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SWDT Apprentice Package Produces the Right Skills

Aycliffe-based South West Durham Training (SWDT), celebrating its 50th year in 2017, is now delivering bespoke apprenticeship packages to accommodate the needs of business employers including Hitachi Rail Europe, Circo Energy, Ebac and Husqvarna.

SWDT says changes to the way apprenticeships are funded have created new opportunities to deliver a range of different modules, as opposed to the inflexible framework previously on offer.

Chief executive Lee Childs, an engineer from Shildon who served his time with SWDT 17 years ago, said: "As part of the changes to apprenticeships and the levy, there is now more funding available. We've already discovered how we can adapt and make our apprenticeships more bespoke, but it also means we can build in extra training needed by employers."

"There are gaps in apprenticeships that we've recognised, such as quality engineering, which are very difficult to recruit without paying over the odds. We are also training apprentices in engineering with modules in purchasing, procurement, quality assurance and business improvement techniques."

SWDT is working closely with Hitachi Rail, which is building the next generation of trains. Callum Worrall and Ben Butler, both 21 from Darlington, have been with Hitachi since September 2015 while studying quality engineering technical support with SWDT.



Hitachi apprentices Callum Worrall and Ben Butler under tuition from SWDT's higher education and BTEC co-ordinator Brian Corker.

Ben said: "While working with Hitachi we do quality inspection, so as parts come in we check and inspect them against standards and either pass or fail them accordingly. "I'm really enjoying it and it's exciting to be part of a new company in a new factory."

Callum added: "When we started with the company I think there were about 150 people working there, now there's more than 900 with more to come. The production has really ramped up and it's really busy."

SWDT, a subsidiary of Bishop Auckland College employs 27 staff. It works with 3M, Cummins, Nifco, GSK, Mech Tool Engineering among others, and has more than 300 learners on its

books. Find out more about SWDT at www.swdt.co.uk or call 01325 313194.

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Referendum on Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan

Residents of Great Aycliffe Parish are urged to vote in the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan public referendum, which takes place on Thursday 22nd June.

Residents of the parish will have the opportunity to vote to accept or reject the Plan, and the planning policies it contains. These are local policies, which form a statutory document which will govern any future development of the town and parish.

At the request of residents, following a prolonged series of consultation exercises, policies have been included which aim to protect the green and open environment of Great Aycliffe, both in the older parts of town and in any new development. The provision

of housing suitable for older people is also stressed, as is an improvement in parking congestion. Other policies are included relating to landscape, heritage, retail provision and energy standards.

The Plan is available to view on Great Aycliffe Town Council's website

<http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk/info/neighbourhood-plan-4/> or at <http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/3285/Neighbourhood-Plan-submissions>

Paper copies are available to view at Newton Aycliffe Library, the Youth and Community Centre, Woodham Community Centre, Pioneering Care Centre, Xcel Centre and Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices.

New Rules for Dog Owners

Dog owners are being advised of new rules that will come into force in County Durham at the beginning of next month.

Durham County Council is introducing a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to encourage responsible ownership and tackle issues such as dog fouling and strays. People can find out more about the new rules through the council's #FollowOurLead, campaign. The order, which will replace the existing Dog Control Order introduced in 2009, means that from Thursday, 1st June, it will be an offence to:

- Fail to pick up dog mess
- Allow a dog to stray
- Fail to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer
- Allow a dog into any fenced-off play area named in the PSPO

Anyone seen flouting the new rules will be issued with a £100 Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN), reduced to £60 if paid within 10 working days. Failing to pay the FPN will result in court action and a possible fine of up to £1,000. The order will not apply to anyone who is registered blind, is disabled or who uses a trained assistance dog.

In order to help owners abide by the new rules, a designated dog exercise area is available at Hardwick Park, Sedgfield, for owners who wish to use it. Similar areas will also be available soon at Chester-le-Street Riverside Park and Waldrige Fell Country Park. The introduction of the PSPO follows a public consultation at the end of last year, when more than 80 per cent of those who took part said they were in favour of the move.

Ian Hoult, Durham County Council's neighbourhood protection manager, said: "While the majority of dog owners are responsible, there are still those whose actions impact upon our communities – whether it's failing to clear up after their dog or being unable to control it when off a lead.

"The new order will enable



(l-r) Kendra Milne, Durham County Council neighbourhood warden; Ian Hoult, the council's neighbourhood protection manager; and Denise Kelly, North of England campaigns manager for the Dogs Trust.

us to crack down on these problems, making our communities safer, cleaner and more welcoming for everyone.

"In order to spread the message about the new rules and encourage everyone to abide by them, we're asking people with dogs to #FollowOurLead and help inspire others to be responsible owners."

The order is also being supported by a number of town and parish councils, who have requested that play

areas they are responsible for are included in the PSPO.

The council's Civic Pride team will be attending monthly health check events organised by the Dogs Trust to offer advice on the PSPO. The drop-in events are free to attend.

For more information on the PSPO, including Frequently Asked Questions, a list of fenced off play areas included in the PSPO and details of free Dogs Trust health check event, visit www.durham.gov.uk/dogcontrol

BATTLE FOR No. 10

Dear Sir,
I saw all the Labour Party supporter letters in Newton News, all carrying pre-Brexit fear. There is no need to behave so rudely after losing that vote and you will probably lose this one too! Introducing fear is associated with BNP and I know that from my own experience. Phil Wilson says he does not support Corbyn and he seems not to support young people starting to make their way in life, and that doesn't help Labour gain young voters.

He said the 23 year old Conservative candidate is only here to support Theresa May - of course she is and he should be doing the same for his leader.

He said: "The battle for No. 10 is in other constituencies where Labour did not have an MP going into this election and what your vote will decide here in Aycliffe is who will be your MP".

In my opinion that is absolute rubbish and he insults our intelligence.

Your Conservative vote is most important and will go a long way in the battle for No. 10, helping to give us a government we desperately need, plus a bright, young and well educated new MP on 8th June. Honest John.

Is Loyalty Important?

Dear Sir,
Is an election merely a job interview, involving status, conditions, and salary? Phil Wilson's multitude of public communications betrays a total lack of loyalty. Perhaps this evinces the flailing arms of a drowning man.

When he single-handedly brought a thousand jobs to Aycliffe with Hitachi, how many and at what level were the jobs for local people? Wilson bins Corbyn and spurns May. Perhaps as one of the Famous Five, he intends to join the splinter group of about 100 M.P.'s considering forming a new Party under the leadership of a quasi war criminal.

Mr Wilson, in his first recent communication, headed it Phil Wilson, M.P., perhaps remembering his glory days when he was a P.P.S., and stated his loyalty was solely to the Labour Party, whether or not it

conflicted with loyalty or wishes of his constituents. A P.P.S., rather like the Lambton Worm must "crawl around to pick up bits of news" in Parliament bars, rather than do constituency work here.

He denigrates Dehenna Davison the Tory Candidate, as a student, one whose continued education he claims to support, learns. A person who does not learn, lifelong, is a stone! He criticises her youth. Inevitably we all age and the lively enthusiasm of youth deteriorates into bitterness of ageing until it arrives at the wisdom of old age. If a young person is willing to listen to all advice offered, then evaluate and act upon it, she or he, should learn to adjudicate between conflicting opinions.

We hope that, for once, when June begins May is not over. Her strong leadership must steer to a successful Brexit.

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Saturday 10th June - "This Machine"

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NEW CARE HOME HOLDS OPEN DAY

A Newton Aycliffe care home is opening its doors to the community on 16th June to celebrate the National Care Home Open Day event.

The idea is to encourage local people to visit care homes in their community and work together to develop better relationships.

This important connection is something that St. Clare's Court, on Central Avenue, has nurtured since opening in October and the home is already acting as a community hub, including Coffee Mornings and Dementia Cafes. As part of the Care Home Open Day, St. Clare's Court is hosting an afternoon of fun, entertainment and refreshments for the community.

Jason Parkinson, Manager at the home, said: "This is a great way to show the excellent services on offer and the fantastic work that goes on at St. Clare's Court. The team at St. Clare's Court are really looking forward to meeting you and building on our community relationship".

Coffee Morning

The monthly Coffee Morning at St. Clare's Court, Central Avenue, is on Wednesday 14th June at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome to join us and enjoy a selection of refreshments, cakes and biscuits. For further information please contact Denise or Jay on: 01235 315 671

Bomb Victim Expresses Grief & Gratitude



Laura and her father meet Phil Wilson

Newtonian Laura Anderson who sustained serious injury at the Manchester Arena Concert attended the Two Minute Silence in the Town Centre for those who lost their lives. Along with others, including Mayor Wendy Hillary she signed the Book of Condolence which is available in the Library from Monday to Saturday, before being delivered to Manchester.

Laura told Newton News, "I'm very glad to be able to say that I came home from hospital, after my operation, on Wednesday night and I have been recovering and resting since.

The wounds are healing well, and my stitches will be taken out in another week or so and then I should be able to walk without crutches. I have been very lucky in terms of injuries and how well I was treated. My spirits were lifted on Saturday when I was able to drive back down to Manchester Children's Hospital to make a surprise visit to my best friend Millie who was also injured, but is recovering well and will be home soon.

She and I - and our families are so grateful for all the love and support we've received over



this past week, and it has really helped in such difficult times like this".

MORE FALSE INFORMATION

Dear Sir,
We received three flashy Tory leaflets, but they're full of false information.

• Ms Davison pretends she likes football and video-gaming, but an internet search shows she likes lacrosse and trampolining.

• Her job "in the technology retail industry" turns out she is a sales assistant in a video games store.

• She brags about "staying in the constituency since being selected", but that was on 27 April (she has been here barely a month). She lives in Hull and her campaign office is in Darlington.

• Tory ministers drop by to pretend they know her. She pretends she knows Newton Aycliffe. And they all pretend they give a damn about us.

• She says her priorities are housing and the armed forces - when the Tories have caused a crisis in the first and cuts to the second.

• She promises a DLI Museum knowing it is impossible under a Tory government which has closed museums, libraries and leisure centres all over the country.

• She promises to build the

local economy with Teesside Mayor Ben Houchen - has she realised that County Durham is in the North East Local Enterprise Partnership, not

the Tees Valley LEP. Don't be fooled by Ms Davison's exaggerations. Vote Labour on 8th June. "Aycliffe Reply"



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Councillors Sarah Iveson and Jim Atkinson will be in attendance at St. Mary's Meeting Room, Burn Lane on Saturday 10th June from 11am - 12 noon.

