence and criminal damage!

Not a sapling was left standing, brambles totally decimated, and harborage for the birds now gone!

Brian Sowerby
Neighbourhood Watch
Coordinator Simpasture area.

Town Council Takes Action

Steve Cooper, Works and Environment Manager at Great Aycliffe Town Council was made aware of this issue by Mr Sowerby and immediately visited the site, upon arrival there was no operatives present.

Consent had not been given by the Council to work on Town Council land in this area. A request was made to the Probation Service Office to immediately cease any works on Great Aycliffe Town Council land of this nature until permission is sought; and a request was also made to meet with Probation Service Management.

TOWN CENTRE ATTACK

Dear Sir,

I write to inform you that my wife was assaulted in the town centre on Friday last. Walking down the steps from the Leisure Centre towards Greenwell Road a person with special needs leaving the centre and unsupervised, lashed out at her, leaving her shocked and with a sore arm. The accompanying staff apologised and offered the excuse "she is special needs". Investigations indicated the group responsible were from Darlington and seemed to think that by saying the perpetrator had special needs, excused the attack.

I related this tale to acquaintances and surprisingly learned this was not an isolated incident and it would be interesting to hear about other similar instances of lack of supervision.

Thankfully my wife was not badly injured but had she been smaller or a child the outcome may have been far more serious. The time has come to debate whether enough supervision is available to allow potential violent people into the community where the unsuspecting public are in danger of assault.

A telephone complaint has been made to the organisation responsible and also to the police.

Ken Robson

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Pizza, Garlic Bread & Fruit Salad for Tea

Messy Church at St. Clare's continues to celebrate, with MESSY 'PENTECOST PRAISE' on May 21st in both the church and halls. We will have a bouncy castle to jump for joy on, fruit salad making, painting, foam fun and lots more to enjoy. Come along and make a kite to fly outside and learn more about the fruits of the spirit.

Following the fun of the afternoon their will be a tea of Pizza and garlic bread for all to enjoy with the healthy fruit salad made earlier. Messy Church is lively, fun and engaging and we welcome you to come and experience this wonderful way of meeting with and learning about Jesus.

Registration is from 3.30pm and all those wishing to secure a place for the Messy Pilgrimage to the seaside on July 9th can do so by bringing their £2 contribution to this or the next session. Places are limited so as soon as possible please!

TOTS TIME TODDLER GROUP 1st BIRTHDAY



Tots Time Toddler Group celebrates its 1st birthday this week with a visit from Jet and Ben the police dogs and a nice big birthday cake! The group runs on a Wednesday afternoon from 1.30-3pm during term time and costs £2.50 for your first child and 50p for each additional children, and is open to children aged from birth to their 5th birthday. Over the last 12 months children and their parents/carers have enjoyed activities such as Whoops Lifesaving skills, Caribbean dancing, Music Bugs, relaxation and energising tips, cake decorating and a petting zoo. Diane has been bringing her grandson Archie to Tots Time since the first session and says "Tots Time is never

dull or repetitive, the children have a different activity or theme each week which range from walks in the garden or woods to messy play with paint and glue". Tots Time is delivered at the Pioneering Care Centre by trained and DBS checked staff and volunteers with experience of working with children and who provide activities to help children develop both socially and cognitively. "Archie has progressed by learning to play with children of his own age in a friendly and safe environment" says Diane. If you would like more information please contact her grandson Archie to Tots Time since the first session on 01325 321234 or email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net

DISABLED GROUP VISITS LIVERPOOL

The Options group based at the Pioneering Care Centre recently had a trip to Liverpool, offering them a unique opportunity to explore a new city that many of them hadn't been to before.

Options members are given the opportunity to go on various excursions throughout the year and this time they voted to go to Liverpool.

The members also chose which activities they wanted to do in the city which included seeing Thriller Live, visiting to the Albert Dock, Liverpool One shopping centre and the Liverpool Wheel. They also stopped off for something to eat at the Pump House.

One of the Options participants said "We had a fab weekend and I can't wait for our next Options trip away."

Options is a high quality person-centred service providing a way for disabled people to have more control over their lives and participate more fully in the community in which they live.

Social care workers refer disabled people into the service which offers daily support and opportunities to enable them to achieve their personal goals. Options members develop personal development plans which can include access to education, training, leisure, volunteering and employment. An Options Social Club which takes place every Thursday from 6pm also within the Pioneering Care Centre is open to all disabled adults and



includes hydrotherapy pool sessions, table tennis, bingo and internet access.

For further information contact the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF tel: 01325 321234 email: options@pcp.uk.net website: www.pcp.uk.net Or find PCP on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: /PCPandCentre



£600,000 Face-lift for Woodham Academy

Work is set to start on a year-long schedule of improvements at Woodham Academy.

The school have received £600,000 from the Education Funding Agency to repair the roof on a number of buildings on the site including the main hall and the Learning Centre.

Contractors, Hodgson Sayers who have previously worked with the Academy, will be carrying out the work due to start at half term and continue until September. The roof work is designed to protect the school facilities and improve insulation to increase heating efficiency.

Further maintenance work as part of the funding bid include water improvements. Work on the school's water system will increase water quality and improve the flow and efficiency of water. Work will begin in the summer term and is set to last until the autumn.

Marketing Company Moves to Aycliffe

A North East Marketing company is celebrating its latest expansion with a move into new offices in Newton Aycliffe and a brand new look. Newton Aycliffe based May Green Marketing was created by Sarah Smallwood after many years' experience in high level marketing for various national and international corporations. Since its conception May Green Marketing has grown from strength to strength after winning a succession of contracts with local businesses, resulting in a move to new offices and the launch of their new brand image.

Sarah said: "I have been very lucky to have been involved in many aspects of Marketing throughout my career, from PR to the latest digital developments and rising trends of social media and blogging. This ensures we are providing our clients with the best possible service they require". Sarah added: "Through a dedication to providing a first class

marketing service and demonstrating value to our clients we have experienced a high level of loyalty from our clients along the way. Now that we have located to Aycliffe Business Park in Newton Aycliffe and we are looking forward to continuing the momentum"

May Green Marketing's clients are also safe in the knowledge that they are in capable hands. Sarah's comprehensive marketing experience spans over 20 years and includes managing and overseeing the marketing for several global firms.

