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Week Ending 20th January 2017

# Newton News

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## Aycliffe's Charity Fundraiser Passes £25,000 for Bloodwise

A dedicated fundraiser has vowed to continue to raise money and awareness for cancer charity group Bloodwise, after seeing recent contributions under his #NotOneInch banner exceed £25,000.

Paul McGeary from Newton Aycliffe was 33 when he was struck with Acute Promyelocytic Leukaemia just over two years ago, and despite beating the disease in 2015, he suffered a relapse in July 2016. Throughout the whole ordeal, McGeary busied himself raising funds, and with the help and encouragement of family, friends and strangers alike, efforts in the 24-month period accumulated £24,112.38 prior to Christmas.

McGeary was buoyed just days into 2017 when he received a phone call from Sedgefield Community College – the school where he works as a Maths teacher – to say that staff and pupils had raised almost £1500, meaning the £25k mark was eclipsed, bringing the current total raised to a £25,582.23. "I was aware the school were



Paul McGeary with Head Boy Robbie Till and Head Girl Eleanor James.

raising monies, but I had no idea contributions would reach anywhere near £1500. I almost fell over when I was told of the amount," said Paul. "I couldn't have been much prouder of the efforts of the students and my work colleagues, and it gives me the motivation to not only continue

to raise further funds and awareness, but to also beat this disease a second time and lead a normal life again, including a return to work."

A spokesperson added, "The School supports many nominated charities, but when student representatives were asked who they wished to raise funds for via their annual non-uniform day and Christmas celebrations, they unanimously agreed it should be for Mr McGeary's #NotOneInch campaign.

"Students have followed his story from day one, buying into the message of raising vital funds and awareness for Bloodwise. It is testament to them that their efforts have helped take donations beyond the £25k milestone, and they should be really proud, as we are of them."

As well as raising funds and awareness to support Bloodwise, Paul has recently launched a campaign to get more people signed up to the bone marrow registry, as he himself seeks a donor to further improve his chances of beating Leukaemia. People aged between 16-55 who are deemed to be in good health, can find out more by visiting www.anthonynolan.org and www.dkms.org.uk

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# CRIME-FIGHTING PUPPIES JOIN POLICE

Meet the new brother and sister crime fighting team, Jackson and Becky! The two Labrador puppies have become the latest recruits to a north east police dog unit. The tri-force dog section, which includes Durham Constabulary, Cleveland Police and North Yorkshire Police, welcomed brother and sister Jackson and Becky to join their elite unit of

canine crime fighters. Bred by a serving Durham officer and donated to the unit, the pups were born only ten weeks ago. They are currently being looked after by foster families until they are old enough to begin their formal training. They will join the unit as specialist search dogs sniffing out drugs or explosives. PC Ian Squire, from the tri-force dog unit, commented: "Becky and Jackson are currently with their respective families and have already started informal training. They will be taught basic obedience, socialisation skills and exposed to different environments before being paired with a police dog handler and formally trained." "They are lively little puppies who are enjoying their days exploring their



Jackson

new surroundings, Becky is definitely more boisterous than her brother, I wouldn't let that gorgeous face fool anyone, she is very mischievous!"



Becky

# Dogs Microchipped Free by #BeLikeChip



More than 1,700 dogs have been microchipped free of charge thanks to a campaign led by Durham County Council. As of April last year, all dogs should be microchipped by the time they are eight weeks old. The chips allow details of the animals' owners to be registered on a database, making it easier for people to be reunited with their pets thereby reducing numbers of strays.

Ahead of the legislation coming into force, Durham County Council launched the #BeLikeChip campaign which provided free microchipping and raised awareness of the need for all dogs to be microchipped.

#BeLikeChip saw the council working in partnership with national dog charity Dogs Trust, local charity Stray Aid, Durham Constabulary, Dale and Valley Homes and East Durham Homes, with 1,769 dogs being microchipped. Owners of dogs that already had been microchipped were able to get the chip checked to ensure that their details were up to date in compliance with the new law.

Ian Hoult, Durham County Council's neighbourhood protection manager, said: "More than 1,700 dogs were microchipped free of charge through #BeLikeChip following its launch last March and we'd like to

thank all our partners in the campaign for helping make it such a success.

"We'd also like to remind dog owners that they must have their pets microchipped and their details registered and

kept up to date." Cllr Brian Stephens said: "The importance of responsible dog ownership cannot be underestimated. Getting dogs microchipped enables pets which go missing to be reunited with their owner. This means fewer strays, which incur considerable costs for us as the responsible authority."

#BeLikeChip was backed by County Durham Crufts winners, Devon and her owner Marie Burns. Pet owners who do not get their animals microchipped can be

fined £500. Free microchipping is still available from Stray Aid subject to terms and conditions. Appointments should be made at least a day in advance on 0300 999 4247. Vets also carry out microchipping but may charge.

To find out more about microchipping, visit [www.durham.gov.uk/microchipping](http://www.durham.gov.uk/microchipping) or phone 03000 261 000. Anyone thinking of buying a puppy can also visit [www.durham.gov.uk/buyingapuppy](http://www.durham.gov.uk/buyingapuppy)

## Community Meeting on Waste Management

Vince Crosby Chairman of the Youth & Community Centre is working with the Local Labour Party Branch of Aycliffe North West, along with Councillors John D. Clare, Mike Dixon and Joan Gray, inviting members of the public to a Community Meeting on Thursday 26th January, 7.30-8.15pm at the Navy Club, Burnhill Way, Durham County Council officers will attend to give a presentation and answer questions on the Council's Waste Management Strategy.

## New Club for Aycliffe Senior Citizens

A new weekly club for Senior Citizens starts at The Phoenix Club, Macmillan Road (formerly The British Legion Club), Newton Aycliffe.

The meetings will be held downstairs in the Concert hall which provides disabled access and toilets. The club will be called NEW PATHWAYS NEW FRIENDS 4 SENIOR CITIZENS TOGETHER (for ladies and gentlemen.)

The first meeting is on FRIDAY 28th FEBRUARY 11.00am until 3.00pm every week.

Have a cup of tea with your lunch 2 for £10. A lift is available to the upstairs restaurant. Play board games, dominoes, etc. etc. Bus trips will be arranged, along with Theatre visits plus activities of your choice.

"Come as strangers and Leave as Friends" will be our Aims. And motto.

The No.5 and No. 7 bus and the Town Service bus stops at the town centre almost by the door. Don't be shy give it a try Please. Ring Dorothy on 01325 308094 or 07967 901477 for more details.

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Sam Hauxwell Review: "The blistering set takes in AC/DC, Saxon, Black Sabbath, Iron Maiden, Ozzy, Scorpions, Metallica, Rainbow, Guns 'n' Roses etc. Not always the usual choices but a mixed bag of METAL mayhem!  
What makes Revenant stand out from the rest is the years of experience and musicianship put into play during their live performances. Arguably one of the greatest local bands I've ever seen, they never disappoint their audience which is full of bikers and a loyal following. Revenant have a fantastic set-list, which is even enjoyed by those that wouldn't consider themselves metal fans, I personally wouldn't have ever thought of myself as a metal fan but coming from the Frigate on Saturday night, I found myself singing their set-list long after they'd finished their mind blowing performance. Black Sabbath, Rage Against the Machine and Metallica are just some of the bands they cover songs from, chewing it up into their own sound and spitting it back into the audience's ears as a kick-in-the-balls stamp on their live covers.  
Wherever they go Revenant create an atmosphere like no other, and it's often hard to find a band with music skills as high as theirs, with the ability to get the audience pumped and feeling like they own the world. Revenant own the current local music scene, for no other band has yet managed to reach their live music experience, it's a phenomenon that is only understood by those who have seen them, my only advice is to watch out, for when Revenant change your world".

**Saturday 28th January - "Mugshot"**  
**Sunday 29th January (4pm) - "Oasis Jam"**  
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## Students Invited to "Sparkies" Event

An exciting educational after school session is due to take place at Woodham Academy for primary school students. The school is inviting Year 5 and Year 6 students to take part in the Sparkies Science Club on the 25th January. The sessions, which will run every half term, are designed to educate students in a fun and informal way about all things science. The Woodham Sparkies Science Club, which has been running for a number of years now, engages youngsters in a world of experiments and explosions



as well as exploring topics such as atoms, patterns, volcanoes and astronomy. The first session of the year will look at microbiology. Students will discover how a

reaction to heat causes yeast to rise and make bread. All primary school students are welcome to attend the sessions. Parents are asked to sign their child in at reception and are welcome to stay for the duration or come back at the end. Head of Science, Mr Jenkins, said: 'The Sparkies Science Club is a great opportunity for younger students to come to Woodham and see what a laboratory looks like. We have invested £150,000 in to the science department by refurbishing three science laboratories and purchasing new equipment. Science is fun and we want to demonstrate that during the sessions. The club will take place on the following dates; 25th January, 15th March, 10th May and the 21st June. Sessions will start at 4.30pm and run until 6.00pm.

## LOCAL HOTEL DONATES FURNITURE TO HOSPICE

A donation of furniture from a local hotel was a surprise Christmas gift for the Retail Team at St Teresa's Hospice in December.

