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Week Ending 10th November 2017

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## North's Top Swimming Coach Celebrates 80th Birthday

It's been quite a month for long serving Aycliffe swimming coach, John Moore. He gave a presentation to all coaches in the region and was presented with the Northumberland & Durham Gray Award for services to swimming. John then celebrated his 80th birthday on Monday 30th October when a Surprise Party was arranged at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, attended by coaches and swimmers past and

present. "To say it was emotional for me would be the understatement of the year. The presents, cards and cake were fantastic and beyond belief," said John. John was honoured that the President of North East Region was present at the party. "The book of memories presented to me is incredible and the posts from all over the world have made me feel



very humble and proud. I'm not one for looking back in time but Monday certainly made me think," said John. John and his wife Sue don't have any children, but they have a really big family of swimmers. Over the years John has coached his club members to success at National and International level.

"This would not have been possible without the support and help everyone has given. I thank Newton News for their coverage of our events. For young athletes to see the results of the galas they have competed in, published in their own local newspaper, gives them a tremendous lift" added John.

John Moore has been an active member of the aquatics community within Northumberland and Durham for the past 40 years. During that time he has coached in clubs throughout County Durham including Durham, Darlington and Sedgefield, which he is now currently coaching. John has extensive experience and knowledge of the sport and is well respected in the North East. He has been head coach on county and regional teams and has coached 7 international swimmers and one Commonwealth Games finalist.

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## COUNCIL TO DISCUSS SCHOOL BUDGETS

A review of school provision across County Durham is needed to ensure there is a good mix of high-performing and financially sustainable schools across the area, according to a report to be discussed next week. Members of Durham County Council's Cabinet will hear that school budgets have come under increased pressure in recent years due to a combination of factors, including government funding levels, changes to funding regulations and, in some cases, reductions in admission numbers.



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## Greenfield College Celebrate Success & Achievement

Year 11 leavers returned for a very special evening to celebrate their recent achievements at Greenfield Community College, both at the Aycliffe Site and Sunnydale Campus.

The evenings were a great success with students coming along with their families to receive their GCSE certificates and take part in the annual awards ceremony, a very special date in the school calendar.

Executive Headteacher, David Priestley was thrilled with the turnout, "as always on these occasions it is a delight to see so many of our past students again. They are returning to receive recognition for the effort they put in" said Mr Priestley.



In addition to receiving GCSE and other academic certificates a number of students were also presented with special individual awards for outstanding academic and personal performance.

Greenfield staff were delighted to welcome renowned writer and broadcaster Michael Chaplin who was invited to present the awards and wish the students success on their continuing journey. There was a great buzz in the room as the results were announced.

Students were nominated in subject areas and also for individual special awards, the standard of achievement was excellent and congratulations must go to all concerned, the following excelled in their category and were well deserved winners:

Aycliffe Site: Jessica Voltay (Design & Technology) Millie Tezcan-Fotoohi (English) Blake Metcalfe (Geography) Katie Lovell (History) Ethan Suter (ICT) Aidan Wong (Mathematics) Charlotte Hugill (MFL) Melissa Foster (PE) Emily Halford (Performing Arts) Joshua Carrigan (Drama) Nicole Todd (Music) Christina Davis (RE) Aidan Wong (Science) Danielle Ord (Visual Arts) Lewis Burdon (Photography) Max Hunter (Outdoor & Adventurous Activities) Melissa Foster (Social Contribution) David Hugill (Attendance Award) Rachel Lovell (Respect Award) Eleanor Allison (Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form Trophy) Charlotte Hugill (Progress Award) Christina Davis (Highest Academic Achievement).  
Acting Head of School, Stuart Dixon was also keen to praise the year group "the class of 2017 was certainly a group of students that we will never forget!" said Mr Dixon "A group of young people who made us all here at Greenfield very proud on a day to day

basis".

Sunnydale Campus – Emily Anderson (Art & Design) Alicia Stewart (English Language) Korin Wenzel (History) Rebecca Stott (Geography) Abigail Charlton (ICT) Emily Lowery (MFL) Emily Lowery (Music) Bekki Ramsey (Photography) Sally Coates (RE Full Course) Caitlin Burke (Science) Cain Smith (GCSE PE) Alicia Stewart (The Moira Cansfield Award for Excellence in Mathematics) Charlotte Hubbard (Ian Jerred Award for Most Improved Student – Progress) Brydon Kenney (The Hays Travel Award for Best Overall GCSE results) Alexander Cleasby (QE Sixth Form Award) Shannon Spark (Mayor's Award Community Spirit) Cain Smith (Adelaide Accolade) Bekki Ramsay (Brusselton's Best) Sam Nelson (The Deanery Legend).  
Deputy Headteacher, Mr Ron Milton was very proud of the year group and their achievements "It was fantastic to welcome back the Class of 17 and their parents to the Sunnydale Campus to celebrate their GCSE success. During their time with us, they were a group of students who paid a huge effort to their studies and acted as positive role models to others in the school community. It was great to hear how they are progressing with their post 16 choices and this is an exciting time in their lives, we wish them all the very best for the future."  
The evenings offered a lovely opportunity for all the students and families to catch-up and share some great memories, chatting with staff and bringing each other up-to-date with plans for the future. Staff at Greenfield Community College would like to thank everyone involved for two wonderful evenings and look forward to keeping in touch with future progress.

## CHILDREN IN NEED EVENT AT WOODHAM

"Talent Match" part of the DISC Charity in Newton Aycliffe are holding a Children in Need event at Woodham Community Centre, St Elizabeth's Close, DL5 4UE on the 25th November from 2pm-5pm.

Tea, Coffee and juice will be available with various types of activities kids can enjoy such as cupcake decorating, face painting, bouncy castle, raffle and a tombola. Face Painter Dawn, is good with temporary tattoos.



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## Vibrant New Exhibition at Greenfield Arts

Greenfield Arts are delighted to welcome 'Interface Arts' who have brought together a vibrant collection for their new exhibition. The preview was held on Wednesday 1st December and provided an opportunity for people to come together to enjoy the artwork and chat to the artists about their inspiration and techniques. Viewpoints is a collective response to a number of 'en plein air' days. As part of Interface Arts' development and outreach programme members came together to draw, paint, photograph, stitch and sculpt to produce a body of work reflecting the gardens of County Durham.

The fabulous results can be seen on display until Wednesday 20th December depicting artwork inspired by local beauty such as the gardens at Wynyard and Mount Grace Priory. Greenfield Arts welcome all to visit and see the exhibition during its installation at Greenfield Arts which runs alongside our craft programme with works from photographer Elaine Vizor and beautiful textiles and crafts from Helen Winthorpe Kendrick, many items are available for sale and would make lovely bespoke gifts. If you would like any more information about our gallery or activities please contact our friendly team on 01325 379 048 or email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk) you can also find much more information on our website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk)

## Aycliffe Radio Re-Launch More Community Volunteers Required



On 1st May 1978 Prince Charles opened the Oakleaf Sports Complex and he was interviewed by Harry Rowell who ran the first Aycliffe Radio which didn't survive.

