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DONATIONS

The following donations received at Newton News are acknowledged:
George and Maud Gray - £20;
PCP Cycling Club member - £20; Alan and Vivien Crawshaw - £40.

BUS TRIPS

Western Area Community Centre and Junior Neighbourhood Watch have seats on the following trips.
Preston Park on Wednesday 12th April. Cost £3 to be paid on booking. Ring Leanne 07851 053772
South Shields on Wednesday 19th April - cost £3 each to be paid when booked. Ring Dorothy 01325 308094 or 07967 901477.

Easter Fayre

Lindisfarne Care Home, at Silverdale Place hold an Easter Fayre on Saturday 8th April 2017, 11am - 2pm. Activities include: Easter Egg Hunt, Tombola, Bric-a-Brac, Cake and Pie stall and a raffle. Hope to see you all there.

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LORD BAKER VISITS AYCLIFFE UTC



Some would say that Lord Kenneth Baker is an eminent historical political influence who changed the face of education during his time as Education Secretary, however to the network of University Technical Colleges (UTC's) he is one of the founding partners of the Baker Dearing Educational Trust.

Lord Baker and Lord Dearing had a vision to fill a gap that they had seen develop over a number of years to provide young people with a technical education. They founded the concept of University Technical Colleges to fulfil that vision. UTC South Durham had the pleasure of welcoming Lord Baker on Thursday 16th March 2017 for the day. During his visit Lord Baker met students and industry partners to find out just what UTC South Durham means to them and why they decided to study and support a challenging academic technical curriculum.

Lord Baker said - "I particularly enjoy coming to visit all of the new UTC's across the country. Having UTC South Durham, the first one in the North East is just wonderful. Talking to the students is one of my highlights and I appreciate their enthusiasm for choosing to engage in a technical education". Jess Winkworth, Year 12 student said 'It was really



nice to meet Lord Baker and to hear about his vision of students receiving a UTC education and why that is so important to our economy. I am so pleased that I chose to come to the UTC as it is really supporting my decision to pursue my career of becoming a mechanical engineer.'

BEWARE ROGUE ODD JOB MEN

Pensioners in bungalows are being targeted by rogue garden tidiers, path cleaning and landscapers who when given the work, want money up front and then do not return to finish the job.

Do not give work to anyone you are not sure about, and do not pay out any money until you are fully satisfied with the work carried out.

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Pimms & Needles at Aycliffe



Charlotte Pyrah 07813 690 099. Donna Feeney: donna@totesadore.com

Locally founded ladies group Pimm's & Needles is set to expand once again with a new group launching in April at Aycliffe Village Church Hall. Since setting up Pimm's & Needles in September 2015 they have rapidly grown to have over 180 members in the Darlington area with an ever growing waiting list. The demand for expansion has

taken founders Mrs Charlotte Pyrah and Mrs Donna Feeney quite by surprise, Donna said "Lots of our members have commented after our meetings about how they feel their mood is lifted, our activities are often creative which we feel has a positive effect on mental health & wellbeing". Charlotte added "One of our members said last week that crafting in good company takes you away from everything that's happening in the outside world, we think with so much uncertainty ahead of us our members really enjoy going back to basics and turning to

traditional values. We offer an escape the demands of daily life and pressures social media, where you can come and enjoy the simple pleasures such as meeting up with like minded ladies and taking part in a fun activity. Mood enhancing activities the group have done recently include singing, laughter yoga, sewing and drawing, with sessions on chocolate making, mindfulness and sleep therapy coming up in the next few months. For more information about the new Aycliffe village group search Pimm's & Needles on Facebook.

THE TURBINIA

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Saturday 1st April - "Steve Ballantyne Band"

Steve Ballantyne, unsigned singer/songwriter and producer of Lifehouse Records is a professional musician of serious substance. His talent is recognised nationwide and in most areas across Europe. Festivals, rallies, radio appearances and theatre performances encompass his glittering career as a performing artiste, featuring in many Rock & Blues bands. Consequently his work has attracted the attention of the press who have documented his success along the way as an unsigned singer/songwriter. On stage his joy is boundless. That joy is contagious and his music is infused with it, composed and arranged with assembly line precision, elevated with performances that hurtle forward with unbridled enthusiasm. Covering tracks by Queen, Led Zeppelin, Dire Straights, ZZ Top, Status Quo, AC/DC, Who, Rainbow, Stevie Ray Vaughan and many more.

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

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Saturday 8th April - "American Girl"

For more information on bands go to
www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034
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Comedy at Turbinia

On Wednesday 5th April some of the biggest names in 'Stand-Up' are heading for the Turbinia.

Eddy Brimson is one of the UK circuit's most in-demand headline acts, working regularly with all the nation's leading promoters. His stand-up is equally sought-after worldwide and he has toured to China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, and more. In 2014 he was invited to play the first ever Punchline Comedy night in Myanmar (Burma). Eddy played the first ever Altitude Festival in the Alps, and in 2013 shared the stage with Eddie Izzard at the V-Music Festivals. **George Rigden** is a Bristol-based musical comic who, despite having only been gigging since 2013, has already

racked up hundreds of gigs and enjoyed success in a clutch of competitions. He's also gigged with the likes of Russell Howard, Stephen Merchant & Joe Wilkinson, and is the resident MC for legendary Bristol night, OPPO (founded by Mark Oliver). In 2015 George made his Edinburgh debut, having beaten off stiff competition to win a place in Bound & Gagged Comedy's prestigious showcase *AAA* at The Pleasance, Edinburgh.

MC Matt Reed - Born and bred in Sunderland, his affable style has won him fans across the UK. He effortlessly plays with the crowd with a natural rapport that is found in few comics. Matt, always ready, never disappointing will always make a good gig - great. In 2015 Matt took his debut show to the Edinburgh Fringe, retelling the four year ordeal of how he was stalked and cat-fished by an online admirer. The show won rave reviews from critics and audience alike, with Matt playing to sell-out audiences. With so many gigs of every size under his belt, from audiences of 3000 to 30, there is no comedy situation Matt can't handle. As pleasant as he is wonderfully brutal, Matt is a welcome addition to any comedy night entertaining the crowd while skillfully destroying any heckler that crosses his path. Tickets available at The Turbinia or on-line at www.hilaritybites.co.uk £5 advance / £8 on the door

Honest John Donations

WECAN Parents Group - £500; Greenfield & Woodham Year 11 Awards - £500; Aycliffe Boxing Club - £400; Excel Local - £300; New Friends-New Places - £300. Thanks to all donors and buyers plus DISC for providing room free of charge.

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GACAP AGM INVITATION

Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership (GACAP) will be holding their AGM on the 24th April at DISC Offices, Sapphire House, Newton Aycliffe, near the Blue Bridge and next door to Newton Press premises.

The Secretary Joan Mitchie said "The year ahead is going to be exciting as partner numbers swell and attendance is constantly high with evidence of partners working with each other for the good of

disadvantaged people in Great Aycliffe. The meeting will be attended by the Mayor of Newton Aycliffe Jed Hilary who will address those present. Carol Gaskgarth from PCP, one of the partners, is the keynote speaker. Geoff Batchelor Welfare Officer for Rotary Club will also give a short presentation. Rotary have been active partners of GACAP since its formation. The meeting is open to partners past and present and to individuals or groups who have the interest and welfare of people in need in the local area.

Refreshments will be available before the meeting which will start at 4pm. Doors will be open from 3.45pm so come along for a cuppa and chat before the meeting starts. For more information contact the secretary of GACAP by email at secretary.gacap@gmail.com

Vandals Keep Our Council Tax High



Dear Sir,
I have been living in Woodham for the last 3 years and use the local bus stop quite a lot. I got in touch with

the Council before Xmas requesting a bus shelter at the stop by the bike park at Woodham, as people were getting soaked and cold waiting for the bus.

Just a few weeks ago this shelter was erected (brilliant). However on Thursday 23rd March the shelter was seen to be vandalised.

Do people who commit acts of vandalism realise this is costly, and repairs come out of our Council Tax? One day these vandals will start working, get married, run a home and pay their own Council Tax and then come to realise their folly.

Someone must have heard them as most of the glass was smashed. I do hope they are caught and fined and made to pay for the damage they have done.

Thanks to our local Councillors who supported my request for the shelter in the first place.
Name & address supplied.