The donation was made following an overhaul of furniture at Walworth Castle Hotel, near Darlington. General Manager of the hotel Michael Robinson said: "It is so easy to throw away items these days but if it can be up-cycled and benefit can come of it then why not. The team at St Teresa's make it easy by collecting and then re-distributing through their shops and all for a tremendous cause."

The furniture, including bedside units, drawers, wardrobes, and dressing tables, will be sorted and lovingly restored by



Walworth Castle Hotel General Manager Michael Robinson with some of the donated furniture at St Teresa's Shop, Skinnergate, Darlington.

volunteers, to be sold by St Teresa's Hospice through its popular charity shops.

St Teresa's Hospice now has 11 retail outlets across its catchment area of South Durham and North Yorkshire, including its most recent venture in Thirsk.

It costs £2.2m each year to run the Hospice and to provide vital free care and support to those in need. Donations of goods to be sold via the shops are essential.

Hospice Chief Executive Jane Bradshaw said: "Walworth Castle Hotel has donated some fabulous pieces of furniture, and it is these high quality items that allow us to uphold our excellent reputation with the public. They will generate a substantial amount of income which will help towards the day-to-day running costs of the Hospice, meaning patients will receive care and support when and how they need it."

For more information about

the Hospice shops, ways to make a donation, or the services provided by St Teresa's Hospice, visit [www.darlingtonhospice.org.uk](http://www.darlingtonhospice.org.uk)

## Poppy Appeal at Risk in Aycliffe

The British Legion need volunteers in Newton Aycliffe to run the Poppy Appeal in the town.

The team has stepped down and new people are required to order and distribute poppies, sell poppies in Tesco, count and bank money, make records of sales and complete a small amount of paperwork.

A few hours a week would be great and without this support the Poppy Appeal in at risk in Newton Aycliffe.

If you are interested in helping this vital service please contact Peter Milne on 07825 316289. E-mail: [pmilne@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:pmilne@britishlegion.org.uk)



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## Free Book for Diabetics

Dear Editor, Newspapers and TV programmes are full of articles about getting back in shape after Christmas – eating more healthily and taking more exercise. Many of your readers will have diabetes so this is particularly important for them but they have to manage their medications, diet and exercise all the time to stay well.

We know that this can be difficult, especially in chilly winter weather when salads seem less appetising and we feel we need something more substantial. Our booklet, 'Diabetes – Everyday Eating' will help people to get back on track with their meals and provides inexpensive

menus for breakfast, lunch and evening meals. There are 28 days of menus which help people to know what they can eat, rather than what they can't!

We also have a booklet, 'Diabetes and Exercise' to help people with diabetes. We hope these booklets will make living with diabetes a little easier for people with diabetes and their families. We are happy to send your readers a copy of 'Diabetes – Everyday Eating' and 'Diabetes and Exercise' free of charge. They just need to contact us on 01604 622837, e-mail [jenny@iddinternational.org](mailto:jenny@iddinternational.org) or write to IDDT, PO Box 294, Northampton NN1 4XS Jenny Hirst

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- 15th February - Year 10 and 12 Open Day - 17:00 - 19:30

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# GAMP Board Meeting Report

## (1) URGENT CARE UPDATE

DDES has produced a leaflet giving advice/help on Urgent Care – copies are available at GP Practices. The back page gives clear advice about the kinds of situations where people should call 999, but the rest of the leaflet gives options for less urgent situations.

The 111 operators can also signpost you to a range of NHS services.

There is also an NHS Child Health app you can download to your phone – see: <http://www.necs.nhs.uk/.../09/NHS-LAYCH-ONLINE.compressed-1>

## (2) CRIME PRESENTATION

Insp. Sarah Honeyman delivered a presentation about how people such as plumbers are being trained to look out for signs of Child Sexual Exploitation, Human Trafficking and Stolen Goods when they visit a house. I shared how DCC are delivering a similar (MECC) scheme which encourages home-visitors to look out for health problems (lavin has trained 50+ of their workers). The need for information sharing was emphasised.

## (3) NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Anti-social behaviour is down significantly on last year. Insp. Honeyman reported how police have addressed the PACT Priorities – off-road bikes, speeding, parking outside schools, and hate crime. Work on the recent spate of burglaries – the 2-in-1 burglaries (house and car) and the ‘liquid burglaries’ (where the criminals poured bleach all over) – has shown that they are linked, and a regional issue. It is particularly pleasing how the community has united to watch out for and report people behaving suspiciously.

PACT meeting dates: Horndale (6pm, 1st Feb), West (6pm, 2nd Feb), Woodham (10:30am, 21st Feb), Neville (6:30pm, 21st Feb), Aycliffe Village (11am, 25th Feb).

## (4) PRIORITY VOTING RESULTS

The vote had placed ‘Young People’, ‘Employment’, and ‘Older People’ as the three PACT priorities – as in fact has been the case all over the County! GAMP attracted more votes (768) than any other AAP. The £100,000 GAMP budget will be split equally between the three priorities, with the option to vary if necessary. At least a quarter of the budget must be sent on capital projects. There will be a ‘callout’ process seeking applications (£5,000-£20,000) within the three priority areas; some time was spent finalising the details of this process.

## (5) DEFIBRILLATOR PROJECT

The Board voted to approve David Sutton-Lloyd’s Defibrillator Project. The £20,000 total funding (including public donations of £6,000 and £2600 from the County Councillors) will be used towards the purchase of 6 Defibrillator Units to be sited at Woodham Community Centre, Pioneering Care Centre, Greenfield Community College and the Bay Horse Middridge. In addition, a Portable Unit will be located at Greenfield Convenience Store and available during shop opening hours, and a sixth will be held at Woodham Community Centre as a back-up unit. A dedicated training unit will also be purchased to be used as part of the proposed cardiac arrest awareness and training programme.

## (6) SIMPASTURE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

The Board also approved a £1,000 proposal by Cllrs. Kate Hopper and Eddy Adam to locate a number of bollards at Simpasture shops to stop cars parking on the pavement.

## (7) OTHER MATTERS

Due to completion of term of office and a resignation, there is a need for FOUR new ‘public reps’. Next year’s Chairman will be selected from the AAP’s Partners, and a nominee was requested. The Budget is now fully spent. Date of next meeting, Tuesday 14th March, 6-8pm, at Woodham Academy. *By John Clare*

# Aycliffe Company Celebrate Another Record Year



Beaumont management team (front, left to right) accounts manager Sophie Lineton, financial director Mark Lineton, company secretary Sally Lineton and managing director Alexander Lineton with some of their staff at their site on Aycliffe Business Park.

A family-run grounds maintenance and landscaping company has seen another increase in workforce and turnover during 2016. Beaumont Grounds Maintenance of Aycliffe has seen sales grow year-on-year for the last five years. Beaumont, which specialises in grounds and sports pitch maintenance, also added four new members of staff to its team in 2016, boosting numbers to 15. This year the company has set ambitious targets to grow again with forecast sales of £750,000 while aiming to create more new jobs.

Managing Director Alexander Lineton said: “This year we’re looking to continue the growth path that we’re on while maintaining the family values that we offer. Our fantastic team has been essential in the growing success of Beaumont and I would like to thank them for their continued efforts.”

“We expect to have completed full accreditation for an ISO integrated management system, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 18001, and we will be fully accredited by the end of January 2017 enabling us to win new large-scale tenders to support our ambitious growth plan. Beaumont was established in 1965 by Steven Lineton, who ran the new business alongside his garden centre based on Beaumont Hill in Darlington. In 1991 Beaumont moved premises to larger premises on Aycliffe Business Park and has since pushed more into the commercial maintenance sector.

It’s now headed up by the third generation of the Lineton family, with Alexander M.D. and his sister Sophie as accounts manager, while their parents – finance director Mark and company secretary Sally – continue to play crucial roles. In 2016 the company was named Service Business of the Year at the annual Aycliffe Business Park “Make Your Mark” awards. Alex added: “During its 50th year in 2015 Beaumonts invested £120,000 in

new machinery. We’ve recently invested in new 3G maintenance equipment which has enabled us to explore new markets, and there’s currently only one other company in the North-East which provides the same service.

“The time, resource and cost involved in 3G synthetic pitches is considerable, with some of our clients spending as much as £500,000. It is therefore essential that all synthetic surfaces have a professional maintenance schedule in place to ensure the carpets play to their highest standard and last as long as possible.”

Towards the end of 2016, Beaumont signed a three-year deal with leading Teesside independent commercial property surveying practice Dodds Brown. The company is now maintaining 11 Dodds Brown-managed properties across the region, while Beaumont also won a number of new school maintenance contracts, including Thornaby Academy and Our Lady and St Bede’s Catholic School in Stockton. Beaumont now has a growing list of 150 contracted sites across the whole of the North-East, down to the Yorkshire and Humber areas and across to the Cumbria region. These include a range of public and private

sector contracts – various commercial premises including factories, hotels and premises run by national property management companies as well as more than 50 schools around the North-East region. Find out more at [www.beaumontgrounds.com](http://www.beaumontgrounds.com) or give them a call on 01325 301379.

