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Week Ending 12th May 2017

# Newton News

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## Town Polo Team Win 8th National Title



Sedgefield Water Polo Club's under 19 team based at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre travelled to Manchester for the semi final and hopefully final for the National under 19 Championships after battling through two tough qualifying rounds.

Once again Sedgefield faced old rivals City of Manchester in their own pool in the semi

final. The game was really tight all the way through and going into the last quarter Sedgefield looked to have won with a three goal lead but the home team battled back to tie the game at 8-8. This meant a penalty shoot out and with the momentum with Manchester and the large home crowd behind them they were favorites now.

Sedgefield however showed their steel when it really matters and Ben Stephenson, John Pratt, Connor Keeble and Kris Egginton all converted their penalties while Sedgefield goalkeeper Richard Murray stopped two Manchester penalties so Sedgefield marched into the final 12-10 winners.

In the final the next day were last years Champions Exeter who had beaten Sedgefield by four goals in the qualifying groups.

The game was level at half time 4-4 but then Exeter took charge in the third period and went into the last period 7-4 in front and looked like winners but once again Sedgefield showed their fighting spirit and with great support from the Sedgefield supporters drew level at 7-7 with 2 vital goals from Kris Egginton but with a minute to go Exeter regained the lead and looked to be winners. With 30 seconds on the clock left Michael Cousins scored a great equalizer. So once again Sedgefield faced

penalties. Sedgefield scored the first four penalties from Stephenson, Pratt, Cousins and Egginton while once again Sedgefield goalkeeper Murray made two brilliant stops from Exeter penalties for Sedgefield to triumph and win the under 19 title for the first time 12-10.

Richard Murray was voted the Most Valuable player for the finals after some excellent goalkeeping. The other members of the Sedgefield team were Matt Bottomley, Aron Mason, Daniel Armstrong, Mike Kelly, Isaac Wass, Finlay Parnell.

This is Sedgefield's eighth National title since the club was started 20 years ago by George Carpenter the Chief coach and he has decided to retire with the club having an excellent coaching team in place to take the club forward from here.

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## 86 Year old Told to Get off His Backside

Jimmy Faulkner is 86 years old and confessed to being a "couch potato" until recently when a friend told him to get off his backside and learn to use a computer.

Jimmy took his advice, bought a laptop and took tuition from his friend Tony which has transformed his life!

He had lost touch with his family and now talks to them daily in Ireland and Australia by e-mail.

"It is brilliant and I feel 20 years younger. I encourage all Senior Citizens to become computer literate - If I can

do it you can too! - My next target is to use Skype where I can talk to and see my relatives"

On Wednesday mornings at Woodham Community Centre David Sutton-Lloyd offers a drop in time to learn about computer's, tablets and telephones.

He also runs mini courses helping people set up cameras, going outdoors and having advice on taking shots, and how to put photos on a computer.

There are five volunteers doing drop in sessions, 10am to 12.30pm

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## Choir Concert for Hospice

A prize-winning local choir will stage a charity concert in aid of St Teresa's Hospice this month.

Northallerton Male Voice Choir will be joined by special guests the Cockerton Prize Silver Band for an evening of music at Bondgate Methodist Church in Darlington on Saturday May 13.

Buoyed by their recent successes at the Wensleydale Tournament of Song, the group will perform a varied programme, featuring as a joint item with Cockerton Prize Silver Band Ron Goodwin's "Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines".

Northallerton Male Voice Choir member Bob Robinson is a regular volunteer for St. Teresa's,

and the cause is close to his heart: "Julia, my wife, died in the Hospice in March 2013 and we both really appreciated the support and care that she received in her final months."

"I only joined the choir in January 2015 and have found that I enjoy being part of it, the rehearsals and the concerts. It's done a lot for me, personally. I started to volunteer at the Hospice about a year ago and, as the choir aims to support local charities, it made a lot of sense to ask them to put on a concert for St Teresa's." Northallerton Male Voice Choir was founded in 1968 for the sole purpose of bringing musical enjoyment to the community and the Choir members. It performs throughout the area to raise

funds for local groups, churches and charities. For two years running the Choir has entered the Wensleydale Tournament of Song, winning its Classes and the Challenge Cup, which it retains after success in March 2017.

Joining the Choir are Cockerton Prize Silver Band, who Bob says "will make a wonderful contribution to the concert - we are very pleased they can be a part of this event to support St Teresa's Hospice."

The 'Cockerton Saxhorn Band', as it was originally known, was formed in 1863. After a turbulent start during which time the group played using borrowed instruments and moved from venue to venue in search of a base, their name was changed to Cockerton Prize Silver Band to reflect their new found confidence - and a growing reputation. The band has flourished and now has numerous appearances at the National Championships under its belt, including showings at The Royal Albert Hall.

Jane Bradshaw, Hospice Chief Executive, said: "Music really does bring the community together, and in Northallerton Male Voice Choir and Cockerton Prize Silver Band we are fortunate to have two very community-minded groups of supporters."

"Like Bob, many people have been touched personally by the work of St Teresa's. This concert will be a wonderful way to celebrate the Hospice and those loved ones that have been cared for over the years, whilst supporting our fabulous local musicians and singers."

Tickets for the concert, which starts at 7.30pm, cost £7 and are available from the Hospice's Skinnergate, Cockerton, Richmond and Northallerton charity shops or by contacting Supporter Services on 01325 254 321.

## New Barber Opens in Town Centre



Nima Ghasemi from Middlesbrough has been a barber for 8 years. He has top ratings and very satisfied customers and is looking forward to growing his business at 9 Greenwell Road. He offers customers a different experience with ear burn and nose waxing included in the haircut. You can also enjoy a hot towel wet shave. Hours: Mon - Sat: 9am - 6pm. Sunday: 10am - 4pm.

Bryan Haldane Town Centre Manager, seen in the chair, recommends Nima and welcomes him to Newton Aycliffe. For an appointment please ring: 07453 827 448.

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**Saturday 13th May - "Dakota"**

Quote - "Dakota are a really tight act who look like they enjoy every second of their set. They like to keep their set list varied covering music from many different periods and genres. All rockers at heart their set has a definite rock feel but there is something to keep everyone happy!" - Trimmers Arms, South Shields Mar '17.

Covering songs by, - Chilli Peppers - Oasis - Green day - Killers - Blink 182 - Metallica - U2 & much more.

**Saturday 20th May - "Riff Raff"**

An evening of AC/DC

Band Quote - "We play AC/DC.....we're not look alike.....we just love the music and want to pass that on to other folks who love it too! Come along and enjoy a night of classic rock mixed with a few beers.....always a winning combo".

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## Year 5 Students Star Radio Experience

Year Five from Aycliffe Village Primary were invited by Wes from Star Radio to be on his show. It was very exciting for the pupils to be able to take part in this event. The children were asked to tell jokes and riddles for Wes. Everybody was able to get a chance to speak about what their favourite thing is about our school.

The things the class said they liked were: maths, extended writing, art, science and history. We were also asked to do animal impressions these included a: pig, chicken, dog, tiger, lion, cow, cat, elephant snake and a seal.

Overall everyone had a good time. We were on the radio Monday 8th May between 7.30am and 8.00am.  
By Scarlett Liddle, Year 5

## Bereavement Service

The town's Rubicon Bereavement Group is a sympathetic and confidential service for those experiencing the pain of losing a loved one, either recently, or perhaps in the past.

We are not a counselling service but can offer a friendly listening ear and the opportunity to meet with people who are also experiencing a journey of healing.

You are welcome to meet with us any Thursday afternoon from 2pm until 4pm at St. Elizabeth's Church Hall, Woodham. No. 7 Bus from Newton Aycliffe.  
For more information ring Jan Carr, 01325 321 225.

## CRAZY WHIST WITH SUPPER

At St Elizabeth's Church on Tuesday 16th of May at 7pm. Please bring 2 wrapped prizes not costing more than £1.00. Tickets are £3.00 which includes supper. Come and enjoy a night of fun and laughter.

## 5k Family Charity Fun Run



Join the North East Autism Society for their latest charity event - Run the Spectrum - a 5K Family Fun Run, with plenty of COLOUR FUN! Taking place at South Park Darlington on Saturday 1st July this is a summer day out not to be missed.

The event is less about your level of fitness and more about having a fun time! Participants are challenged to complete a course through the park whilst being doused from head to toe in vibrant colours in a huge Colour Party at the start and then as they pass through colour stations along the route. This year we will be also adding a foam machine station. Registration is only £20.00 with a pledge to raise a

minimum sponsorship of £40 to help our work with children, young people and adults with autism.

Children aged 15 and under can enter the event for FREE but must be accompanied by a participating adult (limit to 2 children per adult). Group

discounts also on offer.

Please don't hesitate to call us on the number below if you need any more info  
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## CHECKS FOR BOWEL CANCER

April was bowel cancer awareness month and Healthwatch County Durham's volunteers have been out and about asking people what they know and think about the screening test.

They have done drop ins in Stanley, Sacriston and Bearpark with more still to come. Volunteers from The Medical Group Patient Reference Groups are promoting the survey in their surgeries and Age UK, County Durham Carers Support, Durham Community Action and other organisations have all encouraged their service users and contacts to take part.