MINDLESS VANDALISM



Councillors and residents are very disappointed to see mindless vandalism at the Whinlatter Bridge after hard work by the community to get it reinstated, which was finished on Friday last week and if anyone in the vicinity knows who is responsible please get in touch.
Eddy Adam
eddyadam@uwclub.net
Kate Hopper
catherine.hopper75@gmail.com

NOTICE OF ELECTION

The Notice of Election for the Durham County and Parish Council elections to be held on Thursday, 4 May has been published online.

Copies of the Notice of Election are also available for inspection at County Hall, Durham.

The Notice of Election gives details of the county divisions and parish ward areas where an election could take place.

It also states that nominations are now being accepted for those divisions and parish ward areas.

The Notice of Election can be viewed at www.durham.gov.uk/elections and online in Customer Access Points

at Barnard Castle, Bishop Auckland, Chester-le-Street, Consett, Crook, Durham City, Seaham, Spennymoor and Stanley.

For more information, call Durham County Council's electoral services team on 03000 261 212.

£1000 Reward

Following the story of someone attempting to poison dogs Honest John is offering a £1000 reward to anyone providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of the culprit. If you have information please contact the Police on 101.



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MP Phil Wears Red Suit & Nose for Comic Relief

On Friday 24th March, our MP Phil Wilson embraced the spirit of Comic Relief by shedding his standard suit and sporting a bright red one in aid of Red Nose Day. Phil hoped that by stepping out in a shining red suit, he could raise money and awareness for the cause.

He asked MP's, Labour Party members, and members of the public to sponsor him, and in return promised to spend his working day attending meetings and visits wearing the red suit.

The first visit was to Sugar Hill Primary School where children participated in a disco at the Breakfast Club, decorating cakes, making jam tarts as well as singing the Red Nose song. Mr Wilson, spoke to children about the importance of events like Comic Relief during an assembly. With all the activities for both Comic relief, and Water Aid earlier in the week, Sugar Hill Primary raised a whopping £632.06!



Phil then popped into his constituency office where he met Newtonian Vince Crosby, before heading on to Sedgefield Hardwick Primary, where the school had a big treat in store for the MP. The school had been in a comedy competition, and on Friday the two winning performances from each year group performed for Mr Wilson.

There were jokes galore from children of all ages, many of whom are destined for the stage! The winning act from then got to pick their favourite teacher, to give them a 'treat' - a bucket of custard or ice being poured over the teacher's head, by very excited children.

The school however, not wanting to leave Mr Wilson out, also had a surprise for him, in the shape of a lovely cream pie which student Kristen Lumsdon thoroughly enjoyed splatting in Mr Wilson's face! Whilst the red suit may not have escaped unscathed from the cream pie, lots of money was raised for Comic Relief at both schools and well as through Mr Wilson's sponsorship.

Reflecting on the day, Phil said: 'I had great fun, and I send a huge thank you to both Sedgefield Hardwick and Sugar Hill schools. It was great to see children so actively engaged with Comic Relief. I would also like to thank everyone who was kind enough to sponsor me by donating money to this cause. As for the red suit, I can't promise it will make a reappearance, I'm not sure it quite survived the cream pie!'

A hairdressers specialising in extensions continues to grow after adding a new member to its team of five. Globetrotting Chloe Ladbury has joined Lox of Love on Aycliffe Business Park after a 10-month tour around the world.

The 25-year-old worked as a stylist on a cruise ship after leaving The Works at Cobblers Hall. "I'm really excited to be back home and enjoying a new challenge," said former Woodham Academy student Chloe, who lives in the town.

"I started training to be a hair dresser when I was 15 and after working on the town for a few years wanted to get more experience. The opportunity came to join a cruise, and we went all over the world visiting some wonderful places including Brazil, Colombia, the Caribbean and Alaska.

"It was fantastic but I was ready to come home and take up a new challenge, so I was delighted when Victoria offered me this new role."

Managing director Victoria Cartwright says her firm has grown, despite being hit by a personal tragedy in 2016 when her sister Anna Swabey lost her 20-month battle with a brain tumour - since passing, Anna's fundraising efforts have smashed the £100,000 barrier.

"It was a very difficult time,"



Aycliffe Village Local History Society will host a talk by Dr. Richard Annis Senior Archaeologist from Durham University at 7.30pm in Aycliffe Village Hall on Wednesday 5th April entitled 'Durham & Dunbar Scottish Soldiers on Palace Green. All welcome, members £1, non members £3 includes tea/coffee/biscuits. Contact: 01325 301093.

Red Nose & Tutu Day



Dinner staff at Stephenson Way School dressed for Red Nose Day. The main organiser was Gemma who recently won an award for her effort in school events. Gemma did the decorating, and Sara handmade the tutu's. The top pic is Sara Sheridan (left) with Gemma Allen. Bottom pic left to right is Linda Rek, Kay Wilson, Pat Scott, Debbie Herring, Sara Sheridan and Gemma Allen.



Chloe Ladbury (centre) with stylist Emma Stevens (left) and managing director Victoria Cartwright.

says Victoria, who runs Lox of Love with her mum and business partner Linda. But luckily our staff and clients were extremely supportive and understanding. We got through it as a family and now the business continues to do well. Our turnover has increased and we've seen significant increases year-on-year."

Victoria now hopes to grow her team at Lox of Love's premises at Unit 6, Evans Business Centre on Durham Way South.

Chloe joined the team as part-time Saturday assistant Amber Peake also made her role full-time at the family firm.

"We're delighted with the addition of both Chloe and Amber," adds Victoria. "The hairdressing and hair extensions side of the business expanded so much, we were struggling to cope with demand at one point. Amber used to be our Saturday girl while at school but has become very popular with our clients and she will eventually become fully-trained in hair extensions. We've had to expand the salon due to demand so we can increase our capacity so we now have a new spill-out room to ease the burden during peak times"

Lox of Love, which is official stockists of Beauty Works extensions, will soon be

we're planning to offer a hair recovery programme. It's something I'm passionate about, and something I understand."

Mum-of-three Victoria, launched Lox of Love in December 2012, originally as a mobile service which had around 500 clients, before opening her own premises on Aycliffe Business Park in May 2014. To book or make an enquiry with Lox of Love, call them on 01325 327362, or for more details go to www.loxoflove.co.uk



Area Demonstrator and Florist, Rachael Poole from Sheffield, will present an evening of flower arranging to Shildon and District Flower Club under the title 'Natural Elegance' at Shildon Civic Hall on Monday, 3rd April at 7.30pm.

Rachael is an inspirational floral demonstrator with a passion for flowers and floral display. This will be an event not to be missed for all those with a love of innovative ways of displaying flowers and foliage to delight the eye. Free to members. Visitors £5 on the door

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 12th April 2017

Policy & Resources Committee, 7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

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

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

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

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



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- Employee Assistance Programme - including free counselling sessions & support
- Group Personal Pension Scheme

If you have the right values for our organisation, you will be supported by a programme of continuous training and development. If this sounds like the right opportunity for you, or to find out more, please visit www.st-annes.org.uk to complete your application.

Closing Date: 7th April 2017 - Interviews: TBA

Petting Zoo

Little ACORNS will be holding their annual Petting Zoo on Monday 10th April in the Leisure Centre's main sports hall. The event which is usually well attended gives a fantastic few hours out for young and old alike and starts at 10am until 2pm.

Alongside the animals there will be a free bouncy castle, face painting and balloons. For those wishing to find their feminine side there will be free nail painting, with more being organised this week.

If you are a local organisation and would like to come along and do demonstrations etc please contact Keith on 301725 for more details. We hope to post a full list of activities next week. So come on down and enjoy the fun.

Keith Lovejoy
Vice Chair
ACORN Residents Association

Councillors' Surgeries

Shafto, Central and Neville Ward

Councillors Sarah Iveson and Jed Hillary will be in attendance at St. Mary's Meeting Room, Burn Lane on Saturday 8th April from 11am - 12 noon.

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To register an interest please contact Stuart on 01325 300212

Students Celebrate Equality & Diversity



As part of Rights Respecting Day Year 11 at Greenfield Community College spent the morning watching theatre group Round Midnight perform their show entitled Straight Talking a performance that dispels myths, stereotypes and preconceptions surrounding LGBT+ people.

