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Week Ending 10th June 2016

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Woodham Golf Club Housing Approved by County Council

Woodham Golf Course received the good news, on Tuesday this week, that their planning application for 50 houses on the course has been approved by Durham County Council.

It has taken two years to convince the planners this scheme was right for our town. The previous application included many more houses and a new Hotel which the new owners Halls Construction of Newton Aycliffe asked to amend. They didn't want a massive housing scheme and applied for a more modest development which would allow them to invest money on the golf course.

Director Neville Hall told Newton News he was very pleased and thanked local councillors for their support.



New housing scheme top left next to Middridge Road (C35)

Mike Dixon proposed the outline planning application be approved and John Clare was the seconder and it was agreed unanimously.

"I want to thank Newton News and everyone in the community who supported us and look forward to proceeding with the development as soon as the detailed planning is approved. This will secure the future of the town's golf course and if in the future



Neville Hall

there is a demand we will consider building a hotel." Part of the agreement is to donate the adjacent Agnew Wood to the Town Council and to provide a circular walk around the golf course. The owners are to continue with their charitable community work and encouraging young people and ladies to take up golf with free offers. Halls hope to commence the scheme next year which will first mean building a new access road with the whole project expecting to take two years to complete. We wish to congratulate the Halls on finally obtaining permission for their plans. The unanimous approval for their honest and worthwhile scheme should give them encouragement and we wish them success in all their endeavours.



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QUARTET IN CONCERT



The Villiers Quartet (2 violins, viola and cello) will perform in the Chapel at Auckland Castle in the third concert of Bishop Auckland Music Society's 2016 series on Friday, 17th June at 7.30pm. Described as 'one of the most charismatic and adventurous quartets of the British chamber music scene' (The Strad) the Quartet will perform works by Beethoven, Granero and Mendelssohn.

Named after Villiers Street in London's colourful musical epicentre, the Villiers Quartet encompasses the grand and iconic spirit of the extraordinary music tradition in London. Nothing is outside of their repertoire as they define the string quartet for the 21st century.

Tickets: £13.50 (£15 on the door) available from Brotherton's Music or by contacting Brian Varley (01388) 606075

Inovyn Helps Aycliffe Cancer Support Group

Chemical company, INOVYN, with a site at Newton Aycliffe has today agreed to provide financial support to a great cause, Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group.

INOVYN is pleased to be providing financial support to the Group, which will mean they can continue with their regular meetings well into 2017.

The Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group are a friendly social group, who welcome anyone who has been affected by cancer. They hold regular monthly meetings on the first Thursday of every month from 6.00-7.30pm at the Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre - with the exception of August and January.

The Group, which was set up by Allison White, a cancer

sufferer herself, helps those affected by cancer in many ways including providing information on issues that affect cancer patients, offering regular social activities including day trips. Allison has helped many people since the group was set up in 2014 and is clearly a lifeline for some.

Andy Heyes, Site Manager at the Newton Aycliffe site said: "This is a great cause and we were only too happy to provide financial support. Allison gives so much to those people in need of both emotional and practical support that we were compelled to help out and support the Group."

Allison White, founder of the Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group said: "I am really grateful to INOVYN for supporting the Group, without this type of support we would find it difficult to help those who need help to face and fight cancer and make sure they know that they are not alone."

DONATIONS REQUIRED

I am in the process of organising a charity event for 2nd July and looking for donations towards raffle & tombola prizes as well as any unwanted items that are in good condition for our table to sale. All the proceeds from the event will go to the Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group. If you can help, please contact me on 07944187877 or email sharon.parkinson1973@talktalk.net to arrange a collection of your donation.

Thank You
Sharon Parkinson, Secretary for Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group

BREXIT QUESTIONS

Sir

Are there likely to be short term entirely unintended consequences in leaving the EU, Brexit supporters would hate? If we are going to allow any Europeans already here, to stay, what is the point of leaving the EU, for many of those voting to Brexit?

Are we going to stop Europeans coming back into the UK freely, if they already live here, when they travel abroad? Are we going to have to grant over 3 million people already living here, UK passports whether they want them or not? Is this the only way to distinguish them from other Europeans and to be practical about future immigration controls?

Will their family members acquire the right of British nationality from their near relations good fortune? Will this have the effect of encouraging across to Britain more extended families from European countries?

How are both Boris Johnson or Michael Gove going to deliver the Britain for the British they

are implicitly promising those who support them, if there is to be an amnesty for anyone already here?

Do current high immigration figures represent a rush of those anxious to come, in case the door finally closes on 23rd June? Will Nigel Farage, Boris Johnson and Michael Gove be brushed aside as irrelevant by darker forces taking over demanding mass expulsions instead of an amnesty? Can they control the momentum of their movement?

Nigel F Boddy

P.A.C.T. Meeting

Police And Community Together



The next POP IN PACT meeting for Woodham Ward, Newton Aycliffe will be held at 10:30am on Tuesday 28th June 2016 at Woodham Community Centre, St. Elizabeth's Close, Woodham, Newton Aycliffe. PCSO 7430 Gavin Laycock
Email: gavin.laycock@durham.pnn.police.uk
FIN: 0211
EXT: 742691

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Saturday 11th June - "F.M."

Review: "Was this our best pub gig ever? Probably"

What can you say about FM, this was rock and metal utopia, a classic journey through the rock and roll hall of fame. They did the lot, Kaiser Chiefs, Foo Fighters, Sabbath, AC/DC, Zep and no real cheese, OK they did 'Whisky in the Jar', but hey! FM put a great amount of effort into this gig, sometimes mid week gigs just don't seem to have the same WOW factor.

The atmosphere was great as was the music, a superb night. What is particularly pleasing is that FM don't always take the easy option, ie: instead of sticking to 'Sweet Child Of Mine', they did 'Welcome to The Jungle'. How long have FM been around now? Many a year, and on this performance many a year to come. Thanks lads you were awesome."

Saturday 18th June - To Be Confirmed

For more information on bands go to
www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034
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Letters Cause Upset

Dear Sir,

We are used to the gutter press in this country regularly flouting what most would regard as the canons of journalism, such principles as truthfulness, accuracy, objectivity, fairness and public accountability.

I believe however that the Newton News, our community newspaper, has striven to abide by these principles in all the years it has served the town. This is, of course, as it should be as we do not seek out your paper it drops through our letter boxes without invitation. The publication of two letters in last week's paper have alarmed me therefore.

The first letter was written by Mrs Elaine Robson and was essentially a rant directed at a Labour Party candidate in a forthcoming by election. Perhaps one can understand why, as editor, you chose not to suppress it, however personal and offensive the attack. Less easy to understand however was the careless placing of the letter in Friday's paper. It was starkly juxtaposed with election addresses by two other candidates. This, in itself, can be seen as likely to cause harm to the election chances of Mr Peter Davies. Hardly fair!

The publication of the second letter is far more problematic. It was a foul diatribe by Honest John masquerading as a contribution to the debate on the EU prior to the referendum. Instead it was an incendiary offering which openly incited racial hatred and the use of violence. This is a criminal offence whereby not only the person expressing such views but also the publisher of such material puts themselves at risk of prosecution.

Very disappointing!

Lest anyone should suppose otherwise I am not, by the way, a member of any political party.

Yours faithfully

Ann Elizabeth Gilling

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Aycliffe Company Celebrates Year of Exceptional Growth

An Aycliffe grounds maintenance and landscaping company is celebrating a year of significant growth, due to a recent programme of investment into the future of the business.

Family-run Beaumont Grounds Maintenance (BGM), which marked its 50th anniversary last year, saw an increased turnover of 36% on 2014, which it puts down to almost £120,000 investment in new technology in 2015.

The award winning Company, which specialises in general grounds and sports pitch maintenance, has also taken on new team members, including three new apprentices, to cope with the rise in demand after host of successful contract wins.

BGM director, Alex Lineton, said: "We have picked up a lot of quality new contracts over the past couple of years, which has obviously increased our turnover, but we have also improved the



way we operate in order to make our business model future proof.

"We started to target specific geographic areas and have brought in new full time team members to make us run more efficiently, as well as three apprentices, who have taken to our work ethic incredibly well.

"Investing heavily in new technology has also been key to our recent success, as we believe in using the most up to date machines on the market to give our clients the best service possible.



Alex with Jordan Grimes

qualification.

"He encompasses the values that we expect from our staff; hard working, dedicated and a friendly attitude towards clients and colleagues. We see a bright future for Jordan here," Alex concluded.

BGM has also been working on the development of new processes, including an Integrated Management System for ISO 9001, 14001, 18001, which will allow it to tender for bigger opportunities moving forward.

To add to its year of success, the team at BGM won the Service Business of the Year award at the annual Aycliffe Business Park "Make Your Mark" awards in 2015.

Alex said: "This award was great recognition for

the hard work that we have all put in over the past 51 years. The future looks bright for BGM, there are many positive opportunities on the horizon, the team is constantly expanding and after our recent success, we are forecasting growth long into the future."

BGM prides itself on its family ethos and values which it says sets it apart from other companies in the market place. It offers a bespoke, friendly service to a whole range of clients from small commercial sites to large business parks, factories and schools.

For more information on BGM, please visit its website: <http://www.beaumontgrounds.com>

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"Over the last 51 years we have always tried to stay ahead of the game when it comes to new initiatives in our industry, we were even one of the first companies to invest in ride on grass cutters back in the early 1980s!"

After 18 months with BGM, apprentice Jordan Grimes, recently passed his Level 2 Facilities Management

Curtain Down at The Civic

Dear Sir,
Following the final performance at Darlington Civic Theatre on Tuesday 31 May the theatre is now 'dark' for a period of approximately 17 months while the multi-million pound restoration work takes place.

When the theatre re-opens (as the Darlington Hippodrome) there will be a host of new facilities including a café-bar, education centre, heritage gallery, improved disabled access including a lift to all seating levels and improvements to the backstage areas to allow the theatre to accommodate larger shows.

