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Week Ending 24th March 2017

# Newton News

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## Talented Aycliffe Dancer Wins Trip to Florida



Dancers from Stepping Out with Clare Walton attended Diva 17 which is a huge freestyle event in Bridlington where dancers battled it out for the title. The dance school had many successes where dancers achieved many recalls, semi finalists and finalists with their small but mighty squad. Brother and Sister Dylan and Faith Jones both won their solo sections which meant they had to dance off for the over all grand prize which was a trip to Florida. Both dancers executed excellent performances along

with other very talented dancers and were extremely pleased with themselves, as were the teaching team at Stepping Out. Then came results time as the whole squad sat waiting on tender hooks to see who would get the once in a lifetime trip. To everyone's excitement it was announced Dylan Jones had won the overall Beginner of the Day winning an all expenses trip paid to Florida, Universal Studios - WOW! Dylan's team, parents and teachers are so proud of Dylan and not forgetting

his little sister Faith who certainly gave him a run for his money. How wonderful is it to have such talent here in our home town of Newton Aycliffe, fantastic! Photo features the dancers with their trophies: Holly Sanderson, Lauren Towell, Katie Towell, Kacey Cunningham, Hollie Mellanby, Rachel Bennett, Claudia Bennett, Sofie Mellanby, Dylan Jones, Faith Jones, Ruby Ferguson, Jamie Shelton. Not pictured: Georgia Thelwell and Ellis Naisbitt

## Spring Clean Aycliffe

Great Aycliffe Town Council are organising a day of community litter picks to

support Litter Free Durham's 'Big Spring Clean'. On Saturday 25th March local residents and community groups are encouraged to join Great Aycliffe Town Council and assist in the clear up of various locations. At 10am residents are asked to meet at Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve near the notice board off Ranulf Court. At 1pm there will be a further opportunity to help at Aycliffe Nature Park, off Travellers Green. Equipment and gloves will be provided- volunteers should wear suitable clothing and footwear. Anyone wanting to know more or wanting to get involved should contact Great Aycliffe Town Council on 01325 300700.

## Film Show

**"THE WAY WE WERE"**  
The "Feel Good Film Show" at St. Clare's Church on Tuesday 28th March features the romantic drama "The Way We Were" starring Barbra Streisand and Robert Redford as two star-crossed lovers with absolutely nothing in common apart from an attraction to each other. Tea and coffee is 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 details ring Ric Hargreaves - 316755.

## REME AGM

REME Association South West Durham Branch, AGM will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 29th March 2017 at the Scout Centre, Bluebell Way, Newton Aycliffe. All serving and ex-serving REME personnel welcome.

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## National Recognition for Durham Schools and Academies

Durham County Council has been given 'value added' awards in recognition of the achievement of its schools and academies.

Value added is when students achieve higher results than expected, and post-16 students in Durham schools and academies achieved some of the highest value added in the country in the 2016 A level and Applied General qualification exam results.

The awards were presented by Learning Plus UK at their recent post-16 Education Summit in London in recognition of the strong achievement of students in the 2016 examination.

Durham is one of only four local authorities to receive the awards and the only county to receive the award in two categories.

Caroline O'Neill, head of education, said: "These awards are testament to the dedication and hard work of young people and the highly skilled staff in school sixth forms in County Durham."

## I Hate Elections

Dear Sir,  
Election time is the rutting season for many of the big beasts of the wild woods, that are the political arena of local politics. A time of uncertainty, when – amongst the mainly nice – a few, often unpleasant, egocentric individuals become positively nasty. This unpleasantness is not confined to attacking the opposition; when there is no effective opposition they attack their own! From time to time, semi-literate individuals – normally puzzled as to which end of a pen is used for writing – suddenly flower into a renaissance of invective, on occasions, putting their name to letters penned by others, too cowardly to do

their own dirty work. Highlighting what they consider to be the flaws of others, forgetting their own. This will be the last local elections that I will fight – win, lose or draw. Yet, away from the strutting stags (and even amongst them) there is real dedication and outstanding talent at work in our community. Unsung councillors, including such as John Clark and James Atkinson, who work so hard within their communities, shunning self publicity and the trumpet call.

They and many others continue to give much to our town. The Independents play their part, too. I do hope that post-election, members will seriously consider selecting someone other than a Labour Party councillor, to represent GATC and the Town as Mayor. This ought to be non-political; an acknowledgement of Service, not prescriptive, as it is at present.

Obviously, public service is by no means the preserve of the local politician. There are dedicated people like Vince Crosby who voluntarily, spends all of his time in Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre making sure there are lots of activities for the young people of our town and who hopefully soon, will be securing the long-term future of the Centre. There are also those volunteers who freely give their time at the town's Food Bank. Also, I am not sure what else Honest John needs to do to be officially honoured for the cash he has raised for charity in our town.

In conclusion, soon the elections will be over and a sort of peace will descend on our town for another four years!  
Cllr Derek G Atkinson  
Denham Place

## Newtonian Opens New On-line Radio



Darloradio is a new Online Community Radio Station run by Phil Osborne an experienced radio presenter. He broadcast for over 2 years on Hospital Radio at North Tyneside before moving onto Bishop FM for as further 2 years. Phil then worked as a presenter at Star Radio for over a year until late last year.

He has lived in Newton Aycliffe for over 20 years and currently runs the station from home, while looking for a more permanent location for the station providing musical hits from the 60's through to today's charts. Darloradio also offers opportunities for North East bands, musicians and singers to get on the radio to giving them a local, national and European stage to showcase their talents.

See [darloradio.com/about-us](http://darloradio.com/about-us) for more details.

Advertisement time is available for local organisation events, and getting your message out on the radio has never been easier. Contact us at [darloradio.com/contacts](http://darloradio.com/contacts) with your details.

Businesses can advertise on Darloradio and on the station's website at very competitive rates. Sponsorship opportunities exist on air for businesses to sponsor the station or individual shows. Email [sales@darloradio.com](mailto:sales@darloradio.com) and we will contact you to talk through your specific requirements.

Anyone can easily listen to Darloradio online at [darloradio.com](http://darloradio.com) with any internet or Wi-Fi connected

## Easter Holiday Bus Trips

Trip organised by the Western Area community centre area as follows:

Wednesday 12th April - Preston Park. Cost £3 to be paid on booking.

Wednesday 19th April - South Shields. Cost £3 to be paid on booking.

Ring 07967 901477 or 308094 or 07851 053772 for booking details.

A Cinema Club and other activities will be held at the Community House during the school holidays

MAY DAY activities on the Green including Dancing round the Maypole, May Queen Princess competition and much more. Further details next week.

# THE TURBINIA

## \* Saturday Night Live \*

*The Very Best of Rock - Normally NO Cover Charge*

**Saturday 25th March**

**"Graham Henderson Experience"**

The Graham Henderson Experience was formed in 2014, the band features Ian Raine on bass (two albums with prog rockers DeeExpus and worked with 'Infinity' and 'Ultimate Bowie') and Graham's brother, Dave on drums (drum teacher and seasoned musician). Both Ian and Dave worked together previously in the pub rock scene.

**Review/Comments:** "The Graham Henderson Experience: One of the best guitarists in County Durham" (manager of Tutsters Bar from his FB page 2017).  
"Great Band, great night – booked back for the 16th December."  
(Jim, Manager of the John Duck).  
"Hi Graham, just wanted to say thanks for Saturday, all the staff said they had a great night."  
(Helen, Manageress of The Angel, Durham).  
"Never seen a band do a cover of Robin Trower - absolutely fantastic. I will definitely get my mates to come down here next time you are on."  
(Barry, The Moorhouse, Seaton Burn).  
"Good stuff, traditional pub rock" (Chris H); "Canny that" (Steve Strat); "Crackin bass player" (Uncle Raymee) . . . comments by Gig-Pit regulars on the band.

**Saturday 1st April - "Steve Ballantyne Band"**

**Sunday 2nd April - "Breakfast Club 80's"** (4pm, £3cc)

For more information on bands go to  
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## EMERGENCY VEHICLES SOCIETY RALLY

Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon is the venue for a rally by the North East Emergency Vehicles Society on Sunday April 2, 2017.

Approximately 60 classic emergency vehicles, classic commercial vehicles and classic cars are expected to attend.

The display is due to feature at least five classic fire engines, along with a classic ambulance, a classic police car, and approximately five classic Land Rovers.

Classic cars expected to attend include a display of 10 cars from the TVR Car Club.

Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon is open daily from 10am, and parking and admission are free of charge. For further information, please contact the museum team on 01904 685780.

Facebook: Big Club Disco Night

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## PREPARE TO BE VISITED!

The election was declared on Thursday 23 March and therefore, in the next few weeks, Joan Gray, Mike Dixon and John D Clare are going to try to do what we did last election and knock every door in Aycliffe North and Middridge ward. There are about 5,000, so please understand if we miss you or you are out when we call.

If you wish to make sure we speak to you, please email us A.NandM2017@outlook.com, and we will contact you to make a specific appointment at your convenience.

We also understand if you do not wish to speak to us – please just email us, and we will remember not to knock your door and will just leave a calling card with our election promises on it.

