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Newton Aycliffe Library Reopens in Leisure Centre

Newton Aycliffe Library has reopened to the public with a new look in a new location.

The library's bright and modern new base, within the town's leisure centre on Beveridge Way, includes sections for teenagers and children, a study area and updated computer facilities. It also offers a wide selection of current and classic titles as well as e-books and e-mags. Free WiFi is available throughout the building.

The move from the library's former base is part of a wider £1 million scheme being carried out by Durham County Council to help regenerate the town centre.

It has involved refurbishing a number of shop units adjoining the leisure centre and creating a shared entrance for the library and leisure centre.

CLr Maria Plews, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for leisure, libraries and lifelong learning, said: "The new location is a light, bright space with modern décor and up-to-date facilities.

"As well as providing a welcoming and well equipped environment for readers of all ages, we hope it will offer a convenient venue from which other community services can operate.

"The library will also be offering a council tax and housing benefits surgery once a week, bringing together a number of services under one roof in the heart of the town centre."

The library will also offer workshops and activities.

Council tax and housing benefit surgeries take place every Tuesday but appointments must be booked in advance by calling 03000 26 0000.

Library opening times will vary across the county over the festive period. Residents



Computer facilities at the new library.



Sisters Harper Grant (4), and Faith Grant (7), find a cosy reading spot.

are advised to check with the individual library or visit www.durham.gov.uk/libraries

All Durham County Council leisure centres will be closed on all bank holidays over the Christmas period. This includes Christmas Day,

Boxing Day, Tuesday, 27 December, New Year's Day and Monday, 2 January.

They will also close early at 4pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. For more information about Newton Aycliffe Library's relocation, visit www.durham.

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Town Council Honours "The Last Eskimo" Rudolph's Friends in Town



Petty Officer Kirk Douglas of HMS Calliope in Gateshead was honoured by Great Aycliffe Town Council on Monday 19th December 2016 with the presentation of a framed emblem of the Town's coat of arms. The Mayor, Councillor Jed Hillary, visited HMS Calliope, the Royal Navy Recruiting Office, to make the presentation. Petty Officer Douglas is the last serving crew member of HMS Eskimo, who were given the Freedom of Great Aycliffe in 1978. The ship's company purchased and presented to the town, the Mayoral

robes and civic chain of office that are still in use today. Petty Officer Douglas is due to retire from the Royal Navy in March 2017 after 40 years service. The Mayor became aware of Petty Officer Douglas' involvement in the freedom parade during the charity golf competition held at the Oakleaf Golf Complex in July 2016, where HMS Calliope entered a team in the competition. The inscription on the framed emblem read "Presented to Petty Officer Kirk Douglas, 'The Last Eskimo' by Great Aycliffe Town Council, 2016".



Last week The Wecan Parents Group held a live reindeer event in Tesco car park. Our event brought the community together, it was a huge success and enjoyed by all, raising a total of £511.27. Without a generous donation from Aycliffe County Councillors, Eddy Adam, John Clare, Mike Dixon, Joan Gray, Jed Hillary, Kate Hopper and Sarah Iveson the event would not have been possible. Huge thanks also to Horndale Residents Association for their generous support and to Tesco for being our hosts and supporting the event. We wish our volunteers, stallholders and everyone who attended on the day a very Merry Christmas and happy New Year. Any photos with Santa that were not picked up on the night are at Tesco Aycliffe customer services.

THE TURBINIA

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Saturday 24th December - "RockMonster"

Gigpit review: "We headed to The Fox Cover in Ashington to see a new band for us in the form of RockMonster, a band we have had in the listings for a while now and who's set-list was one that we quite fancied. Although we arrived shortly after they had gone off stage, we were very impressed from the start with some great songs that are not usually seen on a night out, including Aerosmith, Shinedown and Blackstone Cherry amongst others. The band were very tight and the vocals were top class and Adam has a superb range that enables him to cover a vast collection of songs with The Darkness being pitch perfect and a very impressive vocal performance in the two Guns 'n' Roses songs. The second set reverted back to classic rock with songs from Steppenwolf, Motorhead, AC/DC, The Who, Led Zeppelin and more. The band performed each song extremely well, and were not afraid to have some banter with the crowd and quite often Lee wandered through the crowd with either guitar in hand or mic when he set off to find various patrons to join in with Green Day. All in all a thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining night and certainly a band that we'll happily return to see and would recommend to everyone."

Saturday 31st December - "1 0 1"

We are pleased to welcome back one of the Tubs favourite bands, who play a great mix of modern and classic rock. Tracks covered by Led Zeppelin, Killers, AC/DC, Kings of Leon, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Keiser Chiefs, Nirvana, Razor Light, Pink Floyd and Green Day. Davy's Rock Page Review: "All in all, a great night with a great atmosphere and a lot of people dancing, so if you want to hear newer covers with a good mix of older rock, 101 deliver."

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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RICHARD GENT

OBITUARY

It is with regret we record the death of former businessman Richard Gent at the age of 83 who passed away peacefully in hospital after a short illness. Richard was born at Bolton (near Appleby) on 8th November 1933 and was the last survivor of a family of four with two brothers and a sister. The family moved around this area during his childhood - Heighington, Bishop Auckland, Darlington. Richard was a fitter at North Road Shops, Darlington. He was called up for National Service serving in the Navy, based at Plymouth. Not a lover of alcohol he swapped his rum rations for his duty watch and managed to get home some weekends to play his beloved cricket at Darlington R.A. Club. His love of dancing was how he met up with his wife Margaret whom he had known for years as she lived in Redworth. They eventually married at St. Michael's Church,



Heighington and had two children, Anthony and Alison. Richard was employed then at Bakelite (now Ineos) but when the Village Shop came on the market Richard and Margaret decided to buy it. They ran the Heighington shop for nearly ten years moving to Aycliffe Village to taken over the Post Office. Their next move was to Tindale Crescent Post Office, then moving south to the Sportsman Pub in Brownhills, West Midlands partners with their close friends, Frank and Ann Chisem. Ten years later they moved back to the North East to retire and live in Newton Aycliffe. Richard loved to be busy so worked as a delivery driver then on to what was his favourite past-time, helping his dear friend and fellow Rotarian, Don Walker, in the butcher's shop. Richard was a keen member of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club and served as President in 2003-4. He was always involved in club activities and was an able Sports Officer. He loved sport, you name it he tried it, but Cricket was his main game, then football, both playing and refereeing. He also enjoyed golf and bowls, and was in darts and domino teams. Richard led a very active life, and as his friends say, he's probably organising a cricket match or some other sporting activity wherever he is now. "One word describes Richard - 'Indefatigable' - he was a bundle of energy and astounded everyone by his enthusiasm and stamina" said his friend Syd Howarth.

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Ebac Humidifiers Expand into Europe

Ebac, the North-East based manufacturer, is going international with its dehumidifiers, with distribution in Belgium, Holland, Greece and Portugal already secured. The company, which has been making dehumidifiers for the UK market for more than 40 years, with more than 1.25 million units sold, expects to add several more European countries to its network in 2017. Ebac's 12 and 15 litre machines, the 2650e and 3850e, both of which benefit from the patented Smart Control, and the Powerdri will all be part of the export initiative. Smart Control technology is an intelligent software

system that automatically controls the operation of the dehumidifier, ensuring the home is always protected from condensation and damp. It can save up to a third on running costs compared to a normal dehumidifier. Tony Hird, business development director at Ebac, said: "We are delighted that Ebac dehumidifiers will now be in homes across many European countries. "The products have been very well received and there has been no issues with the upcoming Brexit, in fact the currency situation has worked in our favour and made our products even more competitively priced."



Rotary Thanks all who Helped Their Christmas Fundraising



Newton Aycliffe Rotarians with Tesco staff when they collected the Christmas Hampers

After some very hard work collecting in Tesco's and round the streets with Santa's sleigh, the town's Rotary Club reached their annual target in providing over 70 Christmas Hampers for families in need. Each year Tesco staff help the club by preparing the hampers for delivery and Manager Helen Maynard is shown helping Rotarian John Burrows load the hampers. President Nora Scott, on behalf of the members, thanked the generous people of the town for supporting the club in its fundraising and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.



Live Band at Blacksmiths New Years Eve

Dear Sir
I am the lead singer in local band "Metis" and we are hosting a New Year's Eve Party in the Tipi's at The Blacksmiths Arms. This is a family ticket event (minimum age 4) and numbers are limited priced at £5 per adult and £3-50 children aged between 4-17 (must be accompanied by an adult). Tickets are available from The Blacksmiths Arms, Stan James Bookmakers (next door to Tesco) or direct from the band who can be found on Facebook @metisband We will be performing 3 separate sets including acoustics, original music and our favourite covers from classic Brit pop and rock bands. There will also be a Disco starting from 7pm and light snacks available to purchase on the night.

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Watch Your Speed Warning



Local Police Officers are actively checking speeding in the town and over recent days have caught a few drivers, issuing warnings and making on the spot fines for those driving at excessive speed.

