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Week Ending 16th December 2016

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Army to the Rescue when Xmas Dinner was Cancelled



The children were treated to a traditional Christmas Dinner of: Roast Turkey, Roasted and Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Brussell Sprouts, Stuffing followed by a selection of Christmas Puddings all prepared in the Army Field Kitchen by the Light Dragoons Master Chef and members of the Taylor Shaw Catering team.

The meals were all paid for through the Universal Free School Meals Scheme, Taylor Shaw and the School Fund.

Continued on Page 2

Last week, Vane Road School kitchens were condemned due to high levels of CO2. This meant the school had to take the difficult decision to cancel Christmas Dinner as they did not have the capacity to provide up to 400 meals for the children.

One of our parents who is in the Army, took this issue to his brigade and managed to arrange for the Army Field Kitchen to be deployed thus giving the children their Christmas dinner. Not being satisfied with providing Lunch, the Army Brigade Band also came along to entertain the children with Christmas Carols as they ate.

In addition to this the Army are providing all the children at the school with a present. Children joined the band playing additional percussion instruments and singing along.

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Police Appeal

A pedestrian was seriously injured after he was struck by a car on the A167 between Durham and Chester-le-Street yesterday evening. The incident happened just after 5pm on Monday, 12th December on the northbound carriageway near the Plawsworth roundabout. The victim, a local man thought to be in his early fifties was crossing the road when a silver Toyota Prius collided with him. The man received serious injuries and remains this morning in the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle in a 'poorly' condition. The car driver, a man aged 61 from Durham was uninjured and the road was closed for several hours to allow collision investigators to examine the scene. Anyone who witnessed the incident is asked to contact the collision unit on 0191 375 2159.

Churches Together in Great Aycliffe Christmas Presentations



Left to right: Pastor Geoff Walvin (Harvest Church), Pastor Julian Clark (Xcel Centre), Rev. Elizabeth Bland (St Clare's Church), Margaret Lee (St Mary's RC Church), Gwen Morrison (Methodist Church), Kermina Clark (Xcel Centre), Ernie Temple (Food Bank Organiser), Shirley (Tesco), Andrew Bryer (Methodist Minister), Rev. Debbie Loughran (St Clare's)

Representatives of the Churches Together in Great Aycliffe committee met at St. Clare's on Tuesday 13th December and presented cash donations of £150 each to

the Aycliffe Food Bank, The Women's Refuge and Nicola Maull. Unfortunately Nicola was unable to attend so Pam Lovelass accepted the £150 cheque on Nicola's behalf.

The chairman of the CTGA thanked Tesco for their continued support of the Food Bank and especially for the donations of chocolates brought on the day by Shirley, the community organiser. The Food Bank are not allowed to spend cash on luxury items like chocolates so this donation from Tesco at this time of year was greatly appreciated by Ernie Temple, Volunteer/Organiser for the Food Bank.

Panto Off!

Due to lack of participants, the Acorn Players production of Jack and the Beanstalk planned for mid February 2017 will now unfortunately not be going ahead.

On the plus side since reforming earlier this year we have a wonderful group of 7 to 11 year old youngsters who have faithfully attended our weekly practices, so we fully intend to proceed with an event suitable for the group to preform in the coming year and will follow up with news in January 2017.

On behalf of the Acorn Players we wish everyone who has supported us over the last 20 years a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Anne Harland. (Hon. President)

Best Wishes for the Festive Season

As pledged in our election manifesto, Aycliffe West County Councillors Eddy Adam & Kate Hopper continue to support local Residents Associations, clubs and schools. These comprise, among others, School Aycliffe Community Association, WASPS & The Hub Of Wishes; townwide organisations such as Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre and the Pioneering Care Partnership, as well as county wide services such as the NEFirst Credit Union & Age Concern Durham.

In direct response to residents' concerns, our most recent Neighbourhood Budget spends have funded the installation of designated car parking bays and highways improvements around the Simpature Gate shopping parade, and the creation of access ramps for pushchair, wheelchair and mobility scooter use within the ward. Early 2017 approved projects will see additional access ramps provided in Silkin Way and Bewick Crescent; highways improvement work in Oakfield; and, following in depth conversations with residents living in the vicinity, the soon to be realised reinstatement of the Whinlatter Place pedestrian footbridge. We sincerely hope all residents have a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Aycliffe West is a pleasant, safe and socially inclusive place to live. Let's all work together to ensure it remains so. If you have any concerns or issues you would like to raise, our contact details are listed below. eddy.adam@durham.gov.uk 03000 268670 kate.hopper@durham.gov.uk 03000 268727

Xmas Party

Western Area Community Centre/Junior Neighbourhood Watch are holding a Christmas Party/Disco. Mr Nincompoo will entertain with a special guest, on Tuesday 20th December 5pm until 9pm. Admission £2.50 pay at the door refreshments provided. Ring 01325 308094.

£800 FROM QUIZ NIGHT

Bishop Auckland Civic Society's Annual Town Quiz raised a magnificent £800 for local charity Wear Valley Riding for the Disabled, based at Escomb.

Quiz master Glynn Wales tantalised 24 teams with his perplexing questions, supper was available to purchase and the bar was open!

The Civic Society would like to thank all those who took part, together with local businesses who regularly support the Grand Raffle by donating prizes and last, but by no means least, Janet Strong and the staff of the Town Hall whose superb organisation and good nature ensured a successful and enjoyable night.

Army Provide School Christmas Dinner

Continued from Front Page



Donations of over £400 were collected by the children and staff for Help For Heroes as a gesture of thanks. Dorothy Whitehouse of the Sharing Together Support Group, heard about the event and members came to school to make an additional £100 donation. Head Teacher Kieran Pavey said: "This surely encapsulates the whole spirit of Christmas. The school made a very difficult decision to cancel Christmas Dinner; the tale was heard by the Army who came to the rescue; adults from the Armed Forces, Taylor Shaw, the Local Authority and School all worked together to give the children a Christmas Dinner they will never forget.



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Saturday 17th December - "GateCrashers"

A performance by the Gatecrashers on 12th March 2011 prompted this review in a local North East 'rag': "The Brandling Villa in Gosforth, Newcastle, buzzed with excitement. The place was packed to the rafters with fans as well as musicians from other local bands - all here to spend an evening with the fabulous GateCrashers. It was the first time I'd seen them with their vibrant new lead vocalist. And I was impressed - so very impressed. Nick (Saints of Arcadia) Jennison has more than enough charisma to set a stage alight - and then some. And he can sing - oh, can he sing! Sharing lead guitar with Ant Wright (who provides great backing vocals) they had a ball while entertaining their discerning Georgie audience. And the crowd roared. Add the brilliant bass guitarist, Dave Hildreth and talented drummer, Doug Hayes to the flavoursome mix - and the Gatecrashers were a big green GO!"

Saturday 24th December - "Rock Monster"

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SUNDAY LUNCH
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HELPING YOUR ELDERLY NEIGHBOUR

Dorothy Bowman who runs two groups for elderly people has quite a lot of small blankets that she would like to deliver to elderly people especially those living alone. She will be helped by Kerry Wooton and both have DBS certificates and carry identification cards. Dorothy realises how lonely Christmas can be without friends and family around and would like to think that she was helping to cheer someone up at this festive time.

In the New Year there will be a Coffee Morning with Bingo at the Western Area



Community house to help the elderly people to socialise with transport arranged. If you know any elderly person or if you would like them to call please ring 07967 901477 or 01325 308094 (sometimes an answering machine which is closely monitored for messages)

Carol Concert Raised £209

The talented Andreas Ensemble group of singers celebrated Christmas in style in a carol concert at St. Andrew's Church in support of Marie Curie.

Organist, Brian Varley, provided the musical accompaniment as the audience joined with the singers to enter into the Christmas spirit by singing many well-loved Christmas carols. The concert raised £209 which will help provide 'end of life care' for the terminally ill within their own homes in the Bishop Auckland area. The Bishop Auckland Fundraising Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month in the Community Fire Station on Watling Road at 1.30pm.

New members are always welcome to join this friendly group. For further details contact Elizabeth Varley (01388) 606075

Students Help Foodbank



Our Town Mayor attended Greenfield College where students donated goods to the Aycliffe Foodbank. Local co-ordinator Ernie Temple explained the need for the service and thanked them for their efforts, without which disadvantaged families would face great difficulty.

Children Forget Address on Letters to Santa



Special Post Boxes are located in places in Newton Aycliffe and Aycliffe Village ready for children to send letters to Santa.

Some children have not put their address and images of them are shown so they can write again.

The first one was from Gabrielle who not only sent a letter to me but two lovely Christmas Cards, one to the elves and one for Mrs. Claus. Another letter is from Jessica, she would like a phone and some Pokemon Cards and a DS. Jack and Milly have also written and unfortunately I won't be able to reply to them as there is no address supplied. Here is a list of the post box locations for other children to post their letters – don't forget your address:

Post Office, Beveridge Way; Post Office, Neville Parade; Horndale Post Office; Woodham Post Office; McColls Newsagents, Simpature; Marie Joy Hairdressing, Aycliffe Village

BEER AND CAROLS

Join us for a night of festive cheer and joyful carol singing at The Huntsman Pub, Newton Aycliffe 6-7pm on Monday 19th December. Wear your most festive Christmas attire and bring with you your best singing voice!

Event free of charge and suitable for all singing and drinking abilities!

