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Woodham Maths Students Compete Well

In April students from Year 8 and Year 9 competed in an exhilarating regional final of the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Team Maths Challenge. Teams of four pupils competed in speed and relay rounds to complete a range of challenging problems. Alan Slomson and Andrew Jobbings from UKMT (United Kingdom Mathematics Trust) ran the proceedings and were very impressed by the standard of all the teams taking part. We are delighted to announce that the four students from Woodham Academy completed the day in the top third of the thirty three schools attending, learning lots of mathematics in the process - a favourable day for all!

Well done to Callum Fielden, Andrew Blair, Angel Woods and Charlie Pemberton for a particularly exceptional cross number round and an admirable 11th place. The winners overall were Durham Johnston School who will be competing in the final in London this summer.

YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE RECEIVE £1000 FROM TESCO



As part of a recent relaunch campaign Tesco Newton Aycliffe has donated £1000 to the local youth and community centre. Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre is available to hire for a variety of activities such as meetings and seminars, training and educational classes, arts and crafts, dancing and exercise classes. It also regularly hosts evening youth sessions, Breastfeeding Café, Age UK Tai Chi and Age UK Eat Together Monday. Having recently started on interior upgrades and improvements the centre has identified use for a stage that can be stored away when not in use and Tesco has made the £1000 towards this. Beki Metcalfe the youth centre manager said "We are currently undergoing some upgrades where my team and I have been painting rooms and constructing furniture but we have a long way to go.

As part of where we would like the centre to go in the future we have identified the need for a stage that will encourage a variety of users into the centre that are orientated towards youth activities. We would like to thank Tesco for their kind donation which will help us to purchase the stage sooner than we thought." Tesco Extra Manager Helen Maynard added "As part of our recent relaunch campaign to promote our new Arcadia range in store we have been able to make a donation to a worthwhile cause in our community. The Youth & Community Centre provides a great service to many different groups and we are happy to have been able to help them to buy a stage. Along with providing great service in store for our customers, working with and supporting our local community is a key focus for us."

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New Mobile Beautician Service

Laura Radford is 24 years old and she married her childhood boyfriend in 2015. They both come from Exeter Devon, and at the age of 16 Laura moved to London to performing on the West End stage.

London was where she completed Level 3 NVQ in performing arts and was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to work on stage as a member of West End Kids training company and enjoyed every minute.

At the age of 18, Laura was diagnosed with epilepsy which meant she had to step away from the stage and find a new career path that would fit in with her health.

She headed back to Exeter



College where she studied for three years qualifying in Beauty Therapy and during this time went to work at Heaven Holiday Park in Exmouth as a Beautician.

After being diagnosed with epilepsy she was later told she didn't have it, and in fact, her condition is neurological called NEAD (non epileptic attack disorder) which means Laura suffers seizures but it is not known what triggers them. As a result she cannot be medicated just monitored regularly. Because of this, it has been very difficult for Laura to work for an employer as she never knows if she is going to have an attack.

Laura told Newton News: "Because of my condition and wanting to work I decided to go self-employed with assistance from the Jobcentre and their new scheme called New Enterprise Allowance (<https://www.gov.uk/new-enterprise-allowance>). I set up my own mobile beauty and pamper service in the comfort of clients' homes.

My husband and I moved to Newton Aycliffe in 2014 after he made connect with family who lived in this area."

"Beauty Deep Ltd has always been a dream of mine written in black and white and I never thought I would be able to be in the position to launch my own business, but after months of business meetings, lots of planning and time, I'm over the moon to be the proud owner of a mobile beauty business in the Newton Aycliffe area.

My aim is to provide a salon service in the comfort of your own home, whether it be a massage or facial to a Little Princess Pamper Party. We pride ourselves in our client's appearance and that is what I hope we can do for you.

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The Friends of Senior Citizens Charitable Trust will be holding an AGM on Thursday 11th May at 2.00pm at Neville Parade Community Centre. Lileen Cuthbertson Secretary

Aycliffe Mayor Raises £500 Sleeping Rough



On the night of Monday 24 April 2017, the Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Cllr Jed Hillary, joined business leaders from across County Durham to sleep rough in the grounds of Durham Cathedral.

Notably amongst those taking part were Mike Barton, Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary, James Ramsbotham, Chief Executive of the NE Chamber of Commerce and Andy Preston, Chief Executive of CEO Sleepout UK.

The event raised in excess of £22,000, which will be used to do incredible things to help homeless people here in the North East, and to raise poverty awareness. The charity has helped a large number of homeless people with housing, training and job opportunities.

It was a cold night with the participants bedding down in sub-zero temperatures and howling northerly winds. Our Mayor reported that even with a sleeping mat and blanket under his sleeping bag, it was bitterly cold where your hips were in contact with the flag stones, and you could definitely feel a nip in the air around your face.

Whilst the Cathedral offers much to visitors to the City, the bells sounding the quarters and hours have the ability to keep you in a state of semi-sleep all night. It gave an insight to the difficult circumstances homeless people find themselves in, and it's hard to imagine having to survive in these conditions day in, day out, in all weather, for weeks or months.

Jed would like to offer his heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed to his own fundraising efforts, which have so far netted a little over £500. If you would like to make a donation to CEO Sleepout via Jed's JustGiving page, you can do so at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jed-Hillary>

MAGIC & MIRACLES

On Saturday 13th May St. Clare's Messy Church will be holding a Magic and Miracles themed Service.

Come along to take part in the sensory station table, paintings, prayers and Lego building. Have a go at the obstacle course---blindfolded! We will be looking and talking about the wonder of miracles and explore how they made people feel.

Our tea will be pizza with salad and cake to follow. Messy Church begins at 4pm with activities, we then will have our celebration time where we share a story and song with tea to end, finishing around 6pm.

We welcome you to come along and share the fun, faith and friendship of Messy Church. Previous sessions can be viewed on Youth/ChildrenSt.Clares Facebook page.

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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/Pougues 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 Georgie 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!"

Sunday 13th May - "Dakota"

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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Community Aid Partnership Moves into Fifth Year

Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership, held a very well attended AGM last week and Guest of Honour was Great Aycliffe's Mayor Jed Hillary who commended GACAP on the work it did for needy people in Newton Aycliffe.

Chairman Steven Mitton thanked Syd Howarth the founder of GACAP for his continued help for the organisation. Secretary Joan Mitchie gave a comprehensive report on how many partners had contributed to the year by way of sharing what their organisation could offer other partners.

The Treasurer, Liane Taylor of Disc gave thanks for donations to GACAP by MAD Productions and Honest John. She reminded partners to apply for money from the discretionary fund.

Assistant Secretary Ron Mitchie proposed a motion which was unanimously agreed that Syd Howarth MBE founder of GACAP be appointed Life President.

Mayor Jed Hillary acted as teller for the election of Chairman and Syd Howarth announced the new chairman as Ron Mitchie. Other elected officers: Geoff Batchelor Vice Chairman, Joan Mitchie Secretary and Liane Taylor Treasurer. Volunteers to assist the Officers were Ken Robson and Val Fawcett with four more committee members to be co-opted during the year.

Paul Stafford from PCP was the Keynote Speaker, new to the PCP and the Third Sector. He was keen to see how GACAP and PCP could work together. Paul is responsible for



GACAP partner Baby Basics receives a cheque for £500 from Tesco at the A.G.M.

Healthwatch, which he described as a CAB for healthcare. He was also responsible for Social Prescribing, Colour for Life, arts, social and crafts. Two new apprentices had started at the PCP coffee shop, so new cakes could be expected. He also had responsibility for the hydrotherapy pool which is due to be replaced at a cost of circa £150,000.

Geoff Batchelor Welfare Officer for Rotary shared a few words and said there were 1.2 million members worldwide and Newton Aycliffe Club has 42 members. The club raise money throughout the year including the Santa Run to buy 70 hampers for delivery at Christmas time, helped by Tesco.

He said that Rotary were not there to sort problems but to put a sticking plaster on the problems and help them seek longer term help. Geoff cited instances where he had worked with partners to help disadvantaged people.

Syd Howarth President of GACAP addressed partners. He reminded all, GACAP was founded in 2013 following work done by a steering group after a public meeting. There was a firm understanding to co-ordinate need and cut out duplication. The networking side of GACAP was heartwarming, all talking together and helping those in need. GACAP were looking for premises to establish themselves but had been unsuccessful so far, but it was an important aim.

Steven Mitton CEO of CDFHS was looking for premises to transfer CDFHS hopefully to Newton Aycliffe, and had suggested there might be room in his new premises to accommodate GACAP.

New Chairman Ron thanked Syd for his report and thanked Steven for all he had done over the past couple of years as Chairman. He said some partners he had known for 50 years and others he had just met and looked forward to getting to know them.

Following his marriage to Joan in August he had moved to Darlington but both Joan and himself still had a heart for Newton Aycliffe. Joan worked with Dorothy Bowman at Silverdale House on the newly formed Western Area Residents Association. Ron and Joan attend the Harvest Church opposite Bethany Nursing Home in Woodham. Harvest,

like other churches were partners of GACAP.

