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Newtonian's Plan to Revive Great Aycliffe Show

Russ Gibson aged 35 is married with 3 children and has lived in the town all his life and he has an ambition to revive the Great Aycliffe Show for 2018.

His son Jack aged 9 plays for NAJFA U9 Blacks and his 2 year old daughter Poppy has just started attending Aycliffe Dance Academy. Russ wants them to grow up and be proud to call this town their birthplace as its history is amazing.

Russ is just an ordinary citizen of the town who has seen bad times and great times, but most of all no matter what's said about Newton Aycliffe he believes it has great community spirit. Most people know about the Great Aycliffe Show and how good it was in its early days, even going back to the Town Festival held in the 60's and 70's.

Russ said: "Unfortunately the Show didn't change much from year to year and became so predictable people knew they would not miss much if they stayed away. This led to numbers declining as

they looked at other more attractive events outside the town".

"When the decision was announced it would end and be replaced with the Festival it was more of a relief than disappointment as it had become a shadow of its former self".

"But in my opinion the town has now lost its identity there's little excitement anymore and nothing to look forward to and it just feels like there's something missing".

That's when Russ had the idea to try and re-launch an all new and modern Great Aycliffe Show. He started asking people through Facebook if they want it back and what different events would they want in its place? He has received a fantastic response and has approached a large Fun Fair company who are very interested and gave great advice.

Russ is talking to the Town Council requesting their support and permission to use the original Oak Leaf site and running the Show over the weekend during the town's Festival fortnight.



The Council is in the middle of local elections and cannot give a response at the moment, but Russ is confident they will be supportive. He is also appealing for suggestions, help and support from the community and businesses, to make this happen in 2018. Russ can be contacted on russellgibson04@gmail.com

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Local Polo Swimmers Play for England



Sedgefield Water Polo Club members Michael Cousins 16, Kris Egginton 16 and Ben Stephenson 15 were part of the England under 18 team that played in the EU Nations trophy in Brno in the Czech Republic. England defeated the home team 10-6, Denmark 27-2, Austria 9-4, Switzerland 8-6, Scotland 18-3 but lost their final game against South Africa 8-6 to finish runners-up. The three Sedgefield players played a big part with Ben Stephenson being England's top scorer with 12 goals, Michael Cousins got 7 and Kris Egginton 5 goals. All three are getting ready for the European qualifiers in Manchester in May for GB against Ukraine, Rumania, Israel and Lithuania.

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LABOUR REPLIES

Dear Sir,
Aycliffe Reply was formed to tell voters the truth:

- Have you noticed big cuts in services? Labour has a good record at Town and County Council saving services in these times of austerity.
- Neighbourhood Budgets are a LABOUR policy and have made a big difference for Newton Aycliffe.
- We are proud of Labour's campaign our candidates have years of experience & know what they are talking about & have worked their socks off.
- Only our Labour councillors have a joint Town & County programme for future improvements.
- Labour councillors work as a team please elect them as a team.
- Looking at the Independent list shows that they don't even know which ward to campaign in a leaflet was circulated around the Byerley Park and Horndale yet are applying to stand in Aycliffe West. So how can they represent to people? Aycliffe Reply. (members are anonymous to each other, and our letters a collection from different contributors).

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Inconsiderate Dog Owners

Dear Sir,
Please may I write an open letter to the inconsiderate oafs who after picking up the Poo while exercising their dogs, can't be bothered to deposit the full bag in the bins provided!! Instead, they throw them onto green patches or even into private gardens.
This problem is particularly unpleasant in the Kendrew Close and Sanderson Close area. Who the hell do they think is going to tidy up after them, the fairies?
I felt that writing to Newton News was preferable to tracing these individuals and posting the bag through their letterbox.
Mrs Esla Cox
Kendrew Close

HAVE YOU GOT THE DJ FACTOR?

Calling all DJ's new and old. This is an open audition to find Darlo Radio's next volunteer on air Radio Presenter. No experience needed just a passion for music, our Community and the ability to talk to people about it.
All levels of experience accepted so if you're already a seasoned Presenter or new to it, this is your chance to shine!
Firstly email your demo to us at demo@darloradio.com before 5pm on Friday 19th May 2017. This is a short recording of you introducing songs, presenting a show or just you taking about your favourite music. Demo

should last about 2 minutes but no longer than 3 minutes. We will listen to them all and decide who gets through to the next round.

Those who make it into the second round will be invited to audition.

The auditions are going to take place live on air at Darlo Radio. You will be given a piece of music to introduce and a short local topic to talk about.

People will listen in, voting for their favourite presenter via our website at darloradio.com

The person with the most votes wins a place on our team at Darlo Radio and will be given a regular show to produce and perform.

What are you waiting for?

Remember it's all about your presentation skills and positive attitude as well as the online votes.

Listen to Darlo Radio at www.darloradio.com to get a feel for the type of music we play and tell everyone you know to listen to Darlo Radio for your audition, and to vote!

Applicants must be over 16 years old.

Applicants must be available on Saturday 3rd June 2017 to take part in the Live Auditions.

Closing date to submit your demo is Friday 19th May 2017 before 5pm.

Please email your demo to demo@darloradio.com
Good luck.

Let the Public Decide

Dear Sir,
Listening to an Independent election candidate over the last few weeks has been like listening to the last remaining radio station, repeatedly playing the same two songs: Labour this, Darlington Councillor that, but forgetting the B side "love me tender", because there are two Independents in particular - so interesting that they make me want to open up a dust farm.

There is a well known quote by Elvis Presley: "Do something worth remembering".

Granted, one candidate is chairman of 2 community groups. I too am chair of my own local group but I have always maintained a divide between my role of Councillor and that of group chair.

The other candidate had a 10 month suspension from the Labour Party for attempting to manipulate a by-election last year. On this occasion though Elvis did not leave the building wholly of his own accord - the term "gentle persuasion" comes to mind.

Hopefully these are points worth remembering at the polling stations.

Recently their campaign seems to be a push for votes by constantly choking people

with one agenda item - the Aycliffe Councillor that lives in Darlington - instead of informing the public of what they plan to do if elected.

When elected in 2013 I had been a Newtonian for 41 years. I pride myself on a successful four years as Councillor, able to work with anybody regardless of Party or political views in order to achieve the best results for Great Aycliffe and it's residents. I don't believe in dirty tactics to derail someone else's election campaign and I can always be contacted at my place of work which is the local supermarket.

There are some very good candidates in this year's election and I would urge the public to ask themselves what their Councillor and the Council might do for them and not base their vote on simply where a Councillor lives. I personally would want a Councillor that I could trust. I am currently looking at the possibility of relocating back to Aycliffe and hopefully by taking away this ammunition it puts an end to the ramblings of the current crop of my detractors.

Let the public decide
Paul Kjenstad
Labour candidate.



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Saturday 29th April - "RockMonster"

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

Saturday 6th May - "Dust Town Dogs"

Fantastic band with a great following, re-booked after an amazing debut gig last year. Some reviews, Gig-Pit: "One of the most energetic and entertaining live acts I've seen for a long time. The Dust Town Dogs play an eclectic mix of classic punk, rock, ska, country and folk songs all done with acoustic instruments. Don't be fooled tho, they're bloody loud! The band are tight, the vocal harmonies excellent, the harmonica playing superb and to top it all off, it's all done "doggy" style! Maybe that's why the ladies seem to love them! Definitely worth a look, (and take your wife, it'll make her horny)!"
"Surprise of the day for me was Dust Town Dogs. I'd heard about them but never really fancied the style of music they play. Well how wrong can one be! One word... tremendous. Go get their CD. For those few who don't know, they play a kind of Cajun/Pougués mix. If you don't like them, you don't have a heart and your probably dead."
"Was asked to go and film this band at Consett Empire, what a cracking night, audience eating out of their hands from the off, never seen so many people up on stage dancing and singing with the band, great entertainment."

Sunday 7th May - "GateCrashers"

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

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Friday - 8pm - Open-Mic, with some outstanding local talent
Saturday - 8pm - 'THE DUST TOWN DOGS' an excellent party band - regulars on the main stage at 'Stormin The Castle'

Sunday - 4pm - "THE GATECRASHERS" possibly the greatest (& craziest) band in North-East.

Always one of the best weekends of the year, so don't miss it!



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Aycliffe UTC's New Intake Get to Know Each Other



During April the UTC South Durham held a "Getting to know you" event for students who will be joining them in September 2017.

The event was for both Year 10 and 12 students, with over 150 students attending. The event was aimed at helping students make friends, get to know UTC staff and complete the eight exciting engineering challenges that were on offer.

UTC Students volunteered to help for the evening as buddies and ensured the students joining us felt comfortable. Industry Partners joined in on hosting fun engineering challenges, along with special guests Bodg and Tom from Capital Radio who hosted the event and ran a structural engineering challenge and handed out prizes throughout the evening.

Tom Dower, Principal said "Feedback from both parents and students was extremely positive. This year we have students apply to us from over 50 schools, so it's important we make that transition as comfortable as we can. We are looking forward to welcoming all of our students in September".