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Christingle at St. Clare's

Christmas Eve - the shopping done, wrapping complete, lunch prepared - come and share with others the message of the Christingle at St. Clare's Church beginning at 4.30pm. Join in with modern and traditional carols and place a message for a loved one on the memorial tree.

Children are invited to come in nativity costumes to take part in an interactive story. Everyone will receive a Christingle and a special Blessing of the Crib will take place as we prepare to celebrate our Saviour's birth. Please come along, take time out of such a busy season to reflect and rejoice together.

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20th December.....9am-6.30pm
21st December.....9am-6.30pm
22nd December.....9am-6.30pm
23rd December.....8am-7pm
24th December.....7am-3.30pm
CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY

28th December.....9am-6.30pm
29th December.....9am-6.30pm
30th December.....8am-7pm
31st December.....7am-4pm
CLOSED NEW YEARS DAY
BACK OPEN TUESDAY
3rd JANUARY 2017

Great Fun at Woodham Fair



Raising funds for Cystic Fibrosis Angela Williams and her daughter Holly a victim of the disease.



Annual Community Calendar

The annual Community Calendar should be delivered with this edition of the Newton News, we realise some readers may not receive a copy of our FREE annual wall calendar, so we have arranged to have spare copies available for collection at the Walkers Butchers (Simpasture), The Library, Bengal Lounge and Neville Parade Community Centre (The Cubby). They may also be collected from Newton News offices on St. Cuthbert's Way (next to the Blue Bridge).



held workshops for visitors to create Christmas tree decorations, chocolate lollies, decorate Christmas biscuits and write letters to Santa. The PE department also welcomed families in to have a go at trampolining.

Santa and his elves came all the way from the North Pole to greet excited children and deliver a sack brimming with presents. Media and Marketing Officer, Grace Porter, said: 'This is a really nice event to organise.

Everything is free and our aim is for families to come and have a lovely afternoon. We've had brilliant turnout this year with over 300 people through the doors and 27 stallholders attending. We hope all our visitors had a great time.'



STAR RADIO'S CHRISTMAS Toy Appeal 2016

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Friday 16th December
0600-1000 - Star Radio Breakfast with Michael Weadock
1000-1400 - Craig Andrews
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1900 - Star Radio Drive with Dave Sherwood
1900-2200 - Dancing Through The Decades
1000-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Saturday 17th December
0600-0900 - Michael Weadock
0900-1400 - Craig Andrews with "The Mystery Years"
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1800 - John Clayton
1800-0000 - Dancing Through The Decades

Sunday 18th December
0600-0900 - Easy Like Sunday Morning with John Clayton
0900-1400 - Dave Sherwood with "The Mystery Years"
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1900 - Michael Weadock
1900-2200 - Non-Stop Star Radio
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th December
0600-1000 - Star Radio Breakfast with Michael Weadock
1000-1400 - Craig Andrews
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1900 - Star Radio Drive with Mark Page
1900-2200 - The Evening Takeover
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Wednesday 21st & Thursday 23rd December
0600-1000 - Star Radio Breakfast with Wes Stakes
1000-1400 - Craig Andrews
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1900 - Star Radio Drive with Mark Page
1900-2200 - The Evening Takeover
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

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Woodham Academy enjoyed its biggest fair to date as the school opened its doors on Saturday to welcome in the local community for a free family event full of festivities. The main hall was filled with bustling stalls selling homemade trinkets, decorations, hampers, confectionary, jewellery, homeware and more. All stallholders were local, some even former students of Woodham Academy. Crafter and owner of Craft Something Beautiful, Jenny Dodds, said: 'It's been a lovely day; we've had lots of visitors which is great. It's nice to meet other stallholders and visit somewhere you wouldn't usually visit. We just needed snow to top off a great event.'

Local singer Sarah Dee opened the event, performing her debut single, Lost, live for the first time. The Durham vocalist's single will be available to download on iTunes from the 1st January. Aycliffe Dance Academy wowed the crowd with their cheerleading, acro, modern and ballet routines. Two young performers also took to the stage to entertain the audience with their solo routines. Teaching staff from the school

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What's on at TESCO this Christmas?

Below is the calendar of events that are taking place in December in store for customers, which involve the local community and customer experience activities.

- 16th** Rotary Club Collection
Winter Festival, Meet Santa & Reindeer 3-7pm (in the car park)
- 17th** Rotary Club Collection
Kids Christmas Craft Table 9am-6pm
- 18th** Rotary Club Collection
- 19th** Fishburn Brass Band
Kids Christmas Craft Table 9am-6pm
- 20th** Shop + enjoy FREE Mulled Wine and Mince Pies 9am-8pm
- 21st** Kids Juice and Chocolates 9am-8pm
- 22nd** Rotary Hamper Collection for delivery to needy families
- 23rd** In store sampling - Christmas Cakes & Mince Pies 9am-8pm





County Newsbits

Compiled by
County Councillor
John Clare

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

There are a number of important items this week, not least the notice of DCC services over the holiday period. You will be interested in the Newton Aycliffe Masterplan update. Please complete the Bright Water River Skerne survey. Finally – as usual – there are some ideas for things to do. As most Council work shuts down during the holiday period, this will be the last County Newsbits column until the New Year.

COUNCIL

- DCC Christmas and New Year services: bit.ly/DCCX16. (In an emergency phone 03000 260000.)
- Durham County Council meeting, 7 December: bit.ly/DCC71216
- DCC Cabinet meeting, 14 December: bit.ly/DCC141216
- Newton Aycliffe Masterplan update: bit.ly/NAMU16
- What did Business Durham do for business in Durham in 2017? bit.ly/DCCBD17
- The hamper that County Durham made: bit.ly/HTCDM
- What has DCC done for Mental Health? bit.ly/WHDDFMH
- Garden waste collections 2017: bit.ly/DCCGWC16
- GAMP December E-Bulletin: bit.ly/GAMP1216
- Aycliffe North & Middridge County Councillors' achievements: bit.ly/ANMCCA

- Have you completed the Bright Water River Skerne survey yet? bit.ly/BWRSS
- Town Council Meeting, 7 December: bit.ly/GATC71216
- Litter-picking in Middridge: bit.ly/LWMPC1216
- Latest roadworks information for the Newton Aycliffe area: http://bit.ly/Roadworks161216
- Last report for a while from our MEP Jude Kirton-Darling: bit.ly/JKD121216

COMMUNITY

- Christmas activities for young people: bit.ly/NACXA
- Crisis phone numbers: bit.ly/CPhoneNos
- Beware Of Counterfeit Goods this Christmas: bit.ly/BOCGTX
- Dry January Alcohol Awareness Raising – will you sign up: bit.ly/DJAAR16
- Seventeen reasons to visit County Durham in 2017: bit.ly/SRTVCD17
- Wild Winter Trail at Low Barns Nature Reserve, Witton-le-Wear, 1:00-3:30pm, Tuesday 20 December, £5: book online at bit.ly/WWTLBNR
- Little Red Riding Hood and Other Tales at Bishop Auckland Town Hall, 6:30pm, Thursday 22 December, Adults £8, Concessions £6: 03000 269 524 or bit.ly/BATH221216
- Year-end Toy Fair at Locomotion Museum Shildon, 10am-4pm, Tuesday 27 December, FREE

Aycliffe MAD Choir Entertains

The town's popular MAD Choir are very busy over the festive period singing carols and Christmas songs at the PCP Centre and on Saturday last, they were entertaining shoppers in Tesco's. The choir, led by Evelyn Lodge is always pleased to welcome new members at their sessions held at Woodham Community Centre. Lots of fun guaranteed.



Sign up for 2017 Garden Waste Collection

FEE INCREASED FROM £20 TO £25

Residents can now sign up for next year's garden waste collection service. The fortnightly service will run between spring and autumn with 17 collections, starting in March 2017.

Subscriptions are available throughout the year for an annual fee of £25, although residents must subscribe before Tuesday 14 February 2017 to guarantee receiving all 17 collections.

Cllr Brian Stephens, Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and local partnerships, said: "Over 70,000 households subscribed to the garden waste collection service in 2016 and we're pleased to announce the start of subscriptions for 2017.

"The annual fee has increased to £25 compared to last year's subscription of £20. This is to ensure the service can continue despite current financial pressures."

Over the next couple of months, the council will be contacting eligible households by email or letter with details of how to subscribe.

In order to subscribe, residents must use the letter sent to their home regarding the 2017 service as garden waste reference numbers are unique to each property. Subscriptions made using a different letter or last year's letter or reference number will not be registered for

garden waste collections.

Residents can also visit www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste to see if their property is eligible and to sign up.

They will receive a green bin sticker and a collection calendar. Calendars will be issued from January.

Those who have previously subscribed for three years will automatically receive their bin sticker and calendar in January.

Garden waste collections do not take place during the winter months. However, people can still recycle their garden waste during the winter period by taking it to household waste recycling centres or composting it at home.

For more information on garden waste collections in County Durham, visit www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste or call 03000 26 1000.

Unclaimed Raffle Prize

One of the prizes at the Rotary Christmas Concert was unclaimed - the number was Pink 154. If you have that ticket please contact Newton News on 300212. If not claimed by 21st December the prize will be donated to a family in need. A report on the Concert will be featured next week.

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Xmas Lights at Defoe



A few of the residents at Defoe Court Care Home along with their relatives, got together with Val Scowen, Activities Co-ordinator, for the switching on of the outdoor Christmas lights which everyone thought looked lovely.