Ron thanked Liane and DISC or the use of the meeting room and for free tea and coffee over the year. He also thanked Tesco, not only for their help to many partners, but also for the refreshments they provide at special events. He then invited partners to take refreshments as he closed the meeting.

Tesco Newton Aycliffe have a close working relationship with Sheena

and the team at Baby Basics, grown from the hard work the GACAP organisation do in bringing together all the community projects and charities in Newton Aycliffe.

At the GACAP AGM on Monday the 24th of April, Store Manager Helen Maynard and Community Champion Shirley Cormack, presented Sheena a cheque for £500 to help them continue the fantastic work they do in the local area.

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Aycliffe's Front Line NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

By NPT Sergeant Mark J Edwards

It's been some time since I submitted my last report so here I am, back again. There's been quite a lot of changes to the make-up of the Neighbourhood Policing Team since I last put finger to keypad with a number of Aycliffe's finest having left for pastures new and several 'newbies' joining our ranks. Details as to which team members and their areas of geographical responsibility can be found on the Force website: www.durham.police.uk

There's a number of issues that have been affecting the town of late which the Team has been tackling along with our partners and the community. Over the last couple of months we have seen a surge in the number of reported fires caused by persons engaging in anti-social behaviour.

Such behaviour has seen youths setting fires to rubbish – the Industrial Estate has been where a large percentage of these incidents has occurred. My Team have been working closely with County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service and we have identified a number of local youths responsible. A number of interventions consisting of education and enforcement will follow – our colleagues in Fire and Rescue deliver some particularly hard hitting fire awareness sessions. I would respectfully request that local businesses do their utmost to

keep rubbish to a minimum to prevent future instances.

I would also like to appeal to those people involved in setting fires that whilst you may think it makes YOU look good in front of your peers, the consequences could potentially be catastrophic. YOU could be hurt and the knock on effect is that YOUR family could be hurt as a result. Could YOU live with that?

The activities of those riding off-road bikes and quads has also become problematic of late and I fully appreciate – and share, the frustrations of the local community. This is, again, something that the NPT is firmly focused on and committed to tackling. We have identified a number of individuals who we suspect are the main instigators (although not exclusive) of such behaviour and a number of 'behind the scenes' interventions are progressing. If used sensibly – and under the right circumstances at the right locations, off-road bikes, quads, and the like can be fun however many are unaware of the responsibilities that come with using such machines and how this can bring them into conflict with the law. All motorcycles, including quad bikes, scooters, mini motos etc have been classified as mechanically propelled vehicles meaning that if used on a highway they must comply with many of the same laws that

apply to cars including MOT, insurance, excise duty, head wear etc. If used on private land the landowner must have given prior permission. These rules apply to all.

The NPT have received a lot of stock recently as part of our community engagement initiative funded via GAMP – look out for many freebies over the coming months as we approach summer which will be distributed across a number of the community events that we will be in attendance at. Details will be circulated via our social media forums (Facebook, Twitter etc). That's all for now. Be safe everyone.
Mark J Edwards
NPT Sergeant

BRASS BAND CONCERT

St Andrew's Church invite you to join them on Friday 26th May at 7.15pm for an evening with Fishburn Academy Brass Band. This will be in Aycliffe Village Hall. Light refreshments will be served. Pay at the door, £3.00 Adults, £2.00 children. Proceeds to the Church and the Band. A good way to begin the Bank Holiday weekend. Hope to see you there.

Aycliffe Business Park - The Route to Success



A NORTH-EAST software company is hoping that a move to Newton Aycliffe will prove to be the perfect location for continuous growth.

Excelpoint, a successful software company, recently left its old headquarters in Shildon for a new base in the Evans Business Centre, on Aycliffe Business Park.

The company's software is already used in a wide range of sectors, including NHS, defence contractors and construction. Managing director Ian Brown said: "One of the key reasons for moving to Newton Aycliffe was to give us the room we needed to continue our growth."

"We are delighted to have positioned our company at the centre of one of the largest business parks in the North-East."

Mr Brown said he had looked at several business parks before settling on Newton Aycliffe. "One of the attractions of Aycliffe for us was the mix of businesses

already here. We were very impressed by the sense of community, and we are hoping Excelpoint can play a significant role in it."

As part of the move, Excelpoint has plans to explore new markets and hopes to announce new partnerships in the near future. Their innovative software, which is already in widespread use, enables organisations to create unique business systems without writing a line of bespoke code.

To celebrate the move, Excelpoint is hosting an office warming event on Friday, May 12, starting at noon.

The opening ceremony will be performed by Mike Matthews, managing director of Nifco UK, and president of the North East England Chamber of Commerce.

If you are planning to attend the office warming, please register via Eventbrite www.excelpoint.co.uk/blog/excelpoint-moving-aycliffe-business-park

Tory Choice Shows Lack of Respect

Dear Editor,

I am in my late 30's and this General Election is the first I will be voting in, but I am outraged and insulted by the lack of respect the Conservative Party have shown the people of Newton Aycliffe and the constituency of Sedgefield.

Their decision to put forward a student who lives in Hull as their candidate is an utter disgrace. I question how someone who arguably couldn't place Newton Aycliffe on a map this time last week can represent the issues that are important to me, never mind the fact that she is fresh out of university with very little real world experience.

How can someone in their early twenties know what it is like to have a full-time job and raise children when all she has probably had to do is balance lectures and a social life?

I want an MP who can represent me, who knows

about the issues that impact my life in Newton Aycliffe. A fresh-face student living in Hull is hardly able to do that. That is why I will be voting for Phil Wilson on Thursday 8th June - an MP who is local, who understands what is important to me, and who I can trust to represent my views in Parliament.

He has done a lot for Newton Aycliffe, he fought to bring Hitachi to the area leading to hundreds of jobs for people in Aycliffe, his constituency office is based in Newton Aycliffe to offer help and support to those who need it. It was his office that helped my partner's Mam when she was having issues with the DWP. I will cast my first ever General Election vote this June for Phil Wilson. I cannot and will not vote for a Tory student living in Hull who wants to use Newton Aycliffe as a stepping stone for her political career in the Conservative Party.

Michael Connolly.

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Town Centre Musing

Dear Syd

May I through your famous paper pass on to readers some of my thoughts about our town centre

I have just returned from an enforced visit to Doxforth Park outlet near Seaham and I have to say we damn near froze to death in its wind tunnel of shops and coffee bars (hold that thought).

This week I was walking through our town centre and thought I might while away some time (while her indoors spent my money). As I was sitting on one of the seats with no backrests armed with four sausage rolls and a bottle of still water I was watching out for the 'jobsworth' who may jump out and give me a fine for feeding the birds with the crumbs from my rolls. I noticed the trees that used to be in the town centre have all gone I was told they were taken away because of bad drainage some time ago and I wondered how much they cost to buy, plant and remove? A bit of forward planning might have been in order, I think.

As I looked around there is a noticeable number of shops empty, but I am sure that some charity may offer to use one. By the way I passed our Labour MP and he did not look too chipper - still they may win (I may have been day dreaming)

I had not noticed it before but the metal stairs opposite Ladbroke's would not look out

of place in Durham Jail - is that where they got them?

As I swallowed my last sausage roll I was suddenly struck with a rush of ice cold wind because someone had demolished the buildings leaving an open plan area that slowed the wind rush. Think positive I said to myself as now I don't need to go to the coast now - we have our very own wind tunnel!

Thanks Syd for reporting my thoughts, I really do like your paper.

F. Todd, Garburn Place



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EXHAUSTS
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THE LEGACY OF MINING IN ART & MUSIC

Mining and its legacy is a very prominent feature in our communities. One of the special things that came out of mining was the emergence of some very talented artists who are often called the Pit Painters, the best known of whom are Tom McGuinness and Norman Cornish.

The pit painters are well represented at the Spennymoor Art Gallery and the new Mining Art Gallery in Bishop Auckland Market Place will open later this year. In recent months a singer songwriter called Gareth Davies-Jones has become interested in the idea of writing songs in response to paintings by the pit painters as well as co-writing songs about stories shared by ex-miners and their families.

Gareth's forbears were Welsh miners. In 2015 Gareth was the artist in residence at the Mining Institute in Newcastle and he produced an album of songs called The Seam as a result of his research there.

To start this new project a concert has been arranged at the Spennymoor Art Gallery on May 16th. On that evening the gallery will be open from 7pm and the concert will begin at 8pm. Gareth will be singing songs from The Seam album and

he has also composed a song responding to one of Norman Cornish's paintings at the gallery.

Tickets can be obtained via this website: <https://www.garethdavies-jones.com/tour> or from David Pott (Mob: 07932 790525).

The concert will be of particular interest to miners and their descendants. The concert is being arranged in partnership with regenerate, the new initiative whose aim is to encourage churches to work and pray for the spiritual, social and economic regeneration of this area.

Rev Eileen Harrop, entrepreneur priest at St Anne's in Bishop Auckland and a leader of "Re:generate" is very keen to collect stories from mining families. She explains: "Are you a former miner from a colliery around Bishop Auckland? Or perhaps you are part of a mining family with many generations before having worked in the mines. Would you be willing to meet me for a chat about what it was like working as a miner and what was special about being part of a mining community?"