Baby Basics

Baby Basics would like to wish our volunteers and supporters a Happy Christmas and all the best for 2017. We are now closed till 4th January, 2017, but emergencies like house fires etc., will be dealt with during this period. Sheena Stephenson Baby Basics Manager Lifeline Community Action M: 07594 297462

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Personal Growth Course at Agnew

Joseph Douglas the former Newtonian returned to Aycliffe from Australia to see his relatives invites people to take his course on personal growth, coping with anxiety etc., at Agnew Community Centre in the New Year. His contact details are: j o e d o u g l a s @ turninganewleaf.com.au - mobile: 07456 643499 More details on his website: www.turninganewleaf.com.au

Woodham's Wonderful Xmas Concert

Woodham Academy students provided a wonderful Christmas Concert last week demonstrating the successful performing arts programme at the school. The performers put on a spectacular show and the audience were impressed by the talent shown in dance, singing, musical instruments and acrobatics. The audience really enjoyed the Concert and showed their appreciation with loud applause for each item, which filled the performers with confidence. The parents and relatives

present can be proud of the hard work put in at rehearsals by their children and the high standard of their performance. After the Christmas holidays students will be hard at work perfecting their acts for the 2017 Summer Concert.



Robert Gayles Head of Music



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Contact Paul or Syd on 01325 300212 to find out how

Aycliffe Rotary Club Christmas Community Concert



George Lee, John Melvin and Syd Howarth



Rev. Mike Dixon



The Rotary Club's annual Christmas Concert was held on Tuesday 13th December in the Leisure Centre featuring local schools performing a rich mix of entertainment which delighted an appreciative audience.

The children were fantastic, singing confidently and enthusiastically, dressed suitably for the occasion and enjoying every moment. The schools taking part were Aycliffe Village, Vane Road, Woodham Academy, Byerley Park, Horndale, Greenfield College, Stephenson Way Academy and Woodham Burn.

Sugar Hill School were unable to attend due to a last minute problem with staff availability.

Local musician and choirmaster George Lee provided the accompaniment to carols sung by the audience and John Melvin was responsible for the sound system.

One of the highlights was the guest appearance of Shanaya Atkinson a local singer who is through to a National Final in Birmingham. Her rendition of "Silent Night" was something very special and she amazed everyone by the sheer talent she possesses. Comperre Syd Howarth wished Shanaya every success in the competition, hoping she brings home the first prize.

Santa was in attendance dishing out lollies to the children as they sang "Rudolph".

At the end of the concert Rotary President Nora Scott and Deputy Mayor Michael Dalton gave Christmas greetings on behalf of the Rotary Club and the Town Council respectively.

Rev. Mike Dixon, Deputy Chairman of Durham County Council concluded the event with a Christmas Blessing.

On behalf of the Rotary Club Syd Howarth thanked the County Councillors for funding the hire of the hall, the schools for their continued support for this annual event and the audience for their attendance.



Further Expansion for Aycliffe Commercial Expert

A commercial finance company is expanding again after 55 years' worth of banking experience joined its growing team. Commercial Expert, based on Aycliffe Business Park has recently taken on new business manager Rod Dales and office administrator Susan Driver.

Rod, from Redcar, worked for the Royal Bank of Scotland for 35 years before joining the Aycliffe company, and has spent the last 20 years as business relationship manager.

Susan, from Bishop Auckland, worked for Yorkshire Building Society for 20 years before relocating from Bradford to the North-East.

Commercial Expert's MD Mike Coates says the double appointment is another sign of the firm's rapid progress. "We're very excited about these developments and the direction the business is heading" said Mike, who formed the company in 2008. Both appointments are to relieve work-load due to the volume of business and enquiries coming through the door.

While also helping to cope with work-load, the new appointments are also



Commercial Expert managing director Mike Coates (centre) with Rod Dales and Susan Driver

designed to explore new markets. Rod brings a wealth of experience, as well as contacts, but also brings a lot of expertise in trading businesses.

Mike said: "We're experts in property finance, but we're now in a position to start expanding our portfolio of trading businesses as well, which is Rod's background. We can cater for all areas of business finance, so we're hoping to expand that side of our business, and we're very pleased to have him in the team."

"Susan has worked in the banking industry for many

years so she understands it, which is crucial in her role as office administrator and implementing new systems, so we're delighted to have them both on board."

After 10 years with RBS, Rod progressed to a business relationship role, looking after a portfolio of companies across the Tees Valley area from shops and pubs to accountants, solicitors and large industrial firms.

He said: "I have a network of contacts across Darlington and Teesside that I've built up over the last 20 years."

Susan worked in YBS for 10 years before spending another 10 years in an administrative role at the bank's head office.

She said: "We're in a very progressive industry but Commercial Expert is a forward-thinking company and has already evolved a great deal in recent years."

Originally based in Darlington, the company relocated to Newton Aycliffe in 2012 to facilitate growth before expanding to larger offices a year ago, taking on two new employees.

In April this year the company was announced as the first official intermediary for the Business Banking team at the UK's only digital bank, Atom Bank, based in Durham.

Commercial Expert now manages more than £48m worth of deals a year for clients nationwide and offers a comprehensive range of business finance to a broad spectrum of clients covering all areas of business finance.

Contact Commercial Expert on 01325 359800, email info@commercialexpert.co.uk or go to www.commercialexpert.co.uk

POLICE WARNING ON PHONE SCAMMERS AFTER £3,000 FRAUD

Durham Constabulary are asking the public to warn their elderly relatives and friends about an iTunes gift card fraud after a couple from Consett were scammed out of £3,000.

The couple, who are 87 years old and live in Delves Lane, were contacted by a male saying he was from the Inland Revenue (HMRC) and a debt of £3000 needed to be settled, the victim was repeatedly contacted and convinced that payment needed to be made or court proceedings would be started.

The victim visited a

supermarket and purchased hundreds of pounds of iTunes cards, as instructed, believing this was an acceptable means of payment, the card voucher numbers were passed to the fraudster over the telephone transferring the value, a family member realised what was happening and prevented further loss.

PC Alan Patterson of Consett Neighbourhood Team said: "The victim is a genuine, honest person who has managed his finances carefully all his life, he was worried about a debt and has followed

the instructions of the fraudster on the phone".

PC Patterson added "The victim in this case is heartbroken and blaming himself for being taken in by a persuasive and forceful caller, he didn't understand iTunes and thought it was a modern method of payment, this may be one of the reasons criminals are targeting the older generation."

"I would urge people reading this to make sure their grandparents and elderly relatives are aware of this and make sure they don't become victims themselves."

DS Tony Murray from Durham's fraud team added: "Although the elderly and vulnerable are being targeted, anyone can be a victim of this type of crime as the criminals are sophisticated and well scripted, they socially engineer and manipulate victims and sometimes know personal details about the victim, this is dangerous as it enables them to sound and look genuine and will pretend to be HMRC, Banks, Police or any business you deal with."

"Never assume a phone call, text, voicemail or email is genuine. The home telephone

is a key enabler of fraud, if you receive a call, even if they know your name and account number, Hang Up on fraud.

"Never transfer money as a result of cold calls, victims of fraud in the County are being asked to send money via many methods including bank transfers, Western Union and MoneyGram.

Do not send money as a result of a phone call or other communication.

For further information visit <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/>

Action Fraud are offering the following advice in order to protect yourself:

•HMRC will never use calls or texts to tell you about a tax rebate or penalty or ever ask for payment in this way.

•Telephone numbers and text messages can easily be spoofed. You should never trust the number you see on your telephones display.

•If you receive a suspicious cold call, end it immediately.

To report a fraud and receive a police crime reference number, call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or use the online fraud reporting tool on the Action Fraud website.

Greenfield Gallery New Year Programme



The Gallery Programme at Greenfield Arts for 2017 is now available showcasing lots of wonderful work from local and national artists of all disciplines.

We start the year with mixed media work from Paul Carter Thompson, whose abstract paintings explore images that exist beyond the human eye. Then moving onto painting, sketches and etchings from Stephen Wiper, whose work is much more realistic whilst the layering he uses continues the abstract theme.

We have quite a few group exhibitions this year including our Annual Open Art, now including entries from all manner of art forms, with lots of additional opportunities:

learn how to manage your own exhibition, hear from the artists about their creative practice, join us for brilliant performances and try your skills at our Jam sessions. The PCP offers an art group as part of their Colour Your Life programme and they will take over the gallery in the Summer to show us what they have to offer. Greenfield Community College GCSE students will also run the gallery June - July, showing off their curatorial and creative talents.

We end the year with Interface Arts who are a collective from Durham showing work by multiple artists created during their 'en plein air' days.

The middle of the year brings textiles artist Helen Winthorpe Kendrick, who has spent time exploring contradictions through her textiles pieces. Then Mike Connell and Neida Pearson will complete the year for us. Both are painters but with quite different styles and subjects. Mike's exhibition will include paintings of Newton Aycliffe along with artefacts from his childhood here. While Neida will take us into her imagination through colour.