We have also challenged our Board members to engage with 10 people each by the next meeting! So far over 200 people have completed the survey. If you haven't yet had time, it only takes a couple of minutes.

Please also share the link with anyone you know over 60 living in County Durham and watch this space for our findings in the summer.

For more information on bowel cancer screening or to request a kit contact the helpline on: 0800 707 6060

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# Elvis Tribute Act at Scout Centre

Andrew Sokell a popular tribute artist to ‘The King’ is appearing at the Scout Centre. So if you ‘Are you Lonesome’ put on your ‘blue suede shoes’ and make your ‘Waydown’ to the Scout Centre on Bluebell Way Newton Aycliffe on Saturday 20th May at 7pm to Party with Andrew Sokell as ELVIS, one of the best Elvis tribute artists around. ‘ELVIS’ will be on stage at approx. 8:30pm. ‘Don’t think twice’ tickets are selling fast. They are available at £3.00 for adults and £2.00 for children from the bar during opening hours Friday 7pm till 11pm, Saturday 1pm till 11pm, Sunday 1pm till 11pm and Monday 8pm till 11pm. Or

they can be reserved on our Face Book page, NEWTON AYCLIFFE SCOUT CENTRE by leaving a message. We hope to see you there. Andrew’s show last year was a complete sell out so don’t miss out. If you want a quick preview of what you can expect there are a couple of clips on our face book page. NORTHERN SOUL which is a regular event in our entertainment calendar is on the 3rd of June admission £3 on the door, doors open 7pm. We have a licensed bar selling drinks at competitive prices – please don’t bring your own as it is the income from the sale of drinks that supports the running of the premises thank you

All profits from our events are used to maintain the centre and we are hoping to raise the funds required for an extension to the hall. This will be to provide separate washroom facilities for the groups that use the premises.

## £1500 Donated by Honest John

Honest John’s Community Kitty has donated £500 to Heighington Under 13’s team to buy new football strips for next season. Aycliffe bus Preservation Society have received £500 and another £500 has gone to the Darlington & Bishop Auckland Hospitals MRI Scanner Appeal.

# UKIP Selects Aycliffe Candidate for General Election

Dear Voter, I am the UKIP Parliamentary candidate for Sedgefield. I was born and bred in Aycliffe Village and have lived here for over 35 years and currently serve as branch chairman of UKIP Sedgefield. I’ve campaigned for a referendum on EU membership and, also campaigned for Brexit. The Conservative party have parachuted a candidate from Hull fresh from university, with no real connection to the area and no empathy with concerns of constituents therefore cannot really know the workings of a constituency. The reasons for NOT voting Labour far outweigh the reasons FOR voting UKIP, namely Labour are responsible for PFI (Private Finance Initiative) which has saddled the NHS with an insurmountable lifetime debt which is now seeing our beloved NHS in a state of near collapse. Additionally, the burden of unlimited immigration supported by Labour has contributed and exacerbated to this problem. Your local Labour MP voted against recalling under-performing MP’s therefore supported keeping the bad apples in Westminster.

I will campaign for a genuine Brexit a vote to leave means leaving the European Union in all its entirety including single market, customs union and dismantling ECHR and replacing it with a new British Bill of Rights. I will also campaign to keep open Darlington A&E services and prevent any further use of PFI in public services including our NHS. Constituents must have the right to recall their MP therefore I will support a vote to recall under-performing MP’s. The North East has the highest levels of unemployment in the country. The gap between the North East and the UK average is now 5 – 6 times as wide as it was in 2007, showing that the North East has been left behind when it comes to jobs, investment and growth. With current levels of unlimited immigration which are leading to wage compression for local workers. UKIP supports an Australian-style points-based system to decide who gets to come and settle here. Constituents in Ferryhill must either travel to Durham or Darlington for train services to Edinburgh or London, therefore I will support the building of a new station in Ferryhill on the East Coast Main line.

If you would like to discuss local issues with me I can be contacted on mobile 07477 440 362 or alternatively email jgrant295@gmail.com. UKIP invites constituents of Sedgefield, Newton Aycliffe and Ferryhill to a public meeting with a questions and answers from UKIP’s parliamentary Candidate for Sedgefield on Wednesday 17th May, 7pm at OakLeaf Centre, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6QZ.



John Grant  
UKIP Parliamentary Candidate

# New Club for Lonely People

The “New Pathways Together” group will meet at the Phoenix Club (formerly The British Legion) Macmillan Road every Friday from 1pm until 3pm. Starting 19th May we hope to arrange our first outing to a place of your choice. We hope that moving this “get together” group until after lunch will enable more lonely people to attend as they will not have to rush out early on a morning. Ring Dorothy for more details on 01325 308 094 or 07967 901 477.

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# ELECTION RESULTS FOR GREAT AYCLIFFE AREA

## Durham County Council - 7 seats Labour 5 - Conservative 2

Labour lose 2 seats: Joan Gray and Mike Dixon who was vice Chairman of Durham County Council and would have become Chairman if re-elected. Neither of the Conservatives live in Newton Aycliffe.

AYCLIFFE EAST, 2 Req	
Jim Atkinson - LAB	707 Elected
Bill Blenkinsop - IND	498
Christine Duffy - CON	347
John Grant - UKIP	254
Brian Haigh	179
Helen Hanks - GREEN	84
Sarah Iveson - LAB	670 Elected
Turnout 25.95%	

AYCLIFFE NORTH & MIDDRIDG, 3 Req	
Dorothy Bowman - IND	573
John Clare - LAB	863 Elected
Mike Dixon - LAB	675
Scott Durham - CON	868 Elected
Joan Gray - LABOUR	754
Sandra Haigh	187
Irene Hewitson - IND	279
Paul Howell - CON	846 Elected
Paul Symons - IND	213
Sally Symons - IND	151
Turnout 27.5%	

AYCLIFFE WEST - 2 Req	
Eddy Adam - LAB	570 Elected
Arun Chandran - IND	276
George Gray - IND	416
Kate Hopper - LAB	519 Elected
Ken Robson - IND	437
Marney Swan - CON	229
Turnout 25.64%	

## Comic Relief Funds Used in Aycliffe

Investing in Children CIC have been successful in securing funding from Comic Relief. Funding will be used over a two year period to support 16 young people that are/have been engaged in the criminal justice system.

The first cohort group of young people have identified Newton Aycliffe as the community they would like to work in, and have suggested that they would like to develop a sports based project and healthy eating that would benefit local children, young people and families in the area. The young people have a budget of £2,000 to help develop their project. Investors in Children are supporting the young people throughout. The young people have designed a leaflet together and they have started their project in the Silverdale area of Newton Aycliffe, with support from Dorothy Bowman’s to use her facility.

## Great Aycliffe Town Council 30 seats Labour 21 - Independent 9

Independents gain 4

AYCLIFFE CENTRAL - 3 Req	
Jim Atkinson - LAB	252 Elected
Kath Beetham - LAB	184 Elected
Peter Driver - CON	160
Val Raw- LAB	180 Elected
Turnout 26.82%	

AYCLIFFE VILLAGE - 1 Req	
Bill Blenkinsopp - IND	142 Elected
Danny Gibb - LAB	97
John Grant - UKIP	42
Turnout 39%	

BYERLEY PARK, HORNDALE & COBBLERS HALL - 6 Req	
Peter Bergg - LAB	307 Elected
Dorothy Bowman - IND	490 Elected
John Clare - LAB	385 Elected
Ian Gray - LAB	265 Elected
Brian Hall - LAB	282 Elected
Irene Hewitson - IND	387 Elected
Paul Kjenstad - LAB	161
Turnout 26.5%	

NEVILLE - 2 Req - elected unopposed	
Jed Hilary - LAB	
Sarah Iveson - LAB	

SHAFTO ST MARY’S - 4 Req	
Derek Atkinson - LAB	257 Elected
Bob Fleming - LAB	323 Elected
Brian Haigh	220
Wendy Hilary - LAB	261 Elected
Malcolm Iveson - LAB	253 Elected
Turnout 22.5%	

SIMPASTURE - 2 Req	
John Clark - LAB	216 Elected
David Hardaker - LAB	198 Elected
Kerry Wooton - IND	145
Turnout 28.9%	

WEST - 6 Req	
Eddy Adam - LAB	432 Elected
Julie Adam - LAB	332
Martin Ashcroft - LAB	383 Elected
Arun Chandran - IND	380 Elected
George Gray - IND	476 Elected
Leanne Grimes- IND	327
Kate Hopper - LAB	393 Elected
Ken Robson - IND	480 Elected
Kath Woodhams LAB	314
Turnout 24.59%	

WOODHAM - 6 Req	
Barbara Clare - LAB	512 Elected
Neil Collinson - LAB	418
Mary Dalton - LAB	485 Elected
Mike Dalton - LAB	442
Sandra Haigh - IND	54 Elected
Keith Henderson - LAB	443 Elected
Paul Symons - IND	516 Elected
Sally Symons- IND	96 Elected
Turnout 27%	





## POLICE APPEAL FOR WITNESSES

Accident investigators are making a renewed appeal for witnesses to the incident at a motocross event on the Bank Holiday weekend which led to the death of 27-year-old Thomas Brown. Thomas, who was from Barnard Castle died from the injuries he sustained when he came off his orange coloured KTM offroad bike, on a track at Low Hardwick Farm, near Sedgfield. The accident happened late on the morning of Sunday, 30th April.