Safety Poster Prizewinners



We inadvertently missed mentioning Amy Richardson, (left) whose photo was in last week's paper receiving a £20 second prize from Northern Grid, for her poster design in an electrical safety competition at Sugar Hill School.

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Aycliffe & Ferryhill Community Groups Working Together

On 12th May members of Positive Horizons, an activity group whose members support each other to improve their mental wellbeing, are undertaking an exciting new venture. They are joining with the 'Buddies Befriending' group based in the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe, by inviting them to a meal and entertainment provided by some of their members.

Positive Horizons is an open group for all adults that meets every Saturday in Dean Bank Institute, Ferryhill and for the last 11 years has organised activities and mutual support for its members, all of whom are interested in improving their mental health and making new friends. Activities include, courses, trips, holidays, parties, sport, fishing, gardening etc.

It has no paid workers but it is run by a committee of members, assisted by volunteers registered and supported by Stonham (part of Home Group). They receive no statutory funding but raise money themselves by their own contributions and fund-raising with occasional small grants through the County Durham Community Foundation and last year from Ferryhill Town Council.

The group, 'Buddies Befriending' is a newer group, based at the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe, funded locally by GAMP (Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership) and overseen by Sheila Pinkney. It aims to combat isolation and loneliness in older people and offers flexible, short term support.



Sitting down for Lunch at Ferryhill Institute with the Mayor and Phil Wilson



Positive Horizons Volunteers

This can include help with shopping, attending social activities or simply taking the time to listen over a cup of tea. It also organises regular coach outings. Over 200 people have benefitted from the project in the last 2 years.

After a presentation to the Positive Horizon group some members decided it would be a great idea for them to provide the venue and a meal for the Buddies Befriending Group at cost price, which would not only bring the groups together, but would give a chance for the Positive Horizons members to practice the lessons learnt in their recent 'Food Hygiene' and 'Healthy Eating' Courses.

In addition they have arranged to entertain them with fun chair exercises to old-time music before the meal and a short poetry reading after the meal provided by two of the members.

Positive Horizons is very excited by this new development and both groups hope it will lead to more joint activities in the future.

Contacts:
Positive Horizons - Carolyn Stephenson 07732 780 386 (volunteer) saturdaypositivehorizons@gmail.com
Buddies Befriending - Sheila Pinkney 01325 329 933 sheila.pinkney@pcp.uk.net

AYCLIFFE BUSINESS LEADERS BACK PHIL WILSON AS M.P.

Three Aycliffe business leaders have publicly backed Phil Wilson's campaign to be re-elected as the town's M.P. Phil, Labour's Sedgefield MP for 10 years, is up against four other people to keep his seat, including Tory candidate Dehenna Davison, a 23-year-old student from Hull.

Three leading personalities from Aycliffe Business Park have shown their support for the Labour candidate, who's been MP since the 2007 By-election following Tony Blair's

resignation.

Those supporting Wilson include Kerina Clark, managing director of the Xcel Centre and chairperson of Aycliffe Business Park Community; David Osbourne, managing director of shower manufacturer Roman; and John Finley, managing director of family-run steel firm Finley Structures.

Kerina Clark said: "Although I am not a Labour Party supporter, I am a big Phil Wilson supporter. He works



John Finley

Kerina Clark

David Osbourne

tirelessly for this constituency and his efforts to encourage growth and investment in the business park are making a real difference to the area. I am pleased to be able to support Phil's general election campaign."

David Osbourne said: "We at Roman have worked closely with Phil Wilson since he became MP for Sedgefield in 2007. We are based in Newton Aycliffe, but operate internationally, and Phil has taken a great personal interest in our business and he has helped us many times. He has helped us with lobbying for our industry in Parliament on a number of occasions – and has been very quick to give us advice whenever required."

"Phil is a very hard-working MP for his constituency and has given up significant time to understand the needs of some of the key businesses within the area."

John Finley added: "Phil has been one of the biggest ambassadors for Aycliffe Business Park over the years, and has helped to create jobs and prosperity for his constituency."

"While I don't support the

views of the Labour Party Leader, I do think Phil Wilson is the outstanding local candidate for Sedgefield. He's lived and worked here for many years, he knows the people and he understands the important economic role Aycliffe Business Park plays.

"The job Phil did in helping to bring Hitachi Rail Europe to the region is something which cannot be underestimated. Local companies like Finley Structures benefited immediately from the investment – we helped to construct their new factory and we know many other local businesses have benefited in the supply chain."

"We are proud to have played our part and we thank Phil for his determination and drive to make sure the Hitachi deal came to fruition."

The four other candidates for the Sedgefield seat in this year's general election include Dehenna Davison from the Conservatives, Aycliffe Village resident John Grant representing UKIP, Brafferton resident Melissa Wilson representing the Green Party and the Lib Dems' Stephen Psallidas, from Newcastle.

Student Organises Fundraiser for Homeless



Chloe receives trophy from Henry

Heighington School have raised money for 'Shelter' by wearing their slippers to School.

Henry Swinburne was inspired to raise money for Shelter after joining in an event in Redworth Village Hall to raise money to help the homeless at Christmas.

He came up with the idea of "Wear your Slippers to School Day", where the pupils paid a £1 donation to wear their slippers for the day. There was a trophy for the pupil who wore the most outrageous pair. Henry nominated a child from each class with great slippers and then a name was pulled out of the hat. The lucky winner was Chloe Harding who was presented with a trophy by Henry.

It was a great success; £180.15 was raised and everyone had

a good day. A big well done to Henry for coming up with the idea and standing up in assembly to tell the school about it.

Miss Spence the Head of School said "I thought that Henry handled the whole event exceptionally well and he is a real credit to our school."

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HOPE OR HARDSHIP?

We're almost there. The choice is yours. Our Labour Manifesto is full of hope for the many, not the few. Hope for the vulnerable, the elderly, the young, the students and the hard working people of our society.

We urge you to take the time, not only to vote Labour on the 8 June, but to join the Labour Party, get involved and gradually have the opportunity to influence the running of the local Branches and Constituency, and to select or even be the candidates to represent and be accountable to the party.

The Conservative alternative is a truly grim prospect where the rich get richer and the poor get poorer for the next FIVE YEARS.

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Thursday 8 June

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"Locally it is right to particularly acknowledge the relentless campaigning of Newton Aycliffe's MP Phil Wilson who has played a blinder"

Northern Echo

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- NETPARK
- JOBS & INVESTMENTS
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EDUCATION FOR ALL

STRONG NATIONAL DEFENCE

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT THE TORY CANDIDATE



- 23 year old student
- Lives in Hull - 114.5 miles away
- Has achieved nothing for Newton Aycliffe



**A VOTE FOR PHIL
IS A VOTE FOR
HERE, NOT HULL**

A VOTE FOR A TORY MP IS A VOTE FOR...



Cuts to the Police
Durham Police has already lost over 350 officers due to Tory cuts.



Cuts to school funding
The Tory cuts will strip Aycliffe schools of over £1million in funding, that's over 30 teachers!



Cuts to the NHS
The Tories planned cuts will see the closure of Darlington A&E and Maternity Services.

X THE BEDROOM TAX X CUTS TO LEGAL AID X CUTS TO TAX CREDITS X CUTS TO DISABLED PEOPLE

LOCAL PEOPLE BACKING PHIL



"Although I am not a Labour Party supporter, I am a big Phil Wilson supporter. He works tirelessly for this constituency and his efforts to encourage growth and investment are making a real difference to the area. I am pleased to be able to support Phil's General Election campaign."

Kerina Clark
Business Manager



"We at Roman have worked closely with Phil Wilson since he became MP for Sedgefield in 2007. Phil has taken a great personal interest in our business and he has helped us many times. Phil has been very quick to give us advice whenever required. Phil is a very hardworking MP for his constituency and has given up significant time to understand the needs of some of the key businesses within the area."

David Osborne
Managing Director



"I will be backing Phil all the way. I know how hard he works for the area. He backs local people and local businesses. Phil is a good constituency MP who is from the area."

Billy Slater
W. Slater and Sons Butchers

Printed by Newton Press at Blue Bridge Centre, St. Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6DS. Promoted by Paul Trippett, on behalf of Phil Wilson, both at 19 Roseberry Road, Trimdon, Trimdon Station, County Durham, TS29 6JA

Aycliffe's Rose Lodge 'Home of the Year' Finalist

Staff and residents at Rose Lodge Care Home in Newton Aycliffe have been celebrating after it was announced that the home had been shortlisted as 'Home of the Year' finalist in the 2017 Maria Mallaband and Countrywide care awards. Rose Lodge, a residential care home for the elderly and people living with dementia, is acknowledged as one of the most desired care facilities in the Borough, with an impressive CQC inspection history and active involvement in the local community.

The home received nominations from staff, residents, families, healthcare professionals and visitors for the 'Home of the Year' award category, an award for a care home that has provided exceptional service to deliver a homely and welcoming place for residents and relatives while demonstrating great team work and a commitment to the service as a whole, and was shortlisted as one of six finalists nationwide.

Staff members, residents, families and visitors were encouraged to nominate staff members across fourteen award categories, intended to represent all areas across the business, from frontline staff such as the 'Dignity in Care' and 'Most Innovative Activity Programme' awards, through to 'Behind the Scenes' and 'Head Office Hero' awards for those who provide exceptional support to their colleagues.

Nicola Wheatley, Manager at Rose Lodge, said: "When I found out I couldn't wait to tell the staff and residents. Each and every one of our staff members strives to be the best at what they do and together are a dedicated, friendly and committed team. Our home's success really has been a whole-home effort, from the input and support of residents and their families to the commitment and passion of our whole staff team."

Also named as award finalists from Rose Lodge was Head Chef David Nevison for the 'Masterchef' award, Deputy Manager Leeann Burnside for the 'End of Life Care' Award and Housekeeper Margaret Magneron for the 'Housekeeping Highflyer' award.

This year marks the third annual awards held by national



care home operator Maria Mallaband Care Group and Countrywide Care Homes. The awards were created to acknowledge the efforts of staff at the group's 73 care homes and the impact they have on the lives of residents and their families.

Staff from Rose Lodge, along with other award finalists, are invited to a gala evening on 22nd June in Leeds for a drinks reception and dinner, followed by the awards presentation and

entertainment.

