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Newton News Launch New Partnership with Star Radio

Newton News is very excited to announce a new partnership, formed today, with our local radio station "Star Radio" who broadcast from Darlington. As 27th May is "Local Radio Day" it seemed appropriate to launch our partnership today and begin enhancing local news produced by both forms of media.

Newton News will work in close co-operation with Star Radio pointing them to those events in Newton Aycliffe which will benefit from radio broadcasting. The radio station will take what is happening in Aycliffe to a wider audience in our region, promoting our town to a greater degree.

John Clayton, Managing Director of Star Radio said: "Newton News has a significant and important role to play in the community. The work the Howarth family and their team have been passionately achieving, is to be commended and celebrated."

Star Radio is also utterly focussed upon our locality and what makes our area tick. We are delighted to be working alongside Newton News, to provide Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas, with a genuinely focussed product that reflects the lives of those that reside across the area and we will continue to eat, sleep and breathe that very area that we both serve.

I am personally incredibly excited at the relationship we have entered with Newton News and see this as critical



John Clayton - Managing Director with Lesley Boyle -
Director of Corporate, Community & Education

to the continued success of both our brands, recognising the importance to continue and develop a product that our listeners and Newton News readers can be proud of and truly rely upon"

Syd Howarth Editor of Newton News said: "We are very proud to be associated with Star Radio and see the partnership enriching each of our businesses. We also recognise the value it will add to our readers and the listeners of Star Radio. We

hope our readers will be encouraged to tune in to Star Radio and enjoy the very interesting programmes and music they broadcast".

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Trips from Aycliffe

The Western Area Community Centre Trip to South Shields is £3 per seat and is on Thursday 2nd June leaving Silverdale Place 10.30am and St Clare's Church 10.45am

Please ring 308094 or mobile 07967 901477 to book
Everyone across the Town is welcome.

Shopping Trips every Friday 10.30am pick up and drop off at your door.
New Friends New Places
Mystery Trip Sunday 5th June £10. Pick up St Clare's Church 10.30, Stephenson Way Cemetery 10.45am.
These outings take place on the first Sunday of every month. Come along and enjoy the company.

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COMMUNITY SPIRIT ALIVE & WELL!



Durham County Council manager Colin Curry to acquire some soil to place around the base of a local tree.

These projects have now been planted up and are a great benefit to the area. Thanks guys - everyone in the area gets to appreciate your work
Ken Robson, Chairman

Dear Sir,
I am just writing to say how proud I am of the adult members of ACORN Residents' Association, Cliff Wright, Paul Thompson and Ray Gordon approached me with an idea to brighten up our road signs a couple of weeks ago and have come up trumps.

Utilising scrap timber they have constructed boxes and placed them around the base of street furniture with the intention of planting flowers to brighten up our area. As



part of the same project these men have liaised with County Councillor Eddy Adams and

KIDZ FLIX

Come along and watch the hilariously funny Roald Dahl film Matilda on Saturday 4th Matilda is an exceptionally gifted and very clever little girl, but is ignored by her parents Harry and Zinnia. What will Matilda get up to? Great film featuring Danny DeVito! Entrance price £1 per child and adults Free.

Tuck shop, ice creams with sprinkles will be available at an extra charge.

Phoenix Club Name Change Finally Agreed

Dear Sir,

Finally we are now registered, with The Financial Control Authority (FCA), as The Phoenix Club. We received confirmation of their approval to change our name as of the 19th May 2016.

We had a special meeting way back on Sunday 26th July 2015 where it was voted on and passed to disaffiliate from The Royal British Legion (RBL). It took until the 4th March this year before the RBL agreed which held us back in trying to register our name change.

To change our name we needed permission from the RBL because it was in their rule book, so no thanks to the RBL for holding out so long. If they had not been so greedy in THEIR subscriptions going up annually to this year being £16 we may still have been the RBL.

As the saying goes all good things are worth waiting for, so come on down all you new members and potential new members, it's only £6 to join, and enjoy the facilities of our club including our entertainment nights, karaoke, bingo nights and line dancing and not forgetting the Restaurant which is available at lunch times and will cater for any function.

Tommy Palmer, Secretary

LIZ BATES HANDS OVER OVEN GLOVES



Dave & Julia Lawson with Rev. Andrew Bryer

After many years of tirelessly organising the very successful Luncheon Club at Neville Parade Methodist Church, Liz Bates decided it was time for her to step down as she will soon be leaving Newton Aycliffe and the Church she has served so faithfully for many years. But not before ensuring the success of the Luncheon Club

continued!
For a while it seemed the only option was for the Luncheon Club to close as no one was able to step into Liz's shoes. It was a very difficult time – especially for the regular attendees who benefitted from the fabulous meals! And then Liz placed a small advert/plea in the Newton News 'on a wing and a prayer' – and it was seen by Dave Lawson and his wife, Julia. Dave had been the Chef at The Grand Hotel in Tynemouth for ten years and then became resident Chef at Tees Valley Airport. He and Julia took on the job and have settled in really well! Each Tuesday Lunchtime at midday they and their small Team of helpers and servers provide a delicious and nutritious two course meal for anyone and everyone who is able to attend – all for just £3.00! Everyone is welcome – there is no age restriction! Contact Dave – phone: 01325 321720. You'll be in the company of many Friendly Folks who would love to see you and enjoy a good meal together with you.

Plans are in place to have a special Celebration Meal on the 26th June to commemorate the Queen's 90th Birthday! Please ring Dave for more details. The Luncheon Club has been run by Liz Bates and many other volunteers from Neville Parade Methodist Church over many years as a service to the people of Newton Aycliffe! Long may it continue in the safe oven-gloved-hands of Dave and Julia!

Can you Home a Greyhound?

Darlington Retired Greyhound Trust will be holding a 3 day awareness event on Sat 28th, Sun 29th and Mon 30th May at Hardwick Park 11am - 4pm.

We will have greyhounds looking for homes plus information, advice and help on adopting a greyhound. If you are interested in adopting a greyhound please come along and have a chat.

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Saturday 4th June - "1 0 1"

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Grass-cutting Question

Either the County Council, the Landlords Livin or the householder is letting the grass grow under their feet! This is the assumption after many complaints of poor maintenance of our open grass areas.

It all started some years ago when Livin paid the County Council to cut grass owned by them, but then they found a private contractor who could do it cheaper.

Now we have grass cutters criss crossing each other to get the job done and in some instances not very well!

Town Council land is cared for immaculately with good close cutting machinery tending grass more frequently. Some house owners used to get their grass cut as they were part of a stretch of terraced houses where there was a mixture of tenants and people who had bought their property.

It may be that the landlords are now being more cost cautious and if the owners of houses aren't looking after grass on the land they own it shows, and looks very untidy.

If you have a complaint the advice is to find out who owns the land, but if it is private property that is another question!

WOODHAM STUDENTS VISIT KYNREN SITE



With just over five weeks to go until the opening night of Kynren - 'An Epic Tale of England', Woodham Academy students got the chance to visit the site to take a look behind the scenes at one of the biggest North East attractions.

The group of Year 10 students arrived at the venue in Bishop Auckland. This currently resembles a building site but is being rapidly transformed in to a 7.5 acre stage, a tribune stand with capacity for 8,000 spectators and a full sized lake which will transform the set with vast hydraulic systems creating a cinematic experience.

Paul, a representative from the Community team at Eleven Arches, the charity behind the development, greeted the group, leading them into the office for a presentation. Paul explained that Kynren, a spectacular night show depicting 2,000 years of British history on a scale never seen before, is in collaboration with the team behind the live historical extravaganza at French theme park Puy du Fou.

Kynren tells the story of England, seen through the eyes of a North East boy called Arthur, who encounters myth, legend and history from Roman times to World War II. A cast and crew of more than 600 will bring the show to life on each night, along with pyrotechnics, lighting, water jets and music. Hundreds more volunteers are involved in the attraction, which it is hoped will help regenerate the town and celebrate the regional and national heritage.

After a fascinating presentation, the students made their way in the town centre to the costume workshop. Small teams have been working tirelessly for months to create an array of historical costumes for the hundreds of cast members. The students, many of whom are studying GCSE Textiles, were taken on a tour of the workshop taking in the different elements of creating the authentic outfits and catering for such a large cast. The day ended with a visit to the beautiful Auckland

Castle, from which you can see the arena of Kynren taking shape. All of the students were inspired during the visit and excited to see the show which starts on Saturday 2nd July and will run for 14 nights.

Aycliffe Four Raise £5k for Homeless Charity

Four people from Newton Aycliffe have helped to raise more than £40,000 for a homelessness charity. Mantis Media MD Martin Walker, Councillor John Clare, Gemma Siddle from Eldon Financial Planning and Ian Outterson, sales director for Aycliffe firm Quality Hydraulics have so far contributed £5,233 between them to CEO Sleepout after sleeping 'rough' overnight at Preston Park Museum.

A group of 59 people took part in the sleepout and raised £43,000. Cllr Clare said: "We're here to raise money for homelessness - what we experience is nothing like as uncomfortable as what people are experiencing every single day of their lives. It's not about the experience of sleeping out, it's about the money we're raising to help those people."

Cash from the CEO Sleepout event will go towards funding the not-for-profit restaurant, the Fork in the Road, which will be based on Linthorpe Road in Middlesbrough.

The new high-quality eatery will provide catering jobs for recovering addicts and alcoholics, those who have suffered from homelessness and those recently released from prison.

Cllr Clare added: "It will provide jobs for people who are trying to work their way out of homelessness, out of addiction, people coming out of prison and want a fresh start".

Led by Teesside businessman and charity leader Andy Preston, the CEO Sleepout charity has already raised around £800,000 to fight homelessness and poverty around the country.

Meeting of Old Friends & New

Rose Lodge Care Home will be hosting a Coffee Morning in honour of National Care Home Open Day on Friday 17th June from 10:30am-12pm.

A selection of cakes, refreshments and home baking will be served.