A joint investigation involving the police and Durham County Council is taking place into the circumstances, with support from the collision

investigation team from Cleveland and Durham Specialist Operations Unit (CDSOU).

Sgt Phil Grieve, from the CDSOU said "We would like to hear from anyone who was at the event, whether they were a spectator or also taking part. If they have photographs or video footage that could also be potentially very useful.

"Even if they did not see Thomas come off his bike we still want them to contact us so we can ensure nothing is missed."

Anyone with information which could help is asked to call the collision unit on 0191 375 2159, or police via 101."

## CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring played away against Darlington 2nd XI in the NYSD 2nd division and came away with their second defeat of the season by 84 runs. The home side chose to bat first and scored a challenging 225 for 4 declared after 47 overs with Luke Telford (3 for 39) the pick of the Aycliffe bowlers. In reply Aycliffe were bowled out for a disappointing 141 after 40 overs with only Jack Slatcher (sponsored by Mr & Mrs Greaves), who scored a superb 60, Graham Telford (37 runs) and Michael Howe (20 runs) emerging with any credit. The second team played Sedgfield 2nd XI at home in the NYSD 4th division

and put in an improved performance, but were eventually defeated by six wickets. Batting first, Aycliffe scored 127 all out after 35.3 overs with Joe Haines (40 runs), Dan Bowmer (35 runs) and Arran Taylor (12 runs) the top scorers. In reply the visitors reached their winning target in the 24th over with Joe Haines taking 2 for 21 for Aycliffe.

The u17's played their first game of the season at home to Darlington in the NYSD junior league and gave a good account of themselves despite losing by 50 runs. In reply to the visitors score of 142 for 0 from 15 overs, Aycliffe batted with positivity and finished their 15 overs on a very respectable 92 for 5 thanks to good innings from Jack Lowery (20 runs), Arran Taylor (15 runs) and captain Ryan Patrick who also scored 15 runs.

Our u15's put in a tremendous performance but were still beaten at home to Norton by just 11 runs. The visitors batted first and scored 121 for 7 from their 20 overs despite some fantastic bowling from 11 year old Leo Mercy, who finished with the second best bowling figures in Aycliffe's history of u15's cricket when he took 5 for 29 off his four over spell. In reply Aycliffe made a great team effort to reach their winning target but fell agonisingly short at 110 for 7 after 20 overs with some excellent contributions coming from captain Lucas Pilling (37 runs), Kieran Shingler (12 runs) and Charlie Cayless (10 runs).

Aycliffe's u13's lost at home to Sedgfield by 65 runs despite an excellent all round performance from Josh Imerson, who took 3 for 12 from his 4 overs and then top scored with 14 runs in the Aycliffe innings.

The club's u11's put in a much improved performance but were still beaten by 21 runs at home to Stockton. Thomas Dearden played well for Aycliffe, taking one wicket for just 2 runs and then top scoring in the Aycliffe innings. The u11's also lost away at Norton despite Thomas Dearden again impressing with the bat and top scoring with 16 runs, including three boundaries and Brandon Grant taking two wickets for Aycliffe.

## MAD Choir Sing in Tesco's



Aycliffe's "Make a Difference Choir" entertained shoppers in Tesco on Saturday while raising funds to purchase new sound equipment. Musical Director Evelyn Lodge told Newton News the equipment would help them in their charity work in the town. The choir, made up of people who just enjoy singing, gave a sparkling performance and the members thank Tesco for their kindness in allowing them to sing and collect in their store. If you want to join this friendly group please contact founder Sonia Scott on 01325 495 219 or 07878 888 435. No audition required!

## Sharon Has Adopted Four Dogs Over 10 Years

Most people who walk through the doors of Dogs Trust Darlington comment that if they could, they would adopt all the canine residents at the rehoming centre. One woman has taken this one step further by adopting four overlooked dogs; all with interesting stories to tell.

Sharon Boulton from the Stockton area is a Training & Behaviour Advisor at Dogs Trust Darlington who helps canine residents with their training and development but considers this a passion more than a job. 2017 is Sharon's 10th anniversary working at Dogs Trust, and in that time she has adopted four dogs, all different shapes, sizes and personalities. Her first dog was a 12-year-old Foxhound named Cinder, who she adopted in 2007. Cinder had been a resident at Dogs Trust and was unable to find a loving home. Sharon spent six months helping Cinder to adjust in a family environment and has since become the matriarch of her family.



In 2009 Sharon adopted Raffa, a blind Labrador, who had also become a resident at Dogs Trust due to typical puppy behaviour. Raffa, who is now eight years old, is a perfect example of your classic Labrador who loves everyone.

Her next addition to the family was Kiki, a three-year-old Shih Tzu who suffered from Brachycephalic Airway Obstruction Syndrome (BAOS) and required an operation to improve her

breathing. Sharon and her daughter Ellie helped nurse Kiki back to health and she is a happy dog who has completed her puppy training.

The latest member of the family is a four-year-old Border Collie named Fudge who was an overlooked resident at Dogs Trust for a long time. Sharon initially fostered him for nine months on Dogs Trust's Home from Home scheme. He gradually came out of his shell and has been given a new lease of life.

Sharon also has another Border Collie named Victoria and a cat named Darcy, who all get on well as part of their extended family.

Sharon said:

"Adopting and fostering is a very fulfilling experience and one that I would definitely recommend. It is of course at times challenging but seeing dogs becoming part of my family is exceptionally rewarding.

"I still continue to help dogs through the Home from Home foster scheme and my pets absolutely love having more company around the house. This is really beneficial for the dogs being fostered too as we want them to be as comfortable as possible while they wait to be adopted."

If you are interested in adopting or fostering a dog, please contact Dogs Trust Darlington on 0300 303 0292 or visit [www.dogstrust.org.uk/our-centres/darlington](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk/our-centres/darlington)

## Local Election Thanks

Aycliffe West Labour Councillors Eddy Adam, Martin Ashcroft and Kate Hopper, alongside Labour candidates Julie Adam and Kathleen Woodhams, wish to thank the Aycliffe West electorate for their confidence and continued support during the May 2017 local elections.

We look forward to working for and on behalf of all our residents in partnership with our councillor colleagues to ensure both the West Ward and the wider town community remain a safe, friendly and attractive place to live and visit.

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# Blue Balloons & Applause for Emily



On a sunny Friday afternoon, 7th April, the whole of Woodham Academy gathered to remember Emily Cook. Emily was a bright and happy student of the school who sadly passed away on 21 March. She had been diagnosed with a brain tumour in the summer of 2016.

The day had begun with students arriving wearing blue, a tribute to Emily as this was her favourite colour. In the afternoon the Head, Christine Forsyth, led an assembly that celebrated Emily's life, remembering her energy, her sense of humour and all those things she loved. Many in the school had already contributed to a memory book for Emily's family, bringing in photos of her and drawing pictures of her favourite things.

Following the assembly the entire school community gathered outside. All of her year group were given a balloon and her best friend, Millie, released the first. All others followed, the students reflecting on her life with a minute's silence. Students then continued the celebration by giving Emily a round of applause.

All the money that has been raised by the school through the events that it held will support Clic Sergeant and the Solan Connor Fawcett Family Trust. These charities were selected by Emily's parents as they had provided the family with support during Emily's illness.

A spokesperson for the school said that she will be remembered for her winning smile and her love of life.

## Recognising Volunteers

Durham Community Action have organised a Volunteering Celebration Event which will involve an informal celebration of volunteering work, acknowledging individuals and groups.

The event will be held on Wednesday 14th June at Beamish Museum from 5.00pm (please note this has been changed from the original date of Thursday 8th June due to the general election).

It will provide the opportunity to showcase the achievements of volunteers from across County Durham. Throughout the

evening there will be a range of presentations to all nominated volunteers. If you require a paper copy of the nomination form please contact Julie Bailey on 01388 742 058 or email [julie.bailey@durhamcommunityaction.org.uk](mailto:julie.bailey@durhamcommunityaction.org.uk)

The closing date for nominations is 12.00noon Monday 22nd May.



## Local Election Thanks

Dear Editor,  
May I through the pages of your newspaper thank all those who voted for me in the recent local elections for the Byerley Park, Horndale and Cobblers Hall ward of Great Aycliffe Town Council.  
Can I assure all residents in the ward that I can be your advocate on all matters relating to the Town Council and should you need me for any problems please call me on my mobile number 07432070717 or by calling at my home address of 20 Lascelles Avenue, Byerley Park.  
Councillor Peter John Bergg.