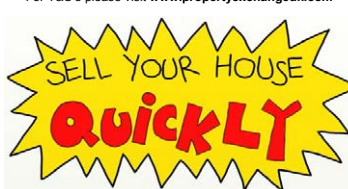
The footprint of the theatre will increase enabling us to offer improved public circulation spaces, the seating capacity will increase to over 1000 while improving sightlines. Improved ventilation will also help to make a visit to the theatre much more comfortable.

I would just like to thank everyone for the support shown Darlington Civic Theatre over the years and we will send regular updates on the status of the restoration. Julian Cound

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Greenfield Chosen to Represent UK Far From "Honest" FREE COURSES AT THE PCP



Greenfield Community College in Newton Aycliffe has been selected to represent the UK in a special education programme to mark the centenary of the Battle of the Somme.

As living memory of what was one of the deadliest battles of the First World War fades, the programme – designed by the British Council – aims to raise awareness of the significance of World War One and the importance of UK-France relations in continuing peace and stability in Europe today. Greenfield will forge partnerships with schools in the Somme region in France to allow pupils from both countries to discuss their shared history, build friendships and to commemorate those who lost their lives in the Battle of the Somme, 100 years on. The highlight of the programme will be a face to face workshop for all of the schools involved in July 2016. David Priestley, Executive Headteacher said, "We really value the opportunity

for our young people to take a significant role in the commemoration of such a momentous event from our history. We look forward to our young people exploring a variety of ways to promote the values of peace and friendship across our school communities and beyond.

Julia Handelman-Smith at the British Council, commented: "The Battle of the Somme is one of the most tragic battles of the First World War, in which more than one million men were lost. By engaging young people with their shared history, they can build understanding, skills and friendships for the future. These are essential elements for a peaceful and prosperous Europe."

The programme is financed by the Department of Media and Sport and delivered in partnership with the French Académie of Amiens and the Mission for the Centenary of the First World War.

The British Council has also created a special education pack for schools

to commemorate the Battle of the Somme. The pack contains resources to help students develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of the conflict. It covers topics including experiences of the Somme from around the Commonwealth, Pals Battalions, conscription, recruitment and remembrance today.

Dear Sir,
I feel that I must reply to Honest John's letter 'An EU Nightmare' because far from being 'Honest' it is riddled with ridiculous, misleading and untrue claims and in my opinion it simply verges on the paranoid.

In addition, I would have thought that a person who donates so much of his time to help those less fortunate would have a little more compassion. Refugees fleeing from Syria are trying to escape a war where brutal regimes on both sides kill, maim and torture.

Refugee's however, have nothing to do with the EU Referendum, and to claim otherwise is ludicrous, and a betrayal of the facts. Under the Dublin Agreement the UK has the right to send refugees back to the first point on entry

into the EU – which benefits us greatly because of how geographically distant we are from the usual EU entry points. Because we are members of the EU the UK has sent back 12,000 refugees since 2003 to other EU countries. If we leave, we will have to deal with all refugees who enter the UK. In addition, be under no illusions that if we leave the EU the French will end UK border controls in Calais. Meaning those migrants and refugees in Calais will find it much easier to make their way to the UK mainland should we leave. The claims of a not so 'Honest John' were deplorable and untrue, and in my opinion scaremongering at it's finest.

AS

Name & Address supplied

The Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe is the Hub for the Colour your Life project which provides access to creative and informal learning activities for the improvement of mental health and the development of emotional resilience.

Details of new courses coming soon are as follows:-

Dig-in Gardening Mondays 10am-12noon. Learn about and take part in wildlife and flower gardening and growing your own vegetables

Shine starts Thursday 23 June 10am-12noon - a wellbeing programme, giving you the tools to truly shine by rediscovering yourself and having the confidence to achieve your goals.

Painting and Drawing starts Thursday 30 June 6-8pm - Learn watercolour techniques, drawing and other painting processes to be able to develop your own ideas from photographs, still life, observation and local landscape.

Mindful Movement provisional start date Friday 8 July 1-3pm – a variety of techniques are used to make exercise fun so that participants move with greater enjoyment, improve their functional fitness and increase their overall sense of wellbeing.

PCP uses professional experienced tutors to deliver these stimulating and inspiring activities. If you are a qualified tutor and interested in delivering for the Colour your Life programme please get in touch. Keep up to date with new courses online at www.colouryourlife.org.uk Twitter@CYL_CoDurham and Facebook: ColourYourLife. LearnCreateDevelop.

To register an interest or to book your place on any of the Colour your Life courses get in touch with the Colour your Life team at PCP on 01325 321234 email: colouryourlife@pcp.uk.net or call into the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4SF. Please book early to avoid disappointment as places are limited.

Flag Raising for Armed Forces Week

To mark the beginning of 'Armed Forces Week' the Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Jed Hillary, will be raising the Armed Forces Flag at St. Clare's Church on Monday, 20th June 2016 at 11 a.m. Members of the public are cordially invited to attend. The Mayor will be assisted at this annual event by Officers from 102 Battalion (REME), 201 Field Hospital, together with Standards from both the REME Association and the Royal British Legion.

A short Service will be conducted by Revd. Elizabeth Bland.Tea / Coffee and biscuits will be available in the Church Hall at the conclusion of the proceedings.

Armed Forces week was first held in 2009 when it was an opportunity for local communities to be able to show their appreciation to the men and women of the Armed Forces from serving personnel to service families and from recruits and veterans. Everyone invited.

How Litter is Spoiling our Town



This photo was featured on facebook recently showing how irresponsible some people are in Aycliffe, not finding a bin to dispose of their litter and content to leave it and spoil our environment.

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COUNTY DURHAM
DH7-0JQ**

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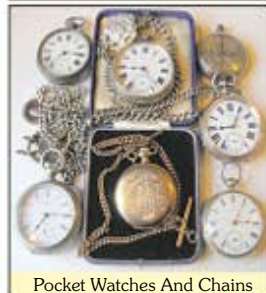
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SUPPORT FOR LABOUR COUNCIL LEADER

Dear Syd,
Having just read Labour leader Bob Fleming's courageous assessment of the IN or OUT referendum I find my views in alignment with his. I say courageous because no doubt those people who blindly follow political Party policy will no doubt disagree

Scare tactics by some other politicians tell us that house prices are about to be compressed. Well hip hoorah for that. Only the wealthy self-serving have benefitted from soaring house prices in Westminster etc, hopefully that prediction will lead to our young people being able to afford housing.

Too often in the past we have seen multinational companies head to eastern Europe to make fat profits from the paying of low wages at the expense of our British workers jobs, perhaps if we leave the European Union we can open factories here to make all the goods that we need without European dictates and choking red tape. As a side effect of course we can also claim to be green as we won't be transporting goods across Europe.

Currently virtually everything comes to the UK in a brown cardboard box marked MADE IN CHINA. The Chinese economy is surging ahead due to the production of virtually everything the rest of the world needs. It doesn't take a bright person to point out this situation has led to much of the western world being in debt to

this still communist state who are busily building up their armed forces to intimidate their neighbours.

Just as it is the wish of our government to be self-sufficient in energy sources I would like our farming industry to make us self-sufficient in food production.

Defence, this current government has systematically reduced our armed forces over a period of years, the previous government were ridiculed for not supplying our armed forces properly fortunately NATO is well equipped but led by people who were unable to stand up to Vladimir Putin's annexation of parts of the Ukraine.

I believe that shortly after a Brexit by the UK we will be followed by Greece, Italy and other countries who are not doing so well in the European project area. If we are to put the GREAT into Great Britain again we need to take a chance.

Bravo Bob
Ken Robson

Councillors' Surgeries

Shafto, Central and Neville Ward

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

THE EU DEBATE THE MESSAGE ON THE DOORSTEP

In the last few weeks, I have canvassed many residents about the EU and, on the doorstep, I get the following impressions:

REMAIN VICTORIES

The Remain campaign are convincing people on:

(1) **The economy.** The British economy – and particularly the North East economy – depends on trade with the EU. We are a member of the biggest free-trading block in the world, and have just renegotiated the best improvements we could to our membership package. Most people accept that it is an obvious nonsense to say that the best thing to do now is to leave ... and then set about re-renegotiating terms which, as an outsider, would almost certainly be worse.

(2) **Rights at work.** The Social Chapter of our EU membership includes many rights and safety benefits for British workers, which will be threatened if we leave the EU. I have yet to meet anyone who believes that Michael Gove and Ian Duncan-Smith want to leave the EU so they can bring in better protections.

(3) **Funding.** At a time when our own government is planning to end all grant-funding by 2020, only the EU accepts that County Durham should have funding to meet its social needs. Durham County Council is currently setting up a £17 million project to help the county's 6,000 unemployed young people into work. That money did not come from our own government, but from the EU.

(4) **Cooperation.** Not just our trade, but much of our scientific and medical research, our police response to organised crime, our security response to international terrorism etc. depend on cooperation with other EU countries.

(5) **Endorsements.** President Obama thinks Britain is better in the EU. So do the IMF, the IFS, the Bank of England, the Treasury, by far the majority of business leaders ... the list is endless. Brexit supporters include President Putin, Donald Trump and Boris Johnson.

LEAVE VICTORIES

However, in my doorstep discussions, the Remain campaign is being challenged in two areas:

(A) **Immigration.** Actually, immigration is irrelevant to the EU debate. We are outside Schengen – we DO “control our borders”. The only place we have open borders is in Ireland, where closing them will wreck the Good Friday agreement. And most people I talk to confess they do not understand how Brexit would affect all the different kinds of immigration – non-EU, free-movement labour, asylum-seekers, refugees, international students. But when the Newton News prints a letter claiming that a Remain vote will see us grabbing our AK47 rifles to fight off fake ISIL refugees, one worries that the Remain campaign is giving ground to Operation ‘panic and fear’.