The event is open to everyone. As well as individuals, the home also welcomes any community groups or clubs who may be interested in working with the home. Anyone wishing to find out more should contact Rose Lodge on 01325 271301 or email Roselodge@cwch.com

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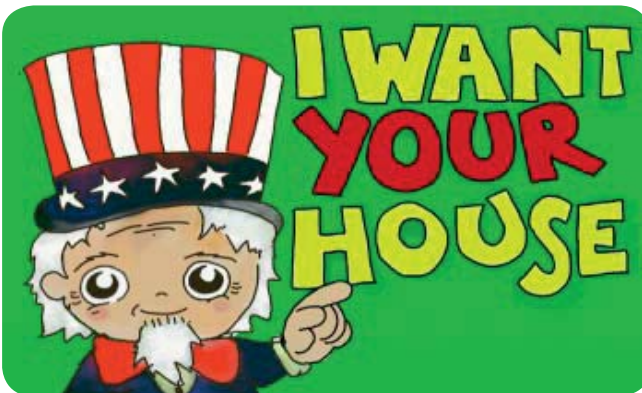


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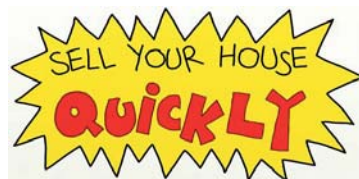


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NEW WEBSITE HELPS VICTIMS OF CRIME & ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

A BRAND NEW website launched today by Ron Hogg will help victims to come to terms with the crime or anti-social behaviour that they have suffered. The new Restorative Hub provides safe and informed opportunities for victims to seek the answers they often require to help them move on. It provides advice for victims about finding the support that they need, and it contains advice for restorative justice facilitators. It also includes a number of videos in which people who have benefitted from restorative justice talk about their experiences. Restorative justice benefits the victim, helping them to understand why the crime happened to them by having a dialogue with their offender.

Victims can either communicate through a face-

to-face meeting with support from a facilitator; or if they want answers but do not want to meet their offender, they can communicate through an intermediary. In County Durham and Darlington over 50 volunteers have already been trained to facilitate restorative justice conferences – one of the highest numbers in the country.

Ron Hogg, Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner for County Durham and Darlington, said 'whilst this is not the right approach in all cases, the restorative process can really help some victims to cope and recover from the impact of the crime'. He added 'research shows that offenders who have been made aware of the consequences of their actions can be motivated to address their offending behaviour and not to offend

again.'

Ron Hogg is giving very high priority to putting victims at the heart of the criminal justice system, following his re-election. He has changed his job title to Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner to reflect that priority.

Residents can access the new Restorative Hub website at www.restorativehub.org.uk

Residents Meet

The next meeting of Horndale Residents' Association is on Wednesday 1st June at 6pm. and is also a PACT meeting. It will be held at Greenfield Community College with refreshments served at 5.45pm. Everyone welcome.

TRAMPOLINE CLUB AT WOODHAM ACADEMY



A new trampoline club will be starting in the summer term at Woodham Academy thanks to the arrival of new

PE equipment.

The school have taken delivery of a trampoline, which will be used to offer curriculum and extra-curricular classes for all Woodham Academy students and will also be offered to local primary schools to access.

The Trampoline Club will be part of the Gymnastic Academy and will be a fantastic opportunity to receive elite sports coaching and develop skills. It is hoped that the club will also be able to enter future club and

school competitions in the region.

A funding bid was submitted to the Physical Activity Improvement team which operate a grants scheme designed to get people moving more under the 'altogether active' banner. The full bid amount was rewarded to the school and this week saw the first PE classes make use of their new equipment.

For more information on the Club or using the facilities at Woodham Academy contact info@woodham.org.uk

VALUATION DAY TO HELP BUTTERWICK HOSPICE

Butterwick hospice is asking local people to make donations of unwanted and inherited War medals, Badges, Bank Notes, Uniforms, Postcards, Pocket watches, Gold & Silver Jewellery & scrap gold items. The hospice hopes to collect as many items as possible to be sold to raise much needed funds to help keep your local hospice open.

On Saturday June 18th they are holding a Grand coin & medal valuation day when a team of experts from the Medal Centre in Hexham will be available to offer no obligation valuations on all these types of associated items. No obligation to sell and people may simply wish to have a better idea of what they own and the history behind it.

Andrew Jukes is one of the country's leading experts and any member of his team will be happy to make an immediate cash offer for items people wish to sell. The company will

also make a cash donation to the hospice for items bought. Members of the public who would like to honour a loved one's memory by donating inherited items can pop along to the hospice on the day or prior to the event. The hospice understands that it can often be a difficult decision to part with hard earned family medals or associated items, simply because they feel a little bit of guilt about parting with such items.

Anyone can turn up on the day for a verbal valuation and they are under no obligation to sell or donate anything. This is a win - win situation for the hospice and they hope to raise as much money as possible.

Please contact Butterwick Hospice on Woodhouse Lane, Bishop Auckland direct to make a donation prior to the event or simply turn up on the day for a valuation and take the option of walking away with a

cash sum.

The Hospice is open Monday – Friday 9.30am until 4.30pm to accept donations - Tel: 01388 603003 (Sat Nav ref DL14 6JU)

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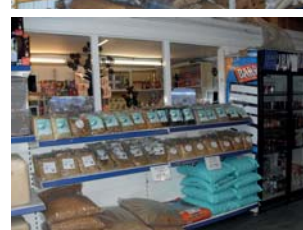
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Town's Care Home 'Highflyer' Recognised

Staff and residents at Rose Lodge Care Home are celebrating after Laundry Assistant Julia Gill was named as a finalist in the 2016 Maria Mallaband and Countrywide Care Awards. Joining Rose Lodge in 2003, Julia is a popular member of the team with staff, residents and families. Her high standards and person-centred service to residents led to her being named as one of six finalists for the 'Housekeeping Highflyer' award category.



Mrs Gill was delighted to hear she had been named finalist: "I still remain as happy as the day I first started, I genuinely enjoy coming to work everyday and feel great job satisfaction." This year marks the second annual awards, created to acknowledge the efforts of staff and the impact they have on the lives of residents and their families. This year the number of awards categories expanded from nine in 2015 to fourteen, plus two additional special awards the 'Judge's Special Award' and 'Phil Burgan Special Appreciation Award'. Staff members, residents, families and visitors were encouraged to nominate staff members across the categories, intended to represent all areas across the business, from frontline staff such as the 'Dignity in

Care' and 'Most Innovative Activity Programme' awards, through to 'Behind the Scenes' and 'Head Office Hero' awards for those who provide exceptional support to their colleagues. Staff from Rose Lodge, along with other award finalists, are invited to a gala evening on Thursday 23rd June at The Queens Hotel in Leeds to enjoy a drinks reception and dinner, followed by the awards presentation and entertainment. The Maria Mallaband Care Group (MMCG) and sister company Countrywide Care Homes are one of the country's biggest independent providers of care for the elderly and mentally ill, along with luxurious close care apartments and retirement villas, gaining a reputation of innovation and excellence in these fields.

Students Taste University Life



Students from Woodham Academy had the opportunity to visit Durham University as part of an ongoing educational programme of activities. This is the second time the students, who are part of the schools More Able Academy have visited Durham to take part in the Future Graduates Programme organised by the university.

The day focused on what to expect when going to university, including looking at how lessons differ from those in school. Students also worked on their academic writing skills, which were put to the test by a task requiring students to write a piece of work on ancient artefacts. The artefacts had

been researched throughout the day and during a previous visit to the university. The Year 9 students will continue working on the project in class back at school.

Alivia Hoy, who attended the visit said: 'It was great

to be able to visit Durham University. I've always wondered what it would be like to go to university. I'm really looking forward to applying after I've been to college, and thinking about studying Law.'

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(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
(For 10K runners must be 16-years or over on June 19th, 2016)

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



FORGIVENESS FOR POLITICAL ATTACK

Dear Syd,

I note that in last week's issue the Labour candidate for the West Ward attempted a character assassination upon myself and my wife.

Having made me out to be some sort of monster who wants to punish the guilty instead of treating them to a better life, he accuses me of being biased against people of special needs and disability which is untrue.

I must admit to my shame I was livid at the accusations being made about me and retaliated through social media whereas I should have realised it was a cheap nasty political shot fired by a discredited former political opponent who cannot move on after being defeated in the January by election.

The Labour party seem to believe that dirty tactics such as these will win them electoral success but the general public are appalled at the dirty tricks employed.

Nevertheless despite this attack I wish him every success in whatever he chooses to do after he is defeated again in the current By Election.

The Independent lady who opposes him in the election is by far the better candidate and I feel sure she will run a clean campaign.

Cllr Ken Robson

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YOUTHFUL VARIETY SHOW

It is nearly show time for the 2016 Youth Variety Show at the Civic Hall, Shildon when 50 young people aged between 6 and 18 years take

to the stage in their 2 hour show. There is something for everyone: Comedy, Magic, Singers, Dancers and Instrumentalists.

A spokesperson said "These young people over the last few months have worked extremely hard to polish up their acts, so come along and see for yourself and support the evening. Bring your family and friends, I'm sure you will have a great evening out."

Performances are on Thursday 9th and Friday 10th June at 7-30pm. Tickets are priced £5 Adults and £3 Children (under 16) For more information ring 07747 826 324.

Souper Time

Once again it is time for Souper Lunch at St Elizabeth's Church on Wednesday 1st of June at 12.30pm. Two courses for only £3.00 which includes tea or coffee. We look forward to seeing you again.

Saturday June 4th the ever popular Coffee Morning. Come and purchase our delicious Cakes, Bakes and Pies.

Sit with friends and enjoy scones, tea and coffee. A seasonal Raffle will also be on offer.

Student Cheerleaders



St Joseph's schoolchildren enjoyed a day of Cheerleading this week. These taster sessions were led by Susan Kenney from SSP. Every class had a warm up session then learnt a cheerleading routine. Lots of fun with staff joining in as well.

33 Extra Staff Members for New Aycliffe Store



LEADING craft supplier, Crafter's Companion has added 33 new recruits to its team in the run up to the opening of its first UK store. The new store, at Aycliffe Business Park, will officially open to the public on Saturday 28th May and is intended to be a destination not only for avid crafters but also those who want to try crafting for the first time.