Aycliffe Manager Awarded "Rising Star of the Year"

HC-One's Defoe Court Care Home in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, is celebrating the success of its Home Manager, Sarah Todd, who was named as Rising Star of the Year at last night's HC-One of a Kind Awards.

The event was held at the Hilton Hotel in Manchester and was the first annual awards ceremony to recognise colleagues who go above and beyond to deliver the kindest, high quality care to Residents. The evening was also an opportunity to celebrate HC-One's fifth anniversary.

The Rising Star of the Year Award recognises one member of the HC-One team who displays real potential and pursues every opportunity to reach great heights. Sarah, who is a true inspiration to fellow colleagues, was chosen due to



her rapid career progression from Senior Carer to Home Manager, her great reputation within the local community around Defoe Court, and her commitment to providing the kindest care to Residents.

Defoe Court also has a second reason to celebrate, as Sarah's colleague, Emma Reid, was also shortlisted for the Award and Highly Commended for her achievements and dedication to the home.

HC-One is committed to investing in staff, and has recently been named as a Skills for Care Centre of Excellence. HC-One is also celebrating achieving a 9.4 average rating on the sector's leading care home comparison website carehome.co.uk. The high rating puts HC-One homes into the very best company in the care home sector.

HC-One Defoe Court Care Home Manager, Sarah Todd said:

"I am delighted to have received the Rising Star award, and so pleased that Emma has been also been recognised. This achievement wouldn't have been possible without the wonderful support of the brilliant team at Defoe Court." HC-One Regional Managing Director, Glen Mason, said: "The HC-One of a Kind Awards are about recognising and celebrating colleagues who demonstrate the kindest care and the best practice that we can all learn from."

"Each and every day, HC-One staff do incredible work, and make such a difference to the lives of Residents living in our homes. I am so proud to work with such inspirational, caring and kind people."

NEW BOILER FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE



Tony Robinson receives cheque from Counc. Kate Hopper

With thanks to Cllrs Kate Hopper and Eddy Adams, after having a boiler condemned School Aycliffe Community Centre received a grant of £1200 which was match funded to help install new heating. Chairperson Tony Robinson said that with a regular Mothers and Toddlers group and children's parties booked we desperately needed new heating, this has now been sorted and we have a nice warm hall again.

"A new committee has been formed who are very committed in seeing the hall used regularly. We are gradually filling the days and evenings with regular events and are already taking bookings for 2017" said Tony.

For further information/enquiries please contact Tony Robinson on 07807 134942 or by 'e' mail anthony53@hotmail.co.uk

For our Polish Residents WESOLYCH SWIAT BOZEGO NARODZENIA

Moja zona Dorota jest Polka. Jesteśmy małżeństwem od 2004 roku. Za każdym razem, gdy odwiedzam Polskę, wszyscy odnoszą się do mnie z szacunkiem i życzliwością i nie przywiązują wagi do tego, że nie opanowałem jeszcze dobrze języka polskiego. Wszyscy byli rozbawieni, gdy poszedłem sam do sklepu i zamiast parówek kupiłem dużą ilość krwistej kaszanki. To jest piękny kraj. Spędziliśmy w Polsce wiele Świąt Bożego Narodzenia. Okres świąteczny w Polsce ma szczególnie urok - Święty Mikołaj 6 grudnia, dwanaście potraw na wigilijnym stole (wśród nich oczywiście czerwony barszcz i karp), wolne miejsce przy stole dla niespodziewanego gościa... Przez jakiś czas zastanawiałem się, dlaczego żywa ryba (karp) czeka na Święta w wannie! Przelamywanie się opłatkiem, składanie życzeń i prezenty pod świąteczną choinką. Jestem pewien, że jeżeli nie wybieracie się na Święta do Ojczyzny, to i w Waszym Przybranym Domu, tutaj w Newton Aycliffe, stworzycie dla siebie i swoich dzieci podobny magiczny nastrój.

Jestem pewien, że nasi mieszkańcy w Newton Aycliffe przyjmą Was równie serdecznie, jak ja byłem przyjmowany w domach w Nowym Dworze Mazowieckim. Nie da się jednak ukryć, że w gdziekolwiek się znajdziecie, w jakimkolwiek kraju, w każdej społeczności znajdziecie się idiomci, którzy mogą zakłócić nastrój.

Jestem tutejszym radnym. Gdybyście potrzebowali rady w jakiegokolwiek sprawie, czy napotkali na jakiś problem, proszę, skontaktujcie się ze mną, a zrobię, co będę mógł, żeby Wam pomóc.

Moja zona zawsze będzie tęskniła za Polską i jeździ tam kiedy tylko może, ale teraz Jej dom jest tutaj. Chciałbym, żebyście i Wy myśleli tak samo. Dorota i ja jesteśmy tu, żeby Was wysłuchać i pomóc Wam.

Zyczymy Wam Wesolych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia i Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku!

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Aycliffe Village School's Brilliant Nativity Play



L-R: Melchior played by Joe Coates, Balthazar by Oliver Dowson and Caspar by Finley Stocks.

My wife and I attended the Nativity play at Aycliffe Village School and it was brilliant entertainment. The children enjoyed putting on the show for the parents, and everyone had a part to play, with no mistakes at all. Thanks must go to the teachers for their hard work in putting on this play. Well done to the Children and Staff. Councillor George Gray,

Gourmet Food from Burger Van Near the Blue Bridge



Andrew Brown has taken up residence in the Blue Bridge Centre Car Park. Twenty years ago he won the first ever Raymond Blanc Scholarship, the prize was three years intensive training at the famous Frenchman's Michelin starred restaurant in Oxfordshire. From there he and his wife Deborah moved into The County in Aycliffe Village where they set about turning the spit and sawdust pub into an award winning bar and restaurant. Local businessman John Wade purchased the pub from them in 2004.

Fancying his chances of repeating the success of the County in Darlington he opened Brown's Cafe and Grill on Grange Road. Although gaining a fine reputation the restaurant was unable to compete with the multitude of cheaper Italian restaurants in the town and after only two years he closed the restaurant.

He confesses the experience knocked the stuffing out of him emotionally and cost him the family silver.

"It took me the best part of three years to recover, sadly my mother became seriously ill and was struck down with cancer as all the troubles with the business were coming to a head.

It was a very tough time and I found myself in a deep depression - I needed something to help me out the darkness I was trapped in".

"Working in a restaurant kitchen was never going to be for me again, but my passion was still cooking. So I bought an old London taxi, chopped the roof of fitted two huge ceramic smoking BBQ's where the passengers once sat and created BBQCab. Its a great little business but I needed more.

That's how Andrew arrived in the Blue Bridge carpark. In partnership with the Whole

Hog he now has a fully equipped trailer kitchen from which he produces really good street food.

It may look like a burger van and he does claim to be selling the Best Burger Ever but expect to find real BBQ pulled pork, barbecue short ribs, cajun chicken, chilli and of course proper chips, along with specials. Everything is fresh, simple and locally sourced.

Andrew said: "By far the best part is connecting with my customers and what I am serving up has been well received. It's very gratifying to have in only a short time built up a loyal following. It has been a long time coming, but my kitchen at the Blue Bridge has got me very excited! A facebook page is on its way and orders can be phoned through on 07709 919 242."

Hate Crime Has no Place in Aycliffe

Town Council to work with Police

An important item for discussion at the final meeting of Great Aycliffe Town Council before Christmas was 'Hate Crime'. Members received a presentation from local police on the subject from a local and national perspective.

This presentation coincidentally echoed an agenda item concerning a request from the County Durham Association of Local Councils that all town and parish councils in County Durham adopt a motion it had recently agreed concerning the acceptance of diversity.

Considering this request, Members felt that it was important for the Council to make a clear commitment and public declaration to endorse

the motion and proposed the following statement:

'We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, gender prejudice, xenophobia, religious intolerance and hate crimes have no place in our county. Great Aycliffe Town Council condemns all such intolerance and hate crimes unequivocally. We will not allow hate to become acceptable and will work with the Police and Crime Commissioners and others to fight prejudice and hate crimes. We reassure all people living in the area that they are valued members of our communities.'

The motion was unanimously accepted by all Members present at the meeting.

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Christmas Card Competition Winners



Councillor Jed Hillary, Mayor of Great Aycliffe, would like to thank all of the children who entered the competition to design a card for use as the Official Civic Christmas Card. The Mayor presented prizes and framed pictures to the winners at the Christmas Council Meeting on the 7th December.

The results of the Competition were:-

- 1st: Mark Chapman
— Stephenson Way Academy
- 2nd: Jade Catterick
— Woodham Academy
- 3rd: Isaac Pateman-Jones
— Woodham Academy



FREE XMAS DAY LUNCH FOR AYCLIFFE NEEDY & LONELY

Christmas Day, 25th December 2016

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
(Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe)**

A free bus will also be provided for those who are not able to make their own way to the venue.

To reserve your place, or if you know someone who would benefit, please contact

Sarah Cox on 07494 528225

or email christmasdinnersvp@gmail.com

(Closing date for securing your seat is 22nd December 2016)

Thanks to the following for their support:

**Gloria Cox - Organiser
John Angeletta - Transport
Alan Joyce - Chef
Sarah Cox - Coordinator
Aycliffe Tyres - Event Funder**



CIVIC & COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE

For all townsfolk who want to get into the traditional Christmas spirit, there is the Annual Service of Lessons & Carols at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 20th December at 6.30pm. The Shine Church & Community Youth Choir and Marie-Clare Choir will be performing, so it will be a great opportunity to enjoy a good festive sing and get into the Christmas spirit. EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME and the Service will be followed by refreshments.