(B) **Sovereignty.** Actually, very few of our laws come from Brussels, and it is British businesses which most assiduously introduce EU regulations (so they can win contracts in EU countries). The internationalisation of our culture, cuisine etc – which so frightens the “we want our country back” brigade – is unconnected in any way to our EU membership. But when the Leader of the Town Council evokes memories of ‘Ein Volk, Ein Reich, Ein Fuhrer’ one fears the ‘Leave’ campaign is winning on the bigoted nationalism front.

INTO THE FUTURE

All the evidence tells us that younger people generally want to stay in the EU. Of course they do – the only sensible way forward is to embrace our shrinking world, form international partnerships, and move into the future. Young people are very good at this. But they are bad at voting, and the danger is that the decision will be made for them by people who fear multiculturalism, seek parochialism, and want to turn back the clock to a mythical past they feel they are losing.

The full effects of the referendum will only become clear in 20 or 30 years' time, when I will probably be long gone. So – for the future which my grandchildren would wish – I am voting Remain.
John D Clare

Counting Chicks After They Have Hatched



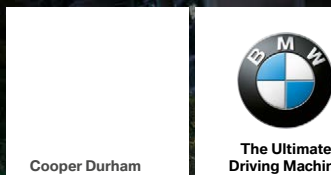
Children from Year 5 and 6 with the chicks

Children at St Josephs took delivery of an incubator and some eggs, gradually over time they hatched.

This was a wonderful ‘real life’ experience shared by children, staff and parents of the chicks hatching and growing.

The children were fascinated and there was a lot of great discussion as a result lots of work was produced during their stay. Children across the whole school enjoyed the experience with many learning opportunities.

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Batik Workshops at Greenfield Gallery



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. 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. To book your place please contact Greenfield Arts on 01325 379048, info@greenfield-arts.co.uk or pop in and speak to one of our lovely team members.

GROW YOUR OWN



With the warmer days now arriving things have been busy at Middridge allotments with plot holders planting out their young plants and sowing seeds straight in to the ground. It is interesting to see that the face of the plot holders at Middridge Allotments has been changing over the years. A younger age group, in particular families, are now being inspired to take on the challenge of cultivating a plot.

On a busy Sunday it is common to see all the family lending a hand to dig, sow and plant and for the younger children, a chance to find the occasional worm for closer inspection. Having an allotment is great for

families and it is an activity that everyone, even the kids can enjoy. Set aside a small area for the kids to sow their own seeds and you may inspire the next generation of allotmenters for the future.

Middridge Allotments currently have plots available for new plot holders young and old looking to provide vegetables for their families. Plots of different sizes are on offer so if a full plot is too daunting, or you just don't have the time to commit, then smaller plots are also available from as little as £15 per year so it won't break the budget either. For more information please contact...Kathy booth 01325 319638

Alopecia Support Successful First Meeting

Alopecia Support County Durham held its first meeting on Wednesday April 27th at the Pioneering Care Centre. The meeting was a great success, with the ladies able to offer each other support, advice and tips based on their own experiences, such as the benefits of eyebrow tattoos and alternative wig suppliers.

Ladies who have been affected by Alopecia can often feel self-conscious, isolated, and depressed and with this in mind our meetings are very friendly and informal and ladies can come and talk to others who have been affected. Future meetings will include an ear acupuncture taster, Christmas time beauty advice, a relaxing sound bath therapy taster session, and scarf tying techniques.

The meetings are held bi-monthly and the next meeting is on Wednesday 29th June 7-9pm. New wig company Confi Hair will be attending this meeting, showcasing their wigs with hair accessories. If you would like to contact for more information please email alopeciafriendscodurham@outlook.com or access our pages on T: @alopeciafriends and F: alopeciasupportcodurham

Voting "Remain" Protects Jobs for our Young People

Dear Editor,

In response to Bob Fleming's letter which totally misguided in the assumption that he is voting out for his grandchildren. As the Chair of the Board of Trustees of NAYCC (Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre) I Vote 'Remain' for our Young People's future and future apprentices.

I am totally amazed at Bob Fleming's article in the Newton News given his links with the trade union over the years. It is the trade union rights that have come out of the EU that Johnson, Gove and Farage want to destroy. We want the 'Leave' campaign to be straight with you as to what leaving the EU would mean, and how it would impact on the lives of British workers. At Labour IN for Britain, we've launched a petition. We're demanding the Leave campaign come clean with the British public and tell us which vital workers' rights they'd look to scrap if we left the EU.

Many of the employment rights and protection millions of people rely upon are safeguarded by EU legislation — but Leave campaigners including Boris Johnson, Chris Grayling, Nigel Farage and Priti Patel & others have suggested they'd strip back our hard-fought rights if they got the chance.

So we want to know: which rights would be scrapped? Maternity Leave? Parental leave? Holiday pay? Equal pay? Given their abject lack of a strategic plan for Brexit, their inability to pay for all of their pledges and their tendency to immediately backtrack when challenged, the 'kippers and the hard-right fringe of the Tory party look increasingly like the Simpsons character Montgomery Burns offering the public a "mystery box" in order to convince them to vote for Brexit.

What's in the box, nobody knows for sure. But the Brexit campaign seem intent on promising everyone that it's going to be exactly what they want it to be, even if that's a multitude of different things to different people. Perhaps one of the most important considerations when being offered a "mystery box" is who is doing the offering, and how much you trust them. How much do you trust a bunch of hard-right Thatcherites to keep their word that they're going to invest in socialist spending like funding the NHS or saving the steel industry for example?

My knowledge is that we are much better off in the EU and I could go on with all the good things that have come out of the EU just on the issues under the Social Chapter alone and if people think it will stop immigration then they are badly misled. We then have to look at the number of jobs coming to Britain as a direct result of being a part of the EU we have just got Hitachi to build trains but what of the supply chain how many jobs would the bring to Newton Aycliffe I think that this is too big of a risk to take, we also need to take a look at the new super college being built on the Business Park for our young people to learn engineering skills for the new industries in engineering like Hitachi.

Tony Blair weighed in on the debate over Brexit, warning that leaving the European Union would hit living standards and hit the poorest in society most. The former Prime Minister appears to make an appeal to Labour supporters — seen as an important swing demographic in the vote — in two interventions. Tony Blair laid into the Out campaigns, saying they were determined on making the debate about immigration because the economic case for staying in has already been settled. His comments come as Vote Leave chiefs sent an open letter to David Cameron, accusing the Tory leader of "corroding public trust" on immigration.

"These people are focussing on immigration because on the economy it is now clear that we will suffer a deep aftershock if we leave the European Union," said Tony Blair in a TV programme with Andrew Marr. He added: "We have got over four decades of these interlocking economic relationships, you break that up and how can anyone argue that you're not going to have a problem afterwards, economically?"

"On those running the Leave campaign, he said: "These people say they care about people's living standards and the poorest members of our society; those are the people who are going to suffer."

He warned that the true motives for those who would manage Britain's exit from the EU for wanting to leave would be an anathema for most Labour voters. "The pain is relatively easy to predict. That pain is measured in jobs, living standards, the value of the money in your pocket," he said.

"The intellectual reasoning behind "leave" is to take us out of that European polity altogether and make us a global outlier. These are the folk who oppose the social chapter of basic employment rights and opposed the minimum wage. Most Labour voters would run a mile from that. These are the very people they have spent a lifetime fighting."

Major New Labour figures are throwing their weight behind the campaign to keep Britain in the EU, with a series of major interventions. Former Chancellor Alistair Darling has warned that a vote to leave the EU could cost the UK £250 billion in lost trade, while Peter Mandelson has hit out at the anti-immigration rhetoric of the Out campaign.

Darling said that pulling out of the single market would introduce greater trade barriers, and that there was no feasible agreement that would be able to give Britain the level of free trade it currently enjoys.

"Those wanting to leave the EU want to pull Britain out of the single market, which would mean introducing tariffs and barriers to our trade and putting billions of vital trade at risk," Darling said. "There is no trading arrangement outside the EU that gives us the free trade we rely on today. Leaving would put

jobs, low prices and financial security at risk."

Lord Mandelson used an article in the Guardian to accuse Outers of running a campaign that is "a disturbing echo of UKIP". But the New Labour architect said that the focus on immigration simply shows that the Leave campaign has nothing of substance to say about economic benefits of Brexit. "In a disturbing echo of UKIP's last party political broadcast, which told numerous untruths about Turkey, Gove asserted that 77 million Turkish Muslim citizens would soon be using the NHS, and Albanian criminals were about to flood Britain."

Mandelson wrote. "From Johnson questioning President Obama's "part-Kenyan ancestry" to EU migrants being blamed for the problems in everything from British schools to our health service to our prisons, every recent Vote Leave intervention has had immigration at its heart. "Should we be disappointed by this change in tone? Yes. Should we be worried? NO!"

"Mandelson added: "Swallowing the nasty Ukip strategy wholesale may energise the right-wing base of the leave campaign but I cannot see it being enough to persuade more than half of the voting public to take a leap in the dark in quitting the EU. People want to know what will happen to their jobs, their pay packets and their weekly shopping bill more than they want to hear abusive rhetoric and nationalistic myths."

"New reports suggest that Tony Blair will also enter the referendum campaign, by helping to organise an endorsement for Remain from former US President Bill Clinton. A Stronger In source recently told LabourList that the campaign would be happy to work with any major political figure backing a Remain vote, including Tony Blair.

However, given the former Prime Minister's divisive reputation, rumours suggest that the campaign are trying to limit his involvement, and see getting him to secure an intervention from Clinton as the most useful contribution. Gordon Brown recently made a low-profile entrance into the campaign, and is expected to make a bigger intervention when he makes a keynote speech on the subject at the Fabian Society conference later this month. Vince Crosby

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DYING TO BE COOL

Cold water shock kills – that's the simple yet hard-hitting message a new campaign aims to get across to County Durham teenagers this summer.