May Green Marketing are a fully serviced Marketing company offering Marketing, Digital Marketing, Website Design, Social Media Management, PR, Graphic Design, Event Planning and Training throughout the North East of England and Yorkshire. For more information on May Green Marketing please visit www.maygreenmarketing.co.uk



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SSAFA at Swimathon Costly & Needless By Election



left to right: SSAFA Volunteers :Greta Hamilton, Liz Wilson, James Hutchinson, Brian Wilson, Carol Hutchinson

As SSAFA ("The Armed Forces Charity") are the chosen charity of The Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe for 2016, SSAFA volunteers supported the Rotary Club's annual swimathon at Spennymoor Leisure Centre on Sunday 8th May 2016. Pictured are SSAFA volunteers and caseworkers, including SSAFA's youngest helper James Hutchinson, 16, who has recently passed Army selection at Glencorse. James is from a military family who moved to Newton Aycliffe

in 2005, by which time James had already lived in York, Colchester, Crawley, Germany and Catterick. James is a former pupil of St Francis CE School and Greenfield Arts and Community College and is currently studying for his A Levels at QE.

James will attend the Army Foundation College Harrogate from September 2016 and hopes eventually to join the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME). He will be the third generation of his family to join the Army, as his father Paul ('Hutch') served 22 years with REME, his grandfather served with 19/21 Lancers and his grandmother with the WRAC.

SSAFA's attendance at the swimathon was mainly to raise awareness of the charity but the volunteers also raised £55.86, and had a case referred on the day. Anyone who would like to support the military community, or knows any veterans or forces/ex-forces families in the area who may be in need of SSAFA's help, should contact the Divisional Secretary, David Hamilton on 01388 827346.

Costly & Needless By Election

Cllr Arun Chandran Secretary of the controlling Labour Group on Great Aycliffe Town Council responds to UKIP letter:

Dear Sir,
I thank John Grant for his recent letter on the By-Election due to a resignation. Councillor Ray Bowman had been suffering ill health for some time and had not attended council meetings since 28th October last year. I visited Ray and discussed various options in his and the public interest. Ray agreed to apply for a leave of absence and to not claim his allowance. This would have prevented a costly by election (the last one cost the Council taxpayer £9,210 and inconvenienced some schools for the day) however the next day I received an email from Ray's wife Dorothy Bowman which reads as follows:

"Raymond has told me that you have asked him to sign a letter asking for 6 months leave of absence and to forfeit his allowance. Please do not call and ask him to sign as he does not wish to sign it when I have

explained the reasons not to. If he does anything it will be to stand down from the council which will cause a by-election but at the moment he is going to leave things as they are. Attending when he can, working/helping at the community house which he does a lot.
Regards Dorothy"
6th February.

I was rather surprised that Ray could attend the community house with his wife "a lot" but not attend a few minutes at a Council meeting to prevent a costly By Election. Following further discussion with Ray who still did not attending Council meetings, I gave him a prepared letter of resignation but post dated it a month ahead. This was with his agreement, just in case he wanted to change his mind, even though he was sure at the time that he wished to resign and create a By Election.

Once the 30th March arrived I handed in his signed letter of resignation which took immediate effect. As you now

know His wife Dorothy and 9 other signatories then formally called for a costly and totally avoidable By Election which leaves no other choice open.

Whilst I am fully in favour of democracy, which you as Editor so succinctly put it in a recent editorial, it wasn't vital to have a By Election. Ray as a Councillor could have applied for a leave of absence and not claimed his allowance, and that would have saved £9000 paid for out of Council Taxes and Ray's £1000 allowance, money which could have gone towards other useful projects in the town. He was a Labour Councillor and Labour could manage with one less until the elections next year at no cost. I am sure when the By Election takes place on 9th June, the electors of Great Aycliffe will remember the part Dorothy Bowman played in getting her husband to resign to create the election which she then called.

Dorothy was going to stand herself then decided to put someone else forward instead. I sincerely apologise to the residents of West Ward for the cost, and the inconvenience of school disruption, but I tried my best to prevent it. I cannot stop a wife getting her husband to resign so she or someone else can stand for election.

I understand she changed her mind about standing in this By Election but will stand for the Town Council next year in the Byerley Park, Horndale and Cobblers Hall Ward. So why did she force this By Election at such cost and inconvenience or has she changed her mind again and decided to stand in the By Election she created?

Labour now thoroughly vets all its candidates to ensure only those of the highest quality and reliability stand for election.

Cllr Arun M Chandran

AYCLIFFE BUSES EXHIBITED AT LOCO



Shildon Locomotion Museum registered 7984 visitors during a 20 day exhibition of the Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society's United LS coach and its famous Heartbeat bus. The theme for this Spring display was the connection between the LNER and their ownership of United Automobile Services Ltd. between the first and second world wars.

Members of the Society attended the display period on a number of days to supervise the many visitors, both local and from afar, who wanted to sit on and to view the transport of the 1940's and 1950's. Children in particular enjoyed the chance to sit in the driving seat or to make their own

drivers or conductors badges as a memento of their visit to Shildon.

The Society's next main event will be its annual rally and running day at Locomotion on the 14th August before a second display period at Locomotion in November.

Councillors' Surgeries

Shafto, Central and Neville Ward

Councillors Sarah Iveson and Jed Hillary will be in attendance at St. Mary's Meeting Room, Burn Lane on Saturday 14th May from 11am - 12 noon.

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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Tel: Syd
01325 300212
or syd@newtonnews.co.uk

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Notice is hereby given that:-

The Parish Meeting for the Parish of Great Aycliffe will take place in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on:

**WEDNESDAY, 18th MAY 2016
at 7.15 p.m.**

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".

The Agenda will be available on Notice Boards, the Council Website and by request from the Council Offices (01325 300700) or our Website: (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk) from the 11th May, 2016.

Men Only Group at PCP



Life and Confidence Coach Karen Hughes (left) is based in Trimdon and recently set up a positive living/social group at the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe.

She has delivered various confidence and self esteem building courses over the last couple of years for the PCP and recently decided to set up the group. Carol told Newton News: "I've found the men that attend my courses are often in the minority, often don't have massive circles of friends and have become quite isolated from society. With this in mind I've decided to set up a dedicated separate group to help and support men who find themselves in those situations". Karen has noticed there seems to be lots of female orientated activities but not so much for men so she is hoping the new course will be supported. Assisting her is Lee Brown

34, from Chilton. After going through a period of low confidence and self esteem Lee attended some of the programmes through the Colour Your Life project and met a group of like minded people.