As part of the store launch, the company planned to recruit 16 new team members to run the retail operations at the County Durham

outlet. However, following a recruitment day held ahead of the launch, the company has decided to take on a further nine new recruits to staff the store.

Sara Davies, founder of Crafter's Companion said: "We were absolutely overwhelmed by the interest in the new positions. This is our first UK store and we were really keen to find the right people for the job."

"There were so many talented crafters that turned up to the recruitment day, it was absolutely impossible to only employ 16."

"We've chosen some really amazing people to be at the heart of our new store and we're sure they'll all make great additions to the Crafter's family."

Along with a coffee shop and themed shopping areas, which will give visitors the chance to interact with the brand and its products, the new store will also have dedicated areas for demonstrations and workshops, which will be led by its talented team.

Deborah Anne Mason, the new store manager, said: "The new team are already working really hard to get the store ready. "We're so excited for the launch day and we can't wait for our customers to see everything that the store has to offer."

The recruitment drive follows

the company's move to new corporate headquarters in Newton Aycliffe, which saw an additional 12 team members added to the team. Crafter's Companion, which was founded by Sara Davies in 2005, specialises in manufacturing and distributing crafting tools and products, which are currently sold online via its website, on TV shopping channels across the world and by independent retailers.

For more details visit www.crafterscompanion.co.uk

Youth Cree Create Platform for Humour



Greenfield Arts are working hard to brighten up the day for passengers at Newton Aycliffe Railway Station. Our fantastic Youth Cree group are working alongside talented artists Nicola Golightly, Laura Degnan and Ruth Johnson to come up with artwork and a catalogue of soundbites to bring a smile to the faces of people using the station.

The project 'Bringing the Funny' is part of the Youth Cree project which is supported by GAMP and Public Health funding and has been developed by Greenfield Arts. The Youth Cree are a group of young people who take part in positive activity that makes them feel good, believe in themselves and create wonderful ideas to encourage that in others.

Sophie Lewis, Community and Arts Centre Co-ordinator is thrilled with the success of the project so far, "this is a fantastic opportunity for our young people to explore

something exciting and new as well as generate something kind for others, and in doing so allow them to understand how to be kind to themselves. They have worked so well with our talented artists to bring this to life".

The project is part of a wider initiative to 'adopt a station' at Newton Aycliffe, which will see Greenfield Community College staff and students work together to create a different installation or art piece to enhance the traveller's experience and offer a platform for the high quality work our students create, that can be valued and celebrated publicly.

Use of this creative approach is aimed to engage many of those who can be difficult to reach or at risk by finding 'real life', purposeful activity. Work will be displayed over the Summer period so why not take a trip from Newton Aycliffe station and see what wonders it brings.

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Log Fires are Too Smelly

Dear Sir,
If Aycliffe is a smokeless zone where is the line drawn for these new log burners for the garden?

This problem seems to be all over the town and with gardens being small the fumes emitted are horrendous!

By the time you put children to bed the smell is well into their rooms and people sit outside blissfully unaware of the problems they are causing.

One or two of my friends have breathing difficulties and smoke drifting into their homes does not help.

Annoyed
Name & address supplied

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STAR RADIO MAKES A POSITIVE IMPACT ON OUR REGION



Craig Andrews - Patron of Star Giving, Sarah Botham - Beefy Charity Foundation, Tim Lichfield - Content Controller and Breakfast Presenter

This Friday, 27th May, is 'Local Radio Day' at Star Radio, who serve County Durham, Darlington and North Yorkshire.

Star's MD John Clayton explained "the day is all about celebrating the impact that 'proper local radio' has within a community it serves, delivering local news first, interviews and opinion from local and influential figure heads and supporting local businesses, artists and charities."

Recently re-elected as Police and Crime Commissioner for County Durham and Darlington, Ron Hogg said "Local radio and Star's place

in the community is vital. I can't go and knock on every door across County Durham and Darlington, but you guys have that reach, so I thank you for everything you have done".

Part of the day included a live auction taking place on air, where Beefy's (Sir Ian Botham) Charity Foundation will benefit, providing much needed funds for its five nominated charities – Brain Tumour Research and Support; Batten Disease Family Association; Cardiac Risk in the Young; Bloodwise and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Lady Kathryn

Botham, President of the Beefy Charity Foundations said "we are really excited about the day and recognise the positive impact that Star Radio has made, supporting the Foundation for some 2 years or so now".

John Clayton – MD for Star Radio went on to explain "this is all happening at a hugely exciting time for us, what with the news of our latest audience figures, proving that Local Radio, really does cut through, having accomplished record market share and total listening hours, along with hitting 50,000 listeners across the week, all coupled

with a slight re-branding also happening on the 27th May." The day also celebrates the official launch of Star Giving, the charity arm of Star Radio. Pam Royle – ITV Tyne Tees, news anchor, is one of the patrons for Star Giving. She said "I am thrilled to be a patron for Star Radio and Star Giving. I was involved at the inception of this great radio station and I am delighted that it has so quickly found its place in people's hearts. A live auction kicked off at Breakfast on the 27th May as part of Local Radio Day. To get more information, tune into Star Radio, or log on to starradionortheast.co.uk

Drivers Speed Everywhere!

Dear Sir,
Regarding the person who complained of speeding cars in an Aycliffe street. This problem with speeding vehicles is in every street, even cul-de-sacs! It is very upsetting to approach a blind bend in the road or a T junction to be confronted with a speeding vehicle coming towards you on the wrong side of the road. Then there is the driver who has his indicator on but turns in the opposite direction. It is easy to complain about other drivers but one needs to keep a close watch on ones' own driving and have it checked by an independent person on a regular basis because everyone gets into bad habits. The Institute of Advanced Motorist do regular mock tests. Christopher Palmer, Gilpin Road

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's first team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store had a hard fought three wicket home win against top of the table Normanby Hall 2nd XI in the NYSD 2nd division.

The visitors batted first and at 164 for 4 looked to be heading for a huge total despite some early success for fast bowler James Layfield-Carroll (2 for 22). However the introduction of leg spinner Patrick Howe (4 for 21) soon had them in trouble as they slid to 180 all out after 31.2 overs.

Aycliffe lost wickets at regular intervals, but good innings from both Subhan Christudas (44 runs) and Graham Telford (23 runs) and a superb unbeaten 31 from 16 year old Dan Bowmer saw the home side to a nail biting victory after 50.2 overs.

The club's second team lost by 81 runs away at Wolviston 2nd XI in the 3rd division of the NYSD, but the match will be remembered for an outstanding bowling performance from Aycliffe's Elliott Holt who took a hat-trick during the home sides innings, finishing with 4 for 27 from his 8 over spell. It's the first time for 16 years that this feat has been achieved by an Aycliffe second team player and only the third time in the club's history. Wolviston scored 144 all out after 42.4 overs and Aycliffe replied with 63 all out after 32.2 overs.

A special mention for club stalwart Chris Palmer who played his 517th senior game for Aycliffe at Wolviston,

breaking the club's long standing appearance record of 516 games previously held by Secretary Lee Weldon. During this period, Chris captained the first team on 197 occasions and has scored 8,222 runs, including three centuries.

The 32 year old has played for Aycliffe all of his 17 year career and he expects to play for a few more years so the all time appearance record may take some beating in the future. The club's u17's team hosted Norton u17's in the NYSD junior league and won by an impressive 30 runs. Electing to bat first Aycliffe scored a respectable 111 for 7 in their 20 overs thanks to good innings from Ryan Dawson (38 runs), Jack Lowery (16 runs) and Dylan Tribbley (14 runs). The visitors were bowled out for 81 after 19.1 overs with all rounder Dawson taking a superb 3 wickets for just 3 runs from his four over spell. Dylan Tribbley (2 for 8) and captain Josh Pearson (2 for 23) also bowled well to help Aycliffe to their first win of the season.

Newton Aycliffe's u13's team had an excellent 30 run win at home against Darlington RA u13's in the NYACC League cup. Batting first Aycliffe scored 77 for 7 in their 20 overs thanks to an excellent innings of 18 from Kieran Shingler and 16 not out from captain Lucas Pilling. In reply, Darlington fell 30 runs short thanks to a devastating spell of bowling from all rounder Pilling, who finished his three overs with four wickets for just 3 runs.

Surprise for Teachers

Woodham Academy is calling all former students and former colleagues of Joan Robson and Ian Bickerdike to get in touch.

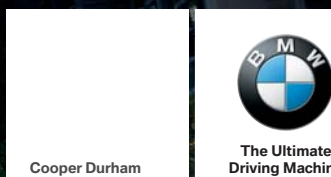
Both teachers are set to retire at the end of the academic year and the school would like to create something special for them to take away to remember their time at Woodham Academy.

Gemma Porter, Media & Marketing Officer, said: Mrs Robson has been with the school for 33 years and Mr Bickerdike for 35 years - that is no mean feat.

Their dedication and commitment to Woodham Academy is outstanding and we would love to demonstrate our appreciation by producing a book of memories and quotes from all former colleagues and students, a bit of a 'This is Your Life' type of thing for them to look back on.

Please contact us to share your memories, good, bad and funny, all welcome. For those that would like to contribute to the surprise for both teachers please email g.porter@woodham.org.uk

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Williamfield Not as Bad as Years Ago

Dear Editor.

Is it not time that the Labour group stopped trying to score points against one another, and start working together with the Independents for the good of the town and the people we all represent?

At the last By Election the residents of the West Ward would not have elected the Independent councillor if they did not want one.

On 12th May I was invited as the West Ward Independent councillor along with officers from Livin, Police two County Councillors and the newly elected Independent councillor to do a walk about in the Silverdale Area with Mrs D Bowman.

I found it was not as bad as it was made out to be on TV. I can remember some years ago, (and the people still living there will remember), that as the West Ward and Sedgefield Borough

Councillor at the time, we had a similar walk about in the Silverdale area and a TV crew was out then.

As a result a number of skips were placed in some areas and the people worked very hard to tidy the place up.

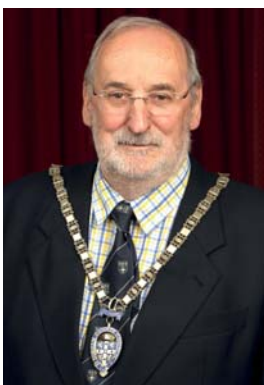
There are some areas that need tidying up now so it would be a good idea to put the skips out again for a while, and if we all work together these problems can be resolved.