Newton Press is pleased to announce another initiative, bringing a revised service to Aycliffe residents. With the help of other community-minded volunteers we are launching an on-line radio station for the town, "Aycliffe Radio".

The station will work alongside Newton News, promoting all aspects of community life in and around Aycliffe including the Business Park and will involve many local residents, groups, schools and organisations.

The station will be run by Jack Hall and Paul Howarth, who are on the lookout for any person or group who wish to be involved, whether you are a budding DJ/journalist or local entertainer. We also would like to hear from you if you are a member of a local band or choir which could be pre-recorded to play on air. The outside broadcast team would also like to attend your event (where possible) and pre-record a session.

Aycliffe Radio is not a conventional FM or DAB station, it is an online radio station, which means that wherever you are in the world, you are able to log in and listen via our website. There is also an App available for mobile devices - you will just need to search for Aycliffe Radio on Apple Store or Google Play and install.

The website is purposely built to list local events; as well as details about our DJ's/ Presenters; contact details; downloadable podcasts from pre-recorded events, band and DJ sets. Requests can also be placed on the site and a weekly schedule is available so you can decide which shows/genre's you would like to tune in to. Greenfield Community College have offered the new station use of their

broadcasting equipment for which we are very grateful as this will also allow us to use the funds to purchase items for the studio as well as licenses and software.

Special thank you to Honest John, who has donated funds to the station to help with our set up costs. Aycliffe Radio is a not-for-profit organization and has applied to be registered as a CIC (Community Interest Company). All those involved are volunteers, there are no shareholders, so any profits which are made will be placed back into the community towards music projects.

The Big Club has also offered the radio station a room to use as a studio. This was welcome news as this puts Aycliffe Radio right in the middle of the town. The organisers are keen for all clubs, pubs and venues to keep them up to date with their events so we can inform our listeners and website visitors. Community events will receive free publicity via these mediums.

**For the station to be successful we need the support of the local**

**community, schools, groups, bands, businesses and residents. The station has already received offers of help from DJs/ Presenters: Paul Gittins, Jack Hall (Biff Bang Pow Promote), Gary Avery (Inaspin Disco/Prof. Nincompoop); as well as volunteer Stephen Gosnay and local entertainer Neville Jones - but we require more volunteers; to be a presenter, DJ, sit on the CIC board or help out in any other capacity - please get in touch (details below).**

Aycliffe Radio do not want to leave local businesses out of the equation; not only do we require sponsors and advertisers; we also want to know about any event you are planning, milestone celebrations, new business ventures or job vacancies - talk to Aycliffe Radio, we are keen to help.

To contact Aycliffe Radio direct, talk to Jack Hall: 07535 438466 or email [info@ayclifferadio.co.uk](mailto:info@ayclifferadio.co.uk) - Paul can be contacted on 01325 300212 (office hours) or email [paul@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:paul@newtonnews.co.uk).

## Spectacular Town Firework Display



Photo taken by our reader Chris Johnson who thanks the Council for arranging the moon to be included in their display.

A crisp, clear night enhanced the crowd's enjoyment of this year's Firework Display, provided and organised by Great Aycliffe Town Council.

All of the available wrist bands (just over six thousand) were given out for the annual free event, which as usual proved to be very popular with the public.

The elevated position of the Oakleaf Sports Complex, which hosted the display, meant that the fireworks could be viewed over a wide area of the parish.

The event was supported by a funfair and side stalls, plus a number of refreshment outlets, to entertain and sustain the crowd prior to the start of the display.

The display commenced with the lighting of a beacon at 7pm, followed at 7.15pm by a countdown led by the Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Wendy Hillary, and fireworks set to a musical accompaniment. The firework display ended with a spectacular crescendo, which lit up the night sky.

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Everyone is welcome to join us at St. Clare's Court Central Avenue, Newton Aycliffe on 15th November at 10.30am for our monthly Coffee Morning. Enjoy a cakes and biscuits. For further information please contact Denise or Jay on: 01235 315 671

### MRI SCANNER APPEAL

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

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

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# 18 Schools Enter Future Business Magnates Competition

## FINDING DURHAM'S YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS



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Future Business Magnates (FBM) – an annual competition

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run by Business Durham, the economic development organisation for County Durham – will this year challenge Year 8 children from across County Durham to devise a smart solution to a problem they have identified in the region.

The competition launched at Newton Aycliffe's Xcel Centre. Its theme 'Smart County Durham' will encourage pupils aged 12 and 13 to use resources and do research to create a product or service which would make a positive difference to the way we live or work.

Influential names from the business world, including Bignall Group, Ebac, Hydram, Waterstons, CA Group, Robertsons Construction, Hodgson Sayers and Thorn Lighting, are partnering the 18 school teams to provide mentoring and support.

Sarah Slaven, interim managing director of Business Durham, which works on behalf of Durham County Council, said: "We're looking forward to seeing pupils come up with their smart solutions as, in the past, they've proved that their imagination has no bounds. It's only by innovative thinking that we'll be able to develop the new products of the future."

"Pupils will be encouraged to use all of the resources available to them, from their schools, their business partners, their communities and from the wider services in County Durham. We want to see them developing products that are practical and have a purpose, and that can be made using the skills found in the region."

Cllr Carl Marshall, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for economic regeneration, said: "We're really looking forward to seeing the next generation of business leaders and entrepreneurs bring their youthful enthusiasm and creativity to the challenge."

"This special opportunity to learn from the best in the business world will bring countless benefits to their educational development, and we hope the children involved will be inspired to pick up the mantle of business leaders when they graduate into the workplace."

Over the next eight months, around 180 pupils will attend a series of specially designed workshops and work with their mentors to develop a business idea, create a prototype and understand how to market and finance their product or service. The six challenges of the programme will be judged by leading lights at the FSB, Karenic Communications, The Interface, This is Creative Enterprise, Atom Bank and Short Richardson Forth law firm.

Pupils will present their finished concept to the judges and winners will be announced at an awards ceremony in June next year. FBM has helped develop the business acumen and creative flair of hundreds of secondary school children since it was first established in 2005.

The theme for last year's FBM competition was Connecting County Durham, with pupils at Ferryhill Business and Enterprise College taking home top prize for their eco-based board game 'Fear the Wear'.

## Cat Shot with Air Rifle

On Friday the 3rd of November I heard my 1 year old cat had been hurt. When I got home she couldn't walk and it looked like a broken leg so my husband took her to the Vets where they kept her overnight.

On Saturday I got a call to say the X-ray showed she had an air rifle bullet in her paw and it needed removing. I can't believe there are people out there who would do this especially so close to our home.

There are lots of kids around Priestman Road area and it could've easily been one of them who got hit. Thankfully lucky is OK but I'd like to warn people out there if you let your cats out please be aware of mindless idiots around.

Carley Gibson

## Benefit Claimants Get Free Internet Access at Library

Universal Credit claimants are being advised that they can access their online application by visiting their local library. Durham County Council's libraries and Customer Access Points offer free internet access, which residents can use to submit and update their claim form. Staff are also on hand to help if needed.

