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Week Ending 16th June 2017

# Newton News

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## Your Vote Needed on Future of Great Aycliffe

Residents who are registered for voting have received notice of a referendum, but this doesn't have a lot of information on it, so what's it all about?

Many residents still haven't heard of the Neighbourhood Plan and the short answer is - future planning. Everyone is sick of elections and many are fed up with politics and think this will not affect them. But this is a very important long term strategic document, that could impact on the future of Great Aycliffe.

Over the last 3 years a Committee made up of representatives from our community have been working on the Plan. Extensive consultation took place to find



out what was important to residents. Many meetings were attended and hundreds of hours of investigation and research have led to this document. The aim of the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan is to ensure that future development in the Parish of Great Aycliffe is suitable and applicable to OUR needs. It sets out the vision for the Parish and seeks to:-

- Protect and retain the traditional green areas, open spaces and environment
- To alleviate existing parking problems and mitigate any potential future parking problems
- Ensuring garages are large enough to actually park your car
- To protect Aycliffe Village from urban sprawl
- To ensure any future housing meets the needs of the residents, is of good design and to high energy standards whilst maintaining the character of the area
- To facilitate and improve retail provision and



### Encourage support for local jobs

If agreed, this will become a local planning document that must be referred to if a planning application is submitted within the Parish. It is important you vote on this. This is a simple 'Yes' you agree to the plan and the policies contained within it or a 'No' you do not agree. Please take a few minutes to vote on **THURSDAY 22nd JUNE 2017. Your Parish needs YOU.**

The document can be viewed on the Town Council website at [www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk) or hard copies are available at the Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre, the Library, Woodham Community Centre, OakLeaf Sports Complex, the Town Council Offices, Marie Joy Hairdressers, Aycliffe Village and the Pioneering Care Centre.

Thank you from everyone who has worked on the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan and **PLEASE VOTE!**

Christine Walton  
Corporate & Policy Officer  
Great Aycliffe Town Council  
Tel: 01325 300700

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## Questions for Councillor

Dear Sir,  
Disappointing to see our new Aycliffe North, Tory councillor, Paul Howell standing for MP in Houghton last week.

We have 2 questions for him.

**Q1.** Why did he not tell Aycliffe North voters on his leaflet he was at the same time a candidate to be MP in Sunderland?

**Q2.** He knocked out two great loyal local councillors,

and we guess if elected in Sunderland he would be resigning as our councillor. Can we now trust him to stay as an Aycliffe North councillor? Or will he spend the next four years chasing more By-elections, Darlington Council or others, trying to get out of Newton Aycliffe?

Not a good start.

Aycliffe Reply,  
still outing deceit

## CHILTON COMMUNITY SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

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## STEPHENSON WAY ACADEMY ZOOLAB



During enrichment week the children in the Reception class at Stephenson Way Academy were very lucky to meet Rob from Zoolab and experience some real wild animals. Currently they are learning about Africa as part of a 'Tinga Tinga Tales' topic, so Rob brought in a collection of African animals.

All the children were immediately engaged and curious as to which animals were hiding inside the various sized boxes. Rob gave the children a clue then they had to guess the animal in each

box. Once they had got past the idea of a six foot elephant in the holdall, or a fully grown giraffe in Rob's car, they were able to make sensible guesses. First to be revealed were Turbo and Shelley the Giant African Land Snails. The children were given the opportunity to hold one of the snails whilst they listened to fun facts about them. Their favourite fact was that snail slime is an ingredient of face creams used by their mams and dads.

The next animal to be revealed was a cockroach named Matilda. Rob explained to the fascinated children that the only four things a cockroach doesn't eat are plastic, metal, glass and brick. The children then looked at Tallulah Tarantula and held Iceman a Giant African Millipede.

Throughout the session, Rob was very friendly, attentive and encouraging to those that were a little unsure (including the staff). One of the children's favourites was Prince Harry the Central African Royal Python and nearly all the children wanted to hold him. Their final encounter was with Ted the black and yellow Salamander. Everyone had a great time and it was an amazing experience for the children who learnt both the names of African animals as well as facts about them. All the children and staff would like to thank Zoolab for the amazing experience!  
[www.zoolabuk.com](http://www.zoolabuk.com)

## St. Joseph's School Mini Police



Year 5 children from St Joseph's School have joined the Mini Police. The children attended a launch morning at Chilton Primary School. Here they met PC Craig Johnson who has started this initiative, also in attendance was Deputy Lord Lieutenant Dela Smith, who

came to welcome schools attending and who supports the Mini Police.

Children had a fantastic morning meeting police officers from different departments. Road Traffic, Jet & Ben and the Dog section. They are very proud to wear their uniform.

## Popular Town Doctor Retires



Robert McKinty a very popular Doctor at Bewick Crescent Surgery, retired last Thursday after 28 years in Newton Aycliffe. He wishes to thank all patients friends and colleagues for the very kind and thoughtful cards received. Robert said: "It has been a privilege to serve the community and work at Bewick Crescent Surgery and I thank you all very much." On behalf of the townspeople, Dr. Robert served so well, we wish him a happy retirement and best wishes in his cycling pursuit, to improve his fitness, and also in his support for Leeds United F.C.

## ARC News

Lads and Lasses from Aycliffe Running Club were gannin along the Scotswood Road on Friday 9th June for the annual Blaydon Races.

The Blaydon Race is a 5.7 mile athletics race from Newcastle upon Tyne to Blaydon that is steeped in local tradition. It takes place on June 9th every year starting on Collingwood Street in Newcastle, heads west along Scotswood Road and finishes in Blaydon. The 1862 Blaydon Races song is widely regarded as the national anthem of Tyneside and is the inspiration behind the event which became an actual road race in 1981.

First to finish for ARC was John Surtees in 32:02 followed by Mark Wade 34:26, Tommy Scott 37:13, Michelle Jane 39:06, John Heywood 43:13, Tracey Surtees 43:43, Trish Kay 45:12 and Dave Thompson 50:55.

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# THE TURBINIA

## \* Saturday Night Live \*

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**Saturday 17th June - "Norgaards"**

The Norgaards are a three piece Indie/Mod/Punk/Rock/Blues band consisting of bass, drums and guitar/vocals. Based in Darlington the band set out as a first wave cover band; due to popular demand for more Indie/Rock/Ska etc they decided to broaden their set to wider genres, while still keeping to the original energetic approach that the lads have developed a reputation for. The Norgaards have established themselves as a 'must see' live and very talented band that oozes energy. Covering tracks by: Clash, The Coral, Jam, Killers, Feeder, Who, Oasis, The Vaccines, Fratellis, Green Day, Blur, The Damned, Arctic Monkeys and many more.

**Saturday 24th June - "Fire Lady Luck"**

For more information on bands go to  
[www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk) or 313034  
**Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke**



# OUR LOCAL HOSPITAL INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Work is nearing completion on a £20 million investment in state of the art operating theatres at Darlington Memorial Hospital.

An official launch event for the scheme, which includes 6 new theatres as well as upgraded mortuary facilities and a bereavement suite, will take place later this month.

The investment follows a £27m upgrade to the infrastructure of the hospital building over the past few years, 'a commitment to the future of the hospital', says the NHS organisation which runs the hospital.

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT) is the largest provider of

integrated care – hospital and community services – in the North East and last year had over two million patient contacts.

Sue Jacques, Chief Executive of CDDFT said: "We serve a population of 650,000 people delivering services from our main hospital sites in Darlington, Durham and Bishop Auckland as well as our community hospitals, a range of other community settings and within patients' homes. It is a responsibility we take extremely seriously and we have a dedicated workforce of over 8,000 colleagues striving to provide the highest quality care."

"This is reflected in our performance last year.



Every year we must produce an annual report – a look back on the previous year and how we have performed both operationally and financially. We've just finalised our report for 2016/17 which will be formally presented at our annual general meeting in September.

"I hope many local residents will join us at this meeting to hear our highlights from the year. These include the organisation performing well against national targets, we successfully met national performance targets including 92% of patients receiving treatment within 18 weeks of referral, despite unprecedented demand on our A&E services we delivered a strong performance and achieved the target we had agreed with NHS Improvement, and we again performed well on cancer targets. We also delivered on our financial plans to end the year with a surplus and therefore generating the cash necessary for us to continue to invest in the future for our patients."

wards new technology is also supporting staff to record patient information electronically which means key data is available at a glance.

Professor Paul Keane OBE, Chairman of County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust said:

"It has been a challenging year but I am pleased that we have achieved the majority of our targets and in some instances exceeded expectation. These outcomes could not have been realised without the dedication, commitment and hard work of all of our 8000 staff. I continually visit our service delivery teams and the enthusiasm, innovation and compassion by staff is so very evident to see and this helps us continue to enhance the quality of care for our patients and communities, which is our absolute priority."

## Confusion Over Use of Recycling Bin



The Marie Curie Newton Aycliffe Fundraising Group are holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 8th July at St. Clare's Church Hall from 10am – 12 noon. Admission £1.50 to include Tea/Coffee and Scone. There will be a Raffle plus various stalls.

Dear Sir,  
I subscribe to the DCC brown garden waste bin system and pay £25 per year to have it emptied once a fortnight during the season. On Friday 9th June they refused to empty my garden waste bin, suggesting there was dog muck inside which was in fact, an old bees nest full of wax found at the bottom of my garden and removed with other cuttings and put in the garden waste bin.

I called to clarify this with DCC, who in their wisdom didn't class it as Garden Waste, but said it should be placed in the "BLUE" recycling bin.

I was taken aback by this and asked, what did they classify a used bees nest? They didn't have a clue, except to put in the blue bin. I then asked what I do with all the rest of the grass cuttings from my garden as my garden waste bin was full. Their reply was, and I quote "put it in your BLUE recycle bin! Why on earth are we paying DCC to take garden waste away, when we can place it in our BLUE recycle bins free of charge?"

I need an answer from DCC on this matter. I do record all my phone calls so DCC can't say they didn't say to use the recycle bin for garden

rubbish. On 13th June I received a letter from DCC confirming, what was said on the phone - more waste of tax payers money so I treated that as waste AND PUT IT IN THE RECYCLE BIN!  
Name and address supplied

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## ELECTION DISRUPTION

Once again schools used as Polling Stations caused disruption in the town with massive inconvenience to working parents.