# REME Meet

REME Association South West Durham Branch monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th January at 8pm in the Scout Centre Bluebell Way Newton Aycliffe. All serving and ex-serving members of REME welcome.

# Vote for Shanaya



Please vote for Aycliffe’s Super Teenage singer Shanaya Atkinson-Jones in the “UK Open Mic” which is now open.

To vote for Shanaya Text: Open55 to 84222 anytime between now and 7pm on Saturday 28th January 2017. Texts cost £1 per message. Good luck Shanaya from all in Newton Aycliffe.



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# STAR RADIO

## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Frequency: 102-107FM

### Friday 20th January

0600-0900 - Star Radio Breakfast – Wes Stakes  
0900-1000 - Mystery Years – Wes Stakes  
1000-1400 - Craig Andrews  
1400-1500 - Everything 80’s  
1500-1900 - Drivetime – Emil Franchi  
1900-2200 - Dancing Through the Decades  
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

### Saturday 21st January

0600-0900 - Best Of Breakfast – Wes Stakes  
0900-1400 - Michael Weadock  
1400-1500 - Everything 80’s  
1500-1800 - Craig Andrews  
1800-0000 - Dancing Through the Decades

### Sunday 22nd January

0600-0900 - Easy Like A Sunday Morning - John Clayton  
0900-1400 - Dave Sherwood  
1400-1500 - Everything 80’s  
1500-1900 - Sunday Afternoon  
1900-2200 - Non Stop Star  
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

### Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th January

0600-0900 - Star Radio Breakfast – Wes Stakes  
0900-1000 - Mystery Years – Wes Stakes  
1000-1400 - Craig Andrews  
1400-1500 - Everything 80’s  
1500-1900 - Drivetime – Emil Franchi  
1900-2200 - Non Stop Star  
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

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## More Music & Variety at "The Tub"

Due to the great success of their Sunday Tea-time Gigs, The Turbinia Pub have decided to make it a regular monthly feature. This will be nearly always the last Sunday of the month and will feature lots of different genres of music - NOT Rock as that will remain just for Saturday nights.

First up on Sunday 29th January we have an Indie / Britpop / Mod tribute with the awesome 'OASIS JAM', doing as it says on the tin. All the greatest hits from Oasis & The Jam. This is guaranteed to be a full house so be there early.

Sunday 26th February will feature the amazing Soul / Funk band, 'J.D. & THE WOODSMEN' a sensational band that has featured in major festivals, covering tracks by - Aretha Franklin, Wilson Pickett, The Spencer Davis group, James Brown, Martha & The Vandellas, Ray Charles, Otis Redding, The Rolling Stones, Stevie Wonder, Etta James, Nina Simone and many more.

The third band is on Sunday 2nd April where we have the fantastic 'BREAKFAST CLUB' top, top, band made up from some of the best musicians in the North-East bringing you the VERY best of the 80's, featuring music by Duran Duran, Nik Kershaw, Billy Idol, Spandau Ballet, Gary Numan, A-ha, Aztec Camera, David Bowie, Inxs, Dead Or Alive, Frankie Goes to Hollywood, OMD, Depeche Mode, Ultravox, Tears For Fears + Check out the gig page at [www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk)

## £17m Project to Help Young People into Work

More than 2,000 young people have now signed up to a £17 million project designed to develop their skills, increase opportunities and help them into work.

The DurhamWorks programme is aiming to improve the prospects of County Durham's 16 to 24-year-olds who are not in education, employment or training.

And just six months into the more than two year project it is well on course to put almost 6,000 people on the path to employment by summer 2018.

Cllr Ossie Johnson, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for children and young people's services

said: "In only a few months DurhamWorks has successfully signed up over 2,000 County Durham 16 to 24-year-olds who were not in employment, education, or training.

"Unfortunately due to issues including the late introduction of increased requirements by the Department of Work and Pensions, and a delay in the payment of funding from the Government, we have had to request that our original target for sign ups in 2016 be reduced.

"Yet the overall target of involving 5,830 people in the DurhamWorks programme by July 2018 remains

unchanged and, having now introduced a system to gather and verify eligibility, we expect the numbers of participants to increase significantly in the coming weeks.

"We are working with employers and Business Durham to make sure there are jobs and apprenticeships for people to progress into, and we remain confident that the project will be a success." Already more than 300 small firms are working with the project to help create new job opportunities for the county's young people, with businesses saying they appreciate the support they are receiving to help them recruit the most appropriate people.

And more businesses are being encouraged to find out about working with the project, to help find the young staff they need.

The Council Cabinet received an update on the programme this week. For more information about DurhamWorks, and how to get involved, visit [www.durham.gov.uk/durhamworks](http://www.durham.gov.uk/durhamworks)

## Students Taste University Life



A selection of Key Stage 4 students from Woodham Academy visited Durham University last week as part of the university's Durham Unwrapped programme.

As the majority of university students were enjoying an extended Christmas break, many facilities were vacant and were showcased allowing Woodham Academy students to get a true flavour of what student life at Durham University is really like.

Information was presented on a variety of topics by University Student Ambassadors.

Real life issues such as budgeting, accommodation, future planning, career aspirations and pathways were all discussed. The students were given an extensive tour of the university and city including a visit to different colleges, halls of residence ending with a walk to the cathedral square.

With the imposing cathedral and castle towering above them, students were shown Durham's most famous landmarks and the part neighbouring buildings play in day-to-day university life.

## Win a Birthday Party with Dick & Dom



The Gretna Green Hotel Wacky Warehouse at Aycliffe is working with CBBC's Dick and Dom to search the country for deserving kids aged between five and nine with an upcoming birthday with an opportunity to win the ultimate party.

Not only will Dick and Dom be organising the Many Wacky Returns party, they will also give the winner

an extra birthday treat by making a surprise appearance on the day, as well as playing fun games to get everyone get into the party spirit.

Alexander Mackenzie general manager said: "We know that a birthday party at Wacky Warehouse is hard to beat, and one that birthday boys and girls will remember for years.

"But we're looking to offer the ultimate birthday party to one lucky child this year, so who better to help us shape the event than children's TV legends and experts in all things fun and silly, Dick and Dom.

"We would love for a child from Aycliffe to win this birthday bonanza, so we hope local families and friends get nominating!"

The play centre and four-time BAFTA award winning duo are asking families and friends to nominate worthy children, with an upcoming birthday, for the chance to win this once-in-a-lifetime prize.

Rich aka Dick commented: "We've worked with kids for more than twenty years now, but this is the first time we've been let loose organising a birthday party!"

Dom added, "This is a fantastic opportunity for one lucky kid to get THE best party organised on the planet"

To nominate a lucky child for the Many Wacky Returns party visit [www.wackywarehouse.co.uk](http://www.wackywarehouse.co.uk) before Friday 27 January and explain in 100 words why they should win the ultimate party.

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OFSTED quote: "Playday Nursery offers an outstanding provision with high quality teaching provided by highly qualified staff."

## Watercolour Class & Coffee at Greenfield

Greenfield Arts are privileged to host an exciting new watercolour workshop, led by talented artist Sarah Hill. Sarah, is offering an informal monthly coffee morning where you can come along and enjoy painting in watercolours in a relaxed environment.



Artist Sarah Hill

"The aim of these workshops is for you to be able to walk in (whatever your ability and experience) have a lovely time and leave with your own completed painting" said Sarah. The monthly workshop is a great chance to meet new people in a lovely studio whilst learning new creative skills. All equipment and materials will be provided and Sarah will be on hand to give individual advice and assistance throughout the session.

Sarah is a professional artist who exhibits in the North East and can be found selling lovely prints and cards at fairs throughout the area. Her love of teaching has inspired her to set up informal workshops where she will demonstrate and guide you through your own painting.

The first workshop is to be held at Greenfield Arts on

Wednesday 1st February 2017 from 10 am - 12.30 pm, as well as expert tuition and advice there will be tea, coffee and cake! The cost of the workshop is £16.50 per person and all equipment and refreshments are included.

If you would like to know a bit more about the workshop please contact our friendly team at Greenfield Arts on 01325 379048 or email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk). You can also see more information about Sarah on her website: [www.sarahhillart.weebly.com](http://www.sarahhillart.weebly.com).

## Snow White Panto at Shildon Civic Hall

It's pantomime time at the Civic Hall, Shildon. Oh Yes It Is! The annual show this year is "Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs".

A spokesperson for The Tearaways Theatre Group said "Local young lady Charlotte McAdam is Snow White. The 7 Dwarfs have very familiar names and Dylan Goddard, Oscar Peatling, Faith Bingham, and Jessica Peart play 4 of them. You will be able to boo and hiss at the awful Wicked Queen, cheer as the valiant Prince rescues the young Princess. Have a good laugh at Chuckles the court Jester played by Kodie Wilson, plus Plant and Heck the 2 Henchmen (Georgia Brown, and Emma Lee) as they

bungle their way through the show.

Lucy Wright, Hannah Goddard, Chelsea Berriman, Katie Horner, Olivia Bennett, Chloe Dunne and Erin Clarke provide the dancing and singing in the 2 hour show.

