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Week Ending 5th August 2016

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DEMOLITION OF CHURCHILL HOUSE GETS UNDERWAY

Aycliffe Town Centre Management has advised Newton News that following substantial internal and external works, providing support, to allow them to retain the town's iconic Clock Tower, they can now move forward and start the hard demolition of Churchill House.

A Brokk machine is in use which is controlled remotely for use in potentially unsafe areas where it would not be suitable for team members to access.

In parallel with these works Durham County Council will be commencing works to relocate the Library from Central Avenue to a new purpose built facility in the Leisure Centre.

Once the new Library is ready to be fitted out a variety of other projects will commence



including new paving and additional street lighting and a new open access directly from Stephenson Way to Beveridge Way.

Newton News was allowed to enter the site and can reveal the mammoth task facing the demolition workers. "This is

the worst job I have tackled" admitted the Site Supervisor. Residents will welcome the good news that progress is being made to remove the current eyesore and to eventually reveal the refurbished town clock and tower.

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Feedback Requested on Aycliffe Festival

The Aycliffe Festival started on Thursday 14th July and finished on Sunday 30th July. There were many events ranging from Family Fun Days to Music and Social Events providing (in most cases) free entertainment and some even included free refreshments.

Great Aycliffe Town Council continually strive to improve performance and services provided to the residents of Great Aycliffe. We would welcome feedback from you which may help to develop the Festival in 2017 and assist us to provide better or more events.

We have an online questionnaire which we ask you to complete for us which is available at www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk/events/festival.html. The form will be available until Wednesday 9th August.

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AYCLIFFE COUPLE BUY FIRST HOUSE BUILT AT NEW AGNEW SITE

A LOCAL couple expecting their first baby have been welcomed as the first buyers on Chapter Homes' prestigious 'Eden Field' development in Newton Aycliffe. Michael and Kirsty Bagnall, who are due a baby girl in September, have bought a three-bedroom detached 'Cuthbert' house on the development and will be amongst the first residents to move in later this year.

The couple were looking for their first family home for a while and were about to buy another property nearby. But Michael, who has lived in Newton Aycliffe all his life and remembers playing on the Eden Field site as a child, drove past the development every day and noticed the progress on site. Michael said: "I already know it's a lovely area, I live around the corner and my parents live just across the road. We were

impressed with what we saw and the information Chapter gave us on the development and properties available.

"We immediately knew that Chapter Homes was right for our new chapter. The design and layout of the house is perfect for us, exactly what we were looking for, and I know that it will be a great place to raise our family."

Richard Roddam, chief development officer at Chapter Homes said: "There is something for everyone at Eden Field with different house styles to suit all needs and budgets. We're delighted to have had such a lot of interest so far and pleased that Michael and Kirsty are choosing Chapter Homes for their first family home."

Eden Field in Newton Aycliffe will consist of 125 high quality two, three and four bedroom homes. The houses include detached and semi-detached properties, all with driveway parking, good sized gardens and high quality fixtures and fittings as standard. Homes at Eden Field are on sale now. For details visit www.chapterhomes.co.uk or tel: 0330 353 0056.



HEAD SHAVE TO HELP TOWN YOUTH GROUP



Cath Casey from Sainsbury's at Cobblers Hall had her head shaved on Friday 29th July by Joanne Strain from Worx Hairdressers.

Cath's chosen charity is Newton Aycliffe Junior Neighbourhood Watch in line with the local Sainsbury's store who nominated this as their charity of the year.

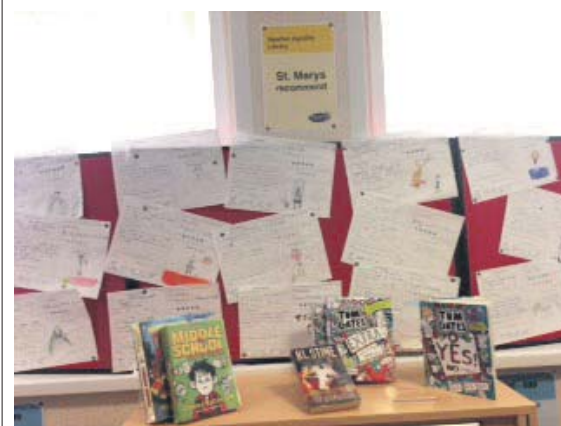
Dorothy Bowman leader of the group said how grateful she was for the cash donations which will support young people in the Williamfield area.

FLOWER DEMO

Area Demonstrator, Arthur MacDonald, will present an entertaining evening of flower arranging entitled 'Throw Nowt Out' at the next meeting of Shildon and District Flower Club on Monday, 5th September at 7.30pm. Free to members, visitors £5.

Members are reminded that annual subscriptions of £26 and magazine subscriptions of £11.40 - where applicable - are now due and can be paid at the September meeting.

PUPILS THANK LIBRARY!



During the year children from St. Mary's primary in Newton Aycliffe have had regular visits to the library. The idea was to promote a love of reading and the year 3 children have been exploring the work of Roald Dahl during the year, reading George's Marvellous Medicine in the Autumn term and Fantastic Mr. Fox this term. The children also got the opportunity to write book reviews of books they had enjoyed and the kind library staff even made a display of these reviews in the children's section of the library. We were very proud!

The children have all written their own thank you letters to all the librarians who worked so hard in helping them find books by a particular author or theme. Here are just a few of their

comments from their thank you letters...

"Thank you for helping me find Goosebumps books."

"You helped me find books by the author R.L. Stine."

"Thank you for helping me find Rainbow Magic books."

"Thank you for putting up our book reviews."

"All your staff are very helpful and welcoming!"

The children are all excited for the Summer Reading challenge and some have already been on the reading challenge website. www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk Some have already signed up for some of the summer library activities too.

We are looking forward to visiting the library again after the holidays. Well done Newton Aycliffe Library, you are the best!

THE TURBINIA

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Saturday 6th August - "This Machine"

Gig-Pit Review: "Well, I don't know what to say, apart from... THIS MACHINE were absolutely amazing last Night - one of the best... especially when the guitarists were on the tables and the bar. Every song was awesome, perfect sound, and just an all round excellence. It was also the best atmosphere I have ever experienced; everyone was having fun."

Gig-Pit Review: "One of the most entertaining bands on the circuit, music by Motorhead, Van Halen, Metallica, Pearl Jam, Bon Jovi, Guns 'n' Rose, Deep Purple, AC/DC, Billy Idol, Thin Lizzy to name a few."

Saturday 13th August - "Balls of Steel"

For more information on bands go to

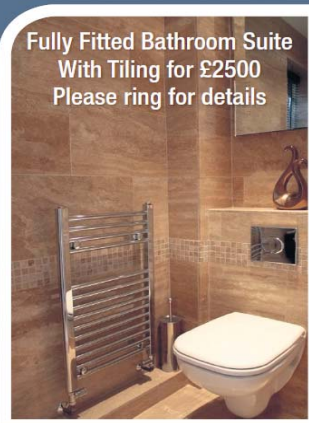
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Fun Day in the Town Centre



Town Centre Users Cause Parking Problems in Lilburne Crescent

Dear Sir,
The problem is that people now seem to believe that Lilburne Crescent is now an overflow car park for the Leisure Centre & the town centre, this causes massive problems for the residents & their families.

There is also a problem with residents vehicles being damaged when parked and I have suffered damage on two separate occasions upon which the offending driver obviously thought it better to drive away rather than own up. I am not the only resident in the crescent who has had damage caused to their vehicle.

I would like to point out that along the length of Greenwell Road there are no less than

five different parking areas, not to mention the multi storey.

I realise that these car parks are not always accessible but there is always room in the that the practice of parking in the crescent is done without regard to residents. This problem was exacerbated week commencing Monday 26th July with Durham County Council replacing paving & kerbs in the crescent. This drastically reduced the parking for residents but still people using the town centre were coming into the crescent to park.

I have in the past spoken to the police but was informed they are powerless over this issue. When I spoke to Durham County Council I

was informed that in order to make the crescent "Resident Parking Only", an extra cost onto council tax would be levied on all addresses in the crescent, which of course made the idea a non starter. I have since been informed that the information regarding council tax is incorrect so I

will be making another appeal to DCC if this letter has no effect.

I APPEAL TO PEOPLE TO STOP PARKING IN LILBURN CRESSENT, UNLESS THEY ARE VISITING A RESIDENT.

Thank you
Name and address supplied



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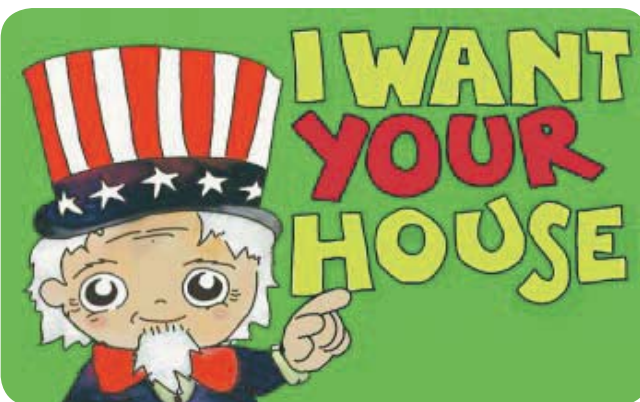


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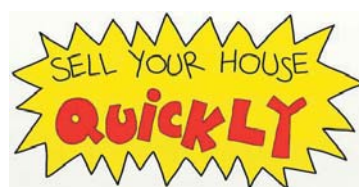


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On Thursday 28th July 2016
Aycliffe Town Centre hosted a
Celebration of the Local Army
Reserves, Police and Fire
Services.

This was attended by hundreds
of people who enjoyed the
various attractions we had
available, BB gun range,
field ambulance, police and
fire vehicles and of course
from Channel 5 'The Police
Interceptors' who proved a
very popular draw.

The event was supported by a
variety of local charity stalls
with a wide variety of games
and interests for all the family.
In addition the kids had great
fun on the Jousting inflatable
and with Splat the Rat from
Veterans at Ease.