After completing the 10 week SHINE programme and some Life Coaching sessions Lee's self esteem and confidence has grown and he now has evolved as a person and is ready to give something back to the community.

The first session of EVOLVE will run on Friday the 27th of May from 1 - 2.30pm, people can contact me on 07585 553027 to reserve their place or email evolvegroup2016@gmail.com

Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 17th May will feature the 1988 film "Mississippi Burning" starring Gene Hackman. It is loosely based on the FBI investigations into the murder of three civil rights workers in Mississippi in 1964. It is a powerful and passionate story of race hate, intolerance and segregation and the long fight for justice. Tea and coffee will be served at 1pm, included in the £2, and the film starts at 1.15pm. A variety of chairs are provided for your comfort, and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a great film in friendly company. Everyone is most welcome. For further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.

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Are You Getting Married?

If you or your partner live or lived in Newton Aycliffe or the surrounding vilages and are planning to get married, Newton News would like to record this special day, using your photo; to let our readers know about your happy occasion and recording the event in print and on our website.

Contact Paul or Syd on 01325 300212 to find out how

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Aycliffe Couple Married

After being together over 6 years and engaged last Easter, it was lovely for Tanya Latham to get married this Easter to Peter Leonard. The couple tied the knot on Easter Saturday - 26th March 2016.

The Wedding and Reception was held at Radisson Blu in Durham and in the following month the couple left for their honeymoon in Denmark - spending 10 nights visiting Copenhagen, Skagen, Aarhus and Odense. Thanks to the generosity of family and friends.



Shopping Service for the Elderly

Newton Aycliffe Shopping Club starts again on Friday 20th May 10.30am. Pick up and drop off at your door. Ring Dorothy Bowman on 308094 or 07967 901477.

Care Home Decorations Stolen

Dear Sir,
I am disappointed to report that after staff, residents and friends of Defoe Court spent time holding raffles to raise money for our outdoor garden decorations, they have been stolen.
Some of our residents are nursed in bed and find pleasure watching their individual gardens grow from their windows as well as watching the lights twinkle throughout the night.
I hope this now stops.
Sarah Todd
Home Manager

ROTARY CLUB HELPS SUFFERING FAMILIES IN EAST AFRICA



Rotary President Denese presents cheque to Elspeth

A cheque for £500 was donated by Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club to Mrs. Elspeth Robinson in aid of the Kumi Community Fund. The money was raised at an evening with Antiques Expert David Harper from BBC TV and held at Woodham Golf Club.

Elspeth, from Darlington gave an interesting talk on her ongoing work in Kumi Village, Uganda at a recent club meeting.
Kumi Community Fund consists of 6 community based rehabilitation workers who identify children with disabilities in poor outlying districts and, following assessment, formulate a plan of action which may be physiotherapy, surgery, nutrition or the supply of orthotics or mobility items.
Their work is varied and as well as providing aid for those with disabilities they address the wider issues within the family by helping them to make a living from the land or cottage industries.
They receive UK sponsorship for disabled students of all levels from primary to university. Anyone interested in helping can visit: www.ElspethRobinson.co.uk

Don't Put up With Anti-Social Behaviour

Dear Sir,
I wish to reassure residents in the Williamfield Way area of Aycliffe West, some of whom are justifiably aggrieved by the recent one-sided portrayal of their community in both local and regional media, that coordinated direct action involving the Neighbourhood Police, DCC Neighbourhood Warden Service and livin's Community And Intervention Team to tackle the unacceptable behaviour of a tiny minority in their midst is ongoing.
Regrettably, community initiatives which Dorothy Bowman knew about before instigating the interviews, such as the upcoming Western Area Group partnership walkabout led by livin to look at potential estate improvements went unmentioned, as did the joint DCC/livin procedures to deal with absentee landlords who refuse to act decisively when their tenants' antisocial and criminal behaviour, or the unkempt appearance of their properties, is brought to their attention - issues around which responsible householders who

take pride in their surroundings rightly voice concern.
Whilst Dorothy's work in the community is commendable and however well intentioned her motives, it is disappointing that she chose to draw media attention to the area in a cavalier fashion that offers little to encourage community participation in local events and activities.
Our message to Aycliffe West residents in general is that nobody has to put up with antisocial behaviour. If you wish to talk to someone about any issue that adversely affects your right to live in a safe, harmonious and pleasant environment but are unable to attend your local Residents Association or PACT meetings, you can contact the DCC Antisocial Behaviour Team on 0300 260 000 or, for non emergency situations, Durham Constabulary on 101.
Details of behaviour classed as antisocial are available via the Residents link on the homepage of the DCC website.
CLr Kate Hopper
DCC Aycliffe West Division

AYCLIFFE RUNNING CLUB

Presents

The 3M 10K & Fun Run Sunday 19th June 2016



Sponsored by
3M UK PLC, INEOS

AND GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL



10k Run 10.00 am
3k Run 9.15 am

From Greenfield Community College,
Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7LF
Changing and parking at School

Organised by

Aycliffe Running Club under
England Athletics Rules Permit No.
2016-applied for

10k Race

- £100 to first male and female
- £100 for the course record
- Veteran prizes
- Chip race timing
- Technical Running Shirt

Fun Run

- Commemorative medal

(accurately measured with kilometres marked)

Entry Fees: 10k Run £13.00 Club Runners/£15.00 Non Club Runners
£4.00 extra to enter on the day
3k Run £4.00 All entries

Enter online at www.entrycentral.com/Aycliffe10k or email: Aycliffe10k@gmail.com

Race details: <http://ayclifferrunningclub.org.uk/about-aycliffe-10k-and-fun-run/>

Cheques to be made payable to 'Aycliffe Running Club' Entries to:

Michelle Scott, 4 Salisbury Terrace, Shildon, DL4 1JR

Closing Date for Entries midnight Friday 17th, June 2016

NOTE! allow extra time to collect your race number and chip on the day.

If for any reason the race is cancelled at short notice (which in the 17 year history has never occurred) Aycliffe Running Club cannot return your entry fee as the club is committed to the organisation cost of the event regardless.

Surname Forename(s)

Address

..... County Post Code

e-mail address Telephone No.