Fancy a Saturday afternoon treat for the kids that won't break the bank - why not come along to the Cinema Club - 'KIDZFLICKS' at St. Clare's to watch the new Disney film Moana on Saturday 6th May at 2pm. It only costs £1 and we have lots of space and lots of sweet treats to share.

'An epic adventure about a spirited teen who sets sail on a daring mission to save her people. Along the way Moana meets the once mighty demigod Maui, and together they cross the ocean on a fun-filled, action packed voyage. The movie is full of heart and humour.'

Our tuck shop sells sweets and drinks from 20p and we have an interval and serve ice-creams for only 50p. The atmosphere is always great and it's a good way for children to socialise and make new friends in a safe and secure environment. So come to the movie club, made especially for children, and bring a friend or two.

Youth/ChildrenSt.Clares has details of all the Children's events held in the Parish.



ACORN AT WHITBY GOTH FESTIVAL

Happy Birthday William Shakespeare, Happy Saint George's Day and whoopee we were off to the Goth Festival at Whitby.

57 people of all ages and genders left Newton Aycliffe on Saturday 23rd of April eager to attend this wonderful event. Children anticipating candy rock, ice cream and entertainments, older people looking forward to fish and chips by the sea and everyone thinking about the spectacle which lay ahead.

ACORN have been making this pilgrimage annually for four years and it has become a firm favourite on our calendar. This event is supported by the big lottery fund" awards for all "grant which ACORN use to fund a variety of attractions and excursions throughout the year.

A fantastic day was had by all and we brought a happy but tired group of people back.



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3M, which has a manufacturing plant at Aycliffe, has won two new accolades for the way it carries out its business. The science-based technology company makes respirators for worker safety and products for the vehicle aftercare market at its Heighington Lane site. It has been named as one

of the world's most ethical companies for the fourth year running in the annual rankings produced by the prestigious Ethisphere Institute – an honour that only four industrial manufacturing companies worldwide can claim this year. The Ethisphere Institute assesses companies on

a series of levels, from compliance programmes and corporate responsibility to leadership and a culture of ethics. "At 3M, it's not enough to just win in business – it matters how you do it," said Kristen Ludgate, 3M's chief compliance officer. "Customers want to do business with companies they can trust, and achieving that trust requires the help of all employees."

3M has also received a gold rating for corporate social responsibility from EcoVadis, an organisation that evaluates the environmental, social and ethical management systems of suppliers. The gold rating puts 3M in the top one per cent of companies assessed this year.

The company is celebrating its success during this week's Responsible Business Week from 24-28 April. The week is organised by Business in the Community (BITC), a charity of which The Prince of Wales is president and 3M is a national member.

The week puts the spotlight on how businesses of all sizes are making a difference, changing lives and improving communities across the UK and aims to inspire many more businesses to take action

To find out more about Responsible Business Week 2017 visit www.bitc.org.uk/rbweek or search for the hashtag #RBWeek.

Dear Sir,
Everyday we see a new challenge locally, nationally and globally. What really is going on, and who is truly representing your needs?

We face three elections within weeks. In May we have the chance to vote in County Council representatives and also the new salaried position of Tees Valley Mayor. Then in June the General Election after months of 'just in case' preparations for a snap election.

Brexit will happen, we must remember that, no matter which party has the keys to 10 Downing Street, the deal on the table we will not know until after the General Election and the EU present it to the Government for negotiation. Brexit should not be a sole reason you choose a candidate. I believe these elections are about concentrating on local issues, and what we need. Brexit will come, there will be parliamentary squabbles, U turns and hopefully a position for the UK in Europe and the world at the end of it without too many bad 'hits.'

We have all received literature through the door, with all party's promising different ways to spend budgets (my first thought is cut the salary of the mayor at least 30% initially and pay councillors for their time on the job only, and not just because they were elected (my biggest bug bear are councillors who are just a name on a piece of paper and are wheeled out for a vote or two if needed)). I strongly disagree with an elected representative abstaining on any vote, it just demonstrates weakness and suspicion waiting to see the public reaction before coming on side for votes. Here is what the literature through the door promised: Labour want to bring more jobs, decent pay, improve education by taking money from London, community regeneration projects and will listen to you. Liberal Democrats want to advance transport, invest in supersonic travel, build our

chemical industry back up, bring back jobs and investment in medical and sustainable green power, and bring back metal (steel) investment.

UKIP want a referendum on the Tees Valley authority, a metro system, bring investors, and support local communities in need.

Conservatives want to purchase the airport with the

Mayors budget, object to some housing projects, and will get rid of the Cleveland police.

I have listened, and I know what I believe in are strong beliefs, as I am sure many of you may hold My next thought - the North includes us reading this, or are we not in the North too?

My thoughts on Education is something I believe deeply in, and any suggestion of funding not available to schools is devastating. Headmasters are already cutting staff locally, cutting repairs to school infrastructure and having to cut funds destined to deliver our children's best education needs.

If the Government hampers education funds we fail in our duty to the next generation and our futures.

NHS, well I think it's pretty important - most used it coming into the world, and I am sure most have used it again. I am not happy there are reductions to local hospital services planned because of Government funding reductions.

Reducing Accident and Emergency, maternity and some operations is not the way forward, and something I could not represent. Image if you had a car crash, a heart attack, a stroke, difficulty breathing or your child banged their head out playing, where would you go if Accident and Emergency was shut?

Jobs and Investment - Why have we lost our great regional industry's? People in work is fantastic, but we should not be content with minimal salaries of a few hours paid work with a need to substitute them with universal credit benefits - we should be securing well paid

jobs for all.

When I put myself forward to stand and represent you in the 2015 General Election, I spoke honestly to fight your corner, on what I truly believe in, investment in jobs, education, the NHS, a better deal in life for you, and I would have crossed any party line to make sure you got the best deal. Today, I could not contemplate signing an agreement like the one for 2015 agreeing to the current Government policy, like those standing where I did, for council or for parliament must agree on, to toe the party lines. I can never agree with policy when it messes and disrupts jobs, investment, your life security, education and your NHS.

I also don't agree that council candidates may not live or work in the electoral area, (as I am sure it is a pre requisite to stand), especially if living in Darlington and standing for Darlington Borough Council in 2019. Where are loyalty's and procedures?

It is your choice who you vote for (I am not standing in case you thought I was begging for votes), but this is a difficult time, and there will be struggles ahead, we need representatives to work for you locally, as non presented to you are destined to be in charge of Brexit negotiations.

We needed people who will support you, stand up for you and represent you. We need jobs, investment, good education, good security in our lives and an NHS that work for you when you need it. Maybe you should ask the question, "How will you actually do what you say you want to do if elected?"

Scott Wood

ELECTION ADDRESS

Kathryn Beetham

I am standing as Labour candidate for Aycliffe Town council Central Ward. I am asking for your support to represent you as Labour Town Councillor for Newton Aycliffe.

I am proud to have lived in Aycliffe all my life and five generations of my family, from my grandparents to my new grandchild, have called Aycliffe home.

I understand the impact that local and national decision making has and the responsibility that comes with being part of those decisions.

Having worked in support and counselling roles with people struggling at vulnerable times in their lives, I understand the how local services and amenities can make a positive impact at those times. I also understand how those services also often face their own issues to provide that essential support, especially in the face of current harsh government cuts to local finances.

If elected, I will seek to protect what is best about the town's past and the town councils achievements, while also addressing the needs of its residents in today's changing world, so that my grandchild and yours, can grow up in a town of which they too can be proud.

Miss Kathryn Beetham (Labour)

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More Talk on Teaching Assistants Review

Meetings started this week between Headteachers and Durham County Council over next stage of Teaching Assistant review.

Durham County Council have started to hold meetings with headteachers and trade unions from today, to match teaching assistants to a proposed new grading structure, as part of a wider package being worked on with TAs and their trade union representatives. Meetings are required with each school to obtain their agreement on what is proposed prior to a revised offer being made.

This follows extensive work by the council and recognised trade unions to review the roles and responsibilities of teaching assistants working in schools across the county.

John Hewitt, Durham County Council's Director of Resources, said: "The work we have been doing included reviewing job

descriptions and job record documents with teaching assistant representatives to recognise fully the varied work undertaken by teaching assistants at all levels. There is clarity on the responsibilities of each role and these have now been evaluated against the new grading structure."

The upcoming phase of work will see the council meet with head teachers and recognised trade union representatives in over 240 schools across the county in order to match all 2,500 teaching assistants to the proposed new grading structure. This phase is expected to be complete by 26 May.

Mr Hewitt added: "The new grading structure forms part of the review of overall terms and conditions and will form the basis of final negotiations with recognised trade unions as we aim to reach a final agreement."

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Our MP Deplores Tory Education Cuts Easter at Stephenson Way

Dismayed by Conservative plans to cut school funding in Newton Aycliffe, local MP Phil Wilson will be voicing his concerns about the impact cuts will have to the education of local students.

With Greenfield Community College set to lose a staggering half a million pounds and Woodham Academy set to lose a further £200,000, secondary schools in Aycliffe are facing difficult decisions.

Difficult decisions which will also be facing our local primary schools with seven across Aycliffe set to lose up to £65,000 each.