The group have kept to the traditional story most people know and love. This is a great family pantomime with something for everyone to enjoy" Performances are on Thursday 26th, Friday 27th, Saturday 28th, January at 7.30pm. The final show is on Sunday 29th January at 2pm. Tickets priced £5-50 Adults and £3-50 for Children can be pre-booked by ringing 01325 313363 / 01388 774838

## Responding to Poverty

Councillors will hear about the continuing work to respond to tackling poverty across County Durham when they meet next week. Members of Durham County

Council's Cabinet will hear about the work of the authority and its partners to help those affected through changes made as a result of the Government's welfare reform programme and the challenges of continuing austerity.

More work is planned through an in-depth study into child poverty to further develop understanding of the issue in County Durham.

Councillors will be asked to give the go-ahead for the research to help develop further approaches to tackling poverty when they meet at the Glebe Centre, Murton, on Wednesday, 18 January.

Cllr Lucy Hovvels, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for adult and health services, said: "Poverty can affect every area of a child's development - social, educational and personal.

"Living in a poor household can reduce children's expectations of their own lives and lead to a cycle where poverty is repeated from generation to generation.

"If we want to give children the best start in life, we need to target everything from health, education and employment to behaviour, finance, family and personal relationships.

"In order to do this, we need to carry out detailed analysis of the issue and come to a better understanding of how it affects the lives of families in County Durham."

If it goes ahead, the research would include mapping service provision across the county in order to identify where new approaches and interventions are needed.

Furthermore, it is proposed that the council will continue its work as a member of the North East Child Poverty and also take up the opportunity to work with the North East Child Poverty Commission. The report also highlights the pressure within the Discretionary Housing Payments budget in 2016/17 due to increasing demand for support from residents struggling with housing payment demands.

## STRAY AID NEED TO RAISE £250K FOR KENNELS

Stray Aid in Coxhoe have been conducting an unusual event raising money to purchase their site, expand and improve their current kennels. The long time goal is to raise £250,000 to make sure stray aid are here for the long run.

Stray Aid take in many of the warden's stray dogs from County Durham and surrounding areas including Middlesbrough. They take responsibility for the dogs once their 7 days are up and do all they can to never put a re-homeable dog to sleep.

Without charities such as this the 12,000+ dogs stray aid see a year would be put down.

The event was called "Stray Aid's 12 Dogs of Christmas" with one volunteer (Hannah Critchlaw) starting on Christmas Day staying overnight with her Stray Aid



Photo (b-row l-r) Diana Watson with Meg, Sammy Morrill with Pepper, and Ryan Robson with Fraggie. (front l-r) Hannah Critchlow with Jasper, Jekyll and Swift, and Jade Bell with Bonnie

adopted dog. Then one more volunteer and their adopted dog were added each night for 12 nights.

Newtonian Diana Watson and her dog Meg, adopted from Stray Aid 5 years ago, started on night 8 and spent 5 nights in the kennels.

"It was very cold and tempting to drop out after the first night. But I'm glad we carried on and finished our 5

nights. It was cold and fairly noisy but was also a lot of fun" said Diana.

It's not too late to donate by using any of the following: <https://www.justgiving.com/StrayAid-Charity3>

Or PayPal to donate@strayaid.co.uk By Text, simply text STRY60 followed by amount (eg. £1,2,5) to 70070, so STRY60£1 texted to 70070 will donate a pound.

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Week 2				
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\*Terms and Conditions apply. Offer available to new members joining between 27 - 30 January 2017 on a Direct Debit membership. Classes subject to availability.

# Supporting Hate Crime Victims

VICTIMS of hate crime will have unique access to a ground-breaking service launching last year. The first of its kind in the country, the new Hate Crime Advocacy Service will support victims that experience crimes motivated by prejudice.

The service, put in place by Ron Hogg, Durham Police Commissioner, is made up of a trio of organisations that will provide advocacy support across County Durham and Darlington.

It will support victims to ensure their rights are safeguarded and they are empowered to make informed choices and decisions about their recovery. Ron said: "A crime that is motivated by hostility or prejudice towards the victim is particularly destructive and can have devastating consequences for that victim, those closest to them and the wider community."

"This is a unique service, whereby three different organisations are collaborating as one, to meet the specific needs of victims affected by the different strands of hate crime."

Show Racism the Red Card, Darlington Association on Disability and Gay Advice Darlington and Durham will work together to support anyone suffering from hate crime, or possible hate crime, right throughout the criminal justice process. This includes harassment and bullying, as well as financial, physical or other forms of abuse or criminal activity.

Lauren Robinson Chief Executive Officer at Darlington Association on Disability (DAD) said: "We have been working to raise the issues that affect victims of disability hate crime and crimes against vulnerable people for several years. We are very pleased that the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner, Ron Hogg, has recognised that disabled people need additional support as victims of hate crime."

"This new project will help disabled people recognise when they have been a victim of hate crime and feel confident in reporting it. They will be able to access Advocacy Support throughout the Criminal Justice System."

"DAD is looking forward to working in this unique partnership with GADD and Show Racism the Red Card on this ground breaking project." Emma Roebuck, Chief Executive Officer at Gay Advice Darlington and Durham commented that GADD is proud to be part of this innovative new project. She said: "By working as partners with Ron, Show

Racism the Red Card and Darlington Association on Disability, we can work together with communities and build positive outcomes for those who feel lost or ignored by the criminal justice system.

"All strands of hate crime will be brought under the umbrella of one partnership, and advocates will work together for the first time on all the key components of hate and bigotry. It will be a mechanism to create cohesive communities in County Durham & Darlington."

Laura Pidcock, North East Education Team Manager at Show Racism the Red Card said: "Show Racism the Red Card is acutely aware that in some places there exists a hostile environment for Black, Asian and other Minority communities."

"The climate post-Brexit has brought to the surface anti-immigrant sentiment, anti-Muslim prejudice and other discriminatory behaviours, meaning that the profile of hate crime has risen. Worryingly we know that hate crime is vastly under-reported. There are many pressures on those who are targeted, and they may fear things getting worse. Some people are also fearful of the repercussions if they report what happened."

"Having a Hate Crime Advocate for Race and Faith related hate crime is an extremely positive step in ensuring that victims of hate crime have equal access to justice."



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.

This week you will be particularly impressed by the DCC Economy Scrutiny Committee. You will want to sign up to the NHS Consultation, support the Greenfield petition ... and tell This is Durham your 'most romantic place' in the county!

Type the shortened bit.ly links into your internet browser to access the full articles.

## COUNCIL

• DCC Economy Scrutiny Committee, January: bit.ly/DCCES117

• DCC have adopted the Unite council construction charter: bit.ly/DCCUCC

• 'This Is Durham' wants to know Durham's 'most romantic places': bit.ly/CDMRP17

• SENDIASS January newsletter: bit.ly/SENDIASS117

• Waste & Recycling Strategy public meeting: bit.ly/ANWBLPW

• GAMP Board meeting, January: bit.ly/GAMP117

• GATC Environment and Recreation Committees: bit.ly/GATCER117

• Latest Roadworks information: bit.ly/RW20117

• Visit to the UTC: bit.ly/UTCV117

• Sign up to the Better Health Programme NHS Consultation events: bit.ly/BHPC217

• Have you signed the Greenfield petition for GCSE fairness: bit.ly/CWK40

• Open Days at UTC South Durham, 9 & 15 February, 5-7:30pm. Details & booking: bit.ly/UTCOD217

• FREE drop-in session for parents at TreeTops, Friday 10 Feb 2017, 10-12pm. Chat to an OT about your child: bit.ly/TTOT217

• The Tin Ring, Monday 23rd January, 7pm, at the Gala Theatre Durham: bit.ly/GALA23117

• Introduction to Durham Wildlife Trust and tour of Low Barns Nature Reserve, Thursday 26 January, 4-6:30pm, FREE: bit.ly/DWT26117

• 5-11-year-olds can celebrate the Year of the Rooster at Durham Oriental Museum, Saturday 28 January, 1-3pm: bit.ly/DOM28117

# Residents Have Their Say on Police Funding

Durham's Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner Ron Hogg is seeking views from members of the community as part of his annual public consultation on the police budget.

To help address further cuts to police funding, Ron intends to increase the amount of Council Tax which goes to the police service, known as the precept, by 1.98%. This equates to just £2.20 over the year, or 4p a week, for a property in Council Tax Band A.

Ron Hogg said: "In the 2015 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), the Government stated that they will protect the overall policing budget. Ministers have chosen to allocate some of this money to national priorities like counter-terrorism, but they have also cut the money available for local policing in order to fund organisations like the Independent Police Complaints Commission. Furthermore, they have increased the amount of police money which we can only get back if we bid for it."

"This means that the amount of funding coming to local policing from Government is still reducing year on year. In 2017-18 I will receive £1.1m less to fund your local police force than I did in 2016-17." Ron added: "I am therefore consulting residents on

a proposal to increase their contribution to local policing, which for most people will mean paying 4 to 6 pence more a week. Despite the reductions in officer numbers since 2010, I remain fully committed to maintaining neighbourhood policing and keeping Durham Constabulary as the best police force in the country. The increase I am proposing would raise enough money to keep approximately 11 police officers on our streets, compared to freezing the level at its current level.