The Maria Mallaband Care Group (MMCG) and sister company Countrywide Care Homes are one of the country's biggest independent providers of care for the elderly, along with luxurious close care apartments and retirement villas, gaining a reputation of innovation and excellence in these fields. The group was named by carehome.co.uk as one of the top 20 most highly recommended large care groups earlier this year.

Defence Secretary Visits Constituency



Dehenna Davison, Conservative Candidate for Sedgefield, welcomed the Defence Secretary, Michael Fallon, to Sedgefield to visit Filtronic, a high tech company specialising in wireless and broadband component design and manufacture, based at the NETpark. The company was recently awarded a £13 million contract with a defence equipment manufacturer.

Dehenna Davison said "Filtronic are an extraordinary local company, helping to revolutionise communications and that's clearly demonstrated in their incredible growth. In line with the Prime Minister's ambition to make the UK the best place in the world to do business online, it is important we continue to support companies like Filtronic to enable us to keep up to date with the latest demands on data usage and transfer.

I was delighted to welcome the Secretary of State for Defence, Sir Michael Fallon here, the third Secretary of State to visit a local business and the fourth to visit the constituency since this campaign began. Labour bring a former soap actor, I bring Secretaries of State who can make things happen."

Northern Soul Appeal

The new events organiser, Jack Hall, from the Big Club in Newton Aycliffe is putting out an appeal for photographs of Northern Soul and memorabilia to go on a special display within the Club. Newton Press will be working with Jack to design and produce the wall mural. Photographs and items of memorabilia will be returned to the donor after the project is complete. All items must be copyright free as they will be on public display. Please send or bring your photos/items to Newton Press offices or email high resolution versions to paul@newtonnews.co.uk

ACORN Meet

Our meeting this month will be on Thursday 8th June at 6pm in the Phoenix Club (upstairs). Little Acorns will meet at 5.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along to see what is happening in our area and what events are being organised.

Local and County Councillors will hopefully (General Election permitting) be in attendance and are usually willing to answer any queries residents may have. A warm welcome, cup of tea/coffee and biscuits are always available.

Star Radio Expands Coverage

Star Radio is delighted to announce that after just 8 weeks of trading with its new owners; View TV Group (VTG) it is expanding its coverage by adding the loyal Star output onto DAB.

Jamie Branson CEO of VTG said, "One of the prominent points our listeners and advertisers were asking was, 'when is Star was going to be joining DAB?' It was one of the first objectives that we committed to doing and in typical VTG style we are doing it big. Not only are we launching Star Digital today, we are also launching 2 new additional DAB channels in July. We want to expand our offering to both advertisers and the listener alike and our chosen DAB multiplex has a great footprint and allows us to deliver our objectives quickly and efficiently".

VTG today has also acquired a York Radio Station, Vale Radio and have committed to re-launching the station in new studios in the heart of York, renamed in line with the Star brand, with new music and a focus on specialist genre based programming, which will complement the Star Network in Yorkshire.

Jamie says, "we are dedicated to making great radio, and the Vale Online is a great example of how radio has the

potential to engage with the community at every level and we intend to expand on that potential and give it the tools and investment it needs to make it a viable proposition". VTG also intends to launch one of the new DAB channels in July as 'Star Extra', which will play nothing but hits from the best years of our lives and deliver proper grown up radio that we all hope will become part of the region's daily lifestyle".

VTG Head of Radio, Darren Shortt added, "The new expansion allows us to offer a huge variety of programming across the region that gives the listener an unbelievable amount of choice from our network, with music from the 60's to the present day across the channels".

Initially the new channels will be in standard DAB, however VTG have committed along with its partners to convert these to the new DAB+ platform as soon as possible, to give the listener a dramatically improved experience, which will be highly comparable with that of existing National BBC broadcasts.

To accommodate all of this VTG are relocating the business back to Durham in July with a brand new state of the art purpose build facility,

which is 5 times larger than their existing building and will enable the group to broadcast multiple linear and video on demand (VOD) channels across the UK using VTG's existing UK IP Media Network.

Star Radio will also be launching more than 8 full HD music television channels from the same facility. The facility will open with >75% of the first year's national advertising sold through the UK's top television agencies within the first week of announcing the rollout.

A late announcement to the line-up is that VTG will be using Durham as one of the first of 200 local television locations across the UK providing 'Durham TV' by the end of the summer, which extends radio and provides cross media revenues and audiences. This is exciting for the radio industry as a whole.

Jamie Branson and Darren Shortt are continuing to innovate radio across the UK using Yorkshire as the initial area to demonstrate the future of radio by going against the outdated DNA of the business at present, all of which has been highly supported and welcomed by our partners and industry regulators.

MORE TAX & SPEND BY LABOUR

Dear Sir,

When they were M.P.'s, both Phil Wilson (Sedgefield) and Jenny Chapman (Darlington) campaigned against Brexit and are standing for re-election in constituencies where the vote for Brexit was approximately 58%. Also, both are standing as Labour candidates but are saying that a vote for them is not a vote for Corbyn's Labour Party. Be in no doubt, that should you vote for either of them, Corbyn will claim you voted for him!

Both these former Labour M.P.'s did not represent the views of their constituents during the Referendum and disagree with the majority of the current Labour Party Membership. How can anyone vote for them if they do not itemise what parts of the Corbyn Labour Party's Manifesto they don't like? Further, Jenny Chapman was on the 'wrong' side of the argument over Darlington's libraries while Phil Wilson was on the 'wrong' side of the argument re over-payment of County Durham Teaching Assistants.

It would have been more honest for them to stand as Independent Labour Candidates, which they will, in fact, quickly become should Corbyn becomes Prime Minister! However, having both been on the 'wrong' side in local issues, it would appear that they both feel threatened by their poor local performances.

New Labour bought votes by introducing Working Tax Credits (planned to cost £3 Billion, - actual cost £31 Billion). However, voters realised that employers were subsidising their low-paid work forces at the expense of the taxpayer, hence one of the reasons for the Brexit vote.

Corbyn's Labour Party now intend to 'buy' votes by abolishing University Tuition Fees for new undergraduates (the FEW) as part of their 'Progressive' Manifesto, (Tuition Fees were originally introduced, and increased twice, by New Labour as a 'Progressive policy'!) No mention is made of the fact that the MANY current graduates are paying off their Tuition Fee Student loan on a monthly basis and that when the new undergraduates qualify their take-home pay will be more than than earlier graduates burdened with student debt. I never supported student loans and Tuition Fees, however, having paid two sons through university, at great personal expense, I would consider it unfair if all current student debt is not also cancelled - More tax and spend from Labour!

Even more crass is Corbyn's recent statements re-the abhorrent Manchester massacre. He holds Britain's foreign policy to blame for the radicalisation of British born suicide bombers! He forgets the fact that, prior to 9/11, we did not have a 'war-on-terror' policy! He also forgets that many Muslim communities have failed to integrate into British society and that the home-grown terrorists are the offspring of refugee Muslim parents allowed into Britain by liberally minded politicians who have put their ideology of a 'Multi-Cultural Society' before our safety.

Unfortunately, we now have a multi-national, multi-racial and multi-religious society which is unsafe for ALL of society. It does not increase our safety to deny the current situation and to sing the praises of a 'Multi-cultural Society' which does not, in fact exist.

Further, under Corbyn the future Sovereignty of the Falkland Islands (and perhaps Gibraltar) is up for discussion!

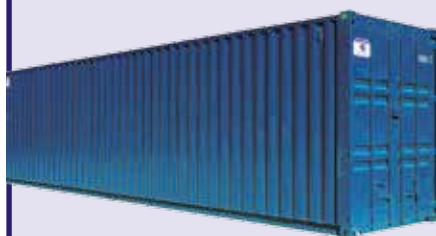
UKIP is the only party in this General Election whose manifesto seeks to address the problem of non-integration and it pre-dated the Manchester massacre of innocents! UKIP is therefore the natural home for ex-Labour and ex-Conservative voters who voted Brexit. The rump of Labour and Conservative voters who still want to support Remain can always vote Liberal Democrat!

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People Not Receiving Support They Deserve

Dear Sir,
I was a little disappointed the Conservative candidate chose not to respond to my letter, when she had been so keen to 'set the record straight' in relation to previous letters from other constituents. My letter outlined how the Tory government abandoned my parents, who from being teenagers worked hard and paid into the system. My Mam now suffers from progressive MS and is severely disabled, and my dad cares for her. But the cruel and callous Conservative cuts which have savaged our NHS means my Mam doesn't get the treatment she needs and my Dad goes without the support he duly deserves.

Maybe the silence of the Tory candidate is a reflection of the Tory party plans for families like mine who need a functioning NHS and a social care system that isn't plunged into crisis? They simply don't have any and the Conservative U-turn on the 'dementia tax' is a great example of this governments lack of understanding of the social care crisis facing the country. Having stripped billions from social care budgets, the uncaring Conservatives have left 1.2 million people without the care they need.

As for the NHS, the savage Conservative cuts mean people are waiting longer in A&E, for cancer treatment, for an ambulance. Or in my Mam's care just not receiving the care she needs at all. The MS nurse that once visited our home doesn't any more, because

of Conservative cuts. As my Mam's conditioned worsened so did her access to the health care she needs.

My parents aren't alone in not receiving the support they deserve. There are families across Newton Aycliffe for whom this will feel all too familiar.

Part of me wonders if the Tory candidate didn't reply to my letter in last week's edition because of the job I do, maybe she felt I was underserving. But that letter wasn't about me, it was about my Mam and Dad, and they most definitely deserve better.
Hannah Siddle

Heighington Annual Fair & Concert

Following the success of last year's Fair the theme this year will be nursery rhymes. Saturday 10th June will see a traditional Fair on the Green from 11am to 4pm with a children's fancy dress competition (theme nursery rhymes), children's sports events, stalls, adult tug of war, alpacas, dog agility, face painting, morris dancing, children's rides, a magician, entertainment and so much more.

A free Concert takes place on the Green commencing 6pm on Saturday evening

featuring Chris Pryke, Cooler King and Smokin' Spitfires. On Sunday 11th June there will be an Open Gardens day from 12 to 4pm. Refreshments will be served on both days in the Village Hall. Also on display in the Village Hall will be the entrants in the art and photographic competition. Scarecrows will once again be a prominent feature over the weekend. Come along and follow the Scarecrow Trail with the opportunity to vote for your favourite and enjoy a fun packed weekend for all the family

Aycliffe's Award Winning Pub Attracts Top Comedians

Carl Hutchinson fresh from his sellout gig, with Chris Ramsey at Newcastle 'Radio Metro' Arena will be appearing at the comedy night, in the Turbinia, on Wednesday 7th June. This will be a unique chance to catch him live at a small, intimate gig.