Joan Gray, Mike Dixon and John D Clare

# Bishop Auckland MRI Scanner Appeal Gains Momentum



The recently launched charity appeal to raise £2.5m to bring state of the art MRI scanners to Bishop Auckland Hospital and

Darlington Memorial Hospital is already receiving donations and offers of support from politicians, businesses and members of the public alike.

Councillor Joy Allen, who represents Bishop Auckland, and others keen to be involved in fundraising for the appeal met at Bishop Auckland Hospital and were shown the current radiology facilities by Dr Elizabeth Loney, clinical director of radiology at County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Allen, said, "This is great news for the residents of Bishop Auckland and the surrounding area as well as for the hospital. We have a fantastic building offering a wide range of services to patients from across the county. I am delighted to take this opportunity to get behind the appeal and help raise awareness and funds for the MRI scanner which will improve patient experience and the environment and more importantly the diagnostics and outcomes for local people. As a local resident, Councillor and Trust Governor, I am keen to play an active role in helping to raise funds to support the purchase of this much needed equipment.

"I encourage everyone to get involved either by making a donation or running a fundraising event – after all we never know when we or a loved one might need an MRI.

in training techniques for clinicians, nurses and others involved in patient care. We're also looking forward to the forthcoming opening of a 24 hour minor injury unit.

Dr Elizabeth Loney, Clinical Director for Radiology, adds, "MRI scans are particularly good at looking at soft tissues. Tremendous advances in technology over recent years mean they can be enormously helpful in diagnosing cancer, heart conditions, strokes and many other health issues. Scans can also give doctors information that previously required the patient to undergo surgery or another invasive procedure as part of the investigation of their symptoms. Crucially, MRI scanners don't use radiation, unlike x-rays.

"MRI scans are so useful we're doing more of them each year. In the last year alone the number of MRI scans has increased by 11%.

"In the past, some patients have been unable to tolerate the noise or have felt claustrophobic during the scan

which can result in it being abandoned. An MRI scan can take between 30 minutes and an hour - much longer than people may realise, so comfort is really important. Modern scanners have a choice of music the patient can listen to – they can even bring their own! "An MRI scanner is one of the most expensive pieces of equipment a hospital will ever purchase and with the NHS facing huge financial challenges we need to seek public help in buying them. "We've already had donations from people happy with the care they or a loved one has received, regardless of whether

they had a scan. We'd love the whole community, including individuals, companies, schools, sports clubs etc, to support us by holding events such as coffee mornings, cake sales and sponsored activities in aid of the Scanner Appeal. Every pound counts. After all, you never know when you or a loved one might need a scan.

"We're happy to offer support and advice and will be publicising events and fundraising on the CDDFT website."

If you would like to make a donation to our MRI appeal or get involved see details on Page 13.



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There will be a FREE TROLL prize giveaway and prizes can be viewed on our page Youth/ChildrenSt.Clares.

When? Saturday 1st April, (yes really, no fools here!) Time? Doors open 1.30pm for a 2pm start - film will finish 3.40pm. Where? St. Clare's Movie Hall, St. Clare's Church.

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## Disgusting Behaviour

Dear Sir,  
The Chestnuts at School Aycliffe has all the appearance of being a very nice estate. It's a shame some of the dog owners are lazy, dirty and disrespectful to other residents.

Nobody lives more than a five minute walk from the dog waste bins. So why when they are full, which happens occasionally at weekends, do they leave their mess on or around the bin for others to clear rather than take it home?

They should be ashamed of their disgusting behaviour. Name and address supplied



## Partnership Opens New Aycliffe Online Business



Pixel Media has recently began operating in and around Newton Aycliffe with owners Ian Proctor and Graham Marsh driving the business forward. Ian Grew up in Newton Aycliffe attending Greenfield Comprehensive School. Having left school in 1994, Ian worked at The Foresters Arms and then Thorn Lighting. He left to look after his young family whilst working part time at Tesco in Newton Aycliffe. Many remember his unique customer service on the tills where locals queued up to be served by him. During this time, Ian helped run toddler groups and youth groups in the town. He left Tesco in 2009 and trained as a teacher at Durham University where he specialised in IT. After a period teaching he planned a business venture as

Happy Cabs, a taxi company, in and around Aycliffe. Having ran the business successfully for over a year, Ian changed business direction by creating Pixel Media with long-standing friend Graham where his vision was to create amazing digital promotion material locally. Ian lives with his wife Alison who teaches in Newton Aycliffe and their 4 children who attend schools within the town. Graham grew up in Pelton and went to Newcastle College to study design. Graham moved to Aycliffe 15 years ago and ran the Youth Programme at the Xcel Centre. His passion to see young people reach their potential was infectious where he built relationships with young people in and around Newton Aycliffe for over a decade. He left here and returned to

his design roots with a design company in Bishop Auckland where he rekindled his passion to create stunning digital designs.

Graham recently left his latest role as a youth worker where he again changed young people's journeys in life for the better. He has now joined up with Ian to create Pixel Media and unlock his design potential and keen eye to detail. He currently lives near Bishop Auckland with his wife Janine and his two children.

Together, Ian and Graham make up a dynamic team which can deliver on many differing levels to customers. Pixel Media is a design company that creates websites, promotional material, full branding, rebranding, signage, online marketing, pay per click advertising and social media assistance.

The idea of Pixel Media is to create stunning, attention grabbing material that reflects the clients business perfectly. Building outstanding relationships with each client is central to what they do. Customers have been impressed with their approach so far and the team strive to deliver an outstanding service with every project.

Pixel Media has three core values which stand out: Creative – Supportive – Affordable. We want our local businesses to look great and be competitive online as well as in the High Street.

Find out more on their website [www.pixelmedia.online](http://www.pixelmedia.online) or go to their Facebook page Pixel Media. Ian and Graham would love to hear from you on how they could impact your business, simply call: 07930 843999

## BURGLARS CAUGHT

The Town Centre management, take seriously any crime on their property and will progress to court, where we can, any vandalism not only in the town centre but around the town generally.

Recently a case for burglary and conspiracy to commit burglary was brought against Dane Sanderson, Sarah Shenton, Liam Pearson, Matthew Milward, Michael Hannah, Matthew Todd & Joseph Lee who all received sentences. These included community orders for 12 months and a conditional discharge.

## Aycliffe Accountants Create 12 New Jobs in 6 Months

A fast-growing team of accountants has taken on more staff after creating its own traineeship programme which has produced four new apprentices. The Durham franchise of Certax has been based at Parson's Court on Aycliffe Business Park since August 2013.

After impressive growth, partners Matthew McConnell and Jonathan Tait bought their own premises in 2015 after renting a nearby office block for two years. In September 2016, Certax Durham added eight new employees to its growing team and has since added another four.

They include new payroll director Craig Holmes and apprentices Nathan Ebbelwhite (accounts), Ellis Tait (accounts), Shelby Raine (admin) and Aran Wilkinson (tax), who have completed a new training programme with the firm.

Certax teamed up with a local recruitment consultant to advertise the traineeship scheme, which received 60 applicants who were whittled down to 10. Seven took part in the six-week training programme. The four successful applicants started their apprenticeships in January, three studying at New College Durham and one at Bishop Auckland College.

Matthew McConnell said: "We wanted to come up with a training programme to give young local people the opportunity to get a foot in the door of accounting and finance. During the six-week training programme the applicants



got a general feel for how the business works. They'd spend the morning on basic work experience – answering the phones and general admin – and in the afternoon they spent time with a tutor, learning basic accounting and VAT return analysis.

Along with the appointment of Craig Holmes as payroll director, Certax has also promoted three junior staff to account managers.

The move will enable the partners to spend more time on business development while completing their studies to become fully-accredited chartered accountants.

Matthew said "We have ambitious plans to grow the business so we've appointed three accounts managers to manage our bank of clients, while Craig will also be solely responsible for existing payroll clients as well as winning new work. It will enable us to spend more time with our clients and develop the business, as well as complete our studies to become fully chartered accountants.

"Becoming fully chartered will enable us to win more new clients and grow the business further."

Certax's team at Aycliffe is now 20, with a client list of over 1,000.

It's an impressive success story for entrepreneurs McConnell and Tait, who were aged just 23 and 22 respectively when they launched the business with one administrator.

Certax Durham can help businesses with all elements of finance, from audits, self assessment tax, payroll and VAT returns, accounts for sole traders, partnerships and limited companies, personal and business taxation planning, company formation and corporation tax compliance and planning.

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## Model Railway Show Raised £2,500 for Charity

Model Railway enthusiasts from many parts of the country have helped to raise £2,500 to support children with cerebral palsy and other physical disabilities as well as young people battling life-threatening brain tumours.

Organisers of this year's Model Railway Exhibition staged by the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe have voted the event 'another huge success'. During the day, 500 visitors to the Youth & Community Centre venue in the town enjoyed 19 working layouts, 10 trade stands and 4 preservation society exhibits.

Visitors included Rotary District Governor Peter Chandler, Durham County Council Vice Chairman and Newton Aycliffe Rotarian Mike Dixon, and Great Aycliffe Mayor Cllr Jed Hillary.