As groups of friends make for the county's rivers, lakes, reservoirs and quarries over the coming months focused only on enjoying themselves, many will be unaware of the dangers posed by the temperature of the water before they enter. Yet cold water shock, the body's short term involuntary response to being suddenly immersed in cold water, can be fatal. The Safe Durham Partnership (SDP), supported by the family of County Durham cold water shock victim Cameron Gosling, has launched 'Dying to be Cool' – a campaign which will seek to get this message across.

The partnership, made up of Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary and Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service and other partners, is targeting ten to sixteen year olds and will be rolling out a poster campaign through schools and social media. Representatives from the partnership will also visit schools to deliver assemblies on the dangers of cold water shock.

They will be showing pupils a video shot at the spot where Cameron died, featuring some of his friends who were with him at the time and his mum Fiona.

Fourteen year old Cameron, a pupil at Parkside Academy in Willington, went to the River Wear near Bishop Auckland with friends on a sunny day in July 2015. Without acclimatising himself, he jumped into the water, got into difficulties and died.

Fiona, who is pushing for water safety to be added to the national curriculum under the hashtag CampaigningforCam,

said: "Cameron's friends had paddled in the water before swimming but he jumped straight in and his body went into shock as a result of the sudden change in temperature. We want to educate young people on this little known killer and fully support what Dying to be Cool is trying to achieve.

One of Cameron's best friends, thirteen year old Matty Wraith, was part of the group which went into the river, and tried to save him. He said: "I jumped in after him. I was with him and then we went under a few times and then he just went.

Sudden immersion in cold water can cause blood vessels in the skin to close which makes it harder for blood to flood around the body. The heart then has to work harder and blood pressure increases. At the same time there is a "gasping" response which can result in water being breathed rather than air.

The breathing rate also changes dramatically – it can increase by as much as tenfold. All these responses contribute to a feeling of panic. One effect of cold water shock can be cardiac arrest, while death can occur. Rachael Shimmin, who is chair of the SDP and corporate director of children and adults services at the county council, said: "We want young people to enjoy the outdoors this summer but believe it is vital that they go near water fully aware of the risks of cold water shock.

"Through Dying to be Cool our aim is to educate as many teenagers as possible about what can happen when they go into cold water without acclimatising themselves. If what we are doing stops just one young boy or girl getting into difficulty it will have been worthwhile."

More information on the new campaign can be found at www.durham.gov.uk/dyingtobecool



Compiled by
County Councillor
John Clare

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

COUNCIL NEWS

- My report on the DCC Environment Scrutiny meeting of Fri 3 June – environmental improvements and waste programme update: bit.ly/DCCEnvScr3616
 - My report on the GATC Policy & Resources Committee meeting of Wed 1 June: bit.ly/GATCPR1616
 - FREE Leisure Centre discount cards available for men's health week: bit.ly/DCCLCDC
 - DCC's Guided Walks Programme: bit.ly/DCCGWPS16
 - Hardwick Park News: bit.ly/DCCHPN616
 - Latest Aycliffe area roadworks information: bit.ly/Roadworks10616
 - Last week's report from our MEP: bit.ly/JKD5616
- ### COMMUNITY NEWS
- Public consultation event for a housing on the former Equestrian Centre site – Agnew Community Centre, 4-7pm, Wed 15 June: consultation@gva.co.uk
 - Durham in Bloom Floral Trail: bit.ly/DIBFT
 - 'Cab It!' – Locomotion Museum, 18-19 June, 10am-5pm, FREE: bit.ly/NRMLC
 - 'Fascinating Phenicians', Durham Oriental Museum, Sat 18 June 1-3pm, Adults: £1.50, Children 75p: bit.ly/DUOMFP
 - Aycliffe 10k Road Race – good to watch and cheer on, but beware road closures: Sun 19 June, 9:30am to 12 noon.
 - Please vote to help the If You Care Share Foundation – which helps prevent suicides – move into new offices: bit.ly/IUCSF

Computers for the Terrified

We're Back! "Computers for the Terrified" after a break to plan new course notes. Based on our experience of the help and support people need to use Windows 10, we are inviting you to come along to our Coffee Morning on Wednesday 15th June at 10am at Woodham Village Community Centre.

Meet the team of Tim, Daniel, Jeff and David and see what our new courses are all about.

Windows 10 Beginners Course - 6 weeks.

Starting Wednesday 22nd June, 9.30am to 11.30am.

Coming Soon! "Technology For the Terrified".

Following funding from Great Aycliffe and Middridge Area Action Partnership we will be running courses and taster sessions on using a wide range of Tablets.

David Sutton-Lloyd
Woodham Village Community Centre
01325 316144

Newton Press Involved with Kynren Extravaganza



Many local firms have been involved with the Eleven Arches project at Bishop Auckland entitled "Kynren"

and Newton Press are proud to be one off them. Newton Press were asked to print the flags and tabards

for the Roman soldiers (pictured above) ready for the seamstresses to pull it all together. We also provided other items of print onto a cloth base.

The summer spectacular will take place over 11 weekends from 2nd July to 17th September. The outdoor extravaganza tells a tale of a young boy travelling through the ages in Bishop Auckland from the early days of the Romans, Vikings and up to World War 2. Hundreds of locals have volunteered to play the many roles through the centuries.

The venue is an amazing outdoor arena which has been especially built for this show. There are still a few tickets left for certain dates visit <https://elevenarches.org> for more information.

Messy Royal Celebration for Children

A Messy Royal Celebration at Messy Church, St.Clare's on Saturday 11th of June at 4pm promises lots for everyone. We will have royal themed crafts and a wonderful version of THE QUEEN'S KNICKERS STORY to enjoy.

Afternoon High Tea follows with dainty sandwiches, cakes, scones and biscuits for the whole family to enjoy. All children

must be in the company of an adult and there will be a plate for donations to help fund the afternoon.

Please come along also to book your seat on THE MESSY SUMMER TRIP to Seaton Carew on July 9th, where we will be having fun and games on the beach – again all are welcome. Please ring Helen on 01325 319002 for any further information.



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Dear Shoppers,
On behalf of Churches Together in Great Aycliffe I would like to thank you all for your generous donations to our bucket collection in Tesco on 20th/21st May. The total amount raised for Christian Aid was £585.96. Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of Tesco and the help of the staff on the day. We do appreciate it and want to thank the management of Tesco for allowing us the time and space in their store for this collection. Christian Aid reaches out to people all over the world in tragic circumstances. It works with poor communities across the world to bring lasting change for the most vulnerable people on earth, regardless of faith, gender or race. Every year thousands of volunteers all over the UK take part in collections for Christian Aid and it's great to know that the good people of Newton Aycliffe have been a part of this. On behalf of Christian Aid, I wish to thank the people of Newton Aycliffe for their tremendous generosity and support.
Anne Molyneux
Secretary, C.T.G.A.

St. FRANCIS PRAYER SPACES

Pupils at St Francis School had the opportunity to engage in a new experience this week when a team from the churches in Great Aycliffe Parish set up some Prayer Spaces in the school. Revd Elizabeth Bland, Revd Debbie Loughran and members of their congregations set up five different activities in two areas of the school and the children visited the Prayer Spaces in small groups. There was "Be Still", where the children could crawl into a small tent set up in the School Library area and spend a few minutes being still, lying on cushions and watching a lava lamp while gentle music played. "Fizzy Forgiveness" was a chance to reflect on the importance of forgiving people who hurt us, letting go of those hurts, and moving on: "I had a big hurt, and now it's a small one," one boy said, after watching his vitamin pill dissolve away in a jug of water. "Saying Sorry" was a reminder that there are times when we hurt people too, and that we need to acknowledge when that has happened and be prepared to apologise.



In "Big Questions" the children were asked to think what they would like to ask God, to write their questions on a scrap of cardboard and peg those on to some strings hanging from the ceiling: "What does your voice sound like?" one child wrote on her cardboard; while another asked plaintively, "Why do we need school?"

There were lots of questions relating to matters of creation and existence. And finally, in "Bubble Tube" there was a chance to write ideas or prayers on post-it labels and stick them on the bubble tube, imagining that just as the bubbles always float upwards, so our thoughts always fly to God. "Life is so busy and noisy for children these days that it's quite rare for them to get a chance to just stop and be quiet and reflect,"

Revd Elizabeth said. "The children engaged really well, and the staff commented on how chilled the children were after they'd been round the spaces." More information about setting up Prayer Spaces can be found at prayerspacesinschools.com.

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

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

Vote According to Facts, Not Prejudices

The European Referendum is not only about Europe. It is not only about trade, quotas and being at the behest of so-called, unaccountable faceless bureaucrats. No, it goes much deeper than that. It is about our self-confidence as a society and as individuals. About base instincts that swirl within us, about Them and Us. Throughout history, we in these islands, indeed for a shorter period of time in Newton Aycliffe, have lived in a land invigorated by the constant lapping waves of European migrants; indeed many generations ago, my ancestors came to these shores from Norway, via Scotland. We, in essence are a nation state of immigrants – whether it be from Viking, Saxon, Angle, Friesian or Jute ancestry - feel threatened by what we perceive as being the opening flood gates of further immigration to OUR country.

We have a fear of losing our national identity. An identity, ever changing, that has been shaped and moulded from and by the human raw material provided over the centuries by many waves of immigrants.