Official member of IPMS
(International Plastic Modellers Society)

Newton Aycliffe Model Club

We are a friendly group of people who get together once a week and share our love for model making.

We meet every **Thursday Evening**, from **5.30pm to 8.00pm** at the **Agnew Community Centre** Morrison Close, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4QZ

Contact Chairman:

Ian Hopwood 07936 511413



Hitachi Unveils First UK Built Intercity Express Train



trains at newly built facilities. By 2020 Hitachi will become one of the largest maintainers of UK trains. In total Hitachi will have 281 trains running on the UK network, carrying millions of passengers along intercity and commuter routes. Today's event at Newton Aycliffe will be an opportunity to view and board the first of the British-built new IEP trains and see trains being built at the facility.

On 9th December, 2016 – Hitachi Rail Europe (HRE), a global rail specialist with over 100 years of industry expertise, celebrated the first Intercity Express (IEP) train to be built in the UK at its manufacturing facility in Newton Aycliffe. Hitachi was joined by the Secretary of State for Transport, Chris Grayling, Minister for Northern Powerhouse, Andrew Percy,

and Ambassador of Japan in the UK, Koji Tsuruoka. HRE opened the state-of-the-art £82m facility in Newton Aycliffe in September 2015 as part of its ambition to develop a hub of industry and innovation in the North East.

By Spring 2017, Newton Aycliffe will employ approximately 900 people. By 2019, HRE will employ 2,000 people across 14 UK sites, including manufacturing and maintenance facilities. A host of British businesses will continue to supply parts for new trains, supporting thousands of additional jobs nationwide. In addition to building new fleets, Hitachi will maintain the

REME Meet

REME Association South West Durham Branch monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st December at 8pm in the Scout Centre Bluebell Way Newton Aycliffe. All serving and ex-serving members of REME welcome.

£1,112 for Marie Curie

The Bishop Auckland Fundraising group of Marie Curie held a successful Festive Christmas event in West Auckland Memorial Hall on Sunday. Guests enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea and rocked the afternoon away by dancing to music from the 50s and 60s with singer and musician Robson Field. An amazing £1,112 was raised - monies which will be used to provide end of life care for the terminally ill in the Bishop Auckland area. Thanks go to all those who donated prizes for the tombola and the raffle. The BA Group meet on the first Tuesday of the month in the Community Fire Station on Watling Road at 1.30pm and invites others to come along and join this friendly group who aim to make a difference to those in medical need.

Recognition for Service

Congratulations to Flt. Lt. Karin Scott, Officer Commanding 1407 (Newton Aycliffe) Squadron who received her Cadet Forces Medal for 12 years uniformed service to the Air Training Corps. Starting as a Civilian Instructor in 1984 at what was then 2505 (Newton Aycliffe) Detached Flight, Karin helped look after admin on the squadron and took up her interest in adventure training, accompanying the first girls allowed on the squadron on expeditions. She was also a key member of the squadron's Duke of Edinburgh's Award team. Flt. Lt. Scott was commissioned in 2004 and, after a short secondment at Blackhall Squadron, was a squadron officer at 1407. In 2006 she assumed command of 1407, maintaining the squadron's strong performance and leading the squadron to being awarded the Lindisfarne Trophy for Best Squadron in Durham/Northumberland Wing. 1407 remains a consistently high achieving squadron, offering a huge array of



opportunities to its cadets. Flt. Lt. Scott is also the Wing's deputy DofE Officer and has helped hundreds of cadets to achieve Awards over her 19 years of involvement with the scheme for which she was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Band at Tesco

Cockerton Prize Silver Band would like to thank the management, staff and shoppers at Tesco. On Sunday 4 December the band played Christmas carols to raise funds for music, insurance and repairs to instruments. The fantastic amount of £780 was raised.

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For more information visit: www.teessidefamily.com

Ceilidh Night

Saturday 28th January 2017
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Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre sports hall
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FESTIVE ISSUES OF NEWTON NEWS

Christmas: - Thursday, 22nd December
Deadline: Tuesday 20th December, 5pm
No Edition - Friday, 30th December, 2016
Friday, 6th January, 2017 (back to normal)
Deadline: Wednesday 4th January, 5pm

Advertisements can be placed at our agents:

WALKERS (Simpasture),
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or online at www.newtonnewsads.co.uk

Office Opening Times

Closing 4.00pm on Friday 23rd December
Skeleton Staff in attendance until re-opening
on **Tuesday 3rd January 2017** at 8.30am

The Management
and Staff of Newton Press
and Newton News would like
to wish all Newtonians a
Merry Christmas and
Happy, Prosperous New Year



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Santa's Christmas Eve Tour of Newton Aycliffe

ROUTE ONE

3.45pm
Welbury Grove
4.00pm
St Oswalds
4.10pm - 5.10pm
Washington Crescent area, Wycliffe, Armstrong, Wren, Whitehead, Hutchinson, Hylton, Matthew, Wolsey, Richardson, Trevor, Gardens, St Aidans, Felton
5.10pm - 5.40pm
Neile, Defoe, Trevor, Porter, Wheeler, Lamb, Espin, Bellasis
5.40pm - 6.30pm
Wiseman, Ewbank, Hardinge, Chandler, Chapman, Crowley, Hardinge, Bousefield, Faber, Kendrew, Sanderson, Hamilton, Elstob, Burn
6.30pm - 6.45pm
Westmorland, Henson, Whiteley, Thurlow, Aylmer
6.45pm - 7.30pm
Dalton, Hartley, Faulkner, Hullock, Allington, Walcher, Lilburne, Macmillan, Bertie, Alington, Webb, Westmorland, Newburn
7.30pm - 7.55pm
Humphrey, Silkin, Stead, Wright, Priestman, Marshall, Burdon, Lightfoot, Stephenson
8.00pm
Back via Pease Way

ROUTE TWO

3.45pm-4.05pm
St Cuthbert's/Bede, Anne Swyft, Clarence Chare, Clarence Close, Clarence Green, Clarence, Baliol, Hackworth
4.05pm-4.45pm
Baliol, Travellers, Linguard, Seton, Gilpin, Clanny, Palmer, Cosin,
4.45pm-5.15pm
Co-operative Store, Bury, Wilkinson, Van Mildert, Greathead, Shafto, Yacley, Greville, St Cuthberts
5.30pm-6.00pm
Sheraton Road, Sheraton Close, Greville, Henderson, Crewe, Sharp, Hunter, Lumley, Sheraton, Crawford, Sheraton, Biscop
6.00pm-6.25pm
Hatfield, Heild, Biscop, Skirlaw, Flynn, Beck
6.25pm-7.15pm
Via Shafto to, Creighton, Moore, Swan, Gunn, Mellanby, Liddell, Kenny, Carr, Markham, Secker, Joicey, Kemble, Bulmer, Vane, Fowler, Warburton, Jackson
7.15pm-7.40pm
Shafto, Shield, Stanfield, Denham, Ramsey, Eden, Langley, Malling
7.40pm-8.00pm
Central Avenue (Fire Station), Church

ROUTE THREE

3.45pm-4.45pm
Garburn, The Lanes, Burnhill, Hawkshead, Honister, Silverdale, Kirkstone, Langdale, Whinlatter, Eskdale, Greenfield
4.45pm-5.30pm
Linden, Beechfield, Rowan, Elmfield, Pease, Oakfield
5.30pm-6.15pm
Crosby, Crosby, Doxford, Crosby, Lowery, St Godrics, Mills
6.15pm-6.45pm
St Godrics, Simpature, Simpature Gate, Moule, Finchale, Gregory Court, Lambton, Lee Green, Hopper, Walker Lane, Emerson, Butler, Castlereagh, Merz
7.00pm-7.30pm
Ritson, Marley, Wallas, Isherwood, Bewick, Emerson
7.30pm-8.00pm
Barrington Road, Ashfield, Beacon, Tunstall, Carileph, Ebba, Bruce, Pease Way, RAFA Club, Paulinus, Peaseway

ROUTE FOUR

3.45pm-4.40pm
Millfields, Durham Road, Atkinson, Village Green, Heighington Lane, Oaklea, Congreve, Bickford, School Aycliffe
4.40pm-5.30pm
The Garth, Eastfields, Millfields, Binchester, Burnynghill, Lord Neville, Wilbore Croft, Forrester, Smythsons, High Barn, Springfields, High Barn, Hansard, Jenison, Westfields, High Barn, North Cottages, Greenfield Area
5.45 pm-6.10pm
Colwell Court, Belford, Malvern, Wilton, Belford, The Chase
6.10pm-6.45pm
Zetland, Hurworth, Bramham, Holdrness, Ainsty, The Meet, Saddlery, Post Horn, Bedale, Rookwood, Byerley Park
6.45pm-7.20pm
Luttryngton, Hambleton, Ranulf, Jesmond, Elwick, Colburn, Russell, Yoden, Lascelles, Wynyard, Cobblers Hall
7.20pm-7.45pm
Pinewood, Ashtree, Wellhouse, Bluestone, Oldwood