They also had the opportunity to listen to 'Stonewall' role model Elena Rodriguez-Falcon. Elena is an awarded engineering professor and maintains a high commitment to equality and diversity

in Higher Education. She has actively supported national agendas for women in engineering and launched the #ILookLikeAnLGBTEngineer campaign. Elena thought the Greenfield students were amazing and was very impressed that there was an LGBT Pride Youth Network in school supporting others.

Year 10 students sampled sessions on the advantages of living in multi ethnic Britain with Phil Andre, While the Equality Diversity Experts from County Hall delivered sessions on Gender, Islamophobia, British values, the students also learned about some of the prejudice travellers face.

DISC also supported the day by delivering sessions to raise awareness about LGBT in Newton Aycliffe and some of the support that can be provided. They are one of the largest charity providers in the North of England and have an established role in social inclusion services.

Students enjoyed the busy and fruitful day and as a result were able to have a more meaningful understanding and appreciation of the importance of equality and diversity.



Compiled by
County Councillor
John Clare

No political news during the election period of course, but two successes for the County Council, and some great places to go next week. Internet links to the articles below are at bit.ly/CNB29317

COUNCIL

- DCC win's 'value added' award for 2016 exam results
- County Durham Children and Families Partnership receives gold commendation
- DCC announces £20 million Investment Fund for businesses
- Out for the weekend? Why not see what the weather's like before you set off
- Latest roadworks

COMMUNITY

- Exciting 'ROAD' project at the PCP, tackling the root causes of poverty, promoting

social inclusion and driving local jobs and growth

- DCC Countryside Guided Walks Programme (April-September) is published
- Six super events for Durham tourists
- Unable to get to the Library? Register for library membership online for access to thousands of great books
- Educating Rita, Gala Theatre Durham, 7:30pm, 4-8 April
- Northern Bygones Rally, Locomotion Museum Shildon, 10am-4pm, Sunday 9 April, FREE
- Great North Steam Fair, Beamish Museum, 6-9 April
- Eggastic - Vietnamese eggshell artwork for the 5-11s, Durham Oriental Museum, 1-3pm, Saturday 8 April.

Secret of Acorn Dairy's Organic Success



Happy and healthy cows lie at the heart of the award-winning Acorn Dairy's organic products which are now in ever-increasing demand throughout the North of England, says its enterprising director, Gordon Twedde.

He told Rotarians in Newton Aycliffe this week that the family's decision in 1998 to move from intensive, conventional milk production to quality organic farming avoiding use of chemicals, fertilisers and pesticides had proved a great success.

Acorn Dairy, he said, now made doorstep deliveries to 3,500 customers and supplied organic products to major supermarkets and a growing number of shops and stores across the North of England.

When people asked why organic dairy products from Acorn Dairy tasted so good, he said, the family's answer was always the same - a passion for the cows which were well-treated and fed with top quality grass and silage (not to mention apple cider vinegar which boasted their immune system).

Though organic farming in the Yorkshire and Northumbria Dales meant lower output and increased production costs, Acorn Dairy tackled the problem by cutting out the middle-men and selling direct to the householder and business customer at realistic and competitive prices.

"We are what we eat. What we put inside our bodies is very important, particularly for children," said Gordon.

Several Rotarians agreed with him including Rtn. Margaret Fenwick who commented: "If you ever try organic milk, I guarantee that you will never go back to conventional milk". Gordon (pictured centre with

Senior Vice President Tony Robinson, left, and Rtn. Bob Stevenson, who welcomed him to the club) was thanked by Rtn. David Hogg. Contact Acorn Dairy on 01325 466999

MUSEUM DAY TRIP



On Saturday 25th March a group from Horndale Residents Association visited the Great North Museum (Hancock) in Newcastle. Most visited the Museum while some went shopping. Everyone enjoyed the day especially as the weather was great. Our next few trips are fully booked, but we are discussing other trips later in the year. All trips are funded through the Big Lottery Awards for All scheme.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 5th April starting at 6pm with refreshments at 5.45 at Greenfield Arts Centre. Everyone is welcome - not just from the Horndale Area.

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THE TURBINIA COMEDY NIGHT

Wednesday 1st March

Doors open 7pm, Show starts 8pm

Eddy Brimson

Eddy Brimson, has starred in 'EastEnders' and had major film roles, appeared on TV shows 'I Predict a Riot', '100 Worst Singles' and the 'Britain's Toughest', and also in scripted comedies such as 'Absolutely Fabulous' and 'The Thin Blue Line'. As a presenter, he hosted a show on Bravo called 'The Basement'. Eddy's super-friendly delivery and warm personality make him instantly likeable on stage. His thoughtful, cleverly-crafted comedy - often, understandably, touching on the dangers of pigeon-holing and stereotyping - is laugh-out-loud observational material at it's very best.

"Brimson manipulates the mixture of laughs and pseudo-shock masterfully - as the philosopher once said: 'It's the way you tell 'em'" - and Brimson certainly tells 'em' with confident style" - Chortle

"The crowd loved him" - The Guardian

"There must be a school of comedy in the British Isles, if such a school exists Eddy Brimson would have been top of the class" - Sydney Sun

George Rigden

"Rigden is the result of a genetic mash-up between Mitch Benn and Tim Key, perhaps with a few strands of Ricky Gervais's DNA thrown in... Very funny stuff" - Chortle

"Rigden's musical comedy is deliciously dark... He is very good at working the crowd and of all tonight's acts he probably made the biggest impression" - Beyond The Joke

"George Rigden had the audience in his hands thanks to some great comedic timing, a little help from his guitar and a hint of David Mitchell in Peep Show" - Leicester Mercury

MC Matt Reed

"Absolutely hilarious... had the crowd rolling around" - BBC

"Brilliant... always original - one of the newest stars of comedy" - The Leeds Guide

"Brilliantly handled a very difficult room, this fashionably unkempt lad will go far" - Swansea Telegraph

Tickets for this show are £5 each in advance or £8 on the door.

For more information go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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RAFFLE PRIZE STOLEN



Sadly a bike being raffled St. Clare's Church has been stolen. If you have any information please ring the Police on 101.

St. George's Night - £3 Line Dance

On Thursday April 20th a St. George's Night Party will be held at the Phoenix Club from 7.30pm. You can listen and learn to Line Dance from 8pm - 9pm with Shirley and Tony before the great duo "Country Cousins" provide entertainment. Admission is only £3 which includes a free raffle ticket. After enjoying this night you will want to come every Thursday night. Please bring a plate of food. Contact John Sutton for more details on 01325 307041.

Freeman Heart and Lung Transplant Association

Dear Sir,
My name is Adele Lambert I am a member of the Freeman Heart and Lung Transplant Sports Team.

We are part of the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle and we have a sports team comprising of transplant patients from across the country who have all undergone a life saving Heart or Lung transplant at the Freeman. Each year we compete as a team at the British Transplant Games and we have been very successful in past years.

On Sunday 9th of April I will be running a taster session for our team members at the Oakleaf Complex for them to have a go at Archery and Indoor Bowls, we have been sponsored for the event by Darlington company BIB Insurance Ltd.

I myself had a double lung transplant in September 2013 due to Cystic Fibrosis and since then I have taken up Archery with local club Aycliffe Archers and have won Gold and Silver Medals in the Sport as well as for Swimming all at the British Transplant Games.

I would be interested to know if you would be able to do some sort of feature

about our training event to try to promote organ donation and the other organisations that are helping to run the day.

If you would like more information from me please contact me on the following numbers 01325 310905 or Mob 07852 154453

Adele Lambert



MRI SCANNER APPEAL

If you would like to make a donation to our MRI appeal or get involved:

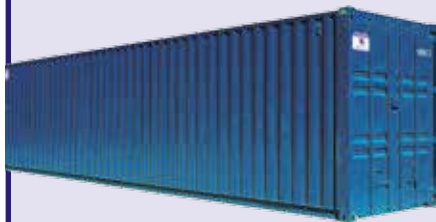
- Visit the 'justgiving' website at www.justgiving.com/cddft
- Send a cheque to: Cashiers, Darlington Memorial Hospital, Hollyhurst Road, Darlington, DL3 6HX. Please make cheques payable to: Co Durham & Darlington NHS FT Charity.
- Pick up a donation envelope

with more information, from one of our waiting areas or wards.