Carl is a multi-award winning comedian, having won the Beat The Frog World Series and Magners Comedian of the Year Nominee and So You Think You're Funny Finalist, was seen on ITV's FHM Comedy Hero and performed at the highly respected Big Value Comedy Showcase in Edinburgh in 2011.

"Hutchinson's trump card is the way he interacts with the audience, rolling with every 'ooh' and 'aah' his material generated, giving a dynamism and spontaneity to his performance" – Chortle Carl will be supported by Jenny Collier & MC Stephen Grant. Jenny Collier, described as a rising star by the national press, has won the Laughing Horse New Act Competition and the Hobgoblin Comedy Award, placed second in the NATYS (formerly Hackney Empire New Act of the Year), and reached the finals of countless other competitions.

In 2015 Jenny performed as part of the Magners International Comedy Festival in Hong Kong, Singapore, Manila and at the Adelaide Fringe Festival, and in 2016 Jenny performed her debut show, 'Jen Hur', at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival – playing to packed out audiences and receiving rave reviews.

Jenny is a regular on BBC Radio Wales with recent appearances including The Leak, and has written for The News Quiz on BBC Radio 4, as well as the Huffington Post, The Independent and Glamour Magazine. She has recently supported Arthur Smith on his tour in Switzerland, and has appeared on Jack Dee's Helpdesk UK Tour.

Stephen Grant is a repeat award winner of Best UK Compere, and one of the hardest working comedy performers and writers in the UK. He is the host of the Krater Comedy Club at Komedia, which has won Best Comedy Venue in the South for an unprecedented amount

of times and is a regular headliner at The Comedy Store in London's Leicester Square. He possesses an energy and intellect which combined with his eight years in the corporate world make for a perfect experienced host and entertainer for any event, but Stephen still finds the time to headline and MC gigs all over the country.

A regular guest on The Cutting Edge at The Comedy Store, Stephen deputises as a presenter on BBC Southern Counties Radio, and warms-up and performs on some of the biggest comedy shows on TV. His speed and dynamism create a magical energy which has audiences rapt and hanging onto his every word. It is this that led Stephen to writing

for Rob Beckett on Mock the Week, for Russell Kane on Live at the Electric, as well as for Lee Nelson's Well Good Show for Avalon TV and Sean Walsh for Channel 4's Stand Up For The Week.

"Right from the word go his audience were in fits of laughter as we were subjected to his relentless comedy. Comedy bordering on genius"

- Three Weeks Tickets for this show can be bought online from the Hilarity Bites Box Office at <http://shop.hilaritybites.co.uk/>, or in person from The Turbinia. Tickets are £5 each in advance, and expected to sell out, so we strongly advise you get your tickets in advance, or £8 on the door. Doors open at 7pm show starts at 8pm.

New Trains Ready to Deliver



Our reader and regular contributor, John Williamson, sent in this great photo he took of Hitachi trains waiting to be delivered.

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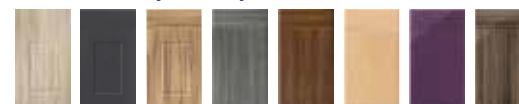
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Town Vandals - Where is CCTV?

Dear Sir,
In response to the criminal damage to the Bus Shelter outside St. Clare's which is covered by very expensive CCTV cameras, on the roundabout.

Where is the security monitoring, and is it not cheaper to have these monitored than suffer very expensive damages done by morons?

If not then where are the police to stop these yobs vandalising and riding bikes like lunatics? I have seen them just ignoring and doing nothing. Give me the job, and a camera and I would sort it!
Name and address supplied



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Tea Party

The delightful garden of Woodside House, owned by keen gardeners Charles and Jean Crompton, will be open to support Marie Curie on Sunday, 11th June 1.00 - 5.00pm - Entry £4.

The stunning 3-acre garden is full of interesting trees, shrubs and plants. Superbly landscaped with island beds, flowing herbaceous borders, an old walled garden, rhododendron beds, a fernery, 3 ponds and even a vegetable garden there is much to fire the imagination.

Winner of Bishop Auckland In Bloom and having featured in The Sunday Telegraph and Amateur Gardening this is a mature and much-loved garden.

Delicious tea and cakes will be on offer together with a sale of plants grown in the garden. In addition, Cornerstone, a charity which helps the homeless, based in Willington, will be manning a stall showcasing their garden furniture and garden accessories all of which are made locally to order.

LOCAL MAN - LOCAL VALUES

Dear Editor,
I have been the Constituency MP since 2007 and seeking re-election on 8th June to continue to represent the place I have always called home.

As your MP, one of my top priorities was to bring business and councils together to redevelop Aycliffe town centre. I think you will agree that the town centre has been transformed with the arrival of new shops, a library and a facelift we can all be proud of. Over the last 10 years, I have helped thousands of people who came to me in their time of need. From helping parents secure the specialist help their child needed from local health services to assisting an elderly couple get their boiler fixed after they were left for days without heating or hot water in the middle of winter, my staff and I have always been there to help. As your MP, I will always support local people at their time of need.

I will continue to fight to bring investment and jobs to the area. I led the campaign to bring

Hitachi Rail Europe to Newton Aycliffe. I believed in the skills of local people when the Tories, who opposed the plan, didn't. The factory is now fully operational, providing nearly 1,000 jobs.

As your MP, I will continue to work with Hitachi as they bid for contracts to build the high speed trains of the future, creating more jobs for local people.

I share local people's aspirations and ambitions. I want to make sure our children receive a quality education which equips them with the skills they need to get on in life. But the Tories are robbing local schools in Newton Aycliffe of over £1 million in funding and leaving schools with no option but to employ fewer teachers, meaning bigger class sizes.

I have always backed our local schools and have spoken in Parliament about the devastating impact these cuts will have on the quality of our children's education. As your MP, I will continue to fight against these cuts so our children get the high

quality, fully funded education they deserve.

I will fight for our NHS. The Tories are starving our NHS of funding causing the services we rely on to crumble. Under the Tories 2.5 million people are having to wait longer to be seen in A&E, cancer patients are having to wait longer for treatment and we all know how difficult it is to get a doctor's appointment. The NHS is one of Labour's proudest achievements, but the Conservatives' failure to invest in the services we all rely on will see Darlington A&E close and strip the hospital of maternity services, forcing emergency patients and expectant mothers to travel even further for care. As your MP, I'll fight to stop the Tories from closing our hospitals.

The Tory cuts mean Durham police have already lost 350 officers, putting our communities at risk. As your MP, I will continue to work with local residents, the police and Ron Hogg, our Police and Crime Commissioner, to make our communities safer.

I listen to the people of our community. That is why I voted to trigger Article 50 in March this year in line with the result of the referendum in this area. Our task now is to secure the best Brexit deal possible for the North East, a deal that doesn't leave our region behind. Since the result, I have held regular Brexit surgeries to ask what Brexit deal you want. As your

MP, I will continue to consult with you because I don't back Theresa May, I back you. I will be your voice in Parliament, representing your interests.

I always have and always will put local people and local concerns first. The only people I support are you, whilst my Tory opponent is a 23 year-old student from Hull, who has made it clear she is only here to support the Tory leader, not you. Please vote for me on Thursday 8th June, your local man with local values.

Phil Wilson
Your Labour
Parliamentary Candidate

Messy Church

Please join us for our June Service of Messy Church where we will be celebrating families - made up of all shapes and sizes, each unique and special. We begin at 4pm on June 10th with craft based activities including fresh fruit salad making, family tree art, family portraits, prayer space and card craft. We will also be taking names for our Messy Summer Trip to Hardwick Park on the 22nd July.

Everyone will enjoy a jacket potato tea and a chance for a chat. Come along to this friendly, welcoming Fun Church - you will be surprised at all we have to offer each other.

Youth/Children St. Clares

COUNTY NEWSBITS
Compiled by
County Councillor John Clare

Council is still in purdah, but there is a lot going on in the community, and good news on the Business Park! Further details about the headlines below online at: bit.ly/CNB315

COUNCIL
• GATC Environment and Recreation Committee meetings, Wednesday 31 May
• Warm Homes campaign - free advice from DCC on managing Energy Costs
• Latest roadworks

COMMUNITY
• 'Smishing' fraud alert - where criminals use text messages to con you
• Vote for your favourite UK castle - Bamburgh, Durham and Raby are all on the list
• Have you signed the Woodland Tree Charter?
• Heart Aycliffe - Churches Together's Prayer Hub
• Litter-picking with Xcel
• Rose Lodge Care Home named as finalist for national care award

• Veterans Breakfast Club at NAYCC - 10am, Wednesday 7 June
• Low Barns Wildlife Watch (5-11s) - Camouflage and Mini-beasts, 10am-noon, Saturday 10 June
• Powerful Pyramids (5-11s), Durham Oriental Museum, 1-3pm, Saturday 10 June
• Durham Regatta, 10-11 June
• Hitachi plan huge new post-production building: DM/17/01342/FPA

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QUARTET IN CONCERT



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They visit on Friday, 16th June to perform work by Haydn, Mendelssohn and Shostakovich at 7.30pm in St. Andrew's Church, South Church.

Tickets £13.50 from Brotherton's Music (opposite Morrisons) or by contacting Brian Varley (01388 606075). Tickets also available on the door, priced £15.00

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Tesco – Every Little Helps the MRI Scanner Appeal



When the call went out to the community to get behind the MRI Scanner Appeal and help replace outdated and privately owned

equipment in Darlington and Bishop Auckland Hospitals, supermarket giant Tesco showed they are local too, pledging a mammoth fundraising weekend across the Bank Holiday dates of 26th/27th/28th and 29th May, in 24 of their stores. The Aycliffe store baked cakes to sell and Hot dogs to eat and did a roaring trade, raising £840 thanks to the generosity of customers. Some did not want to buy these goods but still contributed to this very worthy cause which will save our local NHS Trust a £million a year!

Also introduced to the Aycliffe store is a Raffle with a new Vauxhall Car as first prize. You can buy a ticket from customer services counter for a £1. Area Managers Jason King and Peter Shaw said 'We all know someone who has needed an MRI Scan, including our own employees. We understand it's a massive undertaking to try and raise such a substantial amount of money to replace the old scanners with state of the art technology, but as our strap line says 'every little helps' so we pulled together to help this worthwhile cause.'