Most of the wards use community centres etc. but four schools, St. Joseph's, Stephenson Way, Sugar Hill and Vane Road were affected. St. Mary's Church Hall, The Big Club and the Phoenix Club are all nearby and although they might be in a different ward does it really matter? Name & address supplied



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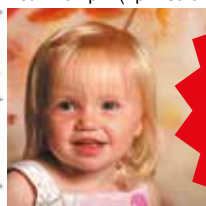
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which is available only for the duration of the competition, will include a variety of poses taken during the shoot! Variety of backdrops available. (These can include older family members too!). Upon your return to view they will be available.

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# Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership - June Meeting

The first meeting following the AGM saw 24 people in attendance and Chairman Ron Mitchie set the path straight for the coming year in circulating a Code of Conduct.

Prior to the meeting, the Secretary had sent an "Officers Report" electronically, but outlined the progress made at their meetings as follows:

- 1) Producing a leaflet for partners to circulate to others, raising the profile of GACAP.
- 2) The website to be reinstated as would the domain name.
- 3) Raising the profile via Facebook and Twitter would be increased too.
- 4) There will be a Special Meeting at 3.45pm on 3rd July to adopt a new Constitution which had been circulated for comments.
- 5) To invite up to four partners to join the officers as part of GACAP Management Committee. Each meeting would in future have at least one speaker either from a GACAP partner or an outside organisation with



Photo left to right: Liane Taylor, Treasurer Joan Mitchie, Secretary Geoff Batchelor Vice Chairman Ron Mitchie, Chairman Missing from the photograph was Syd Howarth, Founder and President of GACAP.

similar aims as GACAP.

The speaker for this meeting was Chris Cowley from DISC who worked on the Reaching out Across Durham (ROAD) project. The ROAD Project was funded by the Big Lottery. DISC and 20 other partners were working together on the project to make a difference to the lives of people over 25 years of age who live in Co Durham who have barriers in their life. He told those present that

any GACAP partner could refer a person requiring assistance.

Intensive support is given to each person from a range of health and finance specialists as well as accessing a range of training courses to enable them to make positive choices.

The initial criteria once referred, was a birth certificate and ROAD were happy to help track one down if that was necessary. Each referral has one to one personal assistance for tat all times.

After referral, eligibility followed, then an assessment followed by developing a plan, a review, completion of the project and course celebration. Support could last for a period of three years.

Partners were encouraged by the possibility of premises being obtained, located in the town centre for a GACAP HQ. The Town Centre manager was helpfully liaising with the president and the Town Centre Owners.

Anyone interested in finding out more about GACAP are invited to contact the Joan the secretary on: secretary.gacap@gmail.com

# Council Awards Celebrate Environment Champions

The County Durham Environment Awards have been running since 1989 and recognise the green achievements of individuals, businesses, community organisations and schools. They reward work to improve, enhance and protect the local and wider environment, as well as recognising the community spirit often involved in the projects.

The awards are organised by the County Council on behalf of the County Durham Environment Partnership, which brings together public, private and voluntary organisations with the aim of making the county 'altogether greener.'

The awards are sponsored by the Council, The Northern Echo, Banks Group, Durham Wildlife Trust and national environment charity Groundwork.

They are open for entries now with 12 categories:

- Built environment
- Climate change
- Community partnership
- Craftsmanship
- Greener business
- Natural environment
- Places and spaces
- Schools and colleges
- Volunteer group of the year
- Volunteer of the year – under 18
- Volunteer of the year – over 18
- Waste management

The deadline for entries is 28 July with shortlisting and judging taking place over the summer. Winners will be announced at a ceremony in Durham in November.

To apply or find out more, go to: [www.countydurhampartnership.co.uk/envawards](http://www.countydurhampartnership.co.uk/envawards) or call 03000 267133.

Interim chair of the partnership Oliver Sherratt said: "The awards are a real opportunity to highlight the excellent environmental work that goes on in our county every year."

"I never fail to be impressed by the efforts of County Durham's volunteers, schools, businesses and community organisations."

"We want people, businesses and organisations to tell us about their environmental work so we can give them the recognition they deserve and, in doing so, inspire others to do their bit."

The council's £3m restoration of Durham's Wharton Park, which received funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) through its Parks for People programme, scooped a hat-trick of awards in 2016.

As well as winning the 'built environment' and 'places and spaces' categories, the scheme was also given the 'outstanding' award which judges can give to an entry which exceeds the category criteria. The 2016 awards saw an impressive 57 entries from across the County, 17 of which were category winners and 18 'highly commended.'

# STUDENTS DEVELOP ROBOTICS SKILLS



Year 9 and 10 students at Woodham Academy recently took part in a workshop to develop their knowledge of robotics in today's world of work.

The day consisted of building the robots and then using a computer to programme the robots to move and even make sounds. The workshop concluded with students testing their robots on a circuit.

The workshop was delivered by 'Go Ahead Training' funded by GAMP. This half term, Y10 Engineering students are also visiting a number of companies in the area in to develop and extend their knowledge of the engineering sector.

# Situations VACANT

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# The Queen Travels on New Hitachi Train



Her Majesty the Queen marked the 175th anniversary of the first royal train by travelling on a newly built Hitachi Intercity Express train into Paddington Station.

Karen Boswell OBE, Managing Director at Hitachi Rail Europe, said:

"We trust that Her Majesty enjoyed the space, comfort and smooth ride on our new Intercity train. From the autumn, passengers will begin to feel the benefits of the new British-built fleet as they travel around the Great Western route."

# GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

## Planning Sub-Committee Meeting

Notice is hereby given that:-

A meeting of the Planning Sub-Committee of the Town Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices School Aycliffe Lane Newton Aycliffe on:

**WEDNESDAY, 21st JUNE, 2017  
at 5.30pm**

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".

Agendas / Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting ([www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk))



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## Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 20th June features Billy Wilder's romantic comedy-drama "The Apartment" starring Jack Lemmon, Shirley MacLaine and Fred MacMurray. It was nominated for ten Oscars and won five; Lemmon and MacLaine both won BAFTAs and Golden Globes for their roles. 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.

## EBAC Team Take Three Peaks Challenge



Eight intrepid employees from Aycliffe based Ebac are undertaking the Three Peaks challenge, carrying with them D'Humfrey, an Ebac dehumidifier weighing 13kg. The team which ranges from age 18-60, will take on Scafell Pike in England, Ben Nevis

in Scotland and Snowdon in Wales in a testing challenge to raise money for three chosen charities; Just a Drop, The Olivia Mae Foundation and Cancer Research UK. The charities were chosen by Ebac staff. The Olivia Mae Foundation is particularly close to the heart of Ebac employees, it supports families during difficult periods when a child is ill and was founded by Pamela Petty past Ebac Managing Director.

Haydn Rees, the oldest member of the group, will be leading his team mates Helen Parkinson, Joanne Vipond, Matthew Cuthbert, James Shaw, Nathan Ward, Lee Higginbottom and Kelly Langham in training sessions to prepare for the gruelling challenge.

Former Royal Marine Haydn, said: "This challenge will be a demanding experience for the team especially with the added weight of the dehumidifier but, so far, one that that has been a lot of fun. "Each of the three chosen charities supports people in seemingly impossible situations in their lives and so our trek with D'Humfrey the dehumidifier is designed to illustrate the impossible being made possible."

"Follow us along the way with the hashtag #dhumfreysjourney and please support D'Humfrey in his bid to support the charities." John Elliott MBE, chairman of Ebac, said: "I'm very proud of the team at Ebac, not just the eight team members who are training for the Three Peaks challenge but of all the staff who have been actively involved in nominating charities and also sponsoring and supporting the team."

## GCSE Student Art Exhibition at Greenfield Gallery

In the lead up to the Greenfield Community College annual GCSE arts exhibition, running from Thursday 29th June to Wednesday 13th July, Greenfield Arts have been working with year 7 and 8 students to better understand what it is students need from the gallery and the opportunities it offers.

The exhibition which will showcase the fantastic work of students studying for GCSEs in Visual Arts at Greenfield Community College—including sculpture, photography and graphics, 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.

Year 11 students have also seen this as an opportunity to promote the arts to



younger generations and inspire the take up of GCSE art. They have therefore given themselves the task of curating one final exhibition, offering graduate and aspiring artists a professional space to exhibit, something that is very hard to come by but will open up inspiring opportunities to both artists and the young audience of Greenfield Community College. Year 11 students have also developed a mentor scheme in which they hope for younger years to get involved in the gallery programming in their absence, therefore engaging more classes with the space.

The work produced by the year 7's and 8's will therefore inform part of the secondary exhibition curated by Year 11 students, which is open to the public from Monday 17th July – Wednesday 26th July. Come along, add your own opinion to our comments wall and even join in the activity!

For more information on any of the information here, check out the website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) or speak with one of our lovely



## Wartime Theme Fayre at St. Clare's

On Saturday 24th of June at 10am, St. Clare's Church will be hosting a 1940's themed Fayre in the Community and Fellowship Hall with a food ration box, tombola and raffle for you to try your luck.

Maybe you could win a bottle of home-made wine, beer or lemonade. Buy a home-made cake or pie, have a go at some of the games of the time or just sit and relax listening to Vera Lynn or the Andrews sisters singing classics songs of the era.

We will be showing video footage of some of the celebrities of that era too. Enjoy a hot drink and a bacon sandwich and step back in time.

If anyone has any memorabilia and would like to bring it along to share with us that morning that would be great. There really will be something for all ages, so please come along with your friends and family and enjoy the morning.



team members on 01325 379048 or [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk).

Gallery Opening Times: Monday – Thursday 10am – 9pm and Friday 10am – 4pm.

## 100th Birthday Celebration



Phyllis Morris, a resident at Avon Court, celebrated her 100th Birthday on Tuesday 13th June. She is shown here surrounded by family members, proudly holding a framed card of congratulations from the Queen.