ROUTE FIVE

3.45pm-4.00pm
Brafferton, Grange, Chilton, Grindon, Whitton, Woodham
4.00pm - 4.35pm
Lowther, Brook, Cartington Mulgrave, Helmsley, Middleham, Burleigh, Badminton, Stoneleigh, Lowther
4.35pm - 4.50pm
Hickstead, Stag, Kennilworth, Cheltenham, Gatcome
4.50pm-5.25pm
Epsom, Kempton, Windsor, Fallow, Fawn, Hind, Raby, Brancepeth
5.25pm-5.50pm
Village, Bamburgh, Chillingham, Alnwick, Barnard, Pemberton, Farnham
5.50pm - 6.25pm
Beaumont, Kirkham, Egerton, Dudley, Howson, Clover, Sorrel, Yarrow, Harebell, Campion
6.25pm
St. Elizabeth's Church car park
6.35pm-6.55pm
Sandowne, Tattersall, The Oaks, Beechers, Paddock, Croft, Woodham Sunningdale, Low Green
6.55pm - 7.45pm
Spinney, High Green The Grange 1 - 4, Bridle, Woodham Gate
7.45pm-8.00pm
Acle Burn, Acle Meadows, Burnhill, St Andrews, Ryder

ROUTE SIX

3.45pm-4.20pm
Hallington, Tindale, Derwent, Angram, Scholars, Broomlee, Stocks, Waskerley, Fewston Greenwood, Blackton
4.20pm-5.15pm
Meadowfield, Ladybower, Greenlee, Stainmore, Winterburn, Grassholme, Burnhope, Stainmore, Hareson, Cestria
5.15pm-5.45pm
Lisle, Lockyer, Hoode, Cheviot, Pennine
5.45pm-6.20pm
Bluebell, Coverdale, Bluebell Meadows, Wolvestone, Alverton, Hamsterley, Barton, Paxton
6.20pm-6.55pm
Lancelot, Temple, Gamul, Raddive, Spooner, Thwaites, Eade
6.55pm-8.00pm
Malham, Reeth, Rylstone, Askrigg, Skipton, Arncliffe, Aysgarth, Hawes, Pateley, Stainforth, Keld, Marrick

ROUTE SEVEN

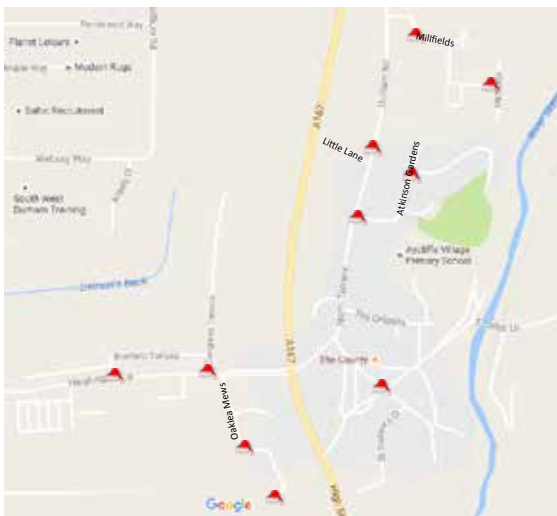
3.45pm-4.35pm
Foxglove, Ropemoor, Forster, Patenson, Youens, Wakenham, Haselwood, Blackiston, Carwardine, Karles, Bloomesley
4.35pm-5.15pm
Agnew, Kings, Ida, Osbert, Guthrum, Osric, Aldfrid
5.15pm-5.30pm
Wellhouse, Morrison, Tanfield, Stargate, Ballarat
5.30pm-6.15pm
Kimbleworth, Fenhall, Hutton, Callerton, Deleval, Elemore, Phoenix, Brockwell
6.15pm-7.00pm
Heatherburn, Foxton, Herrington, Hardwick, Butterwick, Rushyford, Layton, Woodham
7.00pm-8.00pm
Scott, Bakewell, Booth, Bates, Sid Chaplin Drive, Fox, Brockett, Loraine, Thornton, Sampson, Merlin, Burnhill, Kestrel



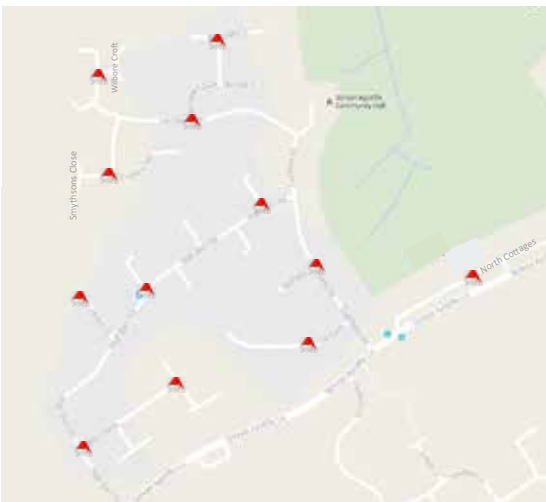
Santa Christmas Eve Tours of Newton Aycliffe

Final preparations are underway for Santa and his team of volunteers to make their traditional tour of Newton Aycliffe, School Aycliffe and Aycliffe Village. Santa is finding it increasingly difficult to make a large number of stops within each of his routes around the parish. In recent years, there have been many requests from families for Santa to stop outside their homes and this, along with increasing parking congestion, has meant long delays for him to reach some areas before the bedtime of younger children. It has therefore been agreed to reduce the number of individual stops for Santa this year, although this will only affect Route 4, which includes Aycliffe Village, School Aycliffe and the Byerley Park/Greenfield Way area. Santa will therefore be making slightly fewer stops but will be staying longer at a number of central areas to allow everyone to see him. All the stopping points are shown on the maps printed here. Santa, his volunteers and Great Aycliffe Town Council would like to thank all residents for their help and co-operation in making the Christmas Eve tours an enjoyable occasion for everyone.

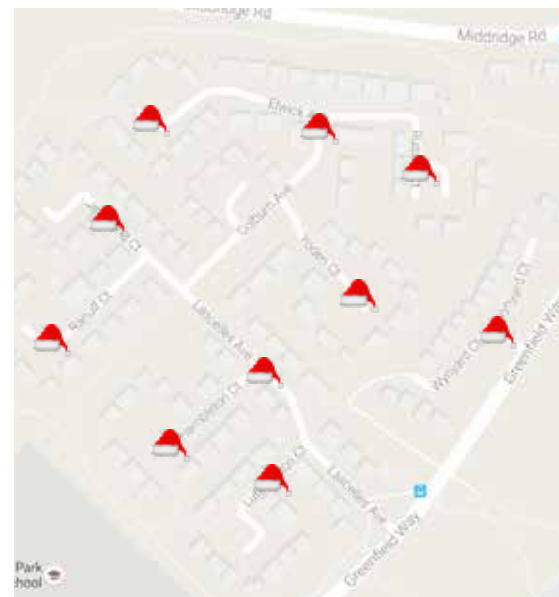
Aycliffe Village



School Aycliffe



Byerley Park



Greenfield and The Chase



*Listen out for my bells,
I may be a little late*

Newton Press

*would like to wish all
Our Readers and Advertisers
a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year*

Newton Press and Newton News Offices will be closed
from 3.00pm Friday 23rd December until
8.30am on Tuesday 2nd January 2017.

However we will be available over the holidays
please contact us via email:

sales@newtonpress.net or paul@newtonnews.co.uk

Newton News deadline for 6th January edition
is Wednesday 4th January 2017

Cobblers Hall



FESTIVE BIN COLLECTIONS CHAPTER HOMES HARNESSES 'TODDLER POWER'!

There will be no change to rubbish and recycling collections in County Durham over the festive period. Durham County Council is asking residents to put their bins out as normal over Christmas and New Year.

Bins should be left at the kerbside by 7am on your normal collection day.

The last day for bulky waste and white goods collections will be Friday, 23rd December, with the service resuming on Tuesday, 3rd January. To book a collection online, visit www.durham.gov.uk/bulkywaste. The council will be offering a collection service for real Christmas trees. Bookings,

for collection in the New Year, can be made by calling 03000 261 000 or by visiting www.durham.gov.uk between Monday, 19th December and Sunday, 8th January.

Real Christmas trees can also be taken to any of the council's Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC). To check opening times, visit www.durham.gov.uk/hwrc.

Anyone visiting a HWRC in a van, pick-up, mini-bus or towing a trailer will need to apply for a permit in advance by calling 03000 261 000 or visiting www.durham.gov.uk/householdpermit.

Residents are also reminded to Bin it Right in order to reduce recycling contamination. Check which items should be placed in which bin by visiting www.durham.gov.uk/whatgoeswhere.

And if you're getting new furniture in time for Christmas or buying electrical appliances in the sales, remember to dispose of old items responsibly. Don't leave them in your yard, garden or street for a 'man with a van' to collect as they may end up being flytipped.

Items can be taken to any HWRC or donated to charity. Details of furniture reuse

charities can be found at www.durham.gov.uk/reuse. Cllr Brian Stephens, said: "We all produce significantly more waste than normal over Christmas and New Year so it's especially important that we take extra care to dispose of it responsibly."

"This year, there will be no change to kerbside collections but I would urge people to take note of other changes to waste and recycling services, such as HWRC closures and the

pause in bulky waste and white goods collections.

"Information on all of our waste and recycling services is available on our website, where residents can also book bulky waste and real Christmas tree collections, order a permit and check their rubbish and recycling collection days."

To download a bin collection calendar, visit www.durham.gov.uk and enter your house number and postcode into the My Durham section.

READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Brian Rendell took this photo of the sunset with rising fog on the West Park Lake. Send your photos in to syd@newtonnews.co.uk. We are looking for good shots of houses specially decorated for Christmas.

Chapter Homes proved it's not just a great place for people by teaming up with a local nursery to build a hotel for bugs.

As part of its ongoing commitment to protecting the local environment, Chapter Homes and construction partner Gentoo Tolent invited children from Aycliffe Day Nursery to join them at its Eden Field development in Newton Aycliffe to build a sanctuary for some of the site's wildlife.

The children took part in several activities during the visit, including building the hotel for bugs, constructing a wall and riding on one of the company's diggers, as well as learning about site safety.

Chapter Homes' Victoria Barnett helped organise and manage the nursery visit. She said: "The site visit with Aycliffe Day Nursery was a great day and the children all had a lot of fun."

"We place a lot of importance on protecting the wildlife



around the site and ensuring our landscaping looks as natural as possible so this was a great way of working with the local community and educating the youngsters at the same time.

"We've worked really hard at the Eden Field site to create a nice place to live while preserving as much of the original environment as possible, inviting the children on to the site to see what we're doing and get lots of little extra helping hands is a real bonus!" Following the visit, the children were given their own high visibility vests to help them stay safe during winter.

Jane Taylor from Aycliffe Day Nursery said: "We want to thank Chapter Homes for

inviting us to the site. It was a great trip for the kids, they learnt a lot and really enjoyed the whole experience."

"As the nights get darker the hi-vis jackets the Chapter Homes team gave us will be invaluable and in summer they'll make a great addition to the toy box too."

Chapter Homes opened the doors to its Eden Field site in August this year. The development in Newton Aycliffe includes 125 high quality two, three and four bedroom homes, all with driveway parking and good-sized gardens.

For more information about Chapter Homes please visit www.chapterhomes.co.uk or telephone 0330 3535 0056.

Carol Service

The Church of Latter Day Saints on Shafto Way hold their annual Carol Service on Friday 23rd December at 6.30pm.

Everyone is invited to join us in celebrating the birth of Christ at this special time of year.

Bishop Richard Morgan said: "We look forward to welcoming you to our church."

Xmas Warning for Crooks



As Christmas time is drawing near, there's only one thing you should fear,
That it would be such a sorry tale, if you spend Christmas in the jail.
And on Christmas Day we're on a winner, as we'll interrupt your family's dinner,
To remind them that you've paid the price, for stealing from somebody nice -
As on Christmas Day they won't get far, if you have nicked the family car,
Or forced the padlock on the shed, to nick their mountain bike instead -
No thought or care, no rhyme or reason, for you to spoil their Christmas season,
Other than a mean desire, to count your profits by the fire -
Whilst kids will often go without, and insurance companies don't pay out,
Or premiums that they then will hike, since you have nicked that new quad bike.
So at this time of Christmas cheer, when festive times are drawing near,
There's one thing we will say to you; these kids deserve a Christmas too
So whilst within yourself you rummage, to find an ounce of moral courage,
Think of the impact of your crime, and maybe spend a little time,
To consider all your rotten deeds, and think about your family's needs -
Their wish that they could shout out loud, they've got a son of which they're proud,
As if you don't, we'll do our best, to make this better than the rest
And if we can we'll find a way, to have you inside on Christmas Day

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM DURHAM CONSTABULARY
#CHRISTMASFEAR**

New Train Travel Centre Opened at Bishop Auckland



The new Centre was officially opened by Mrs Sue Snowdon the Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham. Bishop Trains the operators of the Ticket Office at the station for the past 4 years have relocated into a new Travel Centre in the main station building.

Mrs Snowdon, a regular user of the train service from Bishop Auckland said she was delighted to formally open the new Travel Centre describing it as a first class facility, light, bright, warm and comfortable, commenting that not only can you obtain tickets for local railway services but also national and international bookings.

During the ceremony Mrs Snowdon took the opportunity to meet the Railway Youth Team based at the station in connection with the groups' work for the

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal where the group raised £3658.31 on trains between Bishop Auckland and Saltburn, taking time to speak to all of the members individually before cutting the ribbon to open the new Travel Centre.

David Million, Business Partner for Bishop Trains commented "We are delighted that Mrs Snowdon officially opened our new Travel Centre today, at Bishop Trains we are very keen to provide the community with a station to be proud of and the move into our new office brings even more customer service benefits to users of the station. We are extremely proud of our Railway Youth Team who were given particular praise from the Lord-Lieutenant for their commitment and charity fundraising efforts".

Joy Marie Hair

AYCLIFFE VILLAGE

Wishing all my friends and customers a very Happy Christmas and New Year

A donation has been given to Aycliffe Village Hall in lieu of cards

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Junior Football Round-up GOLF CLUB PRESENTATION NIGHT

As we approach the Christmas break the Aycliffe Juniors teams enjoyed another series of games, and there were some great performances from the teams.

Under 9 Russell Foster League team played Seaton United in their sixth winter league game. It was goalless at half time then Jake scored a superb second half hatrick to gain the man of the match award and a 3-0 win.

The Under 9 TJFA league team played away at Bishop Auckland Aces and came away 7-1 winners. Niall headed the first goal and Rhys chipped in the second before the break. Niall tapped in the third, Dan added another and Jayden's hatrick ensured the win. The second game was won 4-0 and Jayden and Aidan were named as the mornings men of the match.

Under 11 Russell Foster league team got back to winning ways against Durham County Athletic. Tom A played Sam in to open the scoring before Charlie scored to make it 2-0. Durham got one back but Sam's second made it 3-1 at half time. Second half goals from Noah and then Bo secured a 5-2 win. Tom A and Ted were awarded a shared man of the match award.

The Under 11 TJFA league team were playing away at Golden Flatts. They went a goal behind before Zack and Jacob (2) scored to make it 3-1 at half time. Jacob finished off his hatrick in the second half



with Zack getting another along with a goal from Jake M and a stunning score from Charlie in this 7-1 win.

Under 12's won 3-0 at home to Heighington. They pressured from the off and after forcing a couple of good saves it was Clark who opened the scoring for Aycliffe. A great team goal was finished by Hardy before R Hillman's super strike made it 3-0. This was a great effort and all the watching parents were really proud.

Under 15's came out 3-2 winners against Redcar Town. They started well pressing hard. Their efforts were rewarded when Stoker played in Martin to score the first goal. It was 2-0 soon after as Stoker scored himself but after a couple of errors it was 2-2 at half time. After applying lots of pressure for the winner it came from Burrows' sublime finish. This capped a great team

performance and moved the side up to third in the league. **Under 23's** played Guisborough Town at Sunnysdale, the visitors are the current league champions so it was a tough task ahead. A keenly fought game was played out and it was 0-0 at half time. Despite the visitors starting the second half well Raisbeck scored to give Aycliffe the lead. Guisborough equalised but man of the match Matty Raisbeck slotted home the winner late in the game. A really good performance and a 2-1 win.

On Saturday 26th November, Oak Leaf Golf club celebrated their 2016 Presentation Night. The Mayor and Mayoress attended to present trophies to the Junior beginners winners. At the end of the proceedings, the Mayor also made a special presentation to the Oak Leaf PGA Professional, Julie Welch. The Oak Leaf Golf Club was awarded the most successful "Get into Golf Centre" in County Durham. Over 90 people, including 24 with disabilities, have tried golf for the first time this year with



many still playing. This is an incredible achievement and this is the highest accolade awarded by the Durham County Golf Partnership. The Oak Leaf Golf Club Committee would like to congratulate Julie and staff on their success, with thanks to Great Aycliffe Town Council and the Mayor and Mayoress for their support. Captain Geoff Archer said "Our professional Julie Welch, has done a fantastic job with the juniors and adults with various disabilities this year and deserves recognition for her efforts".



YOUTH FOOTBALL REPORT

Newton Aycliffe Youth Football Club is a strong follower of the Respect campaign and believes that football is a valuable way of teaching young people life skills that could set them apart from others later on in life as well as in the present.

The T.J.F.A. season is coming to the halfway point and all teams are working hard with injuries, school trips and sickness all taking its toll. There were lots of close games this weekend which was great for the supporters and players alike.

Easington Colliery AFC 1 - 2 Youth Under 8's

Absolutely outstanding performance from the Eagles this week. Our hardest game of the season so far. Against a team who haven't lost and finished top of the table at the end of last season. Backs to the wall sort of game. Lots of tracking back and fantastic tackling but Easington managed to find the back of the net just before half time. After the break it was straight back into it every player giving 100% today from both teams. Edwin at the back our solid defender saw a gap and ran with the ball, finished with such confidence well done. Game on, man on man all the time. Great pass saw Ollie in some space to skip past a defender and get the winner. So proud of these kids well done team Eagles. Trystan, Edwin, Adam, Nathan, Kai and Ollie.

Newton Aycliffe Under 9's 1 Farringdon 0

A really tight game today with both teams battling hard. The winning goal coming in the first half from Will Houlahan. We defended really well today with Thomas making a couple of good saves in goal. Oskar Kristoforowicz, James Know and Moore Swainston took turns in defence and kept a solid clean sheet. Will Houlahan, Harry Tallentire and Alex Lister battled hard in Midfield and Alex Bellwood and Tyler Percival made some great runs up front. Fantastic support from the parents again today. Well done everyone!!