Each exhibition will host a preview night 6pm - 8pm the night prior to opening with refreshments and artist talks. If

you would like to find out more about any of the exhibitions or how you can display your own work in the gallery please check out our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk, contact Greenfield Arts on 01325 379048, info@greenfield-arts.co.uk or pop in and speak to one of our team

Colour PhotoAds

Advertisements with a Photo can be placed at one of our agents:

YOUNGS NEWSAGENTS (Town Centre)

DON WALKERS (Simpasturegate)

or direct to our office at: **NEWTON PRESS** (Aycliffe Business Park)

Small PhotoAd - £15.00
Photo and up to 20 words - extra words 15p each

Large PhotoAd - £25.00
Photo and up to 20 words - extra words 15p each

THESE ADVERTISEMENTS CAN BE USED FOR: BIRTHDAY GREETINGS, IN MEMORIAMS AS WELL AS CAR OR PROPERTY SALES

Photographs collected afterwards from Newton Press offices. Photos are held on file for six months only

Please ensure all Personal Advertisements are clearly written to avoid distressing errors

Happy and Prosperous
New Year to all the
residents of Aycliffe Village and
Neville Ward of Newton Aycliffe
Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp

FOOTPATH ADJACENT TO THE WHITE HOUSE, ST ANDREW'S CLOSE, AYCLIFFE VILLAGE) (TEMPORARY FOOTPATH CLOSURE) ORDER 2016

The Council proposes in not less than 7 days from the date of this notice to make an Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, as amended, to close to all pedestrian traffic a 65m length of segregated footpath that extends easterly and southerly along the northern and rear of The White House, St Andrews Close, from A167 High Street, Aycliffe Village by reason of demolition and redevelopment works to be undertaken. The maximum duration of the temporary closure under the Order is 6 months and is required from 16/01/17 for 6 months. However, on rare occasions, alternative dates for closures may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly. **Alternative route:** from the north western side of the closure north on High Street and turning north easterly on The Wynd, south easterly on The Green and south westerly on St Andrews Close leading to the south eastern side of the closure, and vice versa.

Dated: 23 December 2016



Colette Longbottom
Head of Legal & Democratic Services
County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings of the Town Council and its Committees

Wednesday 11th January 2017

Environment Committee
Recreation Committee
7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 20 minutes has been set aside for an elector to ask questions, give evidence or make representation on any item of business included on the agenda of the Council, and its Committees.

If members of the public have any questions it would be appreciated if they could make them known prior to the start of the meeting. Agendas/Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

"The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings".

Xmas Cheer at Middridge



Middridge Village would like to thank our County Councillors, Joan Gray, Mike Dixon and John Clare, who kindly agreed to use some of their Member's Initiative Fund so that we could buy new lights to replace the previous set which had failed.

Furniture Factory Outlet

Fulbeck Road, Aycliffe Business Park - Tel 07825 777966

Facebook - affordablefurnitureuk



Open weekdays and Saturday



First Residents Move in at Agnew's Eden Field

A LOCAL couple are looking forward to their first Christmas and the start of a new chapter after moving into their first family home at Chapter Homes' Eden Field development in Newton Aycliffe.

Michael and Kirsty Bagnall, who welcomed their daughter Eva to the family just three months ago, are the first Eden Field residents to receive their keys and plan to move into their new 'Cuthbert' home ready for Christmas.

The family purchased their three-bedroom detached 'Cuthbert' house in August after visiting the Eden Field site and falling in love with the development's community feel and location.

Having grown up in Woodham Michael was already familiar with the area and said: "It doesn't feel like that long ago since it was just the two of us viewing the property for the first time, so it's absolutely amazing that there's now three



Sales manager Sophie Brown, Kirsty Bagnall with daughter Eva, Michael Bagnall and Richard Roddam.

of us, ready to move in and start making it our own. "I know it's a lovely area and the feel and look of the site was just what we were after,

particularly now Eva is here and we need a real family home.

"Eva's grandparents live just across the road too, which is going to be great for babysitting! Eden Field really is the perfect place for us to start this new chapter of our lives."

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

Richard Roddam, chief development officer at Chapter Homes said: "We've made great progress since we started building in April this year and it's absolutely fantastic to see our first residents ready to move in.

"We're delighted to welcome the Bagnalls to our site as they embark on their new family life and the whole team is sending them our best wishes." Chapter Homes offers stylish, quality homes in County Durham. The houses at Eden Field are available to buy with a range of financial support schemes to help buyers including the Government's 'Help to Buy' scheme.

For more information about the homes at Eden Field, please visit www.chapterhomes.co.uk or telephone 0330 353 0056.

AYCLIFFE FIRM BACKS EBAC'S BRITISH WASHING MACHINE

A Newton Aycliffe electrical retailer has been selected to become one of the first in the country, to stock the first new British washing machine to be manufactured in 20 years.

Ebac has prioritised independent North East retailers, in order to spread the maximum economic benefit to the region, as a result of its investment in new products. Bargain Buys in Shafto Way, has reached an agreement with Ebac to make the prestigious new washing machine available to its customers. The tie-up will see Bargain Buys' customers amongst the first to have choice on the three new models from the North East-based manufacturer.

Ebac has invested £7m in the development of its washing machines, and has built



John Elliott Ebac's chairman and founder

collaborations with leading appliance experts, with over 30,000 man hours provided in research and development. This has given Ebac a world-

class understanding of washing machine technology and manufacture.

The new models, which are the first new washing machines to be manufactured in Britain for more than twenty years, have a revolutionary dual fill, as an alternative to traditional cold fill machines. This offers the benefit of shorter wash times and lower energy bills.

Ebac's washing machines join an established stable of electrical goods. It is Europe's leading manufacturer of bottled watercoolers and domestic dehumidifiers and with the recent acquisition of the Norfrost brand, it is also

growing sales in the laundry and refrigeration sectors.

David Rowland of Bargain Buys said: "We are delighted to offer our customers a British-made product from our heartland. Bargain Buys' customers in the Newton Aycliffe area will be delighted to know that they have first choice and that it comes with the revolutionary dual fill."

Tony Hird, business development manager at Ebac, said: "We are delighted with the support we have received from Bargain Buys, and indeed all of our retail partners in the North East. There seems to be a real appetite for a washing machine which is made right here in the North East and by supporting this product we are also supporting the local economy through jobs and services."

Ebac chairman John Elliott added: "If we are to resolve the UK's economic problems, we need to start making things again and this is a huge step in the right direction.

"During my 50 years in manufacturing, the trend has been for jobs to be lost in the North East. It is great to have this chance to bring sustainable jobs to the region. "It's good for Ebac, it's good for the North East and it's good for the country."

St. Clare's Christmas Services in Care Homes



Pam Lovelass and Rev Deborah Loughran at Bethany Nursing Home with Councillor Mike Dixon presenting Christmas gifts, to Sharon from Bethany Day Care and Mary from the Home.

The Parish of Great Aycliffe have been real busy going around all Care and Nursing Homes on the town. The residents and staff really enjoyed our visits and joined us singing carols, prayers and readings. Those who wished took Holy Communion.

It is always a joy and a pleasure visiting our care homes especially at this time of year when some residents get no one visiting them. The Parish would like to thank Councillor Mike Dixon for his kindness in donating some of his yearly budget to buy all of our homes Christmas presents. Bless you Mike. Pam Lovelass APA.



For more information visit www.teessidefamily.com
Ceilidh Night
 Saturday 28th January 2017
 7.30pm Start • PLUS buffet and raffle



The hedgehog's skin ceilidh band
 Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre sports hall
In support of Nicola Maul
 No dancing experience necessary! • £12.50 per person

CONTACT: Hazel: huzelinn_boothwick@yahoo.co.uk • Sarah: sarahgrmyers@sky.com

Students Donate Hampers



Students at Woodham Academy got in to the Christmas spirit last week by donating hampers to local elderly residents and families in need. Each tutor group took part in a hamper competition bringing in food and gifts from home to create their own hampers. The hampers were all decorated beautifully and

full of a variety of cupboard essentials including tins of soup, pasta, tea, coffee, tuna and chocolates, with some even adding teddies, toys, DVD's and games for families. The long-standing Woodham tradition of donating hampers and hand delivering them to those in the community is always well received by

residents. This year students created over 40 hampers. Many were delivered by the students who went out with staff to visit addresses around the town. The remaining hampers were taken to the Foodbank at St Clare's Church. Tutor groups with the best decorated hampers received prizes at the end of term.



Do you need a school or nursery place which can also offer wrap-round care every week of the year?

Woodham Burn offers educational places from 2-11 years, and out-of-school facilities from 7.45am - 6pm every day, including school holidays.

10% off the cost of childcare offered to children attending Woodham Burn Primary School.