Date of Birth Age on June 19th, 2015 Athletics UK Affiliated Club

10k or Fun Run please tick 10k Fun Run male female

UKA Reg Number for club members

Declaration: I wish to enter the 3M 10K or Fun Run and I declare that I am an amateur as defined by England Athletics Laws and certify that I am medically fit to run. Furthermore, I agree that the organisers will not be held responsible for any injury or illness as a result of my participation in the events. I understand that my details will be stored on the entry computer, but will not be distributed to any other organisation or running club.

Signature

Date



Greenfield Community College



Silverdale Branded as Bad as TV's "Shameless"

Dear Sir,
I feel very offended that Mrs Dorothy Bowman thinks this area is anything like "Shameless" a dramatized "worse case" cross section of society! That is not real, and I hope people in the Silverdale area will stand up for themselves! It is not the most ideal place to live but nowhere near as bad as she made it out to be. The anti-social

issues have been increased by government cuts affecting all areas of Newton Aycliffe and I would expect the rest of the country are experiencing the same problems.
Myself and the neighbours either side of me have been victims of some of the criminal damage and anti-social behaviour Mrs Bowman outlines, but I know the police and local authorities are working closely together to identify and deal with the individuals responsible and that's the key word here - "individuals". She has branded an entire estate not those "individuals" responsible! There are many good, honest, hard working and lovely people in the Silverdale estate.

My friends, neighbours and I are offended and shamed to have the area we live in bad-mouthed throughout the north, all because a few individuals who cause trouble. I believe Mrs Bowman owes the residents of Silverdale Estate an apology.
G Hardaker, Eskdale Place, Mrs J Hodgson of Silverdale Place, and other disgruntled residents.



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 Cabinet meeting: bit.ly/DCCAB110516
- Index of Multiple Deprivation update: bit.ly/DCCID516
- Aycliffe County Councillors address taxi operators' issues: bit.ly/DCCtaxitext
- Get Active with Durham County Council's Month of Walking: bit.ly/DCCMOW
- DCC's Outdoor Play Code: bit.ly/DCCOPC
- May's Countryside newsletter: bit.ly/DCCcountryside516
- May's GAMP E-Bulletin: bit.ly/GAMP516
- GAMP AGM, 6pm Tuesday 17 May, Woodham Community Centre; public welcome.
- The Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan mentions parking 39 times: bit.ly/ParkingOTP
- My report of Middridge Parish Council's AGM: bit.ly/MPCAGM16
- Latest Aycliffe area roadworks information: bit.ly/Roadworks130516
- Last week's report from our MEP: bit.ly/JKD8516

COMMUNITY NEWS

- Better Health consultation events in County Durham: bit.ly/BHCE516
- Persimmon proposal for 69 houses north of Middridge road: bit.ly/Persimmon69
- My report on this month's Horndale Residents' Association meeting: bit.ly/HRA4516
- Dementia Advisory Service, Alzheimer's Society: 0191 3890400 or durhamandchester@alzheimers.org.uk
- Dementia Awareness Week, Beamish Museum, 16-21 May: bit.ly/BMDAW16
- Sedgefield Mediaeval Fayre, FREE family day, Saturday 21 May, 10am-4pm: bit.ly/SMFFD16
- Empire & Flag Weekend, 21-22 May, Beamish Museum: 0191 370 4000: bit.ly/BMef16
- Upcoming FREE courses at the Pioneering Care Centre: bit.ly/PCP516

HORNDALE MEETING

The trip to Whitby was great and the weather did not dampen our enjoyment especially mine - I achieved a boyhood dream of seeing the bridge working! Better still it was me who rang the bell, stopped the traffic, shut the gates and waved the boats through, - Heaven!
The next outing to York is on Saturday 11th June. Please contact Martin on 01325 316148 for details.
Our next residents' meeting is also a PACT Meeting with our local police and councillors. This is on Wednesday 1st June at Greenfield Arts and Community College at 6pm. Refreshments served at 5.45pm. I look forward to seeing you all.
Eddy Wood, Chairman

Tesco's Unsold Meals Donated to Charity

Tesco and FareShare are calling on charities and community groups in and around Newton Aycliffe to register for an exciting new scheme which will see unsold food become meals for vulnerable people across the area.

As part of its ongoing pledge to cut food waste, Tesco's Community Food Connection

programme with FareShare FoodCloud recruits and supports charities and community groups, linking them to Tesco stores via an innovative app that allows store teams to alert them to surplus unsold food items available at the end of each day.

The unsold food is free and includes fresh produce, such



as fruit, vegetables and bakery products. Chilled products like meat, dairy and ready meals are also offered.

There have been 275,000 meals donated to people in need via Community Food Connection following a successful pilot in 14 stores last year and a national rollout from March that has seen 712 charities sign up to the scheme so far.

Any charities or community groups in Newton Aycliffe using food to support people that would like to access the scheme, should register their interest by visiting www.fareshare.org.uk/fareshare-foodcloud or call into store

to speak to Shirley Cormack Community Champion or Debbie Hocking Fresh Foods Manager for more information.

Good Recovery After Surgery

Town Councillor Malcolm Iveson has undergone major heart surgery and is making astounding progress.

Reports indicate he hasn't felt better for years showing the value of modern surgical procedures under the NHS.

We wish him well in his recovery, hoping to see him up and around soon.

33 New Members for Indoor Bowls Club

Great Aycliffe Indoor Bowls Club has just ended a very successful year with a Friendly Match - Men v Ladies. Due to the success of a similar match held at Christmas our sponsors Gordon Fletcher & Sons, Funeral Directors, were keen to participate in another friendly.

They donated raffle prizes and were very excited and encouraging about the new initiatives the Club is introducing. The match was very well attended with all 4 rinks in use and drinks and buffet provided afterwards.

As with the Christmas match the Men won overall. This match concluded a year which saw the Mixed Triples Team win their Interclub

Competition and the Vets win their Interclub, only to be narrowly beaten in the play-off. We have also played host to Durham and Norfolk Vice Presidents' Teams and a friendly match with Harrogate.

All these were very well supported and plans are for more similar friendly matches during the summer. During the year we welcomed 33 new members to the Club. This was due in part to the Wednesday evening beginner sessions held by The Oak Leaf Sports Centre. These are continuing this summer on Wednesday evenings at 6.30pm at a cost £1 to encourage new players and where Club members will be on hand to offer advice.