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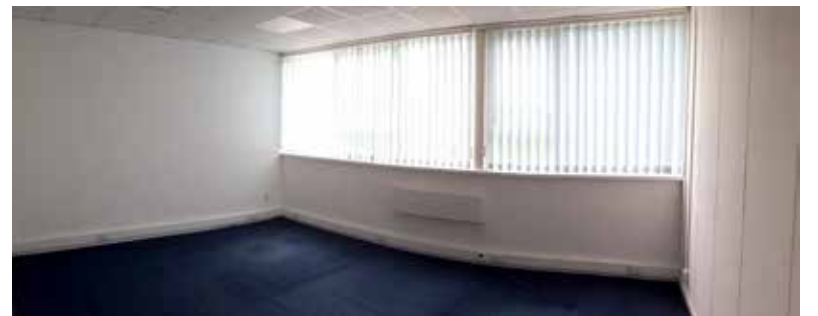
Dear Sir,  
As a resident I am fed up of seeing children in the town during 9 am & 4 pm when they should be in School! It is a regular occurrence to see youngsters aged between 10 and 14 years, some of whom are not wearing uniforms. ALL parents should make sure their children go to school. Some who go on their might, just end up wandering the streets, instead of going to school, and sometimes they cause damage to property. I also believe school hours should be extended with less holidays and a 48 week school year. Name & address supplied

## Bus Trip for Senior Citizens

New Friends - New Places Senior Citizens Group welcomes you to join them on a Bus Trip to Helmsley and The Lavender Farm nr. Helmsley on Sunday 2nd July 2017. Leaving St Clare's at 9.30am and Stephenson Way Cemetery Bus Stop at 9.40am. The cost is £10 and is one of many outings the group go on every month, to different places. To Book a seat and for further details ring 01325 308094 or 07967 901477. (Dorothy)

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## Greenfield's Valued Cree Group Volunteers



The fabulous Mens Cree group at Greenfield Arts have again been recognised for their contribution to the community as part of Volunteers Week, a national initiative to recognise and celebrate the value of volunteering.

As part of the celebrations by Durham Community Action, the Cree Group have been invited to attend a presentation evening at Beamish Museum where they will be given the opportunity to explore the museum's town and enjoy refreshments in the historic tea rooms.

The group meet at Greenfield Arts on a weekly basis where they volunteer their time to help both themselves and the community as they participate in useful and creative projects which in turn have a positive effect on their own well-being. They are presently working on building a 'shed' for the PCP at Newton Aycliffe and have recently been working on wonderful 'little libraries' which are popping up around the region.

Richard Agar who leads the sessions is thrilled with the invitation and the recognition



the group are receiving for their hard work. The Cree Men meet at Greenfield Arts every Monday from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm, if you would like to know a little bit more about the group please give our friendly team a call on 01325 379 048 or email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk)

## Large Dog off Lead Savages Small Jack Russell Terrier

On Wednesday 7th June my Mum was walking her two whippets and my Jack Russell Terrier 'Poppy' along the old railway lines in Newton Aycliffe around 1.30pm, when a large German Shepherd dog approached them. This dog was off the lead and the owner had no control whatsoever, and was frantically shouting at the dog by name, but it wouldn't listen and proceeded to chase her young whippet who was so scared she ran all the way home to Rowan Place

(over a busy road near the train station). The German Shepherd then chased the other whippet all the way home. My poor Mum didn't know where her dogs were, if they had been mauled, ran over/or killed!

The big dog returned snarling and growling, and my Mum was terrified it was going to attack her. She shouted it off and tried to ward it off using her dog lead. - it then grabbed my little Jack Russell (still on her lead) by the neck. The man shouted at my Mum

and threatened to set his other German Shepherd dog on her.

My dog needed surgery to her neck and due to the nature of the injury has a very high risk of infection requiring further surgery.

We are all really upset and my Mum's dogs are terrified to go outside. The impact was devastating on my son who is sitting GCSE Exams and couldn't sleep the night of the attack.

The Police are currently dealing with the incident and even though this is a "first reported" attack we are hopeful of bringing this man to justice as three separate crimes have been committed. I would ask readers that should anything happen to you or your dogs where you feel that they, or you are in danger of being attacked, please report it to the police on 101.

Even if there is no injuries the police will keep a record and I have had several people message me who have said similar things have happened. Had these incidents been reported to the police then that would have meant that this wasn't a first offence and would have been easier for me to get justice for our dogs and family.

Samantha Mitchell



## GET INVOLVED BY VOLUNTEERING



Volunteering is an excellent way for people to get involved in their community. It provides people with an opportunity to make new friends, whilst learning new skills to help them get into further training, education or employment.

Maria Freeman, Community Health Champion is a valued member of the Wellbeing for Life team and has been volunteering with the service for a year now. Maria supports Health Trainer Sarah Howells who says "Maria is a great asset to our team with quality characteristics, a public health degree and will soon be a qualified teacher. She supports us with many aspects of service delivery; in fitness classes, running groups, arts and crafts, practical cooking sessions as well as promotional events.

Maria is a proactive member of two "Eat Wise Drop a Size" groups and helps with the weigh

ins and delivers nutritional information talks. I am thrilled she has reached her goal of gaining paid employment, but even more so that she has agreed to continue volunteering."

Maria says "Volunteering for Wellbeing for Life has given me confidence, new skills and qualifications which has helped me find employment. I will soon be starting paid work teaching in Low Newton Prison, which I am extremely excited about.

Wellbeing for Life have invested in my personal development and I will continue to volunteer for the service as I strongly believe in it. Plus the best thing about it is that I feel part of a team, which is as important to me as being part of a family or friends."

The Wellbeing for Life service works with people to address the factors which influence their health and build their capacity to be independent, resilient and maintain good health for themselves and those around them.

Wellbeing for Life currently has 363 active volunteers of which 94 are trained Community Health Champions and they support the team of staff who work with groups and individuals in County Durham supporting them to take those difficult first steps to a better quality of life.

The wellbeing approach goes beyond looking at a single issue and instead aims to take a whole-person and community approach to improving health.

The service hopes to create sustainable groups and activities in local communities across County Durham and volunteers are essential in making this happen.

For more about volunteering for Wellbeing for Life contact freephone 0800 8766887 or visit [www.wellbeingforlife.net](http://www.wellbeingforlife.net) Facebook: @CountyDurham WellbeingForLifeService, Twitter @WBFL\_Durham



### COUNTY NEWSBITS

Compiled by  
County Councillor John Clare

The most important thing to do this week is vote (hopefully 'Yes') in the referendum on Thursday 22nd June on the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan.

Please find full articles about the headlines below online on my blog at: [bit.ly/CNB146](http://bit.ly/CNB146)

#### COUNCIL INFORMATION

- £100,000 of grants available for Great Aycliffe and Middridge – the GAMP project callout is now open.

- What to do if you are concerned that a vulnerable adult is at risk of abuse or neglect.

- The Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan – A Summary.

- Armed Forces Week: Raising the Armed Forces Flag, 11am Monday 19 June at St Clare's Church.

- Latest roadworks information.

#### COMMUNITY NOTICES

- Durham PCC Ron Hogg's 'Alcohol Issues' campaign and survey.

- HealthWatch County Durham AGM.

- Clarence Green campaign continues.

- DCC Countryside Newsletter – June edition.

- Database of Conscientious Objectors in County Durham.

- 'ROAD' Health and Wellbeing Support for unemployed men aged 25+.

- Aycliffe UTC is offering GCSE Results support in August.

- Refurbished IT Equipment for Community Groups.

- Vehicle Online Shopping Fraud.

#### THINGS TO DO NEXT WEEKEND

- Find out about the Islamic festival of Eid – drop-in 1-3pm, Saturday 24 June, Durham

Oriental Museum.

- Durham Cathedral woodland and riverbanks guided walk, 10:30am-noon, Saturday 24 June, £3 – book on 0191 3864266.

- Durham Castle Medieval Family Fun Day, 11am-2pm, Sunday 25 June, FREE.

#### LOCAL ECONOMY

- NETPark based Kromek kept President Trump safe during the NATO Security Summit.

- Durham Lifting has enjoyed a 30% growth since coming to Aycliffe Business Park.

## Aldi Car Parking 'Fine'

Dear Sir,

Two weeks ago my son kindly took me to Aldi in his car to allow me to get a large amount of shopping. It then came as a shock when a week later he received a notice fining him for parking in Aldi car park.

Apparently he had not entered the car registration number in the machine. I honestly thought that you only needed to enter the number if you were doing other shopping in the Town, but that it was not required if you were only shopping at

Aldi.

My 40 minutes shopping spree costs an extra £40 which must be a wonderful profit for Parking Eye who control the car park.

We have appealed against the charge and have yet to learn the outcome but did the same thing a week later whilst under the same misapprehension.

Please warn anyone shopping at Aldi to ALWAYS enter their car number regardless of what else they may be doing.

Name and address supplied.

**Editor:**

*Aldi's car parks throughout the UK are managed by Parking Eye. Shoppers who have been stung with an unfair charge should complain directly to [customer.service@aldi.co.uk](mailto:customer.service@aldi.co.uk). Please note also it is a "charge" and not a "fine" which in most cases customers ignore.*

## Thanks from Our M.P.

Dear Sir,

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who voted for me in the General Election, and I am both proud and humbled to be re-elected as your MP.

As I said in the campaign I will always put the people of this constituency first, and will continue to work hard for the area both locally and in Westminster.

Secondly, with the election over my constituency office has been reopened. Should you have an issue or a problem and would like help from myself or my team do not hesitate to get in touch.

Appointments to meet with my team can be made by telephone on 01325 321603.

Alternatively you can email me at [phil.wilson.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:phil.wilson.mp@parliament.uk) or write to me at 4 Beveridge Walkway, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 4EE.