## Railway Talk at Loco

Over the next few months, Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon will host a series of talks by Curators from the National Railway Museum. The first talk in the series will take place in the Hackworth Room, Collection Building, on Thursday May 18th, 2017, starting at 1.45pm. The title of the talk is "Snow White to Stephenson", and the speaker is Bob Gwynne, Associate Curator for the National Railway Museum. Bob will give an insight into the pre-history of railways, going back to Cumbria in the 1560s. Railways have been a major part of industry for longer than you think - more than 200 years before George

Stephenson! Before 1825, there had been more than two centuries of railway history - longer than the period of what we might term the modern railway. Far from being a bucolic byway, the railways were major arteries of industry. Bob explains all in his short talk - come along and find out more of this fascinating story! Tickets for the talk are £5 each - this includes tea/coffee and a scone. Tickets are available from the gift shop at Locomotion: The NRM at Shildon or from [www.locomotionmodels.com](http://www.locomotionmodels.com). For more information, please call the Locomotion team on 01904 685 780.

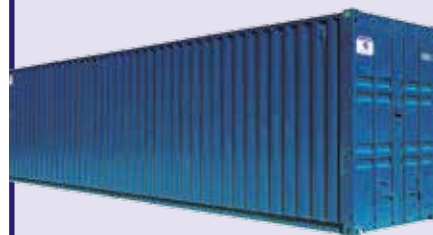
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## £1½m Funding for Woodham Academy



Woodham Academy has been awarded over half a million pounds in capital funding following a successful bid to the Education Funding Agency. The funding is available to help schools with refurbishment costs and will finance the final stage of roof replacement as well as necessary electrical improvements. Woodham has attracted significant backing in recent years and brings the total awarded to the school to almost £2M. The school has also invested money in 4 state of the art science laboratories and sports facilities to improve learning environments.

Further significant works are planned over the summer to improve changing rooms and toilet areas as the school prepares to welcome a new intake of students. The allocation is over and above the normal grants used to pay for the day to day running of the school. Headteacher Mrs Christine Forsyth commented, "This investment in infrastructure and teaching spaces will allow the school to provide the best possible environment for students to learn and enjoy extracurricular activities during their time at Woodham".

## £1000 Fine for Not Cleaning up a Messy Garden

A man has been ordered to pay almost a thousand pounds after failing to clear his garden of rubbish.

Joseph Cowie, of Rose Crescent in Sacriston, was asked by a Neighbourhood Warden to remove an accumulation of waste in his garden, which included a car, caravan, metal and other general household items following a complaint. In August 2016, the warden issued Cowie with a Community Protection Warning requiring the waste to be removed within seven days, but on returning to the property the rubbish was still present and so the 51-year-old was handed a Community Protection Notice – giving him another 14 days to clear the waste.

An extension was then agreed due to Cowie's ill health but when the warden went back to the house the waste was still there, although he said someone would be attending the property that day to discuss the price of clearing the garden.

Although the warden asked for Cowie to contact him once this had been arranged, no further correspondence was received and on returning to the property on in February 2017 the waste was still present.

At Newton Aycliffe Magistrates Court, Cowie was found to have failed to comply with the terms of a Community Protection Notice and was ordered to pay a fine of £440, costs of £419.50 and a victim surcharge of £44.00 within 21 days.

The court also made a remedial order, requiring him to clear the waste at the



property within 28 days. Should he fail to do so, the matter will be referred back to court requesting he will be ordered to pay £50 per day for every day he is in default or is committed to prison. Ian Hoult, Durham County Council's neighbourhood protection officer, said: "Mr Cowie was given several

warnings to get rid of the waste from his property but failed to do so.

"We will not tolerate this kind of behaviour and are pleased the court accepted our invitation to grant a remedial order. We hope this case and the fine Mr Cowie received serves as a warning to others to abide by the law."



Compiled by  
County Councillor John Clare

Still no Council meetings as the newly elected councillors sign the Declaration and undergo their induction/refresher training.

Links to the articles below are at: bit.ly/CNB105

### COUNCIL

- Full list of election results
- Fostering information event, Saturday 20 May, County Hall
- Council tips have now moved to summer opening hours

• Information about adaptations, equipment & personal care to help you stay in your own home

- Persimmon application for 69 houses on land to the north of Middridge Road
- Latest roadworks

### COMMUNITY

- Countryside Services e-newsletter

- Friends of the S&DR meeting, 4 May
- Eager Journeys dashes through Durham

- National Walking Month
- Lots to do at DCC's parks – have you visited all nine?
- Ancient Egyptian death masks (5-11s), Durham Oriental Museum, 1-3pm, Saturday 20 May

### ECONOMY

- Excelpoint office-warming

- Kaiaam acquires Compound Photonics

- Xcel Centre approaches 10th anniversary

- Hitachi starts work on the Virgin Azuma trains

## Newton News

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## Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 16th May features the 1997 drama "GOODWILL HUNTING" starring Robin Williams, Matt Damon, Ben Affleck and Minnie Driver. 20-year-old Will Hunting is just the cleaner at the university, despite the fact that he's also a maths genius.

When he ends up in court accused of assaulting a police officer and facing jail, his only chance is to agree to study maths and undergo treatment under therapist Robin Williams. Williams won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor. Ben Affleck and Matt Damon won an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay.

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.

## AYCLIFFE RUNNING CLUB

Presents

### The 3M 10K & Fun Run Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Sponsored by

3M UK PLC and  
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10k Run ..... 10.00 am  
3k Run ..... 9.15 am

From Greenfield Community College,  
Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7LF  
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Organised by  
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### 10k Race

- £100 to first male and female
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### Fun Run

- Technical Running Shirt

(accurately measured with kilometres marked)

Entry Fees: 10k Run £13.00 Club Runners/£15.00 Non England Athletics member  
£4.00 extra to enter on the day  
3k Run £4.00 All entries

Enter online at [www.entrycentral.com/Aycliffe10k](http://www.entrycentral.com/Aycliffe10k) or email: [Aycliffe10k@gmail.com](mailto:Aycliffe10k@gmail.com)  
Race details: <http://ayclifferunningclub.org.uk/about-aycliffe-10k-and-fun-run/>

Cheques to be made payable to 'Aycliffe Running Club' Entries to:

Michelle Scott, 4 Salisbury Terrace, Shildon, DL4 1JR

Closing Date for Entries midnight Friday 16<sup>th</sup>, June 2017

**NOTE! allow extra time to collect your race number and chip on the day.**

If for any reason the race is cancelled at short notice (which in the 18 year history has never occurred) Aycliffe Running Club cannot return your entry fee as the club is committed to the organisation cost of the event regardless.

Surname; ..... Forename(s); .....

Address first line; ..... Post Code; .....

e-mail address; ..... Phone No. ....

Date of Birth; ..... Age on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017; ..... Club/Team; .....  
(10K runners must be 16-years or over on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017)

England Athletics membership No. .... Select from the following; 10k ☐ or Fun Run ☐ Male ☐ or Female ☐

Emergency Contact - name; ..... Phone No. ....

**Declaration:** I wish to enter the 3M 10K or Fun Run and I declare that I am an amateur as defined by England Athletics Laws and certify that I am medically fit to run. Furthermore, I agree that the organisers will not be held responsible for any injury or illness as a result of my participation in the events. I understand that my details will be stored on the entry computer, but will not be distributed to any other organisation or running club.

Signature; ..... Date; .....



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## Sabre Rail Announce Senior Organisational Changes

Sabre Rail, the UK's leading independent rolling stock systems and component specialist, have today appointed Brian Capeling as UK Managing Director, replacing Stephen Thompson who has become Group Chairman with immediate effect.

Sabre Rail is celebrating its 30th Anniversary in 2017 and are now planning for the next 30 years.

Brian Capeling has been employed at Sabre Rail for over 14 years, previously holding the position of Operations Manager.

Brian said, "I am thrilled to be given this opportunity and look forward to the exciting challenges ahead. I look forward to working with Stephen and the Management Team and the continued success of Sabre Rail."

Stephen Thompson said, "Following the growth of our operations in the UK and the new facilities in both Sydney and Melbourne, Australia, it

is now time for me to focus on Group strategy. I am delighted Brian is taking on this new role and I am extremely confident in his abilities as I know many of our clients know and trust him. I feel sure this restructuring will help Sabre Rail to continue to provide the best possible service to all of our customers, both now and in the future."

Founded by Stephen's father David Thompson, Sabre Rail is still a family owned business, operating from their factory in Newton Aycliffe, employing over 100 staff and have two locations in Australia employing 20 staff.

Sabre Rail provides maintenance services to existing safety critical systems, such as braking, suspension, doors, couplers and supplies new systems in partnership with Leading Global manufacturers such as Atlas Copco for on-board compressed air requirements.



Brian Capeling



Stephen Thompson

## Your First Tory M.P. Since 1935?

I am delighted to have been selected as the Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Sedgefield. Whilst there is currently a Labour majority of 6,843, given the recent encouraging results in the County Council Elections and the Mayoral Election, it really is all to play for. I do hope local residents in this beautiful constituency will elect me as the first Conservative MP since 1935. People on the doorsteps are telling me that, for them, Brexit is the dominant theme for this election. Our area voted around 58% in favour of leaving the EU, as indeed did I, and since the result many who voted Remain are saying we need to come together to get on with the task at hand. Your vote on the 8th June can now give Theresa May the strong mandate to negotiate the best possible deal for the United Kingdom.