Aycliffe Running Club in Darlington 10K



The annual Darlington 10K, the 28th in its history, attracted more than 1800 runners. Conditions were ideal for running and the eventual winner, Marc Scott was only 36 seconds off the course record.

The outstanding Aycliffe runner was Floyd Jones, who not only took the V/50 prize but was also first home for the club and 50th overall in the time of 36:30. Newcomer to the club and keen to impress, Richard Wade, showed his brother Mark a clean pair of heels finishing 58th in 36:55 and Mark was 73rd in 37:38.

Martin Knox was next to cross the line, 307th in 44:01, followed by Robert Young 327th in 44:18, John Burnside 357th in 44:50, Dave Blewitt 327th in 44:46, Susan Cranswick 439th in 46:03, Jason Dixon 458th in 46:23, Steve Smith 483rd in 46:48, Paul Stretton 485th in 46:06, Michelle Jane 498th in 47:03, Sandra Collins 546th in 48:07, Michelle Zamir 555th in 48:15, Rob Nicholson 592nd in 48:47, Trish Kay was 641st in 49:59, Gary Minns 664th in 49:36, Michael Brunskill 674th in 50:47, Michelle Dixon 685th in 50:17, Austin Donohue 689th in 50:55, Vivianne Pow 868th in 52:24 PB, Beverley Phillipppo 1308th in 61:46, Carla Morton 1334th in 62:40, Susan Clark 1387th in 63:56.

Yvonne Williams 1462nd in 66:26, and Craig Robinson 1562nd in 73:28.

For more information about Aycliffe Running Club and their training sessions visit ayclifferrunningclub.org.uk

Junior Football Results



With many teams concluding their seasons in the last few weeks there was only a sprinkling of action for the Juniors this week.

The Development team (Under 6's) played an entertaining draw with Darlington All Stars, the eleven goals scored were shared between Thomas (9), Alex and Lewis with Thomas and Lewis Men of the match.

Under 8's enjoyed two friendlies against Marton. They won 4-0 against the Whites with Connor, Rhys (2) and man of the match Niall scoring. Then in the second match a Niall hat-trick and one from man of the match Rhys secured a 4-2 win over the Blues.

The Russell Foster Under 10's team will continue their Spring Cup campaign throughout May and this week they faced Swalwell Swifts. They looked determined from the outset and the Swalwell defence had to block efforts from Noah and Evan early on. Matty came on from the bench and made an immediate impact as he finished well from a blocked Evan shot giving Aycliffe a 1-0 lead. Next Taylor made a good run, his shot being blocked but then finished by Matty, again for his and the teams second goal. Swalwell pulled one back before an Evan strike from distance opened up the two goal lead again. The game finished with the score 3-1 and Evan was both the players and parents man of the match.

Under 12's played their last league game on Tuesday night against Aycliffe Youth. Despite a bright start they could not contain the Youth Centre team and went 5-0 down by half time. In the second half there

WOODHAM ACADEMY ATHLETES QUALIFY

After a busy and successful night at the South West Durham District Athletics competition, Woodham Academy PE Department is celebrating after a number of its students qualified for the County Durham Athletics Championships. The students were competing against strong opposition from Barnard Castle School, St. Johns R.C. School and Sedgfield Community College.

Lisa Robinson (high jump), Lauren Towell (200m), Charlotte Lough (300m) and Caitlin Barber (javelin) have all qualified in their age range to represent the Durham County squad at the County Championships which is to be held at Monkton Stadium in early June. Should they be successful at this event, there is further opportunity to represent the county at the Inter-County Championships later in the month.

The PE Department would like to take this opportunity to wish those students good luck at this upcoming event.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's first team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store finally got their first win of the season in a hard fought game by four wickets at home to Wolviston 1st XI in the NYSD 2nd division. The visitors elected to bat first and were bowled out for 165 after 49.5 overs. Captain Luke Telford was the pick of the bowlers taking 4 for 8 and was given good support from Patrick Howe (2 for 34) and Ryan Dawson (2 for 43).

In reply 16 year old all rounder Ryan Dawson (sponsored by Pheonix Energy (UK) Ltd) opened the batting and scored a superb 59, including seven boundaries and with fellow opener Adam Gittins scoring 25, the pair helped to set a good foundation for Aycliffe. Michael Howe then took over and his blistering innings of 54 from just 35 balls, including ten boundaries helped see the home side to their first win of the season with 11.5 overs in hand.

The club's second team turned out one of the youngest sides in the club's history and included three under 13's players in their side and it was no surprise that they lost by 152 runs away at a very strong Redcar 2nd XI in the NYSD 3rd division. Choosing to bat first the home side totalled a huge 230 for 6 declared from 43 overs despite some brilliant bowling from 13 year old Lucas Pilling who finished with 3 for 48 from his nine overs. In reply Aycliffe were skittled for just 78 after 22.4 overs with only 17 year old Sam Dobinson (scoring 13) and 15 year old Dan Bowmer with 12, reaching double figures. The u17's lost away at Wolviston by 10 wickets in the NYSD junior league. Batting

first Aycliffe limped to 63 for 7 from their 20 overs despite an excellent innings from Ryan Patrick who top scored with 25. In reply the home side easily reached their target after 9.3 overs.

The u15's put in a good performance but still came out with a seven wicket defeat at home to Darlington. Batting first, Aycliffe's Jack Lowery (35 runs), Lucas Pilling (26 not out) and Joe Aitken with 17 runs all batted well to give their side a respectable total of 101 for 5 from 20 overs. In reply Darlington reached their victory target after 12.4 overs.

The u13's team had a tough game away at a Barnard Castle side that included several County players among their ranks and unsurprisingly lost by 89 runs. However on the positive side there was a good batting performance from captain Lucas Pilling and also two wickets each for both Kieran Shingler and Nathan Slater. The following night the u13's travelled to Sedgfield and despite a much improved performance, they still lost by 25 runs. Special mention must go to Aycliffe's Iain Robson and Luke Grindlay, who both bowled really well in the match.

Under 11's team had a stunning victory by 17 runs in a brilliant all round display away at Barnard Castle. Rob Hillman top scored with 14 runs and David Robinson also batted well scoring 8 runs. Josh Imerson and Matty Greaves both bowled superbly and special mention must go to debutant Harrison Pearson, who took a wicket and also held a stunning one handed catch on the boundary to cap a fine day for the Aycliffe youngsters.