### MRI SCANNER APPEAL

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

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

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

- Text **SCAN02 £10** to 70070 to donate £10 to CDDFT.
- To discuss fundraising or for more information, ring 01325 743786 or email: [cddft.charity@nhs.net](mailto:cddft.charity@nhs.net)
- Follow us on twitter: @CDDFTCharity
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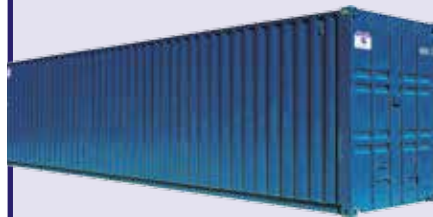
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## Durham's BRASS Festival 2017 TRIPS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS APPRECIATED

**Runs Friday 7- Sunday 16 July - First selection of shows go on sale**

- North East Stars of the West End Matt Corner (Frankie Valli in Jersey Boys) and Kate Graham (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Billy Elliot) perform swing versions of songs from Broadway.
- Experience early surround sound in Durham Cathedral with the Cathedral Choir and His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornetts.
- BRASS celebrates 100th anniversary of Dizzy Gillespie with American jazz trombonist Jiggs Whigham and the BBC Big Band.
- First Festival under new Festival Director Paul Gudgin.
- New Summer School for young brass musicians to seasoned professionals to be held alongside BRASS Festival for first time.
- Tickets now on sale for selection of BRASS 2017 shows and events at [www.brassfestival.co.uk](http://www.brassfestival.co.uk)

Durham's popular BRASS Festival returns for its 11th year celebrating the best of brass from soul to jazz to traditional and classical across 10 days in one of the North East's most stunning cities.

BRASS Festival tickets are now on sale for a selection of events, available at [www.brassfestival.co.uk](http://www.brassfestival.co.uk)

The weeklong festival, organised by Durham County Council, showcases the broadest possible range of brass music, from Broadway to 17th Century Venice. The festival also brashes up some Northern Soul while hosting the BBC Big Band's tribute to jazz trumpet legend, Dizzy Gillespie.

North East stars of the West End Matt Corner (Frankie Valli in Jersey Boys) and Kate Graham (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Billy Elliot) join the Scottish Swing Orchestra and the BRASS Broadway Chorus showcasing the region's best musical theatre talent for swing versions of great Broadway songs from Anything Goes, Hairspray, Chicago, West Side Story and many more.

Venetian Surround Sound brings together Durham Cathedral Choir with early music virtuosos His Majesty's Sagbutts & Cornetts to perform a tailor made concert programme designed to the acoustics and layout of Durham Cathedral. Experience early surround sound in a thrilling programme of Gabrielli, Lassus and Praetorius evoking the magical sounds of St Mark's Venice in the 17th Century.

BRASS celebrates the 100th anniversary of one of the greatest jazz trumpeters of all time, Dizzy Gillespie. The legendary BBC Big Band pays homage to his contribution to jazz, alongside that of other great brass players and band leaders from Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey to Maynard Fergusson and Quincy Jones.

Two great North East traditions Brass Bands and Choral Societies come together on Saturday 15 July in a spectacular new version of William Walton's thrilling Belshazzar's Feast. The concert will feature the Reg Vardy Band and a special Festival Chorus in a unique celebration of brass and voices.

A brass festival wouldn't be a brass festival without a top level traditional brass band and this year's BRASS Festival presents the world's best brass band: The Cory Band continues to dominate the world of traditional brass having become the first band in history to win the European, British National, British Open and Brass in Concert titles in a single year. They bring the best traditional brass band music which took them all the way to the top of the contest tree.

BRASS 2017's commitment to inspiring a new generation of young brass players in the North East includes not just performing in schools throughout the Festival week, but also putting instruments directly into their hands through the Big BRASS Bus tour which goes on the road around the North East in July. Growing Durham's reputation as the place for brass musicians to congregate, learn, show off and have fun, 2017 sees the first ever Big Band Summer School from Friday 14 to Sunday 16 July. Led by American jazz trombonist Jiggs Whigham and members of the BBC Big Band, this intensive 3 day big band summer school for young, intermediate and advanced players will focus on the music of the great brass big band leaders. This is a chance for players of all ages and stages to get involved and be at the heart of one of the UK's leading celebrations of brass music and players.

Durham's BRASS Festival Director Paul Gudgin said, "We're delighted to announce the return of BRASS for 2017. "The festival has become known not only for offering great music and incredible entertainment, but also as a commissioner of new and exciting works and this year is no exception. "We're incredibly excited by this year's new works and the return of some old

friends, all of which continue the tradition of brass music in County Durham, but ensure there is something for everyone to enjoy."

Steve Howell, head of culture and sport, said: "Unbelievably we are into our eleventh year of BRASS in Durham, always bringing the very best of a broad range of brass music from around the world to our wonderful city.

"Once again this year we have an absolutely outstanding line-up of international and local musicians.

"And once again BRASS will show off our stunning County, with performances everywhere from Gala Theatre and Durham Cathedral in Durham City to a variety of local parks around the County."

[www.brassfestival.co.uk](http://www.brassfestival.co.uk)

Dear Sir,  
It's that time of year again when the Senior Citizens Trips are in full flow. My wife and I have just returned from the Northumberland (Hexham) trip on Thursday the 8th June, and what can I say that hasn't been said before, another great day out, although the weather could have been somewhat kinder, at least the only time it rained was while we were in the coach. The time we spent in Hexham, the sun came out and it was a lovely afternoon. The lunch at Langley Castle was as expected absolutely beautiful, I must mention the Herb Dumplings that accompanied the Northumberland Broth, they were the best, as the two ladies in our company could

verify. If you are reading this ladies, thank you both for a fun day out, we loved your company, I believe one of you is called Judith but you will know who I mean.

Our thanks and compliments

as well to all the hard working staff and management who prepared and presented a great meal in such comfortable surroundings.

A special mention must also go to our driver David and his

mate Stan for keeping us all entertained throughout the day, personally I can't wait for next year, what a great treat this is courtesy of the GATC long may they continue.  
Alan Elders

## Summary of Great Aycliffe Plan & Why You Should Vote 'Yes'

### Please Use Your Vote - It is important!

On Thursday 22nd June, people in Newton Aycliffe are being asked to go to the polls again – this time to vote 'yes' or 'no' to the proposed Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan (GANP).

At the moment, the government's National Planning Policy Framework has "a presumption in favour" of development unless the harm caused by that development "demonstrably and significantly" outweighs the benefits. In practice, this makes it very hard for the Planners or Planning Committees to say no to ANY planning application.

This is why it is so important that residents approve the GANP, which – if agreed – will set certain standards to which new developments must conform. The GANP is Great Aycliffe's protection against rogue developments.

#### THE PLAN

You can read the whole plan at [bit.ly/GANPlan](http://bit.ly/GANPlan) but here is my best effort at a summary of the main points:

#### OBJECTIVES (pp1-2)

1. To protect and retain the traditional green areas, open spaces and environment for the community.
2. To alleviate parking problems
3. To protect the green and leafy character of our area.
4. To protect Aycliffe Village
5. To ensure that housing is sufficiently high-quality and affordable, of the necessary size, with adequate parking, garaging and open spaces, and includes suitable accommodation for older people
6. To help improve retail provision.
7. To encourage local jobs.
8. To ensure that developers contribute to local infrastructure.

#### PLANNING POLICIES (pp36-61)

#### CHARACTER AND HERITAGE

- CH1 – Developments must maintain hedgerows and woodlands, provide tree-lined avenues and ensure green open space is provided.
- CH2 - New development that would change the character of accessible local green space will only be permitted if the applicant can demonstrate that very special circumstances exist that would justify such an exception.
- CH3 - Existing open spaces, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields and amenity open space, should not be built on except in certain circumstances.
- CH4 – Heritage Assets must be protected.

#### ENVIRONMENT

- E1 – Development must continue and enhance interlinked green corridors.
- E2 – There must be 'areas of separation' to the north and south of Aycliffe Village to prevent coalescence with the rest of Newton Aycliffe.
- E3 – Aycliffe Village is a Conservation Area and any development must take account of the village's historic character, architectural

details and building materials.

- E4 and E5 – New developments should not remove trees unless there is a compensatory mitigation proposal.

- EE1, 2 and 3 – New developments for energy efficiency and/or energy production from renewable and low carbon sources will be supported in certain circumstances.

#### HOUSING

- H1 – Small infill developments (less than 30 houses) must be proportionate and well-contained, and must relate to, and respect the character and form of, the established settlement.
- H3 and H5 – Set minimum off-road car and bike parking spaces for new houses (from 1 space for a 1-bed flat to 4 spaces for a 5-bed house).
- H4 – Garages must be big enough to take a modern vehicle (viz. 3m wide for a single and 5.5m for a double).
- H6 – Developments should be designed to achieve the highest possible energy efficiency standards.
- H7 - 10% of new dwellings on sites of 10 or more dwellings must meet the needs of older people, including bungalows (especially on the land adjacent to Woodham School).
- H8 – Proposals for 11 or more dwellings must provide an element of affordable housing.
- H9 – Developments must include adequate facilities – improved drainage, parks, play areas, footpaths etc.

#### RETAIL

- R2 – Seeks to protect the local retail centres at Simpature, Neville Parade, Woodham and Cobblers Hall.
- R3 – Supports developments which create employment opportunities, particularly high quality jobs, for Great Aycliffe residents.

#### PARKING AND TRAFFIC

- T1 – Restricts developments which will increase on-street parking, and requires adequate provision on-site for parking and access for deliveries, service vehicles, tradesmen working on-site, workers, social visitors and residents.
- T2 – Requires off-street parking in visually sensitive areas to be of permeable design material, which will allow grass to be the dominant final finish. It also requires consideration to be given to flood risk as a result of increased parking provision.
- T3 – Major developments must include cycle routes and footpaths connecting to local shops and the countryside.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

- CIL1 - All new development must provide a contribution towards necessary facilities and/or infrastructure by means of planning conditions, a Section 106 agreement or a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – particularly provision of off-street parking, footpaths and cycleways etc.

*Newton News acknowledges Counc John Clare as the source of this summary*

## German College Staff Visit Aycliffe UTC



On Friday 9th June, the Aycliffe UTC welcomed delegates from County Durham's partner region in Northern Germany.

The County has maintained a link with this part of Germany since 1953 and education projects and other EU funded schemes have evolved through this long-standing connection. Although education is the responsibility of the Federal government of Nordrhein-Westfalen, the Kreis Wesel (District) has a particular interest in aspects of vocational education; delivered through the five Berufskollegs (Professional Colleges) in the area.

Year 12 students Michael Stephenson and Samuel Jurgens took the German Councillors on a tour of the building where they were shown demonstrations of the high spec machinery on offer at the UTC for both GCSE and Sixth form students.

Michael said "Our visitors were very interested in learning more about this type of education model and its potential for young students like myself". Brian Stobie - International Officer Durham County Council was assisted in the tour by other Year 12 students including Samuel Jurgens, Jess Winkworth, Jamie Black and Nasiba Elhasan.