Comparing the two walkabouts in the area over those years, in my own opinion, the area has improved! I have been an elected Councillor for over 25 years and seen a lot of changes in the West Ward, but I do not like what is happening with the politics being as bad as it is now.

West Ward Independent Councillor
Alderman George Gray.

AYCLIFFE COUNCILLOR ELECTED DCC VICE CHAIRMAN

County Councillor Mike Dixon on Wednesday 25th May, was elected Vice



Chairman of Durham County Council.

Mike a retired Church of England Priest has lived in Newton Aycliffe for a number of years after serving as Vicar of Shilbottle and as a Prison Chaplain. He still acts as a locum covering for Services where a priest is unavailable. He is married to Mary and they live in Crowley Place. Mike a jovial north easterner is a member of the town's Rotary Club and a devoted Newcastle United fan.

We congratulate him on his appointment which puts a Newtonian in high office at the County Council Unitary Authority for the first time and subject to the elections next year he should become Chairman in 2017.

Four Seats Left on Outing

On Wednesday June 8th St. Clare's Mothers Union and Fellowship group are going on their yearly outing. This year we are visiting Barnard Castle (Market Day) for around three hours retail therapy!

Then we are travelling on to The Fox Hall Inn Restaurant near Scotch Corner for a late afternoon tea of fish/chips, tea bread and butter followed by Ice Cream.

There are four seats left on the coach if anyone would like to join us. We leave outside St. Clare's at 9.50am and arrive back around 4.30pm. Total cost is £13, and more information can be had from Pam Lovelass on 316841.

Aycliffe Craft Store Now Open PUBLIC INVITED TO OPEN DAY



Founder Sara Davies in her magnificent new store on Horndale Avenue

INTERNATIONAL craft supplier, Crafter's Companion will be welcoming Newton Aycliffe residents to the opening of its first UK store at Aycliffe Business Park this bank

holiday weekend.

The store launch, which includes a number of pre-launch events, will start with a ribbon cutting ceremony, led by the Deputy Mayor Cllr Michael Dalton, on Friday

27th May at 10am.

The Friday event will give the public a first glimpse of what the store has to offer, along with giving visitors the chance to take part in crafty Make and Take sessions.

The rest of the bank holiday weekend will give visitors the chance to enjoy a number of activities, led by some of the Crafter's Companion TV stars, as well as get to know the store and the team.

There will also be a local business evening, which will be attended by the newly-elected Mayor, Cllr Jed Hillary and his wife, on Wednesday 25th May intended to give the area's business community the opportunity to preview the new store.

The Newton Aycliffe-based store is the result of a £500,000 investment by the company and is expected to bring craft enthusiasts into the region, as well as allowing local crafters and those wishing to try the hobby for the first time a place where they can get to know the brand and interact with its products.

Sara Davies, founder of Crafter's Companion said: "It's great to finally see our plans come to life. The new store looks amazing and we can't wait to show our visitors."

"A lot of hard work has gone into getting our flagship store ready for the series of launch events and the team has done a fantastic job."

"We look forward to welcoming the Newton Aycliffe residents throughout the weekend, we hope they'll come and try their hand at craft and get involved with some of the activities going on in store."

Along with housing several themed shopping areas, such as papercraft, sewing, haberdashery, home décor and art, the 7,000 sq ft store also has a coffee shop, a central hub for workshops and group sessions and two dedicated demonstration areas where visitors can learn more about craft.

The store will be open to the public from 10am until 5pm on Friday and Saturday and from 10am – 4pm on Sunday and Monday.

For more information, visit www.crafterscompanion.co.uk

Noah's Ark

Parent & Toddler Group

St Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe

Wednesdays 1pm – 2:30pm FROM 4th May

Parents/Grandparents/Carers and pre-school children come along and have some fun together. Meet new people. Try new games and activities. Make new friends.

Activities include: Craft and painting, playdough and song time as well as lots of toys.

Refreshments and snacks will be served.
Cost £1.50 for adult and child (50p each additional child)

Our aim is to provide a warm and welcoming environment for all.

Contact : Rev. Elizabeth 324622 or Rev. Debbie 310767

Business as Usual at Cubby

Please note "The Cubby" will be open as usual over the Bank Holiday. Call in for a tasty hot or cold snack at a very reasonable price.

Neville Community Centre, Neville Parade.

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Newton News

partner

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Care Connect - 24/7 Service Just up Your Street!

People in County Durham are being urged to join the County Council's community alarm service that supports vulnerable residents of all ages. Care Connect assists people maintain their independence in their own home, providing a monitoring and response service to people's homes 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, offering assistance and reassurance whenever it is needed. The service is vital for anybody who believes they are at risk, or vulnerable and their families want security and peace of mind. People may know of a neighbour or friend who is at risk or socially isolated and the Care Connect service can offer assistance and support these people when in need.

Customers are provided with a unit alarm system and pendant, which is installed in their homes, and when the alert button is pressed for assistance a call is placed directly to Care Connect's Control Room.

The service operates 24/7 so staff are always available to offer support and assistance, dispatch Responders to a customer's home, or contact the emergency services when necessary.

There is a small weekly charge for the service, but this will be discussed with customers prior to coming on to the service.

The service helps around 15,000 households across County Durham and has recently retained its Accreditation to the Telecare Services Association (TSA) Code of Practice being one of less than 10% of members to achieve 'Platinum Member Status' (European Technical Specification) for the community alarm and Telecare services it provides.

Care Connect promotes independence through the use of technology so people can remain in their own homes as long as possible. Where, a customer is assessed as needing additional support

equipment known as Telecare can be installed, giving carers and families' peace of mind. Customers who do not wish to go through a social care assessment can agree a private arrangement with Care Connect to have Telecare equipment installed.

There are numerous types of equipment available and include items for people who are at risk of falling, have dementia (or some memory loss), are deaf, blind, or have epilepsy. An example of this technology is a fall detector for people who are frail and/or at risk of falling. The device is unobtrusive and worn about the person and will identify a genuine fall and immediately alert the Control Room so appropriate action can be taken.

For more information, visit Care Connect's website at www.durham.gov.uk/careconnect or telephone 03000 262 195 or send an email to care.connect@durham.gov.uk

Stay safe and independent at home with our local 24/7 service just up your street

Care Connect

- One 'press' of the button for immediate assistance
- Never far away from local support
- New technology
- Emergency response to your door
- Choice of service
- Trained local staff always on hand

For further information regarding the Care Connect service please visit our website at www.durham.gov.uk/careconnect or telephone **03000 262 195** or email care.connect@durham.gov.uk

Care Connect

TSA Code of Practice Platinum Accredited Organisation

Bank Holiday Bin Collection

Residents are reminded there will be no changes to bin collections in County Durham during the May Bank Holiday. Durham County Council is advising residents that bin collections will remain as usual the week commencing Monday May 30.

This includes refuse, recycling and garden waste collections (for those who have signed up to the scheme).

Residents are also advised to put their bins out for collection by 7.00am on their normal collection day.

Anyone who is unsure of their collection days can find out by downloading a bin collection calendar and entering their house number and postcode into the 'MyDurham' section on the Durham County Council website at www.durham.gov.uk

Newton News Unbiased Policy Confirmed

Dear Syd,
Well done for refuting Irene Hewitson's totally unfounded comments regarding the political bias of the Newton News (w.e. 20th May 2016) I can perhaps be accused of sometimes submitting, and I quote from Irene's letter, "long winded sanctimonious ramblings" unquote; however, I am not a Labour Councillor. I may be married to one but I am not a member of the Labour Party, or any other party come to that, and the views I hold are my own views. I have always found the Newton News to be a very unbiased paper, open to debate from a wide variety of people wanting to discuss issues that affect our town. As the Editor has said, he gives free access to his columns to all providing it is not

libellous. It is hardly surprising that residents complained about the press and television coverage of their estate, not all of it true; so, perhaps like myself, they wondered about the motive behind it!

Long may family members of local politicians hold their own views without being accused of any bias. Women were emancipated years ago and probably not since the days of Dickens have we not been able to form and air our OWN opinions. Well done Syd for having an open, independent mind and encouraging others to be the same by printing their letters. Keep up the good work. I, like many residents, look forward to Newton News each week.

Andrea Bergg (Mrs)
Lascelles Avenue

3G Pitch Perfect at Greenfield



A popular sport facility has benefited from a major refurbishment thanks to funding received from Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP). The well used 3G Pitch at Greenfield Community College opened in 2004 and has over 50,000 visits a year; however, as a result of the high demand the 8-a-side floodlit 3G surface was becoming worn.

Greenfield Community College approached GAMP who allocated Area Budget funding, along with contributions from Neighbourhood Budgets of County Councillors Eddy Adam, John Clare, Mike Dixon, Joan Gray, Jed Hillary, Kate Hopper and Sarah Iveson, coupled with substantial match funding from Greenfield Community College to provide the new playing surface. Community College is a well-



Students Learn About Buddhism



Helen from Newcastle Buddhist Centre visited St Joseph's School to talk about Buddhism which has 376 million followers worldwide. She explained to the children how it is a spiritual tradition that focuses on personal spiritual development, telling the children about Siddhartha Gautama the Buddha who was born over 2,500 years ago. All classes enjoyed her talk and looking at photos and statues she brought with her. Helen is shown here with Year 6.

Half Term Eco Events

Moore Lane Eco Centre will be hosting two free family events over the School Half term.

Bird Bonanza Thursday 2nd June, 10.30 -12.30

Come and join us at Moore Lane Eco Centre for a Bird Bonanza! Discover which birds are living in your area and how to be a brilliant bird detective. Create a bird pudding to take back for your own garden or yard then venture outdoors to hunt for the creepy crawlies that share the bird's habitat. Please come prepared for being outdoors. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Book your place: Great Aycliffe Town Council on 01325 300700.