Tel 01325 300230
 for more details or email r.rowe100@durhamlearning.net

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State of the art equipment supplied by 

Great Services Available from Expanding Furniture Scheme

County Durham Furniture Help Scheme founded in Aycliffe and now based on Chilton Industrial Estate is growing its range of NEW and re-used furniture and white goods. They have also developed and implemented a painting and decorating service with a multi-disciplined team of handy people.

Services offered include general works, electrical installations of appliances, basic electrical work, Master Locksmith, garden clearing, fence repairing, rubbish clearance and much more.

The refurbishment work carried out by Durham County Council on their warehouse and is now complete. This will improve the outlook, and customer experience.

A total transformation of the exterior and a significant impact on light levels also included an element of insulation plus increased security and overall improvement of appearance.

Many thanks to the Council teams involved who worked hard CDFHS were able to update friends, partners, customers, supporters and the many businesses, training providers and other They used the day to thank all on behalf of the Staff and Board of Trustees of the CDFHS.

CEO Steve Mitton (from Aycliffe) said: "My team and I are immensely proud of what has been achieved in recent times and we have grown in stature and confidence. Over the year we have been involved with National Lottery – Big Potential Programme, which joined us up with Numbers for Good.

"We are really thrilled with an outcome involving Social Investment from Northstar Ventures of £750,000. This is to buy our own property following development of our Estates Strategy at CDFHS led by Trustee Julian Capell."

We identified premises and made a sound offer and were about to embark on necessary structural repairs. We were then treated to a piece of shameful treatment and was "gazumped".

The property owner advised us he wanted a further £50,000. This being a particular brand of funding and restricted his terms could not be agreed, so we were unceremoniously dumped. However in 2017 CDFHS will work further with property professionals to identify and procure suitable premises in County Durham".

CDFHS has also introduced a customer loyalty scheme, one of the first in the North East. and will be giving discounts in future. In 2017 they will be making more products available and laying They have added "entry level" brand new washing machines, cookers, fridge freezers and other electrical items to the range. All items are competitively priced, the majority coming with a

two year warranty and make excellent value for money. CDFHS at Chilton will be open as usual weekdays 9.00am to 4.00pm. They may occasionally close for essential works but on Saturdays only.

To arrange collections of unwanted or surplus furniture and white goods free of charge or to confirm any of our services sales or promotions please call 01388 721509.



Christmas Tree Collection Service



A popular service helping local people with the after Christmas clean-up will return to Newton Aycliffe this January. On Saturday 7th January teams from Darlington Rotary Club hope to collect over one thousand discarded trees from local households in return for a suggested donation of £5, which goes to support St Teresa's Hospice and other Rotary charities.

"We have fleet of vans and a 50 strong army of volunteers on standby to beat last year's record 1000 trees collected, raising over £5500 for the hospice," said Rotary organiser David Hayward.

Hospice Director Jane Bradshaw added: "The Christmas Tree Collection Service is a fantastic opportunity for everyone in the area. By collecting trees straight from people's homes, our volunteers make the Christmas clean-up so much easier, and it gives everyone a chance to help St Teresa's Hospice and other Rotary charities." The service is available to people living across Darlington, Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding area. To book your Christmas tree for collection, visit www.darlingtonhospice.org.uk or call 01325 254321.

Nursery Children Carol Singing



The town's Deputy Mayor Michael Dalton and his mother Mary were among the many who enjoyed the carols sung by the House of Eden Nursery Children based at the Pioneering Care Centre last week.

The children sang beautifully and were all dressed up for the occasion. The audience enjoyed it immensely and showed their appreciation with loud applause.



EIGHT IN COURT FOR DROPPING LITTER

Eight people have been ordered to pay hundreds of pounds between them after being taken to court for dropping litter. Six women and two men from County Durham were each handed fines having been prosecuted by Durham County Council for littering.

The eight had dropped litter at locations throughout the county, including Bishop Auckland town centre and Beveridge Way in Newton Aycliffe, from August 2016.

Five of the defendants were found guilty in their absence at Darlington Magistrates Court on Monday, and fined £80 with £130 costs and £30 victim surcharge.

Two defendants pleaded guilty by post and were given £60 fines, £30 victim surcharges and £60 costs each. One defendant attended court and pleaded guilty.

Another was fined £80 and ordered to pay a £30 victim surcharge and £60 in costs.

Ian Hoult, Durham County Council's neighbourhood protection manager, said: "While the vast majority of people use bins or take their litter home with them, there are a small number who think it is acceptable to drop rubbish. Eight people now find themselves poorer and with criminal records. I hope these court cases send out a message that we will not tolerate littering."

To find out what Durham County Council is doing to tackle litter, visit www.durham.gov.uk/litter

DO YOU NEED A POP UP BANNER TO PROMOTE YOUR CLUB OR ORGANISATION?

Prices from £60.00
Contact: Newton Press
01325 300212



Funding Opportunities

Funding for Estranged Young People (UK)

Buttle UK offers funding to help address the needs of estranged young people (aged 16-20) who have found themselves in difficult situations because their relationships with their family have broken down. Often as a result of having nowhere else to turn, these young people try to live independently and end up homeless and Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).

Buttle UK provides funding to enable them to fully access and participate in education, employment or training opportunities. Buttle also helps them to settle in secure accommodation by contributing to setting up home costs. Through this funding, it is now offering a more personalised package of support created in collaboration with the young person and their support worker. The "enhanced" level of grant award, with a maximum allocation of £2,000 per case, will focus on three key areas of need:

- Support in accessing education, employment and training
- Safe and comfortable accommodation
- Maintaining positive emotional and physical wellbeing.

To apply the young person and their support worker should start by discussing what the young person's education, employment or training goals are and create a plan of how they will get there and what they will need to achieve these goals. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

<http://www.buttleuk.org/pages/support-for-young-people.html>

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),

YOUNGS/POST OFFICE (Town Centre)

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



Please wrap up and be warm!

If you are feeling lonely after Christmas I would like to invite you to join either of my two clubs that welcome people who are lonely or would like to meet and make friends socialise and go places.

"New Friends New Places"

meet every Tuesday at 1.30pm in the Navy Club, Burnhill Way

"New Pathways Together"

meet every Tuesday and Thursday morning at Western Area Community Centre. Enjoy a cooked meal and visit places of interest. We welcome people with long term illnesses Dementia, M.S., Cancer, etc. We can give you help and advice and initially provide transport to collect you.

Ring 01325 308094 / 07967 901477

I am hand delivering these blankets that I have had knitted, if I can find enough elderly people to deliver them to, especially in the Greenfield Middridge Ward.

Dorothy Bowman 07967 901477

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, Languard, 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
Cumby, 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, Forresters, 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, Waskerley, 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

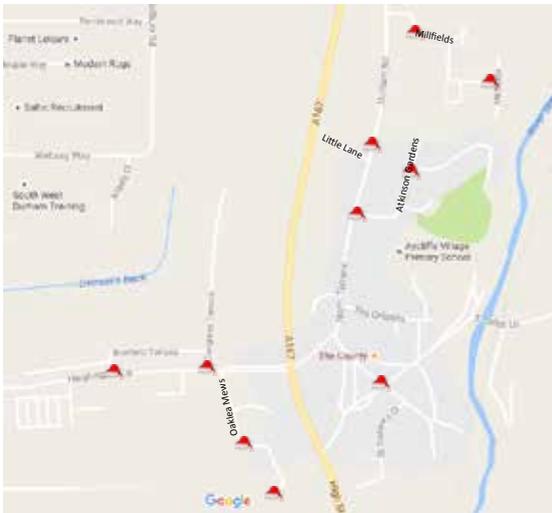
Santa Christmas Eve Tours of Newton Aycliffe

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.

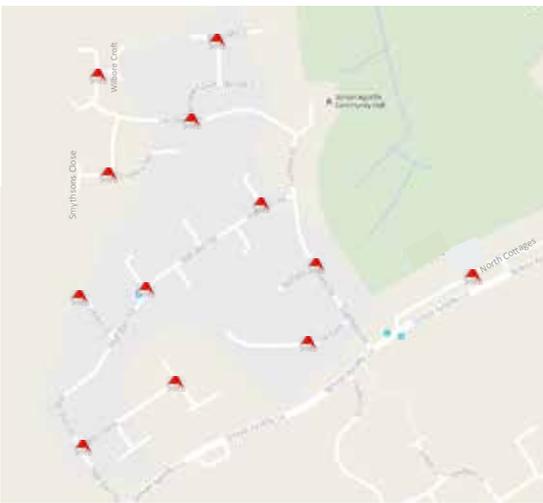


Listen out for my bells, I may be a little late

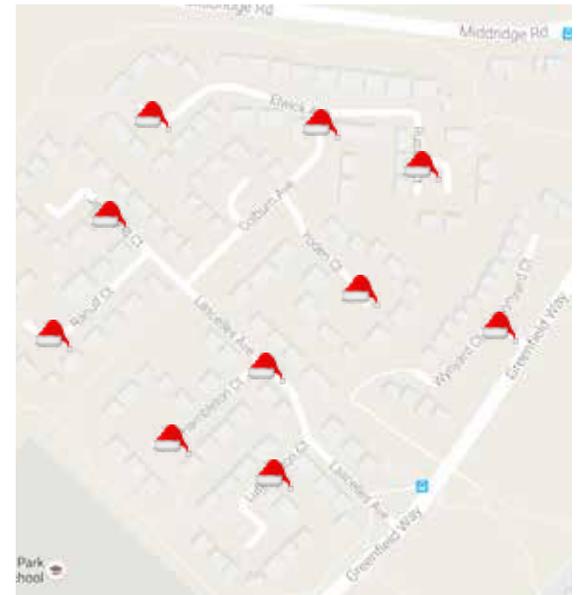
Aycliffe Village



School Aycliffe



Byerley Park



Greenfield and The Chase



Cobblers Hall



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**

Sell Out Charity Concert



Thanks to everyone who attended the charity music event at The Phoenix Club on Friday 16th December. The night was a huge success and raised over £870 for Kieren Maxwell's chosen charity: The Ewing's Sarcoma Research Trust. A special thanks to Micky Richards, The Byrons and Metis for providing excellent entertainment and to all the local business who kindly donated raffle prizes. Apologies to those who we had to turn away at the door but the place was jam packed full.