It is hoped this will be an annual
event with support from all
the services and Town Centre
Manager Bryan Haldane
thanks all 'Newtonians' who
came to enjoy the day.

The next major event is a
Pet Themed day with lots of
surprises to come including
a Pet Talent contest on 17th
August between 11.00 - 3.00.
More details to follow in this
paper and on Star Radio.

Dancing Dogs

The Northern Heelwork to
Music Club are holding their
first show in this area on
Saturday 6th August at the
Oakleaf Sports Complex,
Newton Aycliffe.

There will be a variety of dogs
and handlers performing to
music from 9am to 4pm.
The event is free for
spectators and is being held
in the main sports hall.
Only dogs entered in to the
competition are allowed
inside the building.



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News from Williamfield

Williamfield Residents Association Meeting is on Wednesday 10th August at 6pm to be held in the Western Area Community Centre. LIVIN, Police and Councillors will attend hopefully. There will be a update on our "SAVE OUR BRIDGE" campaign. Details of the Western Area Fun Day Thursday 25th August 10.30 - 2.30pm at Silverdale Place. For further details please ring 01325 308094

BUS TRIP
Western Area Community Centre.
Bus trip to REDCAR on Saturday 13th August. Cost £3. Leaving Alston Cres. 9.20am Silverdale Place 9.30am and Wilkinsons Bus Stop at the town centre 9.45. to book ring 01325 308094 or 07967 901477

Star Radio Supports Wellbeing for Life Service

Star Radio is proud to support The Wellbeing for Life Service which is a FREE service supporting you to live well in County Durham. They work with anyone aged 16 and above, and offer both group activities and one-to-one appointments for people who live and work in County Durham. Wes Stakes, Star Radio's Breakfast Presenter, has been having fun taking part in some of the sessions this week in Newton Aycliffe. Your local South West Durham Wellbeing for Life service is based at the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe. There you will find a team of Health Trainers, Wellbeing Development Officers, Community Development Workers and Volunteer and Skills Coordinators who are



ready to support you to live well and get involved in your local community. From New Age Kurling to village walks, practical cooking classes to knit and natter sessions – there's a whole lot on offer, and they can support new groups if you can't find something that

suits you! Check out 'What's On' at the events section on www.wellbeingforlife.net or tune into Star Radio on 102-107 FM.

One of their most successful activities was a FREE Healthy Living Course which was delivered at Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre, where 21 local people learnt about healthy eating, food labels, making food swaps and savvy shopping. The social aspect of the group boosted people's confidence and self-esteem. They got so much more from the course than they expected and everyone strongly recommended it. One of the clients said...

"It is such a great service that my Health Trainer came with me to Tesco and helped me swap the foods I would usually buy for healthier options. I had seen the traffic light system in the leaflets, but she brought it to life." If you would like to try something new and make the most of your chance to meet new people and improve your wellbeing for a happier and healthier life. Get in touch today!

For more information around Wellbeing for Life please contact:
Freephone: 0800 8766887
E: cdda-tr.WBFL@nhs.net
www.wellbeingforlife.net

Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 9th August features the musical/crime film "Pete Kelly's Blues" It is set in 1927, Kansas City during the time of prohibition when gangsters ruled the world of night clubs.

It stars Jack Webb, Lee Marvin, Janet Leigh, Peggy Lee, Ella Fitzgerald, Edmond O'Brien, Jane Mansfield and Andy Devine and they must be enough to make it a film worth seeing. Great songs from Peggy Lee and Ella Fitzgerald and great jazz from the bands.

Tea, coffee and juice will be served at 1pm, included in the £2, children £1, 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 316755.

Alzheimer's Soc. Drop In

The Alzheimer's Society will be holding an informal information and drop in session in the Community Pod at the Pioneering Care Centre, Cobblers Hall on Wednesday 10th August between 10am and 1pm.

Dementia Advisor Hannah Johnson said "Dementia can happen to anyone and there's currently no cure. There are 850,000 people with dementia in the UK and the number is set to rise to 1 million by 2021. At Alzheimer's Society, we believe passionately that life doesn't end when dementia begins. We are here for anyone affected by dementia, and we do everything we can to keep people with dementia connected to their lives and the people who matter most."

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Alzheimer's Disease, Dementia or general memory loss come along and talk to Hannah who will be happy to supply you with information, leaflets and tell you where you can find further support such as Dementia Cafes in the local area.

The Community Pod in the Mall at PCP is available for local charities, organisations, groups or businesses to promote their services. For more information or to book the Pod call 01325 321234 or email enquiries@pcp.uk.net For further information contact the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF tel: 01325 321234 email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net website: www.pcp.uk.net.

Or follow PCP on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: /PCPandCentre

Our M.P. Gets Married



Photo by Sean Gannon

Our MP Phil Wilson tied the knot with temporary Chief Superintendent Kerrin Smith in The Chapel of St Mary Undercroft at the Palace of Westminster on Saturday 30th July. Officiated by the Speakers Chaplain Rose Hudson-Wilkin, the ceremony took place in front of 100 guests, which included family and friends.

Among those in attendance were Durham Police Chief Constable Mike Barton, and local Police and Crime Commissioner Ron Hogg, as well as local MP's including Darlington's Jenny Chapman and Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland's Tom Blenkinsop.

During the ceremony, Darlington-born saxophonist, Alexander Bone, a former BBC Young Jazz Musician of the Year, provided the music.

Paul Trippett, Office Manager and Senior Caseworker for Mr Wilson's constituency office said "It was an absolutely brilliant day – everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves."

"The location was beautiful and the ceremony itself was very moving. I am sure they will be extremely happy."

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ACORN Enjoy Best Ever Fun Day on the Green



ACORN Residents Association pulled out all the stop to make their fun day on the green event the best ever. Five years after the popular group formed, enthusiasm hasn't waned. Volunteers put lots of time and effort into sprucing up the green with planters displaying colourful floral backgrounds to the event. Even our beautiful trees were adorned with flowers planted at the base of them. Our local police beat team brought a little unexpected fun to the occasion by manning the stocks and being pelted with wet sponges in aid of charity. Meanwhile Bobby the Bull was being a very mischievous mascot mingling and entertaining everyone he met. Professor Nincompoop drew peels of joyous mirth from a crowd of

excited children making up an audience on a large tarpaulin while watching a magic show. Meanwhile the antics of the very colourful Dot and Zooky intrigued kids with their Circus tricks which enthralled parents and children alike. Harry Potty was painting gleeful faces throughout the day, working his way determinedly along a queue which never seemed to end. A variety of fairground rides, trampoline, bouncy castle and a large slide were provided by our friend Roberts merry-go-rounds who have become a stable fixture at ACORN events. Officers from our fire and rescue service were on hand with an appliance which became a centre of attraction. ACORN volunteers raised funds throughout the day

with a bric-a-brac stall and Tombola which will help to replace flowers on the green, add to ACORN funding and be donated to charity. It was a fantastic day enjoyed by all and I would like to thank everyone for their help and support. See you all at our second fun day on 19th August

ENTERTAINERS WACKY WORKSHOP

The Young Entertainers Wacky Workshops are suitable for all young people aged 8 to 16 years, and are on Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 24th August at the Civic Hall, Shildon, from 10am to 3pm. Cost £1 per person. A spokesperson for the events said "The young people will have a fun day playing crazy games that will help with their creativity, confidence and social skills, they will meet new friends too, all whilst having a great time. All we ask is that they bring a packed lunch and a big smile" For more information ring 01388 774838 / 0774 782 6324

Disgraceful Film says Aycliffe Councillor

Newton Aycliffe councillor and former Mayor Michael Dalton has condemned British film bosses for their 'insensitivity' in allowing the big screen movie 'Suicide Squad' to go on general release in the UK this week. He has described the decision as "an absolute disgrace" in the light of the recent slaughter caused by suicide bombers in Europe. Cllr Dalton took to the social media to ask: "Don't these people have any concern for the victims of the atrocities in Europe or their grieving families?" He says that the film should 'ideally be scrapped or at the very least postponed' to prevent further distress and comments: "Whoever decided to release this film cannot have a conscience. It's an absolute disgrace". The Warner Brothers

Greenfield Students Bridge the Generation Gap



Getting together for a cuppa can seem so ordinary but the pupils of Sapphire Form at Greenfield Community College, Sunnysdale Campus, came up with a new take altogether.

Whilst planning a programme packed with poetry, speeches, and humorous asides, the form decided that having a cuppa with Shildon's older generation was a perfect way to learn. They planned 'big' questions such as 'did your generation work harder than ours?' and 'does Nigel Farage speak for the Nation?' another.

Their planning was supported by form teacher Emily Robson and local Vicar Revd David alongside Shildon Alive and the church congregation who kindly invited the guests.

Abigail Charlton interviewed Pat Todd and Ann Sanderson discovering that both had been beauty queens and that Pat had begun school with a slate to write on. Whilst thanking everyone involved, Revd David commented that 'it is the sense of community that makes Shildon special. It is a town where people are still interested in each other and watching the way the young and old interacted was a delight.' Miss Robson stated that she hoped to repeat the exercise each term as both the school and



the wider community were certainly the better for it.

TAXIS BLOCK ROAD

Dear Sir,
It has become apparent that Taxi drivers are using the former Taxi rank near the Roundhouse pub illegally. As a fast food driver who regularly needs access to this back street near the Thames Centre, I notice shocking and inconsiderate parking I've had several near misses from taxi drivers who park on the double yellow lines directly outside this pub and it creates a major hazard for other motorists coming from Stephenson Way turning right to find a Taxi parked directly in front of them. They show total disregard for people pulling in behind the Thames Centre as they often park two abreast and block off the entire road, yet they think they are perfectly entitled to take up the whole road as Taxi Drivers. It is only a matter of time before there is an accident. They are parking and touting for business illegally, showing blatant disregard for other people's safety and other road users and should be in the official taxi rank on Greenwell Road. How on earth the Police haven't picked up on this and issued fines is beyond me, but it needs to be stopped before something serious does happen. Name & address supplied



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Local Garden Open to the Public

Garden lovers are in for a treat on Saturday, 13th August when acclaimed gardener, Mary Smith, opens her garden - from 12 noon-4.00pm - in support of the Bishop Auckland Fundraising group of Marie Curie.