Profits from the exhibition will be shared between 'Heel and Toe', a local charity looking after children with cerebral palsy and physical disabilities in County Durham and Darlington, The Brain Tumour Research Campaign (brain tumours kill more young people than any other cancer), and Rotary's own local charities. "We were delighted with the



Andrew Robson of Shildon Model Railway Club receiving the John Henry Jones Memorial Trophy for his layout "Shildon" from Charlotte Icton, John's granddaughter with Rotary President Nora Scott (left) and Event Organiser John Burrows.

support we received once again this year," said Rtn John Burrows who headed the organising team.

Whilst the 'Thomas and Friends' layout was the undoubted highlight for the younger visitors, the "Artident" layout from Middlesbrough Model Railway Club proved favourite in the 'The People's Choice' competition.

Winner of the 'John Henry Jones Memorial Trophy' was 'Shildon' from the

Shildon Model Railway Club and was presented by Charlotte Icton, granddaughter of John Henry Jones who helped found the exhibition 8 years ago.

Rtn. Nora Scott, President of the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe, said later: "This exhibition is now well-established on the model railway circuit and is an excellent method of bringing visitors to the town whilst benefitting important charities".

## Baby Signing Back



Jules Baxter is happy to announce that Signing Tots is back in Newton Aycliffe! Due to popular demand, Jules has started a brand new set of baby signing sessions at Woodham Community Centre which are really successful.

The plan is to run these ongoing in 6 week block courses to ensure every little one can take advantage of these wonderful sessions!

Jules teaches British Sign Language to parents/carers of babies aged 6 months and above to help ease frustration and open a door into communicating from a very young age! It is a very effective language and can help with speech development alongside having good fun.

The sessions are a great way to interact with the babies and a lot of fun using puppets and props and bubbles with lots of songs for the babies and parents to learn!

Jules is also looking into starting Sign 'n' Sing sessions for toddlers aged 18 months

and above to add more fun! If you'd like further information, please contact Jules on 07966 968388 or find her on Facebook: Signing Tots

## Spring Coffee and Cakes

Join Us At St Elizabeth's Church for our Spring Coffee Morning on April 1st at 10am, with delightful Spring raffle and delicious cakes and bakes. All welcome and refreshments will be available.

## MRI Donations

Two donations received at Newton Press offices for the MRI Appeal.

£10 from Rita, Grumpy Old Mans Club, Fishburn and Bill and Joan Curtis - £20.

## WANTED & THANK YOU

Donations of old china cabinets in good condition, bow or flat front (not sliding doors) for display and sale - please deliver to John's shop between 10am and 3.30pm Monday to Friday.

Also wanted: decorative pottery, glassware, old tea sets etc. 1960s and 1970s vinyl LPs, DVDs, CDs, as well as all the usual donations of bric-a-brac and household goods.

Good condition small electrical items can be taken, thanks to the kindness of David Liddell giving his PAT testing services free of charge, Thank you David.

Thanks to DISC charity, providing John's sales area free of any charge. Honest John has no expenses, no overheads (except Public Liability Insurance), so every penny taken is given back to our community good causes. Many thanks of course to Valerie for her very much appreciated volunteering every afternoon, her help and company is second to none.

**For donations to John, in the first instance please ring with details 01325 316630 after 5pm any day.**

(Sorry, but I unfortunately cannot take books, toys, clothing or games).

John's Aycliffe Community Kitty - Registered Charity).  
www.jack4.co.uk



Mayor of Great Aycliffe Jed Hillary with David Burrows and his layout Mynydd Fach watched by Event Organiser John Burrows

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# T.A.'s Pay - Not a Good Achievement

Dear Sir  
In response to the "Councillor Achievements" letter from Cllr. Clare I would like to thank the Labour councillors for all their hard work throughout the year. In particular the stand out achievement was when the Labour controlled Durham County Council voted to terminate the contracts of low paid teaching assistants and reinstate them on term time only contracts, leaving most of them out of pocket by up to 23%. This was done under the guise of reducing the risk of unfair pay claims against the council. This would have had devastating consequences, forcing many experienced teaching assistants into poverty or to leave the profession they love. After an effective media campaign by the Unison union together with the tenacious teaching assistants

the Council sensibly took a step backwards, postponed the decision to terminate contracts and re-entered into negotiations with the unions. Durham's under-threat teaching assistants are reportedly supported by the Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn who recently told the Labour Council to "get this sorted". This act of political vandalism has upset many traditional Labour supporters in Aycliffe. This should be remembered when the same Labour councillors ask for your vote and they remind you that they represent the interests of working men and women. For public record, I wonder if the Aycliffe and Middridge Labour councillors would like to let the readers know how they voted on this important issue. Gary Blenkinsopp Hawthorn Drive School Aycliffe

# OPEN ART EXHIBITION SHOWCASE & WORKSHOPS



Greenfield Arts is currently hosting their annual Open Art Exhibition, which is open until Wednesday 26th April. This year the applications were open to all manner of creatives

so the exhibition is host to its first poetry and film display, something the team are very proud to promote. The exhibition boasts extraordinary local and

regional talent, which includes artwork applying a range of specialist media from pen and paint to printing and collage, resulting in a delightful array of colour and texture. The aim of the exhibition is to showcase the talent and creativity within everyone, not just professionals; so it is great to see so many people get involved from all over the North East.

The exhibition will run alongside events and workshops including a closing celebration on Wednesday 26th April where you can purchase items from local crafters, try your hand at some of the artistic practices, hear from the artists and listen to poetry readings. There will even be the chance to gain advice and guidance on managing your own exhibition, including hanging as well as marketing from the Greenfield Gallery team. This workshop will also be repeated during the daytime on Wednesday 12th April, prior to the event on 26th April, for those who cannot make it.

All visitors are welcome and activities are suitable for all ages. To enable us to manage numbers please book your place on our online course booking system on our website: [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk). For further information please contact our friendly team on 01325 379048 or email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk)

# £900 for Hospital ITU



The family and friends of a young man who sadly died following a road accident 25 years ago have dedicated themselves to supporting good causes in his name.

Ada and Frank Hutchinson, who lost their son, Gary, in 1992, made the most recent donation to the intensive treatment unit at Darlington Memorial Hospital, where Gary sadly spent his final days. They visited the unit to present a cheque for £900. Mrs Hutchinson, said, "We've raised over £100K for all kinds of causes over the years and couldn't have done this without support of many of Gary's friends. He would have been 50 a few weeks ago and his friends held a party in his honour at which donations were made. "Gary received excellent care at Darlington Memorial Hospital and the nurses are wonderful but even after all these years it's still difficult coming back. They say loss gets easier over time but,

unfortunately, we haven't found that to be the case. We're lucky enough to also have two daughters, Claire and Lisa and two lovely grandchildren."

Diane Cruickshank, ITU manager, said, "I was incredibly moved to hear about the fundraising Gary's family and friends have done in his name for the past 25 years. His parents wanted to deliver their donation themselves and were amazed at the changes in ITU. In 1992 we were a four-bedded unit and Frank and Ada commented on how much bigger and brighter it is – we have 12 beds now.

"ITU patients can become quite isolated from the outside world and this very generous donation will help us provide an iPad for each of our ITU beds so patients and their loved ones can use the internet or perhaps watch a favourite TV programme or film."



Compiled by  
County Councillor  
John Clare

Readers will probably find that Council news falls away during the 'purdah' period of the election, but there are some important items of Community News this week, and some fantastic local events coming up. Internet links to the articles below are at [bit.ly/CNB22317](http://bit.ly/CNB22317)

**COUNCIL**

- County Council meeting, 22 March 2017
- There's still time to register to vote in the 4 May election
- County Durham News published
- Leaflet returns: important issues, big issues and truthful answers
- MEPs' March newsletter
- Latest Roadworks information

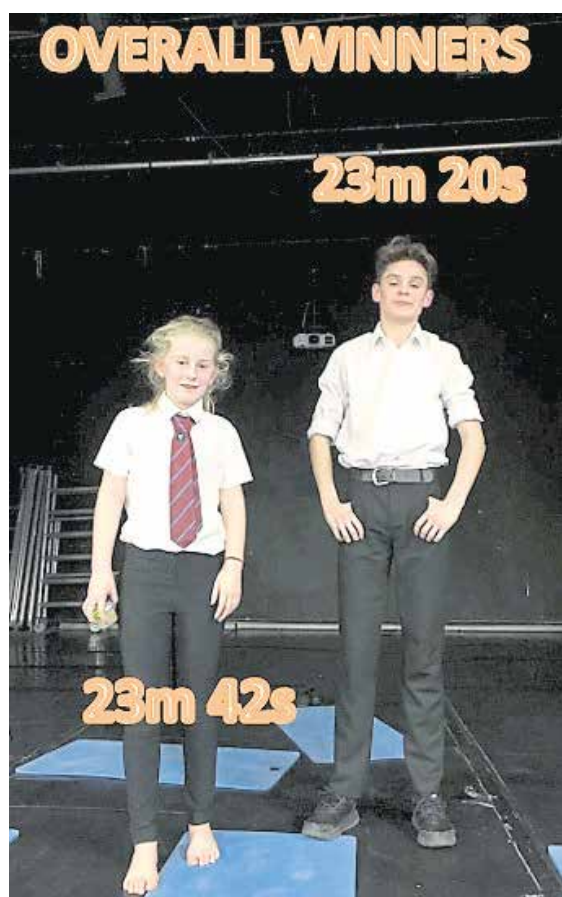
## COMMUNITY

- Community Safety Fund funding opportunities
- PCVC's Annual Report and

HoggWatch magazine

- Hitachi's Karen Boswell on the skills shortfall and gender gap in engineering
- Was Burn Lane a Roman Road?
- 'This is Durham' newsletter
- DLI exhibition video
- Bishop Auckland Food Festival, 1-2 April
- Beamish Museum: 'Old King Coal' – Banner parades and brass bands – 10am-5pm, 29 March to 2 April
- Low Barns Nature Reserve: pond-dipping, 10am-noon, Saturday 1 April – book at 01388 718606
- Durham Oriental Museum: 'Dazzling Dragons', 1-3pm, Saturday 1 April
- Guided Walk: 'The abandoned farms of Weardale' (9 miles), 10am-3pm, Friday 31 March – meet at the lay-by on the B6278 just before bridge coming from Stanhope NY 986 393

# Annual Plank Test



Greenfield Community College PE Department recently held their annual 'Plank' challenge for both pupils and staff to see who could hold the fitness related plank position for the longest amount of time.