Can Hull Conservative Candidate Vote for Herself?

Dear Editor,
I am concerned that the Conservative candidate for Sedgefield in the forthcoming General Election is a 23 year old student who lives in Hull. Assuming she is still registered at her permanent address in Hull, how can she expect local people to vote for her on 8th June when she can't even vote for herself?
I can only hope she is registered for a postal vote or it will be along drive back to Hull on polling day!
A confused and worried constituent of Woodham Name & address supplied.
ED: The answer is no as she would need to be registered as a resident in this constituency.

Wellbeing for Life Cancer Screening Campaign

The County Durham Wellbeing for Life service has been working in the local community to promote cancer screening and encourage people to attend their screening appointments. There are three types of cancer screening available in the UK, cervical, breast and bowel. It is offered to the people who are most likely

to benefit from it, but figures of people attending their appointment has fallen. Wellbeing for Life have been working in partnership with local GP surgeries and community venues to promote the screening programmes and encourage people to take part. Vicki Moffat, Wellbeing Coordinator said "People are putting their lives at risk by not attending their screening appointment so I'm very happy with the response we've had to this campaign. Staff and volunteers were trained in raising awareness of the importance of cancer screening and have spoken to 1561 people across the county. 822 have also signed pledge cards to take part in the next screening opportunity. We had a prize draw to encourage people to stop and find out more about this vital information and the luxury hamper was won by Sharon Crooks from Craghead, Stanley." Cancer screening saves thousands of lives every year in the UK. Screening aims to find cancers early and very early cancers are usually easier to treat, may need less treatment, and are more likely to be cured. It is so important to go for your screening whenever you are invited. Please contact Vicki Moffat, Wellbeing for Life Coordinator (East Durham Hub) on 0191 5274150

County Council Appoints New Cabinet & Chairman

A new Cabinet and Chairman have been appointed at the region's largest local authority following the recent local elections. Cllr Simon Henig has confirmed the membership of his Cabinet after being re-elected as Leader of Durham County Council.

Cllr Alan Napier retains the post of Deputy Leader with additional responsibility for finance, legal and democratic services and risk management.

Cllr Olwyn Gunn, Cllr Carl Marshall and Cllr Kevin Shaw are new additions to the Cabinet. Cllr Gunn takes on the portfolio for Children and Young People's Services, covering education up to the age of 19, specialist and safeguarding services, youth services, children's centres and adult learning.

Cllr Marshall is the new Cabinet member for economic regeneration, taking responsibility for economic development, town centres, development control, strategic transport and spatial planning, including the County Durham Plan.

And Cllr Shaw becomes the new Cabinet member for strategic housing and assets, with a portfolio covering housing strategy, homelessness, private sector housing issues, fuel poverty and energy efficiency, land and property assets and the authority's travellers' liaison service.

Cllr Joy Allen takes up the new post of Cabinet member for Transformation. Her remit will include the council's transformation programme as well as ICT, customer services, libraries, emergency planning, equality and diversity and the Humanitarian Support Partnership.

Cllr Ossie Johnson also takes on a new portfolio. As Cabinet member for tourism, culture, leisure and rural issues, he will oversee tourism, arts and culture as well as events, leisure services, parks and allotments. He is also the council's rural champion.

Cllr Jane Brown retains responsibility for human resources under her new role as Cabinet member for social inclusion but also takes on poverty and welfare reform, welfare rights and carers.

Cllr Lucy Hovvels continues in her role as Cabinet member for adult and health services, dealing with adult safeguarding, social care and commissioning, health and wellbeing, public health, community safety and links with Durham Police. She will also serve as the authority's champion for veterans and mental health.

And Cllr Brian Stephens retains his portfolio for neighbourhoods and local partnerships, a wide-ranging role that covers Area Action Partnerships, relationships with town and parish councils, community development, streetscene, highways, waste management, bereavement services and environment, health and consumer protection.

The Annual General Meeting of the council also saw the election of Cllr Bill Kellett as its new Chairman.

Cllr Kellett, who represents the Sherburn ward, attended Houghton Grammar



Durham County Council Cabinet



Bill Kellett



John Lethbridge

School but left without any qualifications to start work in the building yard at Lyons Colliery, Easington Lane. Having an interest in cars, he then took up a job at a local garage and whilst there passed his driving test, enabling him to become a driver for a bakery.

Realising the importance of qualifications, Cllr Kellett attended evening classes at Durham Technical College and achieved several GCE O levels and three A levels.

There followed a career in nursing at the former Dryburn Hospital in Durham where Cllr Kellett met his wife-to-be Elizabeth Ann, also a nurse, while attending a hospital dance.

In 1960, Bill became SRN registered and moved to Durham County Orthopaedic Hospital, before taking up charge nurse positions in Wigan and Middlesbrough. He then returned to Dryburn Hospital to become a nurse tutor.

Cllr Kellett gained an honours degree in economics at Durham Technical College

and followed it up with an MA in economics for which he had his thesis published. He went on to teach economics at Seaham Comprehensive School and Peterlee Tertiary College as well as becoming an A level examiner.

He has been married to Elizabeth Ann for almost 52 years and they have three children, Beverley, Edward and Margaret Jean, and three grandchildren, Darius, Maddy and Katie.

The 77-year-old's chosen charity is the Great North East Air Ambulance for which he has a special affinity.

"My youngest daughter suffered a serious horse riding accident a few years ago that could have proved fatal without the intervention of the air ambulance," he said. "My family and I will always be indebted to this great charity." Cllr John Lethbridge, who represents the Woodhouse Close ward in Bishop Auckland, was elected as Deputy Chairman a 70-year-old former geography teacher who taught at Sedgefield Secondary Modern School.

Is it Time for a Change?

Dear Editor,
I have noticed in Newton News 26th May the Labour letter writers are out in force, trying to do what they do best and be- little any one that opposes them in any way, and this young Conservative Dehenna Davison has them all worried. Phil Wilson should look at what happened in the local elections where Conservatives took two seats in Woodham and there are also two extra Independents. So there will be a change in the Parliamentary election, Dehenna Davison is only a young girl and she may be a welcome change as M.P. for Newton Aycliffe. I can remember when Tony Blair stood for M.P. at Trimdon - he was young when he started and look where he is today! I must also remind voters that Labour lost control of Ferryhill and Chilton areas in the Sedgefield ward. I removed myself from the Labour Party in 2009 and I am very pleased I did because as an Independent I can do and vote the way I want.

Alderman George C. Gray,
West Ward Councillor

10 Years Active in the Community

Dear Sir
After Reading Honest John's political piece last week, I felt the need to address a few points. The letter states that Phil Wilson is desperate to keep hold of his job, so what's wrong with that? Over the past ten years, Phil Wilson has been active in the community attending numerous events, many showcased in this paper, overseen the regeneration of our town centre and most importantly helped to bring Hitachi to Aycliffe, creating hundreds of jobs for people in the area!
Who cares what his motivations are as long as progress is being made? The letter also blasts Mr Wilson for being pals with Tony Blair, who is a polarising figure, but maybe not quite as detrimental to society as Nick Griffin and the BNP were and who I believe Honest John has been attached to in the past!
Kane Shaw

Ed: Honest John admits to being a member of the BNP for just 10 months when he became disillusioned with their policies and left.




VETERANS BREAKFAST CLUB

Following on from the success of our first Armed Forces Veterans Breakfast Club, the Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre is planning to continue building our membership.

If you are interested in attending, please join us for a bacon roll and a hot drink at 1000 hours on Wednesday 7th June. You can meet other Veterans, and give us your ideas about what you would like the Club to offer. Pass the word to other Veterans who might not know - All are welcome.

If you are planning to attend please call Beki or one of her staff on:

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Choosing the Town Mayor

Dear Sir,
The Independents put forward a view that where the controlling Group (whichever that is) has a clear majority then it had nothing to fear from selecting the person to be Mayor to be the longest serving member, who must of course also be suitable (and not everyone is, including Labour),

Not everyone wants to be Mayor, hence a free vote would allow that principle and safeguard the reputation of the Council. The argument that because Labour won a majority and thus have a democratic mandate to select only Labour Councillors as Mayor is tenuous at best, and effectively declares the Mayor to be purely Party political. It was never in any leaflet or manifesto.

The argument of "If the Independents were in the clear majority what would we do" is very simple - no, we would not only appoint Independents we would look to elect a Mayor as someone who had seniority in length of service, but also was suitable to do the job of chairing a Full Council meetings and able to represent the Council in the Community and beyond, irrespective of politics.

I for one would never exclude someone just because they did

not belong to a particular Group. This would also concentrate the minds of those who might want to be Mayor since they would have to earn the respect of their fellow councillors and demonstrate the necessary qualities to be voted in. Indeed Labour controlled Darlington selects it's Mayor on the same principle as I indicate. Are they wrong?

The Independents in Great Aycliffe did not stand on an anti Labour platform at the elections, nor did we contest every seat on the Council. Elsewhere in County Durham in particular Spennymoor, Seaham, Peterlee, Ferryhill etc, the Independents there were almost rabidly anti Labour. Indeed on Sedgefield Town Council no Labour candidates stood at all.

On Great Aycliffe Town Council, with the elections over till 4 years time, we will continue to work constructively and positively with Labour members to maintain and improve the services and facilities of the Council within the dire financial constraints facing all of us. We will not oppose something just for the sake of it. A wise person does not reject suggestions simply because they do not like the

person making them.

To illustrate the point, if the Independents had contested all 30 seats on the Council, and gained a majority, I would still have supported Cllr Bob Fleming the Labour Leader as Leader of the Council, and make no apology for saying so. Merit alone should be the distinguishing characteristic of supporting someone to a position.

In the early 1990's I was within one vote of convincing the Labour Group to support a Lib Dem Councillor being Mayor, and prior to being elected in 1983 I worked closely behind the scenes in putting Enid Meadows (Labour) for Mayor and Brian Jackson (Tory) for Deputy Mayor to stop a totally unsuitable member of the then Aycliffe First Party from becoming Mayor and bringing the role into disrepute. Those long in the tooth will know who I mean.

Obviously in rare circumstances when you have a finely balanced council I would expect the majority group to hold the office of Mayor because being the Chairman of the Council, they might need the use of the Chairman's casting vote.