2, Hillside Cottage, Low Etherley, DL14 0EZ (off the B6282 in Low Etherley. To reach the garden walk down the track opposite number 63, Low Etherley. Please park on the main road. Limited disabled parking at the cottage).

Based on island beds, the wide variety of perennials, interspersed amongst

trees and shrubs, create a cottage-garden feel to this mature garden. A wild area - complete with bee hives - vegetable and fruit section, together with ponds and water feature all contribute to the relaxed ambience of this delightful garden.

Experience the sights and scents of the garden and indulge your taste buds by trying delicious home-made cakes whilst supporting this worth-while cause. All monies raised will go towards providing 'end of life care' by Marie Curie Nurses in the Bishop Auckland area. Entry £4.



CREE VOLUNTEERS EXPAND LITTLE LIBRARY PROJECT



The fabulous Cree volunteers at Greenfield Arts are once again working hard to bring lovely Free Little Libraries to the wider community. The first library was installed at Greenfield Community College in February 2015 and its success has led to a second being installed at the Sunnyside Campus in Shildon to celebrate World Book Day.

It's a fantastic resource which sees free access to books which are donated by the community and can be borrowed and enjoyed by all who come along to pick out a good read.

The project has now stepped up as New Writing North have commissioned the Cree volunteers to create 10 more

libraries around the North East. The Cree group are working alongside Richard Agar to realise the further installations. Richard is over the moon with the contribution of the Cree men, and the volunteers themselves are very proud of what they have achieved.

Philip Clark who is a longstanding member of the Cree group has nothing but praise for the project, "we're all really pleased that we have been part of this since the first little library and we are all very proud that this has led to a commission of further libraries and that our hard work has been recognised" said Philip.

It really is an amazing achievement once again from an excellent team who should be congratulated on their hard work, creativity and commitment.

The launch will take place on 10th August, 2016 in collaboration with the Durham Book Festival which will see another charming little library being installed at Palace Green in Durham. The event, which is produced by New Writing North will launch its full programme on this day. Watch this space for news of a little library coming to a place near you! Cree is a GAMP public health funded project led by Greenfield Arts which promotes well-being through community projects, anyone wishing to know about Cree and Greenfield Arts should contact our friendly team on 01325 379048.

Love Your Life Workshops by PCP

Love Your Life County Durham is a sport, physical activity and education programme that aims to prevent the development of type 2 diabetes by getting people active and improving their lifestyle.

PCP are delivering the following FREE workshops in Newton Aycliffe, Shildon and Trimdon as part of the programme; which provides activities and education in community venues. Education is provided by DESMOND and their Walking Away From Diabetes module.

Walking Away From Diabetes - a 3 hour workshop for people who have an increased risk of developing diabetes. Participants will learn how small changes to their lifestyle can have a positive impact on their health. PCP is running the workshop at the following locations:

- Trimdon Grange Community Centre - Wednesday 17 August 1-4pm
- Pioneering Care Centre - Thursday 18 August 9.30am-12.30pm
- Foundations Shildon - Thursday 18 August 1.30pm-4.30pm

There is also the opportunity to attend 3 weeks of free physical activity taster sessions including Pilates, gentle exercise and circuits at the following locations:

- Jubilee Fields Community Centre, Shildon starts Monday 22 August 7-8pm for 3 weeks
 - Trimdon Community College starts Tuesday 24 August 6-7pm for 3 weeks
 - Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe starts Wednesday 24 August 3-3.45pm for 3 weeks
- Participants receive a free pedometer on completion of all activities. To book your free place or for further information call Laura Cruddace on 0191 3781037.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON PLANNING AYCLIFFE

Residents and businesses in the Newton Aycliffe area are being asked for their views on a proposed neighbourhood plan.

The submission draft of the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan, developed by the town council, sets out policies that will help determine planning applications in the area until 2036. The plan aims to guide development in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding villages within the town council boundaries.

It also seeks to protect the character of the town, by safeguarding open spaces and the tree-lined main routes, as well as the areas between the town and Aycliffe Village. If agreed, the neighbourhood plan would be an important document in deciding any planning applications going forward.

Under Government regulations, local groups - most often a town or parish council - can apply to the local authority to create a Neighbourhood Plan to make sure residents have a say on how the area should be developed.

After a series of consultations, the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan has now

reached the submission draft stage, the final consultation before it undergoes an examination by an independent inspector. If approved by the inspector, a referendum will then be held in the area to decide if it should be adopted. Cllr Neil Foster, Cabinet member for economic regeneration and culture, said:

"Neighbourhood planning ensures that residents and businesses with local knowledge can have a real say on the direction of planning in their area."

We'd like to encourage everyone in Newton Aycliffe to join in the consultation and play a part in shaping the future of where they live and work."

The plan and supporting documents can be seen online at www.durham.gov.uk/CDP. Paper copies are also available at County Hall, Great Aycliffe Town Council and Newton Aycliffe Library.

People can make comments on the plan by emailing spatialpolicy@durham.gov.uk, calling 03000 261 907, or in writing to Spatial Policy, Room 4/24, County Hall, DH1 5UQ.

The consultation closes at 5pm on Friday, 9 September.

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Rotary Club Invite Sponsors for Charity Day

The town's Rotary Club hold their annual Charity Golf Day at the Woodham Course on Friday 9th September.

The club raise money for Aycliffe charities and this year will be supporting the Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group and Macmillan Nurses.

There are a few holes left for local businesses to sponsor at £75. If you would like to help please contact Syd Howarth on 300212 or email: syd@newtonpress.net

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Exciting Science Club

As the academic year draws to a close, so does another successful year of science club at Woodham Academy. This year the science club members have been involved in a huge variety of activities. The students kicked off the year by making their very own "Google Cardboard". This allowed the students to turn their smartphones into virtual reality headsets. The club also made microscopes thanks to a kit from the Royal Society of Chemistry. The science club were lucky enough to practice their scientific drawing, with various creepy crawlies, including a spider called twinkle toes. The students enjoyed learning how to care for these creatures and

building on their knowledge of all thing creepy crawly. During the year, Woodham Academy were selected to join in with a global experiment: Rocket Science. The project was in partnership with both the European Space Agency and the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS). Two samples of seeds were delivered to school to be planted by the students. One of samples of seeds may have been among a selection that had been to the International Space Station with Astronaut Tim Peake. The Science Club members were charged with planting and observing the seeds over a number of weeks, taking various measurements and submitting them to a chart. The project was designed to investigate whether visiting outer space can affect the development of the seeds compared to seeds that have not left earth. The results have been compiled by the RHS and the European Space Agency and a report will be released in September. The Science Club have also had a number of opportunities to get involved in other experiments such as creating rockets and volcanoes. Overall it has been a fascinating year for our students who enjoy science and we look forward to next year.



SLOPPY WORKMANSHIP ON AYCLIFFE VILLAGE FOOTPATHS

The residents of Atkinson Gardens in Aycliffe Village are up in arms over the footpath outside their houses, recently resurfaced by contractors from Birmingham, employed by the County Council. The material used is not the same quality as tarmac and is obviously an inferior product which can be laid much quicker and cheaper. However the result is less than acceptable leaving a very rough finish which is uneven and dangerous in places for pedestrians who may trip over uneven edges. We are told by householders the men poured the black "sludge" on top of the existing surface and brushed it to make an even pathway, but failed miserably. They have covered the edges of outside water stopcock covers on the footpath making it difficult to get to the tap to turn it off when necessary.

The evidence of poor work is easily shown by the fact that after a week, grass and weeds are growing through this supposedly non-porous material. The whole of Atkinson Gardens has been resurfaced and it is definitely below the standards normally accepted. Town Councillor Billy Blenkinsopp a former



Town Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp

County Councillor was asked to inspect the work and he calls it a "botched job" and totally unacceptable. Residents have expressed their discontent and are

waiting for their County Councillors to take the complaints to County Hall who they hope will take immediate action to bring the footpaths up to standard.

Parents Skip a Meal to Feed Children

Dear Sir,
New research published by the Trussell Trust (Foodbank Founders) brings home the desperate choices facing many families across the UK this summer.

The findings reveal that a fifth of parents will skip a meal during the school holidays so that their children can eat, with the charity estimating that as many as 1.5 million people could be forced to forgo food over the coming weeks.

As a charity fighting poverty in the UK, we hear from families who are struggling with decisions like these every single day. 42% of parents told us they are worried about spending more on food for their children during the summer break and 36% are concerned about paying their essential bills at this time. As a result, one in six will be forced to borrow money through credit cards, overdrafts and loans to make it through.

We know that the extra financial costs that the school summer holidays bring create added pressure for families who are already struggling to afford housing, food and other essentials. It's clear that more needs to be done to put an end to holiday hunger and we're working together with the Trussell Trust and other like-minded organisations to ensure that support for families is as accessible and prominent as possible.

We urge anyone who is struggling to use our free Benefits Calculator, Grants Search and other help at Turn2us.org.uk to find out quickly and easily what support could be available. It could make all the difference

this summer and beyond.
Simon Hopkins
Turn2us Tel: 0208 834 9200

WHINLATTER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Sir,
Aycliffe West County Councillors Eddy Adam & Kate Hopper note the remarks made in last week's Newton News regarding a replacement bridge to connect Whinlatter and Linden Places. However, the number of residents we have contacted, or who have contacted us, is far greater than the relatively low turnout at residents' meetings in the area. We were aware of several residents who, for perfectly valid reasons, do not want the bridge replaced and their opinions could not be ignored nor dismissed out of hand. Hence the need to get as wide a range of viewpoints as possible. We thank those residents who have been in touch and those we met on the doorstep for their time. For various reasons, 68% stated they wished the bridge to be replaced as a

valuable community asset as they go about their everyday business.