- Text SCAN02 £10 to 70070 to donate £10 to CDDFT.
- To discuss fundraising or for more information, ring 01325 743786 or email: cddft.charity@nhs.net
- Follow us on twitter: @CDDFTCharity
- Find the charity on Facebook

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email: sangsteralchris@aol.com

Labour's Election Candidates



Last Thursday, May's local elections were announced, and many of the town's Labour candidates came together to launch their campaigns for the County and Town Councils. Candidates' Agent Ian Wiggett told the Newton News: "We have a strong Labour Team of candidates, and have planned a vigorous and positive campaign. We will be out on the doorstep, and are excited about our promises for the next four years."



The new golfing season begins on Saturday 1st April 2017....

New Season Membership Prices 1st April 2017 - 31st March 2018

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MAKING LOCAL BUSINESSES SAFER

A newly established local security business has recently started operating from its base in Newton Aycliffe.

Guardsman Security Limited was formed in late 2016 by Security Consultant and CEO, Bill Farrell, following 34 years working in the prison estate and three years heading up Security and Health & Safety for a company which operates mainly in the south of England.

Bill, together with his wife Lynn, has lived in Newton Aycliffe for the past 14 years. They have two children and three grandchildren, who also live in Newton Aycliffe. As a security consultant, Bill carries out in-depth audit reviews of companies' security arrangements, listens to their needs and produces comprehensive reports identifying the risks and makes recommendations for improvement.

Guardsman Security Limited specialises in supplying manned security guards, employing staff who are mainly ex-armed

forces or uniformed services personnel. All Guardsman Security Limited staff are properly licensed via the Security Industry Authority (SIA) and are thoroughly vetted and recruited for their excellent interpersonal skills and ability to deal with any given situation calmly and confidently, thereby ensuring that premises and property are kept safe and secure.

Our staff are experienced in looking after retail and shopping centres, commercial offices, residential buildings, building sites and plant machinery sites, as well as providing security stewarding at events. Therefore, anyone employing the services of Guardsman Security Limited can be in no doubt that they will receive the highest quality of service at competitive rates.

Anyone requiring a review of their current security arrangements, either in Newton Aycliffe or further afield, or wishing to invite tenders for manned security contracts can contact Bill on 01325 312904 or visit the website on www.guardsman-security.co.uk and complete the online form.

We are currently recruiting SIA licensed security personnel (DS and above); applications are particularly welcome from ex-forces or services personnel. For further information and to request an application pack, send your CV and covering letter to info@guardsman-security.co.uk.



£377 Raised for Comic Relief



Last Friday, many people living around Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery School will have noticed that pupils had ditched their smart purple uniforms in favour of red clothing and accessories. In school, they had also swapped their usual Friday lessons for discos and magic shows ran by Professor Nincompoo. These unusual changes were all for a good cause: Red Nose Day 2017. To participate in the day's

frivolities, pupils were only too happy to make donations and many wore the red noses they had already purchased from the school office. Leading up to the event, children learned about the thousands of projects Comic Relief did in order to assist people around the world. Through lessons and assemblies, children recognised there are people much less fortunate than themselves and as global citizens, they could help.

As well as supporting a good cause, children had a fantastic time on the day. On reflection, one child commented, "It was great fun. I really enjoyed the magic tricks." While another said, "Professor Nincompoo was very funny and he even made the teachers dance." Altogether, £377.42 was raised. The school would like to thank the children and their parents for all their generous donations and enthusiasm that made the event a success.

Studying World Religions



A group of Woodham Academy's Most Able students attended a Key Stage 3 workshop at Durham University's Oriental Museum last week. The workshop 'Comparative world religions' uses the collections of the Oriental Museum to study religions from across the globe including Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism and Jainism. The session encourages students to learn more about different faiths through the artwork and other objects associated with them. The students had a tour of the museum, made decorative ceramic tiles, studied the Egyptian mummies and tried meditation with music.

NORTHERN BYGONES

Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon will be hosting a rally for the Northern Bygones Society on Sunday April 9th. Around 40 classic and vintage vehicles are expected to be on display on the outdoor events area at the museum, with a small display of models and other collectables on show inside the main museum building.

The Northern Bygones Society meets monthly in Newton Aycliffe - for more information, please visit www.northernbygones.org.uk Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon is open daily from 10am to 5pm, and parking and admission are free of charge. For more information, please call 01388 777999.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dog Poo Bag Dropper

Dear Sir,
There is a low life out there who leaves dog poo in black bags half way up Cumby Road, 2/3 times a week. That person knows who I refer to and who the hell does he or she think has to pick it up? The poo would degrade quicker without the bag.
We have a number of dogs and always go out with a pocket full of bags. If I am lucky enough to catch you it will give me great pleasure to report you to the appropriate authorities and hope you are fined £1,000.
You were kind enough last week to leave an empty can at the same place just half way between two bins. It must upset



this cretin to carry their own dog's faeces. Picture is of a bag I found half way down Pease Way - is this another moron? Remember you are being watched.
P. A.

Alopecia Support 2017 Calendar of Meetings

Alopecia Support County Durham are a growing support group for ladies aged 16 years and over who have been diagnosed with Alopecia. The meetings are held at Pioneering Care Centre and offer support, advice and tips based on the members own experiences. We also provide activities and to help members feel good and rebuild their confidence.

The group would like to offer huge thanks to Karen Hughes of Sparkilicious for providing a colour me beautiful session to help us look our best last Christmas. We would also like to thank Tricia Stewart and Deborah for volunteering their time to provide a belly dancing lesson for our Christmas party, we had a ball! During our first meeting of 2017 we experienced a sound bath, provided by Jane Ford-Farrand of Sound Affects which helped us relax through various sound vibrations.

Future meetings this year include 26th April - hydrotherapy pool session, 28th June - glass decorating, 30th August - pilates and 25th October - massage tasters.

Our Christmas celebration will be held on the 20th December where family members are also welcome to thank them for all the emotional support they provide throughout the year.

Meetings are held 7-9pm but for more information please call 07933 030 290 or email alopeciafriendscodurham@outlook.com

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Wing Mirror Damaged Film Premier at Aycliffe Attended by Author

Dear Sir,
I write to ask that the person responsible for damaging the wing mirror on my van on the 26th March to reimburse me the £15.49p it has cost me to replace it.
You know who you are, just post it through my letterbox and don't be afraid - I don't bite.
John Humble
31 Langley Road

An exciting event takes place on Friday 21st April at St. Clare's Church Hall, St Cuthbert's Way - the premiere of a film entitled

'Time Capsule' is to be shown.

Please get your tickets (only £3 per person) from ALLSORTS Charity Shop situated at St. Clare's Church. ALLSORTS is open every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 10.00am to 1.00pm but closed Saturday 15th April.

This event is in aid of Friends of St. Clare's who are at the moment seeking to purchase a defibrillator.

The film, is a Hammer Chewer Production, and documents the story of the James D. Robinson's Time Capsule Project.

Find out all about this very interesting historical event. Learn what is inside the capsule, how it was sealed and where it is being stored. Have your questions answered for example - What possessed James to develop this time capsule? At what future date will it be opened? James Robinson is a published writer and photographer and we are pleased he has agreed to be there for the premiere. Following the film he will be glad to answer any questions from the audience.

Two Aycliffe Dance Schools Perform in Professional Show



Neo Theatre Company have offered two local dance schools the chance to appear at the Majestic theatre in

Darlington in their up and coming production a Night with Streisand and Diamond.

South Durham School Of Dance (Principal Caroline Race) and Macadams Dance studios (Principal Diane Macadam) both from Newton Aycliffe are working together supplying dances to songs such as 'America', 'Second hand rose', 'Don't rain on my parade', 'Forever in blue jeans', 'I'm a believer', 'Send in the clowns' and a few more. Caroline and Diane are delighted to provide a great experience for their students in a professional show on 15th April at the Majestic Theatre in Darlington at 7pm.

'We are hoping people will

support this show and watch the hard work that has gone into it' said both schools.

The show features two of the country's best tribute artistes: Christina Simone (Chrissy) from Newton Aycliffe as Barbra Streisand and Chris James as Neil Diamond. Enjoy huge hits as Evergreen, Sweet Caroline, The Way We Were, Love on the Rocks, Woman in Love, Cracklin' Rosie, Don't Rain On My Parade and of course, the wonderful duet, You Don't Bring Me Flowers.