The church in the middle of Bishop Auckland's Market Place, St Anne's Church, would like to dedicate a programme of events and services to honour the contribution of mining to our country and to the world; to acknowledge the dedication and sacrificial efforts of miners and their families; and to celebrate the community and family values nurtured by the camaraderie of mining households".

Please contact me: Rev'd Eileen Harrop (01325 733154; ekgharrop@gmail.com) if you are willing to be involved in this special programme or just to share with me the experiences and feelings of

miners and mining families.

Aycliffe Teenager Receives Special Bike



The charity Cyclists Fighting Cancer supports children and young people across the UK who have been affected by cancer to regain their physical fitness, strength and confidence by giving them new bikes, adapted trikes and other exercise equipment and advice.

Newtonian Louis was diagnosed with a malignant

HC-One's Defoe Court Care Home in Newton Aycliffe, has been voted by Residents and relatives as one of

AYCLIFFE CARE HOME IN U.K. TOP 20



the Top 20 recommended care homes in North East England in the carehome.co.uk awards 2017.

Defoe Court Care Home Manager, Sarah Todd said:

"I am so proud of the whole team and we're all so pleased to have received this award. "It is so humbling to have gained so many positive comments from the people that matter to us most, Residents and their relatives past and present.

"At Defoe Court we strive to ensure that each Resident receives person-centred care, that they feel valued, cared for and most importantly loved."

Nine of the Top 20 recommended homes in the North East are operated by HC-One, and the result has been celebrated across the company as it was also rated as one of the top large care home groups in the UK.

HC-One is commitment

to providing the kindest care, which is shown by the company achieving a 9.4/10 average rating on the carehome.co.uk website. The high rating demonstrates that HC-One is one of the best companies in the care home sector as rated by service users. HC-One currently also has the highest compliance rating of all independent residential care home providers.

Davina Ludlow, Director of carehome.co.uk, said: "Care home groups, which put compassion, dignity and kindness at the heart of their care, are making a huge difference to residents' lives. "HC-One has proved that it provides a high standard of care throughout its homes and we'd like to congratulate it on being a top large care home group! We feel it is a real achievement to be recognised for being in the U.K. Top 20.

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brain tumour at the age of five. He survived cancer but the treatment caused spinal cord damage, cognitive learning difficulties, hearing impairment and ongoing medical problems. This has meant that he can only walk short distances aided, and is reliant on his wheelchair.

Now 15, he is a determined young man and likes to be able to do the same as everyone else. Cyclists Fighting Cancer have helped give Louis some independence by donating him a specially adapted bike. Cycling makes Louis feel he is succeeding at something which is really important for his well-being, it will also help him to build up his muscle strength. He's been out on it every day since receiving it.

See short video of Louis at: <https://www.facebook.com/cyclistsfightingcancer/videos/133389205339096/>

LETTER

Dog Dirt on Lawns

Dear Sir,
Every day the same dog walker walks past my house and allows their dog to use my lawn as a toilet.

I have had my lawn treated and am simply trying to make my garden look nice but this daily occurrence has killed off the grass.

If you have a dog, please don't let it do its business on people's gardens and despite me already approaching the person about this it continues. If it does not stop I will be sure to return the gesture and see how this irresponsible dog owner likes it.

It is utterly disrespectful. Very annoyed resident of what is a really lovely street. Mrs K. Wilson

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Woodham Students Visit to University



In April Year 9 students from Woodham Academy were given the opportunity to attend a Higher Education event at Northumbria University. The aim of the visit was to give students an insight into the life of a student at Northumbria, and to understand the many benefits of higher education.

Upon arrival students were taken on a guided tour of the university by student representatives, giving them a chance to view the many resources and facilities available on the campus. Part of the tour involved them answering a variety of quiz questions based on clues they had to find and spot throughout the tour. After lunch students were asked to complete a Higher Education focus planner, allowing them to understand the many pathways and routes into higher education.

This was followed by a team work exercise where students worked in small teams to

design a university club or society. Ideas included a NetFlix club, Skydiving club, and Daredevil society. The day was completed with a Q&A session with a panel of Northumbria undergraduate students, allowing students to ask questions about the many aspects of life at university.

BLOOMING MARVELLOUS

Hanging baskets, bedding plants, vegetables and fruit plants. That will be your garden after visiting our Plant Sale at St Elizabeth's Church Saturday the 6th of May at 10am.

Also sale of home baked goods and refreshments available at the Coffee Morning in the Hall. Come and relax with us as you plan your garden.

CREATIVE EASTER FUN AT GREENFIELD ARTS

The Easter Holidays were exciting time at Greenfield Arts with our wonderful creative workshops designed for young people and families. Our free Easter holiday programme saw the return of favourites such as 'Star of the Show'. The young people had great fun alongside talented film-maker Laura Degnan who inspired the young people to make their own film and be a star for the day! A challenge they rose to with great results! Dawn Belshaw also returned with Crazy Crafts at Shildon where the children were keen to make the most of the opportunity to make beautiful kites to take home. There was some wonderful colourful creative designs with flying Japanese fish-kites! Dawn also led a session at Aycliffe where a fabulous jig-saw was designed by the young people drawing inspiration from the Greenfield Gallery and local landmarks in Newton Aycliffe. The results were fabulous and are proudly on display in Greenfield's Art Studio.

Sharron Bates brought the art of story-making to life in Shildon with a session using our very own storymakers app. The young people had the opportunity to create their own 'mechanimal' creatures within the app and build their own original story. With the help of Sharron and her experience in collage they then went on to create a work of art to take home based on their very own characters. The results were impressive and it was lovely



to hear positive comments, "It made me feel happy because I like being creative" said one young participant.

Our new summer learning programme is now available with extra weekly sessions for young people with the return of our regular activities in Dru Yoga and our ever popular

Art Club and our brand new venture Movie Makers. To find out more about what we offer please check out our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk or contact Greenfield Arts on 01325 379048, info@greenfield-arts.co.uk or pop in and speak to one of our members of staff.

The 'Tub' is Top Pub!



The Turbina, has been voted as 'Darlington Campaign For Real Ales' pub of the season. Owner Gary said "This is a great accolade not just for the pub and staff, but also the customers that have supported us over the years. This is an honour, because we were chosen by 'CAMRA' members who are very passionate and knowledgeable about the quality of cask ales, taking into account the quality and condition of our beers, but also the massive choice we make available to our customers."

"Last year people sampled 132 different beers from 81 different breweries, sourcing beers from all over the UK, and this year we are well on target to beat that."

"As well as searching countrywide for interesting beers, we are keen to support local breweries, with 'Yard Of Ale' (Ferryhill) 'George Samuel Brewing' (Spennymoor) and 'Mithril Ales' (Aldbrough St John) as part of the 'LocALE' scheme, featuring on the bar. We stock up to 4 ales, a mix of styles, including bitters, porters, pale ales, stouts, cask lagers, and more, so there is always something for everyone."

A very important part of the pub calendar is the twice yearly Beer Festivals, the next of which, is this weekend featuring 16 craft ales & 2 craft ciders, with FREE

entertainment all weekend. Friday at 8pm - OPEN-MIC, with some outstanding local talent - Saturday at 8pm - 'THE DUST TOWN DOGS' possibly the greatest (& craziest) band in the North East. Sunday at 4pm "THE GATECRASHERS" excellent party band, regulars on the main stage at 'Stormin The Castle' Hopefully this has whet your appetite for a brew or two, so get yourself along to the Tub, and find out why 'CAMRA' rate it so highly

Volunteers Join Police Commissioner On-line

ENTHUSIASTIC residents who give back to their communities are taking to the small-screen, thanks to a month-long campaign starting immediately.

Ahead of national Volunteers Week (1st - 7th June), volunteers throughout County Durham and Darlington are recording a series of short videos, as part of an online campaign hosted by Ron Hogg, Durham's Police Commissioner.

Ron said: "I really wanted to find a way to celebrate the work of ordinary people, who give up their free time to help others in their community, whilst raising the profile of what they do."

"There are so many local organisations who value the work of their volunteers, and this is one way of letting the public know of the contribution these people make to our society."

The campaign will be hosted on Ron's Facebook and Twitter sites, and will include videos from criminal justice organisations, councils, health, the voluntary sector, charities and smaller community groups. Residents who are looking to

give back to their community will be able to find out how they can get involved, thanks to the various organisations taking part in the campaign. The videos will also help vulnerable people, including victims of crime or anti-social behaviour, to access the various support services available to them.

"Local volunteers work in so many different ways, using their skills or life experiences to benefit others" said Ron. "Some may help to provide out of school activities or support victims of crime. Other volunteers may help those in a crisis situation to reduce re-offending, or assist isolated or vulnerable people. They might be helping them with shopping, gardening, or simply providing a listening ear. Volunteers really should be recognised for the tremendous impact they make to the lives of others."

Residents are being encouraged to follow the campaign and share the videos on social media; simply search for DurhamPCC on Facebook and Twitter, and use the hashtag #DurhamDarloVolunteers, from 2nd May.

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Tickets £10, from Susan Boyle (01388 835656) or Rev. Lissa

Lent Courses 2017

This year there are two Lent courses running, which are available to everyone whether they wish to attend both, some of the sessions, or all of them.