The competition ran throughout January and up to the February half-term as part of a new year fitness related challenge. It also coincided with the PE department's health related fitness units that pupils were involved in. Several staff members got involved and this only proved to spur pupils on to want to beat their teacher's even more. This year the competition was held across both campuses with the final 'Plank Off' on the last day of term. It was a huge success with competitors being cheered on by a packed audience. With well over 200 watching, over 40 pupils and staff lined up to try and take the Greenfield 'Plank

off' crown for 2017. Pupils, both male and female, from all year groups took part with teacher's such as Mrs Browbank, Mrs Lumsdon, Mr Hindhaugh, Mr Davies, Mr Tarn, Mr Smith and Mr Allison in attendance.

With so many students and staff taking part, the competition had to be set over a number of rounds with the winners from each round showcasing their time. The record from last year was well and truly beaten by two competitors from the Sunnydale campus with times of 23 minutes and 20 seconds (Lewis) and the overall winning time of a staggering 23 minutes and 42 seconds (Abbie). Absolutely amazing effort by these two pupils, and we all will need to get some serious training in ready for next year if we are to challenge these times!! Well done to everyone who took part from all of Greenfield PE Department.

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## Great Support for New Dog Control Plans

Plans to introduce new enforcement powers for dog control have been met with overwhelming approval.

The new powers, which will mean irresponsible pet owners could be fined up to £1,000, are part of Durham County Council's new Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).

The introduction of the PSPO will mean that from 1st June the following will become a fineable offence in County Durham:

- allowing a dog to stray;
- failing to put a dog on a lead when asked by an authorised officer;
- allowing dogs into fenced off designated play areas.

The existing offence for allowing a dog to foul without picking it up will continue under the PSPO.

From August to December 2016, Durham County Council sought public views on the proposal to implement the PSPO, and found that 80 per cent of respondents to the consultation agreed with the proposal.

The consultation also found that the majority of those who took part supported the PSPO in the hope that it will:

- encourage responsible dog ownership;
- reduce the number of strays;
- create safe and welcoming fixed play space areas;



• tackle dog fouling incidents. During 2015/16, the Council received 1,778 calls about stray dogs and collected 1,173 stray dogs. By making it an offence to allow a dog to stray, it is hoped the number of stray dogs will decrease, which is a key concern that residents have raised with the council.

Trained council officers and Durham Constabulary staff will be able to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for £100 (discounted to £60 if paid within 10 working days) for breach of the Public Space Protection Order.

Failure to pay the FPN will lead to prosecution, with a maximum fine of £1,000.

The order will not apply to anyone who is registered as blind, is disabled or who uses a trained assistance dog.

Cllr Simon Henig, Leader of Durham County Council, said: "We are very pleased with the positive response and welcoming comments by members of the public who agreed, by majority, to

implement a Public Space Protection Order for dog control in County Durham.

"These new powers will enable us to take action against irresponsible dog owners and those who affect the public's health and wellbeing through their actions."

"The new order will also complement our ongoing education and engagement programmes, which encourage dog owners to do the right thing and act in the best interests of others to protect the towns and villages where we live, work or visit."

Oliver Sherratt, head of direct services, said: "While most dog owners in our county are responsible, it is the minority who spoil our local communities and environment for others to enjoy. These new powers will help to keep our neighbourhoods clean, green and safe."

For more information visit [www.durham.gov.uk/dogcontrol](http://www.durham.gov.uk/dogcontrol) or [www.durham.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation)

## Three DLI Assurances

We acknowledge the letter from the Faithful Durhams in last week's Newton News, and regret their distress at the changes that have been made to the Durham Light Infantry Museum. However, a museum is not the building but the collection, and we must insist that Durham County Council has not closed the DLI Museum – it has just moved it.

In fact DCC has done many things and spent a substantial amount of money trying to save and secure the Museum – measures which indeed were listed in the Faithful Durhams' letter. Hopefully, people will come in time to accept that the high-viz exhibition at Palace Green and the high-quality storage at Sevenhills are long-term for the best.

There are three things which we would wish to emphasise:

(1) Nobody is going to reduce the scattered ashes to 'a few sods of grass' and have sought explicit assurance on this from DCC.

(2) We note that a new DLI exhibition – 'Courage, Comrades, Community' – has just been opened at Palace Green Library ([bit.ly/2nqpW99](http://bit.ly/2nqpW99)) and would urge everybody to go and see it.

(3) We had already made it one of our election promises that, if elected, we will use our Councillors' Initiative Fund to pay the £30 fee for any community group in Great Aycliffe and Middlesbrough which wishes to have a visit from the 'travelling DLI exhibition' – just get in touch after the election.

*Eddy Adam, James Atkinson, John D Clare, Mike Dixon, Joan Gray, Kate Hopper and Sarah Iveson.*

## Golden Restoration for the Mighty Wurlitzer



During January and February this year the North East Theatre Organ Association carry out maintenance on the Mighty Wurlitzer, this year it has been given a Golden makeover. The top panels along with the decorative pillar ends also the organ foot pedal board and bench have been sent away to a specialist factory to have all the gold leaf of the Mighty Wurlitzer restored and repainted.

The pedal board being re-brushed and refinished, the manual keyboards also needed some attention to level up the keys as over the last number of years the keys have had significant wear and tear and become uneven and the contacts suffer. All have been restored to the correct settings and with the Gold leafing restored along

with the painting, the Mighty Wurlitzer is back to its former golden glory.

NETOA Chairman John Heslop says "the gold leafing and repainting will add to the Mighty Wurlitzer magical experience at concerts and events in the future"

Next concerts at the New Victoria Centre, Howden-Le-Wear, Nr. Crook are: **Saturday 8th April at 7.00pm and Sunday 9th April at 2.30pm** with brilliant international organist and entertainer "JOHN MANN". Tel 01388 762467, email: [david.kirkbride@netoa.org.uk](mailto:david.kirkbride@netoa.org.uk) Website: [www.netoa.org.uk](http://www.netoa.org.uk)

**Sunday 30th April at 2.30pm** "New Vic. Allstars" play the Mighty Wurlitzer concert with cream tea included. Tel 01388 601596 or email [frdthompson0@gmail.com](mailto:frdthompson0@gmail.com)

## Aycliffe's Knight in Shining Armour



On Saturday 11th March ACORN residents had an outing to the Royal Armouries in Leeds led by Chairman Ken Robson (pictured). Swords, armour, paintings models, cavalry and even modern arms were displayed on five floors. Many also explored Leeds City Centre with its large selection of high street stores only a fifteen-minute walk away. At the rear of Debenhams was a large indoor and outdoor market bringing back memories of our town centre market day.

The next ACORN trip will be Whitby for the Goth weekend on 23rd April with a few seats available @£5 contact Ken on 321471

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## Care Home Services

At the end of March the Clergy and Pastoral Team from Great Aycliffe Parish and their helpers will be visiting all Care and Nursing Homes on the town for Easter Services with Communion for those who wish to take part.

Anyone is welcome to come along and join the Services, which give a lot of pleasure to all residents. Many will be wearing Easter Bonnets which they have made in their activity groups. The Services begins at 11.00am on the following dates.

**Rose Lodge - Monday 27th March**  
**Defoe Court - Wednesday 29th March**  
**Woodham Grange - Friday 31st March**  
**Aycliffe Care Home - Monday 3rd April**  
**Lindisfarne Home - Wednesday 5th April**  
**Bethany Centre - Friday 7th April**  
**St. Clare's Court - Monday 10th April**

Further information from Pam Lovelass, APA. Tel: 316841.

## Mini Police Visit HQ



Mini Police from Woodham Burn School attended the headquarters of the Interceptors at Spennymoor. The students had a guided tour around the station as well as a look around the Armed Response vehicle and motorbikes. The mini Police project has four schools in Newton Aycliffe funded through GAMP.

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## £150,000 Community Safety Fund Available

Community groups and voluntary sector organisations have the opportunity to apply for a grant, thanks to a Community Safety Fund launched. Funding is available for projects and initiatives across County Durham and Darlington that help to keep communities safe and contribute towards inspiring public confidence.

Ron Hogg, Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner, has continued his partnership with local grant-making charity County Durham Community Foundation (CDCF) for a third year. Under the partnership, Ron contributes £100,000 to the Fund and a further £50,000 comes from CDCF.