Jeremy Corbyn, meanwhile, has said he would consider a coalition of chaos with the SNP and the Lib Dems to try and prevent the Conservatives from getting a majority in Parliament – the latter two Parties being vehemently opposed to leaving the EU. It is also worth considering that "Open Britain", an organisation which is currently aiming to unseat pro-Brexit MPs, is openly backing the incumbent Labour MP for Sedgefield and encouraging teams of pro-European activists to campaign for him here in the constituency. My campaign team and I, meanwhile, have been busy in Newton Aycliffe delivering thousands of leaflets and speaking to hundreds of residents so far. Already I've been thrilled with the excellent response



we've received. With four weeks to go, I'm looking forward to having more discussions about the things that matter most to you.

Employed by a North East company in the technology retail sector

Previously worked in Parliament and is Standing for election with a focus on education, Brexit, local economy, and digital infrastructure within the wider context of seeking to represent the interests and concerns of the residents of Sedgefield constituency.

I was the first in my family to go to University. I enjoy watching the football, video gaming, and cooking. I also like to run, and really want to do the Great North Run one day, and hopefully tie it into fundraising for a cancer charity that's close to my heart.

My partner grew up in a new town so my impressions of Newton Aycliffe are that I was predisposed to like it. It has a charm of its own that really speaks to me and we are looking to rent a property here. It represents the best of the new town ideal - aspirational, good housing, with people working hard and wanting to get on

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## Local Election Thanks

May I express my thanks to the voters of Woodham Ward who re-elected me to Great Aycliffe Town Council on 4th May. I will be pleased to continue to represent you at the Town Council, and can be contacted on 01325 318333 should you have any issues you wish me to raise.  
Barbara A Clare

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## Nominate Volunteers for Celebration Event

Durham Community Action have organised a Volunteering Celebration Event. The event will involve an informal celebration of volunteering work, acknowledging individuals and groups. The event will be held on Wednesday 14th June at Beamish Museum from 5.00pm and will provide the opportunity to showcase the achievements of volunteers

from across County Durham. Throughout the evening there will be a range of presentations to all nominated volunteers. For further details and to nominate an individual or group please contact Julie Bailey on 01388 742058 or email julie.bailey@durhamcommunityaction.org.uk The closing date for nominations is 12noon Monday 22nd May.

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## Local Live Band Gig



Local band 'Ocean' is live at the Phoenix Club on Friday 19th May from 8.30pm – 11pm with sounds from the 60's through to the 80's. Tickets are only £2.00 each and are available from the Club, on the door or ring Paul on 07801 395 492.

### Are you a parent/carer supporting a child or young person with emotional or mental health problems?

#### You are Not Alone

Supporting a child with emotional or mental health problems can be difficult and challenging for any parent or carer. Information, advice and support can make the tough times a little easier.

#### Training and Information Sessions for Parents/Carers

These training and information sessions have been designed and developed by a parent with experience of supporting a child with emotional and mental health difficulties. Each session will be delivered by a parent and CAMHS Nurse, you will meet other parents who may be going through similar experiences, receive information, advice and practical tips around what might help you and your child. We have also teamed up with the Feel Good Factory so every session will include tips & strategies to help you personally.

All sessions are free and open to any parent, carer or family member who is supporting a child with emotional or mental health difficulties.

Time: 9.30am-1.30pm

Venue: DURHAM COUNTY CRICKET CLUB,  
EMIRATES RIVERSIDE CHESTER-LE-STREET, COUNTY DURHAM DH3 3QR

#### Self-Harm: Friday 9th June

This session will look at:

What is Self-Harm, why children and young people self-harm, practical things you can do and tips to help you cope

#### Overwhelming Emotions: Tuesday 20th June

This session will look at:

What is going on when children and young people are overwhelmed with emotions, the signs and symptoms parents can look for, when to worry, practical things you can do and tips to help you cope

#### Coping in a Crisis: Tuesday 4th July

This session will look at:

Different crisis situations, risky behaviour, when to worry, what you can do to help at home, when you need to get extra support and tips to help you cope

Each session will include useful resources, websites and provide parents with the opportunity to develop a personal plan of what to do. For more information or to book a place please contact:

Wendy : Tel: 07415380040 or email: [wendy@success.coop](mailto:wendy@success.coop)



Training is funded & supported by The Charlie Waller Memorial Trust

"I'm so thank full for these sessions without them I would be fearful for my son but now I feel I have the equivalent of a fire blanket" Parent

## Rotary Club Sponsored Jaunt Presentation to NSPCC



Left to right: Emma Wood (Hewitts), Jackie Dawson (NSPCC), Trish Pemberton, Olga Bainbridge (NSPCC), Nora Scott (Rotary), John Turner (Hewitts)

Former Shildon Town Mayor, Trish Pemberton, is celebrating raising, together with her colleagues at the Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club, the record amount of £6,100. Trish Pemberton and Rotary President, Nora Scott, will be presenting cheques for £4,500 and £1,600 respectively to the local branch of the NSPCC. Highlights of the former Town Mayor's fundraising efforts for her chosen Charity of the Year include a Valentine's themed ball, which was match-funded for £500 by Lloyds Bank, Bishop Auckland. Another was a 'Tea in the Park' event, complete with brass band, to celebrate the visit of the Flying Scotsman to Locomotion, NRM Shildon. A Tesco's bag pack and a number of tombolas and raffles also took place, with the support of young people from community group, Shildon Alive. One of the most enjoyable events was the sponsored "Jaunt" organised jointly

with the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe to link Aycliffe with Shildon along a new railway track installed by the County Council. This tied in with celebration of the 191st birthday of the Stockton and Darlington Railway at Locomotion. This wonderful birthday event attracted over 3,000 people to celebrate the area's local history. Commenting Trish Pemberton said: "I have now joined the local fundraising branch of the NSPCC to say 'thank you' for all the help and support the members gave me during my mayoral year. I want to continue to raise funds for a charity and the NSPCC sadly, seems to need it more than ever. As a former teacher and residential social worker, it seems the right thing to do". Jackie Dawson, NSPCC fundraising manager, said: "We are extremely grateful to Trish Pemberton, the Rotary Club members and locals who raised such an amazing sum of money,

helping us to provide therapeutic services for children who have suffered from sexual abuse, domestic violence or are at risk of neglect. "The money raised will go towards vital services - £4 could pay for one of trained volunteer counsellors to answer a call made to Childline. 90% of NSPCC funding comes from donations, without which we would no longer be able to continue our fight for every childhood." To find out more about fundraising for the NSPCC, visit [www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/do-your-own-fundraising](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/do-your-own-fundraising)

## Friendship Force Mark St George's Day



Woodham Golf Course was the venue for over 40 members of Friendship Force International, co Durham branch who enjoyed their annual St Georges Day lunch. This year they linked their lunch with the 40th anniversary of the Founding of Friendship Force International. Traditionally on the 23rd April members celebrate the day with Lunch, albeit that this year a day late. The lunch also reminded everyone of the birthday of the Bard William Shakespeare. It further reminded everyone that almost 40 years ago in 1977 president Carter after return home following an unscheduled visit to Newcastle suggested to Neighbours and family who were members of Friendship Force in America that

they should arrange an exchange visit with people in Newcastle. President Carter's wife and son and daughter have so nice that time visited Newcastle. Exchanges now take place in 56 countries around the world. Each visit allowing hosts to share with delegates their day to day living and favourite local landmarks often not seen by tourists. A cake was baked and decorated in traditional friendship force colours by a member of the branch. The cake was cut by Cynthia Scott President of County Durham branch and Newcastle City Councillor David Faulkner. Anyone wanting more information on Co Durham Friendship Force please contact Cynthia on [cynthiascott12@googlemail.com](mailto:cynthiascott12@googlemail.com)

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## PROMOTING POSITIVE MENTAL WELLBEING

See standard information about our group below. Phil Wilson (MP currently up for re-election) has booked a table for two so we are pleased about that. For further enquiries please ring Stephanie Heselton on 07872 959896 or Tom Raine.

The meal is on the 25th May at Dean Bank Institute in Ferryhill starting at 11am. We have a gentle exercise class before the meal being served at 12 noon. If anyone would like to participate in a visual quiz it will be available.



#### 'Positive Horizons Group'

A group of people helping each other to get the most out of life. Supported by **Stonham** for the group to be run by its Members for its Members. Promoting Mental Wellbeing through a socially inclusive environment. Every Saturday, Dean Bank Community Centre, Ferryhill DL17 8PP 11 – 2pm

Come along and join us for a cuppa and chat, maybe join in with some of our activities. We play as we go with dominoes, cards or a game of bingo.

We are currently holding courses on food hygiene, first aid, healthy eating and pottery (usually free to those on benefit.)

Why not call in and see us?