Building Your Faith course is the local one, run by the Rev. Sheelah Stevens, held at 30 Highside Road on Tuesdays commencing March 7th for five weeks. It will run from 2 until 3.30pm.

The titles of the remaining sessions are:

- 28/3/17 The Holy Spirit at work in us
- 4/4/17 Our Destiny in Christ

Bishop Mark's Lent Course is being held at St Cuthbert's Church Hall, Darlington, on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9pm.

Remaining dates are March 30th and April 6th.

Electoral Roll

The annual revision of the Church Electoral Roll will be taking place between February 19th and March 11th. The updated Roll will then be displayed in St Michael's Church from March 19th until April 1st. The full revision of the Roll will not take place until early 2019.

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Protecting Hedgehogs £620 for SWAN Charity

Two hedgehog lovers have turned their homes into sanctuaries for their favourite animals. Sandra (Darlington) and Dawn (Newton Aycliffe) both take in sick and injured hedgehogs.

They are registered with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and have set up Hedgehog Helpers Darlington and Aycliffe Facebook so members of the public, when they find sick or abandoned hedgehogs, can ring for advice. All the rehabilitated hedgehogs are in the process of being released into the wild so it's a busy time!

Some of their patients such as Conker who was found squealing with eyes full of fly eggs and Strimmer Jim had an accident with a strimmer. Frosty was found in a live capture trap and Holly was so tangled in netting she had to be knocked out before it was removed. These are just a few of what they deal with on a weekly basis.

Hedgehog Awareness Week runs from 30th April to 6th May which aims to highlight the problems hedgehogs face and how you can help them. Sandra and Dawn explain that this year the campaign is focusing on garden strimmers, reminding people to check the area before using these. Here are some

ways to help hedgehogs:-

- **Ensure you have a small hole in your fence to allow easy access to hedgehogs.**
- **Move piles of rubbish to another site before burning and check compost heaps or hay before digging forks in.**
- **Ensure netting is kept at a safe height.**
- **Try to stop using pesticides such as slug pellets.**
- **Cover drains/holes.**
- **Ensure easy access out of ponds/pools.**
- **Watch dogs at night when in your garden.**

Many people wonder what to feed a hedgehog but the best things are meaty cat/dog food or complete cat biscuits along with water.

If you need any more help just contact the girls via their Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/hedgehoghelpersdarlington/> Mob: 077831 40904.



Last week volunteers helped with a bag pack fundraiser in aid of swan UK (syndromes without a name). My son Harrison will be 3 in July and he is profoundly disabled and is currently undiagnosed. A lot of families can feel isolated not knowing what the future holds for their undiagnosed child.

Swan UK provide support and information and run lots of fun inclusive family events. Swan UK is the only dedicated specialist support for families like my own and when it's difficult to know what the future holds its amazing to feel like we are not alone on our journey. Today my family and friends helped to raise funds for swan

UK and in total we raised £619.75p we are so thankful for everyone's support. Especially Tesco store staff in Newton Aycliffe who alone donated £100 on the day of the fundraiser. They have shown that community is important to them and I can't thank them and my friends and family enough for their kindness.

Dementia Awareness Coffee Morning

A coffee morning aimed at raising awareness about dementia is being held on Friday 19th May from 10:30am at Rose Lodge care home, Carers Way, Cobblers Lane.

The event is being held as part of Dementia Awareness Week 2017, which this year runs from 14th-20th May. During this week the Alzheimer's Society is asking people across the UK to unite against dementia. Dementia is set to be the 21st century's biggest killer. But awareness and understanding

remains low and many families are facing it alone. Dementia Awareness week aims to encourage people to come together and take action by raising awareness, as well as offering help and understanding, to help those living with the condition and their family members.

Refreshments and a selection of cakes will be served. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information call Diane Tweddle, Activities Co-ordinator at Rose Lodge, on 01325 271301.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Notice is hereby given that:-

The Parish Meeting for the Parish of Great Aycliffe will take place in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe on:

**WEDNESDAY, 24th MAY 2017
at 7.15 p.m.**

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".

The Agenda will be available on Notice Boards, or by request from the Council Offices (01325 300700) or our Website: (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk) from the 11th May, 2017.

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Flower Demo

At the eagerly awaited Open Meeting of Shildon and District Flower Club at Shildon Civic Hall on Monday 8th May at 7.30pm National Demonstrator, Coral Gardiner, will present an evening of flower arranging entitled Nature's Palette

An evening not to be missed for those who love flowers and the delights of observing an expert at the height of her creative powers. Members £5 Visitors £8 (pay on the door)

Rose Lodge Bakes for "Help for Heroes"



Rose Lodge Care Home, Carers Way, raised £60 in aid of charity Help for Heroes following their recent charity coffee morning.

The money was raised from donations made through a bake sale and raffle at the home, with residents, families and guests enjoying afternoon tea-style refreshments and cake selection.

Activities Coordinators Diane Tweddle and Tracy George were pleased with the success of the morning, "We all had a wonderful time at our Bake for Heroes coffee morning and were proud to 'do our bit' in supporting

such a worthy cause. We would like to thank everyone who attended for your support."

Help for Heroes supports Serving and Reservist Personnel and Veterans who have suffered injuries or illness as a result of their service to the Nation. The Charity also helps their close family and dependents.

The charity's official 'Bake for Heroes' fundraising event runs from 15-30 April but those interested in holding a similar event are welcome to do so all year round. A free fundraising guide is available via the Help for Heroes website.

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Great Aycliffe



Town Council

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 17th MAY 2017 - 7.15pm

Agendas are available on Notice Boards, by request at the Council Offices (01325 300700) and 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".

MAYOR'S PRESENTATION

Would you please note that prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Council to be held on Wednesday, 17th May 2017 I will be making presentations of cheques to my nominated charities:-

**The Rifles Care for Casualties
Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre
Aycliffe Village Hall Association**

The presentation will commence at 7.00p.m. prompt and the public and press are cordially invited to attend.

Councillor Jed Hillary
Mayor of Great Aycliffe.

Week of Surprises at Sugar Hill

An exciting week at Sugar Hill primary school started with a visit from the Lions of Zululand, who were dressed as traditional Zulu warriors and proceeded to wow the children with dances and songs from their native Africa. The Lions visited every class and taught the children some of their dance moves and the words to one of their songs, which resulted in the children joining in a rousing performance in a 'showcase' assembly at the end of the day.

The following day, children at the school attended wearing jeans for the day, though nobody quite knew why. As part of Jeans for Genes Day, the school



had entered and won a competition where the objective was to design a new pair of jeans for the cartoon character, SpongeBob SquarePants. The whole school came together on the afternoon for an assembly, where prizes on a SpongeBob theme were to be given out to children who had provided the best competition entries. To the surprise of everyone in the hall, especially the children, SpongeBob SquarePants himself appeared to present the prizes amidst a raucous

rendition of his well-known theme tune. The children raised the roof with their singing and screaming! SpongeBob then conducted a whistle-stop tour of all the classes so that all the children could see him up close, before he had to leave to get back to his pineapple under the sea. Everyone at Sugar Hill would like to thank the Lions of Zululand and SpongeBob for making the week very exciting and hugely interesting for the children at the school.



Try Alpha at Burnhill Church



You are invited to try Alpha and have those questions we can all have about life answered. Over 29 million people have tried Alpha around the globe. It is a fantastic opportunity for anyone interested in exploring the meaning of life and the basics of the Christian faith. Xcel Church will be hosting this Alpha course which starts at 7pm on Monday 8th May at Burnhill Way Methodist Church in Aycliffe. The 8-week course is FREE of charge. Join others as we journey together for 8-weeks of interactive sessions, with refreshments and discussions having watched the new Alpha Film series which has been shot on location around the world. No need to register. Everyone welcome. For more information about who Xcel Church are then check out our website www.xcelchurch.com

FREE Holiday Activities at Greenfield Arts!

Stay entertained this holiday with our wonderful creative workshops designed for young people and families! Greenfield Arts' will be offering a FREE half term holiday activity programme, including Crazy Crafts in Shildon, with Family Cooking and Arts Foraging in Newton Aycliffe!

See how you can create brilliant inventions from recycled items found at home, with artist Dawn Belshaw, or join her in Aycliffe to get a breath of fresh air and create brilliant works of art from foraged items found in the great outdoors. Jan Hodgson will also be returning with her

wonderful Family Cooking sessions!

Activities are suitable for all ages and families, children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Bookings are now open and to make this process even smoother and more secure we have added an online service. Please visit our website for more details on sessions and to see how to book your place.

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



Film Show

The "FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church on TUESDAY 9th MAY features the 2016 biographical comedy-drama "FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS" starring Meryl Streep and Hugh Grant. Florence is a New York heiress and socialite with a passion for singing.

She aspires to be an opera singer and is indulged by her husband and friends who protect her from the awful truth, although her performances are a joy, she just can't sing!! Will she, sooner or later, have to be told the terrible truth?

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.