## SCOTTISH FIDDLE GROUP AT THE GALA THEATRE

An award-winning fiddle group from Scotland are looking forward to performing in Durham next week.

Blazin' Fiddles, who were crowned Scottish Folk Band of the Year in 2013, have performed throughout the world since forming in 1998 and will now bring their intoxicating set to the Gala Theatre on Thursday, 15 June. Since first playing together 17 years ago in what was set to be a one-off tour to showcase the various fiddle styles of the Highlands and Islands, the band have released eight albums and are now regarded as one of the world's most prolific fiddle groups.

Their performance will give audiences the opportunity to hear the individual style and regional expressions of each fiddler, including Inverness' Bruce MacGregor – one of the band's founding members and one of the country's most celebrated musicians.

Shetlander Jenna Reid, Nairn's Rua Macmillan, and Orcadian Kristan Harvey make up the rest of the line-up alongside Anna Massie and Angus Lyon on guitar and piano.

The show will include a blend of ensemble and solo sets, all showcasing some of the finest musical talent that the Highlands and Islands have to offer.

Tickets for the show, which starts at 7.30pm, cost £17 and can be booked by calling the box office on 03000 266 600 or online at [www.galadurham.co.uk](http://www.galadurham.co.uk)

## Woodham Students Display GCSE Designs



*St. James Park football stadium made by GCSE Graphics student, Joseph Bulman, as part of his controlled assessment.*

Year 11 Design Technology students at Woodham Academy raised the bar this year producing some excellent practical work for their controlled assessment. Products ranged from models of national landmarks, jackets, jewellery boxes



*Reversible jacket made by student Victoria Witton as part of her GCSE Textiles coursework.*

to party products such as cake stands and invitations. Students worked with a range of materials including wood, fabric, paper and card to produce some creative and imaginative work.

Technology department staff were impressed with the quality of products and the hard work and effort that students applied over the last year. Well done!



*4 tier cake stand design made by Kate Reynoldson for a wedding as part of the GCSE Product Design 'Celebration' controlled assessment task.*

## LIVIN DEMOLISH GARAGES



Livin have applied to demolish 14 garages next to the Firemen's Houses on Central Avenue opposite Tesco. They intend to build two new houses on the site. This is another instance of Livin removing garages to build homes when our streets are crowded with cars and lay-bys are having to be installed.

## Heavy Goods Lorries Ignoring Road Signs

Dear Sir,  
I have been a resident of School Aycliffe for 11 years and literally lost count of the number of occasions the 'keep left bollards' opposite the entrance to the West Cemetery have been damaged. One bollard has now been out of action for more than a year without any sign of or attempt at repair. What is clearly evident to everyone except the police is that despite weight/load restrictions juggernauts are systematically using School Aycliffe Lane with impunity. Earlier this week I was travelling home from the town centre when I encountered an extremely large HGV heading West on

School Aycliffe Lane. The driver simply ignored the signs and continued through School Aycliffe towards Heighington. It was so high that it dislodged numerous branches from overhanging trees and deposited them into my path on my car.

I reported the incident to DCC Highways Dept. providing date, time, location and vehicle registration number. Unfortunately they were not interested and told me it was Darlington Borough Council who were responsible for School Aycliffe Lane.

Being a concerned citizen I then contacted Darlington Borough Council who 'surprise, surprise' also denied liability showing extreme apathy by suggesting I contact the police by telephoning 101.

It appears the council 'jobsworths' live in their own little protected world and don't understand or appreciate that every time a heavy goods vehicle causes damage then there are financial implications in that somebody has to pay for the



repairs (normally the council taxpayer) along with the inconvenience to bona-fide motorists who have to endure any associated road works and hold ups.

Perhaps it will take a severe accident involving an HGV before anybody in authority sees fit to take action.

Derreck Pinkney.  
School Aycliffe

### Editor:

*We contacted County Councillor John Clare who said the residents of Middridge Village have similar problems. School Aycliffe Lane is indeed in Darlington, so DCC was absolutely correct that any roadworks, replacement of signs, clearing branches etc. must be dealt with by Darlington Council.*

*Dangerous or careless driving is indeed a Police matter, and not for the local authority to pursue.*

*In terms of permanent solutions, GATC managed to get this road restricted to 40mph with 7.5 tons restriction many years ago, so it is definitely a police matter.*

### Great Aycliffe



### Town Council

## NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF THE DATE FOR THE EXERCISE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS IN RELATION TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2017

Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and  
Accounts and Audit Regulations (England) Regulations 2015 (SI 234)

1. Date of Announcement: 15th June 2017
2. Each year Great Aycliffe Town Council's Annual Return is audited by an auditor appointed by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited.

Any person interested has the right to inspect and make copies of the accounts to be audited and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts relating to them.

For the year ended 31st March 2017, the accounts and supporting documents will be available during opening hours at the offices of Great Aycliffe Town Council situated at School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe.

The inspection period will commence on Monday 19th June 2017 and end on Friday 28th July 2017.

Appointments to view the accounts should be made with the Finance Manager at the Town Council; Mr Dan Austin, who can be contacted by telephone on 01325 300700, or by email at [Daniel.Austin@great-aycliffe.gov.uk](mailto:Daniel.Austin@great-aycliffe.gov.uk).

3. Local Government Electors and their representatives also have the following rights:-

- The opportunity to question the auditor about the accounts; and
- The right to make objections to the accounts or any item in them.

Written notice of an objection must first be given to the auditor and a copy sent to the Town Council. The auditor can be contacted at the address provided in paragraph 4 below for this purpose, during the inspection period referred to a paragraph 2 above.

4. The audit is being conducted under the provisions of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 and the National Audit Office' Code of Audit Practice.

Great Aycliffe Town Council's audit is being carried out by:

Mazars LLP, Aykley Heads, Durham, DH1 5TS

5. This announcement is made by Mr Dan Austin C.P.F.A., who is the Finance Manager at Great Aycliffe Town Council



### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

## Customer Panel Meeting

The next meeting of the Customer Panel will be held on:

**TUESDAY, 20th JUNE 2017**

commencing at 6.00p.m. The Panel meet in the Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe.

The meeting will be to give an update of the Council's Aims and Targets and general updates.

We are always looking for new members. If you would like to know a little more about us and our work this would be a great meeting to attend. The group are informal and quite often have lively debates about a wide range of Town Council matters.

Why not come along and join us at this meeting – we look forward to seeing and meeting new members.

Further information can be obtained from Christine Walton on 01325 300700  
e-mail: [Christine.Walton@great-aycliffe.gov.uk](mailto:Christine.Walton@great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

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



# Region's "Gem" Tech Company Moves to Aycliffe



A North-East technology company has been hailed as one of the region's undiscovered gems after moving to the Aycliffe Business Park. Excelpoint celebrated its expansion with a recent office warming event. The official opening was performed by Mike Matthews, President of the North East England Chamber of Commerce. Mr Matthews said he was delighted to help launch Excelpoint on the next stage of its development, adding: "It is heartening to see a company with such vast potential as Excelpoint choosing the North-East of England as its base of operations. "Excelpoint is, in my opinion, one of our region's undiscovered gems. The company's software is already in day-to-day use throughout the country and provides solutions for the health service,

the not-for-profit sector and defence contractors. I will watch its growth with interest." Excelpoint decided to move after outgrowing offices in nearby Shildon. Now based in Evans Business Centre – it is located at the heart of one of the largest business parks in the North East of England. Jennifer Chrossan, community manager at the Regus Evans Business Centre added: "Since the arrival of the Excelpoint team there has been a real buzz in the centre. "With many different clients resident here, we promote a true business community spirit and Excelpoint has settled in perfectly." The company's unique software enables organisations to create bespoke business systems without writing a line of bespoke code. To mark the event, which was also attended by the

Mayor of Great Aycliffe, councillor Jed Hillary, the company announced it will be supporting Dementia Care. The organisation, which provides specialist care, advice and support to people with dementia, will become one of Excelpoint's chosen charities after being nominated by guests who attended the opening. Managing director Ian Brown explained: "We have a long association with a number of charities and good causes. The move to the Evans Business Centre seemed like the perfect time to choose another good cause. I'm particularly pleased with the choice of Dementia Care because our office warming event coincided with national Mental Health Awareness Week."

## SUCCESSFUL 'LOVE AYCLIFFE' EVENT

Last week saw the first ever 'Love Aycliffe' event hosted by the Churches Together in Great Aycliffe and it was great success. Situated in Aycliffe town centre, the Love Aycliffe Hub was an opportunity to meet with the people of the town, for conversation and if they wanted, to pray for them. Nearly 200 people popped in which was amazing. The week started off with a 2 minute silence for those caught up in the Manchester attacks, with many local clergy being joined by our local MP Phil Wilson and the Mayor of Great Aycliffe Wendy Hillary. A book of condolence was also situated in the Hub throughout the week for people to sign. We hope the people of the town are encouraged to see how the churches in Great Aycliffe, though having different styles in worship, came together with the purpose of loving our town and the people of our town and praying for our town too. A massive THANK YOU to CoffeePronto, Greggs & Love Thy Cupcake for the generous help with refreshments and to Bryan Haldane and the town centre management for the use of the space. Keep an eye out for Love Aycliffe initiatives in the future. In the meantime, if you have a prayer request or would like more information about the various churches in the area then please send us a message. Our email address is loveaycliffe@gmail.com

## AYCLIFFE DISC CHARITY MERGES WITH LEEDS HEALTHCARE SERVICE

Health and social care charity DISC at Aycliffe and Leeds-based community interest company St Martin's Healthcare Services, have completed their merger. The two organisations have worked together successfully since 2008 including working in partnership on major substance misuse services in Leeds, Calderdale and Barnsley.

Paul Townsley, Chief Executive Officer of DISC said: "We're really excited today about the merger of St Martin's and DISC because we can now offer clinical services within DISC.

"It means we will be able to offer a range of health and medical services to our clients across the different services we provide with an opportunity to improve health outcomes.

"There's been a lot of hard work over recent months and we can now bring the skills and knowledge of both organisations into one.

"We have an excellent offer for the communities we serve and this clinical offer, which St Martin's brings, will add so much value to our substance misuse, housing, employment and young people and family services."