"We know that the Government is considering making changes to the way police forces are funded, and are concerned our budgets may reduce further in the future. If I do not ask local people to make an additional contribution, the force will be less resilient to future budget reductions."

"Your views are important, so please take a few minutes to complete the survey before it closes later in January." The public consultation is open until Sunday 29th January. Residents are can provide their views in a number of ways, including through the survey on Ron Hogg's website at: www.durham-pcc.gov.uk, by Facebook or Twitter (search for Durham PCC), or by telephone on: 0191 3752001.

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<sup>1</sup>Initial rental £189. Price shown is for a £189 47 month Personal Contract Hire agreement for a MINI One 3-door Hatch, with a contract mileage of 32,000 miles and excess mileage charge of 4.01p per mile. <sup>2</sup>Initial rental £199. Price shown is for a £199 47 month Personal Contract Hire agreement for a MINI One 5-door Hatch, with a contract mileage of 32,000 miles and excess mileage charge of 4.16p per mile. <sup>3</sup>Initial rental £249. Price shown is for a £249 47 month Personal Contract Hire agreement for a MINI One Clubman, with a contract mileage of 32,000 miles and excess mileage charge of 4.80p per mile. Applies to new vehicles ordered between 01 January and 31 March 2017 and registered by 30 June 2017 (subject to availability). Retail customers only. At the end of your agreement you must return the vehicle. Excess mileage, vehicle condition and other charges may be payable. Hire available subject to status to UK residents aged 18 or over. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply. Offer may be varied, withdrawn or extended at any time. Hire provided by MINI Financial Services, Summit ONE, Summit Avenue, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0FB. Inchcape Retail Limited trading as The Cooper Group commonly introduce customers to a selected panel of lenders including MINI Financial Services. We may receive commission or other benefits for introducing you to such lenders. This introduction does not amount to independent financial advice. \*Test drive is subject to status and availability.

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# Livin Invest £7m on New Housing

Work has started on a three-year development programme to build 70 much needed new homes across County Durham and Darlington. Homes and communities business livin is investing £7 million to build a range of two and three bedroom homes that will include designated older persons accommodation as well as family homes. Gentoo Construction, a Tolent company, were named as the preferred construction partner to build the new homes and work is underway on the first sites at Butterby Grange in Spennymoor and Thirlmere Road in Ferryhill. The former sheltered housing scheme at Butterby Grange has been demolished to make way for 14 new two-bedroom apartments that will be built across three two-story blocks. At Thirlmere Road in Ferryhill work has commenced on the construction of six two-bedroom homes at the former brownfield site. The partnership will work closely with local schools to promote the construction industry, while also advising on health and safety around building sites.

Wayne Harris, executive director property and development for livin said: "We are committed to ensuring we build homes to meet the needs of our communities and we've made a significant investment to ensure the success of this build programme. "We've worked closely with our communities to identify the areas where homes are needed most and expect the properties to be in high demand and encourage anyone interested to register their interest as soon as possible." David Dixon, head of customer services at Gentoo Construction, added: "We are working with livin to deliver quality housing in Durham through this new partnership. "As well as building great homes, we are also passionate about supporting local communities which includes providing education and training opportunities and we look forward to expanding our relationship with local schools, colleges and community groups." Properties will be advertised to rent through the Durham Key Options (DKO), choice based

lettings scheme and will be allocated to people who meet specific criteria as part of the programme.

For more information on new build developments from livin or to register for DKO visit [www.livin.co.uk](http://www.livin.co.uk)



# NASSA NEWS

Newton Aycliffe Scout Supporters Association would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported our fund-raising throughout 2016. We would especially like to thank members for using our social club and supporting our events. Lesley from Clearance Bargains of Darlington for the donation of new TV for our lounge, 1st Newton Aycliffe Scout Group for supporting us at a number of functions, The Northern Bygones Society - who hold a classic car show here, Newton News for promoting our activities, the live bands and singers who have entertained us, and last but not least all of the people who have given their time and expertise, free of charge, running, repairing, maintaining and improving the Centre. We are now planning for 2017 and hope everyone keeps on supporting this worthy cause. The Association is 'not for profit' and ALL the money raised is used to run and maintain the Scout Centre which is used by up to 100 young people each week, providing them with fun, life skills and a place to meet people and learn invaluable lessons for their future. There are now three Scouting/ Guiding groups using the premises, 1st Newton Aycliffe Scout Group, 1st Baden Powell Scout Group and 8th Newton Aycliffe Rainbows so our premises are in use every night during the week.

We would love the parents, of the young people who use the centre, to join our social club and support us in keeping the premises open for all to enjoy. Our Social club is a members club but non - members are welcome to call in for a drink or a game of pool and if you like what you find, membership is only £3 a year. We put on events throughout the year and non - members are welcome to attend these. A number of events are being planned - the first of these is on 18th March when a fantastic local band METIS will be appearing at 7:00pm. Tickets are £3, available on the door\* so come along and hear this fab local band. The hall is available to hire for meetings, private parties etc., at a very reasonable cost and our licensed bar sells a range of drinks to make your party enjoyable for all. **PHOTOS WANTED** Does anyone have any old photos of the Centre in its early days? A lady has contacted me to ask if we have any photos, as her Dad Alan Wright and his wife Enid were involved with the association at the very beginning helping to raise the initial funding to build the centre. Unfortunately Alan is not in the best of health and his daughter would love to show him some pictures. If anyone can help please contact Karen 01325 318901, and leave a message. Or you can contact me on Facebook Newton Aycliffe Scout Supports Association.

## Tesco Give Freya a Birthday Party Fit for a Princess



Freya Aither celebrated her Birthday in Tesco's customer cafe on Sunday with her friends and a special visit from two of her favourite Disney Princesses. Freya and her friends came to the store once the doors had closed playing party games and enjoying party food kindly donated from the Cafe Team. The afternoon was a massive success and Tesco is the only place Freya wanted her party to be as she has built up a bond with the staff who have helped support her and her family during her illness.

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# Businesses Support Students

Three alumni, ex Sunnydale Students, returned to school recently to work with students. After nearly 10 years without an engineering facility at Greenfield Community College, Sunnydale Campus, local businesses have joined with the school to create a much needed facility at its heart. The aim is to develop awareness of 'Work Skills in Growth Sectors' in careers lessons and to inform students of future employment prospects and learn essential hand skills. There is a lack of workforce in particular industries and a rising level of students aged 16-18 in the Newton Aycliffe and Shildon area who are not in education, employment or training which this development aims to address. Inspiring and exciting our young people to make



informed choices in strong career pathways is the main objective, to encourage and support them to be successful in growth sectors and work towards sustainable careers in the future.

The idea originated from Yvonne Scott, Careers teacher at Greenfield Community College, who believes working closer with local businesses will give students the incentive to strive for real life opportunities and bridge the gap between employer's expectations and the abilities of the students.

The main objective and vision is clear 'to give young people a meaningful education around the 'Work Skills' needed in today's growth sectors' said Yvonne Scott. Work began in June this year to refurbish a room in the school to create a Work Skills facility.

Supported, by Dave Spensley, Managing Director of Go Ahead Training and Lee Childs the CEO of SWDT, both who are past students of Sunnydale school, a clear

strategy has been created calling on many years of engineering experience from both organisations. The Work Skills facility focuses on developing soft hand skills and the understanding of why and how they can be applied to future employment sectors. Their aim is to give students life skills and a good sound knowledge of how they can be used in the future.

The project has recently acquired the support of Thorn Lighting to enrich the work the students are able to do by further developing STEM, (science, technology, engineering and maths) related activities in electrical engineering. This has strengthened the learning opportunities for our young people and enriched their experiences by teaching them about 'What is light?' and 'How is light made?'. Experts from all three businesses and the careers teacher will be working during the Spring term with the students in years 8, 9 and selected year 11's to create personalised lamps, a large wall relief in metal and free standing sculptures with lighting features. Throughout, the project will be logged in learning journals so students at Greenfield Community College can see the relevance of their learning to future employment opportunities and careers.

## Flower Demo

The next meeting of Shildon and District Flower Club will take place on Monday 6th February at 7.30pm at Shildon Civic Hall when Area Demonstrator, Audrey Foster from Whitby, will present an evening of flower arranging under the intriguing title of 'Around Every Corner'. Free to members, Visitors £5.00



# WOODHAM STUDENTS HELPED TO CHOOSE CAREERS

Did you know what you wanted to do after school when you were 13 years old? Many students haven't got a clue, while others know exactly where they want to go and what they want to do.

The prospect of planning your career and making choices for your future can be daunting at any age. To help students make the right decision, Woodham Academy has recently hosted a variety of career-focussed events. The events include students visiting local colleges including Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form in Darlington and New College Durham. The visits were aimed at giving students a taste of college life with taster sessions in a range of subjects and tours of the facilities.

Recently, over 25 local employers, training providers, colleges and universities attended the school's Careers Fair. Exhibitors were on hand to answer any queries and offer advice for grades

and the application process. The Careers Service was available to offer guidance to parents and students on all the different options after school including apprenticeships and further education.