Universal Credit is administered by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and merges six benefits, including housing benefit and tax credits, into a single payment. The system, which is already in place for some claimants, is being

rolled out into the Peterlee and Seaham areas this week.

Cllr Joy Allen, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for transformation, said: "Universal Credit can only be claimed online and once someone has submitted their application, they are also responsible for managing it online."

"We want to make sure that anyone who does not have access to a computer, tablet or smart phone at home knows they can use self-service PCs at our libraries and customer access points to submit and manage their claim."

"There is no charge to use

these facilities – you just need to check the opening hours for your local library or Customer Access Point."

Universal Credit is paid every four weeks, but due to the initial waiting period, and depending on when the first claim is made, the first payment may not be made for six weeks.

Cllr Jane Brown, Cabinet member for social inclusion, said: "We've been working with the DWP, local community, voluntary groups, landlords and housing providers to ensure residents are aware of changes to the benefits system and how these changes may affect them."

Working with the County Durham Advice Partnership, we have put a series of measures in place to enable people to access advice and assistance on how to submit a claim under the new system.

"And we're also making sure residents know where they can get help if they are struggling to make ends meet while they are waiting for their first payment."

Personal budgeting support is available to residents who have been referred through the DWP and the council will also be supporting and encouraging claims for council tax discount through its Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

In addition, anyone visiting a council building can take advantage of free wi-fi in order to access their application via a smartphone or tablet.

Residents can also apply for short-term awards to help with daily living expenses through the authority's Welfare Assistance Scheme. For more information, visit [www.durham.gov.uk/welfareassistance](http://www.durham.gov.uk/welfareassistance).

Information about Universal Credit is available at [www.gov.uk/universal-credit](http://www.gov.uk/universal-credit) or [www.durham.gov.uk/universalcredit](http://www.durham.gov.uk/universalcredit).

Access to computers at libraries and Customer Access Points can be booked in advance in person at any of the venues. Support is also available by calling the council's customer services team on 03000 260 000.

## Dogs Trust Launches Vital Domestic Abuse Project in North East

Dogs Trust Freedom Project launches in the region as new figures reveal shocking number of domestic abuse crimes in the region

The Trust is launching an innovative pet fostering scheme providing vital support for people fleeing domestic abuse in the North East after new figures reveal police in the region receive over 40 calls a day related to domestic abuse.

The Freedom Project, run by Dogs Trust, the UK's largest dog welfare charity, works by placing the dog at risk into the home of a volunteer foster carer who will care for them until they can be safely reunited with their loving families. Most refugees are unable to accept pets so this important scheme gives families peace of mind their dog will be well cared for until they can be safely reunited.

This extension of the project to the North East region comes after police statistics reveal over 54,000 reported incidents of domestic violence in Durham since January 2014 and 30,000 incidents in Northumbria in the past year alone. In Cleveland, figures show there were 15,000 calls to police regarding domestic abuse last year.

The link between animal abuse and domestic violence is well established; perpetrators may threaten to harm or actually kill a beloved pet in order to intimidate their partner into obedience and silence. Many pet owners remain in a violent domestic situation simply for fear of what might happen to their pet if they flee without it. Dogs Trust's Freedom Project, which is the only scheme of its kind in the North East, has been running in Greater London, Yorkshire and Hertfordshire for 12 years and launched in Essex last year. During that time has helped more than 800 dogs and owners to escape from abusive situations by fostering 1,100 dogs. With the North East consistently

reporting increased incidences of domestic abuse year-on-year, the charity hopes that by extending the project to this area they will be able to help even more families and pets at risk.

We now urgently need foster carers in the North East area as we expand our service, so if you think you could help, please get in touch."

Due to the high demand for the service, Dogs Trust Freedom Project are urgently looking for volunteers with experience of caring for dogs, who are at home during the day and can look after dogs for an average of six months. All the dogs' expenses are covered by Dogs Trust, so this is a particularly rewarding volunteering opportunity for dog lovers who aren't able to own a dog on a permanent basis.

If you live in Yorkshire or the North East and would like to find out more about volunteering or accessing the Dogs Trust Freedom Project please visit [www.dogstrustfreedomproject.org.uk](http://www.dogstrustfreedomproject.org.uk) or email: [freedomproject@dogstrust.org.uk](mailto:freedomproject@dogstrust.org.uk) or call: 0800 298 9199.



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**OFSTED Inspected - "Outstanding Provision"**

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### NEWTON NEWS

NEWTON NEWS is published and printed by Newton Press, which was first established in 1948 and incorporates "The Newtonian". Visit the on-line version at [www.newtonnews.co.uk](http://www.newtonnews.co.uk)

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# Local Artists in County Durham's Winter Exhibition

A County Durham gallery is showcasing some of the region's finest creative talents in a record-breaking, free exhibition.

The Winter Exhibition, at No. 42, Bishop Auckland, has attracted double the usual number of submissions, with 42 artworks selected to go on display.

In total 19 artists from across County Durham have contributed vast and vibrant oil paintings, delicate watercolours and sumptuous textile work to create the gallery's largest exhibition to date.

The featured artwork includes a six-foot long triptych, a powerful abstract piece in contrasting tones from Wolsingham-based painter and printmaker Allan Archibald, who became a full-time artist after working as an art teacher for more than 30 years.

And award-winning Sedgefield photographer, Chris Webb whose work captures light and darkness to highlight the unique atmosphere of the North East's land, sea and sky.

No. 42 encourages local artists to display and sell their work at various exhibitions held throughout the year, part of The Auckland Project, it also features a separate shop space, offering creatives from across the region a platform to sell their work.

Bishop Auckland artist, Anne Pinkney has sold her artwork at No. 42 since it opened in 2012 and will return for this exhibition with delicate and characterful watercolour paintings of geese and rural farm birds.

And Alison Hill, who has previously exhibited sculpture and charcoal drawings at the site in Bishop Auckland Market Place, has turned her hand to textile art for the latest showcase with a vibrant pop-art inspired piece.



Alison said: "No. 42 has been a launching point for my career, the exhibitions give up and coming artists the opportunity to get some recognition."

Jackie Stonehouse, No. 42 Manager, said: "We have been bowled over by the standard of the work submitted for our Winter Exhibition."

"And to have received a record number of

submissions is a fantastic way to tie up what has been a wonderful year so far."

Winter Exhibition at No. 42, Bishop Auckland Market Place is now open to Saturday, December 23, the gallery is free to enter and is open from Wednesday to Saturday from 10am to 5pm. For more information email [no42@aucklandproject.org](mailto:no42@aucklandproject.org) call 01388 660 270 or visit [aucklandproject.org](http://aucklandproject.org)

## NEFirst Credit Union

(formerly County Durham Credit Union)

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**Telephone 0191 490 9952**  
or 07827 307571 or 01325 315645  
or email: [info@nefirstcu.co.uk](mailto:info@nefirstcu.co.uk)

# Council Welcome First Degree Apprentices

Durham County Council has welcomed the recruitment of its first degree apprentices, who will work as part of the council's planning and assets team. The apprentices, who will also study at Northumbria University, will be funded using the apprentice levy, which was introduced by the Government in April 2017.