NEW FIRE APPLIANCES READY FOR ACTION

Three new fire appliances have joined County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue (CDDFRS) Service's fleet in time for Christmas. The vehicles are currently under-going checks before being posted to Seaham, Newton Aycliffe and High Handenhold Fire Stations. On Thursday 15 December Councillor John Robinson, Fire Authority member champion for assets, visited the CDDFRS training centre in Belmont, County Durham, to view the energy efficient vehicles and find out more about their design and technology. Improvements include: The removal of electric generators and the provision of new battery powered cutting tools;



Left to right: Neil Storey, Andy Hopkinson, Councillor John Robinson and Chris Williams

Custom fitted locker layouts to accommodate new working at height equipment and improve grouping of equipment; High definition CCTV system on the appliances to provide fully digital images; Latest specification thermal imaging cameras; Ergonomic cab design; and High capacity 22 mm firefighting hose reels. Area manager for CDDFRS, Andy Hopkinson, said: "Our operational staff have been directly involved in the specification of each vehicle. The procurement of the new appliances has been part of a collaboration with North and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Services; this has

allowed us to save money on procurement costs as well as pool the knowledge of three fire and rescue services to ensure the best design." Councillor John Robinson said: "These new appliances are part of carefully planned and budgeted for improvements to the CDDFRS fleet. Introducing the latest equipment bolsters the frontline and ensures that CDDFRS can continue to provide a fast, efficient response to protect communities across County Durham and Darlington." The three Volvo FL15 chassis were purchased by CDDFRS and the body of each fire appliance was manufactured by Emergency One in Scotland.

Council Xmas & New Year Opening Times

Customer Access Points and most other council buildings in County Durham will be closed over the Christmas and New Year holidays. They will close at 4.30pm on Friday, 23 December and reopen at 8.30am on Tuesday, 3 January 2017. In the event of an emergency, residents can still contact the council on 03000 260 000 or use the 24/7 automated payments line on 0300 456 2771. Online services will still be accessible over the festive period but requests will not be processed until council offices reopen on Tuesday, 3 January. Leisure centres will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Tuesday, 27 December, New Year's Day and Monday, 2 January. They will also close early at 4pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Library opening times vary. Visitors are advised to contact their local library or visit the council's website to check times. Day centres for adults will be closed on Bank Holidays, including Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Children's centres, meanwhile, will close or have restricted opening times over the Christmas period. Users are advised to contact their local centre or One Point hub to check whether it is open. Register offices will be closed on all Bank Holidays - Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Tuesday, 27 December, New Year's Day and Monday, 2 January. They will close at 12.45pm on Christmas

Eve and New Year's Eve. Offices in Bishop Auckland, Barnard Castle, Chester-le-Street and Aycliffe Heads, in Durham, will be open between Christmas and New Year but will operate on an appointments basis only. To make an appointment, call 03000 266 000. Sevenhills research centre, in Spennymoor, will close at 3pm on Thursday, 22 December and reopen at 10am on Tuesday, 3 January. Durham County Record Office has now closed for collections management and will reopen at 8.45am on Tuesday, 3 January. The Park and Ride service will not operate during any of the bank holidays, including Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. It will operate as normal, from 7am to 7pm, on all other days. Bin collections will take place as normal, with residents asked to make sure their rubbish and recycling bins are placed at the kerbside by 7am on the usual collection day. Residents can arrange to have their real Christmas tree collected for free in the New Year by visiting www.durham.gov.uk before Sunday, 8 January. Alternatively, call 03000 261 000 during normal office hours. Visit www.durham.gov.uk/festive for more information and updates on Durham County Council services during the festive period. Residents can also keep up-to-date with any changes to council services by following @durhamcouncil on twitter or /durhamcouncil on Facebook

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CLASSIFICATION

Buy Out PFI Contracts

Dear Sir,
I'm writing in response to Miss K Beetham in the last edition of the Newton News (dated 9th December).
May I remind Miss Beetham even though Tony Blair is no longer Labour leader, his damaging legacy is still very much alive today in the form of uncontrolled immigration and the effects are being seen in the state of our NHS, housing sector and welfare. Whilst there will always be a need for foreign workers in the UK we do need to import more skilled workers and workers not reliant upon in-work benefits such as working tax credits, child tax credits.
On the subject of the NHS, this new forward looking, honest and fair 'New Labour' marked the start of the transition of the NHS from a public sector provider to include the private sector under the guise of choice and competition and it was the Labour Party which paved the way for privatisation in the form of PFI (Private Finance Initiative). Between 1997 - 2010 the Labour Government committed to more than 100 PFI contracts worth more than £79bn and through these contracts the government are committed to paying back £267bn over the life time of the contracts, saddling the UK taxpayer with huge debt owing to Labour misrule.
And it is Labour health spokesmen that want to charge people to see their GP - not UKIPs. In March 2014, Lord Warner, Labour's former Minister of State at the Department of Health, said that NHS users should pay £10 a month and £20 for every night in hospital. In August 2014, the Labour peer Lord Winston said that patients should be charged £200 to see their GPs so that

they would 'learn to appreciate the NHS'.
UKIPs policy on the NHS at the last General Election and is still current policy to keep the NHS free at the point of delivery and invest a further £3bn, UKIP will ensure that visitors and migrants have approved private health insurance as a condition of entry to the UK, saving the NHS £2bn a year. UKIP will also stop further use of PFI in the NHS and encourage local authorities to buy out their PFI contracts early.
John Grant, UKIP Sedgfield

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& Newton News

FIND A DOG a home

Cheeky Looking Pooch
Seeks his Forever Home



Digger is a five-year-old Terrier Cross who is the quintessential cheeky chappy. He likes to keep busy and has lots of energy, so is looking for an active family who can give him plenty of exercise. Digger is a huge hit with all of the staff at Dogs Trust Darlington so his canine carers are desperate to find Digger the 'pawfect' home.

Digger would benefit from an adult only home with experienced owners who can continue with his training. He can be shy at first but you will definitely think he is the bee's knees. Digger can get very excited when playing so would be best suited to a relaxing adult only home with no other pets.

If you think Digger 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. Find out more about Digger or any of the dogs at the centre, go to www.dogstrust.org.uk or call 0300 303 0292.

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Out of School Club Helps Great North Air Ambulance



During the summer holidays the children and staff at Woodham Burn Out of School Club collected items for the great North Air Ambulance. The club decided to carry on with the collections throughout the next half term.

We were lucky enough to have a visit from Harriet, Jay (a Great North Air Ambulance Pilot) and Miles the mascot from The Great North Air Ambulance service. They explained to the children about the work they do in and around the North of England.

All of the children were very excited to try on the pilot's helmet and flying suit! Harriet explained that they are a registered charity and the work they carry out is totally dependent on donations from the public. The cost of this vital service totals over four and a half million pounds a year to enable it to run, so our support is greatly appreciated.

We had a fantastic response, a huge thank you to everyone who participated. Also a special thank you to the GNAATeam for taking the time to visit us. If you would like more information about the Woodham Burn Out of School Club please contact 01325 300080.

Smart Devices for Smarter & More Efficient Cops

FRONT-LINE officers are taking advantage of hand-held technology, as the first phase of a mobile data project comes to an end. The roll-out of electronic tablets aims to cut down on the amount of paperwork incurred by front-line officers, enabling them to be more mobile and visible in the community.

Around 500 devices have now been distributed to Durham Constabulary officers, with the next phase of the project due to start early in the new year. Ron Hogg, Durham's Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner, monitors productivity and value for money within the force, in his role of holding the Chief Constable to account. Ron said: "In a time of austerity and the long-term impact affecting police budgets, it is important that all forces work in innovative ways to meet the demands on our services.