Colleges have also been in to school to lead the Year 11 assemblies. Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form, Darlington College, Polam Hall Sixth Form, New College Durham and Bishop Auckland College have all delivered an assembly to discuss the range of subjects available at A level, career prospects and what to expect from going to college.

Year 8 students from the school's More Able Academy recently spent the day at the Nissan plant in Sunderland to learn about the car industry and the production process. The group were invited to take part as part of the Government's See Inside Manufacturing Programme. The national programme aims to inspire the next generation and open young eyes to the variety of careers available within an integral industry.

Further career events include Specialist Days. Woodham Academy host Specialist Day three times during the academic year. The normal school timetable is suspended for the day whilst all year groups working on a variety of current themes including apprenticeships, and preparing their CVs. During the day, external partners come in to school to deliver workshops with each year group.

Last week, Year 8 students took part in the final of the Apprenticeship Awareness Challenge. During Specialist Day local businesses Palram, Lucite, Thorn Lighting, livin, South West Durham Training

and Ebac came in to school to work with the Year 8 students. The groups discussed their industry and explored career opportunities and what type of apprenticeships are available in that industry. Students also visited each workplace to spend time speaking to employees and touring the facilities. Their projects came to an end on Wednesday as parents were invited in to school to watch the teams deliver presentations of their findings from working with each company.

Parents of Year 11 students were recently welcomed in to school to discuss their child's progress, what to expect from the year ahead and to speak to college advisers for the Year 11 Examination Preparation Evening. The evening was an opportunity for parents to ask any questions related to their child's final year at school and to understand the importance of working hard in the coming months.

Head of Careers and PCC at Woodham Academy, Dave Walker, said: 'As a school we want to provide our students with as many opportunities as possible to get a taste of life after school and to prepare them for the world of work. We want to inspire our students and help them to discover the vast range of career options available to them. It is important to work with local employers and colleges and ensure our students are well informed before making the important decisions about their futures. We also have a good working relationship with agencies such as The Careers Service who are on hand to offer students and parents advice about all sectors.'

# LOCAL COUNCILLOR ACCEPTS CHALLENGE

## THE CHALLENGE

Next week (16-22 January) – along with many other Councillors, managers and decision-makers within Durham County Council - I shall be doing the Durham Children-in-Care Council's



## 'Care Leavers Challenge'

This means living on a budget of £57.90 for the week – which is what an 18 to 21-year-old has on Job Seeker's Allowance. Basically, after deducting a recommended amount for unavoidable costs such as heating, the Challenge leaves me approx. £15 for the week for food, clothes, cleaning, personal hygiene, travel, saving, leisure and everything else that living involves.

I am aware that I will never really be able to appreciate the difficulties facing our county's Care Leavers. I have almost half-a-century's experience of looking after myself (including a time when we were very poor), with a comfortable home and supportive family. Care Leavers have few family contacts, and a young life which has been disrupted, sometimes disastrously. Almost two-thirds of the County's looked-after children have special educational needs.

**THE AIM**  
Durham County Council is a 'corporate parent' to its looked-after children, and we as a Council and a community have a duty of care to the children for whom we have assumed parental responsibility.

That includes making sure that we have properly prepared them, and that we properly support them, when they leave care and start to build an independent life. Acknowledging this, in

October last year, the Council set up a Task Group to further consider the level of support that Care Leavers need.

The aim of the 'Care Leavers Challenge', therefore, is to raise awareness of the difficulties care leavers face on a daily basis and to get more people talking about this "so that it leads to change".

You will be able to follow my progress on my blog at bit.ly/JDClare and hopefully add your own thoughts as I go along.

The insights we collect during the week will then be fed into the Council's strategies, and hopefully, we will be able to make a change for the better. Cllr John D Clare

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# TERRIFIC TWIDDLEMUFF RESPONSE AYCLIFFE JUNIOR RESULTS

As part of Pioneering Care Partnership's (PCP's) commitment to health improvement, staff were encouraged to make twiddlemuffs to support Dementia Friends, Sedgefield. Twiddlemuffs are knitted or crocheted woollen muffs with items such as ribbons, pompoms, or textured fabrics attached that patients with dementia can twiddle in their hands whilst in

hospital or at home. PCP decided to open up the campaign to the local community and have had a fantastic response. Many people kindly dropped by the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe with hand knitted twiddlemuffs or materials to help make them. Over 40 twiddlemuffs will now be donated to Dementia Friends, Sedgefield for distribution amongst those with dementia



PCP staff with the Twiddlemuffs

who have restless hands and like something to keep them occupied. Carol Gaskarth, PCP Chief Executive says "Thank you to PCP staff and those in the local community who kindly made and donated twiddlemuffs, or provided materials for staff to use. The campaign aimed to promote relaxation, reduce stress and improve mental health through the making of twiddlemuffs. Participation in health improving activities at work also allows individuals to develop knowledge and build a social support network among co-workers. Newton News readers have responded to the appeal

by providing twiddlemuffs knitted by themselves and also the materials for which PCP is grateful. Twiddlemuffs provide a source of visual, tactile and sensory stimulation at the same time as reducing anxieties and keeping hands snug and warm. So by donating a small amount you have made a big difference to someone's life. If anyone has any completed muffs that they'd still like to donate please drop them off at the Centre and we'll ensure they are delivered to the dementia team." Completed twiddlemuffs can be dropped off at the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF.

## Saga says Cost of Downsizing too High

If the Prime Minister can bring in measures to enable people to 'rightsize' in retirement this would be a true inter-generational solution to the housing crisis and would deliver on Mrs May's promise of helping young and old alike. People should be free to choose how and where they live. However, there are many people who want to downsize but are put off because of the cost. Saga has been lobbying successive Governments for a Stamp Duty exemption for downsizing and buying age-appropriate homes. This would be a triple win for Britain and for inter-generational fairness. Independent economists estimated this would prompt an extra 111,000 family homes would come onto the

market; boost the building of homes suited to older generations; and, it could also boost the Government coffers due to an estimated £500 million in Stamp Duty from consequential house moves. There are some 3.4 million households aged over 65 who are potential rightsizers: 1.1 million have one spare bedroom and 2.3 million have two or more spare bedrooms. Saga research shows that seven in ten over 50s would like to 'right size' in retirement to smaller homes or age-related developments. Britain needs a homes to be adapted or built to help older people live well in later life. Only 1% of Briton live in retirement developments, compared with 17% in the US and 13% in Australia.

Aycliffe Juniors football teams had a mixed weekend with some having games fall victim to the inclement weather and others enjoying eventful matches. The Under 7's completed an unbeaten league season with a 6-5 win, what a superb first season for our youngest competitive side. The Under 9 Russell Foster league team won their match 3-0. Jake Smith and Kenzie (2) scored and Charlie was the man of the match. They created chance after chance with great passing and movement, Kenzie got the first goal before Jake smashed home the second. They completed this dominant win after Charlie's shot was blocked and Kenzie was on hand to slot the third goal home. The Under 9 TJFA league team had a comprehensive 8-0 win at home against Seaton Carew. It was arguably the teams best performance of the season. Niall got the first two goals and he completed his hatrick after Jayden and Jack had also got on the score sheet. Jayden's second goal opened up a 6-0 half time lead. It was Jayden who then completed his hatrick and Aidan who completed the scoring in this game. The second friendly game was a much closer 4-3 win and the mornings men of the match



were Jack and Dan. The Under 15's were involved in a second versus third in the league clash away at Kader FC. They dominated play and could not have put in more effort but unfortunately lost out in the end. Elliot Dixon was the games man of the match. The Under 17's faced Middlebeck and ran out 5-1 winners. The visitors had defeated Stockton who top the table last week so they were in high spirits. Aycliffe though bossed the game and after an early penalty miss Lewis then opened the scoring. Sam scored the second but Middlebeck

made it 2-1 just before half time. Second half goals from Dan, Lewis and a great free kick by Joe ensured the win. The Under 23's faced Chester le Street Town at Sunnydale, a team they had beaten earlier in the season. The game ended in a disappointing 4-5 defeat with Aycliffe not performing to the best of their ability. Several chances were either missed, cleared off the line or hit the woodwork. The goals scored came from Dixon, Ailey and a Raisbeck brace with Lochie Scott named as the man of the match.

## Situations VACANT

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Date of interviews: Monday 6th February 2017

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**Published: Friday 10th February 2017**

**Above example: £12.00 (inclusive) (maximum 15 words)**

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**JANE** To my honey bunny, all my love on Valentines Day, love from Tarzan xxxx

**Above examples: 15p per word**

**ADAM** To my "squidgy widgey" on Valentines Day, love from Eve xxxx

**JULIET** To my honey bunny, all my love on Valentines Day, love from Romeo xxx

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**JOB IN HEALTHCARE**

Healthcare professionals in Newton Aycliffe are being given the chance to learn more about employment opportunities on offer at a leading care organisation. Danshell Healthcare Group is holding a recruitment day in Newton Aycliffe to encourage nurses, support workers and healthcare assistants to explore the opportunities available. The company is recruiting across the North East for positions in Darlington, Bishop Auckland and

Barnard Castle. Danshell operates a number of hospitals and care homes across the area, supporting people with autism and learning disabilities. The event is taking place on Wednesday 25th January between 9.30am and 5pm at The Work Place, Newton Aycliffe. Kirstie Jones, Director of HR and OD said: "We believe that all employees have a valuable contribution to make to the health and wellbeing of the people we support."