But in all other circumstances there is nothing lost by putting up a person with long service and merit. Our Town Council very rarely conducts its meetings on Party political lines, if at all, and once elected we are all there to do the same job, in serving the community. Cllr Arun Chandran Independent

VOTING FOR THE MAN NOT THE PARTY

I remember Phil Wilson coming to see me when he first became our MP in 2007, and he told me about his pledges for our town.

- *To open his office in the town centre*
- *To help people on the town with their problems*
- *Concentrate on the regeneration of the town centre*
- *Do all he could to bring jobs to the area*

His fully staffed office is situated in the town centre and is open Monday to Friday, helping hundreds of Aycliffe people with their problems every year.

The town centre is completely transformed compared to 2007. The Dismal Health Centre has gone with Aldi and Wilkinsons opening new stores. The new Library opened at the Leisure Centre just a few months ago and the town centre itself is more welcoming.

As we all know, Phil played a leading role, along with the people of Aycliffe, to bring Hitachi to our Business Park creating nearly 1,000 jobs. I would like to see Phil continue his great work and will be voting to re-elect him on 8th June. I have no political bias and vote for the man not the Party. I did not vote for Tony Blair as I felt he did not represent our town. This was probably because he was PM and could not find the time to fight our corner. Syd Howarth



An Aycliffe pensioner took the trouble to visit Newton Press Offices to make a donation of £5 to the Appeal.

Thank you - every penny counts and the Appeal Committee are so grateful. In addition to raising cash last weekend selling cakes and Hot dogs, Tesco donated £100 to the Appeal.

Businesses and Town organisations are urged to organise a special fundraiser for the appeal. Contact Syd Howarth at Newton News if you can help. Tel: 300212 or e-mail: syd@newtonnpress.net

McColls Help GACAP



McColl's convenience store on Washington Crescent in Newton Aycliffe had donated £131 to GACAP towards their Community Welfare Fund where partners can draw down amounts to assist with helping people in need in our community.

The store raised money through the Making a Difference locally charity, where customers purchase specific products in the store and a percentage of the money goes into a fund for the retailer and shopper to choose a local charity to support.

GACAP, was the local cause chosen because of its integral part in the community. James

Lancaster, McColl's Retail Group Chief Executive Officer said, "It is wonderful that we have raised and donated money for such local and worthwhile cause. McColl's has always been known to be charitable and we try our very best to continually support the neighbourhoods in which we operate.

This donation is another example of our helpful and giving ethos. We believe it is important to give something back to our customers who support us by raising money in purchasing specific products in store. McColl's has a history of charitable giving".

Receiving the cheque for GACAP (right) is Ron Mitchie Chairman and Joan Mitchie Secretary of GACAP with Monica Little of McColl's and Area Manager Michael Johnson.

Ron Mitchie said "GACAP are thankful to McColl's for their donation, and assured them the money would be spend wisely in assisting people in the community who for one reason or another have fallen on hard times".

McColl's are expanding locally and will be taking over the Co-op Store at Neville Parade on 3rd July 2017. They will have 24 hours to get the change over from Co-op to McColl's ready in time for its opening on 4th July. They have also recently taken over a Co-op shop in Chilton.

Monica said, "The charitable giving of McColl's will mirror the giving that the Co-op invests in the local community. Please continue to, or start using McColl's at Washington Crescent plus the stores in Chilton and Neville Parade so we are able to continue with Charitable giving".

Aycliffe's Front Line NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

By Acting Chief Inspector Sarah Honeyman



Hello everyone.

This is my first blog to the community of Newton Aycliffe as it is usually done by my Sergeant, Mark Edwards. Since the turn of the year we have had some significant changes to the staffing of our Neighbourhood Team here in Aycliffe and these have continued. As of 1st June, Mark Edwards has moved to Durham City to take up the role of Neighbourhood Inspector on a temporary basis. This move is likely to be mid to long term. We all wish Mark every success with this new role and are very grateful for all his hard work and dedication to serving the community of

Newton Aycliffe.

This move means that our newest PC, Lyndon Towler, has quickly become Acting Sergeant to cover for Mark. In the first few months of 2017, we lost PCSOs Michael Crawford, Gavin Laycock and Steven Gill who all became police officers within the organisation. They are all competent, great guys and will take to their new role well but are obviously a loss to our team. We wish them well in their futures. Incidentally, Gavin and Mike are remaining within the south of the county and so you may see them around!

We are actively recruiting PCSOs to replace the three we have lost and PCSO Matt Walls joined our team last month. We hope to have the other two vacancies filled within the coming months. Matt joins Daniela Jones and Christine O'Brien who continue to do a fantastic job!

We have also lost PC Paul Rogers from the team and are actively seeking to fill his vacancy. So, all in all, some major changes to the team but rest assured we are all still totally committed to delivering the best possible service to our community.

During March and April we had a significant number of vans and other vehicles broken into where tools and other equipment were stolen. During May a male who had recently moved into the area was arrested and has been charged with numerous offences. We will provide an update in due course. We appreciate that these crimes have affected many hard working people in our community. I would like to appeal to all our residents to be vigilant and report anything suspicious to us. The arrest of this male was as a direct result of us receiving information from a community member to whom we are very grateful. We also identified several victims who had not reported thefts to us. Again, I would appeal to everyone that if you are unfortunate to become a victim of crime, you report it to us straight away. We can then target our patrols more effectively.

We also continue to experience anti-social behaviour across the town. This mainly consists of small fires and the riding of off-road bikes. With the help of the public the team has identified 9 young people responsible for setting some of the fires and they have spent time with their parents at our Community Fire and Police

Station being educated in the dangers and criminal element of such behaviour. Fires have reduced but still continue to be a problem. Please, if you see fires being set, report it to us and if you can provide names of those responsible that would be much appreciated. The off-road bike situation has eased a little following the identification of one of the main offenders. However, we still receive reports and are still actively seeking to identify those responsible. The local community responded well at the end of last year to our appeal to report incidents of off-road bikes, we need everyone to let us know who is riding them please!

As a team, we will be involved in the coming months in various community events across the town and we through the GAMP Area Action Partnership we have acquired a gazebo for our events and will be handing out free pens, crayons, trolley coins etc. We would love to see as many of you as possible at these events so please come over when you see us and have a chat! Take care for now and enjoy this lovely weather!

A/Sgt Lyndon Towler

Lyndon joined Durham Constabulary as a PC in 2009 and has always worked in Newton Aycliffe, as a 24/7 Response officer until joining our Neighbourhood team in April. He has an excellent knowledge of our local area and community and is looking forward to building on that in his new role. Lyndon hails from Hartlepool and is 33 years old. He recently passed his Sergeant exams and is already working hard leading the team of PCs and PCSOs having taken over from Mark Edwards for the foreseeable future.

PCSO Matt Walls

Matt is 26 years of age and was born and raised here in Newton Aycliffe. He therefore already knows the local area and people well. Matt was initially a baker (although has told us he doesn't bake cakes sadly!), he joined Durham Constabulary two years ago as staff and became a PCSO earlier this year, joining the team at the end of April.

Acting Chief Inspector 517 Sarah Honeyman

South Durham Neighbourhoods and Safeguarding Command
Email: sarah.honeyman@durham.pnn.police.uk
Durham Police: ring 101 (or 999 in an emergency)

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 14th June 2017

Council Meeting - 7.15pm

QUESTION TIME

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

With the exception of the Annual and Extra-Ordinary Council Meetings members of the public can submit a written question for the Council Agenda as long as it is submitted 7 clear days before a meeting.

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

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

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

Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 6th June features the 2006 British comedy-drama "The History Boys" starring Richard Griffiths, James Corden, Frances de la Tour and many more fine British actors.

An unruly group of gifted boys have just gained their northern grammar school's best ever A-level results and are trying to pass Oxbridge entrance exams, helped by eccentric teachers. 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.

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POLICE PRAISE LISTENING DRIVERS

Officers from the Cleveland and Durham Specialist Operations Unit (CDSOU) issued a total of 46 fixed penalty notices for mobile phone use while driving, in a campaign which started on Wednesday 1st March. The week of action coincided with new legislation that sees anyone caught using their mobile phone at the wheel issued with a £200 fine and six penalty points on their licence. The new legislation could have a huge effect on new drivers in their probationary period. The probationary period for someone who has just passed their driving test is two years. In this time if a new driver receives six points their licence will be revoked. Of those caught, 23 were driving in the Cleveland Police area and 23 in County Durham and Darlington and three people were summonsed

to court. The number is down from when a similar week of action took place in January where 131 drivers were caught (61 in Cleveland and 72 in Durham) and two drivers summonsed to court. However, road policing chiefs say the relatively low figures suggest most motorists are taking on board the repeated warnings regarding the dangers of mobile phone use. Inspector Harry Simpson from CDSOU, said: "We use both marked and unmarked cars during our operations and all are equipped with on-board cameras to record any offences. "While I believe the vast majority of drivers on our roads are behaving sensibly, we still caught 49 drivers who

were putting themselves and others at serious risk. These people will now have to deal with the consequences of their actions.

"There are clearly some people who feel the law doesn't apply to them. Even though our week of action is over they will discover our officers are making this offence a priority and that we have a zero-tolerance approach."

The initiative was in support of a national awareness campaign and backed up by various messages on police social media accounts. Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner Ron Hogg, welcomed the new penalties for drivers who use a mobile phone whilst driving. He said: "I am pleased to see

the results of this campaign, and that the number of people flouting the law has reduced. That being said, there are still those who persist on using

their phones when it is clearly illegal to do so. I urge drivers to be sensible before they cause unnecessary injury, or death, on our roads."

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Soap Actor in Aycliffe



Former Emmerdale Soap star, John Middleton (right) was in Aycliffe this week showing support for the Labour Party and Phil Wilson. A number of fans turned out to welcome the actor who played Ashley Thomas, a clergyman in the series.

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LETTER

FAR FROM THE TRUTH

Dear Sir,
I am starting to wonder if 'Honest' John actually knows the meaning of the word honest. His letter last week wrongly claimed Phil Wilson had lied on his leaflet, when in actual fact it was 'the not

so honest' John's letter which was far from truthful. It seems that John is the one who is telling lies to boost his ego. So, whilst 'John' has decided to indulge in the growing trend of alternative facts, I have not. So I am setting

the record straight.

Mr Wilson was right to say the vote in Sedgefield won't affect who is in Government. We currently have a Labour MP and a Tory government. For any chance of a Labour government, Labour

need to win seats from the Tories and the SNP. My question is how 'strong' would you want May's government to be? With no one to challenge her we could end up with a terrible Brexit deal, where she does not stick to any of her promises, which as tax payers would have to pay for.