Planned Conservative cuts may force schools to reduce teaching staff, which could see Aycliffe schools lose 25 teachers meaning bigger class sizes for local children, and could leave some schools having to ask parents help pay for basic equipment.

Despite our local schools facing severe spending cuts the Tories have rubbed-stamped plans for more than 130 enormously expensive new free schools elsewhere.

Outraged by the injustice and inequality of the Conservative approach to education, MP Phil Wilson will be demanding the Tories explain how they can justify taking funding away from students in Newton Aycliffe, and the rest of his constituency, whilst spending extortionate amounts on free schools elsewhere in the country.

Phil Wilson believes that students in Aycliffe, and elsewhere in his constituency, deserve to receive a quality



education, and he is prepared to fight the Tories to ensure this happens. Which is why on Wednesday 26th April, he will be raising this issue in Parliament.

Before making his speech Phil said "It is completely unacceptable that schools in Aycliffe, and Sedgefield constituency, are facing such damaging cuts which will leave schools short of vital funds. I will not stand-by while the Conservatives force our schools to choose between basic equipment and teaching staff."

READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Carol Norton who lives in Lee Green contacted Newton News requesting we take a photo of the lovely view from her house in tribute to our beautiful town which boasts an environment which is the envy of visitors to Newton Aycliffe. If you have a view to be proud of please take a photo and send it in to syd@newtonnews.co.uk



Children, staff and parents of Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery School have enjoyed learning together sessions over the last few weeks. The sessions give parents a chance to work alongside their child in English or Maths as well as learning strategies to support their child at home. Whilst the older children's parents enjoyed a more formal setting of number crunching and subordinate clauses, the Early Years children enjoyed a more hands on approach. In Reception it was an Easter

'eggstravaganza' with a Play and Stay session for parents, staff and children, giving everyone the chance to join in with the festivities. Activities for the morning included an Easter egg hunt, Easter crafts and egg rolling as well as tasting the children's home made chocolate nests.

Children brought Easter bonnets and decorated eggs to school to be in with the chance of winning an Easter egg! The competition was a big hit and the judge had a difficult job of choosing the winners due to such a high standard.

Superheroes, teachers, Star Wars characters, Turtles and farm yard animals were all contenders as well as many that were linked to the recent topic 'Space'.

The event was well attended and a great time was had by all. Feedback from parents was positive and one parent said "I enjoyed seeing all of the children enjoying school and how much the teachers care." Another stated "The session gave me a chance to see what my daughter does when she is not with me and to see how happy it makes her."

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8 to 15 years
All standards welcome!
£2.40 for members
£2.90 for non-members

Husqvarna Celebrate Landmark 1 Millionth Robot Mower



Husqvarna Group, one of the world's leading producers of forest, park and garden products, will celebrate a landmark occasion for British manufacturing as it marks the production of its 1 millionth robotic lawnmower at its UK headquarters in Newton Aycliffe - a first for the industry.

The day which proves a milestone moment for the company, as a testament to Husqvarna Group's devotion to innovation in lawn mowing, and to the 130,000 sq metre Newton Aycliffe site, which has been

a manufacturing force for robotic mowing since 2006. Husqvarna Group is a pioneer in robotic grass cutting technology, and though the success of its range of products and solutions, is the global market leader in robotic lawn mowing. In 1995, the Group created the robotic mower market by introducing the solar mower, the world's first ever robotic mower. Today the Husqvarna Group offers a range of robotic mowers in the Husqvarna, Gardena, McCulloch and Flymo brands.

Kai Warn, CEO and President for Husqvarna Group said: "celebrating 1,000,000 environmentally friendly robotic mowers is a milestone for the Group. More than twenty years ago, we created the robotic mower market and have developed the market ever since. We naturally have a strong market leadership within this category while many of our competitors still are fairly new in the market. We see that in many countries the market for robotic mowers remains small, while others have grown substantially



Phil Wilson MP, Anne-Marie Gardener and Glen Instone



Caraline Robinson, Anne-Marie Gardener and Husqvarna staff



Scott & Alison Marshall from St. Teresa's Hospice received a robot mower from Caraline Robinson

- meaning sizeable growth opportunities in this exciting segment remains. Our aim is to maintain our leadership position by providing the most reliable, safe and efficient products and solutions".

Production of robotic mowers has been ongoing for 22 years and in 2006 its Newton Aycliffe factory began the manufacturing of its flagship product. In the height of the season it can see around 3000 models produced per day.

It takes on average, input from 72 staff to produce each robotic mower and the factory currently employs 1154 people to produce machines which are exported worldwide. The main market for robotic mowers is still western Europe, but is growing globally by at least 20% each year.

22 years of innovation
Extensive knowledge and experience built into the products mean reliable, safe and proven machines. With a mindset of continually making improvements, the Group's robotic mowers have become more robust, easier to install and use and can handle even more complex gardens. A robotic mower is energy efficient and has almost no emissions during use. The electricity consumption for maintaining a 1000m² lawn is approximately

equal to a 60W light bulb. Today it is possible to control, programme and track your robotic mower via a smartphone or tablet app, meaning you can be in control no matter where you are. Since the very first robotic mower, time and effort has been invested in order to reduce the product's noise level to a minimum and now machines work in an almost silent manner, meaning peaceful, environmentally friendly mowing across the world.

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NEWTON NEWS EDITORIAL

Husqvarna's Wow Factor

It was a privilege to be invited with the region's media to celebrate with Husqvarna the production of their one millionth Robot Mower.

The air of excitement in the factory was tangible and as a Newtonian I was as proud of this Aycliffe company's achievement as the management and staff. I remember Flymo when it started in the 60's and have witnessed its phenomenal growth over the years. Flymo along with all the many other group products are exported all over the world.

Their global outreach is a testament to the quality of the garden machinery and accessories they produce at Aycliffe and in the group. The company has a bright future as they tackle markets in the East including Russia, China and the Indian sub-Continent.

One thing very apparent while touring the works is the Husqvarna's vast investment in ultra modern manufacturing equipment including robotics.

This is good news for the employees both permanent and seasonal and Newton News wish them and Husqvarna continued success.

Livin Apply to Build 9 Houses on Former Oak Tree Inn Site



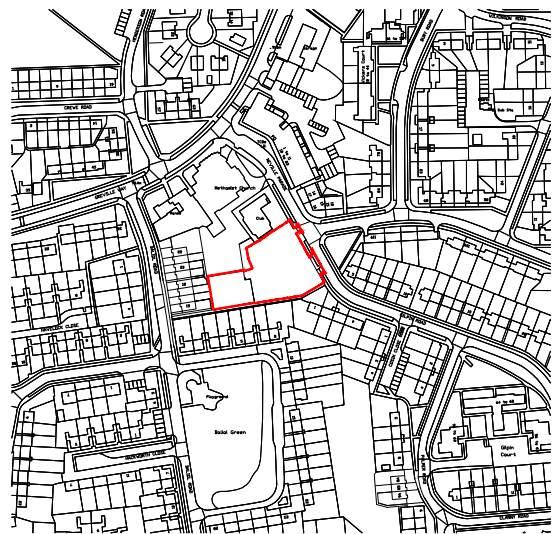
Livin has applied to the County Council for permission to build new houses on the former Oak Tree Inn site on Gilpin Road next to Neville Community Centre.

Livin's proposed development is for nine new houses and it is intended that

five houses will be shared ownership and four houses will be affordable rent to buy. The layout comprises of six semi detached houses and a

terrace of three houses – all three bedroom. These two storey houses are designed to be in similar scale to the surrounding area to make the development feel like an inclusive part of the neighbourhood. It is hoped that works

commence around October 2017, subject to planning permission and will be carried out by Livin's development partner Tolent Ltd.



Join the Youth Variety Show

The annual Youth Variety Show this year is on Thursday 15th and Friday 16th June, 7.30pm at the Civic Hall, Shildon.

A spokesperson for the event said "We are looking for Young People or Young People's Groups who have a great talent for either Singing, Dancing, or as a Magician, Gymnast, Comedian or Instrumentalist. Whatever the talent we would like to see it recognised. Young people so often get a bad press for various wrong reasons, so this event is to show what young people can do. The minimum age limit we are looking for is 6 years, with no maximum age limit."

Tickets for the event are priced £5 Adults, £3 Children, and are payable on the door. For more information ring 01325 313363 or 07747 826324.

Success Contacting D-Day Veterans

Dear Editor,
I would like to thank your newspaper for publishing my letter about Remembrance Travel's search for all surviving D-Day veterans. Thanks to the media's support we've managed to find four more times more veterans for this year's tours to Normandy than we ever have before.

This year we shall running a further five trips, which have now started and will run until September. In addition to the Normandy tours, we shall also be offering D-Day veterans, especially those who are no longer fit to travel to France, the chance to visit the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) in Staffordshire on the anniversary of D-Day in June.

All of these tours of remembrance have been enabled by the Treasury thanks to LIBOR fines, which pay for a veteran, carer and a member of the family to join a tour free of charge. Once again, thanks so much for helping us spread the word about these vital tours. Thanks to you Normandy veterans - now mostly in

their 90s - will get the chance to pay respects to their fallen comrades, perhaps for the last time.