The organisation, which will go forward as DISC, will offer a range of impactful and innovative health and social care services and an integrated model of care.

Angela Walker, Chief Executive Officer of SMHS said: "We are delighted to be merging with DISC, providing the opportunity to offer a fully integrated health and social care model to clients".

"I am pleased to have led SMHS to this exciting development and to now be joining DISC and helping to ensure a full and

effective integration of the two organisations"

DISC has been working since the mid-1980s to provide services for the vulnerable and disadvantaged in local communities. In the current financial year, it will help over 12,000 people.

DISC staff are based at its headquarters in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, in service provision across the North East, Yorkshire, the Humber and the North West and will now expand to have a regional office in Leeds. Services include the Moretime Social Enterprise, Housing and Independent Living Support, Health Young People and Families, Employment Training and Education and Substance Misuse.

## PCP NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) is holding their Annual General Meeting on Monday 17 July 2017 from 11.30 am until 12.30 pm at the Pioneering Care Centre.

For over 18 years PCP has proudly delivered high quality accessible projects and activities aimed at improving the health, providing access to services and reducing social isolation. As well as managing the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe PCP delivers a wide range of projects across the North East supporting the Charity's mission of 'Health, Wellbeing and Learning for All'.

If you would like to come along to discover the impact PCP has had locally and hear about some of the key achievements, please contact Kath Ferry on 01325 321234 or email: kath.ferry@pcp.co.uk no later than 6th July 2017.

Finally, if you would like to support the work of the Charity by becoming a member please contact Carol Gaskarth on 01325 321234 for an informal chat. PCP services and projects are developed to meet the needs of our communities so we actively encourage local people and stakeholders to become members and help shape our future direction.

## Reinventing Revision



Revision, sounds boring right? However, not at The Sunnysdale Campus of Greenfield Community College where the students have been turning up to school on a Sunday, yes a Sunday. Whilst for many this may be a day of rest, for these students hard work is top of the agenda.

Students have attended Sunday English sessions in which they completed a range of tasks preparing them for their exams. With each session lasting 4 hours, this was no easy task. One student claimed,

"The Sunday revision the day before the exam settled my nerves and made me feel more prepared." Whilst another student stated, "These weekend sessions mean that my revision is structured with a clear focus. It has definitely been very useful."

## Impressive Report

Dear Sir,  
First I must comment on the detailed and meticulous presentation of the ANNUAL REPORT supplied by Great Aycliffe Town Council. Very impressive indeed.

Then in today's press I read of the proposal attributed to MEP's to demolish "the 24 year old, £880 million Brussels Headquarters and rebuild a more spacious alternative to provide suitable accommodation for the expanding armies of staff employed by the 751 MEP's". Apparently Brussels is one of three "seats" which includes Strasbourg (the alternative HQ) common knowledge as an alternative base. The overlooked "seat" is in Luxembourg. According to the press report this building has not been used by MEP's since 1981. May we ask "why not?" In fact why are bases necessary in Brussels and Strasbourg?

I wonder if our MEP would care to respond due to the fact that the EU has failed to publish balanced, audited accounts for 16 years or so. Does this proposal mean that the EU has huge reserves or are alternative methods of raising any shortfall being considered that would be of interest to your readers?

A written reply provided by our MEP to be published in the Newton News would make fascinating reading instead of a link provided by the County Newsbits. PC

EST 2015

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Sunday: Closed

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Newton Aycliffe DL5 6DS  
Mobile: 07738 066 723



**& Newton News**

## FIND A DOG a home

### Unlucky Lad Samson Searches for His Pawfect Home

Samson is a five-year-old German Shepherd cross who didn't have the best start in life. Samson arrived at the centre as a young puppy as part of an unplanned litter so has been a Dogs Trust resident for some time.

Samson is a firm favourite at the centre, always eager to please, very affectionate and loves giving his carers cuddles. Samson is a busy lad who loves to be on the go and mentally stimulated. He's a very clever boy who excels at showing off his skills and is always up for learning new things. As well as basic commands such as sit and paw Samson is very good at tricks such as chair weaving, spins and touch.

Samson is always ready for playtime with his toys, his favourites are soft toys and tennis balls on a rope that can be thrown and he can play fetch with. He likes having walking buddies, however would prefer to be the only dog in the home as he can get quite easily excited."

An experienced, adult only household would suit Samson best as he can be a little unsure around new people and needs to be allowed time and space to settle in at his own pace. He does enjoy human companionship so it is important that his new family are around most of the time.

It is important that his next home is Samson's forever home and potential adopters should be willing to visit to the rehoming centre a few times to build a relationship with Samson before taking him home.

If you think that you can offer Samson a fun, active and loving home then please contact the centre to chat to one of the training staff, before coming up to the centre and we can tell you all about him. The centre is open Thursday 12-7pm, Friday-Tuesday 12pm-4pm and is closed on Wednesdays. To find out more about Samson or any of the dogs at the centre, go to www.dogstrust.org.uk or call 01325 333114





## CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store lost an exciting game by just 12 runs at home to Bishop Auckland 1sts in the semi final of the NYSD Brunton cup. Bishops batted first and scored an impressive 159 for 3 from their 20 overs. In reply, openers Michael Howe (40 off 24 balls) and Steve Sweeney (28 off 32 balls) got Aycliffe's innings off to a flyer.

Tom Wickins continued the momentum with an excellent 33 off just 26 balls and Adam Gittins also batted well finishing unbeaten with 19 runs from 17 balls, but the visitors bowled tight at the end and restricted the homeside to a commendable 147 for 7 in their 20 overs.

The 2nd team travelled to top of the table Seaton Carew 2nd XI and gave a good account of themselves despite losing by five wickets in a rain shortened game in the NYSD 4th division. The home team asked Aycliffe to bat first and they were bowled out for 106 after 36.1 overs with Adam Gittins (22 runs), Jack Slatcher (19 runs) and Dave Wright (14 runs) the main contributors. In reply, some excellent bowling from Aycliffe's George Slatcher (sponsored by Mr & Mrs Greaves) (2 for 13)

and his older brother Jack (2 for 22) could not prevent the home side from reaching their victory target with just 3.4 overs and five wickets in hand. A very young u17's lost away at Norton by 9 wickets after being bowled out for 50 after 15.4 overs, with only opening batsmen Dan Bowmer reaching double figures scoring 19 runs. Norton comfortably reached their victory target after 11.3 overs for the loss of just one wicket. The u15's lost by 72 runs at home to Seaton Carew, but there were encouraging debuts for Kian Thexton, who top scored with 17 and Ben Shaw, who took 1 for 13 from his 4 overs.

The u11's played well away at Seaton Carew in very windy conditions, but still lost by 19 runs, despite a good innings by Daniel Heaton (10 not out) and some good bowling and fielding from William Dryden.

## Coffee & Cake

A coffee & cake morning is being organised by Anna Shepherd on Saturday 24th June 10am -12pm at Neville Parade Community Centre. Proceeds to Breast Cancer charity raising awareness.

## International Honours for Woodham Student

Woodham Academy year 11 student, Ben Stephenson, has recently been balancing his preparation for GCSE exams with training with, and playing in the Great Britain Under 17 Water Polo squad. Having been notified of his selection at the end of April, Ben has been working hard on both fronts to prepare for two significant events.

Ben has regularly been selected for representative teams early and this is no different with him representing Great Britain under 17s at the European qualifying tournament whilst still in the under 16 age group.

Ben has received many accolades from the Woodham Sports Academy in recognition of his outstanding achievements. Along with his international selection, these are just reward for the continuous dedication and commitment he had shown in both his studies and his Water Polo.

Ben travelled to Manchester on Saturday 29th April and attended the official ceremony where he collected his GB Cap from the Mayor of Manchester.



## RUGBY CLUB'S 1st XV CAPTAINCY APPOINTED

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club's head coach, Dale Kelly, looks for stability as he announces the captains for the 1st XV. Alex Lineton will continue for his 2nd season as captain with Andrew Littlefair continuing in his role as vice-captain.

Littlefair will lead by example in the forwards with his front foot style of play and vocal leadership and Lineton will continue to use his no-nonsense approach to the backline and set the standards in defence where a lot of Aycliffe's performances are built from.

Lineton led the 1st team to championship glory in the 2016/17 campaign and has stated his intentions early for the new season: "We will be looking to push for back to back promotions when we start our new campaign in September. We have built solid foundations over the past 3 years and are in a very strong position both on and off the field to keep driving our club forward. No doubt other teams in the new league will be targeting us for a win and we are relishing the opportunity to show that



Alex Lineton (left) with Andrew Littlefair

'little Aycliffe' are on the ascendency."

Head coach Dale Kelly said: "Choosing Alex and Andrew as captain and vice, gives the 1st XV a stable and dynamic partnership to drive the club forward in Durham and Northumberland 2. Both players will share their vast experience and rugby knowledge with the players they lead in this exciting season."

The fixture list has been confirmed for the new season with the first competitive match being the Junior County Cup on August 26th and the season proper kicking off

on September 2nd.

Preseason training started well last Saturday and will be continuing for the whole squad on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 18.45, Aycliffe Sports Club.

With plans afoot to develop a 3rd XV and Veteran's team, there is an opportunity for all abilities and ages to get involved with Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club. Anyone interested in becoming a member either on or off the pitch, please get in touch on one of our social media channels or on 07958 417182.

## Sponsorship Opportunities

Newton Aycliffe Rugby Football Club are an ambitious and ever-growing local club and we are currently seeking partners and sponsors for the coming season to support our continued rise. The First XV are set to challenge for the Durham Northumberland 2 title, having won their 1st league with only 1 defeat in 24 games, and the Newtonians (second XV) were crowned Tees Valley Social League champions and will look to repeat this excellent achievement. The 2017-18 season promises to be an exciting one for the club and you could be a part of it.

We have created three exciting sponsorship packages to suit all budgets with some great benefits that could increase your brand awareness both locally, and across the region. We think sponsors should be rewarded for their support, so we go the extra mile to help you gain as much recognition as possible through our pitch side advertising, exposure to our large online following and invitations to our sponsors day. If you think your business could benefit from increased exposure and awareness, why not get in touch to discuss our great sponsorship packages.