For more details call Tom Raine 07851186247

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# HITACHI BEGIN WORK ON VIRGIN TRAINS' AZUMA FLEET

Virgin Trains' customers are a step closer to new trains as work begins on the Azuma (Class 800) fleet, due to enter service on the east coast in 2018. Work on the bodysells is taking place in Kasado, Japan, before the trains arrive in the UK to be built by Hitachi's manufacturing team in the North East. Hitachi's UK train manufacturing team at Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, is home to over 900 employees including over 50 apprentices. UK build work on the Virgin Azuma will begin this summer. The Virgin Azuma will transform travel and customer experiences



when it arrives on the east coast main line next year. The fleet of 65 trains will provide an extra 12,200 seats, and faster journeys will make direct routes to new destinations such as London - Middlesbrough possible, as well as a big increase in through services from London to places such as Bradford, Harrogate and Lincoln. David Horne, Managing Director of Virgin Trains on the east coast, said: "We are very excited to be moving closer to the day when our fantastic new train comes into service. The arrival of Azuma in 2018 will mark another milestone on our journey towards totally transforming travel for our

customers, and the work happening now in Kasado and beginning in the summer at Newton Aycliffe are important steps on that journey." Karen Boswell, Managing Director at Hitachi Rail Europe, said: "The new Azuma fleet will be a combination of Japanese design and British manufacturing. The trains are built using Japanese bullet train technology, world famous for its quality and reliability. We are proud that our Newton Aycliffe team, based a short distance from the East Coast main line, will work on pioneering trains used by millions of passengers"

## Friendship Force 40th



Saturday 6th May 2017 saw the celebration of 40th Anniversary of the visit of President Jimmy Carter to Newcastle. This was the birth of the Friendship Force in the North East of England. Upon his return to America he encouraged his neighbours and family, who were active in Friendship Force in America to arrange exchange visits with Newcastle. Many people did this with 120 people making the first exchange. President Carter's wife, daughter and son have all visited Newcastle on exchange trips. About 100 people filled the Pandon Room at Newcastle Civic Centre where Ambassadors past and present from Friendship Forces across Durham, Cleveland and Northumberland shared

memories of visits to some of the 56 countries that now make up Friendship Force international. Cynthia Scott, from School Aycliffe who is President of Co Durham Friendship Force (left) was one of the members who spoke to those present sharing her personal experiences having travelled to many countries and also hosted ambassadors from places as far apart as Australia, Japan, United States and Russia. Ron and Joan Mitchie (back right) members recognised ex President Carter's work in the Carter Centre. The centre, in a much larger way reflected the aims of Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership of whom Joan and Ron are Chairman and Secretary in caring for the needs of people who find themselves in crisis.

# Greenfield Rocked You!



Students at Greenfield Community College put on their biggest show to date, wowing audiences of over 800 people. 'We Will Rock You', a musical by Queen and Ben Elton, tells the story of a time in the future; on a place that was once called 'Earth'-globalisation is complete. Musical instruments and live music are banned, and it is up to 'Galileo and Scaramouche' to fight back against 'Killer Queen' to find what has been lost. Hit songs such as 'Radio Gaga', 'Don't stop me now', 'Bohemian Rhapsody' and of course 'We Will Rock You' were performed in front of sell out audiences.

Friends and families of the school as well as the public were captivated by high tech sets, lighting and sound. One audience member commented 'It was amazing, I can't believe it was a school production!'

Ali Dixon, subject leader for Performing Arts, said 'It was a huge challenge, it's always tricky putting on a production which has such a reputation- We Will Rock You ran for 12 years in the West End and has toured around the world! Queen's music is notoriously difficult to sing and play but the cast and crew pulled it off superbly. Everyone worked tremendously hard, I am so proud of all involved. It really was a whole school, team effort.'



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## 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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## CONSERVATIVE ROBUST CHALLENGE

Dear Sir,  
As your newly elected Conservative Councillors we would like to thank the people of Aycliffe North and Middridge for placing their trust in us. As new councillors we have to go through an induction process at County Hall over the next few weeks but as soon as we are through this we will be working on your behalf.

Our new official Councillor contact details are below and should be used instead of the email and phone numbers on campaign literature you may have. The Facebook page will continue though being Paul and Scott, Conservatives for Aycliffe and Middridge. Our intention is to work with other Councillors where we agree with them, but also to provide robust challenge

where we (or you) don't. Once we have completed our induction we will arrange opportunities for hearing your issues but if you need us before then please call, email or Facebook message us. Paul Howell - paul.howell@durham.gov.uk (07827 307 833) Scott Durham - scott.durham@durham.gov.uk (07827 307 571)

## Aycliffe Running Club Launch Junior Section



Our town Running Club are calling all budding junior Mo Farahs to join them. Whether you are just wanting to improve your general fitness, are an aspiring Olympic athlete, or fit somewhere between the two, why not come along and join us. All sessions are supervised by England Athletics qualified coaches and coaching assistants who are fully DBS checked. Training is on Tuesday evening 6:00pm –

7:00pm at the Oakleaf Sports Complex. All welcome, come along, and give it a try! Juniors up to the age of 8 require an adult to be present. Aycliffe Running Club would also like to say a special thank you to Great Aycliffe Town Council and Honest John for their very kind donations that have supported the development of the junior section of the club.

## TRI CLUB START NEW SEASON

On a very cold (-1) but clear March morning of the 26th, in his first event in ATC colours, Ian Readman, the only entrant, finished the Durham Duathlon (run/cyle/run) in a time of 1:35:59, 8th in his age category, 25th male and a very credible 26th overall.

The next event, the Stockton Duathlon, held on the 23rd April, Ian Readman never to let his training shoes time to relax, entered the sprint event, finishing in blistering time of 1:04:36, 7th in his age category and 68th overall. Also that day, Andy Sedgwick competed in the standard distance duathlon, crossing the finish line in 2:04:55, a brilliant 11th in his age category and 44th overall. A week later, representing his country in the ETU European Duathlon Championships held over the weekend of 29th/30th of April in Soria, north central Spain, Graham Atkins finished in a terrific time of 2:46:21, 19th in his age category and 206th overall. A solid performance considering the strong winds and driving rain.

And to bring this report up to date, we had five entrants in the first triathlon of the season, the

Ashington Sprint Triathlon (swim/cycle/run), held on May 1th. It was a windy bank holiday Monday but it didn't put our quintet of triathletes off in the least. Stuart Rimmer was a first member to finish, in a time of 1:14:56, 55th male and 61st overall. Alan Kellet was next to finish, crossing the line in a time of 1:25:16, 102nd male and 124th overall. Following Alan was our first female of the day Melanie Rowland in a time of 1:25:41, an excellent 3rd in her age category, 29th female and 137th overall. Hot on her pedals, the 'improving all time' Tracey Warrior finished in 1:26:15, 10th in her age category, 137th overall. Anne Kellet was the fifth team member to complete the race, gaining confidence every time she 'suits up', in a time of 1:49:57, 77th female and 224th overall.

If you would like to know more about the sport of triathlon/duathlon/aquathlon (swim/run), feel free to view our website <http://aycliffetriclub.wix.com/aycliffe-tri>, or pop along to one of our training sessions and ask any of our friendly coaches. We swim every Wednesday evening from 7-8pm at the Woodham Academy Swimming Pool.

## EBAC Boss Backs Tory Candidates



The chairman of North East manufacturing firm Ebac, John Elliott MBE, has given his public backing to Conservative candidates in the coming election.

Mr. Elliott has shown Dehenna Davison and Chris Adams, Conservative candidates for Sedgfield & Bishop Auckland around the new Ebac factory in Newton Aycliffe and explained that his firm's investment in a new production line for washing machines is part of the best response business can give to Brexit.

Mr Elliott said: "I have only supported the Conservatives openly at two elections, in 2015 so that we could achieve an EU referendum and now so that we can see Brexit delivered by a Prime Minister who

has the backbone to do it. "Brexit is a turning point in British history and we need great leadership to get the best out of it. It provides the UK with real opportunity. Businesses that make things and export them are part of the solution, we do that.

But businesses that make things that prevent exports are just as important. Until we starting making Ebac washing machines last year, all washing machines were imported. Every machine we make and sell helps our balance of payments.

"The candidates I am endorsing for Sedgfield and Bishop Auckland understand this and they will be good for jobs in the North East by backing Brexit and offering Mrs May strong support."

## Creative Wax Batik Workshop at Greenfield

Greenfield Arts are excited to offer a brand new workshop in Wax Batik led by talented textile artist Rosi Thornton. Batik is an artistic craft which is a wonderfully creative medium using wax and dye on cloth and is part of an ancient tradition which originates from Java.

The techniques are very expressive and the results can be amazing. Participants will have the opportunity to experiment and design their very own piece of work with the benefit of expert guidance and tuition from Rosi.

The Wax Batik session will be held on Thursday 25th May 2017 from 2 pm – 4 pm at a cost of only £10 for the session. All materials are provided and you will be able to take your own artwork home on the day. The workshop is just one of the new exciting creative

opportunities that are being offered this term. There is also a new creative forum which is held every Friday morning from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm and offers the opportunity for creatives of all ages and abilities to come together to develop your artistic skills with the guidance of mixed media artist Sharron Bates. Sharron is also leading a 5 week course in exploring collage which will commence on 6th June 2017 and will run from 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm. Participants will have the chance to learn to blend materials to create truly exciting original images for themselves. You can now book online for our courses and activities at [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) or if you would like more information give our friendly team a call on 01325 379048.