Nichola Rowlands
Head of Travel
Remembrance Travel
Royal British Legion

Final Aycliffe North Campaign Arrangements

1. We will be visiting the remaining areas in our ward – Horndale (1st May); Kings Drive (2nd May); Well House (3rd May) – to keep our promise to knock every door. Email us at ANandM2017@outlook.com if you do not want a visit, or if you want to arrange a specific time.

2. Please watch our election video at: bit.ly/ANAMP

3. You can watch the vlogs about our election promises here: bit.ly/ANAMVS

Whatever the outcome on 4 May, thank you to all our residents who have been so kind and supportive.

Joan Gray, Mike Dixon, John D Clare

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Barbara Clare



It has been a pleasure to be a Town Councillor, and it was a particular delight to be your Mayor in 2013/14, when I was able to meet so many of the community, and showcase just what a wonderful place Great Aycliffe is.

I am standing for re-election in the Woodham Ward, and I would be honoured if you would vote for me to continue as your councillor.

Barbara A Clare

facebook 
NEWTON NEWS

Friendship Day at Woodham Academy



Saturday 25th March 2017 saw the annual Friendship Day at Woodham Academy. The event was attended by students due to start at the school in September 2017

and their parents. There were a wide variety of activities for young people to take part in over the course of the morning which allowed them to get a taster of what secondary school life is like. These included Crystal Maze, Trampolining, ICT (Minecraft), Technology and Cake decorating. Not only were the activities great fun, they also provided the opportunity to get to know people and to make new friends.

Parents had the opportunity to meet with members staff and find out about how the school ensures young people making the transition from primary to secondary are well looked after and supported to thrive in the their new educational setting.

Art Gallery Preview

Greenfield Arts invites you to the preview of our latest exhibition by Helen Winthorpe Kendrick on Wednesday 3rd May 6pm to 8pm, with an artist talk at 6.30pm.

Antinomy is a contradiction between principles or conclusions that seem equally necessary and reasonable; a paradox. Life is full of contraries, contradictions, contrasts and compliments. They can be at odds with one another or enhance each other. This exhibition will explore a range of such juxtapositions and bring them together in one place. Opposites will be compared and contrasted, placing them next to each other for impact.

Helen will be in attendance at the preview event with artworks for sale throughout the exhibition. The evening will also include an artist talk at 6.30pm.

Alongside the gallery

programme we also offer the latest in our Craft Programme, which is our home-grown programme of cabinet displays, offering artists the opportunity to display their craft and design work. It is specifically suitable to work which isn't always suitable for a large gallery space, and gives artists the chance to promote their work and skills in a more flexible way.

Tilly Shaw and Peter Holmes will be the next artists to exhibit their work in this brilliant programme. Tilly works with driftwood creating beautiful pieces of art, remarking that 'beaches along the North East Coast line are desolate and remote, so driftwood that is wave rolled, shaped and smoothed by the sea and sand is plentiful if you know where to go.' Where as Peter offers magical ceramic pieces of art, some of which have been on display in our recent Open Art exhibition, offering an insight into his historical and mythological Green Men series.

For more information on any of the information here, check out the website or speak with one of our lovely team members on 01325 379048 or info@greenfield-arts.co.uk

Aycliffe Teen Model Sponsored by J & C Coaches



Last week the Copthorne Hotel, Newcastle featured the final heats of Newcastle Teen Model 2017.

Amy Martin, a 17 year old local girl approached J&C Coaches for sponsorship for the event. Out of hundreds of applicants Amy came 4th.

"Well Done Amy, hope this helps you progress in the Modelling Industry" said Debbie Icton of J & C Coaches.

Help Form the New Neville Residents' Association



Residents' Associations in Great Aycliffe work well for their communities, sorting out issues with the authorities and bringing people together for social activities.

Neville Community Centre has offered its premises as a meeting place and focal point for the new association if formed.

The intention is to call an Inaugural Meeting in June to form the Neville Residents' Association subject to sufficient interest being shown by people who live in the ward.

Great Aycliffe Resident's Association is behind this project and need to see if the Neville Ward residents support the idea.

Please contact GARA Chairman Syd Howarth on 01325 300212 (business hours)

or e-mail: syd@newtonpress.net

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PIPE BAND

Dear Sir,
I have been a member of Newton Aycliffe Pipe Band for 12 years and have had many memorable and enjoyable times. Playing with a band and performing to the public is a fantastic feeling. I have met many friends and hope to keep that friendship going. It is now time for myself and my husband to call it a day and enjoy new ventures. I wish the band all the best for the future and I would say to anybody looking for a new hobby that joining a pipe band is a great way to meet people, learn something new and visit many places.
Susan Cook

Main Line Railway Stop at Aycliffe?

Sir
In two of the most bizarre episodes in railway history the station at Aycliffe and the station at Hurworth and Croft on Tees were shut down unnecessarily just when they were needed the most. They have main train lines running right through them. Newton Aycliffe has a station on the Bishop Auckland branch line but the east coast mainline direct to Durham and Newcastle passes right by Aycliffe village with no direct access to it for local people. Hurworth and Croft station was the first stop on the now vanished Richmond line but is actually on the east coast

mainline.

Can we ask the parliamentary candidates for the Sedgefield constituency if they have any views at all on re-opening these stations?

What a great pity Tony Blair did not take matters in hand when he was the Prime Minister and MP for Sedgefield.

Young people today can scarcely afford driving lesson let alone car insurance. They need fast efficient good public transport which they don't have now, to study opportunities and the jobs market in Durham, Newcastle, Northallerton Thirsk and York.

Nigel F Boddy, Solicitor

New Summer Programme at Greenfield Arts

Greenfield Arts are pleased to announce our new Summer Community Learning Programme is now available and is fuller than ever! We have some fabulous opportunities to get creative as we are introducing new classes such as 'Exploring Collage' with successful artist Sharron Bates, where you can learn to blend materials and create your own original images. We also have a workshop in Wax Batik with textile artist Rosi Thornton. This is a one-off session where you will get the chance to learn new skills and create your own designs to take home. We are also pleased to

announce our first 'Creative Forum' where a community of artists can meet up and learn from one another with guidance from mixed media artist Sharron Bates.

We also look forward to the return of our popular adult courses including three levels of Spanish which include Spanish Beginners, Improvers and Conversation, catering for those who would like to 'get by' to being fluent for pleasure or business. We are also welcoming back our popular favourites such as Yoga and Floral Art, Creative Writing and Watercolour Painting.

There are also opportunities for young people in our after school activities with the return of our regular sessions in Dru Yoga and our ever popular Art Club. We are also pleased to re-introduce our own Rock School and our brand new venture Movie Makers where you can learn all about film-making. There is something for everyone of all ages and abilities, whether you are looking to improve wellbeing or develop your artistic talent, whatever level, we look forward to welcoming you to Greenfield Arts.

For all courses and events you can now book your place online at www.greenfield-arts.co.uk, just follow the link to 'Courses and Activities' and complete the simple online form. If you would like any further information please contact our friendly team on 01325 379048 or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk.

MP Unaware of Dispute

Dear Editor
Phil Wilson, MP for Sedgefield Borough, recently visited a school in his constituency. He was asked after his self-promotion photo opportunity, how the Teaching Assistant pay dispute was progressing.

His response was unexpected and unprofessional. He is blatantly unaware of the fundamental argument that has been put forward by the Labour led County Council in that the dispute is supposedly an equality issue and not financial as in budget saving. He told the flabbergasted and shocked teaching assistant they would probably be facing redundancy, never mind a 23% pay cut. It is interesting to note that the visit was well before Theresa May called a 'snap' General Election and Mr Wilson was not at that time fighting for his seat.

This begs the question; How can the local MP not be aware of the central facts surrounding this long running dispute which involves 2700 professional low-paid Teaching Assistants many of whom live in his Sedgefield constituency!

Local Durham Teaching Assistants

MP Replies . . .

Whilst this is a County Council issue, centred on equal pay of teaching assistants in comparison to other staff members, I have met with representatives from unions to discuss this issue which I am firmly aware impacts some of my constituents. As the MP I do not want to see any residents treated unfairly, including Teaching Assistants to other council workers in the same pay band. That is why myself and other County Durham MPs have worked, incredibly hard to bring all parties round the table, encouraging discussion so a satisfactory conclusion can be reached for all involved. Earlier this week Durham County Council started to hold meetings with head teachers and Trade Unions. The aim of these ongoing meetings is to match teaching assistants to a proposed new grading structure, as part of a wider package being worked on with

Teaching Assistants and their trade union representatives. Meetings will take place in nearly 240 schools in order to match teaching assistants to the proposed new grading structure. Such meetings will have to take place in every school, with their agreement reached before a revised offer is made.

It is important the council reach a swift and fair outcome both for Teaching Assistants and other council employees, who despite being in the same salary band as Teaching Assistants have been receiving less favourable terms of employment. And whilst this is an issue for the County Council and Unions to address, I will continue to meet with all parties and work to keep everyone around the discussion table until a conclusion satisfactory for all – especially our children – is reached.

Phil Wilson MP

Local Chef Runner Up in North East Competition



Newton News would like to congratulate local Chef Syed Marjan on obtaining runner up position in a north east Indian chef competition. The competition was aired on public television and Masala chef and owner made it through to the final stages eventually taking second place.