We are no longer, as Roger Miller sang a nation of "Bobbies on bicycles, two by two, Westminster Abbey, the Tower of Big Ben - the rosy red cheeks of the little children." Those times have gone and gone forever. We are a parochial lot; we have prejudicial feelings – irrational or not – against

all manner of things both Macrocosmic: the Germans; the French; Southerners and so on. At the microcosmic level, it is those who support a different football team – Newcastle v Sunderland - or even who live in a different town or even village. But this is not wrong or right. It is just human. We are like that. But to come to rational decisions based on facts we have to understand what Soren Kierkegaard wrote: "Face the facts of being what you are, for that is what changes what you are". Vote according to facts and not

prejudices. We have had two World Wars within the last century or so. I would like to think that two is more than enough for our planet at the moment. True, we will squabble and bad mouth our fellow Europeans at times because, well, that is what we are about! In conclusion John Donne wrote: "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main". I think he got it just about right.
Derek G Atkinson
Denham Place

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Birds of Prey at School Club



What a fantastic day we had when 'Birds of Prey' from Walworth Castle visited us at Woodham Burn Out of School Club. Tori visited with her birds Chirpy, Alfie and Keith, an Owl, a Kestrel and a Harris Hawk and started by talking about their habitats.

The children learnt how the birds live in the wild, how and what they eat and how they hunt their prey. All of the children listened intently as Tori showed the children how the birds glide over their prey without a sound! The children then had an interactive session with Tori and the birds, the children sat on a bench and Tori had the birds fly over them getting lower and lower until they could almost feel the wings on top of their heads. Next Tori asked the children to get in two lines flying the birds between them, she asked the children to step closer and closer as the birds flew in-between them the children gasped as they flew past. One

lucky child held her hand out and Tori flew the bird onto her hand. Lastly the children lay on the floor in a line and the birds flew from one end to the other again they were so close the children said they could feel their wings getting closer and closer.

A huge thank you to Tori and her staff for visiting the club and making our day such a memorable one.

For information about the OOSC or Nursery, please contact Kendra Green on 01325 300080 or email woodhamburn.outofschoolclub@gmail.com

LEAP OF FAITH

Star Radio need your help! They want to raise money to fund a new, much needed incubator for the North Tees Children's Ward. As it's a leap year we need you to "Take The Leap of Faith" with Peterlee Skydive Academy!

Sign up - Raise Money - Take The Leap of Faith

In return for raising a minimum amount of sponsorship money the charity will pay for your jump and training and receive a sizable donation from your efforts at the same time! 'Donate' a £35 deposit to secure your jump! Via the Star Radio website you can create your fundraising page and set your target to help raise £395. Your aim is to raise your target money by 1st August 2016. Once your sponsorship form is set up its time to get your friends and family donating! The Jump will take place on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th August 2016! Visit the following link to take part: <http://www.starradionortheast.co.uk/features/leapoffaith.php>



There will be a PACT Meeting to be held at Simpature Court for Simpature and Neville Parade Tuesday 14th June from 6-30pm to 7-30pm.

PC Paula Ruck and PCSO Mike Crawford will be available to give updates on what's going on in your area and answer your questions. Councillors and Partners from GATC, DCC and LIVIN will attend if available. Michael Crawford (7875) Police Community Support Officer
Email: Michael.Crawford@durham.pnn.police.uk

Pirate Versus Mermaids by Shine Choir

Come along and enjoy the Shine Choir's production of "Pirates vs Mermaids" with seven fantastic songs and a hilarious script. Join Captain Scarypants on a swashbuckling adventure with his band of brave pirates, a hungry crocodile, a crew of feisty mermaids and, of course, one insane parrot! Tickets available on the door at St Clare's Church but Saturday 18th June is sold out. Sunday 19th tickets are £3. Refreshments will be available. Come along and support Newton Aycliffe's children's community choir.

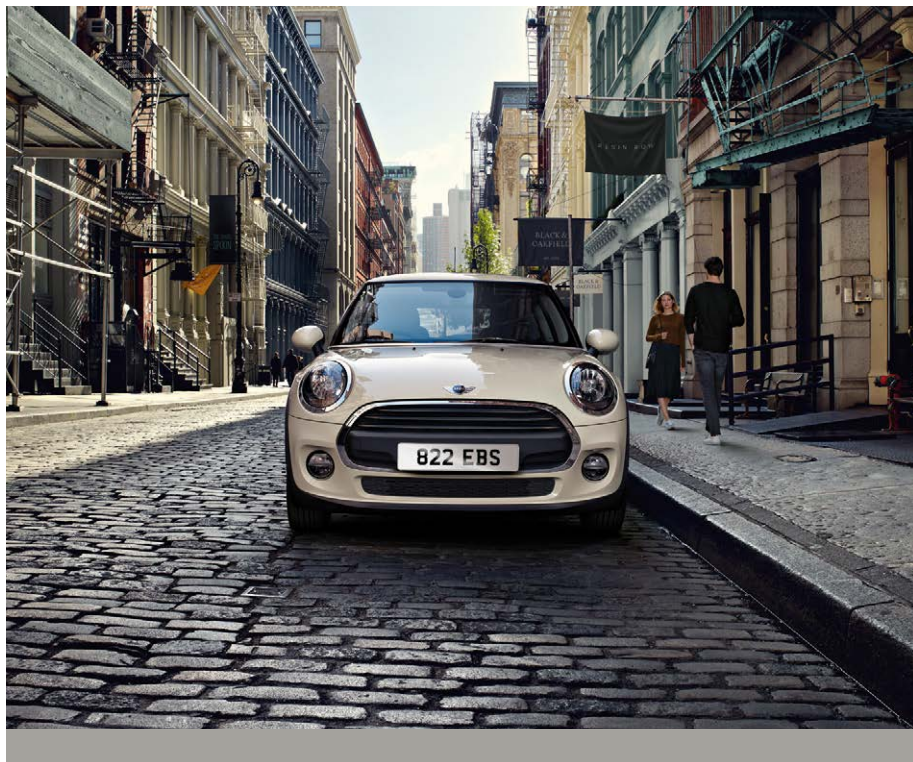
Local Students Recipients of Chairman's Medal

Our fabulous Youth Cree group and student Kyle Scott were recently awarded the prestigious Durham County Council Chairman's Medal for their positive contribution to the community. The awards were held at County Hall and for the first time a young person's category was introduced. Kyle and the Youth Cree group proved to be outstanding recipients and should be very proud of their contribution. Greenfield Arts have developed the Youth Cree since January 2015. The Youth Cree group have been working together with artists and practitioners as part of a wider project which aims to improve positive well-being and they have successfully reached the community in a variety of positive and creative ways. The project is funded by Public Health and GAMP and developed and led by Greenfield Arts. Some of their fabulous achievements include the introduction of a kindness manifesto which was presented along with gifts of kindness at our winter wonderland celebration, an uplifting artwork for Bewick Crescent Surgery and speaking out at a high profile educational conference. Katy Milne, Director of Arts and Creativity was extremely proud of the young people, "I was very pleased to nominate the group as they do amazing kind things for others. In the process they have grown far over time into confident, secure individuals that are rightly very proud of the contribution they have



made to the wider community." Twelve year old Kyle Scott was recognised for all of his hard work at Eldon Community Centre where he has been a regular since the age of eight, he has willingly helped with a range of activities and has proved to be a positive role model for the younger and older children at the centre. He has also helped during school holidays helping out at lunchtimes and has even

written to the Parish Council to suggest improvements for facilities for young people. Katy and Greenfield Community College Executive Headteacher David Priestley attended the ceremony where Kyle and representatives of the Youth Cree group Brandon Twidale and Harry Wilson were presented with their respective awards. Well done everyone, Greenfield is very proud of you!



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Film Show

The "FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church on TUESDAY 14th JUNE will feature the classic comedy "MY SISTER'S KEEPER" starring Cameron Diaz, Abigail Breslin and Alec Baldwin in a powerful, film of love, life and hope. A girl, conceived to be a donor for her leukemia-stricken sister, decides she wants charge of her own body. Tea and coffee will be served at 1pm, included in the £2, and the film starts at 1.15pm. A variety of chairs are provided for your comfort, and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a great film in friendly company. EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME. For further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.

Local Radio Day at Star



Everyone at Star Radio would like to thank all the Newton News readers who took part in our Local Radio Day & Beefy Foundation charity auction on 27th May. What an exciting day we had; fantastic local content, interaction from our listeners and raising money for great local causes ... also a huge thanks to all our 'celebrity friends!' The day started with Piers Morgan, Sir Ian Botham, Ian Ward & Philippa Tomson retweeting Sarah Botham's tweet about Star Radio and the Beefy Foundation auction, reaching a whopping 9 million possible views. Followed by live interviews with Sir Ian Botham and his pals Graeme Swann, David

'Bumble' Lloyd, Michael Vaughan, David Gower, Steve Harmison, Michael Atherton and Graeme 'Foxy' Fowler. They all gave praise to Star Radio's listeners, Star Giving and the Beefy Foundation. Michael Weadock, Star Radio presenter said he'd never interviewed as many ex England Captains in in life never mind in one day on one radio station! We gave massive exposure to the Beefy Foundation and all the charities they support, of which we know the Botham family are very grateful. Not forgetting all the great local interviews, local bands, the banter between our stellar presenters, Louise trying to fight them to get the news out on time, the new branding launch and our partnership with Newton News.... what a fab day for all at Star!

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

Dear Syd,
Your readers will have read about the 90th Birthday Celebrations for the Queen, that will be taking place on Saturday, 11th June, in Heighington Village. I would just like to take this opportunity of informing your readers that Heighington WI will be providing and serving refreshments in the village hall throughout the day. We can offer bacon 'butties' and toasted teacakes in the morning. At lunch time there will be a choice of corned beef or cheese and onion pie various quiches and gammon. All will be served with new potatoes and salad. In the afternoon we will offer a wide selection of homemade cakes and scones, with either jam or strawberries and cream. There will of course be a constant supply of tea and coffee and fruit squash for the children throughout the day. I am sure you will agree that we are offering something for all tastes and we hope to see many of your readers on the day. Apart from the food on offer in the hall there will be a slide show showing Heighington Fairs in years gone by. These will be sure to bring back very many happy memories. Yours sincerely,
Valerie Bedocs

GRASS CUTTING ISSUE HAS HISTORY

Dear Sir

In reponse to the article on erratic grass cutting. Please see the newspaper cutting from Newton News 10 years which year after year I had to ring the council to ask them to cut the grass. Now it is in the hands of LIVIN I had to do the same this year. One reason being LIVIN don't know which is their job to cut or the council's.