New Mayor Elected for Great Aycliffe



New Mayor Jed Hillary (right) with his Deputy Michael Dalton

At the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday 11th May, Councillor Jed Hillary was appointed Mayor of Great Aycliffe and Chairman of the Council. Jed succeeded Mary Dalton who completed her fourth year of office at the age of 90.

Jed, who also serves as a County Councillor, thanked everyone for placing their confidence in him and pledged to do his duty as Mayor to the best of his ability.

Each Mayor raises money during their year of office for charity and Jed's choice as a former Army regular was the needy past members of the Rifles Regiment. More locally he will help two community centres who have taken responsibility of running their centres themselves - Aycliffe Village and Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre.

Michael Dalton was elected Deputy Mayor, hoping to be elected Mayor next year for the second time. Will he be trying to beat his Mother's record? Michael is a member of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club and a Trustee of the Pioneering Care Centre. A full report of the Annual Meeting will be published in next week's issue.

YOUTHY F.C. STRIPS SENT TO KENYA



Newton Aycliffe Youth FC appealed on a local facebook page for contacts who could take the clubs old strips to needy children in Africa. A quick response was received from a gentlemen living in Whitby but working in the oil industry in Kenya.

The first bundle of strips were collected and delivered to a school for the visually impaired at a village called Cheptubet in the Kerio valley near a town called Iten 200km north of Nairobi. This area is called the 'home of the champions' as this is where all the marathon runners train.

Half of the strips are earmarked for a children's school but delivery was halted due to a local road being washed away during a torrential rain storm. This is just the start of a long relationship between Newton Aycliffe Youth FC and schools in the Iten area

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- Until 24 May there will be closures along Long Tens Way and Grindon Way on Aycliffe Business Park for a sewer installation.
- Until 15 July there will be two-way lights on Woodham Way for a sewer installation.
- On Travellers Green the road closure continues
- Throughout the Sedgefield area there will be traffic
- From 6-8 June on Heighington Lane, Aycliffe Business Park, there will be 2/3-way lights for a BT duct installation
- On 19 June there will be the usual road closure and one-way system on Burn Lane / Burnhill Way / Meadowfield Way / Greenfield Way for the 10k Road Race
- June - September, on the A1(M) between junctions 60 and 61 (Bradbury to Bowburn) there will be occasional contraflow and road closures for resurfacing and bridge works
- July - January 2017, on the A167 at Newton Park Service Station by the motorway, there will be traffic management as required for construction of a new junction.

You can check up on roadworks throughout the county on the DCC webpage: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/roadworks>.

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Dear Syd,
Could I please make a few

comments on the furore resulting from the Look North interview featuring Mrs Dorothy Bowman, Inspector Mark Edwards and myself. In the interview it was made clear that Mrs Bowman was disappointed in the response by the authorities in tackling anti-social behaviour in the Williamfield area.

As a very new town councillor trying hard to represent the West Ward I am often invited to partake in conversation with residents living across the area many of whom are also unhappy about the perceived increase in lawlessness by youths in the estate.

In some of the news items in newspaper, radio and T.V., the estate was likened to a fictional drama called "shameless", naturally this description upset some residents who thought this was an unfair comment. However, it was not Mrs Bowman who originally coined the phrase but a resident frightened by the recent incidents in the area.

From personal experience I am well aware of the distress caused by drug and alcohol misuse and anti-social behaviour in the neighbourhood. Sadly, local people are frightened of being labelled "grass" and fear for their property so consequently they tend not to inform the police about incidents taking place in the area.

Seemingly procedures were already in place to address the problems described by Mrs Bowman in her interview, however, as a local councillor I was not aware of these plans and neither were my colleagues. I am not certain that shortage of funding is the answer to the problems but rather the involvement of local residents engaging with the authorities. Going forward it seems to me that various agencies need to engage in partnership with ALL councillors representing the community and Mrs Bowman as the community representative.

Mrs Bowman informs me that she has attended a meeting of something called the Western Area Stakeholders which is looking for solutions to local problems. As responsible persons we cannot allow politics to define our communities.

Cllr Ken Robson

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READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



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Durham Agrees to Devolution IT Upgrade for NAYCC

Durham County Council's Cabinet has agreed to move to the next stage of the devolution process – to create a mayoral combined authority for the North East – at a meeting this morning (May 11).

The decision is subject to a number of conditions, including that County Durham is not left worse off by the Government's proposals on transport and highways funding; that conditions are met in relation to mayoral powers and governance; and the commitment that ongoing discussions with Government will deliver fair funding.

In March Cabinet members deferred their decision in relation to the devolution

proposals so that further clarification and commitment could be sought from Government in relation to a number of outstanding issues. A report to Cabinet sets out the progress made in addressing the outstanding issues raised in March as well as the potential consequences of agreeing or not agreeing to be part of a mayoral combined authority area.

CLr Simon Henig, Leader of Durham County Council, said: "We acknowledge that a great deal of progress has been made in the negotiations with the Government since March.

"As a result we are now in a position to move ahead to the next stage of the process,

which will be the creation of a mayoral combined authority.

"We believe that devolution offers real opportunities to the North East – and nearly 60 per cent of people in County Durham who responded to our household poll agreed that it could benefit the region.

"However, there is still some progress to be made and we remain focused on ensuring that the conditions which form part of the agreement are met."

If the devolution proposals are agreed, the North East Combined Authority with a Cabinet made up of local authority leaders and an elected mayor, will be responsible for making key decisions regarding the economy, investment, transport, housing, skills training, business support and strategic planning.

A final decision to agree to the creation of a mayoral combined authority will not be made until all necessary council Cabinets have met, along with the Leadership Board of the North East Combined Authority, which meets on Tuesday 17 May.

Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre has received a complete IT overhaul from North East Cyber Security and IT Solutions (NECSITS). Several improvements have been made to enhance facilities and services for both the community and staff.

Local people and training providers will now benefit from full WIFI coverage throughout the building as well as a training suite with 8 newly upgraded computers suitable for all information technology and communication training.

NECSITS, a new IT company founded by local entrepreneurs are looking to engage with small or medium sized enterprises and charities in the North East area to offer their expertise in all security and I.T. needs. NECSITS wants to help small charitable and community organisations struggling to keep local centres updated with new technology due to the costs so this is why they are providing a service that all community hubs can afford and the local people can access for work or pleasure.