Tickets can be purchased from Majestic Theatre, Box Office number 01325 482848 or use the online booking system <http://www.majestic-tickets.co.uk/>

Lift Off for Girls Football



The FA are aiming to double participation in girls football by 2020, and as part of that strategy, 200 Wildcats girls mini soccer centres, have been set up across the country. Newton Aycliffe Youth F.C. were awarded a centre covering South West Durham and their first session took place on Sunday 26 March and it was a huge success.

The venue was Greenfield College 3G pitch on a warm and sunny morning and 27 girls aged 5 -11 years old, who had pre-registered, came along for a fun filled hour of footballing skills and games. Berni Borsberry, club secretary commented, "We were proud to be awarded the Wildcats Mini Soccer Centre and we are determined to do our part in growing girl's football in County Durham. At the end of the 16 week programme we will be looking to move many of these girls into teams and hopefully a long involvement in girls football."

Books on Wheels Service

Dear Sir,
May I inform readers there is a free home delivery service of books for people who struggle to access the Library because of health or disability problems?

They should contact the Library on 03000 269519 or Books on Wheels Service on 03000 263790.

Olivia Angus

Oakleaf Golf Complex School Aycliffe Lane Newton Aycliffe DL5 6QZ

2017/18 Memberships

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Junior 18-21	£210
Junior 14-18	£85
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Bar and catering available at the Oakleaf Sports Complex.

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LOCAL ATHLETICS NEWS



Aycliffe Running Club organised a bus trip on Saturday 11 March to Dentdale. There was a choice of two distances 7.9 miles and 14.1 miles. They both followed the same route but the shorter course cut off back into the village just past the half way point. It is an undulating, uphill and down dale, scenic road race in and around Dentdale. The course is very challenging and finishes up hill on cobbled streets. Competing in the 7.9 miles race were George Dixon who was first home for the club in 56:11, Martyn Knox in 56:15, Ste Sutherland in 57:19, Trish Kay in 1:06:44 and Susan Clark in 1:25:21.

Runners in the 14.1 mile race included, first home for the club, Dez Fielden in 1:31:42, Jason Dixon in 1:52:44, Susan Cranswick in 1:56:13, Michelle Dixon in 1:56:15, Sandra Collins in 2:02:18, Angela Barrett in 2:05:51, Wendy Bake in 2:09:58, Rob Nicholson in 2:17:15, Mick Brunskill in 2:19:13 and Ian Baronowski 2:41:21. Donna Campbell and Richard Campbell took part in the Leeds Liverpool Canal Canter also on Saturday 11 March 2017. There were different events taking place and Donna participated in the 10k, whilst Richard took part in the Half Marathon. It was nice running conditions on a relatively flat course along the

canal tow path. It was Donna's first 10k and she completed it in 1:04:16. Richard managed a half marathon personal best, completing the course in 1:26:23. On Sunday 19 March, two club runners competed in the Northumberland Half marathon. The undulating course weaves around the countryside, starting and finishing at Kirkley Hall in Ponteland. It was a very wet and windy course. Martha McBarron was first home for the club in 1:44:22 and placed first in her category of female over 55. It was Shelley McCormack's first race back since having her baby last year and she completed the course in a steady 02:05:12.

Gymnastics for Disabled

Athena Sports Academy, based in the Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre run a Disability Gymnastics Class every Sunday morning 9.30-10.30am. This session is a great way for young people with any disability to learn about our fantastic sport. The class is a smaller and more refined session for children/young adults aged 5+, with physical and/or learning difficulties.

The emphasis here is on the fundamental of gymnastics such as movement, balance, co-ordination and agility. The session is run in a fun environment whilst still bringing many aspects of the clubs Acrobatics links to the sessions. This session also offers a route into competitive gymnastics, as well as performing in festivals and displays as over the past few years some of the gymnasts within this session have taken part in local, regional and national competitions and regional festivals such as GymFusion North.

If you would like more information on Athena Sports Academy's Disability Gymnastics Class, please get in touch using the details below. First session is FREE with no obligation.

Email: athenasportsacademy@gmail.com
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Donation for Baby Basics



Yvonne & Sheena would like to thank baby Noah Wheldon and his Mum Lystrene for their kind donations of clothes, baby bath and toiletries. Organisers Yvonne and Sheena from the Baby Basics charity who operate from the Western Area Community Centre are so grateful for their kindness as it will all go to needy families in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding area. If you need help with your infants contact Sheena on 07594 297462.

Youthy Football Round Up



U13 Hawks v Whitburn & Cleadon Early start as the Hawks travelled to Whitburn to try and grab second spot on this penultimate game of the season. First half performance was ok but our finishing wasn't. Whitburn were clinical in front of goal and were 3-0 after 25 minutes. Chance of promotion slipping away but we always knew the lads could turn this game around. A great through ball from Lee set Jack away and he slotted away to reduce the arrears. Ht 3-1. As always the next goal would be crucial and it was ticked away for the Hawks by Adam Lowe. Aycliffe then took control and grabbed an equaliser through Dylan. However Whitburn then took their chance to go in front but again the Hawks dug deep as Jack beat the keeper to the ball and slotted home from a tight angle. This was followed by Lee slotting home to make it 5-4 to Aycliffe. Then Whitburn pushed forward and a scramble in the box and Evan clears off the line but the referee decides it crossed the line and gives the goal. This did not deflate the lads as they were determined to take the points and with seconds left up steps Adam Lowe with an unbelievable strike from 25 yards which finds the top corner. FT 6-5 to Aycliffe, Just the reverse fixture to go and promotion is now in sight.

U13 Falcons v Spraire Lads Away this week, a game that always has a Derby feel to it. Aycliffe started really well, dominating the game in the first 20 minutes. The lads went close through Sam and Dylan before scoring with a well taken half volley by Will. A second goal was added when Dylan broke away and scored a fine solo goal 0-2. Kieran was injured just before half time and we had to reshuffle the pack, this seemed to put us on the back foot and Spraire we're growing into the game and pulled one back from a set play 1-2. Not long after they equalised with plenty of the game left. Falcons reshuffled again and found an extra gear managing to score the winner with another fine goal from Dylan, sprinting clear and planting the ball in the bottom corner FT 3-2 to the Falcons.

Under 12 Girls v Bishop Auckland, Another great advert for girls football at a sunny Oakleaf as southern League champions Bishop Auckland were the visitors. Our recent heavy defeat to this team was a distant memory as we started on the front foot and the pace out wide was causing all sorts of problems. Bishop give us an early let off as they hit the post, then despite several quality balls into the box we just couldn't get on the end of any.

HT 0-0 Into the second half and the defence was standing strong but eventually a goal came for the visitors. A cross into the box was met by their forward and somehow crept over the line. The response from the girls was huge as they drove forward and put the Bishop defence under constant pressure, and eventually we were rewarded as a ball was hit to the edge of the box and headed on but high. As the ball dropped over her right shoulder Kate meets it on the volley and smashes it into the net. Bishop then started pushing us back towards our goal but defensively we stood firm and there were no more real clear cut chances for either side FT 1-1.

U16's League Cup Semi Final. Well done to our u16's

who travelled to first division Eaglescliffe Elementis and came away with a hard earned 2-1 win with goals from Daley and a penalty from Moore. On to the Final in May.

Other scores

Golden Flatts 3 v
U14 Falcons 1
U13's Eagles 0 v
Barnard Castle 4
U9 Eagles 4 v
Chester Le St Hoops 2
U10 Girls 0 v
Washington 3
U15 Girls 2 v
Bishop Auckland 3
U8 Eagles 2 v
Washington 0
U7 Eagles 6 v
Wear Utd Blues 2

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

Lions Club Help Skaters



Spectrum Roller Skating Club has benefitted from a £300 donation from Durham Lions.

"We are so pleased and thankful to Durham Lions for their support," coach Tracy Stevens. The donation will allow us to buy equipment for our skaters who travel to attend Artistic Roller Skating national competitions.

Anyone wanting to learn how to roller skate - bring your skates along to: Darlington Dolphin Centre, Saturday 4.00-5.00pm, £4; Shildon Sunnydale, Sundays 2.30-3.30pm, £4; Willington, Spectrum Leisure 4.30-5.30pm, £4.