The situation really is diabolical. I have not had a chance to photograph it this year but it has been destroyed with weed killer with just grass remaining.

Newton News is welcome to all photos and correspondence of my truck with these people as I've had enough.

T. W. Anderson
Bakewell Place.



PAGE 4

Council Grab Back Land Tended by Resident for 30 Years

Tom Anderson of Bakewell Place has carefully tended a small piece of land outside his house for 30 years and suddenly the Council has clamped down and taken it back!

He did apply to buy it six years ago, but the price then was around £1,000 which everyone agreed was ridiculous. He also thought he should be given the land under "squatters rights" as he had kept it so well for the Council for so long and it could be seen as part of his house. Tom applied but all he got for his efforts was a solicitor's bill for £534. He is retired now and could not afford to buy the small piece of land, but he is disappointed to be treated so badly by the Council who appear to be

insisting this small piece of lawn be transferred to the new Sedgefield Homes company.

In the last week the Council have taken back the land and cut the grass for the first time in 30 years. The change in the quality of upkeep is evident in the two photographs below.

It also shows a heartless approach and one which probably could have been resolved amicably in Mr Anderson's favour had it not been for greens being transferred with housing. It seems we can give away all the housing and greens, at the drop of a hat to a social landlord, but can't give a minute piece of land outside a house which has been nurtured for 30 years by a resident.



Land before Borough Council took back the land



Land looking worse under Council care

Full STEM Ahead 2016

In conjunction with 'Big Bang near you' North East 2016



All schools in the Aycliffe area are invited to the second Full STEM Ahead 2016. This is a one day event to promote and improve the STEM awareness in an interactive and fun way. It is to be held at The Xcel Centre on Aycliffe Business Park DL5 6AP on the 18th July from 9.15 – 3.15.

FREE TRAVEL is offered to and from the event which will feature 22 interactive and fun activities including:

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BBC MICRO: BIT PRESENTATION

PLANETARIUM

22 Local businesses are involved, 6 Universities and Colleges, 2 Local Training Providers. The Royal Institute of Engineering The REME and the Foundation of Light are also in attendance. If your school would like to attend this very interesting and educational event please contact: Mr. Dave Spensley Managing Director of "Go Ahead Training": dave@goahead.training Telephone: 01325 376 977 or Mobile: 07934 232 677

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County Environment Awards Open for Entries

Rewarding great design, environmental guardianship and community spirit in County Durham – the 2016 County Durham Environment Awards will be open for entries from Friday 3rd June. Entries are invited from those who are working to improve, enhance and protect the environment

of County Durham. The ever popular Environment Awards, administered by Durham County Council on behalf of the County Durham Environment Partnership, are an opportunity to highlight the work of those making a real difference to County Durham's environment. Terry Collins, Chief Executive

of Durham County Council and Chair of the County Durham Environment Partnership said: "The Environment Awards are a real opportunity to highlight the excellent work that takes place in the county every year. "I'm constantly impressed by the work that volunteers, schools, businesses and community organisations

carry out to protect, improve and enhance the environment in County Durham. "We want everyone to tell us about environmental work benefiting the county so we can give them the recognition they deserve through the awards and also inspire others to get involved and do the same." The award categories for 2016 are:

- Built environment
- Climate change
- Community Partnership
- Craftsmanship
- Greener Business
- Natural environment
- Places and spaces
- Schools and colleges
- Volunteer group of the year
- Volunteer of the year – U18
- Volunteer of the year – O18
- Waste management

The deadline for entries is Friday 15 July with shortlisting and judging taking place over the summer. Winners will be announced at a high profile ceremony in Durham's Raddisson Hotel in November. To submit an entry or nominate please go to www.countydurhampartnership.co.uk/envawards or call 03000 265 545 for further information by Friday 15 July.

LUCITE RACE FOR LIFE



On Sunday, 5th June, a team of eleven from Lucite, a speciality polymers and resins manufacturer, based on Horndale Avenue, completed the Race For Life in Darlington. With cancer affecting so many people either directly or indirectly, it was felt this was a great cause to support. Some of our participants commented: "It was a great day and was especially nice that three of our children completed the course. I've loved training with my kids and on the day was beaten by both my son and daughter" said Clare Wheeler. "Since we decided to compete, there has

been a real buzz, choosing our outfits & comparing training notes. I'm sure we'll be back" said Olwen Perkins. "It's really made a difference to all of us. I've got more energy to play with my children" said Yvonne West. The whole business has got behind the team with nearly everyone making a donation and helping to raise £1500 with more donations still coming in. Denise Stones, who hadn't run since school, is looking forward to next year already saying: "I walked it this time, but I'm going to run it with my son next time and be the first Lucite lady home!"

Youthy Girls Thank Honest John



Newton Aycliffe Youth Girls' U14s, the new Russell Foster League Champions, competed at the prestigious Blackpool Football Tournament last weekend. Their participation was helped with a generous donation of £400 from Honest John. The girls, reached the semi-finals of the Plate competition, narrowly losing to York RI Girls. Sadly, a few injuries on the field reduced the girls chances overall but a great time was had by all. The girls, coaches and parents would like to thank Honest John for his kind gesture and they particularly wanted to show their appreciation with a 'Thank You' photo!

AYCLIFFE VILLAGE CHI TAEKWONDO CLUB CELEBRATE 1st ANNIVERSARY



To mark this special occasion Aycliffe Village Chi Taekwondo Club celebrated its 1st Anniversary at Planet Leisure in Newton Aycliffe.

The afternoon ran very smoothly thanks to the staff at Planet Leisure and everyone had a great time. This family friendly Club has had a successful first year and is looking forward to many more. Lessons are held every Monday and Wednesday 6-7pm for age 5+ at Aycliffe Village Primary School.

The 1st lesson is free, £3 per lesson after that. If you would like more information or would like to come along and give it a try please contact Michelle 07789 502173 or Chris 07572 614466

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3k Run 9.15 am

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Fun Run

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

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Closing Date for Entries midnight Friday 17th, June 2016

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

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10k or Fun Run please tick 10k Fun Run male female
(For 10K runners must be 16-years or over on June 19th, 2016)

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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



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 Store put in a below par
 performance were duly

beaten by four wickets at
 home to Maltby 1st XI in the
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 to bat first, Aycliffe's Sam
 Telford (sponsored by his

mam and dad) continued
 his recent superb form with
 an excellent unbeaten 74,
 including seven boundaries
 and two sixes. Other useful

contributions came from
 Adam Gittins (22 runs) and
 Ryan Dawson (14 runs) as
 Aycliffe were dismissed
 for just 157 after 42 overs.
 In reply, the visitors
 comfortably reached their
 winning target after only
 29.2 overs despite some good
 bowling from both Michael
 Howe (3 for 49) and Colin
 Myers (2 for 41).

The 2nd team played really
 well away at Maltby 2nd XI
 and were unlucky to come
 away with only a winning
 draw in their NYSD 3rd
 division clash. Aycliffe
 were asked to bat first and
 scored an excellent 185 for
 8 in their allotted 50 overs.
 Elliott Holt top scored with
 an unbeaten 34 and Jack
 Slatcher (sponsored by Mr &
 Mrs Greaves)

The homeside batted out
 their allotted 50 overs and
 were left hanging on at 150
 for 9 at the close of play
 despite some good bowling
 from Aycliffe's Sean Morgan
 (3 for 33), Jack Slatcher (2
 for 25) and Elliott Holt (2 for
 35). The game was marred
 when the Aycliffe wicket
 keeper captain John Wardle
 was struck in the face off the
 last ball of the game and it
 appears that he has suffered
 a broken cheek bone and
 a fractured eye socket and
 everyone at the club wishes
 him a speedy recovery from
 this serious injury.

The club's u17's team put in
 an excellent performance
 away at Darlington and
 were desperately unlucky to
 lose by just six runs in the
 NYSD junior league. The
 homeside batted first and
 scored 129 for 3 in their
 allotted 20 overs. In reply
 an unbeaten 44 from opener
 Ryan Dawson, 38 runs from
 fellow opener Dan Bowmer
 and 14 not out from Ryan
 Patrick saw Aycliffe fall just
 short of their winning target
 as they finished on 123 for 2
 after 20 overs.

The u15's team lost at home to
 Norton by 5 wickets despite
 a spirited performance from
 the youngsters. Batting
 first Aycliffe scored an
 impressive 128 for 3 thanks
 to a big hitting 50 not out
 from opener Jack Lowery,
 including eight boundaries
 and an equally aggressive
 unbeaten 27 from wicket
 keeper Joe Bowsher, who
 hit five boundaries in his
 innings. In reply Aycliffe
 fought well, but the visitors
 reached their winning target
 after 17.1 overs, despite a
 couple of wickets from all
 rounder Lowery.

The u13's team lost at home
 to Stockton by 41 runs in the
 NYACC league. Stockton
 batted first and scored 93
 for 4 from their 20 overs
 and Matty Greaves was the
 pick of the Aycliffe bowlers
 taking two wickets for 20
 runs. In reply Aycliffe were
 bowled out for 52 after 20
 overs with stand in captain
 Joe Bowsher and Iain
 Robson both batting well
 and finishing as their side's
 joint top scorers with 14 runs
 each.