NEWTON NEWS

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Aycliffe BJJ Club - 6 Medals



Four Newtonians were amongst a team of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu grapplers who travelled to take part in a large competition at the weekend. David Cunliffe, John-Paul Cockeril, Harry Cockerill and Chris Naisbit all train

at NEJJ club and took part in the regional event to test their skills against some of the best grapplers around as they warm up for the British Open in two weeks! Jp came away with a gold medal, Harry a silver, Chris

gold and a silver, Dave double bronze. Some of the team had up to 7-8 matches during the event which had a very high level of BJJ. Dave and Jp run the Northeast Jiu Jitsu Aycliffe branch under Ellis younger, a world class purple belt. Classes are Thursday 8-9pm and Sunday 3-4pm for anyone interested in real BJJ, something Aycliffe has never had! Stay tuned, the club intends to continue achieving throughout the year!

Baby Basics Donation

The Ladies of the Newton Aycliffe Inner Wheel kindly made a donation to Baby Basics. We would like to record our thanks for the generous donation, thank you. Baby Basics help families in need who cannot afford baby equipment due to low-incomes, unemployment, illness or bereavement e.g. Moses baskets, travel systems, cots, safety gates as well as baby or children's clothes, nappies, baby wipes and baby toiletries. We are open on the demand of clients but if any parent needs any help they just have to contact Sheena on 07594297462 or email: sheenastephenson.lca@gmail.com.



NEWTONIAN ACHIEVES BLACK BELT GOAL



Congratulations to Emma Dunn who passed her 2nd Dan Black Belt in Taekwondo this weekend. The promotion comes after 5 years of training with local club Kim Chung Do Kwan. Emma started training for health reasons following a sports injury in 2012, since then she has gone from strength to strength within the Martial Art.

Since taking her 1st black belt 2 years ago, Emma has trained as a traditional Martial Arts Instructor and runs the under 10's class at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on a Tuesday night. Her Instructor Master Hannah Hatfield said "Emma is an extremely dedicated student who has overcome many challenges to reach this achievement. We hope she will continue to inspire the students to follow in her footsteps as a Martial Artist".

The grading showcased a very high level of understanding and was caught on camera by Aycliffe photographer Ryan Dunn, who has lent his talents to Kim Chung Do Kwan on a number of occasions. We would like to thank Ryan for capturing this shot of Emma in action.

For anyone interested in practising the REAL Martial Art please contact Master Hannah on 07775 333 168 or email kimchungdo@gmail.com

Alternatively check our website www.kimchungdo.uk.

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Aycliffe Runners in London Marathon



A trio of dedicated runners from Aycliffe Running Club completed the London Marathon this year flying the ARC flag. Mandy Heywood completed her first marathon sailing through the finish line in 4.47.57.

Mandy began her running career 3 years ago when she attended ARC's beginners night who meet at Aycliffe Sports Complex 6.30pm every Monday evening. Motivated and encouraged by the legendary Rob Nicholson, Mandy has gone from strength to strength.

Angela Barrett (lady in pink), completed her third and most memorable marathon, cruising home in 4.06.19, enjoying every minute, smiling the whole journey. Dean Barclay completed his third and most thrilling marathon to date, blasting through in 4.27.03, he is now looking forward to his 69 mile ultra run in June.

COUNTY NEWSBITS

Compiled by
John D. Clare

No Council meetings in election week, but some health news and lots to do next weekend.

Internet links to the articles below are at: bit.ly/CNB35

COUNCIL

- In the news – a perverse dog-bin
- Latest roadworks
- Bite Back NEFirst Credit offer

- Foundation Trust e-zine
- Healthwatch County Durham newsletter
- Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre – What's On Guide

- Roller Derby, Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, Saturday 13 May, £5
- Buddha's Birthday Special (5-11s), Durham Oriental Museum, noon till 5pm, Saturday 13 May

- Guided History Walk – Durham Cathedral woodlands & riverbanks, 10:30-noon, Saturday 13 May, £3 (phone 0191 386 4266 to reserve a place)

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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First Gradings at New Aycliffe Dojo

Newton Aycliffe Karate Club held its first gradings at its new dojo. NAKC moved to Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre fully in April.

The centre is a fantastic location with great facilities and friendly staff. 11 students passed their gradings on Thursday night in order to get their new belts they undertook a challenging syllabus under the watchful eyes of a panel of the clubs black belt instructors.

Congratulations to all who passed. Alastair and Imogen, fifth Mon yellow tag; Lexi, 4th Mon two yellow tags; Joshua, Jamie, Robert and Theo (Triple graded), second Mon two orange tags; Jake (Double graded) and Katie 7th kyu orange belt; Robin,

6th kyu green belt and Laura, 5th kyu blue belt.

The family friendly club offers discipline, fitness and improved self confidence whilst at the same time learning a practical martial art. Training is on Tuesdays at 7pm and Thursdays and 6.30pm. All welcome from 6 years upwards.

Instructors are registered with the British Combat Karate Association and are DBS checked and fully insured. First introductory lesson is free and as we are a not for profit club we keep fees to a minimum. There are spaces for new starters if you want to give it a try, either call into the club, ring 07999 501379 and ask for Andy or email naanshinryu@gmail.com.



Cycle Club in Majorca



A party of 22 cyclists from a Aycliffe Velo Cycling Club recently travelled to Puerto Pollensa, Majorca for a 5 day Cycling break. Members of the club cycled through mountain villages and along coastal roads taking in cycling routes of Llubi, Sa Posla, Bulgar and Cala St. Vicente, enjoying some incredible views on their steep hill climbing and descents.

The route from Puerto Pollensa to the Iluc Monastery in the Tramuntana Mountains via Coll de Sa Batalla and descent via Coll de Femenia and Campanet provided a stunning scenic

backdrop.

The route from Pollensa to the famous Lighthouse at Cap de Formentor tested the cycling skills with its good climbs, speedy twisting descents, a tunnel without lights and plenty of speed.

The club, which was established in March 2014, invites new members at all levels and has social rides on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Anyone interested in joining should contact club Secretary, Rebekah Parker at rebekahparker@btinternet.com or telephone 07710 751698

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring made the short trip to near neighbours Shildon Railway 1st in the NYSD 2nd division and came away with their first win of the season by 74 runs. After being asked to bat first, Aycliffe scored an impressive 213 for 8 from their 50 overs. Michael Howe top scored with a superb half century, eventually being dismissed for 55, and he received good support from Subhan Christudas (36 runs) and captain Adam Gittins with 27 runs.

In reply, some excellent bowling from Jack Slatcher (4 for 20), Michael Howe (3 for 26) and James Layfield-Carroll (2 for 14) helped to bowl out the homeside for 139 with only three overs of the game remaining. Michael Howe (sponsored by Yvonne and Bobby Wood) picked up the man of the match award after his eye catching all round performance.

The second team played Blackhall 2nd XI for the second consecutive week in the NYSD 4th division, only this time they were at home, but

the outcome unfortunately was the same as they were defeated by nine wickets. After being asked to bat first, Aycliffe were bowled out for 95 from 33.2 overs with only Dan Weldon showing any resistance with an excellent unbeaten 32 from 60 balls faced. Weldon's innings included four boundaries and he was given some support from captain Steve Sweeney who chipped in with ten runs. In reply the visitors romped to victory after just 13.3 overs with Ryan Patrick (1-5) taking the only wicket to fall.

The 2nd team hosted Preston 1st XI on the bank holiday Monday in the NYSD 4th division and lost by 53 runs. Preston elected to bat first and Aycliffe were delighted to bowl them out for just 137 after 43.1 overs. James Layfield-Carroll bowled superbly taking a career best 4 for 25 and was supported well by Lucas Pilling, Dylan Tribble and Tom Wickins, who all chipped in with two wickets each. However when Aycliffe batted, they were disappointed to be bowled out for a well below par 84 after only 22.3 overs, with only Elliott Holt (22 runs) and Layfield-Carroll (15

runs) reaching double figures. Our under 15's team travelled to Sedgefield and lost by nine wickets. Batting first, the Aycliffe youngsters performed with credit to bat out their allotted 20 overs and finish their innings on 58 for 6, thanks to an excellent 23 runs from Joe Bowsher. In reply the home side eased to victory despite some tight bowling from captain Lucas Pilling who took 1 for 11 from his four over spell.

The u15's also lost at home to Hartlepool, despite a good innings of 10 not out from Matty Greaves and 11 runs from man of the match Will Varley, who also chipped in with the only Hartlepool wicket to fall.

The u13's lost away at Hartlepool despite good individual batting performances from both Iain Robson and Leo Mercy.

Aycliffe's u11's hosted Sedgefield and were defeated by 66 runs. Joe Ingman bowled well taking 2 for 6 and Robert Price also bowled well on his debut taking 1 for 10. Adam Shaw also deserves credit for an excellent innings finishing 9 not out to top score for Aycliffe.

AYCLIFFE F.C. END SEASON ON A HIGH

Newton Aycliffe F.C. finished their season on a high, with a deserved win against a strong Morpeth Town side (who finished runners-up in the League). Both sides entertained the crowd with good football, despite the awful weather conditions. Aycliffe gave starts to Mattie Pennal, Charlie Raby and Jack Oliver and the youngsters responded with sound performances. They got off to a great start when Pennal crossed from the right for captain Jamie Owens to finish for 1-0. Morpeth came straight back and won a penalty, but James Winter pulled off a good save from Morpeth captain Graydon. Winter was in action again, pulling off great saves on 23 and 30 minutes. Then it was Aycliffe's turn and Morpeth keeper Dryden made a good effort from an Owens effort. Half-time 1-0.