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Away Win v Ashington

Aycliffe FC gained an away win over Steve Harmison's Ashington side (the Colliers) with a 2-1 victory. The Colliers started brightly, and applied some early pressure. They forced a couple of corners, but the Aycliffe defence dealt with them comfortably.

Aycliffe then came into the game, and on 20 minutes, captain Jamie Owens put a shot over the bar. He didn't have to wait long to get another chance. On 26 minutes, a free kick was awarded to Newton Aycliffe 25 yards out. Owens stepped up and curled a great shot over the wall and into the

top corner of the net for 0-1. Ten minutes later, the Colliers were back in the game when a McAndrew cross from the left was met with a bullet header by McCorrigan, giving Aycliffe keeper James Winter no chance on his return to the side. Aycliffe then had a let-off two minutes before the break when Winter pushed a shot onto the bar, and the follow-up shot hit the post. Half-time 1-1. Aycliffe got in front within 2 minutes of the re-start, when a Stuart Banks free-kick was pushed out by home keeper Grant, only for Owens to follow up and score his second for 1-2.

On 55 minutes Winter made another good save. Aycliffe went straight up the other end, and Owens had a shot saved. Both sides exchanged chances, and brought on substitutes in an effort to get a goal. The Colliers had a great chance for an equaliser on 81 minutes, when a header back to Winter fell short, and the player lobbed the ball over Winter, but luckily for Aycliffe, it went just past the post. The Colliers did get the ball in the net on 86 minutes, but the linesman already had his flag up for offside. They continued to press for an equaliser and with a minute to go, centre half Buchanan put a header over the bar. Aycliffe held on for the win, thanks to keeper Winter, and centre-half Liam Browne who did well against 6 foot 6 inches tall Ashington centre forward Ben Harmison. Final score 1-2.

The result sees Aycliffe maintain sixth position in the Ebac Northern League with six games to play. Three of those games are against the top 3 sides. Tuesday 28th sees Aycliffe travel to second placed South Shields while on Saturday 1 April third placed Morpeth Town are the visitors to Moore Lane. Kick off is 3pm.



Juniors Football Report

Aycliffe Juniors took to the field to enjoy another weekend of footballing action. The Under 7's faced Silksworth Whites and played superbly to gain a 7-0 win. There were two goals each for Lewis, Dylan and man of the match Oli with Kenton also scoring one. The Under 9's Russell Foster League team were up against Hetton Lyons, amazingly Jack the goalkeeper scored twice in a 4-1 win. Kenzie and Jake also scored but the man of the match was Jack for his two goals.

The Under 9's TJFA league side travelled to play Leven Athletic and after a top class performance they won 2-0. Connor and man of the match Jack were the goal scorers with both coming in the second half after the teams changed ends goalless. In the second game there was another closely fought win and Dan was the man of the match.

The Under 10's were away at Trimdon United Juniors. Liam was the man of the match in a 3-0 loss.

The Under 11 Russell Foster League team were at home in the League Shield second round against Consett AFC Galaxy. The opposition, from a division above, were too strong and won the game 5-1. Aycliffe found themselves three goals down with Consett taking their chances well, before Noah got one back. The lads pushed hard to get back in to the game but tired with no subs available and the cup run came to an end. Herbie was named as man of the match and the team now look forward to finishing off their league campaign with three further games to play.

The Under 11 TJFA league team were looking to bounce



back from last weeks defeat and were playing at home against North Ormesby. They put in a much more composed performance and first half goals from Zack and Lucas put them in to a 2-0 lead. In the second half after conceding one goal Jake P and Charlie scored with impressive long range strikes to make the final score 4-1.

The Under 12's played at Sunnydale against struggling Normanby Black. Wilson finished off a Cayless corner then Clark scored a good goal to make it 2-0. Clark doubled his tally before the visitors got one back. R Hillman was the games man of the match in this 3-1 win as this team look

to win their last two games to secure third place in the league.

The Under 17's travelled to their leagues basement club, Hartlepool Pools Youth needing a point to secure runners up place in the league. The hosts though belittled their league position and opened up a 4-0 lead in twenty minutes. Goals from Tom and Lewis (2) made it a tense finish but the game ended in a 4-3 defeat for Aycliffe.

The Under 23's were away at high flying Whinney Banks and a great performance was not enough to prevent a 1-0 loss. In this closely contested match Jack Slatcher was named as the man of the match.

DCC Like to Have Their Cake & Eat it!

Dear Sir,
I read with interest the article in this week's Newton News by Gary Blenkinsopp in respect of how Labour Councillors voted on the issue of Teaching Assistants.

I have seen a list of the votes which was given to ATL members and it is appalling to see how many councillors, who are also school governors, voted to move Teaching Assistants to term time only contracts, despite knowing how important we are in the day to day support of children within the schools.

I would like to point out that Teaching Assistants have always been paid term time only. Once upon a time, when the schools were closed for holidays, Teaching Assistants were allowed to claim unemployment benefit.

When that was no longer allowed, our salaries were divided over the 12 month period. You don't think that Durham County Council felt sorry for us and decided to pay us for those holidays do you? DCC would like to have their cake and eat it, probably at Durham Cricket ground!

Joyce Currie
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Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 4th April features Disney's fantasy adventure film "Pete's Dragon" starring Robert Redford, the man who amuses the children with tales of a dragon in the woods; all fantasy of course, until 10 year old Pete turns up. Pete knows the dragon well and the excitement begins, a really heart-warming feel-good tale for all ages.

Tea and coffee is served at 1.00pm, 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.

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do not hesitate to speak to Joe Riley, Customer Experience Manager in store

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FOOD FESTIVAL AT BISHOP AUCKLAND

It's Bishop Auckland Food Festival this weekend! An event which brings over 20,000 visitors to the small market town of Bishop Auckland.

There is a wealth of foodie markets, workshops, talks, stalls and a comedy festival too- enough to keep foodies of all ages entertained.

This year there is a newly added addition - A Celebration of Holy Feasts organised by the Revd. Eileen Harrop and the Holy Feasts team. Celebration of Holy Feasts will be held inside St Anne's Church on Bishop Auckland Market Place during the whole of the Food Festival.

They are opening their doors to welcome everyone. It will answer questions including: Why do we eat eggs at Easter? What is the Daniel diet? What are Carlings? What foods do other countries eat at Easter? Featuring all age story telling, crafts, prayer stations, competitions and numerous foodie displays to show the vast abundance and significance of foods and glorious feasts of the Bible and the Christian faith. Morrison's, Tesco, and Marks and Spencers from Bishop Auckland have all generously donated and sponsored prizes for a children's quiz based on the displays.

All displays have been kindly and richly provided by local retailers including Chittocks, M&M Bakers, Longstaff Bakers, Gregory's, on Newgate Street in Bishop Auckland; Elliot's and Clarke's eggs and Nicola's Fruit and Vegetables stall on the Market Place; Auckland Cup Cake Company; Godfrey Butchers and Church Street Fruit and Vegetables in Shildon; Robineau café in Darlington; and Broom Mill breads.

Food brings everyone together creating community, friendship and companionship. A large Fairtrade/Traidcraft stall will offer for sale foods and oils to highlight 'Feeding the Hungry' and 'Stewardship of God's world'. There will also be displays from Water Aid, Woodhouse Close Food Bank, and information about RefUSE a café providing pay as you feel meals from produce otherwise discarded and wasted. Singing

the Faith-A community group will conclude the Holy Feasts celebration by leading Songs of Praise at 3.30pm on Sunday. Celebration of Holy Feasts is open to everyone during the Food Festival and the team are hoping to make it a well loved part of Bishop Auckland Food Festival.

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DONATIONS needed of Bric-a-Brac and other good condition items for Newton Aycliffe good causes. Ring Honest John 316630 after 5pm.

RSPCA North Tees & District cats and kittens for adoption, fee applies to cover 1st and 2nd vaccination, also neutering and ID chip. Please Tel 311215 of Trustees. All members and new members are welcome.

Pioneers Celebrate Diamond Wedding



Walter and Enid Hugill of Woodham, celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary by returning to St. Clare's Church to renew their vows, where they were married on 23rd March 1957. The couple first met in 1950 at the town's first community centre. There were only a few pioneer



families resident when the first houses of the new town were being erected and Walter's family was one of the first seven to move to Newton Aycliffe.