This will save the council £81,000 in training costs, and has potential to be rolled out across the rest of the council and could result in annual savings of up to £2 million.

Cllr Carl Marshall, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for economic regeneration, said: "We are excited to have established three new degree apprentices within our service which helps to address both our immediate and long term workforce planning needs."

"Within months of starting, all three have made a positive impression, have been active in making improvements, and we look forward to what the future will bring."

"This is a great opportunity to not only get a university degree but also the essential work experience that many find difficult to get."

"Growing our own stars of the future is an important strand of attracting new talent, and at the same time providing exciting new opportunities for our young people."

"We hope that businesses will see what we're doing and

follow suit."

Apprentices Adam Marr, Daniel Knowd, and Jamie Gargett will each divide their time between working for Durham County Council and studying for a degree at Northumbria University.

The new recruits are already part of Durham County Council's new Apprentice Think Tank, which seeks to provide a fresh perspective on the day-to-day workings of the council, and suggest innovative solutions.

Susan Dawson, Northumbria University's apprenticeship programme lead, said: "We are extremely proud of the degree apprenticeship route at Northumbria University and are delighted that Durham County Council has made a significant commitment and investment to take advantage of this route to producing the next generation of chartered surveyors."

"The route has been developed in collaboration with industry and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. It seeks to truly combine vocational skills and cutting-edge knowledge developed in the workplace with the academic rigour and research-rich learning and teaching provided by the university."

Durham County Council's planning and assets team will also be looking to recruit more degree apprentices next spring, with details due to be released.

# Dance Show in aid of Kieran Maxwell Fund



Pierremont School of Dance are holding their annual Show on 17th & 18th November held at Polam Hall in Darlington. The school have dancers aged from 2 to 18 years plus.

Half of the proceeds are going to the Kieran Maxwell Legacy.

We always try to support a local charity in the community and this time we decided on Kieran's, as a local lad whose bravery touched everyone.

The show starts at 7pm on Friday 10 November then has 2.00pm and 7.00pm on the Saturday and then

the following Friday and Saturday (6).

The tickets are priced at £6 each except for the last night, where we will be presenting Kieran's family with a cheque which is priced at £7.

We do have tickets available and they would need to contact either our FB or Twitter pages or alternatively they can contact me on 07538 179137 and request tickets.

We are also looking for local businesses to help with our raffles, during the interval at every show.

## Film Show

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 14th November features the 2016 romantic period drama "THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS" starring Michael Fassbender, Rachel Weisz and Alicia Vikander. A lighthouse keeper and his wife see their wish for a child answered when a boat drifts in to shore, but there are shattering consequences. A sweeping romantic epic; heartbreakingly beautiful. Tea and coffee are served at 1pm, included in the £2. The film starts at 1.15pm. Please note that children must be accompanied. 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.

# OPEN EVENT

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• **16th NOVEMBER 2017 5.30pm - 7.30pm**

We are a state funded school specialising in Engineering, Technology and Science. The events will offer a fantastic opportunity for you to come along and see the building, have a tour by our students and meet the UTC team.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS 1st DECEMBER 2017**

You can book onto the event by going to this link:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-evening-tickets-37725912219>



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## TELEPHONE SCAM TO IGNORE!

Dear Sir,  
As a local carer I have heard a number of complaints from clients I look after about receiving phone calls asking for their bank details. The scam is the man with an Irish accent and said that the council had sold the banding rights for council tax to estate agents and as soon as the lady said the Council hadn't said anything to her the man hung up. Two days later a woman phoned and says you may have paid too much council tax as the council sold banding rights to estate agents and that your property may have been banded wrongly and you could be due a refund. All they need you to confirm is your full postal address, telephone number and bank details and where you want the refund paid to. When the lady questioned this the caller hung up so she tried to dial 1471, but it was a withheld number. Please be aware of this scam currently circulating. Sally Symons

## GRANTS TO BRIGHTEN NEIGHBOURHOODS

Grants of up to £500 are on offer to help green-fingered folk make a difference to County Durham.

As part of the Royal Horticultural Society's (RHS) It's Your Neighbourhood (IYN) campaign, Durham County Council is offering up to £500 worth of funding, to a maximum of 15 community groups, in an effort to encourage volunteers to take part in environmental improvement projects.

The Community Grant Scheme, led by the council's Civic Pride team, will enable small groups to get involved in projects which will also complement the work of local RHS Northumbria in Bloom and Britain in Bloom teams.

Schemes in the 3 Towns Area Action Partnership (AAP) catchment will be funded by that body. Projects must make a positive change to an area where people live, work or spend their leisure time and meet the three core pillars of the RHS scheme:

- **Community participation**
- **Environmental responsibility - promoting respect**

**for the local environment and encouraging people to take ownership of it**

• **Gardening achievement.** Additionally, all projects must be located within County Durham.

Scheme ideas could include cleaning up and greening up a local area, planting flowers, working with a local school on an eco-project, helping older or vulnerable groups to enhance their natural environment or transforming a community centre outdoor space.

Ian Hoult, the council's neighbourhood protection manager, said: "We're always impressed by the fantastic improvements that are inspired by the community grant scheme and the IYN competition."

"It is a great opportunity to get people together, brighten up their local neighbourhoods and help County Durham shine."

"Our Civic Pride team will support successful groups in delivering their desired project and help them enter the RHS It's Your Neighbourhood competition – where I'm sure they'll get great results."

Projects must be delivered during spring/summer 2018 in order to be eligible for a grant.

Community groups do not need to be a registered charity to apply.

Groups which were awarded funding last year can apply again to develop their schemes further, however new applicants will be given preference.

Forms and guidance notes can be downloaded at [www.durham.gov.uk/itsyourneighbourhood](http://www.durham.gov.uk/itsyourneighbourhood). Alternatively people can request an application pack by emailing [civicpride@durham.gov.uk](mailto:civicpride@durham.gov.uk) or by calling 03000 26 0000 to order one by post.

Complete applications can be returned by email to [civicpride@durham.gov.uk](mailto:civicpride@durham.gov.uk) or by post to: Durham County Council RHS IYN Community Grant Scheme

Civic Pride Team  
Chilton Depot  
Chilton Industrial Estate  
Co Durham, DL17 0SD.  
The closing date is Friday, 8th December.

## St. Mary's Foodbank Collection Point

*Written by Year 3 pupils*

Children at St. Mary's primary have been very busy over the last few weeks helping to support the food bank in our town. Our year 3 children decided to support our local food bank as part of their Harvest collection.

On Tuesday the 17th of October, Alison Firby and Kath Pinner came in to talk to our year 3 children about how the Food Bank started and its success in our town.

The children felt very happy that there were so many kind people helping those in our town who did not have enough food to eat.