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Contact Information  
Tel - 07958 417182  
Email - sponsorship@ayclifferugby.com



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1k Followers



# OFSTED VISIT GREENFIELD GNAAS in Aycliffe

A recent OFSTED visit to Greenfield Community College highlighted the many strengths within the school and also identified key areas for continued improvement as recognised within the current School Improvement Plan.

Executive Headteacher David Priestley was pleased to see that OFSTED recognised that because of actions already taken by the school "There is compelling evidence now that students in all year groups are making much better progress" and "There is clear evidence that disadvantaged students including the most able are now making much stronger progress".

"Our commitment to provide support for the whole child was also endorsed" said Mr

Priestley, the report stated "Most students are confident young people. They show respect for others and have positive attitudes to school, their peers and staff".

The school will be re-inspected in 2019 to ensure that any issues raised have been built on and that the school is achieving the very best for its young people.

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The Air Ambulance was called to assist with a patient found collapsed at home. The patient was assessed by the paramedic and doctor team before being placed in an induced coma and transported to James Cook Hospital for ongoing treatment

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# UTC STUDENTS GCSE TIPS & TRICKS

As it draws closer to next years' Year 11 exams, Year 10 students at the UTC will be doing a week of mock exams commencing the 12th June. By doing this, the students will get a taste of what it will

be like when it finally comes to doing the actual GCSE's. Students have begun revising and are consciously becoming more committed to this as exams week gets closer. They've discovered

several resources while doing this and thought it would be valuable to other students who are in the same situation. Some useful websites available are:-

By UTC Students Megan Jackson & Alex Paterson



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/>  
<https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision> (An account needs to be created for this)  
<http://www.s-cool.co.uk/>  
<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

Gojimo (An app you can download on your electronic devices)

Of course there are more than just websites available, there are also many revision guides that your school will most likely own and you will probably be able to purchase them.

Apart from the literal revision it is very important to be mentally prepared. Some ways to take care of yourself are:-  
**Take regular breaks, don't cram lots of revision in at once or it won't sink in!**  
**Make a revision timetable on what to revise and when.**  
**Eat healthy and drink water, it is vital to stay healthy so**

**you don't miss your exams. Sleep well.**

To help with the organisation of your revision and time handling, apps such as The Revision Ace let you make a revision plan, record the time spent on each subject and track your progress as you go. Alternatively, you can create a colourful PDF timetable with the help of [getrevising.co.uk](http://getrevising.co.uk), which will even suggest a schedule for you to follow.

GCSE's, although they are given to students at what could be considered as quite a young age, can determine a person's future. Consequently, it is important that students try their very best in these exams as they decide which colleges you go to etc, which will, in the future, decide which jobs are available to you.

So remember to keep revising, try your best and good luck!

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# 'Super Shed' Appeal at PCP for Wheelchair Gardeners

Disabled volunteers with a keen interest in gardening could soon be honing their skills in a ground-breaking, custom-built 'super shed' at the Pioneering Care Partnership Centre in Newton Aycliffe.

The bespoke timber building has been specially designed to enable people in wheelchairs to access space where they can learn the finer points of preparing seeds, potting and planting under the watchful eye of a green-fingered tutor. But, everything now hinges on the kindness of well-wishers donating the estimated £1000 still needed for the build as well as

materials and equipment so that work can start on the foundations.

Members of the local Greenfield Men's Cree group have already offered to build the new shed which, say Centre staff, will make 'a tremendous difference' for would-be gardeners in wheelchairs.

Gardening horticulture tutor Howard Leslie (pictured in the PCP greenhouse with volunteer David Cockburn) said this week: "We already have a small but very dilapidated shed in the gardens at the Centre but there is no way in which anyone in a wheelchair can get into it. The new shed will make

an enormous difference to the volunteers - especially those currently restricted in the work they can do in the garden. It will also enable them to keep gardening in all weathers."

The PCP Centre already boasts a well-developed and sizable garden with raised beds and a greenhouse where volunteers of all ages and abilities grow flowers, fruit, herbs and vegetables - some of which are subsequently sold to the public.

Donations to the Shed appeal can be made by cheque to the Pioneering Care Partnership Carers Way, Newton aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4SF or in person at PCP Reception for cash or card donations.

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**Newton Aycliffe Foodbank:** 1:30 - 3:30, St Clare's Church.

**Spennymoor Town Hall:** 1:30 - 3:30, High St. DL16 6DG

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If you are unable to attend the drop-in due to any disabilities, then you can contact Home Group's Gateway where you will be referred to see if you are eligible for our floating support service on 0191 332 4935.

## STUDENTS ENJOY SCIENCE WORKSHOP



On Tuesday 6th June, pupils from Stephenson Way School travelled to Newcastle to participate in a Science workshop (Destination Space) and enjoy other amazing activities on offer at the Life Centre.

On arrival, the children were greeted by centre staff and taken to a special laboratory where they listened to a message from none-other than British astronaut Tim Peake about the perils of living and working in space. Pupils from Year four and five then spent the following hour exploring ways to overcome the difficulties of life beyond our planet. Children completed small, intricate tasks wearing 'space gloves'; they tested suitable materials for space nappies and developed the skills necessary to successfully operate robotic arms in space.

Once the children had completed their mission, they were invited to a fascinating theatre show: 'Let it Glow'. Science explainers used a mixture of stories and science to bring to life our understanding of light. The pupils watched in awe and wonder as they witnessed some awesome

demonstrations.

After lunch and the customary visit to the shop to spend their pennies, children were excited to explore the centre's newest exhibition 'Dino Jaws'. They learnt all about dinosaurs eating habits and came face to face with life-size animatronic dinosaur heads including the terrifying T-Rex!

Later, children were treated to a short film (Wonders of our Universe) in the centre's planetarium and before leaving, there was just time to squeeze in a ride in the 4D Theatre. Children screamed and shouted as they experienced a shortened version of 'Journey 2: The Mysterious Island - Chase over Atlantis'.

On the way home and in days that followed, they were still talking about their amazing trip to other pupils and teachers. One student said, "It was a brilliant day. I learnt how hard it was to be an astronaut but think I would really like to be one when I grow up". While another commented, "The lady in the theatre show showed us some really cool things. I really liked the way she used light to make some of our clothes glow in the dark."

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## Obituary

### Barbara White



With sadness I announce that on Saturday 10th June 2017 my Mam and best friend, Barbara White, lost her fight to Cancer. She died peacefully at home surrounded by her family.

She will be a huge loss as not only was she a loving Mam, Wife, Grandma and Great Grandma, she was a devoted Committee Member of Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group. Mam was very caring and was always life and soul of the party. You could never feel sad with her around, she was my rock and has kept me going through all my health problems. She will always be forever in our hearts.

Family and friends please meet at Neville Parade Methodist Church at 1pm for Service on Thursday 22nd June followed by cremation at Darlington Crematorium at 2.15pm. One thing our Mam liked was bright colours, so if possible come in colours. Donations in lieu of flowers can be left at the church or crematorium in aid of Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group.

**GEORGE JAMISON CAULDER-BALLANSLEY** Born 11-111934, died on Sunday 21st May at Aycliffe Care Home. Funeral held on 14th June at Durham Crematorium.

**PATERSON IAN** Suddenly on 7th June, aged 61 years. Treasured Brother of Sandra; dear Brother-in-Law of Paul and a dear Uncle. Funeral Service and Cremation to take place at Wear Valley Crematorium on Monday 19th June at 10am. Would friends please meet at the crematorium.

**HENRY RITSON ROBSON** (Harry)

Age 81, of Travellers Green, Newton Aycliffe, sadly passed away on Tuesday 6th June 2017. Funeral to be held at Durham Crematorium on Tuesday 20th June at 11.30am. Friends welcome.

**WILF GIBSON** age 76 years of Paulinus Road. Died peacefully in hospital with his family by his side on 13th June 2017. Loving Husband of Jean, Step Dad of Kathryn and adored Grandpa of Alana and Hannah. He will be sadly missed by his Brothers, Sisters and many Nephews and Nieces. Funeral arrangements to follow

of its community, and strives to remain so. It is a beautiful, traditional stone church, set on the village green, and has an excellent organ and piano. The congregation are forward-looking and plan to develop more modern facilities (while retaining the church's traditional appearance) so that it can continue to serve the people of the parish, which includes not only Heighington but also School Aycliffe, the Chestnuts, and several other small villages.

The church has excellent links with its local school and over the last few years has built up an enthusiastic and dedicated Youth Choir who rehearse weekly and now feel ready to develop and take on more challenges. There is also a small but committed adult choir, who also rehearse weekly and would love to expand both in numbers and repertoire.

The church is very keen that all this musical talent and enthusiasm should be nurtured and developed, but are finding it harder than they expected to make progress. There are people who play at Services, for which the congregation and Vicar, Lissa Scott, are very grateful. However, as Lissa says, "It's increasingly hard to find organists, and choirmasters, even though the church is able to offer remuneration. That's a real shame, and rather puzzling when you consider the growth of programmes about choirs on television. It would be wonderful if we could find people with keyboard skills on the organ or the piano, or indeed skills

with other instruments, to help develop our music, and to encourage and inspire our choirs. In the past we've had a single organist and choirmaster, but we are quite open to the idea of a team of people taking on different aspects of the musical life of the church – working with one of choirs, playing the organ or piano regularly, or even just helping out occasionally to provide cover or to provide a different kind of music for a variety of services." St Michael's Church holds regular Sunday worship and festival services, and also hosts musical events – something that they would love to do more frequently. If you would like to find out more or have good ideas to offer, then Lissa would love to hear from you.

E: lissalife@btinternet.com  
Tel: 01325 312134

## Acknowledgement

**MURPHY.** The family of the late Thomason wish to express their sincere thanks to all, relatives, friends and neighbours for the kindness and sympathy shown to them during their recent bereavement. Also for the cards and donations to The Salvation Army and the Great North Air Ambulance. Thanks to Doctor Scott and all at Peaceway Surgery, doctor and staff of ward 43 of Darlington Hospital, the matron and staff of Rose Lodge care home. Louise from the Phoenix club for the buffet. The RAFFA club for the use of their lounge. Thanks to Mrs Pam Loveless for a comforting service and to Colin Farlow and the staff of The Co-operative Funeralcare in Newton Aycliffe for funeral arrangements.