Our young u11's put in
 another sterling performance
 away at Norton, despite
 narrowly losing the game by
 just 9 runs. There were good
 performances from Charlie
 Cayless and 8 year old
 Thomas Dearden, who top
 scored with eight runs each
 and another eight year old,
 Joe Ingman, bowled well
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Lumiere Festival Delivers Biggest Economic Impact



Described by visitors as a 'majestic', 'mesmerising', 'ever-changing', 'spectacle' the UK's largest light festival, staged in Durham for the fourth time last November, installed a sense of pride, made people smile and delivered hugely increased financial benefits to the county and wider region.

200,000 people turned out to see Durham City transformed by 29 artworks across four magical winter evenings. They encountered incredible artistic feats including a colossal whale in the Wear, the history of the universe projected onto the iconic Cathedral and the mysterious fog below the Castle.

Now an independent report into the impact of the event, which is produced by Artichoke and commissioned by Durham County Council, has concluded the festival, which has become synonymous with Durham, delivered a total economic impact of more than £9.6million. Whilst some of the increase could be linked to greater scrutiny of visitor spend - that's nearly £4million more than the previous Lumiere in 2013.

As a result, next week the council's Cabinet members will be asked to agree another £600,000 commissioning fee to bring Lumiere back for a fifth time next year. The fee would be raised from a mix of Performance Reward Grant and budget underspends. The remainder of the funds needed to stage the festival, which is estimated to need a total budget of £1.8million, will be provided by an Arts Council England grant, and raised by Artichoke through sponsorship, trusts and foundations and donations.

Leader of the council, Cllr Simon Henig, says Lumiere has a proven track record: "I am immensely proud of our partnership with Artichoke and of our relationship with what is without doubt a world class event.

"When we commissioned the 2015 festival, we did so based on sound economic impact which demonstrated a clear and significant return on our investment for the county, businesses and residents.

"It's tremendous to see that this was translated into even greater benefits not just in financial terms but also by creating that 'feel good factor' which you can't put a price on.

"More than 90 per cent of those surveyed rated Lumiere 2015 as 'excellent' or 'very good' and said it 'made them happy' with 80 per

cent of visitors saying they planned to come back. These benefits are ongoing for us and we know that events like these allow us to showcase our offer on a world stage, attracting new business, creating jobs and boosting our visitor economy.

"Not many organisations can enjoy a return on investment of nearly 1,400 per cent and make people happy at the same time."

Supported by more than 80 partners and funders including Arts Council England, Durham University and Durham Cathedral, Lumiere is the UK's largest light festival with a growing international profile.

The independent evaluation, undertaken by the Policy Research Group at St Chad's College (Durham University), also reflected the success of the interactive aspects of the art, the links to local history and heritage and the sense of pride and place the event inspired.

The council's festival maker programme, which saw 190 volunteers take to the streets to help visitors make the most of the experience, was also valued by visitors. The help and advice as well as a friendly welcoming face were seen as very beneficial.

The evaluation reports that the outreach programme was 'notably strong', involving 860 children and young people and 525 residents from right across the county via the council's Area Action Partnerships. The extensive programme saw Artichoke's artists work with people of all ages and backgrounds to inspire and create.

Lumiere 2015 also featured an internationally recognised conference, 'Life, Art, The Universe, and Everything', which attracted delegates from around the world and offered another opportunity to raise the profile of Durham's cultural offer. In 2017 there is the chance to develop this further with the prospect of hosting the LUCI (Lighting Urban Community International) Conference alongside the festival.

Cabinet members will be asked to agree the £600,000 commissioning fee and a further £100,000 in kind support for a festival in November 2017, when they meet at Crook Civic Centre on June 15.

The full report and evaluation can be viewed here: <http://democracy.durham.gov.uk/ie/ListDocuments.aspx?Cid=154&Mid=8478&Ver=4>

St. Andrew's Headstones in Need of Repair

St Andrew's Church in Aycliffe Village is currently carrying out an inspection of the headstones in the churchyard. Following a number of tragic accidents in cemeteries across the country in recent years it is important that headstones are kept in a safe condition.

A significant number of the headstones at St Andrew's need remedial repairs to render them safe. Families of the deceased are responsible for the safe condition and stability of their headstones. Following inspections by representatives from the local council and subsequently by two stonemasons the work has been prioritized in order of urgency.

The headstones of the following people have been found to be in need of immediate remedial repair to render them safe:

Mary Graham	Joseph Kent
George Jagger	Thomas Lax
Marjorie Robinson	Mabel Stowe
Charles Hodgson	Dorothy Arthur
Robert Crusher	Clarence Bartram
Winifred Doran	

One of the local stonemasons is prepared to carry out repair work on headstones in groups at a reduced rate in order to benefit the families, and the Church is in the process of acquiring legal permission from the Diocese of Durham to enable the work to be done.

Please contact Rev'd Elizabeth Bland by letter or email to discuss this further if you are next of kin to any of those named above.

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Keith Bailey and the team at Roots are proud and pleased to welcome back Anita. Anita is an expert in barbering and men's grooming and looks forward to meeting new and old clients. To book an appointment Tel 01325 311529

New Life Changing Visits



A grandmother who has benefitted from County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service's (CDDFRS) new programme of Safe and Wellbeing visits is keen to spread the word to others who may be helped.

Bess Robertson from Newton Aycliffe cares for her husband Jimmy who has been living with dementia for the past six years.

Life had become tough for Bess, who explained: "I had become very depressed, I had days where I would cry and be very upset and felt that I couldn't cope. Since the referral to the Alzheimer's Society through the fire service I've been so much better. My life has been changed by the service provided."

Bess first met firefighters at an event at Darlington Community Fire Station and subsequently spoke to CDDFRS community safety officer Mark Henderson about help available through fire service Safe and Wellbeing visits.

Mark said: "Darlington Red Watch directed Bess to the community safety team and Barry Bird visited Bess and Jimmy at their home a few weeks ago. Barry provided advice about keeping safe including information about the dangers of overloading sockets and he also recommended a referral to the Alzheimer's Society so that they could benefit from expert help with regard to dementia. The partnership between the Service and the Alzheimer's Society has been working extremely well since the new visits began in February helping individuals and families stay safe and improve their quality of life. Seeing how valuable the referrals have been to Bess and Jimmy reminds us all just how important this collaborative work is."

Andrew Ball from the Alzheimer's Society said: "I can't praise CDDFRS enough for way it has embraced this dementia-friendly initiative. The Safe and Wellbeing visits bring peace of mind to people living with dementia and their carers. The practical advice they receive is empowering and enables them to maintain their independence for longer."

Since the fire service referral to the Alzheimer's Society, dementia advisor Hannah Johnson has been working with Bess and Jimmy to organise day care each week with Durham County Carers; free counselling sessions and contact with a mental health group.

Bess Robertson said: "The day care is such a help to me as I can plan to do things each week and know that Jimmy will be ok without me. I've also found the counselling sessions with Relate have been really beneficial. At first I didn't think I needed them but being able to talk about things that were worrying me and realising that I hadn't really accepted Jimmy's dementia and how it was affecting me has helped a lot."

"I can't praise the help that I've had through the fire service and the Alzheimer's Society enough. I just want to let other people, who may be in the situation that I was in, know that there is help out there and it can make life so much easier." To find out more about CDDFRS Safe and Wellbeing visits or to book an appointment phone 0845 223 4221 email csenquiries@ddfire.gov.uk or visit www.ddfire.gov.uk

WOODHAM INVITE YEAR 5 PARENTS



Many parents of younger children may be starting to think about their child's secondary school education. Woodham Academy is inviting parents of students currently in Year 5 at primary school to visit the school on Tuesday 14th June.

The visit is an opportunity for parents to speak to senior members of staff, view the school's facilities and see the school in action. There are two events, a coffee morning which starts at 9.30am and an evening event starting at 6.00pm.

If you would like to attend either of these events please contact the school on 01325 300328 or confirm your attendance via email at g.porter@woodham.org.uk or on Facebook at [woodhamacademy](https://www.facebook.com/woodhamacademy).

Advertise in this section from 15p a word

Obituary

LEDGER. Heighington. 5th June, peacefully at home. Joyce (nee Davison), aged 84 years. Much loved Wife to John; devoted and loving Mam to Melanie and Alyson; proud and much loved Gran to Andrew; a dear Sister, Aunty and friend to many. Funeral Monday 20th June. Would friends kindly meet for Service in St. Clare's Church at 1.00pm followed by private committal and cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu, will be shared between Macmillan Cancer Care and The Butterwick Hospice and will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6EN. Tel: 01325 318600.

Birthday Remembrance

Charles Davison



Happy 90th Birthday on 8th June

Happy birthday and love to my darling Husband from your Wife Betty and to my dear Dad (Mr Grumpy) from your Daughter Pamela
We still miss you so much and always will.
Lots of love and kisses, Betty and Pamela

ROBERT WAITES 7th June. Remembering your birthday, thinking of you always. Love, Ruth
ELLEN MITCHELL Forever in my heart. Brian xxx
KENNETH INNES 13th June. Loving birthday memories of a dear Husband, Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Also Fathers Day. Remember you always, forget you never. Your loving Wife, Brenda and family

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

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

Congratulations

NEIL MORTON – Happy '30th' Birthday Son for 13th June – lots of love from Mam and Dad xxx
NEIL MORTON – Happy Birthday little bruv – lots of love from Paul xxx
TO A SPECIAL Husband on his 60th birthday. Love you more each day. Love always, Lyn xxx

TO MY SPECIAL Grandad on his 60th birthday. We love you for being the bestest Grandad in the world. Love you forever and ever. Michael and Tyler xxx

DAVE NEWBERRY Happy 70th birthday to a wonderful Husband. Lots of love, Trish xxx

DAVE NEWBERRY (Viking). Happy 70th birthday to the best Dad in the world. Love you so much. Peter, Stephen, Michelle and family xxx

DAVE NEWBERRY Happy 70th birthday to most amazing Grandad you could wish for. Lots of love, Rebecca, Jack, Kieran, Leah, Summer and Zach xxx

DAVE NEWBERRY Congratulations on your 70th birthday. Have a good time in Blackpool. Best wishes, Jean and family

MARC REED 16-6-2016. Happy 40th birthday big Bro. Love, Michelle and Glen xxx

MARC REED 16-6-16. Happy 40th birthday Uncle Marc. Love from Callum xxx

MARC REED 16th June. Happy 40th birthday Marc. Love, Mam and Dad xxx

HAPPY birthday Daddy. Have an amazing day. Lots of love, hugs and kisses, Jacob xxxxxx

HAPPY birthday to our Step-dad Marc. Have a lovely day. Lots of love, Cam, Rhys and Jack xxxxxx

HAPPY 40th birthday Marc. All my love always, Vicky xxxxx

JUNE JARDIN Happy 60th birthday to a special Mam and Nana. Lots of love, Susan, Dave, Jessica and Layla xxxx

Thank You

THE MAM of the late Maria Halpin wish to thank family, friends and neighbours for all the cards and flowers sent. Thanks to Bethany House, the Co-operative Funeralcare, especially Andrea and Chris for their kindness. To Clair the Funeral Celebrant for the wonderful Service. Special thanks to friends Maureen and Sue for the lovely buffet. Judith, Chris and Diane for their help. Dennis, Florence and Bruce without whom I would not have got through.