He told Newton News "I was playing table tennis and two beautiful young girls walked in and that was when my relationship with Enid began."

Removed to Newton Aycliffe from Middlesbrough and Enid came from Darlington, both quickly settling down - Walter was a qualified electrician and Enid a shorthand/typist Secretary. Enid's skill gained her some important positions including working for Aycliffe Development Corporation and Woodham Comprehensive.

Walter at one point was a partner in a building venture in premises taken over by Newton Press in the late 60's and now rented by Homeplan. He moved on to other employment including Varleys at Darlington for 28 years before retiring.

Walter was a keen sportsman in his early years and he and Enid helped run the town's first Youth Club, and the Red Cross, teaching first aid and organising exercises for Fell Rescue.

Both are keen bowls players and are members of the Oakleaf Indoor Bowls Club. Walter is a talented woodworker and when he retired the family bought him a lathe. He has created some beautiful objects including furniture, bowls and other fancy goods.

The couple have two sons, Paul and Mark, with five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. The whole family and Enid's sister, who was Matron of Honour at her wedding, came together for a family celebration meal at a local Restaurant.

Therapist Opens in School Aycliffe

After having had treatments for a stress related illness, Paula Spittlehouse was so impressed that such an illness could be helped that she decided to study Holistic Therapy herself in order to help others.

During Autumn 2016, Paula undertook several courses in Swedish Body Massage, Hot Stone and Indian Head Massage including facial treatments. "I couldn't believe how much better I felt mentally and physically, allowing myself time to relax and enjoy the treatments was the best thing I could have done for myself. How often do we give ourselves some time like this? An hour out of my day once a week or a month and its benefits were amazing if not crucial for my happiness and for those close to me".

As Paula practiced on her models, building confidence with each one, she realised that holistic therapy really did provide wellbeing for her clients, after each treatment, her clients asked to book again. "Feedback I received from my clients really boosted my confidence, knowing that I could provide a service that was affordable and professional".

By the end of 2016, Paula had received certificates in all her courses and decided to open Cherrytree Holistic Therapy, running it from her own home. Recognising that clients may prefer a friendly but professional home environment without the hassle of town parking costs, she converted a room into a 'spa' room.

Holistic medicine is a form of healing that considers the whole person -- body, mind, spirit, and emotions. In this way, if people have imbalances (physical, emotional, or spiritual) in their lives, it can negatively affect their overall health. Prior to any treatment being carried out, Paula will carry out a consultation and explain the treatments ensuring clients are safe and suitable to have them.

As Paula's business continues to grow, she is inspired to learn more techniques to add to her skills including reflexology, aromatherapy, and incorporating healing into massage. Paula is fully insured to carry out all practices in her home and looks forward to welcoming new and regular clients. (See Advert Page 3)



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Lost & Found

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Boots Help Cancer Group

Boots on the town kindly held a raffle in aid of Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group drawn on Saturday. The group would like to thank the staff for helping raise vital funds for cancer patients and their families in our community and also thank their customers who gave support raising £157.50.

Next meeting is Thursday 6th April at 6.00pm in Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre. If you would like to come we have transport to pick you up - please call Allison on 07762 258696 or Sharon (secretary) on 07944 187877 for more details.

Our next social outing is to the Majestic Theatre in Darlington on 15th April to support local talented singer Chrissy who is doing a Barbra Streisand tribute act with Neil Diamond.



Margaret Taylor, Clare Porter (Manageress) & Linda Young

Aycliffe UTC has Places for Year 12's, but Year 10 Full



Prospective students enjoyed a fascinating open event at UTC South Durham. They had a guided tour by UTC students, saw the impressive facilities and met the businesses who are working with the UTC expecting to employ future graduates. Over 400 people attended from across the region, looking to enrol for places in September for Year 10 and Year 12.

Principal, Tom Dower, said "I was delighted by the turn-

out. It shows that the word is spreading about the UTC. It was lovely to see the excitement on the faces of young people as they talked to our students and business partners about the opportunities open to them. The UTC is focused on science, technology and engineering and it's important that students who join us are interested in those areas. I was impressed by the level of thought that families are putting into considering their future."

Books @ Heighington

In an effort to ameliorate the loss of the mobile library in Heighington following Council cuts, the Village Hall Association with the kind assistance of Mrs Dilys Moss opened Books@Heighington on the 30th March 2.00pm to 4.30pm in what was the Post Office in the Village Hall. Books donated by the villagers will be available to borrow and return at a cost of 10p each. The books are suitable for all ages and tastes. Books@Heighington will be open every second and last Thursday of the month 2.00pm to 4.30pm



Awards for Volunteer Village Litter Pickers



Peter Smyth with Ann Dobson, Anne Graham and Trevor King collecting the Environment Award Certificates

The Heighington Parish Litter Group (HPLG) held a coffee morning on the 25th March 2017. The fine sunny day found some 40 visitors in Heighington Village Hall enjoying tea/coffee/cakes and a chat. The HPLG used the occasion to make presentations of the 2016 Environment Awards. These are presented to people who have made great efforts to



Kim and Joan Trotter receiving the Maclean Rose Bowl and certificate

keep our parish beautiful and free from litter.

Peter Smyth, Chairman of the group presented three Environment Award Certificates, see Pic 1, to Mrs. Anne Graham and Mrs Judith King of Heighington and Mr Ray and Mrs Elizabeth Smith of Redworth. Mrs Ann Dobson received the award for Mr and Mrs Smith and Mr Trevor King accepted the award on behalf of his wife Judith, who were unable to

attend.

The silver Maclean Rose Bowl, the premier award, was presented to joint winners Miss Kim Trotter and Mrs Joan Trotter, see Pic 2. Peter Smyth said the pair were regular and reliable litter pickers who tackled any allocated roadsides in all weather conditions. Together they have collected over 200 bags of litter. All the awards recipients have made a valuable contribution to keeping the roadsides around the parish tidy. We are all very grateful for their hard work.

The HPLG, a volunteer body, has been in action for over 12 years and has collected nearly 6,500 bags of rubbish from the roadsides of Heighington Parish and reported over 40 incidents of fly-tipping on the roadsides during their monthly picks.

The Group makes monthly picks on the second Saturdays of each month between 10.00am and 12noon. Anyone is welcome to join the picks. We meet at Heighington Village hall or 2 Main Road Redworth. All the necessary equipment (high-viz tabards, pick-sticks, gloves, goggles and bags) are handed out. Our next pick will be on 8th April, 2017.

Obituary

HUNTER. Newton Aycliffe. 22nd March, peacefully in hospital after a short illness, Edith, aged 90 years. Beloved Wife of Stan; much loved Mam of Linda; dear Nana of Melanie. Funeral Monday 3rd April. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 12noon.

COOK. 21st March, at home. Emily, aged 12 years old of Newton Aycliffe. Dearly loved Daughter of Claire and Wayne; loving Sister of Holly and Morgan; also a treasured granddaughter, niece, cousin and friend to Milly. Funeral to be held on Wednesday 5th April. Would family and friends please meet at 2pm for a Service at Neville Parade Methodist Church, prior to a private cremation. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, may be made after the Service in Emily's memory. "To our beautiful star way up in the sky. Engraved in gold on a cloud above. A ray of sunshine came and went, our beautiful Emily only lent. In God's keeping she quietly sleeps, our beautiful daughter we could not keep".

TWOHIG. Newton Aycliffe. 27th March, peacefully after an illness bravely borne. Mike, (Twiggy), aged 80 years. Beloved Husband to the late Sheila; Dad to Susan, Kevin and Carol; Grandad, Great-Grandad and Brother. Funeral on Thursday 6th April. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Darlington Crematorium at 1.15pm. No flowers please. Donations in lieu, in aid of The Great North Air Ambulance Service, may be given or will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe. Tel: 01325 318600.