U10 Eagles 1 v 1 Falcons

Another great game of football today both teams started well you could tell they were both up for this derby game. It was a tight first half with most of the game played in the middle of the pitch. Chances were slim but when the Eagles created them they just didn't have the composure in front of goal to finish them off. When the Falcons made chances the Eagles goalkeeper came up with a couple of good saves 0-0 at half time.

Second half started the same

both teams battling hard. Very tight in the middle of the pitch and everyone could tell it would take something special to separate these teams. The Eagles scored first when a nicely floated corner was caught on the volley beautifully by Jack straight into the back of the net giving the keeper no chance. It had been that tight up till then everyone thought one goal might just do, but this was not to be the case.

The Eagles let the Falcons back in with practically their next attack. One of Falcons players dribbled through the midfield and defence to finish. That's how it stayed probably a fair result in the end.

Man of the match for the Eagles was Jack. Man of the match for the Falcons was Dylan.

U12 Girls 2 - 3 Bishop Auckland

A great advert for girls football in this top of the table clash. The early pressure was from Aycliffe as we passed our way round the Bishop defence, a cracking drive from Hattie hits the post and somehow stays out, then Kate drives into the box and at the second attempt prods passed the keeper 1-0. This spurred on Bishop and it was Faiths turn to play her part, eventually Bishop however grabbed an equaliser, HT 1-1. No changes needed today as the girls were playing exactly as asked, but it was Bishop who pushed forward. The first and only foul on the edge of the box and from the free kick the ball finds its way

into the top corner.

The girls showed their determination and battled their way to a deserved equaliser. From a corner kick the ball finds Kate, 30 yards out who hits it first time into the bottom corner for her second 2-2. The game flowed from end to end with half chances from both teams then with 21 seconds to go, the Bishop winger gets to the corner of the box and curls an unstoppable shot into the top corner to make it 2-3 and take the points. Disappointed with the result but delighted with the girls today, as they listened and carried out every instruction. I felt we worked as a team and this was undoubtedly the best team performance of the season.

Hartlepool Youth 1-1 U14 Falcons

The top 2 teams in our Division played out a competitive draw on a horrible Hartlepool pitch. The Falcons took the lead via Adam Askew but we conceded an equaliser by poor marking. Joint Man of the Match went to the impressive Arron Hepburn and Dylan Burnside. That result keeps us at the Top of the League at the half way point of our season and we remain unbeaten having played 9, won 8 and drawn 1.

If you require any further information regarding our Chartered Standard Community Status youth football club please visit our website www.nayfc.com or telephone Berni on 07939045242.

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'Xscape' to the Slopes of Yorkshire



Students from Greenfield were able to get a head start recently in preparation for their forthcoming ski-trip. Students were given the opportunity to have fun and try out the artificial slopes at the Xscape centre at Castleford where the snow is just like the real thing! Students are preparing for their trip to Pila ski-resort in the Italian Alps where they are hoping for plenty of the 'white stuff'. Mrs Dixon who accompanied the students to Castleford was really pleased with how well the visit went. "Getting to grips with the basics before we actually arrive in resort makes such a difference for beginners. Putting boots on, carrying skis and making those first few manoeuvres on the snow takes time and effort. Having this experience makes the students feel more confident and prepared. We're all really looking forward to getting out onto the slopes in Pila next week" said Mrs Dixon.

Last year's trip was a great success and students are hoping to once again enjoy the thrill of skiing in a fabulous resort and looking forward to a busy and exciting itinerary ahead.

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COUNTERFEIT COSMETICS WARNING

A warning has been issued about the potential health risks of buying counterfeit cosmetic products. Durham County Council's consumer protection service has issued the warning having received reports of a number of people, believed to be based in the county, selling suspected counterfeit cosmetics on social media sites such as Facebook. Certain branded beauty products such as Kylie Jenner and Mac are becoming increasingly popular

and are sold online legitimately, sometimes on social media sites by third parties at significantly reduced prices. However, checking the authenticity of a product seen online is more difficult than buying in shops as consumers cannot gauge the look and feel of what they are purchasing. Some social media sites use generic stock images to deceive consumers into believing they are buying the real items. Laboratory tests have shown

that fake cosmetics such as eyeliner, mascara, lip gloss and foundation have in some cases been found to contain toxic levels of chemicals and harmful substances such as arsenic, mercury and lead. All of these can cause allergic reactions, such as skin irritation, swelling, rashes and burns as well as leaving the user with longer term health problems. Some of the products the council has been told about are even alleged to contain glue, urine and rat faeces. This is because a lot of counterfeit make-up is produced in un-sanitised and un-hygienic

factories - putting the user at even greater risk. Joanne Waller, head of environment, health and consumer protection, said: "Product safety and the health and wellbeing of County Durham residents are our top priority. "The products we are being told about are substandard and present a clear risk to the user as well as deceiving customers. "I am very concerned at the apparent lack of concern from some traders who are selling cosmetic products which could contain harmful ingredients and could cause severe injury.

"These products are made to be used on the skin and without being tested, they could cause serious complications to the unsuspecting user. "We shall continue to advise traders on their responsibilities and will consider enforcement action if we discover make-up products being sold which are fake and potentially harmful." Cllr Brian Stephens, Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and local partnerships, is urging consumers to always buy from known reputable retailers and to be cautious about buying from social media selling pages. He said: "When you buy from a legitimate source, you are covered by your consumer rights and the product will be genuine. "We are highlighting this issue now because in the coming weeks, many of these counterfeit items may be bought as Christmas presents and could cause a serious reaction or worse, depending on the user's skin. "We want sellers to understand that there are serious safety concerns about offering cosmetics from an unknown source. Counterfeit cosmetics can cause real harm and there is no guarantee that they will be safe or match the ingredients listed on the packaging."

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RESIDENTS' GROUP XMAS TRIP



Free Christmas Day Lunch for the Town's Lonely



There will be a Christmas Day Lunch provided for those who are lonely or less fortunate this Christmas in Newton Aycliffe. If you, or you know anyone who may benefit from this wonderful gesture please get in touch with your details. All are welcome including families, couples and individuals, so please get in touch to secure a place. The event will be held on the Christmas Day at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day

Saints on Shafto Way from 1.00pm. If you would like to reserve a place or know anybody who you think will benefit please get in touch with Sarah on 07494 528225 or alternatively email: christmasdinner@p@gmail.com and she will be happy to provide any further information or queries you may have. The closing date for securing a place is Thursday 22nd December.

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Visit Santa's Log Cabin



Readers are invited to Brian
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display at his home at 354
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19th - 22nd December - 5pm -
7pm for children to enjoy the
special Xmas lights and see
Santa in his log cabin.
Admission is £2.50p each child
who will receive a gift from
Santa. All proceeds to the Air
Ambulance.

On Sunday 4th December
WASPS Simpasture
Residents Association
made a trip to Skipton
Xmas Market. The day
was enjoyed by all and the
market and entertainment
was first class. The
association thanks DCC
Councillors Eddy Adam
and Kate Hopper for
providing funding to
make the trip possible and
Garnetts Coaches for a
professional service.
Happy Xmas and a
prosperous New Year to all
fellow Newtonians from the
association.

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Aycliffe Running Club Report

On 11th December Aycliffe club Runners turned out for the Stockton Winter 5K Trail race, which took place at Wynyard. Dave Blewitt was first home for the club and 4th overall in a time 23:00. Michelle Zamir was first female home for the club and 50th overall in 23:14. Sam Elwell was next to cross the line, placing 134th in 28:10, followed by Karen Newbould, who has recently found a new lease of life in her running, placing 156th in 29:35 and finally Judith Porter, 166th in 30:07 and 2nd in her category of female over 60.

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TOWN PHOTOGRAPHER'S AYCLIFFE "HEAD" PROJECT SHORTLISTED FOR AWARD

Documenting the manufacture of Joseph Hillier's sculpture 'In Our Image' at Aycliffe Fabrications in 2009 was a special experience for me as I saw it from its beginnings through the process of change to its completion.

My project 'Changes' was exhibited at Greenfield Arts Gallery in Newton Aycliffe July 2010 and in April this year a small gallery dedicated to 'In Our Image', was launched at the factory. Christine Bewley, Managing Director and a great supporter of my work, commissioned me to provide photographs telling the story. Christine also suggested I enter my work into the EEF Manufacturing Photography competition.

The shortlisted photograph is entitled 'Head and Shoulders Above the Rest' which is factual as the design is the head and shoulders high in the air but it is also a reference to the quality of the artwork and engineering that went into the fabrication process.

My entry was to celebrate this great accomplishment by Aycliffe Fabrications and to showcase their engineering capabilities. and to keep the



Christine Bewley, Dave Mann, Elaine Vizor and Colin Henderson

'In Our Image' story alive. It can be viewed at Aycliffe Fabrications where visitors interested in engineering or photography are welcome to view.

The EEF competition seeks to promote the great quality of British engineering and when I received confirmation of being on the shortlist I was so thrilled and couldn't wait to tell Christine the good news. I was pleased for myself and equally pleased for Aycliffe Fabrications. I am proud of them and feel privileged to still be part of their story and their journey as a company. They made one of the regions tallest sculptures, a steel monument that will withstand the elements and the passage of time, and they deserve to be recognised.