## Fathers Day

**COLIN NEILL.** Happy Father's Day to the best Dad. Hope you have a great day. Love always, Cameron and Amelia xxx

**STEPHEN HOWEY** Happy Father's Day, thank you so much for giving us the famous "Eddie". Eddie says thank you Dad for bringing me in to the world. Love, Poppy and Eddie xxx

**STEPHEN HOWEY** Happy Father's Day Dad, you are like a diamond, you shine and you are the best Dad in the world. Lots of love from Thomas and baby Eddie xxx

**VIC SPENSLEY** Happy Father's Day "Daddy". Love you more and more every day. Love always, Julie and Den xxx

**JOHN HOWEY** Happy Father's Day Dad. Love from Michael, Stephen and Paul xxx

**MICHAEL HOWEY** Happy Father's Day Dad. You shine brighter than diamonds and I am the luckiest girl in the world to have you for my Dad. Love from Kya xxx

**PAUL HOWEY** To Dad, Happy Father's Day. You are the most precious Dad in the whole wide world. Love from Olivia and Emilia xxx

**TREVOR BELLWOOD** Happy Father's Day. Love from Liam and Chris

## Birthday Remembrance

### Shane Smith

16th June

Happy birthday to our amazing Son. Thinking of you today and always with your cheeky smile. It breaks our hearts that you are not here to share it with us. We are sure you will be looking down on us.

We love and miss you so much Shane.  
Mam, Dad and all the family xxx

**SHANE SMITH** Thinking of you on your birthday Bro. A minute does not go by that I don't think of you. Love always, Ryan xxx

**KEITH SAMS** 15th June. I miss the strength you brought me and the comfort that it gave, and on your birthday it's so hard, pretending to be brave. But I've found a hidden courage and it helps to see through. It guides me and protects me and I know it comes from you. Here on Earth we shared a life as happy as can be, and I never took for granted all you meant to me. So I shall spend your birthday dreaming that you are here, helping me to wipe away every silent tear. Always in my heart. Love you forever and always, Milly xxx

**KEITH SAMS** 15th June. We are looking up today and we trust you are looking down. Because today is your birthday and we are insisting on smiles and not a single frown. We know this is what you would wish for, because you always thought of other folk. So look at your smiley family, laughing and having a joke. We always puzzled what to buy you when this day came each year. You would also say "nothing - as long as you visit I know you care". So we would do the usual buying you gifts that would be useful one day. You would express your delight as you put them quietly away. We'd like to think you are looking down on us in your caring way. Especially today which is special because Dad, today is your birthday. So Dad, we hope the angels are singing and you are celebrating big style. But please take a moment from your celestial celebrations to spend with us, looking down for a while. Happy birthday Dad. Always in our hearts, forever in our thoughts. Love from Gary, Mandy, Clare and Anth xxx

**KEITH SAMS** 15th June. To our very special Grandad and Great Grandad. Our lives go on without you, but nothing is the same. We have to hide our heartache, when someone speaks your name. Sad are the hearts that love you, silent are the tears that fall. Living without you is the hardest part of all. You did so many things for us, your heart was so kind and true, and when we needed someone we could always count on you. The special years will not return, when we are all together. But walk with us and we'll love you always and forever. Happy birthday Grandad. Love from Kane, Alex, Roxanne, Nathan, Jackson, Fraser, Deacon, Shane, Kray, Chloe, Charlie, Riley and Herbie xxxxxxxxxx

## Congratulations

### Beth



I'm so tired of being 15!

Happy Birthday Beth  
Love, Dad and Gemma

## Congratulations

### Jade Hutchinson



**Happy 18th Birthday**  
16th June 2017

Love, Macca xxx

**Happy 18th Birthday**  
16th June 2017

Hope you enjoy your day.  
Love, SJ, Craig, Madison, Cayden and John xxxx

### Griegan Bell



**Happy 13th Birthday**  
to our Grandson Griegan. Lots of love, Grandma, Granda and all the family xxx

### Griegan Bell



**13 Today!**  
15th June 2017  
Happy birthday Son. Lots of love, Mam, Dad, Nathan and Xander xxxx

### Max Hunter



**Happy 16th Birthday**

**Happy 16th Birthday**  
Sunday 18th June 2017  
From Mam, Dad and Liam

You've given us so much joy over the last 16 years and we are so proud of the young man you are becoming. All our love, Mum, Dad, Tom and Grandma

## In Memoriam

**ALLAN SHELTON** 6/2/1943 - 7/6/2010. Only a heart beat away, with us every day. Loved always, Maureen, Family and Friends

**RITA ANN CHAPE.** 12th June 2006. We speak your name with love and pride, we smile with tears we cannot hide. We thank you for the years we shared, the love you gave, the way you cared. Love Martyn, Edie and family x

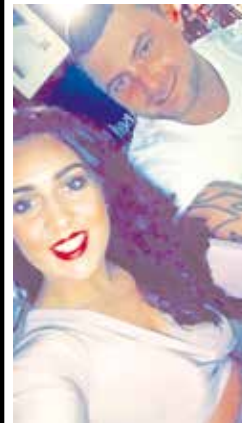
**AUDREY HUMBLE** 16th June 2015. It's been two years since you passed away, always in our thoughts, and in our hearts you'll stay, missed and loved so much. Gisela, David, Paul and Gavin xxxx

**CHARLIE ROSSITER.** 18th June 2015. A very special man who taught us so much. Miss you Dad. Love always, Lesley and Tony xxx

**GILBERT WILSON.** You never complained Dad, you never gave in. But you were fighting a battle that you could not win. When you could suffer no more, you died and went away. Leaving me with a broken heart, that would forever stay. 20 years on Dad and I still miss you every single day. Love, Daughter Pamela xx

**DOUGLAS DENHAM** Died 15th June 2009. Eight years since you died, I love and miss you so much it hurts. All the family miss you. Nothing is the same without you. I pray one day we can be together again. Until then God bless my love. Your Wife Pat and all of the family

### Laura Graham & Karl Ruddy



Congratulations to Laura and Graham on your Engagement. Wishing you both a very happy life together. Lots of love, Dad, Lisa, Jess and James xxx

**WHEADON,** Derek & Elizabeth. Congratulations on the celebration of your Golden Wedding Anniversary on 17th June. With all our love and best wishes from Denise, Andrea, Andrew, Mally, James and Adam xxx

**TYLER DANSON** Happy 13th birthday (18th June). Have a fantastic day. Lots of love from Dad, Mam and Emily

### Cara Coatsworth



**Happy 21st Birthday Princess**

All our love,  
Nana, Grandad, Mam, Dad and all the family

### Les Watson



**60 on 21st June 2017**  
Bet you could dance in wellies! Love, Jean, Stephen, Shaun and Louisa

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## Heighington AFC Awards Day



On Saturday the 10th June, Heighington AFC held their annual Presentation Day at the Big Club in Newton Aycliffe. Children and Parents from Under 5's Development, all the way through to the Adult Team, who recently joined the Club, enjoyed a Great Day in the club's Calendar. The season's Highlights were discussed, and included Heighington's First ever club Tournament, in July last Year which was a huge success for the club, both on and off the pitch. As well as raising money for the club, all of the Teams had great success with the U9's, U12's, U14's & U16's all picking up silverware over the weekend. The club now looks forward to the next Club Tournament on Saturday & Sunday 24th & 25th June. There has also been a new development Team added to the club with 5 Coaches looking after almost 20 Children. They

will be entering the U7's TJFA Sunday morning League as of September this Year. The Under 9's were recently crowned Champions and gained promotion for the second Season in a row which is a huge achievement. Joe Neild who has been at the club for the last 4 Years and who Captained the Under 9's for the last three Years recently signed his first contract with Sunderland, so a huge well done to him and his coaches, Heighington also formed a new Under 11's Team this Season which continues the growth within the club. The Under 12's last month, Won the Silloth Tournament with a dramatic Penalty Shootout win so a huge well done to all the Parents and coaches for that wonderful achievement. Special mention was also given to the Under 16's who secured their 3rd successive promotion which once again is an unbelievable Record! The adult Team, which recently merged with the Club after New Chairman David Brassell took over won a League and Cup Double in their first season together and are going from strength to strength. Big Thank you to the adults who came down to support the Children at Presentation Day, it showed both the Kids and Parents their progression after they have left the Youth Set Up. This has been by far the most

## Aycliffe Village News

Aycliffe Village School's Summer Fair is on Wednesday 28th June from 3.15pm until 6pm organised by the PTA. Once again we will have the fantastic Ultimate Wipe-out plus a Bouncy Castle along with pony rides for smaller children. On sale: Second hand uniforms, mufti jars, glitter tattoos, cupcakes, Adult and Children's Tombola stalls plus an assortment of Year 6 Enterprise stalls. Hotdogs, tea plates and refreshments will be on sale all afternoon. The fair is an open event so please feel free to come along and join in the fun at Aycliffe Village School.

### The BIG Village Quiz

On Saturday 1st July there will be a Quiz night in Aycliffe Village Hall organised by the PTA for Aycliffe Village School at 7.30pm.. Tickets are £8 per person which includes a tasty pie & peas supper. Come along for a fun night out whilst raising money for a great cause. Tickets can be purchased via the school office.

## AYCLIFFE FC PREPARE FOR NEW SEASON

Newton Aycliffe FC have begun preparations for the 2017/2018 season at Moore Lane. Managers Deano Browne and Danny Mellanby have been busy over the close season and this week welcomed two new players to the squad. Central midfielder Connor Hood joins from Marske Utd while left back Paul Wheldon joins us from Washington.

Deano said he is delighted with the new signings. "These two will be excellent additions to our squad & we are expecting some more to join us before the season gets under way."

Aycliffe are pleased to announce that Darlington will visit Moore Lane on Wednesday 12 July for a pre-season friendly. Kick off is 7:00pm with admission £5 adults, £3 concessions & under 12's free. Other home friendlies include Darlington RA on Monday 10th July while Northallerton Town are the opponents in the annual Frank Swinburne Memorial Cup on Saturday 15th July. Season Tickets are now on sale for £100 adults, £60 concessions & include admission to all home friendlies.

Forms can be downloaded from the club website [www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk](http://www.newtonaycliffefc.co.uk)



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