"The use of mobile devices has already seen a number of benefits which have improved performance across the force area. Crimes can be logged more quickly so that officers can spend less time doing paperwork. Ultimately this means that officers can provide a better quality of service, spend extra time with the victim and use their time more efficiently by serving the public."

Durham Constabulary was the only force in the country to be graded as Outstanding in all three areas of the Efficiency inspection, by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in October this year.

Inspector Mick Button, who lead on the project from the outset, said: "This initial phase has seen a number of benefits including less duplication, and an improved use of mobile working right at the heart of the community, without the ongoing need for officers to travel back to stations to write up their reports.

"An evaluation report will be completed early in the new year. This will shape how the next phase of the project will be rolled-out over the coming months."

Ron recently launched his Police, Crime and Victims' Plan 2016-21 in November. The Plan sets the direction for the Chief Constable over the next four years, and is underpinned by a number

of Aims, Objectives and Outcomes. Innovation is one of the Approaches to policing set out in the plan. More information about Ron's Plan can be found at: www.durham-pcc.gov.uk.

Let's Get Cooking!



Students from Woodham Academy's Let's Get Cooking group recently hosted an evening of fine food and festivities for parents and guests.

Let's Get Cooking is the country's largest network of healthy cooking clubs for children and their families. When children eat better, they do better. The initiative, set up by Children's Food trust in 2007, was developed to inspire children to learn to cook and enjoy good food, giving them the confidence and skills they

need to get hands-on in the kitchen and make healthier food choices throughout their lives.

The group consists of 12 students from a variety of year groups across the school. Each week the students meet after school in the kitchens with School Chef, Mrs Vipond. Mrs Vipond teaches the students how to cook, following a range of recipes and suggestions from the students. Since September the students have a range of handmade meals including: pizzas, burgers and bread buns, soups, cakes and pasta dishes.

The Christmas meal evening was an opportunity for parents and guests to attend to taste the delights cooked by the students. As well as a four course meal, which included; carrot and coriander soup with a fresh bread roll, chicken paupiette and Christmas pudding with vanilla sauce, students also made handmade chocolates. There was even a vegetarian option of mushroom stroganoff and for those that weren't keen on Christmas pudding; there was strawberry and vanilla cheesecake.

Almost 40 people attended on the night with many offering a donation to the group because of the standard of their meal. The group worked extremely hard all evening cooking, presenting the meals, serving the food and also clearing away and attending to their guests.

Rotary Club Xmas Collection



The Rotary Club Santa and musical sleigh toured the streets of Aycliffe as usual this year, raising cash to provide Christmas Hampers for needy families. A different team was out each night over two weeks in addition to collecting in Tesco.

The members wish to thank all those who donated and also the volunteers, especially the Icceton and Jones' families from J & C Coaches who turned out most nights to help. The club also recognises the support of Tesco's, Mr. Little and Gary Quickfall of Samwon.



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Council Landlord Accreditation Scheme Racks up Century

A scheme to support landlords and protect tenants across County Durham has reached a new landmark. Durham County Council's Landlord Accreditation Scheme has welcomed its 100th member, Paul McFarling, bringing the total number of properties covered by the scheme to well over 2,000 across the county. The project sees landlords working with the council to ensure they offer quality

accommodation and gives tenants peace of mind that their landlord is registered with the local authority. Paul said: "Being accredited means that people looking to rent can see that I'm a reputable landlord who offers good quality, well managed accommodation. There are so many programmes on television these days showing rogue landlords using dodgy practices that it's a brilliant and easy way to reassure

people looking to rent. "By working with the council I also get a range of support and advice, like being kept up to date with all of the latest changes to legislation, so it's something I'd definitely recommend all landlords consider joining." Landlords who sign up to the voluntary scheme agree to work in line with a code of practice which ensures that tenants can rent with confidence. In return their properties are advertised on the Durham Key Options website - the online portal

for social housing - giving them access to a waiting list of potential tenants. They also get access to a tenancy referencing service, receive updates on changes in landlord legislation and can apply to the council's empty property loan scheme, which has so far provided nearly £1.5 million to bring long-term empty homes back into use across the county. Cllr Eddie Tomlinson, Cabinet member said: "Our Landlord Accreditation Scheme is making a real difference in County

Durham and we're delighted to welcome Paul as our 100th member. "It provides help and support to ensure landlords can offer quality homes but it also gives tenants peace of mind, knowing they're renting from someone who adheres to a code of practice enforced by the council. "With landlords also getting access to our empty homes loan scheme it's helping to bring hundreds of long term empty properties back into use, improving housing and entire communities across the county."

Prospective tenants can rent with confidence knowing that the council inspects the properties on offer, that their tenancy is protected by a written agreement and that they may qualify for a deposit guarantee scheme. Landlords can find out more about the scheme and how to sign up by visiting www.durham.gov.uk/landlordaccreditation Tenants looking for accredited landlords can find properties at: www.durhamkeyoptions.co.uk.

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LABOUR VOTERS SUPPORTED UKIP

Dear Sir,
In a recent issue Cllr. John D. Clare 'rubbed' the UKIP manifesto as lacking in strategy as how to achieve its aims. This is the same manifesto written and costed for the last General Election which attracted 4m votes (and many ex. Labour voters). This, despite the Conservative Party having adopted the main plank of the UKIP manifesto, the EU Referendum.. Subsequently, the majority of voters backed the UKIP proposal to LEAVE the EU.

Get used to it Cllr. Clare, many Labour voters voted alongside UKIP supporters for Leave. They clearly preferred this UKIP offer! I would love to invite readers to compare the UKIP manifesto with Labour's manifesto. However, every time a member of Labour's shadow cabinet is asked about their policies we are told they are still being discussed! As I understand it, Corbyn wants:

- Unilateral Nuclear Disarmament, regardless of the effects on our safety or jobs!
- Re-nationalisation of the Railways. It has been tried before and failed. Just as nationalisation of the Steel Industry failed.
- To borrow and spend an additional £500 Billion. This is 'Old Labour' and then 'New Labour' with knobs-on! Labour are so bad on the national economy they blame the banks.

It ill behoves Cllr. Clare to cast aspersions on UKIP's stance on worker's rights or local government. His Labour-controlled Durham County Council's record to date is:-

- Privatised care home provision. This was pre-austerity! One Councillor said they had to do it as each place in a DCC care home cost more than three times the cost in a private care home (and the Private provider was still making a profit)! Gross inefficiency!

- One of the poorest outcomes in the country for numeracy and literacy among primary school leavers. The Cabinet Member for Education should resign!

- Over-paying Teaching Assistants and then trying to renew their Contracts on lower salaries. Note: When the TAs went on strike, some schools could not function without them. Have DCC abused the role of TAs and are employing them instead of properly qualified teachers? Those responsible should resign! Is this how Labour look after worker's rights?

- We now pay twice for the maintenance of the A167 road lighting! Once to DCC and once to the Town Council. Cllr. Clare attended a GARA meeting where Labour Councillors were begging the public to complain the DCC Labour Cabinet! Labour duplicity and a lack of democratic control of the Cabinet!

- The Durham Cricket Club scandal. Despite imposing the full effects of austerity on the local population DCC managed to find £3.74m to lend to the struggling Durham County Cricket Club. When the club continued to struggle DCC agreed with the other main lender (the ECB) to transfer the loan into shares in a new "Community Interest Company". However, the ECB appear not to want the new company to survive. They relegated the Cricket team from top flight cricket and imposed a 48 point penalty in the second flight. Also, the Club will only be viable if Test Matches are staged at Chester-le-Street. Have DCC got any assurances from the ECB about future Test Matches? Not according to the

Club. Cllr. Clare to cast aspersions on UKIP's stance on worker's rights or local government. His Labour-controlled Durham County Council's record to date is:-

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Northern Echo sports reporter. He thinks that the ECB want to establish 8 solvent Cricketing Franchises. Unfortunately, Durham will be No. 9 and the least solvent. Clueless! Is this one for the Local Authorities' Ombudsman?

- Allowed the Brown Labour Government to close local Post Offices. No opposition from our local Labour Council or our MP!

Labour established the undemocratic Cabinet System in Durham County Council. I would suggest that when the country voted for Brexit they voted for a UKIP proposal to take back control from the undemocratic EU. It will not be long before these same voters will want proper democratic accountability at local level too.

Alastair P.G. Welsh

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XCEL CHRISTMAS SHOW SUCCESS

Thanks to everyone who came to this year's 'Breaking News' Christmas production at Xcel Church on Sunday. In front of over 700 people, the evening was an incredible success, with the Christmas story being told as a 'live' news report from Bethlehem. Good fun, a script full of humour, amazing singing with the Xcel and MAD Choirs together, a really great way to properly start the Christmas season.

As part of the evening a collection was taken for the crisis currently occurring in Aleppo, Syria and we would like to give a huge thank you to everyone who gave and contributed. A total of over £1300 was given and Xcel have made sure that every penny given goes to help all those caught up in the events there. We would also love to take this opportunity to say Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Why not come and join us in 2017.