The parents of children in our school were so generous in donating lots of food for our Harvest appeal. The children had a Harvest liturgy on the Friday morning before half term when parents, grandparents and parishioners came to



## TV Star at Town's Award Winning Pub

A full house witnessed a fantastic routine from one of the UK's best up and coming comedians.

After recent sell-out gigs at Telewest Arena with Chris Ramsey at The Gala and The Forum it was Aycliffe Turbinia's turn to host the comic superstar, and a unique opportunity to catch him at an intimate pub gig. He had the audience rolling about from the start of his set, showing why he is so highly regarded on the circuit, and why he has won so many national awards.

His job was made easier on the night, with hilarious earlier sets from support acts 'Danny Deegan', who was compare for the night, and the fantastic comedy impressionist 'Cal Halbert', who has starred at the 'Palladium', 'Britain's got Talent' & 'Good Morning Britain'.

A good night was had by all, proved by the fact we sold tickets on the night, for the next Comedy Night which is a month away. The Turbinia's Comedy Nights are on the 1st Wednesday of the month, with the next one 6th December, featuring the very funny Phil Chapman described as "An instant hit" by the Liverpool Echo. M.C. for the night is - Freddy Quinne winner of the 2013 Hilarity Bites New Act of the Year, and headline act winner of the EMMA Award for Best Comedienne Ria Lina. Tickets on sale now at The Turbinia, or online at [www.hilaritybites.co.uk](http://www.hilaritybites.co.uk) £6 advance or £8 on the door



Pub Landlord Gary with Chris Ramsey

## Support for Refugees

The success of an initiative to resettle Syrian refugees in County Durham is to be discussed next week.

Members of Durham County Council's Cabinet will hear that, to date, 92 vulnerable people fleeing violence have settled in the county thanks to the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

A report on the programme also states that the implementation of the scheme in County Durham has been hailed as an example of best practice by other organisations in the region. The initiative is run by Durham Humanitarian Support Partnership, which is chaired by the council and includes representatives from clinical commissioning groups, County Durham Housing Forum, the voluntary and community sector, North East Regional Faiths Network and North East Churches Acting Together.

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Plus the fabulous Adult and Kids Tombola's

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Facebook – affordablefurniture uk

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## READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Tony Jary took this recent photo of Aycliffe Town Centre showing Christmas is coming. Send in your photo to: [syd@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:syd@newtonnews.co.uk)

**HEWITTS SOLICITORS** **monkey** **County Durham Health Check Service**

**carers RIGHTS DAY** **carers support** **carers RIGHTS DAY**

**CARERS RIGHTS DAY 2017**

Durham County Carers Support are working in partnership with local organisations to bring you information and advice about your rights as a Carer.

**Come along and join us for FREE coffee and cupcakes on:**

**FRIDAY, 24th NOVEMBER**

**10am—12 noon**

**St Clare's Church Hall**

**St Cuthbert's Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5NT**

- Durham County Carers Support for information, advice and support around your caring role.
- Hewitts Solicitors for legal matters e.g. Power of Attorney.
- Monkey— advice on affordable finance, fuel and furniture services & products.
- Health Checks available from County Durham Health Check Service

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## Burns Night for Scanner Appeal



A Traditional Burns Night in aid of the MRI Scanner Appeal is on 25th January 2018 at 7.00pm to be held at Headlam Hall near Darlington, DL2 5HA. Chef's at Headlam are serving a fabulous menu including the traditional 'Haggis, Neeps and Tatties' which will be played in by Piper Paul Cook. Bruce Cunningham will "Address the Haggis" before you dance the night away with Ceilidh band 'Blind Stag'. Tickets are £37 each – call Pat Chambers on 07770 455651 or email pat.chambers1@nhs.net to book.

## Dog Owner Fined £564 for Out-of-Date Microchip

A County Durham dog owner has been fined after he failed to update the address registered to his pet's microchips.

Peter Lockeron, 50, of South Magdalene, Medomsley, pleaded guilty via e-mail after his two dogs, a St Bernard and a Newfoundland, were found to have out-of-date addresses for their owner.

The dogs were discovered killing chickens at an allotment in Medomsley, where they were put on a lead by a Durham County Council neighbourhood warden and scanned for microchips.

However on checking the details recorded against the microchip it was discovered that the dogs were registered to the same person but at two different addresses, both in Consett.

As the neighbourhood warden was leading the dogs to the dog warden van, Lockeron approached the warden and claimed ownership of the animals, explaining that he had moved address since adopting the dogs.

He was subsequently issued with a notice which required him to update the microchips

within 21-days.

On 24 March 2017 the neighbourhood warden found that the details had not been updated, as required by the 21 day notice, and so the case was referred to Newton Aycliffe Magistrates Court.

In his e-mail pleading guilty, Lockeron said in mitigation that he had initially tried to change over the address, but this had required information about previous owners which he had not followed up on.

He also said that following his initial investigations he forgot to follow-up on changing the addresses registered to the microchips. Lockeron was fined £294, ordered to pay costs of £240.56 and pay a victim surcharge of £30.

Ian Hoult, Durham County Council's neighbourhood protection manager, said: "Keeping your pet's microchip up to date with correct information means that your pet can be returned to you if it is lost, strays, is found hurt or is stolen."

"Since April 2016 it has been a legal requirement for all dogs over eight weeks old to be microchipped, and this case shows that we're prepared to prosecute owners

who don't follow the law.

"Without microchipping, dogs which stray can spend lengthy periods of time in kennels as they await their owners coming to get them, whereas with an up to date microchip pets can be returned to their families as early as possible."

## Would you Pay More for Better Policing?

Police Commissioner Ron Hogg is asking residents' views on paying more for policing. People across County Durham and Darlington are being asked for their opinion about police funding in a new survey.

The survey asks whether local residents would be prepared to pay a higher amount for the police element of Council Tax, to maximise the number of Police Officers in the area.

Ron Hogg said: "The Government has reduced the funding for policing every year since 2010, which has led to a reduction of around 360 officers. Next year I expect to have to increase the police element of Council Tax by 2% to maximise numbers. This is equivalent to 4p a week for a household living in a property in Council Tax Band A."

Ron added "as well as seeking the views of local residents, last week I wrote to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to demand central government provide more funding for policing. Whilst I am willing to ask local people to consider paying a little more, it is not right that they should shoulder the whole burden".

The survey only takes a few seconds to complete. It can be found on Ron's website at: [www.durham-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk)

## AYCLIFFE SWIM COACH FINALIST FOR 'LEADING LIGHT' AWARD

Sedgefield 75 Chief Coach, John Moore, thought his 80th birthday would be a quiet affair but the other members from Sedgefield 75 had other plans and decided to make this a birthday that John would remember. On Saturday 28th October, John was on poolside at Sunderland Aquatic Centre with Leah Smith, who was competing in the ASANER Age Group Championships,



and when he arrived, there were balloons attached to his chair.