Vote for Rebecca

Rebecca Willis is 11 years old and attends Nevilles Cross Primary School. She has entered Little Miss Teen GB online, sending 3 or 4 photos of herself and completing a questionnaire asking about her hopes, dreams, ambitions, and personal qualities and what she would bring to the pageant if she won.

The Grand Final will be held on 21st & 22nd October in The Globe at Blackpool Pleasure Beach where the girls will enjoy a Beauty Queen Challenge Day, a Pyjama Diva Party and the final itself!

From the semi-finalists, 20 girls will be selected to compete in the Grand Final. Three winners will be crowned:

Little Miss Teen Great Britain ages 11-13
Miss Jnr Teen Great Britain ages 13-15
Miss Teen Great Britain ages 16-19

Rebecca is hoping to get through to the Grand Final and win £300. To win people need to vote for her on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/MissTeenGreatBritain/posts/1240153086034111:0>
Please note that you MUST like the Miss Teen Great Britain facebook page too: www.facebook.com/MissTeenGreatBritain Voting ends on the 1st July 2017!

Please note sellers time change at Charity Table Top/Craft Fayres is 10am - 2.30pm. Rebecca will be selling light refreshments, personally designed blank cards as well as holding a raffle in aid of 'Together for Short Lives'



DogsTrust & Newton News FIND A DOG a home

Playful pair Jack & Tallulah Search for Active Home.

Jack and Tallulah are a gorgeous pair of six-year-old Jack Russell cross Lakeland Terriers who arrived at the Darlington Rehoming Centre together. They are firm friends looking for a new home together with active owners who can match their energy levels.

Tallulah is a shy lady who relies on Jack as he is more outgoing which is helping to build her confidence. They both love to play with toys but are not always so keen on sharing so play time needs to be supervised and a good selection of toys available to pick from.

Fetch is a favourite game of theirs, especially when two balls are thrown at the same time so that both of them can win. Jack and Tallulah are very clever and have mastered sit and down both would enjoy learning new skills.

Tallulah and Jack are both house trained, can live with cats and enjoy meeting new dogs too. They could also live with sensible children aged 14 and older as Tallulah would prefer a more relaxed home environment.

If you think Jack & Tallulah could be the ones for you, please visit them at Dogs Trust Darlington at Hill House Farm, Hill House Lane, Sadberge, DL2 1SL. The centre is open Thursday-Tuesday 12pm-4pm. It is closed on Wednesdays. To find out more about Jack and Tallulah or any of the dogs at the centre, go to www.dogstrust.org.uk or call 01325 333114



THE TURBINIA COMEDY NIGHT

Wednesday 3rd May

HILARITY BITES PRESENT AN EVENING OF TOP QUALITY COMEDY AT THE TURBINIA

Danny O'Brien

Danny has been performing stand-up comedy for over seven years, performing regularly at top comedy clubs and festivals in Ireland, the UK, Europe and the US. He performed his first solo show at the 2012 Edinburgh Fringe Festival to rave reviews. That year he also scooped the title of "Dublin's Funniest Comedian" at the prestigious Stand Up For FM104. Danny went on to beat 16 of Ireland's best up-and-coming acts and take the coveted Toilet Duck Award at Tedfest 2013 (the now-famous Father Ted celebration). He has supported such acts as Ardal O'Hanlon, Colin Murphy, Brendon Burns, and Wilson Dixon to name but a few. In 2013, Danny also took part in Irish TV show The RTE Comedy Awards and released his first comedy album on iTunes as part of the Irish Underground Comedy Show. Danny has also performed back-to-back sold-out runs at the Edinburgh Fringe, and has been invited to perform at comedy festivals around the world. "Danny O'Brien is a serious young talent in the making" - The Examiner
"Great energy" - Entertainment.ie
"Danny is destined for stardom!" - The Laughter Lounge

Karen Bayley

Karen began her comedy career back in 2000 and since then has gone from strength to strength. Her bold, no nonsense attitude strikes a perfect pitch with men and women alike, and she is equally at home compering or performing sets. Karen is also resident comper of her own clubs in Sutton Coldfield and Solihull, with her claim to fame to date being that she was the first woman (in its history) to win the King Gong show at The Comedy Store. Karen has also worked in TV and radio, including appearances on the BBC New Comedy Awards (BBC3), The Last Word (ITV1), Sex on the Job (Sky 1), and 100 Greatest Cartoons (Channel 4).
"Laugh out loud jokes and superb audience control" - Chortle
"Likeable headstrong persona- packing a considerable performing punch" - The List
"She blew my socks off" - BBC

MC Rob Mulholland

One of the fastest rising new comedians on the circuit, Rob Mulholland fell into comedy after finding a flyer looking for acts to appear at Harrogate Comedy Festival on the ground outside his front door. In the two years since, he has clocked up a huge amount of gigs all over the country ranging from tiny pubs to massive theatres (even performing to 2,000 bikers at an outdoor festival!), and can now be seen most weekends in some of the biggest comedy clubs in the country. Just as at home as an act or comper, Rob mixes cheeky audience banter with his intricately woven, gag-packed stories; adding a touch of the absurd to his askance glance at everyday life. Previously Hilarity Bites New Act of the Year, and finished runner-up in this year's Great Yorkshire Fringe New Act of the Year competition. and premiered his first solo show 'Champion of Comedy' at the Leicester Comedy Festival in 2016.
"Very, very tall and equally as talented" - Time Out
"Great delivery and a confident swagger... A riot" - Lancashire Evening Telegraph
"Perfect delivery... had the audience bursting into spontaneous applause" - York Press

This show will also feature a newer act in the middle.

Tickets for this show can be bought online now from the Hilarity Bites Box Office at <http://shop.hilaritybites.co.uk/>, or in person from The Turbinia.

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

Doors open at 7pm and the show starts at 8pm.

FIRST MARTIAL ART GRADE FOR JAYDEN (8)

Congratulations to Jayden Heavey, who took his first grade in Martial Arts on 20th April 2017. Jayden trains at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre every Tuesday with Kim Chung Do Kwan and brings a great sense of enthusiasm to each and every lesson.

At the grade there were representatives from the clubs at Newton Aycliffe, Faverdale and the Dolphin Centre. The students have put in weeks of hard work in training and that effort showed on the floor. Master Hannah Hatfield said "The standard of the grade was incredibly high and the students should be proud of their efforts and progress".

Promoted to 8th Kup; Brooke Atkinson and Jayden Heavey. Promoted to 7th Kup; Emma Fawcett and Ben Fawcett. Promoted to 5th Kup; Katelyn Davidson. Promoted to 4th Kup; Fabian Hartman. Promoted to 2nd Kup; Jennie Etherington, Blake



Etherington and Ryan Griffiths. Best of Grade went to Ben Fawcett for his excellent focus and commitment. Practising the real Martial Art is excellent for the improvement of mental and

physical health. For anyone who wants to get involved come along to one of our classes or contact us on 07775 333 168. Alternatively visit us at kimchungdo.uk or on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

Brave CF Victim Swims for Charity

Hollie Williams, a 12-year-old girl from Newton Aycliffe, and her friend Hannah Griesse undertook a two hour public swimming session in aid of a charity that has supported Hollie and her younger brother, Thomas, Caudwell Children, a national charity gives practical and emotional support to disabled children and their families. They provided Hollie, who has Cystic Fibrosis, with a specialist buggy and a dream holiday, to Florida, when she was younger. Hollie organised the swim, for her and friends, at Spennymoor

and Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. The swim, overseen by Hollie's mother, Angela, was on Wednesday 19th April and the two girls raised £190 in sponsorship money.

Hollie wanted to give something back to Caudwell so being a confident swimmer took on this fundraising challenge.

Although swimming for two hours Hollie, and her friends, can take a break for a few minutes when they get tired. The staff at the pool have allocated Hollie, a pupil at Woodham Academy, a dedicated lane for her swim.

Mum Angela said: "She is determined to raise as much as possible so that the charity can help even more families," said Angela. Any money we raise will help provide a range of specialist equipment, therapies and treatments to disabled children and it will also help send more children on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Florida."

"Thanks to all who sponsored the girls including the staff at Select who are so nice to our family. Our thanks also to the Leisure Centre staff for the use of the pool."

To add to the sponsorship money contact Angela on 07501 464949.



In the pool with Hollie (left) is her good friend Hannah with Hollie's Mum Angela above

Return of Roller Derby

The National Championships of Roller Derby are returning to Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre for the second time on Saturday May 13.

Durham Roller Derby will be taking on league leaders the Wakey Wheeled Cats of Wakefield in a Northern Group game.

Tickets are £5 and the match starts at 2pm. More details are available at www.durhamrollerderby.co.uk

COUNTY NEWSBITS

Compiled by
County Councillor John Clare

Don't forget to vote in the local elections on Thursday 4 May, and there are also some thought-provoking facts, interesting newsletters, and enjoyable events. Internet links to the articles below are at: bit.ly/CNB264

COUNCIL

- How to vote at a polling station.
- Latest roadworks.

COMMUNITY

- Alarming population figures.
- Latest local unemployment figures.
- This is Durham newsletter.
- S&DR newsletter - 'The Globe'.
- County Durham on BBC Countryfile.