Raffle Winners ALLSORTS DRAW

The raffle was drawn recently for the Christmas fruit and veg hamper sold at the Thames Centre Greengrocers. The winner was Leanne Cooper and the winner of the sweetie hamper was Ken Stevenson. Fundraiser to save whales, Bethany Howe, sends a big thank you to everyone that purchased tickets.

Allsorts Charity Shop Christmas Hamper Raffle winner was Number 381. £123 was raised towards a new year donation to the North Air ambulance. Thanks to Shirley Bennett who donated the hamper, and everyone who bought tickets. The charity shop at St. Clare's closes from 24th December until 12th January.

STAR RADIO

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Frequency: 102-107FM

Friday 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 - Dancing Through The Decades
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Saturday 24th December

0600-0800 - John Clayton
0800-1200 - Michael Weadock with "The Mystery Years"
1200-1600 - Craig Andrews
1600-1800 - Live From Lapland with Santa
1800-0000 - Dancing Through The Decades

Sunday 25th December

0600-0700 - Easy Like Sunday Morning
0700-1000 - Wes's Christmas Extravaganza
1000-1400 - Craig Andrews
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1900 - Michael Weadock
1900-2200 - Non-Stop Star Radio
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Monday 26th to Tuesday 27th December

0800-1200 - Star Radio Late Breakfast Michael Weadock
1200-1600 - Craig Andrews
1600-2000 - Star Radio Drive
2000-2200 - Non Stop Star
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Wednesday 28th to Thursday 29th December

0800-1200 - Star Radio Late Breakfast with Wes Stakes
1200-1600 - Craig Andrews
1600-2000 - Star Radio Drive with Dave Sherwood
2000-2200 - Non Stop Star
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Friday 30th December

0800-1200 - Star Radio Late Breakfast with Wes Stakes
1200-1600 - Craig Andrews
1600-2000 - Star Radio Drive with Dave Sherwood
2000-2200 - Non Stop Star
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Saturday 31st December

0600-0900 - John Clayton
0900-1400 - Michael Weadock with "The Mystery Years"
1400-1500 - Everything 80's
1500-1800 - Craig Andrews
1800-0200 - New Years Eve Party

Sunday 1st January

0600-0800 - Easy Like Sunday Morning
0800-1200 - Dave Sherwood's New Year Wake Up Call
1200-1600 - Craig Andrews
1600-2000 - John Clayton
2000-2200 - Non-Stop Star Radio
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Monday 2nd January

0800-1200 - Star Radio Late Breakfast Michael Weadock
1200-1600 - Wes Stakes
1600-2000 - Star Radio Drive with Craig Andrews
2000-2200 - Non Stop Star
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

Wednesday 3rd to Thursday 4th January

0600-1000 - Star Radio Breakfast with Wes Stakes
1000-1400 - Craig Andrews
1400-1600 - John Clayton with Everything 80's
1600-2000 - Star Radio Drive with Emil Franchi
2000-2200 - Non Stop Star
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

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Christmas Fair at Tesco's



Tesco held an outdoor Fair in the car park last week with fundraising stalls, refreshments, children's rides, live reindeer and Santa Claus. It all added to the festive atmosphere as customers went about their Christmas shopping.

For Sale



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"ALL SORTS" Charity Shop at the side of St. Clare's Church is open 10am to 1pm every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. On sale is a huge selection of bric-a-brac, toys, household goods, jewellery, electrical goods . . . the list is endless. All items are perfect and at low prices. All money raised will continue to be given to good causes. All Sorts is a charitable project run and funded solely by Godfrey Bennett - Closed from 24th December - reopen Thursday 12th January.

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Poundworld Collection Helps Marie Curie Funds

Marie Curie Newton Aycliffe Fundraising Group would like to thank Poundworld and all their customers, for the kind donations gratefully received during recent collection days. A total of £278.22 was raised which will continue to assist Marie Curie Nurses in providing free care to patients with terminal illnesses. A spokesperson for the NAFG stated the generosity of residents at this time of year is especially well received. The group would like to wish a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the townspeople of Newton Aycliffe.

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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

Birthday Remembrance

NOEL NEEDHAM 24th December. Birthday memories are lovingly kept of one we loved and will never forget. Love, Sheila and families xx

Christmas Wishes

Seasonal Greetings to all our many friends, old and new. From Godfrey and Shirley Bennett

In Memoriam

NORA HUNT 21st December 2015 and **PETER HUNT** 10th December 2000. Never forgotten, still loved and missed and forever in our hearts. From Denise, Peter, Paul, Cathleen, Ann and the many Grandchildren

BERNIE BRAMLEY. 1947-2014. 28th December. Partings come and hearts are broken. Loved ones go with words unspoken. Deep in my heart there's a memory kept for a Husband and I will never forget. Sadly missed, your Wife Edna xxx

SANDRA LOGAN 11th March 1946 to 24th December 2015. A special person, a special face. Someone we loved and can never replace. Never selfish, always kind, those the memories you left behind. A million times we've missed you, a million times we have cried. If love could have saved you, you would never have died. We will raise a glass to you Mam on Christmas Eve. Love always, Julie, Owen, Gabrielle, Sallyann, David, Leigh and Harvey

JAMES BERNARD McKAY 17/2/1929 - 23/12/2006. In loving memory of a Husband, Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. It's been 10 years but only seems like yesterday. When we had to say good bye. You are missed by us all. Your loving Wife Heather and family xxx

SANDRA LOGAN 11/3/1946 to 24/12/2015. A special smile, a special face, in our hearts a special place. Memories are a gift to treasure, ours of you will last forever. A much loved Sister and Auntie, Ann and Chris, Shane, Amanda, Courtney, Angel, Jay and Elijah

DOREEN McCUE 30-12-2011. Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure, you are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure. Five years and still sorely missed by Jimmy, Stewart, Marie, Sharon and all the Grandchildren xxxx

Sylvia Pedelty



20th December 2015
A more genuinely caring and loving person you could not meet; who always gave more than she took. Sadly missed and always loved. From your Son David xxxx

Phillip Leadbitter



28th December 2014
We miss you every day, you went too soon. Love you always. Dad, Craig, Dawn, Margaret, Linda, Rodney, Pat and all the Leadbitter family

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Congratulations

Cilla & Reuben Cox

Diamond Anniversary
22nd December 1956
Congratulations on 60 Years of Happiness Together!!
Love Emma, Steven, Ella and all of your Family! xXx

Tomas Lloyd



Happy 14th Birthday
27th December 2016
Lots of love, Mam, Jasmeen, Shawn, Gran, Calvin, Shaun, Kurt, Aunts, Uncles and Cousins xxxxx



HAPPY 60th Wedding Anniversary to Reuben and Cilla Cox. Happy Anniversary. Lots of love, Kevin and Leigh
LUCY ANNE BARRON 30th December. Happy 13th birthday to my beautiful Daughter, Lucy - a teenager at last! Love you and Marcus so much. Mam xxxx
LUCY ANNE BARRON 30th December. Happy 13th birthday Lucy. Hope you enjoy your day! Lots of love from Nan and Uncle Keith xxxx

LUCY ANNE BARRON 30th December. Happy 13th birthday Lucy. Hope you enjoy your day! Lots of love from Nan and Uncle Keith xxxx
LUCY ANNE BARRON 30th December. Many happy returns for 30th December Lucy. Hope you have a wonderful day. Lots of love from Aunty Anne, Cousins Daniel and Chloe xxxx

Cloe Livermore



MSc Forensic Psychology
Newcastle University
Well done on gaining your Masters. Good luck in your new position with North Yorkshire Police. Love from Mam, Dad, Curt and Family xxxx

Michael & Debbie Livermore



28th December 1991-2016
To my wonderful Wife on this our Silver Wedding Anniversary. Wonderful, caring, warm, loving, beautiful - words cannot express . . . but enough about me! Have a great day. Love always, xxxx

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 xxxx

PATRICIA FISK and ELEANOR FEATHERSTONE. Still thinking of you both at this time of year. Never forgotten. Love Tony, Susan, Michael and family RIP xxx

DENNIS CHENTRENS Another Christmas without you Dad. You are never more than a thought away. Loved and remembered every day. From your loving Daughter, Margaret, Doreen and Denise xxx

BARBARA SUTTON & LES SUTTON
Together at Christmas
Memories off all the happy Christmas days you both have give us all are ours to treasure and like your picture in our frames will never leave us all and are still loved. Still missed, but all of us will never forget the love you have given us all. All the family. RIP

Obituary

RICHARD GENT Peacefully on 11th December. Devoted and much loved Husband of Margaret; dearly loved Dad of Anthony and Alison. Funeral to be held on Friday 30th December at 3.00pm at St. Michael's Church, Heighington followed by cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon. No flowers by request.