Organisations like NAYCC who don't need a full-time IT department still need reliable and secure infrastructure and that's exactly what NECSITS can provide." North East Cyber Security and IT solutions

website is www.necsits.com and they can be contacted directly at info@necsits.com Chairman of the Board of Trustees Vince Crosby said, "For some time now we have needed an upgrade to our system and after much searching around and being costed via our procurement financial system finding, North East Cyber Security and IT solutions was one of the best things we have done. We will instantly know if anyone is using sites they should not be on as part of our ongoing safeguarding policies. Tel: 0191 6030854 or 01388 317764

AYCLIFFE BEAUTICIAN EXPANDS IN SHILDON



Vikki Bramley from Newton Aycliffe left Woodham Comprehensive School in 2000. She studied beauty therapy and moved to Scotland to work in a spa. She returned as beauty manager at Redworth for many years whilst studying at Sunderland University to gain a qualification to teach her skills in college.

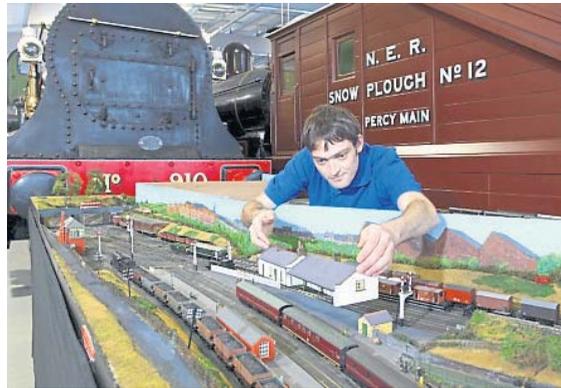
However after graduation she decided to open her own salon rather Vikki rents the upstairs of the hair salon 'ENHANCE' in Shildon's Main Street. Her studio is called "BELLA VITA BEAUTY".

On the 8th May she celebrates her 3rd year. She started off with one treatment room and has completed renovations over the last few weeks expanding to 3 treatment.

She is getting busier and busier and looking to attract more male clientele with the Barber who that has just started her own business in the building linked onto Vikki's work area. so this will probably be used as a gent's groom room offering treatments such as facials and waxing etc.

My future ambition is to be able to employ more therapists and hopefully expand into a small private training provider too.

ANNUAL OPEN MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION



Shildon Model Railway Club's Annual Open Weekend Exhibition will take place at Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon on Saturday June 4 and Sunday June 5, 2016.

This popular, annual exhibition will feature a wide range of model railway layouts, as well as trade stands offering all you need to enjoy your modelling hobby at home.

Layouts by Shildon Model Railway Club members will include "Shildon 00", "Norwood Yard", and "Penna Yard". Guest layouts will include "West Pinfold" by Durham Modellers, and "Brough" by Birtley MRE.

Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon is open from 10am to 5pm daily, and parking and admission are free of charge.

Aycliffe Artist Exhibits at the Rail Museum



An exhibition of art by Newton Aycliffe based painter Stephen Bainbridge will be on show at Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon from Tuesday June 7 to Thursday June 30, 2016.

Stephen has worked in the acrylic medium for 40 years, initially developing techniques under the tutelage of the professional artist Noel Gregory.

His pictures often reflect his lifelong passion for the days of steam railways, especially featuring locomotives of the LNER, but he has also produced works of other

technical subjects and landscapes.

His paintings have also featured in magazines and have been used in historical text books. In his works he always aims to produce paintings that are detailed and technically accurate, while portraying the atmosphere of the days of steam.

The exhibition of Stephen's work will be on display in the museum's Collection Building. The museum is open daily from 10am to 5pm, and parking and admission are free of charge. For more information, please call 01388 777999.

Garden Theft

To the person who took solar lights from my garden at Beechfield - I hope they were broken when you got them home and beware as next time I will be leaving my dog in the yard!

A Swinburne

Thank You

ON FRIDAY 29th April at approximately 1.30pm, I fell in the Bewick Crescent car park. A young man, who was passing on a bicycle came immediately to my aid, helped me to get up and was very concerned for me. I did not get his name unfortunately. However, I would like to thank him very much for his help and concern.

KAREN ROBINSON would like to thank Nicky, Mam and all my family and friends for beautiful gifts and cards and for making my party on 7th May a most memorable night. Special thanks to Marie and Jessica for everything. John Melvin for a great disco and Mags Bain at Woodham Golf Club for fantastic food and venue.

Birthday Remembrance

BARBARA SUTTON 14th May 1932. I know a smile we would all love to see, a loving face so dear. I know a hand we would all love to hold, a voice we all long to hear. I know a heart so thoughtful and true, we know them all, because we all loved you. From all your family. Happy birthday, R.I.P. RAYMOND SPARKS 17th May 1946. Remembering you on your 70th birthday. Linda xxx

DENNIS HESLOP Happy birthday on 28th April. Dear Lord above, give Dennis all our love. Hug him and kiss him and tell him we love him and that we are thinking of him. Happy birthday Dennis. Love Eileen, Pam, Jenny, Nia, Derek and Lyda

In Memoriam

THERESA BRETT Three years since you were taken from us. We all miss you very much. Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts. Peter, Andrew, Anthony and families

Evelyn Richardson

You are always in our thoughts and is sadly missed by her son Keith and Daughter-in-Law Olivia. Ar dheis De go raibh a hanam.

Freda Kilburn



9.4.1936 - 14.5.15 It's been one long year since we last saw you Mam. I cried when you passed away. I still cry today. Although I loved you dearly, I couldn't make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands at rest. Love and miss you so much. Tracey and Dave xxxx

It's been a really hard year Freda. Love and miss you "Ducker". Walter xx

Grandma. Not a day goes by we don't think or talk about you. Miss you so much. Love you. Tyler and Millie xx

Obituary

Pauline Bliss



3rd February 1951 to 2nd May 2016

My beloved friend, wife and my life. "She brings sunshine to our lives" Devoted Sister to Ian and sister-in-law Yvonne "She will be missed every day"

PAULINE BLISS. My beautiful friend, sleep well. Kathy NATTRASS. Robert (Bob) William of Newton Aycliffe, late of Trimdon Village. Peacefully in Aycliffe Care Home on 2nd May, aged 83 years. A much loved Husband, Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Funeral Service took place at Durham Crematorium on Thursday 12th May at 9.00 am.