Later in the day he was presented with the Gray Award for his services to swimming along with gifts and cards from some of the coaches. John probably thought that was all that had been organised to celebrate his birthday, but he had another surprise on Monday 30th, when he was coaching, over 40 friends, coaches, past swimmers and parents were at the Leisure Centre to celebrate with a surprise party for him. John was presented with a

present from the club, a cake and a memory book, with messages and photos from swimmers who he has coached over the years. John was overwhelmed by the amount of people who had come to celebrate with him but it was lovely for him to be able to celebrate with his many friends and swimmers.

John arrived back from Sheffield to find that he is a finalist for the Sir Bobby Robson 'Leading Light' Award. The ceremony is to be held at Wynyard Hall on December 7th. John said: "I'm not sure if I can cope with any more surprises".

# Denture Wearer? Afraid to Smile?

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## Heighington Pre-School is "Outstanding"



The staff, Parents/Carers and Children were beaming with pride as they received their latest inspection report. Ofsted reported that within the Pre-School the "teaching is inspirational" and that "the staff are excellent role models". They also reported that "The children show overwhelming levels of respect and consideration for each other" and that "they show readiness for starting School earlier than expected as they are resilient and well prepared".

the Village Hall. The Pre-School is open 5 mornings a week during term time from 9.00am until 12.00pm. The Pre-School provides 15 weekly funded hours of early education places for children aged between 3 and 4 and currently has some availability. Staff members are Helen Lyon, Shirley Irvin, Claire Coates, Lisa Clark and Ruth Ashlee. If you would like to attend our "Outstanding" Pre-School. Contact Helen - 07845 980151. Split funding is available.

## Helping Cancer Patients Look Good & Feel Better

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust is working with a national charity, Look Good Feel Better, offering practical support in dealing with some of the changes in physical appearance, such as hair loss, that can occur as a result of some cancer treatments.

A series of free, two hour masterclasses, teaching vital skincare and make up techniques to help improve confidence and appearance are being held in Darlington and Durham over the next few weeks.

Led by volunteer beauty professionals, the sessions are open to anyone undergoing cancer treatment and aim to bring together small groups of women in a relaxed and uplifting environment.

Commenting, Macmillan cancer support project coordinator, at County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, Jo Dickinson, said, "The Trust recognises the potentially devastating impact a diagnosis of cancer can

have on people and many of our patients find the side effects of some treatments particularly difficult to cope with - especially the visible ones, such as hair loss, which can be very emotional.

"Working with Look Good Feel Better has provided a great opportunity for us to do something really positive for our patients at a particularly difficult time in their lives, helping them to rebuild their confidence and feel a little better about themselves.

The masterclasses are always a great success." Tina Murray, from Neasham, near Darlington, who is currently undergoing cancer treatment, and who attended a recent session, said, "I was unsure whether I would enjoy it, but am rapidly realising anything that makes you feel positive and good about yourself during the worst period of your life can only be a good thing for

mind, body and soul. I really enjoyed it and it was nice to have a pamper and a bit of fun for a change - I was delighted with the results. Perhaps the biggest benefit though was meeting women my own age and sharing our experiences which I found very supportive."

Jo adds, "We recognise that clinical care is only part of what patients need from us and our website details information about support available to people with cancer:

<https://www.cddft.nhs.uk/our-services/division-of-clinical-support-services/cancer-information-and-support.aspx>

Our next masterclasses are on Monday 4th December 2017, 1.00-3.00pm at Bannatyne's Health Club & Spa, Eden Terrace, Durham, DH1 2HJ. To book a free place and find out more, ring: 01325 743008 or 0191 333 2815.

## "Too Late" DCC, was the Cry - Again!

Last week we received news of the Leisure Centre holding an Open Day on Saturday 4th November. As is often the case this arrived too late for Newton News which is delivered over the weekend.

We inform the County Council each time this occurs, but they still fail to put the matter right and we cannot understand why the information is not supplied well in advance of events. Surely they are arranged weeks ahead of the date so why cannot we be told in time to inform our readers? Please find below the article sent.

"A County Durham swimming pool is launching its new programme this weekend with a day of free activities suitable for all the family.

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre is now running sessions including aqua cycle and aqua jump - putting the traditional gym classes into the water.

Aqua cycle includes state-of-the-art bikes submerged while users pedal against the resistance of the water, while aqua jump uses underwater trampolines to improve strength, conditioning and core stability.

Taster sessions of the new classes will take place between 3pm and 4pm on Saturday, with each lasting around 15 minutes.

Earlier in the afternoon, under-fives can join in with a Ready, Set, Splash session in the small pool where they can play and invent their own games as well as meeting Brock the badger and his friends between 2pm and 3pm.

At the same time, children over eight can have fun on the inflatables in the large pool. Places for the aqua classes and under-five's

session are limited, please call Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on 03000 266 446 to book a place.

The gym at the leisure centre will also be holding tours every hour between 11am and 3pm, with the opportunity to find out what's on offer and sign-up for a membership.

Away from the pool, the library will also be holding a drop-in session from 11am to 12.30pm where children can design their own swimming costume.

For each of the three age categories - two to five years, six to ten years and 11 plus - there will be a group winner who will receive a free family swim pass and a goodie bag.

To celebrate the launch of the new pool programme, residents are also being offered 25 per cent off an annual swim membership when they join at their local leisure centre.

Rather than paying the usual cost of £22.50 a month, people will pay £16.87 a month for a whole year should they join in November. Visit [www.durham.gov.uk/newtonaycliffeleisurecentre](http://www.durham.gov.uk/newtonaycliffeleisurecentre) for more information.

## County Durham Plan Set to Restart

Councillors will be asked to agree the timetable for the County Durham Plan process to resume when they meet on 15 November.

The process was paused in December 2016 due to expected changes in the calculation of housing numbers in a forthcoming Government white paper.

Durham County Council has always been committed to bringing forward a plan as soon as possible to continue the county's economic growth and build on the momentum seen over the past five years. This has seen several high profile investments, such as the current redevelopment of Durham City's riverside, and a number of major employers moving to the county, including Hitachi, ResQ and Atom Bank among many others.

With some information on housing numbers having been released, the council's Cabinet is being asked to approve a timetable to resume the process. While the council is aware that resuming the process without the full guidance in place has some risks, positive conversations continue with the Government. The council will also continue to monitor developments and has put forward a timescale to allow

for further policy changes.

A report to Cabinet also includes the council's response to the Government's consultation, Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places, asking for further clarity and the need to align housing requirements with the county's aspirations for economic growth to ensure that particular challenges in the north east are recognised.

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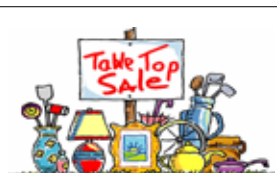


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Residents of Simpstone Court are holding their Annual SALE on Saturday 18th November 2017 from 9.00am-2.00pm in the court lounge.