Aycliffe came out strongly and went further ahead 2 minutes in, when Pennal got around the back of the defence and picked out Ben Trotter who smashed it high into the net for 2-0. Keeper Winter injured his leg, but battled on as there was no replacement on the bench. Aycliffe didn't sit on their lead and went for more goals. They were rewarded when Owens scored his second with a clever near-post flick on 64 minutes with the outside of his boot, from a Charlie Raby corner. Two minutes later, Morpeth got one back when a looping cross was turned in by Henderson. Aycliffe went down to 10 men on 80 minutes when Trotter received his marching orders. They held their own though, and Morpeth didn't come close to getting a second goal. Owens had a good chance to increase the lead but hit the side netting. Final score 3-1. The win saw Aycliffe finish a very creditable ninth position in the Ebac Northern League Division One with 64 points. At the Club's Presentation Night last Friday chairman,



MP Phil Wilson presents Player of the Year Trophy to Dan Mitton

Allan Oliver, paid tribute to the management team of Deano Browne & Danny Mellanby who took over in December & immediately lifted the spirits of supporters and committee. Defender Dan Mitton was handed the Player of the Year award by our Club President, Phil Wilson.

Dan also took the Supporters Player award, narrowly beating

keeper James Winter. Other winners on the night included Ben Trotter, Aaron Brown & Jamie Owens.

In a fantastic gesture the players lined up to shake hands with the Club's Kit Man, Geoff Hay, who retired at the end of the season. The players have bought Geoff a Season Ticket for next year to make sure he can keep an eye on them!

Club for Deaf People



Newton Aycliffe Deaf Fellowship (NADF) meet on Tuesdays every two weeks from 5:30-8pm at St Elizabeth Church, Woodham, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4UE for Church - Meal - Social - Fellowship- Fun.



Any questions please text Revd Debbie Loughran on 07 391917833.

Getting 5 - 8 Year Olds Into Playing Cricket

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club are participating in a brand-new initiative from the England and Wales Cricket Board aimed at providing children aged five to eight with a great first experience in cricket.

Programme features:

- **For all children aged five to eight**
- **Eight one-hour sessions, held over eight weeks**
- **Emphasis on fun and being active**
- **Focus on developing the child's movement skills**
- **Great first introduction to cricket**
- **Safe and fully accredited**
- **Valuable family time - mums and dads are encouraged to take part too**
- **Easy online registration**

The eight week programme costing £40 will run every

Thursday between 25 May and 13 July at Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club and will be fully supervised by qualified coaches.

The activity and game based programme is suitable for all skill levels and all children will be provided, as part of the booking cost, with a pack of cricket goodies including a cricket bat, ball, backpack, water bottle, personalised shirt and cap so that they can continue their love of cricket when they go home.

To register your child please visit the All Stars Cricket website at www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars and search for Newton Aycliffe.

Further information can also be obtained from Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club Junior Development Officer Adam Gittins on 07748 508239



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FLY TIPPERS AT WORK

Dear Sir,
I regularly cycle up the footpath/bridleway that runs parallel to Heighington Lane, between Aycliffe Village and Heighington. A few weeks ago I came across dumped rubbish, and to be fair whilst incensed, especially being only yards from the recycle centre, did nothing about it.
This morning however, I'm lost for words what some low life's will do. Now there's more rubbish dumped across the whole path, again just yards from the recycle centre, and yet it will have taken more effort to dump the rubbish here.
I just hope that amongst the paper work there is some incriminating evidence which points to who has done this.
Ian Hindle

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80 DRIVERS A DAY CAUGHT SPEEDING

A WEEK-long crackdown on speeding drivers saw almost 80 drivers per day caught going too fast across Cleveland, County Durham and Darlington. The Cleveland and Durham joint specialist operations unit (CDSOU) launched the operation on Monday, April 17th in support of a Europe-wide campaign aimed at reducing speeds and improving safety for all road-users. And in just seven days a total of 557 drivers were found to be breaking the speed limits across the two force areas. The total consisted of 257 recorded by officers out on patrol and 300 caught on equipment used by the unit's safety camera vans. Depending on how far they were exceeding the limit, the offenders will either have been invited to go on a speed

awareness course, issued with a fixed penalty fine or in the most serious cases, face prosecution. Insp. Jon Curtis, from Cleveland and Durham Specialist Operations Unit, said; "The number of drivers caught speeding demonstrates that enforcement action remains absolutely essential. Too many motorists are continuing to drive in an unacceptable, unsafe manner and putting lives at risk. "Excess speed is one of the biggest single causes of all road collisions not only in our area, but nationally and remains one of our #fatal4. "People in Cleveland and Durham can therefore expect to see more operations like this over the coming months." Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner Ron Hogg said: "This really demonstrates that Durham Constabulary is serious about apprehending speeding drivers who are putting our communities at risk. Improving road safety is one the objectives in my Police, Crime and Victims' Plan. "By working together with local communities and

partners on initiatives such as Community Speed-watch, we can making our roads a safer place."



Thanks to the town's Royal Naval Association who have donated £100 to the appeal. The branch call on any ex-Navy personnel to join them. Contact Treasurer John Lendrum on 01325 316945. Also acknowledging the gift of £100 from Robert and Pam Burns. Thanks also to a donor who wishes to remain anonymous for the £200 donation to the appeal. Watch out for the sale of raffle tickets for a new Vauxhall Car provided by Sherwoods of Darlington. Tickets are £1 each.

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Residents Association Visit Whitby



On Sunday 23rd April Horndale Residents Association spent the day watching and taking in the beautiful sights of Whitby Goth weekend.

Whitby is a lovely place to visit anytime of the year but with great weather and the people dressed in all sorts of dresses and suits, fish and chips and maybe a drink or two the day was finished off with a stick rock for everyone it made for a great day.

This trip was funded through the Big Lottery and supported by Tesco's with the help of Shirley Store Champion.

For more information about the work we do visit facebook or email horndaleresidentsass@outlook.com
Philip Clark, Chairman

AND THE
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Thanks to all who entered the Word Search competition and the first correct entry to be drawn was by Miss Rosaleen Hymas of Greathead Crescent who receives 500 Business/Visiting Cards.

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WOMAN COUNTING THE COST OF FLY-TIPPING

A County Durham woman has been left hundreds of pounds worse off and with a criminal record after being caught fly-tipping.

Amy Wall, 25, who lives in Bishop Auckland, dumped household waste from the back of a car at Shildon.

Durham County Council CCTV captured footage of the fly-tip while Wall also left her address in the dumped waste. Wall was taken to court by the council as part of its award-winning Operation Stop It fly-tipping campaign and now has a conviction and more than £600 to pay.

Newton Aycliffe magistrates heard how a council neighbourhood warden called at Brusselton Lane, an area where the council has fitted cameras in response to persistent fly-tipping, on 14 January last year.

The warden discovered a pile of household waste which had been dumped at the scene.

Among the waste was an envelope addressed to Wall, of High Lands, Cockfield.

The warden checked the footage from the CCTV which showed a Silver Vauxhall Corsa pull up.

A man and woman can then be seen getting out, taking rubbish out of the boot and dumping it before driving off. The warden carried out checks of the car's registration and found it to be registered to Wall.

The defendant was twice contacted by the council to request she attend an interview but failed to respond.



She was then asked for information of who was driving the car at the time of the fly-tip.

Wall requested that correspondence be sent to her parents' address.

A final attempt was made to have Wall attend for interview but again she failed to respond. The defendant was prosecuted for illegally dumping waste as part of Operation Stop It, the council's biggest ever campaign to tackle fly-tipping in partnership with Durham Constabulary, the Environment Agency and Crimestoppers.

She pleaded guilty and apologised. Wall was fined £560 and ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £56, a total of £616.

Ian Hoults, the council's neighbourhood protection manager, said: "The vast majority of people get rid of their waste legally: be that

using their bins, our free household waste recycling centres or our bulky waste collection service.

"There really is never any excuse for blighting our beautiful county by fly-tipping. "Miss Wall was caught by one of the cameras we've deployed as part of Operation Stop It and we hope the financial penalty imposed on her will deter anyone else from committing environmental crime.

"Anyone tempted to commit such offences should also be warned that a criminal record can mean you're not allowed in to some foreign countries."

Operation Stop It named Keep Britain Tidy's Environmental Campaign of the Year at the charity's Network Awards 2017 - at which the council also won the Local Authority of the Year category.

Find out about the various ways to get rid of your waste at www.durham.gov.uk/recycling

NORTH EAST COULD LOSE 3,203 TEACHERS

Funding cuts in North East schools could result in over 3,200 teachers being lost Schools in the North East

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are set to lose an estimated £119 million in funding by 2020, under current government policies. The plans, which will see school budgets reallocated according to a new national funding formula, will amount to average cuts of £379 per pupil across the region.