Crazy Crafts Friday 3rd June, 10.30- 12.30

Join local Artist Dawn Belshaw to make stunning animal models at the Moore Lane Eco Centre. 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 at Greenfield Arts Centre on 01325 379048.

established site for Community Sport. Since the opening of the current football facility in 2004 a number of strong partnerships have been developed, who use the 3G pitch regularly, and are growing each year. Partners include: 3 Football Clubs, 12 Primary Schools, Sedgfield School Sport Partnership, and many community groups of all ages.

The newly resurfaced 3G, 8 aside pitch is now available for bookings. Various playing opportunities are available for individuals and groups of all ages; including coaching, club training, adult leagues

and recreational opportunities. For more details contact Lee Boynton facility manager on 07879117224 or visit Greenfield Community Sport Facebook page. David Priestley, Executive Headteacher for Greenfield Community College, said: "Greenfield Community College and its partners have worked hard over the last ten years to build a strong community sporting culture across the area. By installing a new playing surface the school will continue to provide a first class sports facility for the whole town."



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¹Price shown is for a 48 month Personal Contract Hire agreement for a MINI One 3-door Hatch, with a contract mileage of 32,000 miles and excess mileage charge of 3.41p per mile. ²Price shown is for a 48 month Personal Contract Hire agreement for a MINI Cooper Clubman, with a contract mileage of 32,000 miles and excess mileage charge of 4.52p per mile. ³Price shown is for a 48 month Personal Contract Hire agreement for a MINI Cooper Convertible, with a contract mileage of 32,000 miles and excess mileage charge of 4.27p per mile. Applies to new vehicles ordered between 1 April 2016 and 30 June 2016 and registered by 30 September 2016 (subject to availability). Retail customers only. At the end of your agreement you must return the vehicle. Excess mileage, vehicle condition and other charges may be payable. Hire available subject to status to UK residents aged 18 or over. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply. Offer may be varied, withdrawn or extended at any time. Hire provided by MINI Financial Services, Summit ONE, Summit Avenue, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0FB. Inchcape Retail Ltd, trading as The Cooper Group commonly introduce customers to a selected panel of lenders including MINI Financial Services. We may receive commission or other benefits for introducing you to such lenders. This introduction does not amount to independent financial advice.

We Must Stay in the EU says our M.P. Phil

The EU referendum on June 23rd is the most important decision facing our country in a generation. The decision will be irreversible. We will not have another chance in five years time to change our minds as if it were a general election. **THIS DECISION IS ONCE AND FOR ALL.** I very much believe it is in Britain's interest to stay a member of the European Union for jobs, prosperity and security.

Newton Aycliffe now boasts the largest business park in the North East. Many of the companies on the park and in the surrounding area trade with the rest of Europe. Hitachi and Gestamp are good examples, but there are many more. Even if a company does not trade directly with Europe it may probably supply another company that does. In a recent survey of companies in the area, over 80% wanted the UK to remain in the EU. Over 50% said leaving the EU would force them to review their business and investment plans.

These companies employ thousands of local people. In my view remaining in Europe will help secure employment, encourage further inward investment and therefore further job growth and prosperity. Of course we need to see further reform of the EU, but we shouldn't throw the



baby out with the bath water by leaving the largest single market which allows British companies to trade and sell goods to 500 million people in 28 EU countries. The USA, China, India, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Japan all want us to stay a member of the EU. Much of the inward investment from these countries into Europe

comes to the UK because we are part of the European Union.

Membership of the EU has helped bring rights to working people, such as on paid annual leave and maternity leave. The EU has also helped to preserve peace in Europe since the Second World War. NATO protects us militarily, but the soft power of European diplomacy and trade amongst European nations can not be underestimated for maintaining the longest period of peace in Europe in our history.

For all these reasons, and more, I'll be voting to see the UK remain a Member of the EU on June 23rd.

MYTH BUSTING

SOVEREIGNTY

Does the EU make over 80% of British laws? The real answer, NO.

The House of Commons Library (impartial researchers who don't work for any party) have said 13.2% of our laws are from EUROPE

Others say the EU is undemocratic, is this right? Again, NO. Just as we elect our MP's, we also elect our MEP's (Members of the European Parliament) who represent us in Brussels.

COST

Does EU membership cost us £55 million a day? NO. EU membership costs the UK government £5 billion a year, equating to just over £15 million a day. What's more, the Treasury has said that public finances would be hit by £36 billion should we vote to leave. So instead of more money for public services, leaving the EU would mean less money, putting more strain on an already stretched NHS, and costing each household up to £4,300.

THE ALTERNATIVES

The big question, what would the UK look like outside the EU? We could be like Norway or Sweden some people say, they have great deals they add. But, do they really? They accept the EU's freedom of movement, EU regulations and contribute to the EU budget, without any say on what goes on. As for a new deal, without agreeing to many of the terms of EU membership there is a very good chance tariffs will be introduced. Making goods more expensive and hitting the likes of me and you straight in the pocket.

How the EU Protects You at Work

Ever taken a paid holiday from work, gone on maternity or paternity leave, or been a part-time or agency worker? If yes, then you have directly benefited from the UK's EU membership.

From ensuring that you aren't discriminated against based on your age or a disability, to specific rights relating to collective redundancy consultation. The EU has been a driving force for the UK to introduce legislation that protects your rights at work.

Here is a quick example of just some of your rights which originate from the EU;

- 4 weeks paid annual holiday. Yep that's right, this comes from the European Working Time Directive.
- Don't want to work more than 48 hours a week?

Well thanks to the EU's Working Time Directive your employer can't force you too.

- Thanks to the EU, agency workers have the right to the same basic working conditions as equivalent permanent staff members after they have worked for a business for 12 weeks.

- A part-time or fixed term worker? Well the EU prohibits employers from treating full-time and permanent workers more favourably than you.

- Taken maternity leave? Well that's a right which originated from the EU.

- Without EU law, workers in the UK would not have been given the right to information and consultation when employer's propose to make more than 20 redundancies within 90 days.

Yes, some of these things now exist in UK law, but that is in part thanks to the EU. When it comes to protecting you at work, the EU is on your side. Want to continue enjoying ALL of these rights, then it is crucial that the UK remains a member of the European Union.

FLOWER DEMO

At the next meeting of Shildon and District Flower Club is Monday, 6th June. Area Demonstrator Kate, Riley from Branton near Doncaster will present an evening of flower demonstrating entitled 'Design for Now'.

The club meets at Shildon Civic Hall at 7.30pm. Free to members- Visitors most welcome - £5 - pay on the door

Contribution to Wecan Group

The Wecan Parents Group is a self funding organisation which supports parents and carers with children who may need a little extra support. They raise funds and run activities and courses to learn new skills. Honest John has supported the group in the past and we wish to thank him for his recent contribution.

HOW THE EU CUT THE COST OF YOUR MOBILE PHONE

Own a mobile phone? Then the EU has saved you money. Due to the UK's membership of the EU, we all enjoy lower telephone costs.

Since 2000, the European Union has brought down the cost of a phone call by 74%. That's money in your pocket. The EU has also set the minimum charge for sending a text, cutting costs for consumers by 60%.

But it doesn't stop there. Following EU intervention, last month roaming charges for holiday makers who use their mobile phones in another European country fell dramatically, and will disappear altogether by 2017.

This is just one example of the ways in which the European Union has a positive impact on our lives on a daily basis.

The EU also provides us with consumer protection. The Consumer Rights Directive, which comes from the EU, provides a 7 day "cooling off" period for people to change their minds about any purchase made by phone, mail order, or online throughout the EU.

So next time you wonder how the EU has helped you, think back to your telephone bill and consider how much more it could cost if the UK wasn't a member of the European Union.

LOCAL BUSINESSES SIGN LETTER IN SUPPORT TO REMAIN IN EU

Newton Aycliffe, North East and UK businesses benefit from all the trade they secure as a part of the European Union.

Full access to the EU Single Market is vital for UK exporters, their suppliers, and jobs. The EU, our largest customer, buys almost half of what we sell to the rest of the world.

We all agree that we are stronger, safer and better off in the EU.



Hitachi - Gestamp - Gary Stainsby, Managing Director, EHL UK Group - James Goodliffe, Managing Director, Formula Plastics - Ian Miller, Operation Director, GEM Partnership Lee Rankin, Managing Director, GEM Partnership - Sean Sowden, Co-founder, Go Geothermal Ltd - Ian King, Group Sales Director, Invertec - Arnab Basu, CEO, Kromek - David Osborne, Managing Director, Roman - Paul Stiller, Managing Director, Stiller - Rob Yorke, Managing Director, Teescraft, Rachel Townsend Green, Strategic Director, Thrive Marketing Limited

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Councillors Offer Help to Local Taxi Drivers

Dear Sir

The town's County Councillors welcome Nicky Pagiat's letter in last week's Newton News. The role of a taxi driver can be demanding and difficult at times and does require drivers to be both skilled and knowledgeable so they can provide a safe and professional service. We do believe however that for the right person, taxi driving can offer a rewarding career.

There does appear to be some difficulty in recruiting suitable drivers at the moment but - from a different point-of-view - that is an opportunity for people seeking a challenging-but-interesting job.

The local County Councillors have been aware for some time of the problems facing local taxi firms and on 5 May, at the request of MP Phil Wilson, we held a meeting with them together with officers from DCC Licensing Services.

With public protection uppermost in our minds, we were not able to support requests to make the qualifying tests easier. Neither could we agree to allow drivers

who had not completed the necessary checks and tests to have a 'probationary year'. We would not wish our loved ones to be driven in a taxi by someone who was not wholly or properly vetted and who had not satisfied the basic requirements for competency. We will not agree to let our residents do so either.

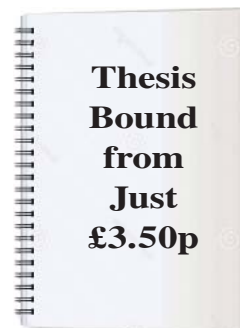
What we *did* offer the taxi operators was - for unemployed candidates - access to free training/coaching on the theory aspects of the qualification, and fully-subsidised transport to and from those courses. DCC officers also agreed to find ways to make the tests (whilst just as demanding and relevant) less intimidating ... and to discuss those changes with representatives of the taxi trade through the Taxi Working Group.