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## COUNCIL TACKLES DOG FOULING ON FOOTBALL PITCHES

In regard to the letter from Newton Aycliffe Youth Football Club in last week's Newton News, Great Aycliffe Town Council accept and share the clubs concerns in regard to dogs using the sports pitches at the Oakleaf and across the town. Whilst the Council accept that most dog owners are responsible and clear up after their dogs, there is a minority who do not. In addition, it is impossible to bag all the waste and some residue can be left on site, which could be harbouring dangerous diseases such as toxocarasis. Playing football inevitably results players heading, catching and kicking the ball, this is extremely unpleasant when the ball has been contaminated with dogs faecal matter. The Council will therefore be placing advisory signage in the vicinity of all sports playing fields managed by the Town Council at the Oakleaf, Moore Lane and Simpature Parks. The signs will ask that dogs are not exercised on the actual sports pitches and so should be kept under control in the vicinity. Further to this the Council will step up

patrols to advise users of this decision and will encourage dog walkers to exercise their dogs in more appropriate locations.

### More about Toxocarasis

The Council is occasionally asked why there are laws in regard to dogs fouling public areas but no other animals. The simple answer is Toxocarasis. Toxocarasis can cause serious illness and even lead to blindness. The disease can affect everyone but children are particularly susceptible. It is caused by a parasite commonly known as Roundworm. The parasite lives in dogs' digestive system and is released via the infected dogs' faecal matter.

The eggs remain active in the soil long after the rain has washed away all traces of the waste. There is therefore the potential that a child can ingest the eggs and tract the disease by simply coming into contact with the grass/soil where an infected dog has deposited its business many months or years previously. Steven Cooper, Environmental Officer GATC

## MAD Choir at FREE Annual Community Christmas Concert



The popular Aycliffe MAD Choir will be performing at the annual Christmas Community Concert organised by the town's Rotary Club at the Leisure Centre on Tuesday 12th December from 1pm - 2.30pm.

The choir will join schoolchildren from town schools who will present a fantastic programme of singing, dancing and gymnastics.

Admission is free thanks to costs covered by our local County Councillors using their neighbourhood funds. There will be a raffle and a collection in aid of Xmas Hampers for needy families. Don't miss this joyous occasion as your build up to the festive season.

## STALLS AVAILABLE AT COLLEGE FESTIVE FAIR

The Community Festive Fair at Bishop Auckland College returns for 2017 on Sunday 10th December 10am-3pm. This is a great local event to celebrate Christmas as a community and to share all the good things that happen locally. There will be a Festive Market which will include handmade crafts, gifts, food, community stalls and much more. If anyone would like a stall at the event, please contact cdda-tr.WBFL@nhs.net or call 01207 523651 for a booking form. Private/profit making stalls are £10 and statutory, community and voluntary stalls are FREE.

The aim of the event is to showcase and celebrate the fantastic range of businesses, organisations and community groups within south-west Durham. As well as the market there'll be performances, demonstrations and activities for all ages, all free of charge. If you're in a local group and you want to show thousands of visitors what you can do, get in touch. Marnie Ramsey, Wellbeing for Life Coordinator said "We are bringing back the event this year with a healthy family focus and would like to invite all members of the community along. We really love getting involved with our communities and this is a great way to celebrate Christmas together. We've got lots of attractions, workshops and displays

planned; there's literally something for everyone."

Children can visit Santa for free throughout the event and there's an opportunity to meet Spidey and the Ice Queen and Anna from 10-12noon.

The County Durham Wellbeing for Life service aims to help people to live well and maintain good health for themselves and

those around them.

They will be announcing more attractions over the coming weeks on their Facebook page @CountyDurhamWellbeingForLifeService.

For further information on the Wellbeing for Life service contact freephone 0800 8766887 or visit www.wellbeingforlife.net, twitter @WBFL\_Durham



### COUNTY NEWSBITS

Compiled by  
County Councillor John Clare

A massive week – please respond to the consultations on the DCC Budget, police funding and 'spit hoods'. Find out about all the following on my blog at: bit.ly/CNB811

**COUNCIL**

- DCC Budget Consultation.
- Proposed County Durham schools review.
- DCC Full Council meeting, Wednesday 1 November.
- DCC Economy Scrutiny Committee, Thursday 2 November.
- A visit to Salvus House.
- Operation Spruce Up is coming to Newton Aycliffe.
- The Durham County News winter edition is published.
- Durham Countryside Service November newsletter.
- The GAMP November newsletter
- Middridge Parish Council meeting.

**COMMUNITY**

- Ron Hogg PCVC is seeking your views on police funding.

- Durham Constabulary are seeking your views on 'Spit Hoods'.
- Beware two telephone scams.
- Healthwatch County Durham November newsletter.
- MET Office warns of a hard winter to come.
- SCOTRAIL reveal the finished interiors of their new Hitachi Class 385s.
- Latest local roadworks.

**THINGS TO DO NEXT WEEKEND**

- Lumière, Durham City, 4-10.30pm, 16-19 November.
- Christmas Fair at the Pioneering Care Centre, 10am-1pm, Saturday 18 November.
- Curator-led exhibit handling session for adults and children 11+, Durham Oriental Museum, 1-4pm, Saturday, November 18, 2017 – book on 0191 3345694.
- 'Christmas at Beamish' and Ice-skating at Beamish both begin on Saturday 18 November.

## Aycliffe Should Figure Prominently in any Constituency Name Change

Great Aycliffe Town Council last week overwhelmingly agreed to back Great Aycliffe Residents' Association (GARA) request for Aycliffe to be part of any change of name regarding the proposed boundary for our new Parliamentary Constituency from the Boundary Commission.

Cllr Arun Chandran, Secretary of GARA, put forward a strong case that in any future changes to the Constituencies being proposed by the Boundary Commission that Aycliffe should figure prominently in its title.

The current use of "Sedgefield" has always

puzzled people being a small town in the constituency. It seemed ridiculous whenever there was a straw poll the media went to Sedgefield.

The Commission are suggesting Billingham and Sedgefield, but GARA the Town Council and our MP Phil Wilson all agree on Aycliffe and Billingham - the two biggest towns within the proposed new boundary.

Whether these actual changes take place will be down to Parliamentary debates and legislation over the size and shape and number of future constituencies, but hopefully Aycliffe will figure in any name change proposed by the Boundary Commission.