Of the 32% who do not want the bridge replaced, the main reason was a perceived reduction in antisocial behaviour and noise nuisance since its removal; the nearby proximity of alternative access routes, as well as comments that the significant cost of a replacement bridge would be better spent on other community projects.

The latter percentage also includes some residents who were not bothered either way, as they did not use the bridge anyway. As it happens, a project proposal to replace the bridge has already been drafted and now that we have our survey results, this will go before September's GAMP Board meeting for approval. Durham County Councillor Kate Hopper

Police in the Stocks

Tesco and Newton Aycliffe Police have joined forces to raise money for Freya Aither a young brain tumour victim. The Police geared up with the help of Angela Walker and the Tesco team and helped raise funds for Freya's Freckle.

Customers shopping last Saturday got the chance to cover local Beat police and Tesco staff in the stocks with cold water sponges. This marks the start of Aycliffe Police and Tesco working in partnership in the Aycliffe area



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DogsTrust & Newton News

FIND A DOG a home

Is Cyril the dog for you?

Cyril arrived at Dogs Trust Darlington in January last year and although people have fallen in love with this handsome chap, he has sadly found himself back at the centre. He is a fabulous boy and would fit wonderfully into a home with experienced German Shepherd owners. He is friendly and loves people he knows – preferring them to dogs! Once Cyril, who is three, has built a bond with you he is a very affectionate boy and enjoys being bathed and groomed and cuddled.

As he can be wary of new people he needs to be the only dog in an adult only home. With owners who would enjoy taking him out and about in quieter areas where he won't come across too many dogs, and who are happy to carry on with his training, he will be a wonderful part of the family.

If you think Cyril could be the one for you, please visit him at Dogs Trust Darlington at Hill House Farm, Sadberge, DL2 1SL. The centre is open Friday-Tuesday 12pm-4pm and 12pm-7.30pm on Thursdays. It is closed on Wednesdays. Or to find out more about Cyril or any of the dogs at the centre, go to www.dogstrust.org.uk or call 0300 303 0292.



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CHECK YOUR VOTER INFORMATION

Families are to be asked to check if the voter information for their homes is correct.

As part of Durham County Council's annual canvass, households will soon receive a form checking the information held on the electoral register.

Electoral registration officer Colette Longbottom said: "It is important to respond to the request for information, even if there has been no change to the details, as otherwise people may be lost from the register and be unable to vote in future local and national elections."

Both County Council and parish elections are due to take place in May 2017.

Confirming details is quick and simple - and being registered to vote can help to improve a person's credit rating.

If all of the information on the form is correct people can:

• **Return it in the envelope provided. Postage is free.**

• **Phone 0800 197 9871 or text 80212 and when prompted enter part 1 and part 2 of the security code printed on the form.**

• **Visit www.householdresponse.com/dcc and enter part 1 and part 2 of the security code printed on the form.**

That website can also be used to add or delete an elector's name, or to make changes to a current elector's name.

There is also an option available to request a postal vote or to opt out from being on the open register.

If any of the information is incorrect, it can also be amended on the form and returned to Electoral Services at Durham County Council.

For more information, call 03000 261 212 or email electoralservices@durham.gov.uk

End of Year Fun at Vane Road



As another school year had drawn to a close, Vane Road Primary School children and staff had good reason to smile. The annual Leavers Fair, which included a nostalgic mix of traditional stalls and activities together with the complementary presence of exciting fairground rides, raised the astounding total of almost £1400.

Celebrations and fun continued with the customary end of term disco. A welcome opportunity for the children and staff to enjoy a chance to unwind in each other's company whilst contemplating the successful results of a whole school team effort.

The kitchen staff added to the festivities by providing a "seaside themed end of term lunch". They decorated the school with bunting and dressed up for the occasion before serving a delicious meal of fish and chips in authentic fish shop

style paper cones. What a community spirit!

Thanks to everyone who make Vane Road School the thriving educational

community it is. Headteacher Mr. Pavey and Chair of Governors Mr. Patel are justifiably proud. Well done to children, parents and staff!

No Disappointment Over Brexit

Dear Sir,

I read 'Lets Heal The Rifts' comments from our M.P and, while taking the opposite view, I do have much in common with his sentiments. Unlike him I am not disappointed in the result but join him in deploring the conduct of so many of the campaigners. The people I know have been misled to an unacceptable extent by their antics which reflects no merit on our senior politicians. Both sides deliberately misled our Nation, vying in the telling of 'porkies' and both sides deserve condemnation.

It is to be regretted that 'Leave' misquoted the proper amount the EU costs Britain by not allowing for the appreciable rebate figure or the 'grants' returned for specific purposes when they should have quoted the net figure which is considerably less. Having said which, the 'grants' which do come back will still be available to our Government to distribute in a similar fashion.

After all, that is where the present Agricultural and Regional grants come from. - our own money. That is where our M.P's could, should and must apply pressure to ensure it is fairly distributed to maximum advantage, not disappear into the Government's maw - to lesser effect. The lesson of the last 20 years is that Governments don't so much spend money effectively as waste so much of it.

I also tend to have some differences with Farage's comments but my recollection is that there was no promise to pay that £350 million for the sole benefit of the NHS - although help is sorely needed, it is a wasteful organisation which, among other things, would benefit from having fewer and less expensive/costly chiefs and more workers.

But I strongly disagree with the misbehaviour of members of the Remain side. The scare tactics of war, the threat of penal budgets, were rather crude 'persuasions' which have faltered. When our PM David Cameron intimated the backing of Churchill for a European State/Federation in front of an audience of 6000, plus TV coverage, he omitted to mention that Churchill specifically excluded Great Britain and it's Commonwealth. The unanimous conclusions of 600 economists was a jest.

When I studied economics (long ago but no change here) the start line was "if this, this and this happens then that is likely to happen" - but only likely. By the time it is definite it's history. Generally three economists in a room are likely to reach at least three conclusion. So 600 of one mind? Unbelievable. The Government insistence that we already control our own borders is a dangerous delusion.

Immigrants have long had place and value in our progress and prosperity. That will inevitably continue, but with such a high density population in an already overcrowded island those borders cannot be wide open. There are insufficient amenities, housing, schools, health facilities, even transport are inadequate. Controlled immigration is a difficult problem but one which must be solved. All in all neither side has clean hands and in future they must do better.

My greatest disappointment, dismay even, is the insidious way in which, under successive gullible Governments, Britain has been gradually sucked into the maw of a much more intrusive organisation than that promised by Heath as being 'no more than a single market with no further political or financial implications' That was never the truth. It was simply the bait of the EEC as a first step towards the EU as it now is, and the ever tightening integration planned.

The danger was not in Britain leaving but in remaining in the EU. A lumbering panjandrum of inflexible thinking and a flawed single currency. All the odds were stacked against Greece from the beginning. There is great uncertainty about stability of Italy it's Banks and static economy, Spain is presently dependent upon it's (foreigners) housing market and all three countries have horrible unemployment problems. Other EU Countries are beginning to question their place in the EU suggesting a complete rethinking of it's role is needed. A breaking point was inevitable. At present Britain's economy is perhaps not quite as fragile as is often quoted. Truly it does need to grow and strengthen but the initial reactions of the markets was only to be expected, simply because markets always over-react then adjust. This they have

Electrifying Pianist at Auckland Castle

Acclaimed Japanese pianist, Mami Shikimori, will perform in the Chapel at Auckland Castle on Friday, 2nd September at 7.30pm. Noted for her expressive power and poetic insight, combined with an effortless technical ability, Mami has been exciting audiences since first appearing on stage in 1996.

Her playing has been described as 'electrifying' and 'a dazzling revelation' by critics and she has performed at numerous world-renowned concert venues, including New York's Carnegie Hall, London's Wigmore Hall and Tokyo's Suntory Hall.

For this concert, the culmination of Bishop Auckland Music Society's 2016 concert series, Mami will perform works by Schubert, Ravel and Debussy.



A musical opportunity not to be missed!

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Wed. 10th August Moore Lane Park
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Fri. 12th August Horndale Park

Wed. 17th August Woodham Park
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Fri. 19th August St. Oswald's Park
Circus Theme with a visit from Dot and Zooky

Wed. 24th August Aycliffe Village Park

Fri. 26th August Simpasture Park
Final venue - 2 Face Painters

Recommended for ages 3 to 8 years.
Height and age restrictions apply to inflatables and fairground rides

For more information

Telephone
01325 300600



BRIDGE NOT NEEDED

Dear Syd

I've never commented on the Linden Place/Whinlatter Place missing bridge until now. As a resident of Whinlatter Place for some years now, this bridge, in my opinion, was the least used of all three.

Given its proximity to an already existing stone bridge only one hundred yards away on Williamfield Way and the heavily used one leading to the lower end of Whinlatter/Kirkstone Place, I would have to agree with the local authority and say that this bridge is the least essential one of the lot as the existing bridges are close enough to each other not to inconvenience anyone.

The only houses on Linden Place it benefitted were the ones closest to it, yet they are as close to the stone bridge so after hearing this bridge was being removed pending a decision to replace it, I didn't notice any increase in footfall over it.

As we already have provision for crossing the Burn in various places and close by, I have to say a new one simply isn't needed.

Darran Weston

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Brass Festival Raises the Roof at Greenfield



Students from Greenfield Community College were treated to a festival of brass earlier this month. Pupils from both the Aycliffe Site and Sunnysdale Campus had the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic live performance from the talented 'Funky Style Brass' and 'Mr Wilson's Second Liners' respectively. Students from Year 7 and 8 at Greenfield were thrilled with the occasion and showed their appreciation by forming a fun conga and creating Mexican waves to the fabulous sounds of the talented bands. "It was great to see the students enjoying the music and joining in" said Sophie Lewis, Arts and Community Centre Co-ordinator at Greenfield Arts "it was really special to host the event, bringing not only

fun and enjoyment to the end of term but also a brilliant cultural and educational experience." The event formed part of the popular Durham Brass Festival which has been celebrating their tenth birthday in style throughout the region bringing an array of styles and themes to its more traditional roots. Funded by Durham County Council and delivered by 'The Forge' the event has gone from strength to strength and Greenfield Arts have once again been delighted to host the event and enjoy the students' lively reaction! For more about Greenfield Arts and what we have to offer why not call our friendly team on 01325 379048 or check out our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

STILL TIME TO COMMENT ON COUNTY DURHAM PLAN

A major consultation on the County Durham Plan closes next week and people are being urged to make sure they have their say before 8 August.