I had no idea that the event to celebrate the awards would be at the House of Commons which makes the occasion seem even more amazing and I'm looking forward to my trip to London on 14th December. I'd love to win, but being shortlisted is a great thrill in itself and means that my photo as a pointer to Aycliffe Fabrications will be on the EEF website (<http://eef.mediafiler.net/>) for the next year, showcasing our local engineering capabilities. We have much to be proud of in the North East and in Newton Aycliffe in particular. Elaine Vizor

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Dear Sir,
I'd like to send thanks to GuyGas Services who came out today when I had no heating overnight due to a problem with my roofing repairs. We have a very disabled child, and was therefore important to ensure he is kept warm and comfortable,

Anthony Guy picked up my text message sent at 1am, and was at my home at 11am to get my problem resolved. I've used Anthony over the last 10 years, and he is one of the very rare highly professional 'salt of the earth' skilled tradesman and engineers I have come across. Thanks Anthony, its greatly appreciated as always, and would highly recommend your services as being professional with integrity and a very high quality.

Anthony Beddard

NEW BOOK



Rita Wilkinson a Darlington author aged 73 has just self published her second novel Rita is well known by family and friends in Newton Aycliffe and is a reader of Newton News. The front cover displays the serious subject matter and you can check it out on the feedaread.com website.

£8k from Big Lottery for Horndale R.A.

Horndale Residents Association is pleased to announce that we have secured £7,960 from the Big Lottery. The money will be used to provide trips, events and the running cost of the group for the next 12 -18 months.

November 26th Christmas Shopping trip to York was enjoyed by all. Our trips are always popular and sell out extremely quickly so the best way to find out about them is to join us at our meetings. Most trips are only £5.00

We held our AGM on the 1st December, Chairman Eddie Woods stood down from the committee and I was elected for the coming year, Martin Carter and Ann Masson were re-elected as Treasurer and Secretary, Alan Balmer was elected as Vice Chairman.

The committee would like to thank Eddie for his work over the last 12 months and wish him well for the future. Our next meeting is 4th January starting at 6pm with refreshments from 5.45 at Greenfield Arts Centre. The Police, livin and local councillors will be in

attendance. Our meetings are friendly and everyone is welcome, so

please join us and see what plans we have for next year. Merry Christmas and Happy

New Year
Philip Clark
Chairman

Congratulations

Congratulations

Margaret Norris



20th December 2003
Happy 70th Birthday
From all the family and dogs xxxxx

Dennis and Joan Jex



Congratulations to Dennis and Joan Jex on your Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 18th December 2016. With all our love from the family xxxx

Dennis Burkitt



Happy 70th Birthday
to the best Husband in he world. Lots of loves from Kathy xxx
Happy Birthday Dad and Grandad
Lots of love from Susan, Kevin, Kirsty, Garry, Abbie, Lexie, Benjamin and Jack xxxxx

Vince Ryan



19th December 2003
Happy Birthday
From the Press Gang

Katie Cassidy (Hill)



To a wonderful Wife and Mummy on her birthday, have a lovely day. Love you to the moon and back. From Neil, Joshua and Noah xxx

Brandan Cairns



12th December 2003
Hip Hip Hooray you are a teenager today.
Happy 13th Birthday
for our special Grandson. have a great day. Nana June and Grandad Jim xxx

Christmas Remembrance

CHRISTMAS DAD
Remembrance for 19th December 2010. Memories are a gift to treasure, ours of you will last forever. The pain of losing you will always stay, loved and remembered every day. From Helen, Steven and Natasha xxxxx

Acknowledgement

MARGARET FISK (Heighington). The Fisk and Teasdale family would like to thank all of our friends and neighbours who visited us, sent the many sympathy cards and attended Margaret's Funeral Service. Your kindness and support was most appreciated. We would also express our thanks to all at Bewick Crescent Surgery and the District and Macmillan Nurses who looked after Margaret in the final weeks of her illness.

Birthday Remembrance

PAUL RAINE Birthday remembrance for 27th December. Always in our thoughts. Love, Mam, Brothers Peter, Kenneth, Jeffrey, Tony and Sister Pamela xxxxx

Christmas Wishes

LOVELASS, Michael and Pam wish all family, friends and neighbours a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and a Healthy 2017 xxxxx
DORIS CASSIDY and family would like to wish all their friends and family seasonal greetings and a prosperous 2017. Love you all xxx

TO WISH all my friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Love from Ann Naylor xx
COUNCILLOR George Gray would like to wish all of the residents of the West Ward a Happy and Healthy 2017.

PAULINE LONGSTAFF would like to wish all family, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a very Happy, Healthy 2017. I will be donating to charity again in lieu of sending cards.

COUNTY Councillors Sarah Iveson and Jed Hillary would like to wish the residents of Great Aycliffe a peaceful, happy and healthy Christmas and 2017.

COUNCILLORS Val Raw, Jim Atkinson and Bill Iveson would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year
COUNCILLORS Wendy Hillary, Bob Fleming, Chris Wheeler and Mal Iveson wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.
COUNCILLORS Mary and Michael Dalton would like to take this opportunity to wish all the residents of Great Aycliffe a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous 2017.

In Memoriam

From all who remember June



June Bennett
09/02/48 to 12/12/86
One of God's most beautiful and precious creations. You have been missed every day of the last thirty years. Your love, your zest for life, your goodness and your beauty both inside and out.

JIM NAYLOR 23rd December. I never knew when you went away, the pain would be so bad. So sleep in peace my darling Jim. Great Husband, Great Dad and Grandad. Loving Wife Anne - until we meet again.

TERRY LENDRUM 12th December 2002. We think of you in silence and often speak your name. But you will never leave us, like your picture in the frame. Your loving Husband John and family
ALBERT ROBINSON In loving memory. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear. Gone, yet not forgotten. Forever in my heart. From his loving Wife and family

Thank You

THROUGH the Newton News I would like to thank Sarah Iveson and Jed Hillary for their kind donation to J.A.M. Club. Without their help we could not have made it a special Christmas for the children. Wishing all a Happy Christmas. Margaret, Trudy and Nicola

SANDY McSPORRAN 17th December. To the most amazing Husband on your 50th birthday. Have a great day. Love from Helen xxx
SANDY McSPORRAN 17th December. Happy 50th birthday Dad. Enjoy your day. Love from your boys Ben and Sam xx
JOSEPH THOMPSON 21st December. Happy 21st birthday. A well loved Grandson. Love from Nanna xxxxx

AYCLIFFE STUDENTS IN WATER POLO FINAL

Four Woodham Academy students recently represented the region in a country wide Water Polo tournament.

Year 7 students, Ben Alderson and Ryan-Jay Griffiths and Year 9 student, Niall Coulthard represented the North East U14 boys in a two day tournament held in Walsall.

The North East Steelers team consisted of 11 players from the region, which covers as far as Sheffield, with three young hopefuls from Newton Aycliffe. The team was selected following a two hour trial in Rotherham back in October.

The Steelers played brilliantly on the day and came away with second place out of ten



teams who competed in the inter-region tournament. The team also won their group and were undefeated. The semi-

final of the tournament went to penalties and the team won on penalties, but lost out in the final to the North West Tigers who were a more experienced team.

Niall Coulthard was awarded the Most Valuable Player which is a fantastic achievement as this award is decided by the coaches of the opposition based on all matches played. Water

Polo is a passion for the three sportsmen who between them train over 19 times a week. Their commitment and dedication to water polo is evident, showing that hard work pays off.

Year 9 student, Poppy Stephenson also represented the U14 North East girls the weekend before the boys' team competed. Poppy's team finished in 5th place.

New Management at Aycliffe F.C.



Danny Mellanby pictured in action for Newton Aycliffe back in their first Northern League game.

Newton Aycliffe FC have announced that Deano Browne and Danny Mellanby have been appointed joint managers. The appointment was made on Thursday evening at a meeting



Deano Browne

of the Club's Committee. Deano was until recently manager of Norton and Stockton Ancients and works for the Martin Gray Football Academy. Meanwhile Danny returns to the home town club he first played for as a 17 year old. Chairman Allan Oliver said "It's been a rough week for us but I've been heartened at the positivity shown by Deano and Danny. I think their skills and experience will be just what we need". Deano said "I am excited at the prospect of taking Aycliffe forward and Danny and I will be building a team for the future". The new management team's first game in charge will be the home game against Guisborough Town on Saturday 17 December (kick off 3pm). The last game before Christmas is then a tough home game against champions Shildon who visit Moore Lane on Tuesday 20 December (kick off 7:30pm). Admission is £6 adults / £4 concessions.

The management changes came after the Club dismissed previous manager Peter Dixon following a melee after the game against Morpeth Town in which several players were involved. A number of players have also since left the club & the new management team are bringing in new players to replace them.

Aycliffe Thai Boxers Impress



Aycliffe Thai Boxing Kings Cobra is maintaining strong contacts with the Midlands after a national interclub GFC in Manchester; one of England's leading Thai Boxing clubs. Seven representatives from the local area attended the event with three juniors, Anna Dooney, Kezzy-Jo Armstrong and Mark Simpson, and four seniors; Luke Dooney, Paulie Shaw, Karl Joyce and Sarah Lou Jopling participating.

Anna Dooney demonstrated a high level of skill; setting the pace and leading in all rounds against a World Thai Boxing Championship silver medal winner.

Kezzy-Joe gave a great performance showing a full style and great discipline over four rounds. Mark Simpson competed against one of England's best young competitors handling all four rounds well and showing a lot of character after only six months training. Our senior representatives showed great technical ability and strength of character, approaching all five rounds in a level headed manner, representing County

Durham and Aycliffe Thai Boxing in a commendable way.

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