"We're looking for enthusiastic, imaginative and passionate people to join our teams across the region. You'll become part of a team committed to providing the best possible support to people with learning disabilities and autism. "Our recruitment day in Newton Aycliffe will enable people to come along and learn more about working for Danshell and the opportunities that are available." Anyone interested should call 01325 721 951 or email careers@danshell.co.uk to register your place.

Remember to tell the advertiser you found them in the Newton News

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# 'We Care Coffee Morning' at PCP Centre

Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) will be holding an event on Thursday 2nd February as part of a nation-wide push to get people talking more openly about mental health. Time to Talk Day is organised by Time to Change, the campaign to change how we all think and act about mental health problems.

The 'We Care Coffee Morning' will take place at the Pioneering Care Centre between 10am-12noon. Join staff, volunteers and service users from projects and activities that promote positive mental health and members of the public, who will all be having conversations about mental health on Time to Talk Day. There will be plenty of people wanting to chat, free refreshments and activity tasters so people can choose what they want to talk about. Whether that's a conversation about their own mental health or ideas on how to keep their mind active and healthy. PCP delivers high quality accessible projects and activities aimed at improving health, providing access to services and reducing social isolation. Information will be available on the day from all relevant services including Wellbeing for Life and the Colour your Life social prescribing service.

1 in 4 of us will experience a mental health problem in any given year, but many of us are too afraid to talk about it. Starting a conversation about mental health might seem daunting but simply sending a text, checking in on a friend or sharing something on social media can break the ice. More tips can be found at <http://www.time-to-change.org.uk/timetotalkday>

Carol Gaskarth, PCP's Chief Executive said: "We are taking part in Time to Talk Day because mental health is a topic that we should all feel able to talk about. Having these all important conversations can make a big difference to many people. The more we talk, the more lives we can change."

For further information visit the Pioneering Care Centre, tel: 01325 321234, email: [enquiries@pcp.uk.net](mailto:enquiries@pcp.uk.net) or visit [www.pcp.uk.net](http://www.pcp.uk.net)

Or find PCP on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: @PCPandCentre.

For information about Time to Talk Day and how you can get involved please visit <http://www.time-to-change.org.uk/timetotalkday>

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When local club "New Friends New Places" held their Christmas Party they were entertained by the leader of the Chyrelle Adams Cancer Support

Group. She is a fantastic singer and she works with the Cancer Support Group across the County visit

her for support advice and information.

The Group have a large new caravan at Crimdon Dene where people who are going through, or recovering from cancer, can stay and spend time with their families. After giving the group a brief talk on her group a member of New Friends New Places made a donation to Chyrelle of £50. A photo was taken of Chyrelle and the chairperson of the group, Dorothy Bowman, donating the money. Dorothy has visited the group and in the near future will be taking members on a visit as the Support Group does activities in which "New Friends New Places" have an interest.

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Sarah is a local girl who danced from the age of 5 and joined in many Youth Theatre Groups. At the age of 18, Sarah decided to study Musical Theatre at Liverpool Theatre School.

It was here that she started to develop as a singer and has worked in many places; Harrogate, London, Liverpool, Bournemouth, Rhodes & Mallorca. She's also cruised around Norway, Iceland and the Canaries, performing in variety of shows and singing in different languages. Sarah auditioned for E.B.A. Records in 2016 and out of 60 people was the one they chose. Over the next year she will be bringing out three singles, one of which is already available to download from iTunes and Amazon called 'Lost' and the other two later in the year. She's also been doing some modelling for a retro/vintage company called Lady V in London and has been interviewed on radios around the country.

On Sunday Sarah is getting people to record themselves singing along to her single. This is now called #singalongwithsarahdee. Sarah's music influences are varied. Growing up in the 90's, she loved to sing and dance to The Spice Girls and Michael Jackson. Now she takes her musical influences from Adele, Little Mix, Ed Sheeran and The Overtones. Sarah sang at Woodham's Xmas Fayre and is very excited about the future of her music career and hopes you enjoy her singing.

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**Public Notice**

**DONATIONS** needed of Bric-a-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John 316 630

**RSPCA** North Tees & District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and ID chip. Please Tel 311 215

**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION** Branch Meeting to be held on Sunday 8th January at 11.00am. Also Branch AGM for the election of Trustees. All members and new members are welcome.

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# Xmas Dinner for the Lonely



Christmas Day Dinner provided by Aycliffe Tyres at the Mormon Church was a wonderful occasion as lonely and elderly people came together to celebrate. The event was organised by four volunteers and saw people travel from as far as Durham and Redcar to share the joyful event. Gloria Cox who organised the Dinner would like to thank all the volunteers who gave their time and effort to make this day possible.

# HELP TO AVOID THE WINTER MONEY BLUES



Are you or someone you know struggling with budgeting your finances, claiming benefits, filling in forms or documents, getting in touch with other services or experiencing tenancy issues with your current or previous tenancy? Support is available to help you start the New Year with a fresh start for your finances. Home Group runs weekly drop-ins on Wednesdays at: Newton Aycliffe Food Bank

from 1:30 - 3:30 at St Clare's Church Hall. Our friendly advisors are available to provide Free, confidential advice and guidance to support you with budgeting, benefits or tenancy issues. If you are unable to attend the drop-in due to any disabilities, then you can contact Home Group's Gateway where you will be referred to see if you are eligible for our floating support service on 0191 332 4935.

# WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET INVOLVED?

For the past 6 years Newton Press have organised the Year 11 awards for Greenfield College and Woodham Academy. These awards recognise the hard work that Year 11 pupils accomplish in their final year of school. The prizes are valuable items such as cameras, ipods, tablets and are awarded at the end of year Prom. Newton Press are looking to recruit another sponsor (or two) to provide cash towards this project. If your company would like to get involved, please contact paul@newtonpress.net - Ideally the project requires another £200 per sponsor and in return you will be invited to attend the Prom and help present the prizes to the winners. You will also receive free publicity for your business through Newton News (and the website).

## Thank You

JOYCE SCOTT would like to say a big thank you to all family and friends for their kind thoughts and messages of get well, and to everyone else who wishes her a very speedy recovery after breaking her femur bone on 5th January. Many thanks once again, J. Scott xx

## Congratulations

### Bryan Ellis



**Happy 50th Birthday**  
Wishing you a happy 50th birthday. Love, Mam, Dad and Aunty Mary.

**Happy 50th Birthday**  
From Wife Geraldine, Son Sean, Daughter Nicola, Dan, Chloe and Hayden xxx

**Happy 50th Birthday Bryan**  
Love Brother Kevin, Raychelle, Gavin, Anthony, Zak and Chloe

## In Memoriam

### Eva Elizabeth Mavin (Betty)



19th September 1932 to 19th January 2016  
Aged 83 years

God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be. So he put his arms around you, and whispered "come to me". With tearful eyes I watched you fade away. Although I loved you dearly, I could not make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating, my loved one now at rest. God broke my heart to prove to me, He only takes the best. Always on my mind, forever in my heart. Love and missed so much. Husband Alan and family, Jeffrey, Mandy, David, Nicola and Eva

**JEAN BISHOP** A dear friend, always remembered. Mick and Marion

**SYD STEBBINGS** 23rd January 2016. In loving memory of my dear Husband. Gone for a year, but never forgotten. Always in my thoughts. Love, Gill

**SYD STEBBINGS** 23rd January 2016. A year has passed but memories linger forever. Love, Martin, Linda, David, Keira, Charley and families

**JOHN LAMBERT (RN)**. 22nd January 2010. Loved and remembered every day. Gone fishing. Dutchess

**TONY WARBURTON** 24th January 2002. No special day is needed for us to think of you. You are always in our hearts and in everything we do. Loved and remembered always. Miss you every day. Your loving family, Felicity, Gail, Graeme and Grandsons Jack and Oliver xxxxx

### Dave Waddingham (Waddie)

8th October 1934 to 21st January 2016

#### "A Letter to Heaven"

When tomorrow starts without you and you see my eyes filled with tears, I know you'll say "don't cry about what's happened, smile about the memories we shared". But thinking of the many things we didn't get to do or say is so hard without you. You know how I love you, as much as you love me. Each time I think about you, you know I miss you too.

When tomorrow starts without you, I know we're not far part. For every time I think of you, you're right here in my heart.

This first year without you has been the hardest I've had to bear. I love you so much my darling and wish you could have stayed. But God knew you were getting weary and He only takes the best, I think about you every minute of every day and I talk about you too. Sometimes you are in trouble for leaving me this way.

You are always in my thoughts and in my heart. As long as your star shines so brightly and I see you every night, I know you are always close beside me. No one could ever take your place. You know I'll love you always sweetheart.