Known as the 'Issues and Options' stage, Durham County Council is seeking views on the amount of new development needed for housing, potential job creation and future retail spaces up to the year 2033. The plan will also cover what infrastructure is needed to support these, such as transport, schools and green spaces.

The deadline for the consultation - and the Sustainable Transport Strategy consultation - has been extended until 6pm on Monday 8 August. This follows maintenance work to the national Objective IT system over the weekend, where the consultations are published, to ensure no one misses out.

The council is asking what your town or village needs to ensure it is successful in the future. As well as how development can be best used to grow the economy of the county and promote tourism. A range of questions is being asked as part of the consultation with people free to answer as many as they feel relevant but also to suggest

any other opportunities that they want the council to consider.

A number of consultation sessions have been held across the county but people can still respond online at www.durham.gov.uk/CDP.

Cllr Neil Foster, Cabinet member for economic regeneration and culture, said: "The County Durham Plan will set the future of our county so it's vital that everyone lets us know what they think so we can move forward with a plan that helps everyone."

"With the plan guiding

development of the county to 2033, we need people to let us know what they think of the options we've identified, or if there's anything else that they would like us to consider to make sure it meets the needs of their communities."

Following the closure of the consultation on the Issues and Options, the next stage will see the council use the comments received, alongside evidence, to prepare a preferred option for the County Durham Plan. If agreed by Cabinet, this will be consulted on later in the year.

CLASSIC BUS RALLY

In association with Aycliffe & District Bus Preservation Society Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon Sunday August 14, 2016

Join Aycliffe & District Bus Preservation Society for a rally of classic buses at Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon on Sunday August 14.

Visitors will be able to view a range of classic and vintage buses, from Aycliffe & District Bus Preservation Society's

collection and from local owners.

Browse a selection of trade stands inside the Collection Building, offering bus memorabilia and more. Plus enjoy a 'mystery tour' around the local area on a classic bus!

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

For more information, please call the museum team on 01388 777999.

FUNK & SOUL CHARITY NIGHT IN AID OF BUTTERWICK HOSPICE

Dear Sir,

The Butterwick Hospice and Hardwick Hall Hotel have teamed together to offer one lucky couple the chance of winning a wedding!

Five couples were chosen in total to fundraise for the hospice and whichever couple raises the most will be saying their vows on the 11th February 2017, thanks to Hardwick Hall Hotel.

My partner and I are over the moon to have been chosen to take part in this event and are now in the final!

As Newton Aycliffe residents we were hoping for support from readers.

Natalie Bradshaw.



Live DJ's Dan Bradshaw & Wayne McWilliams

Raffle, Disco and much more

Tickets can be purchased on the door

The Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of publication of Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan proposal under Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and the Localism Act 2011.

This notice is published to inform the public that the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to Durham County Council for consultation. This is known as the Submission stage of plan preparation and it marks the final statutory consultation before the plan undergoes examination. A successful examination outcome will ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan can be considered for adoption (via a local referendum).

Great Aycliffe Town Council have prepared a neighbourhood development plan – known as 'The Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan' – with the help of the local community. The plan provides a vision for the future of Great Aycliffe in 2036 and sets out land use policies which will be used to determine planning applications in the neighbourhood plan area.

Where can the plan be inspected?

Copies of the Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documentation are available to view on our website: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/cdp>

Hard copies are available for inspection at:

• The Council Offices
Durham County Council, County Hall, DH1 5UQ
Monday to Friday 8:30am-5:00pm

• Great Aycliffe Town Council
Council Offices
School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6QF
Monday to Wednesday 8:45am-5:15pm;
Thursday 8:45am-5:00pm
and Friday 8:45am-3:45pm

• Newton Aycliffe Library
Central Avenue
Newton Aycliffe
County Durham DL5 5QG
Monday: 10.00am-6.00pm;
Tuesday: 10.00am-7.00pm;
Wednesday: closed;
Thursday: 10.00am-7.00pm;
Friday: 10.00am-5.00pm;
Saturday: 9.30am-12.30pm.

If you unable to view the plan at either venue please contact the Spatial Policy Team (details below) and we will arrange for a copy to be posted out to you free of charge.

Having your say

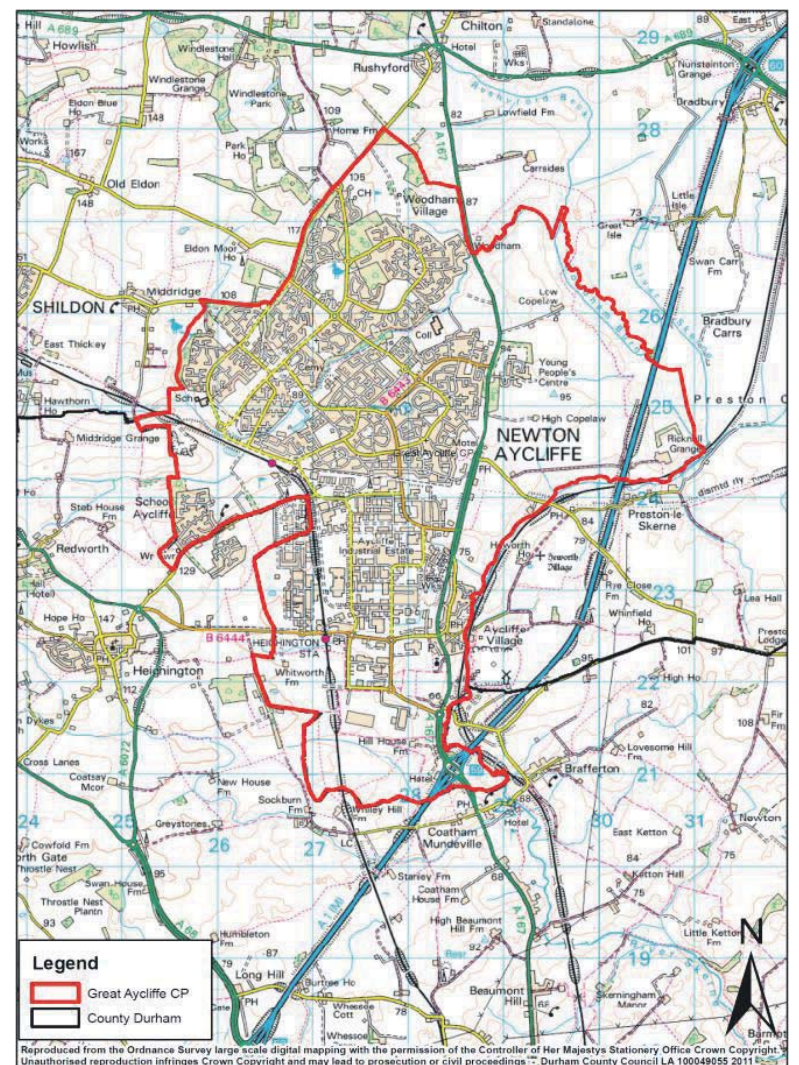
The period for making representations runs until 5.00pm, Friday 9th September 2016

Representations may be made by:

• Email: spatialpolicy@durham.gov.uk
• Telephone: 03000 261404
• Post: Spatial Policy (Rm 4/24-35)
Durham County Council, County Hall, DH1 5UQ.

Notification

Any representations may include a request to be notified regarding Durham County Council's decision under regulation 19 to "make" the submitted Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan part of the development plan for County Durham.



Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan Area is marked in red

Loan Sharks Beware!

Housing and communities business livin is working with residents in partnership with the England Illegal Money Lending Team, to raise awareness of the dangers of loan sharks.

The partnership made up of livin, Durham Area Action Partnership, Durham Constabulary, Durham Trading Standards, and Monkey have signed a charter pledging a zero tolerance approach to loan sharks in the Spennymoor area.

Targeted action is underway in the areas most affected by loan sharks to encourage people to report this as a crime if they have been a victim. Representatives

from the illegal money lending team and livin are visiting tenants to offer advice and support as well as free training sessions in the community.

Sean Brodie, executive director of finance from livin said: "We take illegal practices of loan sharks' money lending and the damage they cause very seriously. Through this charter we can work alongside other like-minded groups to raise awareness and offer support to those affected."

If you have been affected by illegal money lenders please call the 24/7 confidential hot-line 0300 555 2222, email reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk

Smokers Reminded Play Areas are Smoke Free

Adults are being asked to remember this summer that County Durham's children's play areas are smoke free. With the school holidays now here, members of the public are reminded to follow the voluntary code and not light up near youngsters.

Councillor Lucy Hovvels, Durham County Council's cabinet member for adult and health services, said: "One of our key priorities is preventing children from becoming smokers in the future."

"Although the code is voluntary, we hope the public will continue to support it to help protect the health of our



children."

The Smokefree County Durham Tobacco Alliance asked the council to introduce the measure in an effort to reduce children's exposure to smoking and make it less socially acceptable, so that children are less likely to take up the habit themselves. Children are most at risk of becoming smokers if they grow up in communities where smoking is the norm and making our play areas smoke free is one way of reducing the opportunities for children to see adults smoking around them.

Following a public consultation, in March 2015 the authority introduced a voluntary code making play areas in parks smoke free and placed signs in and around each play area as a polite reminder to adults not to light up.

A recent follow up survey found an overwhelming 99% of members of the public agreed with the move.

For information about the help available in County Durham to quit smoking visit <http://ow.ly/ufO9302E7PF>

Police Plans Out for Consultation

The Police, Crime and Victims' Plan 2016-2021 consultation has been launched. It was considered by the Police and Crime Panel earlier this week, and will be out for public consultation for the next two months, before finalisation by November.