- Antimonies - exhibition by Helen Winthorpe Kendrick at Greenfield Arts, 4-31 May
- Only in England - photos of 1960s, Bowes Museum until 7 May.
- May Day celebrations at Beamish.
- Non-native invaders & family Himalayan Balsam-bashing at Low Barns, 10am-noon, Saturday 6 May.
- Japanese Children's Day (5-11s), Durham Oriental Museum, 1-3pm, Saturday 6 May.
- Brusselton Wood guided walk (7½ miles), leader Ian Gray - start Locomotion Car Park 'A' off Redworth Road, 11am, Sunday 7 May

Newton Press

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Closing date 2nd May

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Send your entry to:

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Or Fax to 01325 312893 - Email entries to stu@newtonpress.net

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0 1 3 2 5 D H F W U C 2 Z O E
C 3 Q W L O R E T N I R P N R
R 2 P Y Z S P G R E E N T L Q

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring opened the new season with a disappointing 86 run defeat at home to Wolviston 1st XI in the NYSD 2nd division. The visitors were asked to bat first and on an excellent batting strip scored a challenging 200 for 7 in their allotted 50 overs with Sean Morgan the pick of the bowlers taking 3 for 25.

In reply some Aycliffe batsmen made good starts, but none were able to go on and produce a big innings. Michael Howe top scored with 24, Luke Telford scored 22 and new captain Adam Gittins chipped in with 17 as the home side were eventually dismissed for just 114 after 45.4 overs.

A very young second team containing nine juniors, travelled to Blackhall 2nd XI in the NYSD 4th division and put in a tremendous display and were unlucky to come away with a four wicket defeat. Batting first Aycliffe scored a respectable 102 all out after 33.1 overs. Dylan Tribble top scored with a fluent 21 and he was given great support by new captain Stephen Sweeney (19 runs) and Joe Haines (17 runs). Special mention must go to our under 13's captain Harry Wright, who was one of three juniors making their debuts at senior level, was given the man of the match award for his excellent innings of 11 runs. In reply the Aycliffe youngsters bowled superbly with George Slatcher (3 for 27), Ryan Patrick (2 for 13) and Dylan Tribble (1 for 34) reducing Blackhall to a perilous 42 for 6. However the experienced home side batsmen eventually steered

their side home to a four wicket victory after 29.1 overs.

The club's u13's team began their season with a ten wicket defeat at home to Stockton. Batting first Aycliffe scored 60 for 5 from their 16 overs with captain Harry Wright top scoring with 11 runs. In reply, the visitors batted in the rain and duly reached their winning target after 6.4 overs.

Our u11's were beaten by 62 runs away at Hartlepool but there was some encouraging performances from the Aycliffe youngsters, with Daniel Heaton hitting his best ever score with 11 runs and Ollie Coulter also batted well scoring 8 runs. There was some good bowling by Brandon Grant, Will Dearden and Harrison Pearson who each took a wicket, also a great run out by Adam Shaw and an encouraging debut by Oliver Paylor.

BLUE BRIDGE CENTRE OFFICE TO LET

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Pipped at the Post in Paris Race



At the beginning of the Easter holidays, when most of us were enjoying the unseasonably warm weather, Harry Rose, a pupil from St Mary's Primary School in Newton Aycliffe, wasn't topping up his tan or chasing the ice cream van down the street.

He was running, but not in the UK as Harry and his family had travelled to Paris, because Harry had been chosen by his local running club, Crook AC, to represent them in the Junior Marathon run prior to the Paris Marathon.

This was an amazing achievement to start with, and a great honour to be chosen, not only represent his club, but also to represent the North East.

Harry explained that he was extremely proud to be chosen and set himself a goal to finish either first second or third. High expectations indeed Harry!

His mum, Clare, who ran the full marathon later in the day, explained proudly that Harry lead the field of 300 runners for most of the race which was run in 24°C heat. Unfortunately he was just pipped at the post, by a German runner, with only about 5 metres to go.

Harry showed great British values and true sportsmanship by immediately congratulating the winner after crossing the finishing line and then celebrated his own fantastic achievement by pinching a trumpet from a brass band and playing 'I dreamed a dream,' which was greatly appreciated by the crowd, who had braved the heat, to support all the runners.

What an amazing experience this must have been for Harry and his family, who are all very proud of him. This is echoed by all his teachers and friends at school.

Aycliffe DISC Sows Seeds of Success



Sam Palmer of DISC Housing with some of the seeds to be sown with tenants.

Local social landlord DISC Housing is aiming to help tenants spruce up their gardens, back yards and their local community spaces this summer by sowing flower seeds.

The Newton Aycliffe-based Registered Social Landlord successfully applied for garden packs to Big Lottery funded Grow Wild, the UK's biggest-ever wild flower campaign, which aims to bring people together to transform local spaces with

native, pollinator-friendly wild flowers and plants. Sam Palmer of DISC Housing, said: "We're thrilled to have got the packs from Grow Wild. They've donated a wide variety of garden seeds which we are planning to work with our tenants to encourage them to brighten up their gardens, back yards other relevant spaces by helping them to plant these seeds and improve their homes and the areas in which they live"

Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 2nd May features the 2005 British led drama "LASSIE" A cast of Peter O'Toole, Samantha Morton, Jemma Redgrave, Edward Fox, Nicholas Lyndhurst, Peter Dinklage, Kelly McDonald and John Lynch, and some of the most beautiful scenery in the British Isles ought to be the stars of the show; but the limelight is stolen by a young lad called Joe (Jonathon Mason) and his dog Lassie. We will laugh, gasp, cheer, hold our breath a lot and cry, well it is a film about a dog after all. But it's lovely, and you'll end up feeling good.

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 further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.

Juniors Football Report

This weekend saw many of the Aycliffe Juniors conclude their league seasons with one team gaining a well deserved promotion. Our youngest teams who still have games remaining will continue to compete in the Russell Foster Spring league.

In the Spring league the Under 7's played Coxhoe United and won 3-1 with man of the match Thomas scoring a hat-trick. Josh made some great saves in goal and all the team played great passing football.

The Under 9's Russell Foster league team played North East Sports and after going 2-0 down, goals from Jake and Jay brought the score level at 2-2. Despite a good effort they lost the game 5-2 with Jack named as the man of the match.

The Under 9's TJFA team were playing their last league game against Mount Pleasant Rangers and won 4-1. Man of the match Niall and Jayden both scored two goals in the win. They have now finished their season as league runners up and in doing so have sealed promotion to Division 1. This is clearly a great achievement for the whole group of players who have performed superbly all season.

The Under 10's have enjoyed a match day experience with Newton Aycliffe FC over the Easter weekend. Their final league game this weekend was away at Billingham United Hornets and they finished off in style with a 4-2 win. Zack scored twice, Alfie got one and Jake scored a great goal direct from a corner. The whole team were awarded the man of the match award after a great team effort in this game.

The Under 11 Russell Foster league team completed their league season away at Cleveland Hall. They came away second best on the day against the league runners up. The Aycliffe team finish the season in fifth place in a league they were promoted in to at the start of the season.

The Under 11 TJFA league team had a midweek match just before Easter at Darlington Spraire Lads and gained a comfortable 8-1 win. The goals came from a Jake P hatrick, Charlie (2),



Zack (2) and Kieran's first goal for the team.

This weekend saw their final home league game against Whinney Banks, a repeat of their League Cup Semi Final and unfortunately the outcome was the same. With a second half goal from Lucas not enough as the Aycliffe team lost 4-1. This team's season concludes with another midweek game, this time at Leven, and a win there will secure them fourth place in Division 1.

The Under 12's will play their last league game against champions Saltburn Dolphins next week and they will finish the season in third place if defeat is avoided.

The Under 17's have also had a great season and finish the league season as runners up. This week they were playing their last league match against Hardwick Youth and ran out 11-2 winners. The goals came with hatricks from Sam and Dan. Arran,

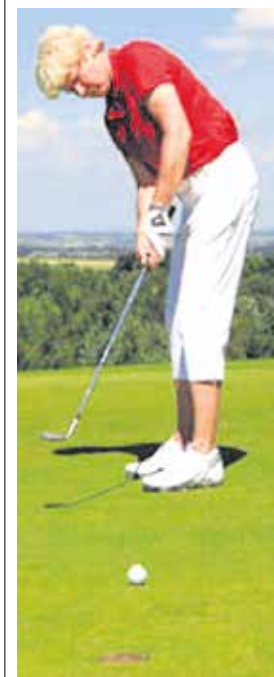
Tom getting two each and Callum scoring a good long range goal.

The Under 23's played their penultimate league game at Wolviston. After absorbing early pressure they scored two good goals through Raisbeck and Howe, the hosts pulled a goal back to make it 2-1 at half time.

The second half was closely contested but no more goals were scored so the score remained 2-1. Craig Robertson was named as man of the match in this victory. The team complete their season at Chester le Street next week.

With most of our teams having now completed their fixtures we would like to thank all the players, coaches and volunteers involved with the club for their effort throughout the season. We all now look forward to Challenge Cup Finals for both the Under 9's and Under 17's on the 21st May.