Ron said: "I am delighted to make the Community Safety Fund available again this year. It's great news for local groups or voluntary organisations looking for funding to improve community safety within their neighbourhoods."

The scheme has proven extremely popular in previous years, and thanks to the £50,000 contribution from CDCF, an even bigger pot is available for local communities."

The key themes that the fund is looking to support for 2017-18 include projects and activities that:

- Encourage diversionary activities,
  - Tackle anti-social behaviour,
  - Tackle harm caused by alcohol, drugs, and violence.
- Barbara Gubbins, Chief Executive of County Durham Community Foundation, said: "The partnership with Ron and his team has worked extremely well over the last two years and we are very pleased to be running this worthwhile programme again. We look forward to receiving innovative bids from voluntary sector groups which keep our communities safe."

The closing date for applications is Friday 28th April 2017. For details, and to apply, visit: <http://www.cdcf.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/grants-for-groups/county-durham-and-darlington-community-safety-fund>

## Sculpture Family Returns



## Greenfield go Ghost-Hunting

On the 3rd of March, staff and students from Greenfield Community College visited Chillingham Castle in Northumberland for an historical ghost tour. Reputedly the most haunted castle in England, Chillingham was home to the famous Grey family since the 12th century. Originally, the castle existed to repulse the Scots and maintain the English border. Hundreds of Scots were tortured and murdered within the castle walls, with many more hanged in the nearby forest. The tour started in utter darkness as the guide described the various ghostly sightings over the years and the remains of women and children found in the castle walls. Students spent two hours exploring the ancient building and, for many of them, experiencing strange encounters. In the end, no one could face the thought of going home - everyone made sure to check under their beds!

Residents are pleased to see the return of their 'family' on the Green at Middridge. The damage they sustained last year has been repaired by three volunteers from the village, David and Leslie Beavis and Alan Wilson, with the cost of materials provided by Middridge Parish Council.

The sculptures were first presented to the Police by Greenfield College students to help stop speeding through the village. The 'family' are really pleased to be back home, but would welcome all motorists slowing down as they pass them.

## ANTI DRUG TREATMENT

On the question of helping drug addicts posed in last week's edition Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner, Ron Hogg, said "I have asked our local public health departments to suggest a series of options which would enable us to introduce Heroin Assisted Treatment in the Durham area."

The aim would be to enable people who have become addicted to heroin to follow a programme that would stabilise their addiction in a controlled environment, and reduce their dependency on heroin until they stop taking it. They would also follow a conventional drug addict support programme."

"The aim of the initiative is to save the lives of addicts, shut down drug dealers and reduce acquisitive crime. Instead of stealing in order to fund their habit, and money flowing into organised crime gangs, addicts will be helped to recover. The costs associated with it would be saved through reduced costs in the longer term to the courts, prisons, the police, and wider society."

## Bargain Buys Grows



Bargain buys is pleased to announce it has now joined forces with Euronics to become one of their official agents.

David Rowland, director, explains being part of Euronics is complicated but the simplest way of explaining it is, it's a bit like a franchise, we still own the business but are now one of their agents, it's great as Euronics are actually bigger than Currys they have shops all over Europe and over 700 in this country.

We've always been very proud of our name but realise

it may put some people off or maybe people don't realise the quality of goods we sell. Everything we sell is brand new supplied by some of the best brands like Smeg, Bosch, LG and Blomberg.

It's also opened other avenues for us as we now sell online through Euronics site [www.euronics.co.uk](http://www.euronics.co.uk) and we also now sell and fix TV's!

All in all we're are very excited going forward our new signs will be going up and you may have already noticed our vans going around the town with the new logos.

## Summer Opening Hours for Household Waste Centres

Residents in Durham are being informed that the county's Household Waste Recycling Centres will soon be switching to summer opening hours.

Between 1 April and 30 September, HWRCs will operate the following summer opening hours:


9.00am - 6.00pm everyday: Heighington Lane, Newton Aycliffe

Cllr Brian Stephens, Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and local partnerships at Durham County Council, said: "The HWRCs will be open longer from 1 April giving people more opportunity to use the sites to dispose of waste and recycle. Details of all HWRCs, including locations and opening hours, are available at [www.durham.gov.uk/hwrc](http://www.durham.gov.uk/hwrc) or by calling Durham County Council on 03000 26 1000.



Residents who are planning to visit a HWRC in a van, trailer, mini-bus or pick-up will need to apply for a free waste permit in advance.

This can be done online at [www.durham.gov.uk/householdpermit](http://www.durham.gov.uk/householdpermit) or by calling 03000 26 1000.

Commercial waste produced by businesses and landlords is not accepted at HWRCs and must be disposed of by a registered waste carrier. Further details can be found at [www.durham.gov.uk/commercialwaste](http://www.durham.gov.uk/commercialwaste)




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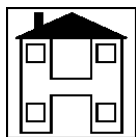
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## NEWTON AYCLIFFE W.M.C.

### FRIDAY, 21st APRIL, 2017 at 7.30pm

### Telephone: 07580 398084



## Easter Sale at OMEPLAN

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## BIGGER DISCOUNTS

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(while stocks last)

So come on let's get started!

*It's Springtime!*





## Students Sporting Challenge

As part of Rights Respecting Day Year 9 students at Greenfield Community College had a practical themed day where they had the opportunity to learn about disability in relation to sport. The day focused on the difficulties of being a disabled sports person and the challenges this may present. The students were able to take part in a number of events including blind football and sit down volleyball. The activities gave them a real insight into the lives of Paralympic competitors and some of the difficulties they have to overcome but also how rewarding the sport can be. The students commented about what a fantastic day it had been and how much more respect and understanding they now gained for people that have to cope with a disability everyday.



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To register an interest please contact Stuart on 01325 300212

## Juniors Football Report



The Aycliffe Juniors were involved in another great weekend of football both at Sunnydale and across the region.

On Saturday it was our Russell Foster League teams in action. The Under 7's continued their Spring Cup playing against North East Sport Spartans and won 3-0. They controlled the game from start to finish with lots of chances and fantastic goals scored by Dylan, Thomas and Lewis. Dylan was the games man of the match.

The Under 9's were also in the Spring Cup and played Chester le Street Hoops. Jake scored an amazing 6 goals in this 8-1 win, with Jay and Kenzie also on target. Jack was named as the man of the match. All the lads and Layla had great games to keep their winning streak going.

The Under 11's are concluding their league programme and

looked to consolidate their mid table position playing against North East Sports Tigers. They came away with a 3-1 win after a strong performance. Noah opened the scoring and Anthony doubled the lead before half time. A goal was conceded but the team were spurred on by this and a headed goal by Charlie finished the scoring. Tom Aspinall was named as man of the match.

On Sunday it was the TJFA and Durham FA league teams taking to the pitch. The Under 9's travelled to play top of the table Darlington Spraire Lads Eagles. They were outstanding from beginning to end and came up with a superb 4-0 win. Niall (2), Connor and Jack were the scorers and Harvey was the man of the match. In the second game Will scored four goals and was the man of the match in another good win.

The Under 10's entertained Saxon Juniors and secured a 2-2 draw. The goals came from Zack and man of the match Charlie in a much improved team performance. The Under 11's played away

at Middleton Rangers. The team looked deflated after the Semi Final loss last week and sunk to an uncharacteristic 6-2 loss. The goals were scored by Charlie and Lucas. The Under 17's also played Middleton Rangers who are potential League Challenge Cup Final opponents for this team. Lewis scored either side of half time to put them 2-0 up. Kieran scored a good goal beating three men on his way then Arran, Sam and Tom added goals in a 6-0 win. This win was even more impressive given that due to injuries and work commitments Aycliffe played with only 10 men.

The Under 23's made the short trip to face neighbours Shildon. The first half was fiercely contested and Shildon got the opening goal from a corner after forty minutes. It remained a tight game with few chances, the opportunity to equalise came with five minutes left but after a good move the shot from Raisbeck was agonisingly wide. The game ended 1-0 to Shildon with Andrew Vincent named as the man of the match.

## Sunderland Beat NAFC

Following a midweek draw against Seaham Red Star Newton Aycliffe FC gained a point away at Sunderland RCA, with a 0-0 result. Neither side played to the best of their abilities on what was a bobbly pitch. There were no clear chances early in the game, Aycliffe then suffered a blow when centre half Liam Browne had to go off with an injury, and was replaced by Ben Wood.

A minute later Dan Mitton had a chance following a corner, but put his shot wide. RCA then had a good spell, with Phil Pentony making two good saves on 27 and 30 minutes. On 37 minutes, Aycliffe captain Jamie Owens broke away, but with only the goalie to beat he skied his shot.

Two minutes later, RCA had a goal disallowed when centre forward Butler headed home, but was adjudged by referee Lucy Oliver to have fouled Mattie Lovegreen in the process. Half-time 0-0.

Although Aycliffe had the slope in their favour in the second half, RCA started the brighter. They headed over 10 minutes in, and

then on the hour Pentony made a great save from RCA's Charlton in a one-on-one situation. RCA then had another chance when they played in a good cross from the right, but it evaded the forwards. Jack Oliver replaced Josh Gray, and he had a chance when he managed to get around Carmichael in the home goal, but then put his shot past the post.