DAVID SKERRETT died 6th May aged 76. Loving Husband of Pauline; dear Father of Neil; Father-in-Law of Tracey and loved Grandad of Zoe and James. Funeral will be held on Thursday 19th May at 2.00pm. Will friends please meet at Wear Valley Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations to St Theresa's Hospice, Darlington

JILL McNAMEE (nee Seery). 26th April 2016. Aged 59, died suddenly on holiday. Much loved Mam of Laura and Barry; Nana of Gillian, Matty Brooke, Kaylee, Katie, Justin and Cody; Greatly missed Partner of Tony. Would friends please meet at St Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe on Friday 20th May for Service at 10.15am. Family flowers only please.

DAVIE McDONALD Following a long term illness, Davie sadly passed away on Thursday 5th May surrounded by his loving family. Davie, a loving Husband, Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad will be sadly missed by all. Funeral to be held at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 17th May at 12.00noon, followed by Interment at the West Cemetery, School Aycliffe

Congratulations

Joe Howarth



Happy 13th Birthday 12th May 2016

A teenager at last!! We couldn't be more proud of you, lots of love, Mam and Dad xx

Happy 13th birthday Mini Howarth! Love from Jack xx

Hope you have a brilliant 13th birthday Joe, lots of love from Nan, Grandad, Lee, Shellie, Morgan, Callum, Georgia and Bobbi-Lea xx

SUSAN WELLS. Many happy returns on this your 50th birthday. Lots of love and good wishes from Mary x

SAUNDERS Congratulations Sharon and Adrian on your 25th Wedding Anniversary. Enjoy your holiday. Lots of love from Mam, Dad and family xxx

THOMAS BURN. Well done on passing your driving test 1st time. So proud of you. Love, Grandma Alwyn xx

TOM BURN. 6/5/16. Well done son on passing your driving test 1st time. Lots of love Mam, Nigel, Lauren and TJ. Thanks to Mally of Jacks Driving School

Naomi Elston



Happy 18th Birthday 18th May 2016

Congratulations on your 18th birthday on 18th May. Have a fabulous holiday. Lots of love, Nanna, Grandad, Uncle Keith, Uncle Steven and also from Josh, Naomi, Dylan and Charlie

Congratulations To my wonderful Daughter on her 18th birthday. Have a lovely holiday. All my love from Dad.

Congratulations To my girlfriend on her 18th birthday. All my love from Callum

Congratulations On your 18th Naomi. Love from Great Grandma and Great Grandad

Patrick Howe



Happy 18th Birthday Love from all the family xxxxxx

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Greenfield Shine in Football Tournament



Sunderland Football Club praised players from Greenfield Community College after they were chosen to represent SAFC in a recent tournament in Nottingham. The players from the Aycliffe and Sunnydale site made the trip to the 'Premier League Kicks Cup' as part of the 'Foundation of Light' sports development project. The boys have been attending a two hour course every week at Greenfield's sports facilities which culminated in the special visit to the tournament where they had the opportunity to play against representatives from other premier clubs. Michael Colclough from Sunderland's 'Foundation of Light' was delighted with the way the boys represented the school and SAFC, he felt the boys had "done themselves proud", and "represented the school, the club and the foundation admirably both in attitude and behaviour".

AYCLIFFE STILL AIMING HIGH

With just two games of the season left Newton Aycliffe FC still have an outside chance of finishing third in the Ebac Northern League Division One. Two wins and a draw in the last week have brought their points total to an impressive 71 and they currently lie fifth. Last Tuesday night saw Aycliffe take three points from Whitley Bay at Moore Lane. Skipper Paul Garthwaite sealed the win with a header giving him the only goal of the game. The team then moved on to second placed Marske Utd on Thursday night. The first half saw several chances for both sides with Aycliffe keeper James Winter called into action as early as the 2nd minute to pull off a good save. Central defender Grant Hickman came close after 8 mins when his header, from a corner, hit the crossbar. Winter had more saves to make as the half progressed but could do nothing to stop the home side just before half time as they fired home a shot from close range. Aycliffe came back into the game in the second half but



it was two pieces of brilliant work from leading goal scorer John Campbell that gave the victory. With 20 minutes remaining he beat the offside trap and defence to beat the keeper. His second was scored in the last minute, winning the ball on the halfway line he raced through and again had no trouble finding the net. This win gave Aycliffe a double over Marske to go with the double they completed over Shildon the week before. Added to the treble over Wembley-bound Morpeth the results show that Aycliffe have been able to hold their own against any of the Northern League's finest this season. Returning home to Moore Lane on Saturday Aycliffe drew 2-2 with Bishop Auckland. Once again it was Campbell who caused the visitors problems and he opened the scoring on 39 minutes with a chipped shot from the edge of the box, looping out of the keeper's reach and into the net. Dennis Knight made it 2-0 four minutes later direct from a free kick. Aycliffe came close to a third just before the break. A Campbell run down the right led to a cross into the box, finding Jordan Laidler in the clear. His shot was well saved by the Bishop keeper. Aycliffe were awarded a penalty on 57 minutes but Campbell's spot-kick was saved by Bishop keeper, Edward Wilczynski. That appeared to be the turning point in the game as the visitors applied more pressure. They were rewarded in the 77th minute with an excellent shot by Priestley Griffiths beating Winter.

are already underway for next year's campaign with season tickets already on sale. Application forms can be found on the club website at www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk

Meanwhile the final game of the season on Aycliffe's Moore Lane pitch will be the Darlington Charity Cup final on Friday 13th May, kick off

6.30pm. The final will see Tow Law take on Witton Park Rose & Crown. Admission is just £1 & we hope to see a good turnout on the evening.

Aycliffe Eagles Blackpool Champs



Newton Aycliffe Youth FC under 9 Eagles travelled to Blackpool to compete in the prestigious and very competitive annual Youth Soccer Tournament. The tournament was over 2 days and teams from across the country provided stiff opposition for these young boys. A smooth run through the group stages as the Eagles gained maximum points scoring 10 goals and only conceding once. A semi final against Westbury Warriors from Wiltshire, a game which the boys controlled to secure their final place with a 3-0 win. The final was against a very good Roach Dynamos from Greater Manchester but the Eagles were now full of confidence and it showed as we outplayed the opposition to win 3-0 and were crowned Champions. Well done to every player and all the supporters who made for a memorable weekend

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