According to data collated by the National Union of Teachers (NUT) and the Association of Teachers & Lecturers (ATL), the estimated cuts could equate to 3,203 teachers being lost across the North East alone.

Unless the government allocates additional funding, schools and academies across the UK will lose £3 billion a year in real terms by 2020, and an astounding 98% of schools will experience a per-pupil funding cut. The prolific nature of such cuts are likely to lead to increased class sizes, and worryingly, amount to a significant loss of teaching staff.

Baljinder Kuller, Managing Director of The Supply Register, commented; "The potential impact of the planned Government funding cuts is certainly cause for concern, especially considering that schools across the North East are already

struggling to manage with diminished budgets. The scale of these real term cuts may lead to schools and academies becoming ever more dependent on supply teachers, which, when obtained from unscrupulous agencies, can be associated with significant additional costs."

"Many schools rely on supply teachers to ensure that the standard of pupils' education is not negatively impacted by a shortage of full time teachers, and recruitment agencies play a vital role in this supply chain. However, unless schools partner with a specialist agency they leave themselves vulnerable to the inefficient procurement methods associated with unethical agencies."

"The loss of an additional £379 per pupil by 2020 will no doubt add additional strain to schools who are already grappling with shrinking budgets to ensure that the education of their students is not compromised by a lack of funding. It is clear that if the profession fails to address the recruitment crisis now and find innovative ways to procure vital supply staff, this problem will only worsen."

Fantastic Football Result for Greenfield

Congratulations to Josh the winning captain of the A.F. Hardy inter-association trophy final. Bishop Auckland schools had a very tricky path to the final, beating Stockton 5-1 in round 1 and a nail biting 4-3 victory against Middlesbrough in round 2. The semi-final was against North Tyneside and the 1-0 win secured a place in the final.

The final was played at Dunston United AFC on Thursday 27th April against a very strong Newcastle side who had previously only lost once in their last 18 games.

Newcastle started the brighter with Bishop Auckland schools defending bravely and Josh did many goal saving sliding tackles to keep the score 0-0. The best chance went to Bishop who should have made it 1-0 just before the break but the goal keeper did a great save from a 1v1.

Bishop schools started the second half brightly putting more and more pressure on Newcastle and they scored a great goal which was well deserved to make it 1-0. With Newcastle looking for the equaliser Josh was kept busy at centre back but kept resolute with many towering headers and blocks to keep Bishop Schools in the lead. With 10 minutes to go, Bishop schools scored a great goal on the break to make it 2-0.

Greenfield School would once again like to congratulate all the boys selected to make up this fantastic U/13 team and especially Josh who captained the team to a magnificent victory, commenting "What a great



set of lads, despite getting dominated in the first half, we kept our heads up and came out brighter, well done lads!"

ACORN Meet

Our monthly meeting will be held on Thursday 11th May 2017 in Phoenix Club (upstairs) at 6pm. Our Little Acorns will meet at 5.30pm. We should hopefully meet our current Town and County Councillors following the local elections. Everyone is welcome to our meetings.

Come along for a chat and cup of tea/coffee. Our speaker for the evening will be Syd Howarth who is always entertaining. Look forward to seeing you there.

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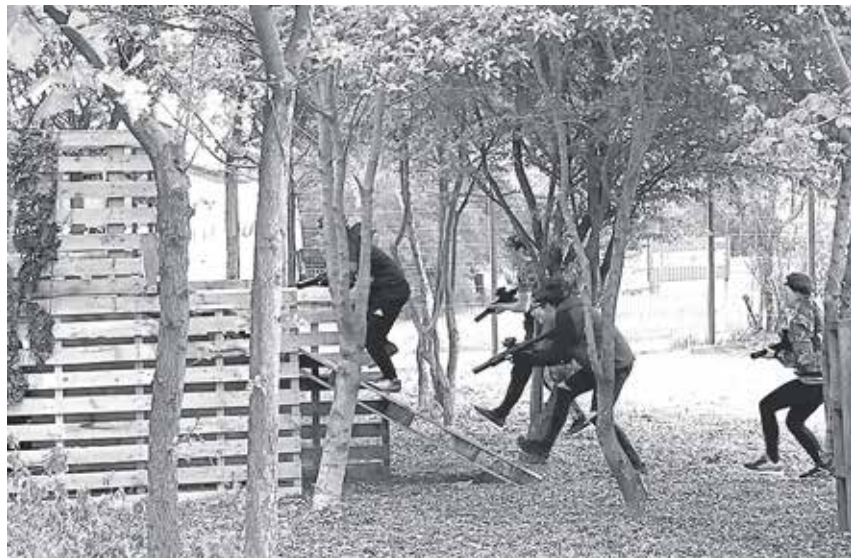
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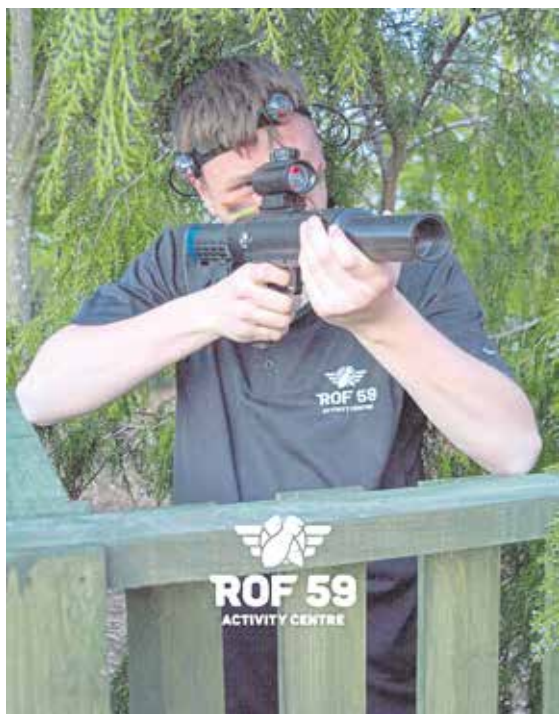
ROF 59 Opens Aycliffe's First Outdoor Laser Combat Game



Once again ROF59 lead the way with opening Newton Aycliffe's first outdoor Laser Combat! Launched over the May Bank Holiday weekend, we saw huge numbers of groups enjoying the Battlefield. Phil Harrop said "Just played the new Outdoor Laser Combat. Excellent fun, cannot wait to return!" David Pearson commented "Great morning on the battlefield laser combat. What a great idea. Loads of fun for young and old and a fantastic addition to the local area 10/10" Nev Jones "Wow what a morning !!!! Spent it at ROF 59 enjoying the new Laser Combat Game thoroughly recommend it for Little Kids and Big Kids too. Ten out of Ten from me and the Gang"

Owner John Finley is delighted with the positive response - watch this space for further investment.

Think Laser Tag is just for kids? Think again! Get ready for action. This ultimate Laser Combat Battlefield is suitable for all ages from 8 to 88, you'll love the adrenaline, pumping exhilaration and stalking your opponents in the outdoor battlefield. Each player is kitted out with a futuristic laser and head sensors with various scenarios to reenact including the popular game Last Man Standing, take a futuristic approach with ROF59's military past. For those wishing to observe - chill out on our Battle Bus and watch the action unfold. Our Laser Combat is perfect for birthday parties,



corporate team building days or just for a fun afternoon. It's brilliant to unleash your inner soldier and take charge

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The Right to Appeal

Dear Sir,
Since when did we lose our freedom of speech? Since when did we lose the right to appeal? Since when did we lose the right to challenge the decision makers and since when did we lose the right to voice our opinions?

This is what I did last year in the Newton News regarding the town Badminton Club and it's letters asking for fresh members.

Responding to Darren Clarke's letter in last week's edition I would have to say that his recollection of our phone call seems to be a bit hazy and not at all how I remember it.

What was his reaction to my call? I remember a well spoken chap who was both sympathetic to my problem and informative.

There were no insults or bad comments made as we discussed the issues raised in a civil manner. The call ended with an invitation by Mr Clarke to Haughton Badminton Club once I had

recovered from knee surgery. His comment that I am not community spirited is way off the mark. My letter about Aycliffe Badminton Club was simply a criticism of the way my departure from the club was handled by certain members. Obviously my thoughts about this club are negative given what had happened to me but If I was that bad of a player then why was I getting 4 or 5 games weekly for 10 weeks before being asked to leave?

As for holding a grudge, it has been over four years since I played and six months since we spoke on the phone but the whole badminton saga is finished for me now. It seems that Darren Clarke is the one holding the grudge and appears to have used my election address as a platform to express his thoughts. Hidden agenda there I think. Paul Kjenstad

In Memoriam

For Sale

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

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

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WHOLE FRUIT juicer, stainless steel, hardly used, recipe book included. Bargain at £15. Tel 01325 312518

TOTAL CRUNCH exercise and work out machine. Never been used. Cost £179 new, selling for £120 ono. Tel 01325 308094 for details

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BRAND NEW double divan with quilted Damask mattress, can arrange delivery, £120. Tel 07789 113343

Georgie Stokes

Died 5th May 2015

A devoted Husband of Joy-Marie. Your love and all our special memories I treasure.
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Adrian Cairns

1st May

Tears till flow since you left us with a huge void in our lives. But we have memories, all good, of a loving and caring Son.