During this period we will be looking to hear from as many people as possible across the area, including through attending community events and Area Action Partnerships. We will also be looking to discuss the plan in detail with partners, and it will be on the agenda for meetings of both the Safe Durham Partnership and the Darlington Community Safety Partnership in September.

The plan continues Ron's theme of "Putting Victims First" which he set out when he took the oath of office in May. The three strategic aims are to:

- Inspire confidence in the police and criminal justice system
 - Support victims and the vulnerable
 - Tackle crime and keep our communities safe
- The full draft plan and online survey is available at: <http://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/2909219/Police-Crime-and-Victims-Plan-2016>

RESIDENTS COMPLAIN OF FACTORY NOISE FROM GESTAMP

Dear Sir,

To: All those affected by factory noise emanating from Gestamp. I, too, live in the Travellers Green/Clarence Chare area that has been blighted by noise at all hours of the day (don't mind) and night (mind a lot!).

The particular noise that seems to be causing the most offence is a high-pitched drilling sound that has been going on for several months now. The crashing of steel noise also heard doesn't bother us as much; it is repetitive but not intrusive. The problem with the high-pitched noise is how closely it resembles a siren/alarm. It jolts you awake every time you drift off to sleep because we are programmed to wake up for noises we associate with danger (like sirens/alarms).

I lost patience with the noise a couple of weeks ago, when I was still wide awake at 3.30am in the morning. I

have now contacted Durham County Council who have a duty to investigate whether factory noise is intrusive or not. If all of those affected also do this, it makes for a much more robust complaint. Gestamp have a global turnover in excess of six billion pounds. I am sure they can afford some additional soundproofing.

I think the drill, or whatever it is that is making the noise, was added after the factory was built, and as a result the sound-proofing they have is ineffective at toning down such a high-frequency noise. I would also like to draw readers attention to Gestamps' factory in Wales which has also frustrated local residents with problems similar to ours. If we all make them aware how frustrating it is to be constantly sleep-deprived they might be more inclined to do something about it.

Name & address supplied

Gestamp Tallent Responds . . .

Newton News contacted Gestamp and received the following response:

Dear Sir,

As an organisation we take our responsibilities to our neighbours and the environment very seriously and we are committed to ensuring that we work alongside and cooperate with businesses and residents alike in resolving any issues that may arise from our plant.

If the author of the letter would like to contact John Lanaghan the Site Facilities Manager at Gestamp, we will investigate the complaint and work with the resident to find an agreeable solution.

Brian Rees HR Manager Gestamp Tallent

Waiting for the Flying Scotsman



On the 20th July Playday Nursery had a visit to see the Flying Scotsman go through Newton Aycliffe. On our way to play in the park before the event it poured with rain, but luckily the Oakleaf Sports Complex came to the rescue and provided us with shelter until it stopped, so a big thank you to them.

The children all enjoyed waving their homemade flags as the train went past. What an enjoyable end of term trip and we hope all the children who are going to school in September have a fantastic time.

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Boxing Clever Aids the World's Needy

Two Rotary-backed, box-based schemes to improve the health of some of the world's poorest people have been outlined to members of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club.

Derbyshire Rotarian Iain Corran travelled from the fringe of the Peak District to introduce local club members to the Dentaibox, a container holding all the key dental equipment necessary to enable a dental professional to deliver basic oral health care and emergency treatment to disadvantaged people anywhere in the developing world.

He also showed film of the



Rotary-designed Aquabox which contains equipment to produce clean drinking water from dirty streams and rivers and which has brought the gift of life to people affected by natural or man-made disasters in countries around the world, giving the gift of life to families

Iain was introduced by Rtn Ron Eyley and thanked by Rtn Pat Pickersgill.

Ron was guest speaker the previous week and entertained members with a collection of stories about journalistic mishaps and adventures when he trained as a junior reporter on a Midlands county newspaper. He was introduced by Rtn John Burrows and thanked by President Nora Scott.

If you want more information on Rotary and its charitable work contact e-mail: syd@newtonpress.net.

The Dentaibox



A portable dental surgery in a wheelie bin.

Are You Getting Married?

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

Contact Paul or Syd on 01325 300212 to find out how

★ STAR RADIO

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Frequency: 102-107FM

Friday 5th August

0600-1000 - Star Radio Breakfast with Wes Stakes
1000-1400 - Craig Andrews
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1900 - Star Radio Drive with Tim Lichfield
1900-2200 - Dancing Through The Decades
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Saturday 6th August

0600-0900 - John Clayton
0900-1400 - Tim Lichfield with "The Mystery Years"
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1800 - Craig Andrews
1800-0000 - Dancing Through The Decades

Sunday 7th August

0600-0900 - Easy Like Sunday Morning (John Clayton)
0900-1400 - Dave Sherwood with "The Mystery Years"
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1900 - Tim Lichfield
1900-2200 - Non-Stop Star Radio
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone with John Clayton

Monday 8th to Thursday 11th August

0600-1000 - Star Radio Breakfast with Wes Stakes
1000-1400 - Craig Andrews
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1900 - Star Radio Drive with Tim Lichfield
1900-2200 - The Evening Takeover
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone with John Clayton

Radio House - Woodland Road - Darlington - DL3 7BJ
Telephone: 01325 341801

AYCLIFFE SQUASH CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS



Emma Mavin, Karina Dixon, Neil Ross and Nick Hill

Aycliffe Squash Club's championship finals evening took place at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex on Saturday 30 July. All of the matches were played in excellent spirit and well supported by a good turnout.

Top of the bill was the men's final, which was expected to be a great match between men's team first string Nick Hill, who had a very good season in the Durham and Cleveland League and was hungry for his first championship win after finishing runner up twice.

Five time championship winner and club legend, Neil Ross, who came back to the game after a long layoff to concentrate on cycling played well. This match could have gone either way, with both players giving it everything they had to get their name on the board as 2016 champion.

After a classic final of high energy, high quality, huge determination and fine margins, which veered from one player to the other, with Nick saving three match points in the 5th game, Neil

eventually prevailed 9-1, 8-10, 2-9, 10-8, 9-7. Huge credit goes to Neil on his 6th also huge credit to Nick, who also played a great match and was within a whisker.

The ladies' final was between two first time finalists - Karina Dixon and Emma Mavin. As ladies' team first string, Karina was strong favourite against relative newcomer Emma, but Emma rose to the occasion, worked hard and gave Karina a good match. However, ultimately Karina's power, class and experience prevailed and she won 9-5, 9-10, 9-7, 9-1. Congratulations to Karina on her first club championship win and to Emma on her good performance.

The Club thanks its sponsors, car dealers Pulmans, for supporting the event.

If you are interested in playing competitively and/or socially, learning to play or watching squash, contact the Oak Leaf on 01325 300600 and ask about the opportunities available, or visit the Club's website aycliffesquash.co.uk

AYCLIFFE TRI CLUB

Hi readers, after a rare quiet week in the race diary, we're back. To begin with, the club would like to applaud Wendy Bake who attempted the Uk Ironman, held in Bolton on July 17th. Due to an accident on her bike earlier this year which left her arm broken, and unable to train as much as she would have liked, she 'gave it her best', exiting the 3.8km swim in 1:44:10 (an achievement itself when considering how much her injury prevented her from swim training). But sadly she didn't make the bike cut off time. She knew that there would 'be a strong chance she wouldn't finish' so she wasn't disappointed in the least and looks forward to 2017 and another chance to be an Ironman/lady.

On the evening of Wednesday 20th, the second of three Trilogy Mid Week Super Sprint Triathlons was held at Ellerton Lake in North Yorkshire. We had nine club member racing in glorious sunshine. For the ladies, Nicola Darragh was first home finishing an excellent 2nd in her age group, 4th female, in a time of 49:10. Tracey Warrior was next, 7th in her age group, 19th female, in a time of 56:08. A much more confident Anne Kellet crossed the line in 1:08:23, 24th in her age group, 42nd female, and due to an accident, credit goes to Melanie Rowland for stopping and assisting a fallen competitor and in doing so, sacrificing her race. For the gentlemen, Stuart Rimmer was first home 12th in his age group, 29th male, in a time of 46:43. Next was Jeremy Ladbury, 24th in his age group, 48th male, in a time of 51:20. Alan Kellet was next to finish in a time of 52:22, a fantastic 1st in his age group and 52nd male. Austin Donoghue was close behind Alan, finishing in a time of 52:52, 30th in his age group, 57th male. And not last or least was James Wilson, 2nd in his age group, 62nd male, finishing the race in a time of

54.42. And one last race to bring you news on. Over the 23rd & 24th of July, two of our club members were part of a team that participated in the 24hr Conti Thunder Run, a race where in each team member runs 10km as part of a relay over 24 hours. Michelle Scott and Penny Johnson, together with their team, ran a total of 280km, finishing 27th out of 239 teams, an outstanding achievement. See you next time - ATC

Aycliffe Running Club Round-up

Club runner Dave Blewitt participated in the Parc de Boulogne in Paris on Saturday 11 July. This is a Park Run in Paris and it was Dave's 102nd Park Run. The course is a 5k road race and it was a hot 30 degrees. He completed the course in 22.29 and came in 5th place overall.

On Tuesday 19 July 18 club runners turned out for the Crook relays. They formed six teams of three, with each



Runners in the Crook relays

Aycliffe Swimmer in British Championships

Aycliffe swimmer Hannah Featherstone took part in the British Swimming National Championships competing in the 17/18 age group on 26th July to the 30th July.

She had qualified for six events but there was a degree of apprehension as we had so little time to prepare for all the events as our focus had been 200 and 100 FS in Hungary. We need not have worried as the success in Europe provided a massive lift.

Her first event was the 200 FS where she did a PB in both the heat and again in the final taking the bronze medal in a time of 2: 01: 54.

She made the final in the 100 and 200 Back and the 50 FS in new best times. The 100 FS was a hard fought race with Hannah going 56:51 in a new best time to take fourth place missing the medal by



1/100th of a second. Her last event was the 200 Individual Medley and this turned out to be her most impressive swim of the meet taking the fifth place in a new best time of 2: 16: 54.