This brings me to point number two. Mr Wilson has proven he is backing the Brexit his constituents want. Phil Wilson voted to trigger Article 50, to start the process of leaving the EU. He did this because he listened to the majority of his constituents, something I am confident he will continue to do. I would personally rather have someone representing me who knows and cares for my interests - not someone who will simply agree with Theresa May regardless of how it badly impacts us.

Finally, Hitachi - Mr Wilson never claims to have brought Hitachi here on his own. BUT he did play a vital role in making sure Hitachi was built, and when the Conservative government wanted the factory to go elsewhere, Phil Wilson fought for Newton Aycliffe.

For someone who apparently cares about our community it is funny that he is endorsing a Conservative candidate who by her own admission is standing to simply support Theresa May. In reality though, a Tory representative means someone who will vote for cuts to our NHS, cuts to our police force, a continuing social care crisis, cuts to tax credits for hard working people. Does John really want an M.P. that would make life harder for the people of Newton Aycliffe? If he does he should rethink his endorsement of a Tory. Finally, as 'John' mentions expenses, I raise the question, why a student from Hull standing to be MP for Newton Aycliffe, a place she had never heard of weeks ago? I highly doubt it is because she cares passionately about the area.
Hannah Siddle

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NEWTON NEWS
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The appeal comes as Foster Care Fortnight continues, a national initiative to raise awareness about fostering and the rewards it can offer those willing to open their homes and their hearts to children who are in desperate need.

One of Durham County Council's former foster children, Brandon, is sharing his story to show what a difference fostering can make to the life of a young person.

Brandon was just eight when he and his six brothers were taken into care, he said: "When we lived at home there wasn't much money free to spend on us kids, but I remember my mam used to go out and buy big oranges for us. She'd cut them up into sections and we would devour them; it was a real treat having oranges then...I still love them now."

Brandon and his brothers couldn't be placed together and he went on his own to a short-term placement, he explained: "They were an older couple, more like grandparents to me, they were really kind and caring but I was scared, I was on my own and I was lonely, I used to just sit and cry. It took me about two years to realise this was what life was for me now, that I wasn't going back home and I just had to learn to accept it."

Brandon was later fostered into a permanent placement, but after around five years the placement broke down and he was taken into a new foster family, with Chris and Leanne Coulson who were already foster carers with Durham County Council.

Brandon said: "Moving in with them was like turning over a new leaf for me, they treated me like a young adult and gave me freedom (so long as I didn't go mad!) to make my own

choices and my own mistakes. I'd never had that before and it just felt like a fresh start, like I could finally be myself instead of trying to be the way someone else wanted me to be."

Now Brandon has reconnected with his birth mother and some of his brothers but has chosen to stay on with his foster parents as part of the "Staying Put" programme. "Why would I not want to stay here?" he says "This is my home and Chris and Leanne chose to take me on when I was what some people would describe as a 'difficult teenager' they gave me a new chance."

With his future looking bright, Brandon is hoping to train as a mechanic, but also has ideas of what he wants for his own family life in the future: "I want to meet someone and have a family of my own but then I definitely want to foster after that."

"Fostering's a journey for everyone involved. It isn't a straight road, there are roundabouts and turnings in the road but I think if you can let a child make mistakes, guide them along the way, help them to develop and give them that chance they deserve, then you can be a foster carer."

"Being fostered changed my life - it made a massive difference to me. I used to bunk off school all the time and when I was home us older kids would have to look after the little ones because my mum was too ill to do it. Once I was fostered I got back on the right track and I want to give someone else that kind of new chance at life when I'm older." If you could open your home and heart to a child in need, then the fostering team wants to hear from you. Please get in touch on 03000 269 400 or visit www.durham.gov.uk/fostering for more information.

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GREENFIELD EXHIBITION OF STUDENT GCSE ART

Greenfield Arts invites you to preview our latest exhibition by Greenfield Community College GCSE students on Wednesday 28th June 6pm to 8pm.

Showcasing the fantastic work of students studying for GCSEs in Visual Arts at Greenfield Community College - including sculpture, photography and graphics. This is a brilliant opportunity for students to see their creative work in a professional gallery environment as well as a chance for staff to highlight their skills and praise their achievements.

As part of a wider initiative to engage young people in the gallery, we will be hosting free interactive workshops enabling students a place to voice their opinion about how they would like to use the gallery space. This will occur in the lead up to the GCSE show, which opens on Thursday 29th June, and inform part of a secondary exhibition curated by Greenfield Community College students, open from Monday 17th July - Wednesday 26th July.

Greenfield Arts has been working with five year 11 art students to better understand what it is students would like from the gallery and the opportunities it offers. It has therefore been a very organic process, with students having space to see art, experience art workshops, deliver workshops and share information with other students.

As a result of this process, the students have given themselves the task of curating one final exhibition as part of their GCSE year, offering graduate and aspiring artists a professional space to exhibit, something that is very hard to come by. For more information on any of the information here,

check out the website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk or speak with one of our lovely team members on 01325 379048 or

info@greenfield-arts.co.uk. Gallery Opening Times: Monday - Thursday 10am - 9pm and Friday 10am - 4pm.

Family History Courses

Tips and advice on tracing your family tree will be available at a beginners' family history course run by Durham County Record Office.

The popular sessions are led by an archivist and also offer an introduction to the sources available at the record office. The course lasts for three weeks and runs on the following dates:

- Thursday evenings, from 6pm to 8pm - 15, 22 and 29 June
- Friday mornings, from 10am to 12 noon - 16, 23 and 30 June
- Tuesday evenings, from 6pm to 8pm - 12, 19 and 26 September
- Thursday mornings, from 10am to 12noon - 14, 21 and 28 September

Dawn Layland, education and outreach archivist, said: "Our family history courses offer the chance to get started on your family tree and find out about the fantastic resources available on your doorstep."

The course costs £30 for all three sessions. Places must be booked in advance by calling 03000 267 626.

MOT Bookings Help MRI Scanner Appeal



Directors Gillian Ramsey and brother-in-law Ian Ramsey with Gillian's son, Elliott (left).

Ramsey's Garage on St. Cuthbert's Way have seen a marked interest in MOT appointments since announcing they were donating part of their fee to the MRI Scanners Appeal for Darlington and Bishop Auckland Hospitals. If you wish to book your car in please ring 01325 300200.

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LEARNERS WANT MORE REALISTIC DRIVING EXPERIENCE



In a recent poll of almost 300 learner drivers conducted by Marmalade, the specialist telematics insurer for young drivers, 54 percent of respondents said that they should be allowed to practice motorway driving before their test.

While learner drivers are expected to theoretically understand how to safely drive on motorways, they currently don't obtain any practical experience before passing their tests. This December, changes to the law mean that learners will have the option to take a motorway lesson when accompanied

by a fully qualified approved driving instructor. While this is a welcome change to the curriculum, Marmalade CEO Crispin Moger fears that it isn't enough.

Moger said: "Our research and experience talking to young drivers suggest that driving tests aren't properly equipping new drivers to handle today's busy roads. All too often, drivers are taught to pass the test and not to drive in real-life situations. So much more could be done to teach young drivers to look further ahead and anticipate." Motorways are the safest roads in Britain, with only 6 percent of all fatal accidents occurring on them. However, many newly qualified drivers still are too scared to drive on motorways. This results in them spending more time on rural roads. With narrow lanes, blind corners and slow-moving vehicles, these can be far more dangerous than the motorway: according to information published on GOV.UK, 80 percent of young driver fatalities occur on rural roads.

Moger added: "More needs to be done to ensure those passing their test are fit to drive in realistic conditions. They should be taught to handle corners properly on country roads and what to do if they skid. Sadly too many young drivers are killed or injured because they do not have the skills and experience to drive."

Thank You

WE WOULD like to say a big thank you to all friends, neighbours and teachers for all the cards, gifts and good wishes for our Daughter Laura, after she was injured in the Manchester Arena attack. Garry and Jana Anderson

Make Britain Great

Dear Sir,
I fully support Honest John's letter in Newton News as I am also from a mining village, and worked in the mine on leaving school. Both my parents and grandparents were members of the Labour Party, a different Labour Party then, in the 50's. I am of the opinion that a lot of people who vote Labour today only do so because their parents and grandparents did.

Theresa May and her government are the best option to see us through the Brexit negotiations and she will make Britain great again, as Margaret Thatcher did when she had to get us out of the mess Labour left the Country in at the start of the 80's.

Labour even left a note for the in-coming Chancellor which read, THERE'S NO MONEY LEFT. Theresa May tells us how it is and how she will guide the country back to prosperity. She may stand on a few toes along the way, but that's life. There have always been haves and have nots, clever kids and not so clever kids, regardless of what

CORBEN says, he will never alter that.

All he offers is free this and free that, more for Police and more money thrown at the NHS, where does all this money come from? Rob the rich to give to the poor - a man did that years ago, he wore a green suit and lived in Sherwood Forest - it just does not work.

It's only right to stop the heating allowance and put that money to better use. Those who are in need of it will continue to receive it. With regards to the 2.5% pension increase, or triple lock as its called, I spoke to some pensioners and they did not know what I was talking about.

If it is stopped this year the state pension will still be more than 2.5% because Consumer Price Index is running at 2.7% and that will be the increase.

By voting Labour on June 8th you are voting to put a man in 10 Downing St. who appears to have no loyalty or love for this country or its monarchy, and I fear we will take a big step backwards.

Name & address supplied

Greenfield Arts Host Writer's Conference

Greenfield Arts are thrilled to have been chosen as a venue for an inspirational one-day conference which forms part of an exciting initiative being led by Writer's Block North East. The conference, which includes workshops and guest speakers will be held in the creatively designed Studio 2. Writer's Block have selected a group of up-and-coming writers to take part in a nine month development programme where they will benefit from one-to-one mentoring, workshops and expert advice leading to the opportunity to showcase their talents to literary agents and industry professionals.

Greenfield Arts are delighted to play a part in such an innovative venture and are looking forward to hosting what should prove to be an enjoyable and fruitful day. The is the second year that Greenfield Arts has been chosen for the Conference, Laura Degnan, Director of Writer's Block is also looking forward to returning to the venue "The conference room is large, bright and spacious and suited our needs perfectly. It's quiet and private, with good facilities" said Laura. Greenfield has also been nurturing their own budding authors through their popular creative writing masterclass. The next session, which is led by respected author John Dean will be held on Thursday 15th June from 6 pm - 8 pm and

costs just £5, why not come along and learn how to create characters, plot stories and embark on your very own novel!