You can read about the issues and our efforts in greater depth on Cllr Clare's blog here: bit.ly/DCCTaxitest

County Councillors Joan Gray, Kate Hopper, Sarah Iveson, Eddy Adam, John D Clare, Mike Dixon and Jed Hillary

STUDENTS!

YOUR THESIS SPIRAL BOUND



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Cleaner - Part time/Full time

Must have own transportation to travel between sites in
Bishop Auckland and Darlington.
Successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced
DBS check.

Apply in writing, indicating experience to
info@peartreeprojects.co.uk.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL



Appointment of Casual Staff

Spinal Scale – Point 6
£7.54 per hour

Applications are invited for the above post which forms part of
the team within the Oak Leaf Sports Complex.

The candidate must be literate and numerate, together with
previous experience of working within a customer care
environment.

The post holders will be required to work as and when required.

This post will require a Disclosure and Barring Service
Enhanced check.

The post holder must be 18 years or over, due to being required
to work in licenced areas.

For further details or an informal discussion about the post,
please contact the Acting Leisure Manager Anne Watson on
01325 300600 or by email at awatson@great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Closing Date for Applications:
Noon on Friday 10th June 2016

Please note interviews will be undertaken on
FRIDAY 17th JUNE 2016

Application packs can be obtained by telephoning 01325
300700, e-mailing: info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk, or from the
Council website: www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL



Appointment of Casual Catering Assistant

Spinal Scale – Point 6 - 8
£7.54 - £7.68 per hour

Applications are invited for the above post which forms part of
the team within the Oak Leaf Sports Complex.

The candidate must be literate and numerate, together with
previous experience of working within a customer care
environment.

The post holders will be required to work as and when required.

The post holder must be 18 years or over, due to being required
to work in licenced areas.

For further details or an informal discussion about the post,
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Application packs can be obtained by telephoning 01325
300700, e-mailing: info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk, or from the Council
website: www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Our MP Welcomes Students on London Visit



St. Joseph's Eight School Council Members were very lucky
to get the opportunity to visit London and a number of places
of political importance.

One of the key British Values we try to instil in our children
is democracy by visiting the Houses Of Parliament where we
observed sessions in the Commons and the House of Lords.
The children met our local MP Phil Wilson during a question
and answer session followed by a visit to 10 Downing Street
and Buckingham Palace. On their return the children shared
their knowledge with the whole school.

GNAAS TRIAL NEW LIFE-SAVING TECHNIQUE

Major trauma patients across
the region will benefit from
yet another life-saving
medical approach, as the Great
North Air Ambulance Service
(GNAAS) today begins to
carry defrosted Fresh Frozen
Plasma (FFP) on board its
aircraft.

The charity already carries red
blood cells on board, enabling
their specially trained medics
to give blood transfusions to
patients with life-threatening
bleeding either on board, or at
the roadside.

This revolutionary approach
recently celebrated its first
anniversary in service when
representatives from the
organisations involved met
patients who are alive today

because of the rapid blood
transfusions they were given
at the scene of their accident.
GNAAS teamed up with
Newcastle Hospitals and
the blood bike charities in
Northumbria and Cumbria and
the Henry Surtees Foundation
to make that project possible.
Now the team has taken it
one step further by carrying
plasma, which provides vital
clotting components to help
blood clots to form and to stop
bleeding. GNAAS is one of
the very first air ambulance
charities in the UK to carry
plasma onboard, which when
given together with the blood,
is thought will offer patients
an even better chance of
survival.

Labour Fail to Support Teaching Assistants

Dear Editor,
Once again Teaching
Assistants, have been let down
by Labour County Councillors,
putting politics before the
people that elected them,
Labour voted to sack all
Teaching Assistants which
is very disappointing but not
surprising to me that Labour
County Councillors play
politics with people's lives
rather than doing the right
thing.

The opposition County
Councillors are not always
wrong and they did Vote
against the new policy!

It is an insult to poorly paid
hard working staff and I do
hope someone challenges this
as it badly effects the lives of
2,700 workers, some of whom
only have this wage to live
on. I wonder what the Labour
members would do if there
was a public vote to stop their
attendance allowance?

Soon there will be a By Election
and no doubt Labour members
will be door knocking telling
us just what they are going to
do to get your votes, but when

we need their help we just do
not get it!
Mrs Maud Gray

Film Show

The "FEEL GOOD FILM
SHOW" at St Clare's Church
on TUESDAY 31st MAY
will feature the uproarious
comedy "PLEASE DON'T
EAT THE DAISIES" starring
DORIS DAY and DAVID NIVEN.

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.

STAR RADIO TEAM



Left to right: John Clayton, Michael Weadock, Wes Stakes, Craig Andrews, Louise Fewster, Tim Lichfield and Ellie Kumar. LISTEN TO THEM ON 102-107 FM. See programme on page 14

Do you want to become a Digital Me volunteer?

We are seeking to train new volunteers through our Digital Skills Foundation
programme. This is FREE of charge and involves a short training course aimed
at giving you the skills and confidence to teach local people how to use the
internet. Delivered by Cornforth Partnership, you will be rewarded by gaining:



An accredited IT
qualification



Volunteer work skills
and experience



Help with developing your
CV and interview techniques



You will:

1. Learn Basic IT skills so that you are confident in
showing others
2. Learn 'How to become a brilliant volunteer'
3. Gain confidence that can help you to find work,
if you wish to
4. Visit local community centres and residents in their
home to help them to use computers, laptops and
tablets and show them how to get online

Anyone aged 16 years or over is
welcome to join us in training to
become a Digital Me volunteer.
All that we ask is that you:

- Live in one of livin's
local communities
- Have access to transport
- Attend all training sessions
- Regularly volunteer at
Digital Me sessions (once your
training is complete)

Everyone satisfactorily completing the
course and regularly volunteering in
the community will also be entered
into a prize draw to win a tablet.

Terms and conditions apply.

To find out more or register your interest:

digitalme@livin.co.uk

livin.co.uk/digitalme

wearelivin

www.livin.co.uk

Please note that
before you can
begin the course
you must have a
satisfactory Data
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check completed
to ensure your
suitability for
volunteering
sessions in the
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at no cost to you.

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Bad Publicity Slurs the Whole Area

Move to Vote Instigator off Committee

Dear Sir,
As a result of bad publicity over Williamfield caused by Dorothy Bowman I had a visit from a neighbourhood watch officer this morning saying I had 7 days to get rid of my husband's car from my garden, saying if I don't he will send someone out to do it for me and I will be given the bill.

He didn't tell me his name or leave any paperwork, so I went to Citizens Advice and was told to contact Durham County Council and sure enough, someone had made a complaint about the car, but as it is private property they cannot remove the vehicle as it will be classed as theft.

Mrs Bowman is trying to start a war, we have a few incidents in the area of anti-social behaviour but no more than anywhere else. I am told there are only four problem family's in this area, a lot of the problems arise from children who are bored, coming from outside of the area to particularly wind her up and it has a knock-on effect.

Mrs Bowman says she is doing it for the benefit of children and families, but I have lived in this area for twenty years and rarely met anyone with something good to say about her and surely the way to help people is to work with them not against them!

She doesn't get along with the authorities, because she has made things worse as she is blaming them for everything. I have been the victim of anti-social behaviour myself as last

month I went outside to find my car wing mirror broken off. Three days later the same was done to my husband's van. No amount of money living put into the place will stop these problems and our area isn't the only one affected.

I didn't feel frightened in this street until the blatant lies Dorothy Bowman is circulating were published and people in the area are very angry. She didn't name my child but by putting a photo of my house with an article about anti-social behaviour she has linked the two, insinuating my child is bad which can be proven wrong.

If any teenager printed something that derogatory on social media and their school found out, I am sure they would be in trouble, but an ex councillor can say anything she likes in the paper.

I have never been afraid to go to meetings in case I got called a 'grass'. It is nowhere near as scary as a child not knowing if they are going to be picked on because a grown up has written something which slurs all children in our area.

I don't as a rule attend the PACT meetings as I believe in "live and let live", but I will be attending the next one to voice my opinion. Mrs Bowman is not a Councillor anymore and hasn't been one for three years and I don't know who voted for her to be on the residents' committee but I plan to do every thing in my power to make sure she is voted off!

Mal Brown.

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Dear Sir,
You will be aware the County Council voted to tear up teaching assistants' pro rata contracts, and re-employ them on a term time contract only. This will devastate the lives of those people who help raise standards of the most fundamental skills in some of the most deprived schools with children from the most deprived backgrounds.

And for those workers, they face a summer of unemployment, a universal credit claim with an average of an 8 weeks wait, and the prospect of DWP work programme courses to be entitled to benefits before they return to work in September.

And the people who voted for these changes are in possession of allowances which equals or exceeds these T.A's salaries.

I say means-test our county representatives, who are mostly in office because they enjoy excellent salaries and pensions.

Had only someone on a T.A's salary been able to afford to stand for office, we'd not have a class of shameless people taking from working people, the ideological and material powers that ought to belong to working people.

Moreover, 40 of these representatives, either didn't think the issue worthy of

turning up to vote on, or spinelessly abstained to ensure their voting record would not blemish their future political aspirations. Working people do not need sycophantic, lily livered careerists, why don't we means test our representatives and use the savings to pay the unsung heroes in our classrooms?
Warren Saunders

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Are You Registered for Referendum Vote?

Residents in County Durham are reminded that they must be registered to vote in order to take part in the EU Referendum on 23 June. Those who are already registered and eligible to vote in the referendum will receive a poll card, and do not need to re-register to take part. Poll cards for the referendum will be delivered to homes across the county from this Friday (20 May) until Monday (23 May). The cards will provide details of which polling station people should use.

People whose circumstances have recently changed – for example, by moving house – or whose circumstances will change before the register to vote deadline of Tuesday 7 June, will need to re-register with their new details.

Anyone who is not already registered to vote, or who needs to re-register with new details, will need to do so by Tuesday 7 June by visiting www.gov.uk/register-to-vote David Collingwood, electoral services manager at Durham County Council, said: "Being

on the electoral register will not only ensure you can have your say in the EU referendum but it helps your credit rating, getting you better access to deals on things like mobile phones, new cars, mortgages and rental properties."