A perfect end to a very busy and rewarding year for Hannah. Thanks to everyone for their help and support.



Lisa Dowell

runner tackling the 2.2 mile long multi-terrain course.

First team back for the club and 3rd overall was Tracey Surtees, Lee Wren and John Surtees in a time of 43:58. Next and placing 4th overall was Mark Wade, Michelle Zamir and Richard Campbell in 44:20.

They were followed by Dave Blewitt, Peter Smith and Cyd Denise in 51:39; Rob Nicholson, Michelle Jane, and Dez Fielden in 51:58; Ste Smith, Rob Jayne and Angela Barrett in 52:32; and Alan Wilks, Trevor Needham and Penny Johnson in 52:51.

On Wednesday 20 July Aycliffe Club runners participated in the Prince Bishops Durham City 5k and 10k races. There

were approximately 2000 runners taking part in the event. A 5k and 10k race started simultaneously with one lap for the 5k race and two laps for the 10k race. Although it had rained earlier in the day it was extremely warm on the undulating course. Alan Wilks participated in the 5k and completed the course in 22:49 and placed 2nd in his category of male over 60. In the 10k event Richard Johnson was first back for the club in a time of 43:19. He was followed by Trish Kay in 52:43, Lisa Sheldon in 58:50 and Judith Porter in 1:08:04.

On 23 and 24 July a team of eight club runners entered The Continental Thunder Run. This is a 24 hour endurance relay with over 3000 runners taking part. It is a really tough 10k, hilly cross country course snaking through the grounds of Catton Hall in Derbyshire. Each team will run as many laps of the course as they possibly can in the 24 hour period.

Aycliffe runners included team captains Lee Wren and Dez Fielden, Ste Smith, Penny Johnson, Dave Blewitt, Dean Barclay, Michelle Scott and Michelle Zamir.

The team totalled 280km, with each team member running 3 or 4 laps (30km or 40km). The team placed 27th out of 239 teams.



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to improve responses to domestic abuse and strengthen the sector. The programme will invest £3m in the domestic abuse sector over three years. An initial investment of £800,000 has been made to support and expand a partnership between Women's Aid and Imkaan to enable small and specialist charities tackling domestic abuse to better prepare for, adapt and compete for funding contracts across England. More information on how to apply will be available shortly. www.lloydsbankfoundation.org.uk/publications/news/2015/11/11/nationaldomesticabuseprogramme/

COUNCIL WASTING TAXPAYERS' MONEY

Our County Council, which is telling everyone it has to make big service cuts because of central government funding reductions, has decided, in its wisdom, to spend nearly a million pounds of taxpayers' money on signage for 20mph zones outside 66 selected schools, and this includes two in Newton Aycliffe: St Mary's and Sugar Hill. St Mary's is the one on Central Avenue, which is the big wide main road through town with the wide grass verges at the side, separating the footpath from the road, and this is only phase 1 - more schools, and more expenditure, is planned to follow! To the best of my knowledge all of our schools already have

traffic wardens, but clearly that is not deemed enough to make them safe! The two schools mentioned must have both been open and deemed perfectly safe for at least 50 years, but suddenly there is a need for 20mph speed limits! It's another case of the Nanny State gone mad. Our cash-strapped County Council has also wasted taxpayers' money installing not one but two 30mph signs in the road surface at the entrance to town on Central Avenue from the A167 alongside the 30mph signs already there! Do they think the signs that were already there weren't big enough? I expect they'll be doing the same on other entry roads into town. Meanwhile, we have those seriously dangerous pinch points on Pease Way made even more dangerous by having most of the bollards smashed by obvious impact damage, probably by cars crashing into them, and very few of the reflectors in place. This means it's very easy not to see them until the last minute. Surely this is a far bigger risk than people not seeing the previously existing 30mph sign or people getting run over near a school with a traffic warden, yet they can't afford to fix them (or, better still, remove them). The Council seems to regard all drivers as inconsiderate,

irresponsible morons who are incapable of driving safely without intervention. Granted there are a few such people on the road, but they aren't the people who take any notice of the signage. Meanwhile, Vane Road School still gets huge numbers of parents parking around it at chucking out time. They are

presumably the ones with unfit kids, who can't make the quarter of a mile walk home on foot! Traffic congestion seems to be a far bigger risk than having too high a speed limit, but it's a less easy 'fix' and it'll only get worse as more and more houses are allowed to be built. John Snowball

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Council Awarded Young Carers Charter

Durham County Council has been presented with the Young Carers Charter for its commitment to supporting the young people across the county who are carers for their grandparents, parents and siblings.

The charter, which has been developed by Family Action – The Bridge Young Carer's Service, has been awarded in recognition of the council's commitment to supporting young carers, by assessing their needs and signposting them to organisations and professionals who can assist them.

As part of that commitment, a steering group has already been set up, to listen to the views of young carers and use comments about their unique needs to help shape the way the council's services are commissioned.

Durham County Council's Chief Executive, Terry Collins, said: "Young carers have a very specific set of needs due to their circumstances and the awarding of the charter will mean that across the board, wherever our county's young carers need to access services or assistance, we are

committed to bearing their unique needs in mind."

Individual services within the council and those that work in partnership with them are also being encouraged to work towards being awarded the charter in their own right. The Children and Families Partnership, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and the Youth Offending Service have already been awarded the charter and plans are in place for the new Families First teams to also work towards gaining it.

Durham County Council's cabinet member for adult and health services, Cllr Lucy Hovvels, added: "As chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, I would like to express how much we value the contribution that young carers make to helping us with our health agenda.

"We will continue to work in conjunction with young carers and partner organisations in addressing the issues that arise for these dedicated young carers who contribute so much to our society."

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DONATIONS needed of Bric-a-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John 316630

RSPCA North Tees & District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and ID chip. Please Tel 311215
JAFFA are you aged between 5 and 12? Then why not come and join us at JAFFA. Mondays 3.45 to 5.00pm at Burnhill Way Methodist Church, Newton Aycliffe for bible stories and activities.

TABLE TOP SALE 28th August at Newton Aycliffe Scout Centre. £5 a table. Tel 01325 321084 to book yours.

Lost & Found

FOUND: Fit-bit type device in Aycliffe Village. Please call at Newton Press with ID number.
FOUND: key on the hill at Moore Lane on Sunday morning 26th June. Call at Newton Press offices to describe and claim.

FOUND on the afternoon of 19th July, opposite the Green Hill on Butler Road, just past the junction of Butler Road and Bowes Road. Two items were laid on the side of the road as if they had fallen out of a car door. Describe and collect from Newton Press office.

FOUND pair of keys, Sunday 31st July, Cestria Way, Tel. 313770 to describe and claim.
FOUND personalised photo keyfob. Looks of sentimental value. Call at Newton Press to describe and claim.

LOST Ginger three legged cat answers to Ruby. Tel 01325 311568

STAFF RETIREMENTS AT WOODHAM ACADEMY

The close of the summer term marked the end of an era for three long serving members of Woodham Academy staff, all of whom have retired following extensive and successful careers at the school. Ian Bickerdike, Joan Robson and Sue McTague between them



have amassed 86 years at the school. Given their length of service it is likely that they will have reached many families in the town. In recent years both Ian and Joan have taken a leading role in training the next generation of teachers by leading subject areas of the Durham SCITT programme in their specialist areas of Maths

and English. In Sue's role as SENCO (Special Educational Needs) she showed great compassion in giving much appreciated support to those students who required it during their time at the school. Everyone at the school, colleagues and students past and present wish them all a happy and well deserved retirement.

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DARLINGTON Spiritualist Church, Denmark Street, Darlington DL3 0LP invite you to a Special Demonstration of Mediumship with Minister Val Williams (International Medium) on Saturday 6th August at 7.00pm. Doors open at 6.30pm, £5 entry payable on the door.

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VICIOUS DOG ATTACK

Dear Editor
Whilst out with my dog on Friday evening 29th July, my Collie suffered an unprovoked and vicious attack from an Alsatian in Oakfield. I was on my way home with my dog on his leash and was about 50 yards away from my house when the Alsatian, out on the green with its owners spotted my dog and immediately charged

over and attacked him, grabbing him by the back leg and pinning him down. My poor dog didn't stand a chance, even if he could have fought back as he was on his leash. The dog had him wedged up against a fence so he couldn't move and he is no match size wise or aggression wise to an alsatian.

When the owner managed to get hold of the dog he put it in the house and then came to see if my dog was injured and to give the gentleman credit, he was very apologetic and very concerned. Luckily, with my dog being a collie he has a really thick coat which reduced the attack but he was terrified and shaken. If this attack had taken place on a smaller dog it would most definitely have been seriously injured if not worse. Worse still, it could have been a child that was attacked or myself whilst trying to get my dog away.

The owner said their dog had never done this before and in future it will be kept on the leash, but my concern is I know for a fact this dog frequently escapes from their garden. There is a possibility it may have gone for other dogs before. My dog was in pain and I too was in extreme pain throughout the weekend, caused by trying to fend this dog off which caused a flare up of Fibromyalgia.

As a result my poor dog is nervous when walking in this area and I too am extremely nervous in case this happens again and would advise people to be on their guard. Name & address supplied

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Students Tackle Charity Boot Camp



Monday the 18th of July saw the students from Greenfield Community College Sunnydale Campus participate in and complete a charity boot camp in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust. Crossfit Glacier, from Washington, held the event and students were put through their paces with timed stations including burpees, sit-ups, press-ups and various other exercises. The morning finished with relay races where the staff were pipped to the post and narrowly lost the relay to a group of Year 9 girls. Teagan North from Year 9 said, "It was brilliant but hard work. I've never sweated so much and my legs are killing!"