I WOULD like to thank all Shirley's friends in Aycliffe for their kind thoughts and sympathy at this sad time. John Sinclair

HOW MANY M.E.P.'S!

Dear Sir,
I was extremely interested in Bob Fleming's Referendum letter in last week's edition of the Newton News as I too had been anticipating a response from the "Leave" representatives.

He raised a number of interesting thoughts and facts that have further stimulated my curiosity concerning the three tiers of administration in Brussels/Strasbourg. I understand that we have 73 MEP's but how many representatives do we have on

the other two panels? Namely the Council of Ministers and of more interest, the elected Commissioners who seemingly make the laws?

Name & Address supplied

In Memoriam

Lillias R. Smith

12th June 2014

A dearly loved Mum, Granny and Great Gran.

Remembered by Valerie and Michael, Elizabeth and Kathryn, Allan and David, Jacob, Bronwyn, Theo and Dylan

Today, tomorrow, our whole lives through, we will always love and remember you.

Tira Sperring



Happy Sweet Sixteen

Lots of love from Mam, Dad, Nanna, Grandad, Auntie Sam, Uncle Wayne, Jack, Ronan and Cheyenne
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Ronan Downie



Happy 16th Birthday

Lots of love from Mam, Wayne, Jack, Cheyenne, Nanna, Grandad, Auntie Sharon, Uncle Tony and Tira xxxxxxxxxxxx

For Sale

RENT a washing machine only £3.99 per week, no deposit, fully maintained. Bargain Buys, Shafto Way, 01325 321678

"ALL SORTS" Charity Shop at the side of St. Clare's Church is open 10am to 1pm every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. On sale is a huge selection of bric-a-brac, toys, household goods, jewellery, electrical goods . . . the list is endless. All items are perfect and at low prices. All money raised will continue to be given to good causes. All Sorts is a charitable project run and funded solely by Godfrey Bennett.

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MALCOLM STOBBS. Passed Away on 11th June 2015. A year has gone by and you are still in my thoughts. Your loving Wife, Ann xxx
MALCOLM STOBBS, 11th June 2015. In loving memory of a Dad and Grandad, we miss you. Steve, Sam, Celine, Caitlin and Louise xxx

ALAN SHELTON 6th February 1941 to 7th June 2010. Six years today you left, never to return. Always a heartbeat away. Loving Wife Maureen and family

RITA ANN CHAPE 18/11/52 - 12/6/06. It's been a long 10 years since you left us, but never a day goes by that you're not in our hearts and souls. Missing you Mam. Love Martyn, Nicola, Natalie and Danny xxxxx

RITA CHAPE (nee Lawson). A face we will always remember, a smile we will always recall, a memory to cherish forever, because you were loved by us all. 10 years on and so sadly missed. Mam and family x

RITA ANN CHAPE (nee Lawson). 12th June 2006. It's been ten long years since you were taken, still love and miss you so much. Vaughan
DENNIS HESLOP Died peacefully on 11th June 2008. It has been 8 years since you left us. We miss you even more. The pain and heartache linger on and give us a longing to see you again. From your loving Wife Eileen, Pam, Jenny, Derek, Lindy and Neville



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Super Swimming Month for Sedgefield 75 Club

May was a superb month for Sedgefield District 75 Swimming Club with 3 weekends of fantastic racing and some incredibly exciting news.

14th & 15th May saw 7 swimmers compete in a whole range of races with PBs for all the swimmers in nearly every swim. Taking to the pool for the club were Kate Carmichael, Sophie Wilkinson, Jamie Darnton, Niall Coulthard, Leah Smith, Kate Tolley and Katelyn Craig. The multi coloured haul of medals was impressive & certainly helped the confidence of Leah & Niall before the North East Regionals (NERs). At the first round of NERs on the weekend of 20th &

21st May both Leah and Niall were racing. Both swimmers had outstanding swims and got PBs in their races making finals in their swims to represent the club. On Saturday 28th May Niall ended his run of 3 weekends of galas with further brilliant swims & more finals. Huge congratulations to all our swimmers who deserve the success they get from hard training.

The club would finally like to congratulate Hannah Featherstone who has been selected to represent Team GB at the European Junior Championships. This is an incredible achievement and we would like to wish Hannah every success when she competes in Hungary in July.

Young Sailor's Regional Award

16 year old Adam Billany from Newton Aycliffe and a member of Derwent Reservoir Sailing Club has won the RYA (Royal Yachting Association) North East Young Club Sailor of the Year Award.

Adam, who comes from Newton Aycliffe and is currently deep into his GCSE exams at Carmel College, Darlington, was chosen by a panel of judges drawn from the RYA North East Region and receives the Trident trophy donated by dinghy specialists, Trident UK.

"We had several outstanding nominations for the award this year, from clubs around the region," said Steve Gibbon, Chairman of the RYA North East Region. "Adam joins a very selective list of young sailors, many of whom have gone on to win European and World Championships over the past few years."

Despite suffering from cerebral palsy and having to endure recent painful operations to lengthen and strengthen his legs, Adam plays a full part in Derwent Reservoir Sailing Club. He was co-ordinator for the 2015 RYA NE Youth Travellers Series, organising over 50 sailors and six venues around the region. This year Adam has passed on the overall organisation of the series but still plans to compete in as many events as possible.

"He is an inspiration to us all," explained Nicky Leech, Sailing Secretary at Derwent Reservoir Sailing Club. "In 2014, just weeks after a major operation to lengthen seven muscles in his leg, he was out on the water sailing again, this time with his leg wrapped up in clingfilm!"

Choice of boat for Adam is very important, as he explains: "My first time sailing was in a Topper with my Dad and Uncle in 2012 but because of my cerebral palsy I struggled to cross the boat when we tacked. After that we bought a Miracle which was a little better if I sat in the middle of the boat and let my dad do all the hiking out!"

The solution came from Derwent Reservoir Sailing Club which has long been a recognised RYA Sailability



facility, owning some boats able to accommodate sailors with restricted mobility.

"The club had an old Access dinghy that was looking a bit sorry for itself," continued Adam. "Dad brought it home one winter, dried it out and put it back together again, ready for me to sail the following season. Halfway through this season I was approached by the RYA Paralympic development coach and invited down to Rutland Water for a taster session in a Paralympic 2.4mR; since then I haven't looked back. This is a perfect boat for me and I now attend regular high performance training weekends down at Leigh & Lowton Sailing Club with Dave Woodhead as Coach."

"One of the downsides to the 2.4mR is launch and recovery, and it usually means my dad has to go into the water to do this while I transfer into the boat from a jetty or in the case at the moment at Derwent Reservoir, a rib with the boat on a mooring, since our jetty was washed away by the storms at the end of last season."

"I was lucky enough to be loaned a 2.4mR for six months while I got used to the boat, but now I have a boat of my own and I'm looking forward to racing it and having it set up specifically for me."

"I would have liked to have competed at the World Championships this year but they were right in the middle of my exams. Never mind, I'll have to concentrate on my domestic events after they've finished. I know there are a couple of the Youth Travellers events where I can get launched so hopefully I will make those, as well as other 2.4mR events that are scheduled later in the year such as the Inland Championships at Rutland and the autumn ranking event down at Weymouth."

"I would really like to thank Derwent Reservoir Sailing Club for nominating me for the RYA North East Young Club Sailor award; Stephen Scullion and his rescue team for the help they give me when launching and coming back into shore; Matt Grier and Dave Woodhead for their excellent coaching and support and of course my parents who transport me, feed me and act

The Wellbeing for Life service are inviting people to a charity Health Walk from the Pioneering Care Centre in aid of Armed Forces Day. The walk is taking place on Tuesday 21 June at 10am.

Armed Forces Day is on Saturday 25 June and is a chance for people to show their support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community: from currently serving troops to Service families, veterans and cadets.

Anyone can join in with the weekly walkers who attend the Health Walk on a Tuesday. Participants will be led around part of the scenic Aycliffe Way and back to the Centre where refreshments will be available for a small donation.

Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) offer specialist health trainer support for veterans through the countywide Wellbeing for Life service. Anyone who has served in the HM Armed Forces and their families are encouraged to attend to show support and to speak to Health Trainers about the service.

The Wellbeing for Life service is funded by Public Health County Durham and aims to take a 'whole person' approach to improving health. Wellbeing for Life is about

your happiness, your health, whether you want to make new friends, learn new skills, or manage your weight

Specialist support is also available for other population groups including people with learning disabilities, older people, male manual workers, offenders, people with poor mental health and people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender.

For further information on the Wellbeing for Life Health Trainer service or to book an appointment with a Health Trainer contact 0191 3781037

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