RCA went straight up the other end and in an incredible escape for Aycliffe, RCA hit the bar, with Butler putting the rebound over the bar when it was easier to score. Both sides went for a winner, but neither created a good chance. Full-time 0-0.

Aycliffe now face two more away games with a trip to Ashington on Saturday 25 March followed by FA Vase finalists South Shields on Tuesday 28 March. There next home match will be on Saturday 1 April when current FA Vase holders Morpeth Town will be the visitors to Moore Lane. Aycliffe keeper and man of the match Phil Pentony in action.

## Legacy Tackle are Coming Home



Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd April will see the reopening of our Aycliffe store and we would like to offer customers a 10% off all purchases for the opening weekend.

Normal operating hours will be Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and Saturday 9am to 3pm, we will have a temporary number of 07444 643581 whilst we await our new landline being installed. We will be selling all aspects of bait for carp anglers and coarse anglers alike, along with tackle from many big name brands. Day tickets are also on sale for the Aycliffe Angling Club and these will be available in store at £5 per ticket.

Our new address is next door to our old unit, for those that visited previously, and for those that hadn't had chance we are based at: Legacy Tackle, Eric Smith Timber Yard, Whinbank Road, Aycliffe Business Park DL5 6AY. Free parking and refreshments available. Come see us for some opening weekend bargains!



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Website: [www.legacytackle.co.uk](http://www.legacytackle.co.uk)

Email: [legacytackle@outlook.com](mailto:legacytackle@outlook.com)

Telephone: 07444 643581

**GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL**

**AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that:

A meeting of the Audit Sub-Committee of the Town Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on:

**WEDNESDAY, 5th APRIL 2017  
at 6.00pm**

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. Agendas and Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. ([www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk))



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## Keep the Debate Clean

Three letters from Independents in last week's Newton News.

### The 1st

- Lost in the past. Still fighting battles of 2009.
- Attacked Livin. IRRELEVANT.
- Vicious attack on a man who is NOT A CANDIDATE!

### The 2nd

- THINKS he knows more about drug crime than the Chief of Police.
- Publicly undermining the police. IRRESPONSIBLE.

### The 3rd

- Written by the man caught trying to manipulate the last election. A Vicious attack on a Labour candidate who is FOLLOWING THE RULES! All three letters were playing Trump politics. This should have no place in our local Council election. DECENT debate wanted. We are Aycliffe Reply.

## Stephenson Way Sports



Inspired by the visit of Olympian Chris Tomlinson, the sport stars of the future at Stephenson Way Academy have had a busy term. Our basketball team competed against other local schools at the Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, finishing an impressive second place over all. One of the children commented, "The other teams were brilliant so it was a

really tough competition. Thankfully, we worked hard as a team and managed to finish second!"

The success continued with a second place finish in the Key Steps gymnastics competition for our fabulous gymnasts in Years 1, 2, 5 and 6. After some magnificent routines, displaying flexibility and strength, the girls and boys flipped, rolled and leaped their way to a podium finish. Three of our very talented swimmers also made waves in the Aquability Gala, successfully reaching the county finals later this year. One of our successful finalists reported that the atmosphere was incredible, even if he was a little nervous! We're all

fully behind our brilliant swimmers and we are certain they will make a splash in the finals!

Finally, not to be outdone, at a very special boccia event, Stephenson Way were once again in the hunt for medals, claiming bronze in a very hard fought contest. For those unfamiliar with boccia, it is a sport that relies on accuracy and strategy, rather like bowls. Third place was a worthy achievement, especially considering one of our star players played with a broken wrist. No pain, no gain so they say! We look forward to many more months of diverse sports competitions and opportunities for our children to shine.

## Youthy Football Round Up



### U15's v Bilingham Synthonia.

Aycliffe welcomed the run away divisional champions Bilingham Synthonia, who had won all of their games this season. This was the final game for the lads after an indifferent season but the players were asked to give their all, and to try and stop Bilingham completing their perfect season. Aycliffe started well but despite their best efforts found themselves a goal down at half time. The team talk to the lads was that they were still in the game and they needed to believe that they could win the game and they did just that. An early goal from Todd brought the game level and showed that Aycliffe wanted the win. As the game flowed end to end, up stepped Richardson to slot home and take the lads into the lead. The defence then did their job and prevented Bilingham grabbing an equaliser and the points were Aycliffe's FT 2-1. An excellent performance and if we can string a full season together and improve our confidence there is no reason why we can not be successful in the future. Well done lads now let's prepare for next season.

**Under 12 Girls v Bilingham Town**, First game of the premier league cup and after last weeks pounding in the league shield, a response was needed from the girls in this away game against the team who we finished joint runners up with, in the league campaign.

The girls were set in a solid formation to take any early pressure but it didn't really come, as Aycliffe dominated possession. Neither side really created any clear cut chances despite a lot of effort. HT 0-0. Into the second half and the girls started creating chances, shot from Kate charged down, great run from Brooke as she deflects the ball just passed the post. Corner from Hattie and a scramble in the box but we couldn't get the ball over the line. Then Hattie gets brought down 25 yds out, steps up and hits a swerving free kick passed the keeper 0-1. Kate was causing all sorts of problems down the wing and eventually gets her reward as she cuts in and beats the keeper from a tight angle 0-2 Bilingham then pushed more players

forward but a clean sheet was important, as 3 consecutive corners were dealt with in the final 3 minutes FT 0-2. Great 3 pts for the girls

**Under 13 Falcons v Stockton WE**, An away trip to Stockton for the lads on a pitch which was bouncy and the wind was strong. The conditions weren't conducive to good football. However this didn't prevent an exciting game. The Falcons opened the scoring when Kieran put over an excellent corner which was turned in by Alfie Troupe. The home side equalized, then took the lead before half time, some fine keeping needed by Cameron to keep the score down. HT 2-1. The formation was changed at half time and the lads looked more solid and worked hard to get back into the game scoring a goal through Lewis with a lovely finish lifting it over the keeper

from the edge of the box 2-2. The Falcons took the lead again with a fine header from Kieran after good work by Lewis 3-2.

Stockton then drew level after a strong solo run 3-3. One or two chances for both sides late on but the game finished honours even. FT 3-3 MOM Ethan for snuffing out a lot of the opposition attacks

Other scores:

**U13 Eagles 2 v**

Normanby Oranges 3

**U12's 0 v BASMJ Kings 3**

Thirsk Falcons 7 v

**U11's 0**

**U9 Eagles 8 v**

Birtley Town Whites 2

**Under 8 Eagles 2 v**

Sunderland City 1

Hebburn Town 2 v

**Under 15 Girls 1**

If you want more information about our FA Charter Standard Community Club visit the website [www.nayfc.com](http://www.nayfc.com)

## Situations VACANT



The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) is an award-winning North East charity whose mission is 'Health, Well-being and Learning for All'. We are currently seeking a motivated and focused self-starter to join our successful team as a:

### Options Project Assistant

Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe (with outreach)

Band 2, Point 13 - £16,574 per annum pro-rata  
Up to 16.5 hrs per week, can be part of a job share.

### Job Purpose:

To support and help develop projects for disabled people aimed at promoting choice and encouraging development of new skills and confidence through supporting disabled people to contribute to a user led project, delivering interesting and stimulating workshop activities for members of the project whilst meeting individual needs and aspirations

### Key tasks:

1. To support the development of members independent living skills, confidence and overall health and wellbeing.
2. To work as part of a team, to plan and deliver interactive workshop activities.
3. To support members to undertake activities in the community and to plan and attend regular trips and outings.

### Key skills and experience required:

- An understanding of health and social care and safeguarding
- Experience of supporting disabled people
- A commitment and understanding of Equality and Diversity
- Excellent interpersonal skills, self-motivation
- Ability to work on own initiative and as part of a team

For an application form and further information please contact the HR Department on:

Telephone: (01325) 313133

Email: [hr@pcp.uk.net](mailto:hr@pcp.uk.net)

Fax (01325) 301129

Website: [www.pcp.uk.net](http://www.pcp.uk.net)

**Closing Date for applications:**  
**Sunday 9th April, 2017 midnight.**

We are an equal and diverse employer and particularly welcome applicants from groups who are currently underrepresented at PCP, such as men, people with sensory impairments and carers.



## Situations VACANT

### Greenfield Community College A Specialist Arts & Science School

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Monday to Thursday 8.00am to 4.30pm  
Friday 8.00am to 4.00pm

Greenfield Community College wishes to appoint a Receptionist to work in a very busy office environment.

The successful candidate will have experience of working in a customer led environment; using ICT, good planning and organisational skills. You should demonstrate strong interpersonal skills with the ability to work flexibly, as part of a team and using initiative.

Main responsibilities of the post include main reception duties, data input for student attendance, first aid and general office administrative duties. The post holder will be required to deliver outgoing post to local post office on a daily basis.

Please contact Chloe Roberts on 01325 300378 or email [chloe.roberts@greenfieldschool.net](mailto:chloe.roberts@greenfieldschool.net) for further information and an application pack.

Only applications submitted on the school's application forms and completed in full by the specified date will be considered.

Greenfield Community College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of sex, race, marital status or disability

**Closing Date: Friday 7th April at 12 noon**  
**Interview Date: Week commencing 24th April 2017**

All appointments are subject to appropriate pre-employment checks. Your place of work will be Greenfield Community College. The school is part of the Aycliffe and Shildon Schools Education Trust (ASSET) and you may be required to work in any of the school sites within the Trust.



## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

**Frequency: 102-107FM**

### Friday 24th March

0600-0900 - Wake Up With Wes – 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 25th March

0600-0800 - John Clayton  
0800-1200 - Michael Weadock  
1200-1400 - Best Of Breakfast – Wes Stakes  
1400-1500 - Everything 80's  
1500-1800 - Craig Andrews  
1800-0000 - Dancing Through the Decades

### Sunday 26th March

0600-0800 - Easy Like A Sunday Morning (John Clayton)  
0800-1200 - Michael Weadock  
1200-1400 - The Sunday Takeover  
1400-1500 - Everything 80's  
1500-1900 - Emil Franchi  
1900-2200 - Non Stop Star  
2200-0000 - Wind Down Zone

### Monday 27th to Thursday 30th March

0600-0900 - Wake Up With Wes – 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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Tickets priced at £13.50 (£15 on the door) are available to advance purchase from Brotherton's Music, Bishop Auckland or by contacting Brian Varley (01388) 606075. Season tickets, giving 5 concerts for the price of 4, are also available from Brian at £55.

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# Great Aycliffe Residents' Association A.G.M.

On Thursday 16th March, the Annual General Meeting of the Great Aycliffe Residents Association (GARA) elected its Officers and Committee members.

Chairman: Syd Howarth MBE, Vice-Chairman: Cllr Ken Robson, Secretary: Cllr Arun Chandran, Treasurer: Barry Hutchinson.

Committee Members: Cllr Martin Ashcroft, Cllr Derek Atkinson, Bill Curtis, Cllr Bob Fleming, Alan Lowe, David Lewis, Eddy Wood, Fr. Michael Whalen, Cllr Chris Wheeler.

The Chairman in his report stated that a number of Residents Associations were now quite active on behalf of local residents. He cited the recent backing by GARA of residents opposed to the loss of amenity open spaces in which the Town Council led opposition to a planning application by Livin.

The Chairman was working closely with David Lewis of the Neville Parade Community Centre seeking to set up a new Residents Association for that area. A article on the front page of Newton News showed the need for it.

The Treasurer's report was received. Bill Curtis led a discussion on the problems with speeding at the Burnhill Way/Burn Lane roundabout junction and Cllr Martin Ashcroft informed members of action being taken, including the possible use of speed visors. The area is being monitored.

Barry raised the issue of litter outside Argos.

Alan briefed members on an incident at Simpature Court which was a cause for concern and it was agreed to approach Ron Hogg PCC for more information. The issue of policing was raised with the level of response time not being what is expected. Parking issues in the town were also discussed.



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Jan Hodgson will be returning with her wonderful Family Cooking sessions and Sharron Bates will be with us to create short stories based on our enchanting Mechanical creatures. Activities are suitable for all ages and families, children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

Bookings are now open and to make this process even smoother and more secure we have added an online service. Please visit our website for more details on sessions and to see how to book your place.

To find out more about what we offer through the school term and holidays please check out our website, contact Greenfield Arts on 01325 379048, info@greenfield-arts.co.uk or pop in and speak to one of our members of staff.

## HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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## Mothers' Day Greetings

**SYLVIA SPENSLEY** Happy Mothers Day Mammy. Love always, Julie and Den xx

**DEBBIE LIVERMORE**, Have a great day Mam. Love always, Curt, Cloe and Wilson xxx

**JULIE HOWEY** To Mam, Happy Mothers Day. You really are the best Mam in the world. Love you loads. Love, Stephen, Michale and Paul xxxxxxxxx

**CARRIE HOWARTH** To my Mammy, have a Happy Mother's Day. Love from Sebastian xxxxx

**ROSE MAYOH** Happy Mothers Day. have a fantastic day. Love from Christine, Ian and Anita xxx

**ROSE MAYOH** Happy Mothers Day. Just a message to a super helpful and caring Mam. Make sure you have a great day. Love from Maria xxxxx

## Mothers' Day Remembrance

**JENNY TARVIT** Yours is the voice I long to hear, the smile I long to see. I miss the way you cared, Mum and always looked out for me. And now that it's your special day, your laughter I recall. And it's on days like this one, that I miss you most of all. Thinking of you every day. Happy Mothers Day special lady. Love always from Kathy, Martin and family xxx  
**FISK, Patricia** (Pat) 24/03/1936 - 07/07/2000 Mam we miss you and will always love you. Susan, Michael & family X X  
**F E A T H E R S T O N E**, Eleanor: A simple message, love today and always. Tony & family x  
**BARBARA SUTTON** A much loved Mother and Nana, missed on this special day, but never forgotten. All our love, all the family

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# Feeding the Crew at Woodham Academy



Food students at Woodham Academy were given an opportunity to discover more about the Royal Navy when one of its Youth Engagement team paid them a visit on Thursday 16th March.

The morning consisted of a cookery demonstration from a chef who told students what it was like to travel the world whilst feeding the crew. After tasting the meal, Year 8 students then had a go at making it for themselves. This was a first for the Youth Engagement team who normally only provide a demonstration. Students thoroughly enjoyed the practical lesson and the visitors commented on how engaged and well behaved the students were. The chef then demonstrated a second meal for Year 9 students whilst other members of the Engagement team told students about what life in the Navy is really like.



## Visit to Law School

Two groups of Woodham Academy's More Able Academy students visited Durham University's Law School last week. The visit included a series of workshops and a tour of the Law School and the Bill Bryson Library led by current Durham University students.

The aim of the visit was to try to make the concept of studying Law a little less daunting, helping students to make an informed choice when choosing their degree, and also to encourage them to consider applying to Durham. The highlight of the visit was a mock trial where the students took the parts of the witnesses, barristers, judges and jury. They followed typical court procedures to come a judgement, both year groups finding the defendant not guilty.



## In Memoriam

### Elizabeth Anne Colley

23rd March 2015



Time speeds on, two years have passed,  
Since death its gloom, its shadows cast.  
Within our home, where all seemed bright,  
And took from us a shining light,  
We miss that light, and ever will.  
Her vacant place there's none to fill.  
Down here we mourn, but not in vain,  
For up in Heaven we will meet again,  
Forever in my heart, your devoted Husband Bob

**STAN EVERIDGE** 23rd March 2013. Husband. Another year gone, miss you, love you always. Ann xx  
**STAN EVERIDGE** 23rd March 2013. Dad. Another year gone. Love and miss you always. Lynn and Jeff xx  
**STAN EVERIDGE** 23rd March 2013. Grandad. Miss you always. Love, Katie and Sean xx

**STAN EVERIDGE** 23rd March 2013. Grandad. Love and miss you always. Brad xx  
**JEAN COOK** 30th March 2009. Always in our thoughts. Forever in our hearts. Love from all the family xxxx

**JEAN COOK** Fondest memories of a dear friend, sadly missed. Pat, John and family

### Valerie Graveling

29th March 2016

Twelve long months Mum, Since you were taken from me;  
How I long for your voice, Your smiling face to see;  
I've tried my best to hide, All my tears and pain;  
And long have I prayed, To be with you, once again;  
Loved by your friends, And all whom you knew;  
One in a million, That Mum is you;  
My love for you, Shall ever remain;  
My Mum, my best friend, Until we meet again.  
Your loving daughter, Tracy

# BOWEL CANCER SCREENING: HAVE YOU RECEIVED YOUR KIT?

The County Durham Wellbeing for Life service is working in the local community to promote bowel cancer screening and encourage men and women to take part.

Wellbeing for Life are working in partnership with local GP surgeries and community venues to give men and women in County Durham the opportunity to find out more about bowel cancer screening.

1 in 14 men and 1 in 19 women will be diagnosed with bowel cancer during their lifetime. There were 41,300 new cases of bowel cancer in the UK in 2014.

The NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme invites all men and women aged between 60 and 74 for screening every 2 years. You need to be registered with a GP to receive the screening kit. If you are older than 74, you can still have screening every 2 years but you won't automatically be invited. To receive a screening kit after the age of 74, phone 0800 707 60 60.

People younger than 60 aren't eligible for the bowel cancer screening test, but can have bowel scope screening. It is important to know your

body and get checked out if anything changes that is not normal for you. If you have symptoms, are worried about a family history of bowel cancer, or worried about your bowel health in any way, speak to your GP.

Vicki Moffat, Wellbeing Coordinator said 'The bowel cancer screening kit is a home test kit and checks for the presence of blood in a poo sample. It has been shown to reduce the risk of dying from bowel cancer by 16%. You carry out the test in the privacy of your own home and a full set of instructions come with the kit. It may sound a bit unpleasant to do, but it could save your life.'

Bowel cancer screening aims to find cancers early. Very early bowel cancers are usually easier to treat, may need less treatment, and are more likely to be cured if it is important to take part in your bowel screening whenever you receive the kit.

For further information, please contact Vicki

Moffat, Wellbeing for Life Coordinator (East Durham Hub) on 0191 5274150

## Acknowledgement

**JOHN HUBERY** The family of the late John would like to thank family and friends for attending John's Funeral. Thanks to Premiercare and the District Nurses, you made John very comfortable in his last few weeks. Thanks to the Co-op, Pease Way Doctors and Lloyds Pharmacy for all you did. Louise and staff at the Phoenix Club for the buffet. We raised £400.30 for Marie Curie. Thanks to all who contributed.