In our hearts you will always stay, you are loved and remembered every day.

Dad and Mam
xxxxxxx

TOM TOLSON 6th May 2007. 10 years have gone since you passed away Dad, Papa - and we miss you more than words can say. Time slips by and life goes on, but from our hearts you are never gone. Love, Eileen, John, Kyle and Harry xxxx

DAVIE McDONALD 5th May 2016. A dear Dad and Grandad. It's been a year since you went away, but in our thoughts, you are always there. Love and miss you more than words can say. Anne, Peter, Lewis and Nicole

Congratulations

Jack Williamson



Happy 16th Birthday

To a fantastic Son, have a great 16th birthday. Lots of love, Mam, Dad, Tom and Beep xxxx

Happy 16th Jack

Lots of love, Nan, Auntie Nic, Uncle Craig, Finley and Dexter xxxxx

Harry Ainsley-Weighell



Happy 80th Birthday

6th May 1937

Happy Birthday Dad. You are my rock, I love you so much. Lots of love, your Daughter, Penny xxxx

Happy 80th Birthday

Happy Birthday to my wonderful Husband Harry. Lots of love, have a lovely day. Love forever, Ada xxxx

Happy 80th Birthday

Happy 80th Grandad. We love you so much. Lots of love, Daniel, Jason, Samuel and also from your Great Grandchildren and Becca xxx

Jordane Salmon



Happy 18th Birthday

8th May 2017

Have a fantastic day! Love from Mum, Dad, Rob and Nicholas xxxx

Thank You

DEFOE COURT Nursing Home. A big thank you to all the staff for all they did for our relative, Ian Nesbit. Giving us the strength to get through each day. A special thanks to Debby and Lynn and thanks to Isobel and catering staff for our breakfast and peanut cookies. You are all amazing people. Chris, Helen, Willie, Jenny, Elaine, Ann and David

Blessing

"MAY THE Sacred Heart of Jesus and Holy Mary be praised, loved, adored and glorified throughout the whole world now and forever. Amen." To be said six times a day for nine days, prayers always answered - MRH. Thanks to St Anthony for prayers answered.

Birthday Remembrance

JOANNE McCOURT 5th May 1961. Happy Birthday Mum. Hope you are celebrating with the angels, knowing we love and miss you so much. Love, Michelle and family xxx

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Alice Springs

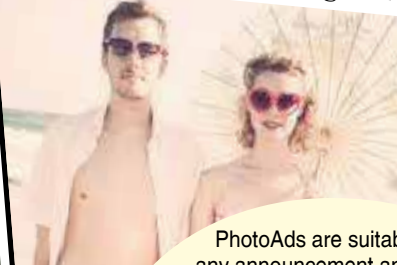


Happy 21st Birthday

10-10-10

to our beautiful Daughter on your 21st birthday. Lots of love from Mam & Dad xxx

Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



Golden

Years

on 1st Jan

aters, Gra

PhotoAds are suitable for any announcement and are preserved forever on our website www.newtonnews.co.uk

We are currently working on an archive site which will bring you ALL the past issues of the Newton News as far back as 1948!

Swim for Charity & Your Own Group

The Rotary Club's Annual Swimathon is on Sunday 14th May at Spennymoor Leisure Centre giving all local organisations an opportunity to swim and share the proceeds of sponsorship with their OWN CLUB and the Air Ambulance.

Charities and town groups are always in need of funds and this is a great way to boost your balance sheet and enjoy an hour's swim free, competing for various trophies,

THE LIONS CLUB OF DARLINGTON,
THE ROTARY CLUBS of SEDGEFIELD
BISHOP AUCKLAND, NEWTON AYCLIFFE
and SPENNYMOOR



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SWIMATHON 2017

on

SUNDAY 14th MAY 2017

(9.00am - 5.00pm)

at

SPENNYMOOR LEISURE CENTRE

We challenge you to enter a team or several teams of up to 6 members to swim in relay style for 55 minutes to raise funds through sponsorship for local charities including:

The Great North Air Ambulance

YOU MAY NOMINATE A CHARITY OR
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SPONSORSHIP RAISED BY YOUR TEAM(S)

including the most lengths swum and the highest amount raised.

Teams of up to six people swim in relay for 55 minutes and it is great fun while raising cash from sponsorship. Any club can take part, both young and old.

Please ring Chairperson Marie Walker-Ratcliffe for more details or complete the Application Forms below and hand in at Newton Press at The Blue Bridge Centre.

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR TEAM EARLY
IN ORDER TO OBTAIN YOUR SPONSORSHIP FORMS,
YOU DO NOT NEED THE NAMES OF YOUR
SWIMMERS UNTIL THE DAY OF THE SWIM

PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

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Name of Contact

Address of Contact

.....Postcode:.....

Telephone Number.....

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EXACT TITLE of Charity or
Good Cause nominated to receive
half of sponsorship raised by team

Signature of Team Contact.....

The organisers reserve the right to refuse the nomination of a "cause" which is considered inappropriate. Any refusal will be given in writing following receipt of this entry form.

Sessions will start promptly on the hour, every hour, from 9am to 4pm. Whilst no guarantee can be given, every effort will be made to accommodate your preferred day time.

PLEASE STATE YOUR PREFERRED START PERIOD

9.00am ☐ 10.00am ☐ 11.00am ☐ 12noon ☐

1.00pm ☐ 2.00pm ☐ 3.00pm ☐ 4.00pm ☐

If children under the age of 14 are competing a Parent's Consent Statement must be completed on sponsorship form. NOTE: Confirmation of time of swim and sponsor forms will be forwarded by the organisers to the Team Contact, whose responsibility it is to advise the team of all relevant information.

Please return to Swimathon Chairperson:

MARIE WALKER-RATCLIFFE

39 Clyde Terrace, Spennymoor

County Durham DL16 7SF

Tel. 07788193874

Email mariewalker39@live.co.uk



HEIGHINGTON U12's WIN SILLOTH TOURNAMENT



Heighington u12s travelled to Silloth last weekend to take part in the Silloth tournament - a much anticipated tournament with teams travelling from around the North to attend.

Heighington played their first game on Saturday which saw them beat Peterlee 5 nil. Amazing play continued throughout both days which resulted in the lads winning 6 out of 7 games against teams from Blyth, Ashington and Ellington with only 3 goals conceded.

Heighington made the final and were up against local favourites Abbeytown who had also won 6 out of 7 games, so the lads went into the game knowing this was going to be a hard match but they were very focussed and determined to win the title. From the whistle the game was a battle with both teams not giving anything away. Chances from both sides with some excellent saves continued the electric atmosphere with teams from all games spectating. The game was very close and it was looking like the first goal from either side would clinch the final. The game finished 0-0 and went to penalties. Heighington went first in the shoot out and kept their nerve to score the first 5 penalties and just when it looked like it was going to sudden death, Abbeytown smashed their 5th kick against

the cross bar resulting in Heighington being crowned winners!

The pitch erupted in cheers and tears from the lads which showed what this meant to them. Great sportsmanship shown as they went over to the opposition and offered condolences and support to some very upset players.

The excitement continued and the lads went to the presentation, dressed very smartly and went on stage to meet Manchester United legend Gary Pallister who congratulated them on winning the tournament and presented them with individual trophies as well as a very large winners trophy! Manager Gary Fraser said the lads were superb all weekend and played some amazing football. They deserved to win and gave 100% in every game. Well done to all the boys and thank you to the parents who helped and supported the team.

A special thanks to the coaches Gavin Kell and Art Rudd for their hard work and commitment and for riding the roller coaster of emotions with me over the 2 days! That was nail biting stuff!

Heighington are looking for one or two experienced players to join us as we prepare for 11 a side u13s. Contact Gavin on 07710 707327 for more information.

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Roller Derby Returns to Newton Aycliffe



The Roller Derby's National Championships return to Newton Aycliffe for a second time on Saturday May 13th.

The Durham Roller Derby will be taking on league leaders the Wakey Wheeled Cats of Wakefield in the Northern Group of the 2017 British Championships in a bout hosted at the Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Roller Derby is an all-action contact sport which played by two teams of five skating the same direction around a track. The game is a series of match-up which sees one player - the Jammer - gain points by lapping the members of the other team, who are trying to stop the other team getting past them.

Described as "rugby on roller skates", the fast-paced all-action sport is the fastest growing women's sport in Europe and narrowly missed out on inclusion in the next Olympics.

Durham Roller Derby

made their National Championship debut at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre in 2016's tournament, but were defeated by the Halifax Bruising Banditas after losing both jammers to serious injury in the fortnight before the game. The teams have continued their rivalry in this year's competition alongside teams from Wakefield, Grimsby, Mansfield and York.

Team captain Shannon White said: "Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre is a great place to play and watch Roller Derby, and as proud local residents we're all looking forward to showing it off to Roller Derby fans from all over the country. "Because it's such a fast, exciting sport it's great to watch even if you don't know the rules, and will enough fans down to cheer us on we can turn the leisure centre into a fortress." Tickets are £5 and the match starts at available at www.durhamrollerderby.co.uk

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