Free Golf Lessons for Ladies



Woodham Golf Club Professional Ernie Temple is running Ladies "Get into Golf" taster sessions, **FREE OF CHARGE** in early May to encourage more ladies into the game.

Dates:
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The Year 11 students at Greenfield Community College, Sunnydale Campus, displayed their dedication to GCSE English by attending

a two-day intensive revision session. Yes, Easter was placed on hold as the students took their English Literature revision to the next level.

The two days included memory tests and even an Eminem-style rap off using quotations from the set texts and set poems – 8 Mile has nothing on the ability of these students! Additionally, students tested their vocabulary knowledge in relation to Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde through a game of bingo with a quick winner shouting “HOUSE”. Who said revision wasn't fun?

Alongside more engaging activities, the students did complete exam style responses and the success of the two days was clear, a student claimed: “So glad I came to this, my revision at home isn't as structured and I've definitely improved in certain areas.”

To complete the two days, the students were rewarded with Dominoes pizzas for lunch, bacon sandwiches for breakfast and a trip to see Fast and Furious 8.

Revision has found a new meaning.



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BANK HOLIDAYS BIN COLLECTIONS

There will be no changes to bin collections in County Durham over the two bank holiday weeks in May. Household should put out their refuse, recycling and garden waste bins at the kerb side as normal during both bank holiday weeks, commencing Monday, 1 May and Monday, 29 May

2017.

Anyone wanting to find out their bin collection days can enter their postcode and house number in the My Durham section of the council's website or call 03000 261 000. Customer access points will be closed on both bank holiday Mondays and

will re-open the following morning. To find out more information about which items go in which bin visit www.durham.gov.uk/whatgoeswhere or to subscribe to garden waste collections visit www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste or call 03000 261 000.

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Candidate Not Very Community Spirited

Dear Sir,
I feel that I must respond to the Election Address for Paul Kjenstad in last weeks edition of The Newton News. The article lists his achievements as a Town Councillor since 2013 portraying him as "a very community spirited individual always listening to people and ready to help". I have to say that is not my opinion of a man who via a letter signed only as PK in your newspaper earlier this year tried to harm the town's only Badminton Club. His letter which described his experiences at their club night more than 2 1/2 years ago where it was felt that sadly he was unable to compete to the required minimum standard. The club which has long been one of the most successful in the local league Badminton

does need standards to flourish and they are not set particularly high. PK clearly wanted to derail the club's efforts to attract new members with his criticism and only succeeded in showing himself as someone who still bears a grudge. I penned a response to his letter as the Secretary of Haughton Badminton Club in Darlington and someone who often visits the Aycliffe Club for a good game most Friday nights. You can imagine my reaction when I received a personal call from PK one Saturday evening criticizing my defence of the club. He was very quick to tell me that he was a local Councillor. It didn't take me long however via the Town Council website to find the identity of PK. Darren Clarke

Walk to Work & Reduce Heart Disease

Walking to work reduces the chance of heart disease by 27%, a new study published in the British Medical Journal has found.

The study by the University of Glasgow found that people who cycle to work are 45% less likely to get cancer, and people who walk to work have a 27% lower risk of developing cardiovascular disease and a 36% lower risk of dying from it. Walking is a free, easy and accessible way to stay healthy and protect ourselves from chronic conditions. New figures from the NHS last month revealed that one in four adults are inactive, but by choosing to swap short car journeys for a walk instead, we can easily fit more exercise into our day. It's Living Streets' National

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Aycliffe Marie Curie AGM

Dear Sir,
I am writing to inform Newton News readers of the Annual General Meeting of the Newton Aycliffe Fundraising Group for Marie Curie, which will take place on Thursday May 4 at Tesco Extra in the town at 6.30pm.

This will be a joint celebration as the group celebrate their first year fundraising for Marie Curie. Members of the public are invited to hear about the fantastic work the Newton Aycliffe Fundraising Group have done in the past year, including a Blooming Great Tea Party, Ladies Night and their Great Daffodil Appeal. Group members can make an enormous difference locally by helping to raise the vital funds needed to support Marie Curie Nurses, who provide free care to people with terminal cancer and other illnesses in their own homes.

The Newton Aycliffe Fundraising Group organises fundraising activities and collections in the local community, encourages new volunteers to help the charity, as well as supports Marie Curie's major fundraising campaigns.

To join your local volunteer Fundraising Group for Marie Curie, or to find out more about the group and other ways to support the charity, please call or text Hayley Revell on 07711387976 or email hayley.revell@mariecurie.org.uk

Hayley Marie Curie Community Fundraiser for North East & Cumbria.

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New Management at Heighington F.C. Win League & Cup Double



After 7 years of managing a Heighington AFC Boys youth team, Vice Chairman of the football club, David Brassell was concerned after hearing that their local adult team, Heighington FC were reaching a critical point after their 14 years of playing and competing together.

With only 12 players committing to the team and a meagre £40 in the funds to keep them running they were unfortunately facing the prospect of folding as a team and barely finishing the remainder of their 2015/2016 season.

After a few discussions with key members of the squad David eventually agreed to step in, with the focus on trying to help them get back on their feet, helping them finish the season and then committing to a structured training programme throughout the seasons break to strengthen the current squad whilst constantly looking for new squad members to extend the team and ensure they were entering the 2016/2017 strong enough to compete in the Crook and District League in Division 2.

As soon as David began to see promise in what he was working with he realised it was a task he didn't want to manage solely, he needed someone on hand to help him with decisions and coaching, so he approached old friend Steve Dawes. After playing football with Steve and for Steve in the past David knew exactly what to expect and how their relationship would work for Heighington and was delighted when Steve agreed to jump on board!!

Over the weeks the squad progressively grew larger and larger, with word that David was managing the team spreading quickly and attracting many players from other teams, even Northern League... eventually ending up with a squad of over 32 signed on.

Since finishing the last season the team now have a brand new strip, with a brand new sponsor and the squad are now training in full training kits and all have their own Heighington FC branded tracksuits. They now commit to training twice every week and even paid for training facilities throughout the winter months to keep the squad in-form and to preserve the football pitch for ever important League or Cup games, all funded from the teams own growing funds.

Training sessions were working well for the squad

but not wanting to let them become complacent it was agreed that Darren Anderson would step in to help coach and advise. Back in the UK on a seasonal break from U.S.A. where he is primarily based Darren spent the last half of the season giving the squad, and the management team much of his experience and knowledge to learn from! SO, highlights of their first full season? With so much background work going on and so much commitment from everyone involved it was only a matter of time before everyone's hard work began to pay off, starting with the team reaching Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals in their first season as a new team!

To then finish their season as Crook and District League Winners was an even bigger celebration, with 98 goals scored they thoroughly deserved their trophy, but they didn't end it there, a week later, to then compete in the Colin Waites Cup Final at Willington FC's Northern League ground and finish with a 3-1 winning result the team deservedly returned with a Cup and a double celebration, ending on a massive high!!

David has always been passionate about football and not being able to play himself due to an injury, managing a squad of lads with the passion and drive that they have has been a season highlight that he intends to continue with.



News
acknowledge receipt of a donation of £100 from Robert and Pam Burns from Newton Aycliffe. Robert said he was very happy to give something back to the NHS which would bring so much benefit to others. Another lovely gesture is from Derek and Elizabeth Wheadon who are celebrating their Golden Wedding soon and have asked that instead of gifts their guests donate to the Scanner Appeal. Newton News is happy to receive donations for the appeal at its offices next to the Blue Bridge.

David was very aware of his role in managing and coaching. Keeping such a large squad of footballers happy, who are all desperately keen to play football isn't an easy task, especially when you have 2 fantastic goalkeepers who both deserve to play every game but really have no choice but to be patient with, and accept managements decisions. But each and every one of the lads deserved their celebrations after their efforts.

David would like to end the season by thanking his employers, Seaton Leng Funeral Directors, for being patient with him and the time he dedicates to the club. And also the new owners of The Bay Horse in Heighington, Tony and Diane Goodman, along with all of their hard working and friendly staff. They have completely supported the squad throughout the season and dealt with lots of cheering and excitement within the pub after many wins, which the team are all grateful for. He would also like to thank sponsors, Eyefix iPhones and Word Art by DB, and finally, and more importantly Steve Dawes, Darren Anderson and his entire squad, for committing to the team and for being as passionate about Heighington FC as he is! He is very proud of everyone!! Roll on 2017/2018!!

Anyone interested in joining Heighington FC can do so by contacting David Brassell on 07870 777779 ages range from Development right through to adult and over 40's.

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

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Birthday Remembrance

FRANCES FRASER 27th April 1922. Happy 95th Birthday Frances, wish you were here to celebrate it with you. Miss you lots from Edie and Nev.

JOCK SHEDDEN 28th April, your special day, a wonderful person in every way. Someone we could turn to at times good or bad, we will always be grateful we had you for our Dad. Love always, Elaine & Ian

JOCK SHEDDEN 28th April, Grandpop, your life was a blessing your memory a treasure you are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure. Happy birthday, love and miss you always. Emma and John-Paul

In Memoriam

Margaret Elizabeth Archer
(Peggy)
Died 24th April 2016.