## Congratulations

### Laura Cruddace



#### Happy 21st Birthday

To our wonderful daughter! Wishing you a fab 21st birthday. We are so proud of the young lady, you have turned out to be. All our love always, Scott & Mam

#### Happy 21st Laura

To a wonderful Grand daughter, Niece & Cousin, have a fab birthday! Lots of love xx

### Joseph & Barbara Haslin



#### Happy Golden Wedding Anniversary

to the best Parents, Grandparents and Great Grandparents we could have ever hoped for. Love from us all

**LAUREN SKYE MILLER** Happy 21st birthday. Love, Mam, Dad and family

**LIB** "Happy Half Century". Lots of love, Mam, Cymon, Sophie, Oliver, Belle, Frances and Dave

**LUKE EDWARDSON** and Amy Redhead. Congratulations on your engagement. Love from all the family xxx

**ADAM BARNES** Happy 18th birthday Adam. Congratulations, with love and best wishes always. Gran and all the family xxx

**HILARY** Margaret and Norman, congratulations on your Golden Wedding Anniversary on 25th March. Love, Sharon and Stephen xxxxx

## Birthday Remembrance

### Phyllis Blenkinsopp

27th March 1937

Three little words "Forget Me Not". Don't seem much, but mean a lot. Just a memory, fond and true, to show dear Sister we are thinking of you on your 80th birthday and always. Love, Pat, Joyce, Ena, Valerie and Susan

**PHYLLIS BLENKINSOPP** born 27th March 1937, died 9th March 2014. Thinking of you on what would have been your 80th birthday Mam (27th March 2017). With an ache in my heart, I whisper low, Happy 80th Birthday Mam, I miss you so. Love, Ian and Jackie, Grandchildren Graham, Nicola, Danny and Great Grandchildren Zack, Mia and Daisy xxx

**DES WALKER** 29th March. Our birthday wish must be a prayer. This special day we cannot share. But in our hearts you are always there. Love forever, Wife Julia and all our family xxxxxx

**PATRICIA FISK** (Pat) 24/03/1936 - 07/07/2000. Today is your birthday, we love you so and the light in our hearts will forever glow. Happy Birthday. Love always, Tony, Susan, Michael and family xxxxx

**RONNY MAYOH** Happy 82nd birthday on 28th March 2017 to a wonderful, loving and caring Man. Love from your Wife Rose, children Maria, Christine and Ian, Daughter-in-Law Anita and Granddaughter Kimberley. We miss you more and more every day xxxxx

**GRANT EDGAR** A darling Son on his birthday (27th March). I hide my tears when I say your name, but the pain in my heart is still the same. Though I smile and seem care free, there's no one who misses you more than me. Love, Mam, Paul, Andy, Lee and all the family xxxxx

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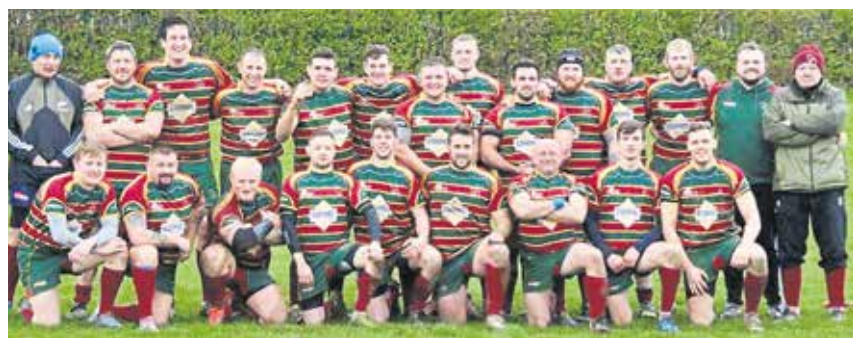
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# Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club Secures Promotion



Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club have secured promotion in to Durham / Northumberland 2 with an emphatic win last weekend.

Aycliffe 1st XV travelled to Seghill RFC needing only one point to be guaranteed a long-awaited rise to DN2. Straight from the kick off it was clear that there was going to only ever be one winner,

with Aycliffe playing some fantastic rugby and producing some outstanding team tries. The final score was a very convincing 79-3 win. The 1st XV now turn their attention to the final 3 games of the season, where they hope to continue their fantastic form and celebrate promotion as table toppers.

This season's success has

come off the back of a lot of hard work both on and off the pitch over recent years. After going through a tough spell a few years ago when the club came bottom of the league in 2012/13, the 1st XV have finished in 3rd spot for the past 2 seasons, one place off promotion each time. The last time Aycliffe Rugby Club gained a promotion was in 2004, in the old league structure of DN4; so there has been a 13 year wait for league success!

The team performances this season have, at times, been nothing short of outstanding with some hard-fought victories as well as some annihilations of teams. Aycliffe's defensive record is the best in the league and this been the solid base on which all their wins have been based. Apart from one close loss away at Richmond, the 1st XV have been dominant and undefeated this season, as well as repaying the loss to Richmond by putting a bonus point victory on them at Moore Lane.

As well as 1st XV success, this year has seen the continued rise from the ashes on the Aycliffe 2nd team, now renamed the Newtonians. The Newtonians were reformed in 2015 after 13 years in the abyss and are currently also pushing for promotion in their league. This fight will be going right down to the final game of the season at the end of April, but the players are confident they can continue their win streak and will be giving it their best effort.

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club is in a fantastic position. Everyone is focused on winning these final few games and then celebrating the season's success at the presentation night on April 29th.

To find out more about playing for the club or being a sponsorship partner, have a look at their website or social media pages.

## Beware Dog Poisoner

Mrs Race of Shafto Way contacted Newton News to report her Jack Russel dog had been poisoned.

It was after she received the Vet's report that she became concerned for other animals as her dog was the second in a week to suffer.

It appears there is a sick person throwing poison down on open land specifically to injure animals that forage.

Mrs Race advice is that if your dog takes ill and you suspect poison, get your pet to the Vet asap.

# A WEEKEND TO REMEMBER

Spectrum skaters and supporters endured a 15 hour round trip last weekend on their ambitious challenge attending a National Artistic Roller Skating Competition held at Hayward's Heath.

The five skaters ranging from 7-18 years competed against clubs from around the UK and took part in their first national FARS (federation of roller skating) competition.

The club has been preparing for this competition since Christmas and recently visited Great Yarmouth to train with six time British champion, 17th in the world Emily Woods



for tips and advice. Over the previous months the club has been fundraising and received overwhelming support. Thank you so much to everyone who has helped us achieve our dream.

Spectrum skater Jazzmyn Loring (7) opened the weekend of roller skating as she was first to skate in her tots (8 and under) solo dance event. She placed 7th out of 10 skaters! Spectrum also happened to close the weekend's skating competition with Nicola Stevens and Joseph Kearney who were placed in 4th place! Other results included:



Mini (9 and 10 years) solo dance - Hannah 18th, Harrison 19th.

Mini (9 and 10 years) freedance - Hannah 5th, Harrison 6th.

Duo (13 years and under) Harrison & Jazzmyn 16th.

Open age and standard couples Hannah & Harrison 5th.

During the competition our youngsters got to see our country's top skaters which inspired and motivated them to challenge themselves and set goals. Although we did not reach medals this year we came back with super memories, new friends and a lot of experience. Special thank you to all the clubs, coaches and skaters/families who have welcomed and helped us all weekend with lots of encouragement.

The club provides basic skills roller skating lessons suitable for all ages and abilities (£4 per hour) Bring your skates along to Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre on Sundays 2.30-3.30pm, Starting Easter at Dolphin Centre, Darlington on Saturdays 4pm-5pm. More information on 07891 461958 or find us on facebook/twitter

## Olympian Visits Town School



Three times Olympian, Chris Tomlinson, visited Stephen-son Way Academy and Nursery School last month to help the children raise money for 'Sports for Schools', a scheme which financially supports GB and Olympic athletes.

Children of all ages took part in various sporting activities and challenges throughout the morning, for which they had been sponsored by family and friends. Chris, the British indoor Long Jump record holder, worked alongside the children, motivating them to complete a series of different circuits as quickly as possible.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed all the physical challenges and Chris reported that every child gave their very best effort, and that he was very impressed with excellent behaviour and attitude of all pupils. The children's enthusiasm was summed up by one year 2 girl, who asked Chris 'Can we please do this every day?'

Once the physical activity was over, Chris held a School Assembly where he gave an inspirational talk about his experiences and achievements, and spoke about the 'Sports for Schools' project.

Children were amazed to learn that over 350,000 pupils from over 1300 primary schools have participated in the scheme, where athletes and the schools benefit from money raised through the sponsored event.

The scheme's social mission is to 'put physical health in children on a par with mental health and academic excellence'.

The Academy and Nursery School raised over £1300 in total, of which the school keeps 40% to spend on sports equipment. The school would like to thank Chris and the whole 'Sports for Schools' team organising the event, and to the children who did a

brilliantly to raise so much money.

The school will consult with their pupil council about how to best spend the money.

More information about 'Sports for Schools' can be found on their website, sportsforschools.org.

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