JOHNSTONE, (nee Icton). Betty of Newton Aycliffe, passed away peacefully on 13th December, aged 87 years. Beloved Wife of Jimmy; much loved Mam of Christine and John and Mother-in-Law of Robin and Julie; cherished Nanna and Great Nanna. Funeral to be held on Friday 23rd December. Friends please meet for a Service at St. Clare's Church at 9.45am.

TUPLIN, Newton Aycliffe. 18th December, suddenly but peacefully at Defoe Court Care Home. Vic, aged 90 years, beloved Husband of the late Lil; much loved Dad, Father-in-Law, Grandad and little Grandad. Funeral Friday 30th December. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Wear Valley Crematorium at 10.00am. No flowers please. Donations in lieu, in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance Service may be given or will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6EN. Tel: 01325 318600

CARRUTHERS, Newton Aycliffe. 17th December, suddenly at home. Bob, aged 79 years. Dearly loved Husband to Mary; loving Dad to Tracy and Joy; a dear Father-in-Law; much loved Granda to Lauren, Gina, Charlotte, Nicky and Dad; proud Great Granda. Funeral on Friday 30th December. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Wear Valley Crematorium at 12noon. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu, in aid of Cancer Research UK, may be given or will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6EN. Tel: 01325 318600

YOUTH FOOTBALL ROUND UP JUNIOR FOOTBALL RESULTS

The final weekend before the Christmas break for all 21 boys and girls teams at Newton Aycliffe Youth FC. First up were the teams playing in the Russel Foster League

U12 girls v Deerness, a short drive to Framwellgate moor to take on the fast improving Deerness. The girls needed to bounce back after last weeks defeat and they got off to a flying start as Hattie opened the scoring after 1 minute but despite their best efforts Aycliffe just didn't get going. In fact Deerness broke twice in the first half but fortunately Faith was on top form. HT 0-1 Aycliffe.

The girls picked up the pace in the 2nd half and started to get in behind Deerness eventually they were rewarded as Alex scored from a tight angle, this was quickly followed by a through ball to Hattie and she gives the keeper no chance for her 2nd. Still Deerness were breaking with pace but Macy, Neve and Emily held firm and kept them from scoring. Another great through ball and Alex scored her second to bring the 3pts home FT 4-0

U13 Hawks 8 v 7 Seaton. The Hawks were at home again in the league this week. After our defeat to them last week in the cup, the boys were looking for a better result. In a high scoring game, the Hawks got off to a flyer with Jayden scoring in the second minute after a great pass from Adam Lowe. Next on the score sheet was Jack with a great pass again from Adam Lowe. Seaton pulled one back, so 2-1 to the Hawks. Dylan then scored three goals in quick succession one of them a

penalty because they couldn't handle his speed. Seaton pulled another one back just before the break. Half time 5-2 to the Hawks.

Second half and Seaton came out fighting. They scored three quick goals to level it at 5-5. Seaton then were awarded a penalty 5-6. The Hawks made some changes and Jack scored again to make it 6-6. After some great end to end football our pressure paid off and Adam Lowe claimed a well deserved goal. Seaton levelled again 7-7 with five minutes to go. 2 mins left and the Hawks got a well deserved win after another great finish by Dylan. Final score 8-7 to the Hawks. This win should take the Hawks to third in the league as they break for Xmas.

Under 7s 2 - 2 Consett AFC Juve

The boys deserved the win based on possession but its goals that win games. Despite scoring twice and the play controlled by Aycliffe, it was Consett who took a share of the pts as they managed to squeeze 2 shots all game and scored with both. Good to see the lads at the xmas break 2nd in the league and if we continue as we are we will finish the season really strongly.

Under 9's 2 v 5 Hetton Napoli. The boys weren't at their best, and were quickly 4-0 down at half time. Second half we started with a bit more pace and pulled a goal back from a long looping shot over their keeper from Oskar. We pushed hard and Will scored our second but it was too little too late and Hetton scored a fifth to claim a good win.

A few changes today but the boys continue to learn every week.

Under 8's 3 v 4 Farrington Detached.

What an excellent game of football with Farrington starting the first half well however the Eagles defended brilliantly with Edwin at the back and Trystan pulling some amazing saves out of the bag. Anna, Will and Adam soon pushed forward with some fantastic passing which found Will in front of goal and with a great finish made it 1-0. Farrington continued to play some good football but a cross from Edwin and a tap in from Adam made it 2-0 going into half time.

Nathan then replaced Anna for the second half. Farrington started quickly and soon

found the back of the net making it 2-1, we continued to pass and put pressure on in an end to end exciting match but despite our best efforts they managed to score another 3 goals leaving us 2-4 down. Adam managed to slip one past their keeper to get his second making the score 3-4 followed by some more shots on goal from the Eagles however it wasn't mean to be. Final score 3-4.

Selection of other scores U13 Eagles 7 v 4 Spraire Lads Boro Rangers 3 v 1 U12's U10 Eagles 1 v 1 Billingham Jnrs Stockton Town 5 v 1 U10 Falcons

If you want more information about our FA Charter Standard Community Club visit the website www.nayfc.com



A variety of teams from Aycliffe Juniors played their last competitive fixtures of 2016 over the weekend and we witnessed some great performances and bizarre moments to end the calendar year.

The Under 9's TJFA league team played against Billingham United and started brightly with Rhys hitting the post and Dom forcing a save. Rhys hit a free kick well but this hit the woodwork again and the score was 0-0 at half time. It was Rhys who hit two equalisers in the second half as Aycliffe went behind 1-0 then 2-1. His first from the penalty spot and the second a free kick, the game ending 2-2. An outstanding performance in the second game secured an 8-2 win and the mornings men of the match were Harvey and Niall.

The Under 11 TJFA league team had a top of the table clash at Marton. They didn't start well and were 2-0 down after ten minutes. They battled back to 2-1 then 3-2. Jacob got both goals to make it an amazing 10 goals in the last 3 games for him. As the equaliser was sought a free kick was conceded against the run of play. A superb strike from this saw Marton score and win the game 4-2. Great effort from a team who have won 22 of the 27 league and cup games in 2016. All their games being played at the highest level of the league structure and have seen the team score 142 goals and concede only 33 throughout the year.

The Under 12's game against Normanby Black got under way and the lads were looking good. However quite bizarrely after 15 minutes the game was abandoned due to two horses taking up residence on the pitch!

The Under 15's had a tough game against Darlington RA Locomotives and ended up on the wrong side of the 4-2 scoreline. The Under 17's played

Billingham Synthonia at Sunnydale. After a slow start the chances started to come, Arron scored then Kieran headed in the second. This was only after Kieran made a bit of a mess of an earlier penalty! The second half was end to end with Ryan making some good saves, a goal being conceded then Sam scoring from the penalty spot in a 3-1 win.

After displacing Guisborough from the top of the league with their win last week the Under 23's travelled to face the new league leaders Peterlee Hereford. It was a funny affair, after going a goal down Slatcher equalised from the penalty spot. After a few questionable decisions the ref felt unable to continue with the game. They did eventually re start and despite a solid defensive effort Peterlee scored, although from an off side

looking position, to win the game 2-1. Patrick Howe was chosen as the man of the match.

All at NAJFC would like to wish our players, parents, volunteers and supporters a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2017.

GOOD WIN FOR AYCLIFFE F.C.'s NEW MANAGERS & TEAM

Deano Browne and Danny Mellanby's reign as Team Managers at Aycliffe got off to a winning start, with a narrow win against Guisborough.

The visitors got off to flying start, with a goal in the first minute. Alan Harrison failed to control a high ball and Mason McNeill took advantage and put a low shot past new keeper Phil Pentony.

Aycliffe nearly got back straight away when a Josh Gray free-kick was saved by Guisborough keeper James Dawson. On 32 minutes, Aycliffe equalised when new



Jamie Owens on his return to Newton Aycliffe as Captain

Club captain Jamie Owens hit a shot with the outside of his left foot into the far corner of the net past Dawson.

Aycliffe went 2-1 up 3 minutes later when James Marley hit a beauty into the top corner for a goal on his debut. They went further ahead in injury time when Zak Boagey dribbled through and hit a shot which Dawson could only parry into the path of Ben Trotter who side-footed home for 3-1. Half-time 3-1.

On 69 minutes, Guisborough got one back when mix-up in the Aycliffe defence allowed substitute Steve Roberts to slot in at the far post for 3-2. Both sides went for another goal and Dawson made a good save from Corey Nicholson on 85 minutes. There was a double sending off in injury time, when Alan Harrison (2 yellows) and David Onions (straight red) received their marching orders. Danny Mellanby said "it was a great performance from what was a new team, some of whom had only had one training session together. The lads pulled together really well, it was a great result, not just for the team, but also for the Committee, who have endured a tough couple of weeks."

Aycliffe play Shildon on Tuesday 20 December at Moore Lane before a very welcome Christmas break. While many Northern League teams play on Boxing Day Aycliffe don't have another fixture until Tuesday 3 January when they host Brandon in the Durham Challenge Cup.

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