Your loving Wife Dorothy. You were and always will be, **simply the best** xxxx

The first year without you. Love and miss you always Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Missed by all who knew you xxxx

**STAN BRAITHWAITE** 25th January 2016. Treasured memories of a special Granda. We both miss you so much, but we know you are looking down on us and we will make you proud. All our love, Emily and Jack xx

**STAN BRAITHWAITE** 25th January 2016. You always had a smile to share, time to give and time to care. A loving nature, a kind and true, is the way we'll remember you. All our love Joanne and Joe xx

**STAN BRAITHWAITE** 25th January 2016. To hear your voice, to see you smile, to sit and talk to you a while. To be together in the same old way, would be my dearest wish today. All my love, Martha xx

### Joyce Hope



**Happy 80th Birthday**  
22nd January 2017

Happy birthday Mam. All our love always, Karen and Nicky xxxx

### Kipling Twins

Thomas & Michael

**Happy 1st Birthday**  
18th January 2017

Lots of love and kisses from Nanna and Grandad, Great Nanna and Great Grandad and Uncle Andrew xxxxx

**EMILY WHARTON** Well done on qualifying as a Level 1 Acro Gymnastics Coach. Love from Mam, Billy, Brad and Layla xxxx

**RYAN BANNISTER** - Happy 21st Birthday! 19th January, Love, Mam

**RYAN BANNISTER** - Happy Birthday Ryan, from Grandad xx

**RYAN BANNISTER** - Happy 21st Ryan. From Ste, Shannon, Mia, Jake and Alfie xx

**BEN McSPORRAN**. 19th January. Happy 18th birthday Ben. Enjoy your day. Love, Mam and Dad xxxx

**BEN McSPORRAN**. 19th January. Wishing my big brother a very Happy 18th Birthday. Love, Sam xxx

**BEN McSPORRAN**. 19th January. Congratulations on your 18th birthday Ben. Have a fantastic day. Love, Nana Mc xxxx

**HARRY PARKINSON** 24th January 2017. Happy 4th birthday. From Nan and Grandad. Love you

## For Sale

**RENT** a washing machine only £3.99 per week, no deposit, fully maintained. Bargain Buys, Shafto Way, 01325 321 678 "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.

**SINGLE** adjustable divan with headboard. Purchased three months ago, can show receipt. Paid £700, will sell for £200 for quick sale. Buyer to transport. Tel 01325 314535

**AIR WALKER** exercise machine. Hardly used, £70. Ladies bike, 18 gears, used once, £65. Tel 01325 301158



Baumatic Pythagora PV372SS Hood Island. Stainless steel, 35cm width, brand new in box, never used! Cost £249 will take £150. Tel 07584 065123

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

**COLLECTION** of owls, various designs (onyx etc). £30. Tel 01325 310963

## Birthday Remembrance

**JESSIE WHARTON** 21st January. Remembering you on your birthday Gran. Miss you and love you always. Love from all of your Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

## HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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

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



# Aycliffe Youth Football Round Up

## F.C. News

Newton Aycliffe FC have been drawn at home to Seaham Red Star in the Quarter Final of the Durham Challenge Cup. The tie will take place at Moore Lane on Tuesday 31st January with a kick off at 7:30pm.

Aycliffe have so far beaten Bishop Auckland and Brandon in their defence of the County's premier cup competition.

That match will be the next game at Moore Lane with a league game away at Washington lined up for Saturday 21st January with no game scheduled for the following Saturday.

Aycliffe had been due to play Seaham Red Star in a league game last week. However the snow and hard frost left the Moore Lane pitch frozen solid giving the Match Referee no option but to call the game off when he inspected on Saturday morning.

All other games in the Ebac Northern League Division One suffered the same fate.

A weekend with frozen pitches on Saturday and waterlogged pitches on Sunday, decimated the fixture programme, and our games were limited to pitches away from Newton Aycliffe.

### Under 14 Falcons v Darlington 21st All Stars

This game was played at Chilton and the lads bounced back to winning ways, and top of the league, following a solid victory. The work done in training paid off with all 15 players contributing to some good TEAM football. Having opened the scoring Falcons found themselves 2-1 down. However hard work and goals from Cole Harrison and Freddie Cockburn towards the half time break put the Falcons 3-2 up at half time. Knowing the importance of keeping it tight at the back the defence stood firm as All Stars

pushed forward. The addition of fresh legs in the second half allowed the Falcons to take control as they went on to score 3 more quality TEAM goals from James Imiela (2) and Jack Birbeck. Freddie Cockburn stood out in a memorable performance and his crossing and quality of corners were excellent resulting in fantastic assisted goals. FT 6-2 to remain top of the league. MOM Adam Askew.

### Under 7 Eagles v Deerness Valley Storm

Another really good performance from the boys and a massive thank you to Noah for stepping in goal and doing a great job. Although it was chilly Aycliffe started on the front foot and took it to Deerness seeing the first half out at 2-1.

Changes were made to ensure all the boys got a

good run out and in the 2nd half Deerness started the comeback and eventually went 3-2 up, but with true grit and determination the Aycliffe boys picked themselves up and fought back with 3 excellent goals to see the game out FT 5-3. Goals: Charlie 1, Layton 2 with MOM Cole 2

### Under 8 Eagles v Jarrow

The game started with Trystan in goal, Edwin, Faith, Adam and Makai. Jarrow passed the ball well which made our job difficult at times. Trystan pulled off a great save only for the ball to slip under him which gave them the lead.

The kids tried hard to get back into the game but the goal had given Jarrow the boost to go and get a second just before half time: 0-2. A quick half time chat, telling the team 'go have fun and enjoy it' was all that was needed. Second half saw Faith give way to Jack and Makai come off for Will. The Eagles came out fighting and wanting the ball a lot more. Some fantastic throws and corners from Edwin saw more and more chances for Aycliffe. Some great tackling from everyone before Will didn't take long to have a crack at goal with a fantastic strike 1-2.

This was followed by a lovely corner from Edwin to find Will on the edge of the box to fire another beauty home 2-2. Jarrow were trying hard for a winner but it fell to Will who made a great run and got his hat trick and the winner for the Eagles. FT 3-2.

Selection of other results:

U13 Eagles 1 v 10 Trimdon Utd

U9 Eagles 4 v 6 Roker Boys  
If you want more information about our FA Charter Standard Community Club visit the website www.nayfc.com



# Local Skating Club Making Their Dreams Come True



Shildon Mayor Trish Pemberton (centre) with Spectrum Roller Skater

Spectrum North East Roller Skating Club performed family favourite 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' on Sunday 15th January 2017 at Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre. The cast of 16 roller skaters (aged from 5yrs - adult) comprised, Tracy Stevens, Karen Austin, Jo Loring, Nicola Stevens, Sharday Smith, Joseph Kearney (15), Niamh Dawson (11), Benjamin Smithies (11), Hannah Godwin (10), Lucy Richardson (10), Harrison Austin (9), Indie May Clark (9), Jazzmyn Loring (7), Fearn Abbott (7) Heidi Turner (7) and Joel Turner (5).

They have been busy rehearsing since October fundraising to help the club achieve their dream of attending National Competitions this year, and have managed to raise £205.65.

The show opened with Narrator (Tracy Stevens - coach and founder of the club) finding a book and starting to read the story of a young dreamer, named Joseph (Hannah Godwin (10) from Coundon). Hannah started roller skating less than 2 years ago when she came along to lessons at Spectrum Leisure, Willington as a complete beginner.

The club started less than 3 years ago, but already has established regular lessons at two venues and is affiliated to the national governing body of roller skating, competing at three competitions, where Hannah, this year, won a bronze medal.

The show is a mixture of artistic skating moves and theatrical acting with lots of enthusiasm and fun. Tracy Stevens, skating coach and her daughter Nicola (18) from Shildon, a choreographer, came up with the idea of combining their two passions of skating and theatre spending months rehearsing with the skaters. Pharaoh played by Jazzmyn Loring (7) from

Oakenshaw can certainly entertain a crowd and is one of the most experienced skaters in the group as she started on wheels at just 4 years old! Thank you to everyone who help our club develop. Mayor Trish Pemberton attended the show and we would like to thank her for the continuous support with thanks also to Sunnydale Leisure Centre staff for their cooperation. Bring your roller skates along to Sunnydale Leisure Centre, Sundays 2.30 - 3.30pm - £4 or Spectrum Leisure, Willington on Wednesdays 4.30 - 5.30pm - £4.

For any more information - please ring 07891 461958

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## Film Show

The "FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church on TUESDAY 24th JANUARY features the 2016 British-Canadian-Irish romantic drama "BROOKLYN" Starring Saoirse Ronan, Julie Walters, Jim Broadbent, Emory Cohen and Domhnall Gleeson. Set in 1951, it is the story of young Irish girl, Eilis. Unhappy in Ireland she travels to find a better future in America and also finds romance, but is torn between two countries and two ways of life. You might just need a tissue but it's a lovely film to watch in friendly company. Tea and coffee will be served at 1pm, included in the £2. The film starts at 1.15pm. A variety of chairs are provided for your comfort, and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a great film in friendly company. EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME. For further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.