SHEILA ARMSTRONG It is with great sadness to announce the passing of my Mum on Monday 27th March. Her funeral arrangements will follow later. Loved and remembered always and forever. Joan and Colin

Birthday Remembrance

Tina-Louise Allan

30th March

You left without warning, not even a good bye. And I can't seem to stop asking the question why? I didn't see this coming, it hit us by surprise, and when you left for Heaven, a small part of me died. Your smile could brighten anyone's day, no matter what they were going through, and every day for the rest of my life, I'll be missing you. Love always, Jacquie

In Memoriam

Margaret Kelly

24th March 2009

Forever in my thoughts.
Love you always,
Paddy xxxxxx

Norma Barnes

4th April 2015

As I lay awake most evenings, while others are asleep. I take a stroll down Memory Lane for memories I can keep. It's where my quiet thoughts all float around. Some settle softly upon the ground. Like crisp autumn leaves around my feet. If I touch them they burst apart with sweet memories of holding hands and rose bouquets, of sunsets trimmed with orange haze, of your laughing eyes, your silly ways, of quiet nights and gentle days, with you. In memories I can hear your voice and see your smile. Even lay and talk awhile. We'd be together in the same old way, together for ever and a day. Loving Husband Graham Together Forever Always

Congratulations

Jessica Reed



Happy 21st Birthday Happy birthday. Love from Mam and Dad.
Happy 21st Birthday Happy birthday. Love from Chelsea and Kayleigh.
Happy 21st Birthday Happy birthday to a lovely Granddaughter. Love from Gran and Uncle Colin.
Happy 21st Birthday Happy birthday Jessie. Love from Auntie Karen

HARRY LAVERTY. 31st March 2017. Hip Hip Hooray, little H is 18 today. Have a fab birthday. Lots of love, Mam and Dad xxx
HARRY LAVERTY. 31st March 2017. Happy 18th little Bro. Love, Anth xx
HARRY LAVERTY. 31st March 2017. Happy birthday Uncle Harry. Lots of love, Naomi and Yazmin xxx
HARRY LAVERTY. 31st March 2017. Happy birthday to our Grandson Harry. Have a great 18th birthday. Lots of love, Nana and Grandad xx
LAURA CRUDDACE Hope you had a wonderful birthday Laura. We all enjoyed the get together. Love you loads. Grandma xxx
MELANIE MITCHINSON Happy 50th birthday Melanie. Enjoy your weekend. Love, Mam, Stacey and Milo xxx
MELANIE MITCHINSON Happy 50th birthday Auntie Melanie. Hope you have a fab day. Love, Samantha, Stuart, Ryan and Joanne xxx
MELANIE MITCHINSON Happy 50th birthday Melanie. Hope you have a great day. Love, Lesley and Dave xxx

Congratulations

Alex Howarth - 18 Adam Howarth - 21



Adam - Happy 21st Birthday
31st March 2017

Love from Mam, Dad and all your family and friends.

Alex - Happy 18th Birthday
1st April 2017

Love from Mam, Dad and all your family and friends

Woodham Gymnasts Compete AYCLIFFE'S UNBEATEN STREAK

Woodham Academy's Gymnastics Academy have been training particularly hard after returning from the Christmas break, in preparation for this year's North East Schools Gymnastics Competition. It is a big competition that a lot of the schools around the North East enter in hope that they can qualify for the national finals. Woodham Academy entered three teams this year, and all of the students had to compete in both the floor section and on the vault.

The competition was held at Hartlepool Gymnastics club on Wednesday 22nd March, where they offer out their amazing facilities and help with the organisation. Woodham Academy's students have a range of experience in Gymnastics. They participate at a range of levels; some attend local clubs and some have only experienced school gymnastics.

As it is only schools that can enter the competition, the students are competing in age brackets and against a range of abilities. Woodham A, a group that fell into the Under 14 bracket, were first to represent Woodham Academy in the early stages of the competition. This saw the students perform their floor pieces first before they moved onto the vault. Each routine was one minute



long and involved a range of strength, agility and flexibility moves. All of the students performed exceptionally well and showed the rest of the competitors the standard at which Woodham Academy perform. The next part of the competition involved Woodham B, another group in the Under 14 category. This group of girls were a mixture of KS3 students who have all had a different level of experience in Gymnastics. They all performed exceptionally well and again competed in both floor and vault.

After all of the Under 14's had competed, we welcomed onto the Floor Woodham Academy's Under 19s. This category is slightly broader

and as a results means our students are competing against college students which can be intimidating. Woodham's students took it in their stride and performed complex routines to a very high standard. Woodham Academy are very proud of our students who competed, they were an asset to the school showing the North East how hard they work and how resilient they all are. A massive well done!



Neville Parade and Simpature PACT Meeting on 4th April at 6.30pm. Come along and meet one of your local officers and have the opportunity to discuss any concerns in your community. Aycliffe Village PACT Meeting on 8th April at 11am. Come along to the Village Hall to speak to your local officer and raise any concerns you may have. PCSO 7956 Daniela Jones Neighbourhood Policing Team Email: Daniela.Jones@durham.pnn.police.uk

Saturday 25th of March saw Newton Aycliffe 1st XV travel away to Hartlepool to play T.D.S.O.B. The last encounter between the two sides ended in a near-on century scored for Aycliffe, however, as with many teams, squads fielded at home are often stronger than those which travel.

The game began well for Aycliffe as the visitors immediately pressed into the T.D.S.O.B. half, the pressure resulting in young prospect Aidan Ryans crossing on eight minutes for the game's first try, which was duly converted by skipper Lineton. Following this, the game became rather scrappy and Aycliffe struggled to implement their game plan against an often-offside rush defence.

Despite this, the next ten minutes were spent in the T.D.S.O.B. half, with Aycliffe punching forward, and T.D.S.O.B. doing everything possible to slow the ball down. The unerring pressure was rewarded on twenty-one minutes as utility back Chris Richards cut an unstoppable line to cross, taking the score to twelve nil, Lineton increasing the gap to fourteen with the conversion. From the restart, Aycliffe again forged forward, but a line break was stopped dead by a high tackle on opsense Andrew Tonkin which led to a scuffle breaking out fifteen metres from the T.D.S.O.B. line.

Captain Lineton was first in, and wound up head-butting a T.D.S.O.B. fist repeatedly for his troubles. Following stern words from the ref, play resumed, with Aycliffe again fighting up field, despite questionable tactics at the breakdown from T.D.S.O.B., and continuous appeals from the home support. The pressure and complexity of the Aycliffe game plan paid dividends and following a sharp lineout move, Tonkin cut a line that even a head-high tackle couldn't have stopped, and he crossed under the posts, which was converted by the skipper to finish the half.

Half time score: Hartlepool T.D.S.O.B. 0-21 Newton Aycliffe 1st XV.

The second half saw Aycliffe camped firmly in the T.D.S.O.B. half, and despite pressing toward the line through tight pick and goes, the home defence held firm, electing to utilise a defensive style best characterised as; not entering rucks through the gate, and lying on the wrong side of the ball. This spell was brought to a close as Jon McGuigan ran a typically mazy line and surged over the line, taking the visitors to a twenty-six-point lead.

Ten minutes passed, during which Aycliffe continued to push forward, a substitution saw First XV debutante prop Dan Chamberlain enter the fray, and his presence immediately told, as he shored up the scrum and crossed the line after a powerful pick and drive, only to be disallowed by the referee for an alleged knock on in earlier play. Another scuffle broke out close to the T.D.S.O.B. line, following which, Aycliffe tightened up their game, and the hits rained down on the home side. Every home player who handled the ball was knocked back, rucks were hit with more intent with the defence lead by the back row and hooker Ash Bolsover who beat all comers, including



Bolsover driving back a prop twice his weight.

Despite this defensive dominance, T.D.S.O.B. were able to break through up the wing, with lock Ben Merritt making the covering tackle ten metres out from the Aycliffe line. Calls of high tackle went up from the home side, and the referee responded, giving Merritt an early finish on 71 minutes citing 'team infringements' as the cause of the yellow card.

T.D.S.O.B. made the most of their one-man advantage, driving over the oldest player in the league to gain a consolation score, which they converted.

Aycliffe were to have the last word, with veteran flanker Warren Parsonage cutting a sickening line to find himself one-on-one with the fullback, who duly dived out of the path of the rampaging opsense, leaving him a clear run in from thirty out. Lineton added the extras and the final whistle was blown.

Final score: Hartlepool T.D.S.O.B. 7-33 Newton Aycliffe 1st XV.

The game saw Aycliffe continue their unbeaten run, and move one game closer to winning the league. There is

no fixture this coming week, but Aycliffe travel up to Wallsend on the 9th April for

their penultimate game, which could see them crowned DN3 champions.

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