31<sup>st</sup> May 2017 - 7.00pm  
Woodham Golf and Country Club  
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# Help Daniel go to Hollywood

Daniel Wilkinson from Newton Aycliffe is a talented dancer and every week trains at Dance City in Newcastle on the CAT Programme in Ballet and Contemporary.

Last year he went to meet Abby Lee Miller the 'DanceMoms' Star of Lifetime TV to do a dance class and was awarded a free Scholarship to go over to Los Angeles this year and train with the girls from the show and Abby herself. He was also asked to assist Kalani Hilliker off 'DanceMoms' on her UK Tour.

Daniel was a Finalist at the UK Dance Elite Championships in London, and a dancer in 'Aladdin' at the Pantomime in December. He attended MOVE IT 2017 March 10th - 12th in London along with numerous Master Classes with Top Choreographers from the UK and USA!

Menina Fortunato is the founder of 'The Hollywood Summer Tour', which is by INVITATION ONLY. It is dance career intensive, intended for advanced dancers who are serious about learning about the commercial dance industry in Hollywood.

It is a programme that provides each dancer with all the tools needed to get started and be successful in this cut-throat dance industry. Daniel has been scouted and offered a Scholarship by Menina herself to go and train in Hollywood for 12 days. He would feature in a



Music Video; Take part in a Professional Photoshoot; Train with Professional Dancers; See sights in Hollywood; Meet celebrities; have Mock auditions; Create his own Reel Video Shoot and receive many more amazing opportunities.

He needs help to raise the substantial amount of funds required to go. Daniel is holding a Dance Workshop to help raise funds for the trip to Hollywood for the 'Hollywood Summer Tour'. There will be 2 workshops: Contemporary/Lyrical and Commercial. For one Workshop it will be £6 but if you would like to do both, the charge is £10. (Parents are allowed in for free to spectate). If you would like watch the workshop it will be £2.

It will be held at: Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre, on Saturday 13th May. The workshops are for ages 6+, and choreographed to everyone's ability. Contemporary - 11:00am-12:00pm  
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There will be refreshments available to buy at the event. If you have any questions feel free to contact Daniel on any of his social media platforms: Instagram: official danielwilkinson  
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Facebook: Daniel Wilkinson

## Local Election Thank You

First, may I thank all those residents who voted to retain me as their Aycliffe North & Middlesborough councillor. It is a great honour, and I shall continue to do the job to the best of my ability.

Second, I must congratulate the two Conservative candidates who were also elected. I have written to both of them seeking to work collegially for the benefit of the ward.

Third, however, please forgive me for regretting the loss of my two former councillor colleagues. Joan Gray was a hard-working councillor of great wisdom and experience.

Mike Dixon was an influential and plain-speaking councillor who would have been Chair of Durham County Council had he been elected. We worked perfectly as a team, and their departure is not just a huge loss to the ward and the town, but a great personal sadness. John D Clare

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# Squash Champions



Left to right: Nick Hill, Neil Ross, Karina Dixon and Lucy Aisbitt.

Aycliffe Squash Club's finals evening took place at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex on Sunday 7 May.

First up was the ladies' final between last year's champion Karina Dixon and first time finalist Lucy Aisbitt, who had done well to get to the final. Although Lucy tried gamely, Karina's class and experience prevailed and she won comfortably 9-2, 9-1, 9-3. Congratulations to Karina on back to back club championship wins and to Lucy on reaching the final. The men's final was a repeat of last year's between six time championship winner and club legend Neil Ross and men's team first string Nick Hill, who had a very good season in the Durham and Cleveland League and was looking for his first championship win after finishing runner up three times.

After last year's epic final, another great duel was anticipated, and the spectators were not

disappointed.

After Nick took an early lead, the momentum shifted to Neil, who took a hard fought first game 13-10 (using the American scoring system). Neil's ascendancy continued into the second game, which he won 13-8. However, Nick fought back hard and regained the momentum, taking the 3rd game 13-8 and then the 4th 13-11. Unfortunately for Nick, the massive effort it had taken to get him to this point had taken its toll, and he left the court after the 4th game clutching his back and looking very tired.

Neil's legendary fitness looked like it would pay off, as he took control of the 5th game and reached a 9-1 lead before Nick incredibly managed to mount a spirited fight-back, regaining the momentum. However, it was too little too late and Neil took the game 13-9 to win the championship for a record 7th time.

Huge credit goes to both players on another fantastic final.

The Club thanks its sponsors, car dealers Pulmans, for supporting the event. If you are interested in playing competitively and/or socially, learning to play or watching squash, contact the Oak Leaf on 01325 300 600 and ask about the opportunities

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# USA COMPANY TAKES OVER COMPOUND PHOTONICS



Kaiaam Corporation, a leader in advanced data center transceivers, today announced the completion of the acquisition of the manufacturing facilities of Compound Photonics (CP) in

Newton Aycliffe in the UK. The acquisition includes investment by CP into Kaiaam to further develop the facility.

"We welcome Kaiaam, an international corp-

oration that has already found success in the UK. I am pleased that this semiconductor manufacturing capability is to be retained in County Durham, and that it will continue to

grow the Photonics industry in the UK."

The Newton Aycliffe facility will enable Kaiaam to significantly increase its manufacturing capacity for silica-on-silicon planar lightwave circuits (PLCs) and 40Gb/s and 100Gb/s transceivers, and adds both electronic and optoelectronic compound semiconductor devices to the product line. The acquisition brings new space, tooling, and an experienced team to complement and expand upon Kaiaam's existing Livingston, Scotland factory. The new facility also allows Kaiaam to produce InP Photonic Integrated Circuits (PICs) that will be needed for advanced transceivers in the future. This continues Kaiaam's strategy of vertical integration that began with its acquisition of Gemfire's PLC fab in 2013.

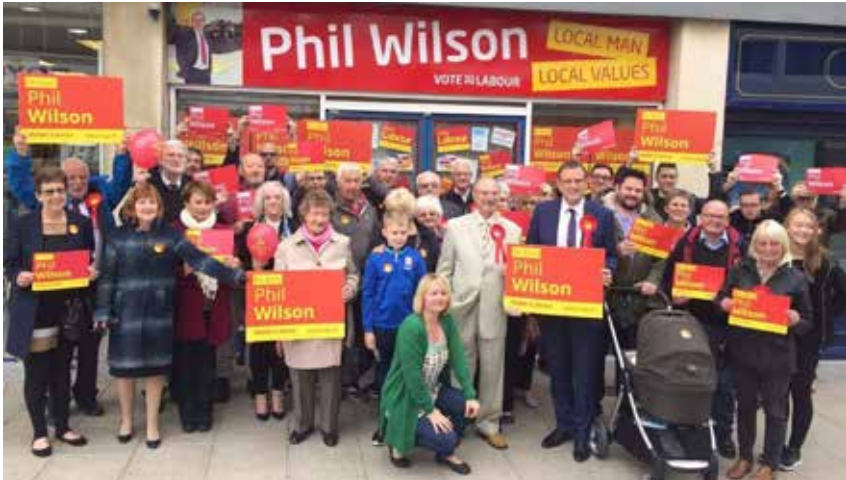
The Newton Aycliffe facility is 300,000 sq. ft. and includes a fully operational wafer fab with 100,000 sq. ft. of cleanroom space for processing, packaging, and testing of III-V devices. The factory currently ships GaAs devices and circuits, and has the capability for InP optoelectronics. Originally built as silicon fab for DRAMs, the plant was converted to III-V materials by subsequent acquirers and now has both 3" and 6" lines for III-V devices.

This new facility will give Kaiaam essential PIC capability, positioning well to meet customers' needs for continuously improving speed, cost, power, density, and manufacturing scale. Dr. Simon Goon, Managing Director of Business Durham, said "We welcome Kaiaam, an international corporation that has already found success in the UK. I am pleased that this semiconductor manufacturing capability is to be retained in County Durham, and that it will continue to grow the Photonics industry in the UK."

Kaiaam Headquartered in California, with large-scale manufacturing in Livingston, Scotland, Kaiaam is a private company commercializing photonic integrated circuits. Founded in 2009 by leading technologists from the optical networking industry, the team has a record of delivering breakthrough products that change the rules of the marketplace. Current products include 40Gb/s and 100Gb/s LightScale™ optical transceivers optimized for data centers and a range of planar lightwave circuits (PLCs).

Compound Photonics Group Limited is a privately held photonics company, working on Liquid Crystal on Silicon display devices and laser technologies for a range of end uses in the projection and near to eye display markets. It has offices in Vancouver WA, and fabs in Phoenix AZ and Madison, WI.

## Labour Party Launch Election Campaign in Aycliffe



Labour supporters with Phil Wilson launching the Election campaign

Phil Wilson, the local Parliamentary candidate, was joined by Jonathan Ashworth, the Shadow Health Secretary during a visit to the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe. Mr Wilson, a champion of the PCP's fantastic work, was keen to show off the centre during Mr Ashworth's visit to the region.

Having spent time at the Community Garden, with the Options Social Club and with the Health Outreach group, Phil has seen first-hand the amazing work the Pioneering Care Partnership do in the local community and their support of health and wellbeing. Their success at tackling the health inequalities which are made worse by the Government's failure to invest in the NHS. Before the visit Mr Wilson said 'I wanted to show Jonathon the fantastic services provided by the PCP. I have witnessed first-hand the important impact this work has on the local community, and I wanted Labour's Health spokesperson to see the vital role such partnerships can play in the local community.'