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Thank You

WIN KENNEDY Wishes to thank family and friends for cards and gifts received on her birthday. A special thank you to my wonderful family for my Surprise Party. Love you lots xxxxxx

In Memoriam

DOROTHY POSKETT Died 6th August 2005. Treasured memories of a dearly loved Mam, Grandma and Great Grandma. Remembered always, Daughter Susan, Michelle, Kevin, Lisa and families xxxx

Birthday Remembrance

CAROL REED 4-8-1946. A million times we've needed you. A million times we've cried. If love alone could have saved you, you never would have died. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still. In our hearts you hold a place, no one else can ever fill. It broke our hearts to lose you, but you didn't go alone, part of us went with you. The day God took you home. Love always, Roy, Steven, Lara and families **BRIAN DUNN** 9th August. Thinking of you on your birthday brings more love than words can say. The love that holds you close in my heart will never go away. Loved forever and missed always. Your loving Wife Margaret xxxxxxxx **BRIAN DUNN** 9th August. *The best little Dad and Granda in the world!!!* Wishing you were here today, even just for a little while. So we could say "Happy Birthday" Dad and Granda and see your loving smile. Deeply loved and missed always. From all your Bairsns and Grandbairns xxxxxxxx

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Congratulations

EMILY KAVANAGH Happy 18th birthday on 7th August to our gorgeous Daughter Emily. Hope you have a lovely day and a fab party, Love and hugs from Dad, Mam and all the family xxxxx

Ellie May Fraser



Happy 21st Birthday Happy Birthday Ellie

Have a wonderful day and party. So proud of you. Lots of love, Dad, Joannah, Alex, Mica, Callum and all the family xxxxx

John & Joan Clasper



6th August 2016

Congratulations Mam and Dad on your 50th Golden Wedding Anniversary. Lots of love from Stephen, Julie, Lisa, Jack, Callum and Jamie

Doctor Andy Northcott



Congratulations on your graduation PHD from Manchester School of Dentistry. From a very proud Mam and Dad

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TRI CLUB REPORT

Hi readers, July's final race report begins the results from Redcar Sprint Triathlon which occurred on Sunday 31st. In 'challenging' conditions, five of our club members battled the choppy North Sea, cycled the 'breezy' coast roads and finally ran the serene promenade of Redcar in order to finish, what for some, was their first sea triathlon.

Susan Brown was first home in a time of 1:16:30, finishing a fantastic 2nd in her age group and 25th overall. Entering his first ever sprint triathlon, Ugur Ekan was next, finishing in a time of 1:23:43, 15th in his age group and 48th overall; an excellent result for this first timer.

Meanie Rowland crossed the line next, finishing in a time of 1:28:35, 5th in her age group, 72nd overall, closely followed by Penny Johnson in a time of 1:32:09, 6th in her age group, 88th overall. The ever improving Michael Casey was our final competitor, finishing in a time of 1:39:31, 3rd in his age group and 117th overall, Michael's best ever finish to date at this distance. The group loved the small race, enjoying every minute of it, no doubt due to the support from friends, family and fellow racers. On the same day, a few hundred miles south, David Wilkin participated in the Ride London, a huge bicycle ride through the capital, sharing the roads with thousands of other riders. He finished the 100 mile race in 5hrs and 8minutes, with an average speed of 19.4mph, which he was 'very happy' with. All the members of the club would just like to thank Crafters Companion for sponsorship, allowing the club to invest in some new kit. Many people have commented on how bright and professional the members look when out on their many club rides and runs. ATC

Back to School Already



Although the summer holidays are well underway, a group of 42 students chose to go back to school last week but not for their usual lessons.

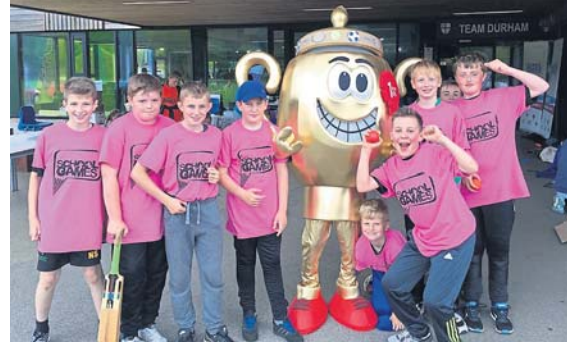
The students who are all due to start in Year 7 at Woodham Academy, in September, spent the week at Summer School.

Each day was action packed with students participating in robotics with VEX Robotics, fun science experiments like 'the disappearing egg', cookery lessons including making pizza and scones, trampolining, swimming and other sports, outdoor English lessons, street dance with Aycliffe Dance Academy, origami lessons and summer technology projects.

Each day brought a new subject, allowing students the opportunity to try a full range of projects. Summer school was also an excellent opportunity to make new friends and for students to find their way around school before starting in September.

The week ended with certificates and prizes being awarded as well as fun on the bucking bronco and delicious fresh toasties served by The Blue Mouse.

Summer School Games



Following the success of the U13 Boys District Cricket Festival, Woodham Academy U13 cricket team were invited to the Durham County School Games Finals Day held at Maiden Castle. Just to be at the event and be part of the top 6 schools in the county was an outstanding achievement.

Throughout the day the team showed great spirit and played with confidence. The competition was tough and of a high standard, in which the team played with great desire and resilience and puts the cricket academy in a positive position for next year's competitions.

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Aycliffe Fun Dog Show with K9 Pursuits



Left and right Stacy and Jordan. Centre: Ian Squire (sponsor) and Amanda Pearson with her daughter Abbie

On 25th July, K9 Pursuits Dog Day Care and Training Centre on the Aycliffe Business park held their 10th Annual Fun Dog Show. The show attracted a variety of dogs and their owners from all over the North East with 225 entries competing for a prize and the ultimate red rosette.

The classes included waggiest tail, best biscuit catcher, prettiest bitch and more. All the winners from each category went on to compete for the big prize of a photo shoot with Photographer, Ian Squire worth over £100.00.

The winner of the Best in Show was awarded to Bella a gorgeous little crossbreed owned by Jordan and Stacey Patterson. The class was judged by Jemima Hitchin and Sue Prescott.

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Aycliffe Badminton Clubs Mixed team finished a successful season by collecting the trophy for winning the Darlington & District Badminton League B. Division. Pictured with the trophy are (L-R) Michelle Panchen, Tony Robson, Nichola Coates, Claire Boyd, Ian Boyd, Stuart Dennis, Maggie Winfield and Matthew Panchen.

As well as the Mixed teams success the Mens team also had a good season finishing 2nd in the B Division, however with only 1 team promoted they will remain

in the B Division for next season.

The preparation for next season is already underway with the entry of an additional Ladies team into the league and following the Club AGM fees have been reduced for the upcoming year to try and encourage new players and members. If anyone is interested in playing we are always looking for players of all standards. Please contact Club Secretary Ian Boyd on ian_boyd27@hotmail.com or visit http://aycliffebadminton.webs.com/ for more information.

AYCLIFFE JU-JITSU GRADINGS

Students who successfully graded for their next belt at Aycliffe Ju-Jitsu club. Two grandsons of Sensei Trevor Forsyth successfully graded. The class runs on a Monday night as follows:

5 - 8 yr old - Little Ninja class - 5:40 to 6:40
9 - 12 yr old - Samurai Karate class - 6:00 to 7:30
12 - 15 yr old - Junior class - 6:00 to 7:30
16 yrs plus - Senior class - 7:30 to 9:00

Newton Aycliffe Ju Jitsu has been running a class at Greenfield school now for 14 years with great success. Even though some of the students are away on their holidays, the club will be open as normal over the holiday period. All students young and old are always made to feel welcome and we would encourage them/you to come along and experience a bit of Ju Jitsu themselves. First lesson is free.



Enquiries can be made at countydurhamjujitsu@gmail.com to Sensei Trevor Forsyth.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store earned a battling draw away at Wolviston 1st XI in the NYSD 2nd Division. Electing to bat first, the home side were bowled out for 171 off the final ball of their allotted 50 overs with Aycliffe seamers Mark Woodhead and Michael Howe both bowling well, taking 3 wickets each. The visitors lost wickets at regular intervals and were thankful for an excellent 6th wicket partnership of 71 by Chris Palmer (41 runs) (sponsored by Vanila Design & Print) and Jack Slatcher (29 runs) and an unbeaten 15 at the end from all rounder Woodhead, to ensure that Aycliffe avoided defeat as they reached 138 for 8. The U17's played their final game of the season and were beaten by six wickets away at Stockton in quarter finals of the NYSD 15/15 cup. Dan Bowmer scored a brilliant 54, including ten boundaries, and Dylan Tribley chipped in with 10 as Aycliffe finished on a respectable 100 for 5 after 15 overs. In reply, the home side reached their victory target in the 10th over and with the loss of four wickets with Jack Lowery and Ryan Patrick both picking up a couple of wickets. Our depleted U15's team travelled to Darlington and bravely played with 9 men and it was therefore no surprise that they were defeated by 117 runs. Darlington scored a ridiculous 199 for 2 in their 20 overs despite Aycliffe's

Luke Grindlay taking 2 for 16 from his 3 overs. In reply, Aycliffe battled hard and were eventually dismissed for 82 after 15.3 overs, with good contributions from Dylan Tribley (21 runs), Joe Aitken (18 runs) and 10 not out from Harry Wright.

The U13's managed to beat the damp and gloomy weather, but unfortunately still lost at home to Barnard Castle by seven wickets. Aycliffe batted first and scored a respectable 69 for 7 in their 20 overs thanks to a career best score of 17 from opener Harry Wright and a useful 12 runs from fellow opener Lucas Pilling. In reply the visitors reached their winning target in the 13th over with seven wickets in hand.

The U11's played superbly and were unlucky to lose by just 7 runs at home to Darlington U11's in the NYACC League. Gregor Mills top scored with 8 not out in the Aycliffe innings and when Darlington replied, Leo Mercy was the pick of the homeside bowlers taking 2 for 15.

The club continue to run the successful "Quick Cricket" sessions every Wednesday during the schools six weeks holiday, and have another session planned on Wednesday 10th August, from 10am to 12pm, cost £3 per person, per session. These weekly cricket sessions are open to boys and girls, of any ability, aged 11 or under and for further details, please contact Club Secretary Lee Weldon on 07759 754959.

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