Those who are on the electoral register can request a postal or proxy vote. The deadline for postal vote applications is 5pm on Wednesday 8 June and for proxy vote applications the deadline is 5pm on Wednesday 15 June. To request a paper copy of the postal or proxy vote application form people should contact electoral services on 03000 261 212 or email electoralservices@durham.gov.uk

STAND TOGETHER AGAINST RACISM

These are challenging times and we all face a variety of problems. We believe, however that looking for scapegoats and intolerance offer no solutions whatsoever.

Migrant workers, immigrants, asylum seekers and members of any one faith are not responsible for financial crisis, hardship, cuts and unemployment. Despite this we note an increase in anti-Muslim Islamophobia and other forms of racism in Britain and the rest of Europe. The North-East has a well-deserved reputation for solidarity and social cohesion. We pride ourselves on the diversity of our communities and our mixed heritages. We are aware that the racist 'BAAI' is intent upon importing its hate filled message into Bishop Auckland on 11th June.

We believe that such a development will only stir up division and besmirch the name of our town and the North East.

New Funding for Small Businesses

Members of Aycliffe Business Park can now take advantage of new funding available for micro and small business. The Durham Coast and Lowlands LEADER programme offers grant funding for businesses looking to expand, enhance productivity and create jobs.

The grant comes from the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) and for the first time the whole of Newton Aycliffe is within the patch. It is understandable businesses across the park to do not view themselves as a rural business, but it is clear that under this scheme the area is able to secure funding. It is a huge opportunity for businesses in the area to gain capital funding. Key Facts about LEADER Funding

- Funding of £2500 – £145,000.
- Funding needs to be committed by March 2018.
- Intervention rate of 40% but non for profit activities can gain up to 80%.
- Both existing businesses and people wishing to start a new business can apply.

- Key Priority for Businesses on the park would be the Micro and Small Business priority.
- There are also four other priority sectors that the grant will fund. These are Tourism, Culture & Heritage, Farm Productivity and Rural Services.

Examples of Items which can be funded:

- **Construction costs for factories, premises and workshops including expansion**
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STAR RADIO PROGRAMME Frequency: 102-107FM

Local Radio Day - Friday May 27th

0600-0800 John Clayton
0800-1200 Wes Stakes & Michael Weadock
1200-1600 Craig Andrews & John Clayton
1600-1900 Local Radio Day

Saturday May 28th

6am-9am John Clayton (VT)
9am-2pm Wes Stakes w/ "The Mystery Years" at 9am
2pm-3pm Everything 80's
3pm-6pm Craig Andrews (VT)
6pm-12am Dancing Through The Decades

Sunday May 29th

6am-9am Easy Like a Sunday Morning w/John Clayton (VT)

9am-2pm Wes Stakes w/ "The Mystery Years" at 9am
2pm-3pm Everything 80's
3pm-7pm Craig Andrews (VT)
7pm-10pm Non-Stop Star
10pm-12am Wind Down Zone

Monday May 30th - EVERYTHING 80's ALL DAY

7am-10am Michael Weadock
10am-2pm John Clayton (VT)
2pm-3pm Everything 80's
3pm-7pm Craig Andrews (VT)
7pm-10pm The Evening Takeover
10pm-12am Wind Down Zone

Tuesday May 31st - Friday June 3rd

6am-10am Star Radio Breakfast (Wes) - £1k Minute at 8:15 & "The Mystery Years" at 9am.
10am-2pm John Clayton (VT)
2pm-3pm Everything 80's
3pm-7pm Star Radio Drive w/ Craig Andrews
7pm-10pm The Evening Takeover (Fri is "Dancing Through The Decades")
10pm-12am Wind Down Zone

Radio House - Woodland Road - Darlington - DL3 7BJ
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New Batik Workshops at Greenfield

Textile artist Rosi Thornton will be joining us in the Greenfield Gallery throughout June with her exhibition 'Layers of Memory and Meaning', open from Thursday 2nd June with a preview event on Wednesday 1st June 6pm – 8pm. Rosi is interested in used and distressed things which show layers of wear and tear, a way to carry layers of memories and meaning from a life already lived. Many cultures honour these same ideas of reusing and recycling. As we turn away from years of excess and become more thoughtful and careful with what we already have, whether through financial necessity or by remembering and renewing our own hand skills, these layers can speak to us. As part of her time in the gallery she will be offering a two-week batik workshop for families and individuals on Monday 13th and 20th June 6:30pm – 8:30pm, at £15 per individual or £20 for families. This is a great opportunity to create your own designs on fabric using a hot wax technique, with stamping and traditional tjanting tools. You will then have the chance to colour the fabrics using dyes. Workshop 2 will look at embellishment techniques using hand and machine embroidery, buttons, beads, lace and fabric scraps. Don't miss your chance to create your own memories and meaning with Rosi.

Sits Vacant

HOME IMPROVEMENT Company requires experienced block pavers for local areas. Must demonstrate excellent workmanship and customer service skills. Own tools and transport required, regular competitive rates of pay. For more info call 07935 451 760



County Newsbits

Compiled by
County Councillor
John Clare

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

COUNCIL NEWS

- Business Durham infographic: <http://bit.ly/DCCBD16>
- Carer's Strategy Survey: <http://bit.ly/DCCCarers>
- Capital funding for local businesses available through the 'LEADER' programme: <http://bit.ly/LEADERNA>
- DCC Countryside Map and Compass training: <http://bit.ly/DCCCMC>
- Report a problem with a road or pavement: <http://bit.ly/DCCRR>
- Latest Aycliffe area roadworks information: <http://bit.ly/Roadworks27516>
- Last week's report from our MEP: <http://bit.ly/JKD22516>

COMMUNITY NEWS

- A new limited company to promote the Business Park: <http://bit.ly/ABPCO>
- Restorative Hub website launched to help victims of

- crime: <http://bit.ly/DCRHUB>
- Hitachi Ladies Day, Thursday 23 June, 3:30-5:30pm: <http://bit.ly/1NJe6C6>
- Half term activities for young people in Newton Aycliffe: <http://bit.ly/NAAct616>
- Georgian Fair, Beamish Museum, 2-5 June: <http://bit.ly/BMgeorgian>
- Shildon Model Railway Club, Locomotion Museum, FREE, 10am-4pm, Sunday 5 June: <http://bit.ly/NRMS5616>
- Butterwick Hospice's 'Bark in the Park' walk, £5 for dogs and their owners, at Hardwick Park, 11am Sunday 5 June: <http://bit.ly/BHHP616>
- Butterwick Hospice's 'It's a Knockout', FREE, Witton Castle DL14 0DE, 9:30am-4:30pm Sunday 5 June: 01388 603 003
- Hedgehog Helpers need Guinea Pig cages: <http://bit.ly/HHGP516>

Accommodation

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We need 2, 3, 4 bedroom houses and apartments in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas for our clients on our waiting list.

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3 BED DETACHED house, Woodham, excellent condition with garage. £550 per month. Tel. 07866 622 243
3 BEDROOM spacious house in Guthrum Place. £450 per month. Bond and Admin fees apply. Tel 01388 810500
DOUBLE ROOM to let in shared house. Quiet private estate. Ample parking. £90 per week all bills included. Please contact 07703 069 290
BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM spacious house in Yoden Court, £600 pcm. Recently refurbished to a high standard with new extension, garage with gardens, front and rear. 07770 965 148

Obituary

ARMSTRONG May 21 peacefully. Ray aged 92 years of Newton Aycliffe. Beloved Husband of the late Vera much loved Dad of Carol, dear Father in Law of Colin also a loving Grandad and Great Grandad. Funeral Friday June 3. Would family and friends please meet 12 noon for a Service at Durham Crematorium.

3 BED HOUSE to rent in Woodham, recently refurbished to high standard, off road parking, large shed, secluded garden. £500 pcm. Tel 07770 965 148

3 BED HOUSE to rent Sharp Road, Newton Aycliffe. £530 per month. Tel 07486 468 625

3 BEDROOM properties available to rent in Eskdale Place, Newton Aycliffe. Please contact Lucy on 07826 925 652 for further details (please note we do not accept DSS)

2 BEDROOM semi Woodham, Newton Aycliffe. Quiet area, carpets, fitted kitchen, D.G., Driveway, Combi boiler, Garden front & rear. Working persons only. One month rent and bond in advance. £495 pcm. Tel 07570 140 140

TO LET ONE BEDROOM house in Woodham, £350 pcm plus £350 bond. No DSS, no smokers or pets. Tel 07803 349 508

2 BED SEMI Woodham, Newton Aycliffe. Quiet area. Carpets, Fitted Kitchen, DG, driveway, Combi Boiler. Gardens front & rear. Working person/s only. One months rent & bond in advance. £475 pcm 07570 140 140

In Memoriam

HUGHIE BRADY 25th May 2014. We never thought of losing you and maybe that was wrong, you always seemed a part of us, that would go on and on. Remembering you is easy, we do it every day. It's the heartbreak of losing you that never goes away. From your loving Wife Anne, Thomas and Clare, Neil and Lynne, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

ANTHEA SCOTT - ATESS 26th May 2006 In memory of a beautiful Daughter, Mam, Sister and Aunt. The years may wipe out many things. But this they'll wipe out never. The memory of those happy days when we were all together. We think of our Anthea always and our times together recall. Then when her life was brightest and all her hopes were best, God called her from among us to a home of eternal rest. Also remembering our loved ones, especially 'Our Phil' who passed away 9.3.2016. Love and miss you Son xx

NOEL NEEDHAM passed away 26th May 2009. No farewell spoken, no time to say goodbye, you were gone before we knew it and only God knows why. Love always, Sheila and families xx
JIMMY CUNNINGHAM 2011. Memories of a wonderful Son and Brother, sadly missed every day. Gone but never forgotten. Love, Mam and Susan xx
LOUISE CUNNINGHAM 23/5/10 In loving memory of a dear Niece. Never forgotten. Uncle Jack and Aunt Lilian, Sharon, Hazel and families

Thank You

PAWS2RESCUE would like to say a huge thank you to Craig Jackman and Stewart Martin for driving all the way to Surrey on Monday this week to deliver a van full of donations for the Romanian dogs. And a big thank you to Langton Medical Training, NASSL, Julie, Helen and Ann, amongst others, who donated so much food and doggie essentials. Your help and generosity is appreciated so much. If you would like to help the dogs, by donating or adopting or fostering, then please contact our local team member SJ on 07834 614 659 (by text during the day or call on an evening). Alternatively contact us on Facebook. Thank you all once again.