If you are interested in hiring our conference facilities or want to know a bit more about our Learning Programme why not check out our website on www.greenfield-arts.co.uk or give our friendly team a call on 01325 379048.

Obituary

GEORGE H. ALDER of Newton Aycliffe, peacefully on 24th May, aged 91 years. A much loved Dad, Grandad, Great Grandad and Great Great Grandad. Family and friends please meet for Service at Wear Valley Crematorium (Coundon) on Monday 5th June for 11.00am. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to G.N.A.A.

SYD HUTCHINSON of St. Clare's Court, formerly of Macmillan Road, Newton Aycliffe. Passed away peacefully on 29th May, aged 91 years. Devoted Husband of the late Mabel Hutchinson. Greatly loved and adored by all his family. Family and friends please meet for a Service at Wear Valley Crematorium on Friday 9th June for 11.00am. Followed by refreshments at Woodham Golf Club.

In Memoriam

Lee Smith



3rd June

It's been ten long years since you left us Lee. But the pain is still too fresh. You are in our hearts and minds always and we will love and miss you forever.

Greatest love.
Mam and Dad

JOYCE LEDGER passed away 5/06/2016. Beautiful memories treasured forever of the love and happiness we shared together. In our hearts always, missed and loved by John, Melanie, Alyson and Andrew.

NORMAN HOLDSWORTH A much loved Husband and Father, died 9th June 2016. Remembering you is easy, we do it every day. It's the heartache of losing you, that never goes away. Loved always, Wife Margaret and all the family

ADA HUTSON 4/4/1927-5/6/2007. Because you are always thought about in such a special way, because you always did so much to brighten up each day. And because you cared for others selflessly your whole life through, we say a little prayer each day especially for you. That Heaven will protect you and will somehow let you know, that Mam you meant so much to us and that we miss you so. And that we'll think about you as we travel on life's way and keep you safe within our hearts forever and a day. Your loving family xxxx

JOE CARRUTHERS 03/10/36- 04/06/2012. 5 years since we lost you and not a day goes by when we don't think of you. We miss you so much because we loved you so much. Jean and family

LORNA ROBERTS 1.6.2013. Your presence I miss. Your memory I treasure. Loving you always. Forgetting you never. Miss you Mam. Love, Beverly and family x

PHILIP JOSS 7th June 2015. I wait for footsteps, that I know will never come. Fix a meal for two, but the table set for one. Always in my thoughts, forever in my heart. Lydia xx

Congratulations

Martin and Tracey Hughes



25th Wedding Anniversary
Congratulations on your 25th Wedding Anniversary.
From Mam, Dad, Tim, Sophie and Katie

Cole Longstaff



4th June 2004

Happy 13th Birthday
Love you loads, from Mam, Dad, Mason, McKenna and Lewy xxx

Happy 13th Birthday
to my Big Lad. Love you all the world. Mother and Michael xxx

Happy Birthday Cole
"Handsome Boy"
Love from Grandma, Grandad, Uncle Wayne, Auntie Karen and Nanna Connie

Patrick Flynn



6th June

Happy 70th Birthday
wishes to my wonderful Husband Pat. All my love always, Sandy xx
Happy 70th Birthday Dad
Love from all your family xxxx

SHAUN Happy 50th birthday. Love you. Have a good weekend. Lisa and Ralf xxx

HAPPY 50th birthday Shaun. Love from Kath x

HAPPY 50th birthday Shaun, have a good one. Katie and Chris x

HAPPY birthday Shaun. Love, Lewis

HAPPY birthday Grandad. Love, Skyla and Penny xx

HAPPY 50th birthday Dad. Love, Naomi and Kurt xx

Birthday Remembrance

JOE ROBERTS 1.6.1922. Another birthday has come around, and there's nothing I can do. But sit for a while and picture your smile, just like I always do. Happy Birthday Dad. Love, Beverly and family x

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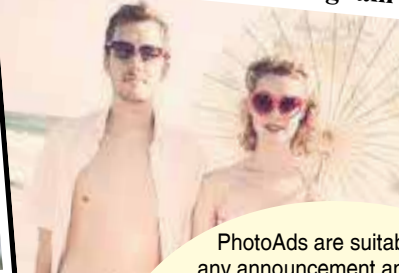
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10-10-10

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

Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



Golden

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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!

AYCLIFFE TRI CLUB NEWS

The club had a very successful end to the month in regards to results. At the Nottingham Sprint Triathlon held on Saturday the 20th May, Tracey Warrior finished the race in a time of 1:28:02, an excellent 8th in her age group, 206th overall; Stuart Rimmer also finished 8th in his age group in a time of 1:16:03,

68th overall. The day after, Jez Ladbury competed in the Phoenix Sprint triathlon at Ragley Hall in Warwickshire, finishing the race in a brilliant 5th in his age group in a time of 1:32:00, 68th overall. In Southport that Sunday, Melanie Rowland was hoping to qualify for the European Sprint Championships.

She crossed the line in a time of 1:23:38, 7th in her age group, 49th female, 221st overall, qualification pending. Saving the best until last, on May 27th in the Strathclyde Country Park, Susan Brown was hoping to qualify for Europe in the British Age Group Sprint Triathlon Championships. With a finishing time of 1:14:40, an amazing first in her age group, there was no need to wait for qualification confirmation. She was really pleased with the result as she wasn't expecting a podium position, she just wanted to qualify.



Susan Brown

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store, had a very disappointing seven wicket defeat at home to Stokesley 2nd XI in the NYSD 2nd division. Asked to bat first Aycliffe scored a below par 160 all out after 46 overs. The main contributions coming from Chris Palmer (sponsored by Vanila Design & Print), who scored 35 and Tom Wickins (20 runs) and Graham Telford (19 runs). The visitors romped home to victory after only 20.4 overs despite decent bowling from Michael Howe (2 for 44) and

Jack Slatcher (1 for 40). Aycliffe's first team had an impressive seven wicket victory at home to Rockliffe Park 1st XI in the quarter final of the Brunton Cup thanks to an outstanding all round performance from Michael Howe. Rockliffe were restricted to 106 for 6 in their 20 overs, with Howe taking three wickets for only 16 runs. In reply the talented all rounder then smashed a season's best 59 off just 37 balls, with four boundaries and four big sixes as Aycliffe reached their winning target from just 16 overs. The first team now entertain Bishop Auckland 1st XI in the semi final on Friday 9th June. The second team battled to a winning draw away at Saltburn 2nd XI in the NYSD 4th division and set a couple of new second team club batting records in a run laden game. Asked to bat first the second team scored the highest score in their history, setting a new land mark total of 275 all out from their 50 overs. Dave Wright lead the run spree with a fantastic innings of 98 from just 101 balls, which included 12 boundaries and three sixes. Elliott Holt supported well with 28 runs and Ryan Patrick also batted well scoring 27. In reply, Saltburn were also amongst the runs, finishing their innings with 235 for 7 after 50 overs to help set a new Aycliffe 2nd team match aggregate runs total of 510. The under 15's team unsurprisingly lost away at a very strong Darlington team that had a number of County players in their ranks. However there were some good individual performances from the Aycliffe team, particularly from wicket keeper Joe Bowsher, who had an excellent game behind the stumps and Kyle Cuthbertson, who batted really well. The u13's lost heavily away at Richmond by 92 runs, but there were some positives that came out of the game as Josh Imerson and Harry Wright batted well and both scored 11 runs. Leo Mercy deserved credit too for volunteering to take over as wicket keeper at very short notice after the regular stumper came down ill during the game. The under 11's lost at home to Darlington despite some outstanding bowling from Brandon Grant who took three wickets for seven runs.

AYCLIFFE MARTIAL ARTS STUDENTS IN FRANCE

On Friday 19th May students from Kim Chung Do Kwan, flew to Versailles to represent the Mudo Academy of Great Britain and Chungdokwan UK at the Challenge International Mudo as part of a weekend of celebration and competition to mark the 20th anniversary of the World Mudo Academy.

The team was lead by Master Ron Brennan, 9th Dan, Chief Instructor of the Mudo Academy of Great Britain. Also in attendance were Master Arthur Boyle, Master Sandra Roscher, and Newtonians Emma Dunn, Matthew Thompson and Lorraine Thompson. The hard work and preparation paid off for the team and in spite of a high level of competition, they returned with 2 gold medals and 2 silver. The inspiring weekend also saw a range of demonstrations from the French teams in addition to a very special demonstration from Master Cheon who was flown over especially for the event.

The Mudo Academy of Great Britain and Chungdokwan UK would like to thank our wonderful hosts. To learn more about the Mudo Academy visit www.mudoacademygb.com.

Practising the real Martial Art is excellent for the improvement of mental and physical health. For anyone who wants to get involved come along

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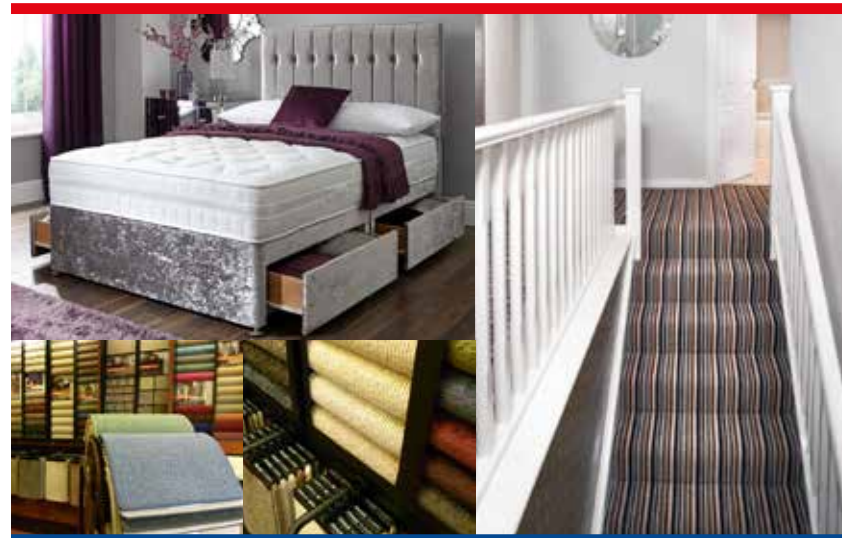
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