To a much loved and sadly missed Mam, Nana, Aunty and Sister. You were always there for us all when we needed a kind word and a helping hand. You were the family rock and can never be replaced. We cherish all the memories and precious times together. It's just a shame they couldn't last forever. You are always in our thoughts with the comfort of knowing you are with our Dad (Fred) and Brother (Dennis). Love you loads, from all the family

AGNES HILLS 28th April 1948 to 1st May 2014. People say they can't believe it's three years since my darling Wife was taken away. Time for me has gone so slow, as the pain I feel inside nobody knows. To lose the love of your life and your very best friend, my broken heart will never mend. Until one day in Heaven we are back together, side by side, the way we were always meant to be as Husband and Wife. From your ever loving Husband, Tommy xxxxx

JEAN SHEILA FRASER, 27th April 2015. "Close held in our hearts you always will stay. Well loved and love remembered as the heart of this family and it's supportive main stay." Pax Vobiscum. Donald, Fiona, Lesley, Katrine, your eight grandchildren and six Great Grandchildren

JOSEPHINE TODD, 27th April 2016. Our hearts still ache in sadness. Our silent tears still flow. What it meant to lose you. No one will ever know. Love you always. Your loving family.

WYN ATKINSON 29th April. The rolling stream of life rolls on, but still the vacant chair. Recalls the love, the voice, the smile, of the one who once sat there. Husband Jack and all of her family xx

ENID SHEDDEN 27th April, you left us beautiful memories, your love is still our guide. Although we cannot see you, you are always at our side. Dearly missed and loved always. Elaine, Ian, Emma and John-Paul

Acknowledgement

NANCY KANE (Annie - nee Laverick), 93 years. Peacefully passed away on 8th March 2017. Mother of Barry and Pat; Wife of Jonas. Dedicated her life to family and friends alike. Always ready for a chat and some fun. Liked to travel. Saw Great Britain and America. She was always ready to hear the travel of others and share her experiences. Special thanks to all who helped make her later years quality years. Nancy brought sunshine into people's lives. She will be sadly missed but remembered with a big smile.

Obituary

SYLVIA KIMBERLEY. In loving memory of my dear Wife and Mother, Sylvia, who sadly passed away peacefully on 18th April, 2017 at home with her family. You will be sadly missed by your loving Husband Wynn Kimberley; Daughter Debrah; Sons Wynn and Shawn; Daughters-in-Law Susan and Rachel; Son-in-Law Graham, and all your Grandchildren, Beverley, Ryan, Sam, Steven, Dale and your Great Grandchildren Abigail, Ellie, Bug, Estella and Chiara. Rest in peace with the angels. Family and friends please meet for a Service at Darlington Crematorium on Tuesday 2nd May at 3.15pm.

CLEMENT, 17th April, suddenly at home, Winston (John), aka Clem, Winty or Trouble of Newton Aycliffe, formerly Ireshopeburn, aged 77 years. Devoted Husband of Margaret; a loving and much loved Dad to Angela; respected Father-in-Law to Dale; a dear Brother to Adrian, Bernard and the late Melvyn; also a special Brother-in-Law, Uncle and good friend to many. Will family and friends please meet for Service at St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe on Tuesday 2nd May at 1.15pm followed by committal at the Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon. Family flowers only please. Donations in memory of Winston, may, if desired, be offered for Help the Heroes appeal.

STEWART, 17th April. Kenneth (Ken), aged 79 years, of Darlington. Ken was the beloved and adored Husband of Brenda; devoted and very proud Father of David, Katie, Annabel and Son-in-Law Neal; a doting Grandad to his Grandsons James, Jake and Harry; also a loving Brother of Lorna and a dear Brother-in-Law. Funeral Service to be held in St. Cuthbert's Church, Darlington on Tuesday 2nd May at 1.45pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be given for Cancer Research UK, c/o Seaton Leng & Son, 59a Bondgate, Darlington, DL3 7JR. R.I.P.

MARINA BUIST Peacefully passed away at Howlish Hall Care Home on 21st April, aged 82 years. Much loved Mother of Paul, Craig and Ken; Sister, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. Will family and friends please meet for Service at Neville Parade Methodist Church on Thursday 4th May at 12.00pm. Then on to Coundon Crematorium followed by a reception at Newton Aycliffe RAFA Club. All welcome

Births

Eddie Stephen Howey

Thank you Amy for bringing our beautiful Son into the world on 19th April at 8.46pm, weighing 5lbs 8oz. You were so brave and did so well. Love you so much Ste xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx



Baby Eddie

Welcome to our family. We love you so much little Brother from big Sister Poppy and big Brother Thomas xxxxxxxxxxxx



Eddie Howey



To my Daddy. I am so lucky to have you as my Daddy. Thank you for looking after my Mammy and spoiling her. Love, Eddie xxxx

HOWEY Congratulations Stephen, Amy, Poppy and Thomas on the safe arrival of "Eddie Stephen", another beautiful Grandson for us. Love, Mam, Den and all the family xxxxxxxxxxxx

JOHN WAITES Happy 70th birthday. All my love, Jackie xxx

JOHN WAITES Happy 70th birthday to a special Dad, Granda and Great Granda. Lots of love, John, Tara, Julie, Craig, Gavin, Charley, Lauren, Adam, Neve, Flynn, Lexi, Noah and Oliver xxxxx

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Congratulations

Madison



Happy 21st Birthday Mummy

30th April 2017
Hope you have a wonderful birthday Mummy. Love you to the moon and back, Cayden xx

Madison



Happy 21st Birthday Mummy

30th April 2017
Hope you enjoy your birthday weekend. We are so proud of the beautiful, caring young lady you have become. All our love, Mum and Dad xxxx

Jade Leanne Blades



Happy 21st Birthday Mummy

30th April 2017
Hope you have a fab day. Lots of love always, from Mam, Dad, Paul, Bobby, Grandad and all the family xxxx

Madison

Happy 21st Birthday Mummy

Lots of love from Macca, Jade, John, Nan and Davy, Grandad and Rachel, Grandad and Rose, Aunty Bev, Dougie and family, Uncle Simon, Auntie Mireille, Bryn and Aron, Rachael and Gary, Uncle Jay, Aunty Lisa, Jordan and Cerys and all your family and friends xx

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From Near Extinction to Double League Glory



Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club have shown an incredible turn around in form over the past 5 years, going from a club close to folding to a thriving hub of rugby with 2 successful teams. This was no more evident than at their 'promotion party' last Saturday, where over 50 players took to the pitch representing NARUFC.

The weekend's events showcased the very best of the Aycliffe based rugby club. Not deterred by the Newtonians' opponents refusing to travel for another probable defeat, the players rallied around and had a 30-man squad match to the delight of the growing pitch side support. The quality of the players and numbers for this squad match really epitomises how far the Newtonians have come over the past 2 seasons, from having no 2nd team at all to now winning the Tees Valley Social League.

Craig Holmes, Newtonians captain said, "It's hard to sum up a season like this with a few words. We have gone from the depths of tragedy, losing our friend and team mate Terry Parsons, to the

dizzying ecstasy of winning the league. To go through a searching journey like that and only lose two games in your maiden league season, is a testament to our players, coaching staff and club as a whole. Words can't begin to describe how brimming with pride I am to wear the Aycliffe RUFC colours, both on and off the field"

The festivities were building throughout the afternoon, with music playing, beer flowing and the BBQ Cab Co. stoking up their BBQ and serving the most amazing burgers for the supporters and players. The BBQ Cab Co. were also the Match Sponsor for the day.

As the 3pm 1st XV fixture against Jarrovians started to draw closer, the supporters kept on arriving to join in the fun, with a conservative estimate of 300 people in attendance to see the team play their last game of the season. Just before kick-off saw the highlight of the day with 23 young mascots running out with the players. This image will last long in the players and proud parents minds for years to come.

The 1st XV match was a very one sided affair with Aycliffe playing some emphatic rugby and entertaining the large crowd. Jarrovians showed some pockets of resistance in the 2nd half but Aycliffe were never going to let anything spoil their day, finishing the match 102 - 5 winners.

Thank you to Patrick Loneran Recruitment for being Match Ball Sponsor for the game.

Saturday's match saw the end of the 1st XV's league campaign which turned out to be the most successful in the history of the club. The team only lost one (very close) match and won every other fixture in a convincing manner, showing that they are ready for the step up in leagues. Next season will see some exciting local derby matches against the likes of Darlington, Bishop Auckland and Sedgfield rugby clubs. No doubt, a newly promoted club like Newton Aycliffe will be a targeted win for



all the other teams, based on this year's performances they will be getting more than they bargained for.

Alex Lineton, 1st XV captain said, "We have had a great league campaign this season that goes without saying, however this is just the start for our rugby club. We will be looking to build on what we have achieved so far and plan on pushing forward in the league above. Everyone involved in the club will now need to up their efforts even more to ensure we carry on performing both on and off the pitch; if we do this there will be some 'shocks' next season! We will enjoy the

presentation evening this coming Saturday, before having a well-earned rest, then the building will start for DN2"

To find out more about

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club have a look at our social media and web pages. Pre-season training will start in June, so keep an eye out for the dates.

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