THE FAMILY of the late Davie McDonald wish to thank all family and friends who attended the Service at St Clare's Church for their love and support. We would also like to give a special thanks to Geraldine and staff at John Meynell Funeral Care. Rev. Elizabeth Bland for a lovely Service, the British Legion for the food which was all very nice. Thanks Louise, the Staff at the Cobblers Hall Doctor's, Debbie, Vickie and Lesley, also Pharmacist Alisdair for all their care and support throughout Davie's illness. Also the District Nurse team who were fantastic with Davie and family. All donations raised went to Alzheimers Research £284.25 and Willington Day Care £200.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK every person who helped or stopped and asked if I needed any help after I fell outside Wilkinson's on Friday 20th May. The Staff from Wilkinson's were very kind and helpful, the two ladies who brought the foil to keep the heat in my body. Three staff members from the Leisure Centre, two of whom I have found their names, Katie Scowen and Rosie Hill. A great big grateful thank you to all these lovely, kind and thoughtful people. And I would like to say a massive thank you to Paul Cook (Cookie) and his friend who stayed throughout the whole time, constantly talking to me, wiping the blood and refusing to leave my side. Paul lay on the floor the whole time, I cannot thank these two men and his sister enough. Thank you all so much, Margaret Dunn

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY a big thank you to the gentleman and lady who helped me when I fell in the town centre on Saturday and the people of the framers shop, also Irene and Maureen. Best wishes to everyone, from Lily

Wanted

CASH FOR FURNITURE Cookers, Fridges, Freezers. Houses cleared for cash. Tel 07754 261 443

CASH PAID for furniture. Tel 07860 560295

BAND SAW floor or bench standing Tel 01325 312002
MOBILE BEAUTICIAN to do my eyebrow waxing and colouring. Must be reliable and able to do house visits on an evening once every 4-6 weeks as my regular lady is unable to visit to do them anymore. Text only to 07834 614 659

Congratulations

Lewis Cane



Happy 18th Birthday
30.05.1998

You've grown into such a fantastic young man and we all love you so much. Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Macy, Josh, Rebecca, Emelia and Nanna and Grandad xxxxx

STACEY NATTRASS



So proud of our Daughter Stacey Nattrass who won an award at the final of the Great British Care Awards held in Birmingham on the 20th May.

Well done love for all the hard work and dedication to your job, but mostly the dedication to all the residents at Defoe Care home who you look after. Super proud.

Mum, Dad and Carl

PETER THOMPSON the big 40 on 29th May. Happy birthday Son. Love and kisses from Mam x

For Sale

HAUK TRAVEL SYSTEM FOR SALE



Red/grey/black, 3-in-1 travel system 8 months old (carry cot and car seat are brand new never been used and still in packaging) and pushchair has been used but in good condition complete with rain cover, cup holder on handle and large shopping basket underneath. Bargain at £60 ono. Tel. 07460 225442

RENT a washing machine only £3.99 per week, no deposit, fully maintained. Bargain Buys, Shafto Way, 01325 321678
"ALL SORTS" Charity Shop at the side of St. Clare's Church is open 10am to 1pm every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. On sale is a huge selection of bric-a-brac, toys, household goods, jewellery, electrical goods . . . the list is endless. All items are perfect and at low prices. All money raised will continue to be given to good causes. All Sorts is a charitable project run and funded solely by Godfrey Bennett.

4 x N.A.O. BOXED CHINA figurines, £20 each or £70 for the four. Phone for details, METAL SHED 277 265
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WHEELCHAIR ultra lightweight aluminium, unused, £100. Tel 07956 089 630

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

Katherine Hayhoe



To my lovely Granddaughter
On her 18th birthday.
Love, Nana and Uncle Ian xxx

Katherine Hayhoe



Happy 18th Birthday
To our beautiful Daughter
Love always,
Mam and Dad xxx

Beth Laskey



24th May
Happy 21st Birthday
We are so very proud of you
Love from Mum and Dad
xxx

Nicola Dale



26th May
Happy 40th Birthday
Triple N.
Lots of love,
The Wills xx

Angela King



3rd June
Happy 40th Birthday
To my lovely Daughter
Lots of love, Mam, Robin, Nana and Grandad xxx

Nicola Dale



Happy Birthday
To my lovely Daughter who, on May 26th, was 32+ VAT
Lots of love, Mam xxxxxxx

PETER WHARTON for a Special Son on your 21st. Enjoy your weekend, love you loads, Mam and Dad x

HAPPY 21st Uncle Peter. Love, Hayley and James
HAPPY 21st Uncle Peter. Love you, Ryan and Amelia



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AYCLIFFE RUNNERS IN LORD STONES CAFÉ & PIER TO PIER RACES

Aycliffe club runners have participated in races around the region enjoying local countryside and sights.

John Burnside was the sole runner from Aycliffe running club to compete in the latest of the Summer Tees Trail 5k races, which was held at Lord Stones Cafe on the 19 May. Because of a marshalling error, John, along with some other runners was sent the wrong way up a steep hill before having to come back to join the main group of runners. Despite this John finished 30th in the time of 25:33.

Four Aycliffe club runners competed in the Pier to Pier on Sunday 22 May. The race is organised by Sunderland Strollers and is approximately 7 miles, with the route taking runners from South Shields Pier to Roker Pier.



It starts on the beach at South Shields and follows the coastline across the Leas, past Marsden Grotto, Souter Lighthouse, Whitburn and finishes on the beach at Roker Pier. Runners take their own route avoiding public highways. The terrain is sand, grass, tarmac, and cliff top paths with a few gates and steps thrown in along the way. There were 1128 finishers.

First back for Aycliffe was Robert Young in 52:31, followed by Martha McBarron in 56:31, Trish Kay in 59:13 and Angela Barrett in 61:13. The weather was good, bright and sunny with a slight breeze.

WOODHAM IN COUNTY SCHOOL CRICKET FINALS



Woodham Academy U13 boys cricket team travelled to

Woodham Academy won by 17 runs.

Woodham's second game, against Whitworth, saw the team struggle whilst batting against some aggressive bowling from the Whitworth bowlers. Woodham Academy finished their innings on 53 with Lucas Pilling (14 runs) and George Pearson (12 runs), being significant contributors. Bowling was a strength for the team. George Pearson was on the end of two excellent catches to remove Whitworth's main batters. Iain Robson provided an excellent last over but it wasn't enough, with

Whitworth winning by four runs, finishing on 57.

In order to qualify for the Durham County finals, Woodham needed Sedgefield to win their match against Whitworth. The cricketing Gods were on the Academy's side and Sedgefield won their final match leaving Woodham to take home the trophy with the most runs overall. By winning the tournament, the team qualified for the Durham County Finals and will go on to represent Sedgefield District in the Durham County School Cricket Finals.

A massive well done to all the boys who were involved. They did themselves and Woodham Academy proud!

TRY TAI CHI

Are you aged 50 plus and looking to try an exercise that is suitable for all levels of fitness and abilities? Why not give Tai Chi a try? Tai chi combines deep breathing and relaxation with slow and gentle movements and is practised around the world as a health-promoting exercise. Studies show that tai chi can help reduce stress, improve balance and general mobility, and increase muscle strength in the legs.

We have a class in Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre which runs on Wednesdays at 12.00pm. For more info, call George at Age UK County Durham on 0191 374 6568

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League Champions!



The final weekend of the Russel Foster League was dramatic and successful for our Under 14 Girls and Under 17 Boys

Under 14 Girls v Washington. Nothing more than a win would secure the championship for the girls after a long season. There was nothing to split the teams in the early stages as both defences dominated, it was important to get the first goal to settle the girls and Chloe obliged with a superb finish.

Aycliffe now started to dominate possession and from a sweeping move that ended out wide on the left Lottie looked up and hit a rocket giving the keeper no chance HT 2-0. The girls still couldn't settle as Washington pushed forward and looked dangerous from set pieces as they launched balls into the Aycliffe box, but once again it was the defence who stood firm.

Then the girls won a free kick on the edge of the Washington box which was taken by Lottie who found the unmarked Chloe to head the decisive goal. It was now just a matter of seeing out the game with a clean sheet to take a well deserved League championship FT 3-0. A huge well done the girls, Helen Clark

and her coaching team of Mark Silvester and Shaun Wilson, giving the club their first girls league champions

Under 17's v Catchgate. With the league already secured in mid week, there was no pressure on the team so this was to be a chance to play football and enjoy the game. They certainly did that with a first half performance which at times was simply superb.

Goals came at regular intervals and were the result of some excellent team work with all goals being set up by crosses or passes in or around the Catchgate defence HT 11-1 A number of changes were made with Goalkeeper Bradley Cloughton moving to become a striker in an effort to score this season and he obliged with a neat side foot finish. FT 15-1. Well done from the club to Dave McWaters and Mel Douglas leading these lads to a well deserved championship

Other results
 U11 Girls 5 v 0 Hartlepool
 U12 Girls 2 v 2 Birtley
 U7 Eagles 3 v 1 Crookhall
 U8 Eagles 1 v 3 Houghton Albion More information about our FA Charter Standard Community Club visit the website www.nayfc.com



Durham last week to compete in the Durham County Cricket Board District Tournament. In the run up to their first match the team were feeling anxious as they were yet to win a game. Woodham Academy were up against 2 strong teams, Sedgefield and Whitworth. The first of two games got underway with the starting fixture being against Sedgefield. There were two vital innings played during Woodham's batting: firstly Kieran Shingler (20 runs) and then Declan Scott (16 runs) that allowed Woodham Academy to score 67. The bowling from the players during the Sedgefield Innings was excellent and with a final over from Iain Robson that only cost 6 runs and also included 2 wickets, which restricted Sedgefield to 50,

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