In the last 10 years the PCP has expanded from 9 employees to 80, and currently has 30 projects under their umbrella. This growth, a result of the



Labour's Shadow Health Secretary Jonathan Ashworth with Phil Wilson (centre) and PCP staff.

hard work of the staff and community, has massively extended the PCP's ability to provide services which build capacity with the individual ad communities to improve their own health and wellbeing and have greater choice. From going into work places to discuss mental health to providing services for people in their communities, the PCP aims to provide a preventative service for local people. Labour Health spokesperson Jonathan Ashworth commented 'It was a pleasure to visit the PCP with Phil Wilson today, a champion and advocate for the Centre and the area. The staff at the PCP do a fantastic job in delivering much needed health services to the local area. The success of the centre is testament to their ethos and brilliant work. Their focus on prevention, which eases pressure on GP surgeries and A&E, is a vital part of

the wider NHS services.' Following the visit Mr Wilson said 'I would first like to say a big thank you to all of the staff and people at the PCP who took the time out of their day to speak to Jonathan and myself. The PCP does fantastic work, and I know Jonathan was impressed. Every time I visit the PCP, I am blown away by the amazing work they do, and today was no different. Mr Wilson added 'I am worried that the relentless Conservative cuts threaten services such as these. It is Conservative cuts which threaten Darlington A&E, which is why a Tory cannot be trusted to support the NHS services local people need. Myself, Jonathan, and the Labour Party understand that these services are vital to our community and that is why I will always support them and fight for them.'

### Obituary

#### Freda Poulter



On May 8th, Freda (nee Robinson), aged 76 years, surrounded by the love of her family. Loving Wife of Fred, much loved Mam of Karen, Jonathan and Leanne, a Special Mother-in-law, Gran, Great Gran and Aunt. Will family and friends please meet for Service at St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe on May 22nd at 10.45am to be followed by interment at West Cemetery, School Aycliffe.

**NORTH** May 1st peacefully at home. Jason Whitfield aged 45 years of Newton Aycliffe. Much loved Husband of Rachel, loving Dad of Andrew, Samantha, Daniel and Callum also a dearly loved Son, Brother and Uncle. Funeral Tuesday May 16th. Would family and friends please meet 10.45am for a Service at Darlington Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations in lieu if desired may be made after the Service for The Mara Unit at Bishop Auckland General. **WADE** Peacefully at home on April 28th. Jean, aged 84 years. Loving Wife of the late Stanley, much loved Mam of the late Karen Freer, loving Grandma of Kelly and Richard and the late Wayne Freer also Great Grandma of Kian Purdie. Will family and friends please meet for a Service and Cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Monday May 15th at 3.00pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, may be made to Leukaemia Research UK, plate provided at the crematorium. Everyone is welcome to return to The Bay Horse, Heighington following the Service.

### 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.

**SHOPPING** trolley x 2 wheels; Shopping trolley x 3 wheels, to help your steps. £10 each. Tel 07816 021265

**GREY SWING** round chair. 18 months old, immaculate condition. £250. Tel. 314 830

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**SHERBOURNE** 2 seater sofa with matching rise and recline chair, will separate. £250 each. 01325 300 322

**AS NEW** folding mobility scooter for sale. Please ring for details. 07967 310 690

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

### Thank You

#### Margaret Taylor



**The family of the late Margaret Taylor** would like to thank all relatives and friends who attended her funeral on 5/5/2017. Thank you also for cards of condolence and floral tributes. A special thanks goes to the Co-op Funeralcare, St. Clare's Court, Peaseway Medical Centre, District Nurses, Marie Curie Rapid Response Team and the Parish Priest and Parishioners at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Mrs Sandra Garnham and family

**MADISON** would like to thank everyone who made the effort to celebrate her 21st birthday in Durham and her surprise birthday party at Namaste. Also for all the messages, cards and gifts. Hope you all had as good a time as I did! Thank you all xx

### In Memoriam

#### Evelyn Richardson

You are always in our thoughts and is sadly missed by her son Keith and Daughter-in-Law Olivia. Ar dheis De go raibh a hanam.

#### Theresa Ellen Brett

2nd September 1942 - 9th May 2013

Those special memories of you will always bring a smile, if only I could have you back for just a little while. Then we could sit and talk again just like we used to do, you always meant so very much and always will do too. The fact that you're no longer here will always cause me pain, but you're forever in my heart until we meet again. Love, Husband Peter and family xxx

### Birthday Remembrance

**BARBRA SUTTON** 14.5.32 No birthday cards to give you, so may the winds of Heaven blow softly, and whisper in your ear, "Happy Birthday, forever in our hearts". All the family

### Sits Vacant

**ELIZABETH'S ELITE** Cleaning are always looking for reliable, self employed ladies to take on work for our rapidly expanding business. If you are an experienced cleaner, have your own car and a recent DBH check, you are honest, trustworthy, can work flexible hours and at short notice, then we want you. Call or text 07535 383 994.

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### Congratulations

#### Charlotte Allen 18.05.17



**Congratulations on your 21st Birthday Charlotte** So proud of the beautiful young woman you have become. Love always, Grandma and Grandad x

**CHARLOTTE ALLEN** Love and congratulations on your 21st. Uncle Craig, Auntie Annabel, Vinnie, Oscar and Daisy xx

**BRADLEY CLAUGHTON** 15.05.17 Congratulations on your 18th Birthday Bradley. Love and best wishes, Kath, Mark, Craig, Annabel, Vinnie, Oscar and Daisy x

#### George Cooper



May 12th **Happy 80th Birthday Dad** and to many more birthdays Lots of love, Clive and Grace xxx

**GEORGE COOPER** May 12th. Happy Birthday George. Lots of love, Gill xxx **CONGRATULATIONS** Lauren Gash on your 18th Birthday, Tuesday 16th May. Lots of love and wishes from Grandma and Granda. Enjoy your day.

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## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT WHEN VOTING

Dear Sir,  
Following the attack in last week's paper on the Conservative candidate for Sedgefield I would like to point out the views of Labour's top team:

Jeremy Corbyn said "We celebrate the achievements of Venezuela". Would you like our country to be in the same mess as Venezuela? John McDonnell Shadow Chancellor on the financial crash said "I've been waiting for this for a generation. I am a Marxist". Would you want a self declared Marxist to be in charge of the finance in

our nation?

Emily Thornberry Shadow Foreign Secretary would not ban people returning from the Islamic State as it would make them stateless. Does this make you feel safer?

Diane Abbot Shadow Home Secretary said "Some people would say Mao did more good than harm". This is a man that killed up to 60 million people!

It really is worth thinking about your vote rather than voting for a Party led by these people.

James Laverick  
Newton Aycliffe

## Local Racing Driver 5th

Local Racing Driver Max Coates endured a difficult weekend in the Renault UK Clio Cup at Thruxton, the fastest track in the country. The Harron Homes sponsored driver arrived 2nd in the championship following a pair of fantastic results at Donington Park three weeks earlier.

With pre-event testing two and half weeks before the Thruxton race meeting the Primex Plastics and PLASgran recycling backed car took to the track on Saturday for qualifying. Partnering with another driver to get an all-important slipstream worked initially with Coates in provisional pole at the mid-session pit stop point. Unfortunately his best lap was disallowed due to a track limits infringement and he was then blocked on another fast lap. The BRDC Rising Star ended the session with 10th and 12th grid positions for Sunday's two races.

As the lights went out for race one many of the drivers



were caught out, including Coates, with a very short start light time. He made a good launch, albeit delayed and selected an inside line into the first braking zone. Coates got boxed in and fell back to 13th place before he began a drive back through the field eventually finishing 8th.

In the second race, broadcast live on ITV4, the Clements Ltd partnered driver made a great start and had moved up 2 places by turn one, contact was then made with another car on his right rear which pitched Coates into a spin into the Armco barrier on the inside of the track, badly damaging the car. Max drove the car back to the grid but was ordered to the pit lane for repairs where the car was deemed unsafe to continue.

The results mean that Coates has dropped to 5th in the championship standings, after he said, "Race one was a lot of fun even if the result wasn't what I wanted but starting from 10th was always going to be difficult. I overtook lots of cars and that kind of racing is what I really enjoy.

Race two was just frustrating, making probably the best start I have done in the Clio Cup, unfortunately the contact at turn one ended my race. We're down in the championship but we have the chance to make it up, I had my first podium at

Oulton Park last year which is next so I'm hoping we can start to make up lost ground."

The next round of the championship will be held at Oulton Park in Cheshire on the 20th and 21st May, a track that many drivers enjoy and one that always attracts a huge crowd. Max's UK Clio Cup race will be live on ITV4 at 13:25 on Sunday 21st May.

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## ART SHOW

Heighington Art Show is on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th May. 10am-4pm in the Village Hall. An opportunity to view and purchase some of the art work of the county's new and established artists. £2.50 entry includes light refreshments. All welcome. contact 07772 220 073.

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