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# First Patient to Receive Air Ambulance Plasma Transfusion

THE patient who received the North's first pre-hospital transfusion of plasma has left friends and family "flabbergasted" at his remarkable recovery. John Beaumont was riding his Suzuki GSX-R 600 motorcycle on his way to work in Kendal when he was involved in a collision with a car which left his life hanging in the balance. The father-of-two suffered horrific injuries in the crash, which happened at the junction of Windermere Road and Hollins Lane, Burnside, on May 27, 2016. John said he 't-boned' the vehicle in the collision. He sustained a shattered face, broken femur, snapped forearm, broken shoulder blade, fractured collar bone, five spinal fractures, four neck fractures, a broken leg, nerve damage and a brain herniation. He was treated at the roadside by the Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS) and was put into a medically induced coma by the doctor-led team. One unit of blood

and one unit of plasma were administered. This was the first time plasma was used by the aircrew after the charity launched a trial of the pioneering pre-hospital treatment just days before. GNAAS paramedic Andy Dalton said: "When we arrived, John was laid next to the car. When we see a motorcyclist like this, we know that the patient has absorbed all of the energy from the collision. "Often, when riders are thrown in the air, this diffuses some of the energy which means they stand a better chance of survival. John had hit the car and stopped, taking the full impact, which means all the energy went into his body. This can – and did – cause catastrophic injuries." John was flown to the Royal Preston Hospital where he spent four weeks in a coma. The self-employed woodsman said: "It was touch and go. Extremely close. Doctors did not know if I would survive. Many people are flabbergasted that I did with the amount of

injuries I sustained. "I have no doubt that I wouldn't be here without GNAAS. It's phenomenal." Andy Barrington, the GNAAS doctor who gave the transfusion, said: "John had that terrible combination of multiple injuries that were causing blood loss and serious head injuries. Such were the severity of those injuries, we weren't really expecting him to survive. But nevertheless we used all the tools at our disposal, including plasma. "In order to prevent ongoing damage to the brain, you have to preserve blood flow. Being able to top him up with blood and plasma was key to him having a reasonable chance of recovery. "Now we've got used to having plasma with us, I wouldn't want to be without it." GNAAS doctor, Rachel Hawes, played a pivotal role in introducing plasma onto the GNAAS aircraft. She said: "Scientific studies suggest that up to 30 per cent of trauma patients with severe bleeding are no longer able to form blood clots normally by the time they arrive in the Emergency Department (ED), and in fact our own research confirms this to be the case in our region. GNAAS relies on public donations to keep flying. Last year the charity responded to 1042 call-outs. It needed to raise £5.1m. To find out how you can help, please visit [www.gnaas.com](http://www.gnaas.com) or call 01325-487263.

# Are you a Woman with Your Own Business?

You may work in lead generation or sales and would like to create new contacts, whilst generating more business! We'd like to invite you to join The Women in Business Network. We have enjoyable, friendly lunch and brunch meetings, held in carefully selected venues throughout the north east. Here you can meet like-minded women and build future relationships alongside building your business. We follow a simple structure and everyone is given the opportunity to find out about everyone else in the room. If you would like to visit any of our meetings, there is a charge of £15 (for PAYG members) £10 (for subscription members). This covers your lunch, refreshments and essential admin costs to ensure these invaluable business network meetings are a success. We have over 10 meetings a month and each meeting repeats every 4 weeks. Next meetings: Monday 13th November: Parkhead Hotel (Bishop Auckland) - 11:45am - 1:30pm. Tuesday 14th November: Saucy Burger (Sunderland) - 11:45am - 1:30pm. Wednesday 15th November: Kingshead (Lanchester) - 11:45am - 1:30pm. We also have meetings in: South Shields, Washington,

# AYCLIFFE FC LOSE AT HOME TO DUNSTON



## Running Club in Leeds Race

Members of Aycliffe Running Club joined thousands of other runners on Sunday 5th November for the annual 10K Abbey Dash Race in Leeds. It started in the City Centre on Wellington Street and headed towards Kirkstall Abbey where the runners then turned and headed back to finish in front of cheering crowds at Leeds Town Hall. First to complete the race for Aycliffe was John Surtees in a PB of 34:58 followed by Tracey Surtees in PB of 42:29. Next was Dave Blewitt 44:09, Trish Kay 49:04 and Lisa Sheldon 1:00:43.

Aycliffe fielded a defensive formation but failed to trouble Dunston keeper Grant for the whole of the 90 minutes. It was a rearguard action throughout and the score was kept down by young keeper Jack McLaren who gained a Man of the Match performance by saving two penalties and making other good saves. He saved the first penalty in the 19th minute, from Dunston centre-forward Kirkpatrick. Half-time 0-0. McLaren made a super save

on 76 minutes, but he was beaten when Dunston scored from an Anderson penalty on 81 minutes. James Oliver was sent off for a second caution for the foul. Anderson had another penalty four minutes later and this time McLaren saved his shot. Full time 0-1. Aycliffe are currently in a run of six consecutive home games with the next match home to Stockton Town on Tuesday 7th November. Stockton were promoted from Division Two at the end of last season and include two former Aycliffe players, Jamie Owens and Fred Woodhouse, in their squad. In a recent change to the fixtures Bishop Auckland will visit Moore Lane on Saturday 11th November. Dunston UTS will then make a return to Aycliffe on Tuesday 14th November for a League Cup Second Round fixture.

## Holiday Snaps

### Newton News on the River Kwai



Newton News in Thailand! Sheila and John Humphries with their son Shaun James at the Bridge on the River Kwai. Please send your holiday snap with Newton News to [syd@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:syd@newtonnews.co.uk)

## Annual Free Community Christmas Concert

The programme for the annual Community Christmas Concert is filling up with participation by local schools including Vane Road, Woodham Burn, Byerley Park, Sugar Hill, Greenfield College, Woodham Academy, Horndale and Aycliffe Village. The Concert organised by the town's Rotary Club will be held in the main hall at the Leisure Centre on Tuesday 12th December from 1pm - 2.30pm and everyone is invited. Admission is free and it is hoped people will bring along their elderly neighbours to enjoy this Pre-Christmas community event. The schoolchildren always sing with great enthusiasm and lift the hearts of the audience. Also included is Dancing and Gymnastics by the senior schools, while in between the school performances, the audience sing popular Christmas Carols and songs. Put the date in your diary and we extend a warm welcome to residents of Care Homes in the town to attend.

## Aycliffe Swimmers at National Gala

Elisabeth Yaneski and Matthew Bradley competed the National Masters Gala at Sheffield on the 27th and 28th October. Matthews's success was documented in detail in last week's edition of Newton News but it is worth mentioning again that he is now British National Masters Champion for the 200 metres freestyle. Elisabeth took the bronze medal in the 800 metres freestyle. Not to be out done by her team-mate Elisabeth travelled to Glasgow the next week-end to compete in the Scottish Masters National Championships and took the Gold Medal in the 1500 metres freestyle. To have two National Champions in the squad is wonderful. From a club perspective they are both superb role models for the younger swimmers. Leah Smith was the only swimmer representing

Sedgefield 75 at the North Eastern Region Junior Championships held at the Sunderland Aquatic Centre on the 28th and 29th October. She competed in eight events over the weekend. Leah won silver in the 50 Breaststroke and bronze in the 100 Individual Medley. She was placed 8th in the 200 Breaststroke and 10th in the 100 Breaststroke. Niall Coulthard and Leah Smith and Kyle Boyack competed in North Eastern Region Junior / Senior gala on the 4th and 5th November held at Sheffield Ponds Forge Pool. The best results came from Kyle who was placed 4th in both the 100 and 200 Breast Stroke open events. Although both Niall and Leah swam personal best times in most of their swims they did not make finals as the Juniors were 15 and the Open had swimmers of Olympic class. A massive learning curve for both the young swimmers.

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# JUNIOR FOOTBALL

It was cup action this week for two of our TJFA League teams and only a few other teams played. The cup schedule saw that a few teams were free to enjoy a weekend of bonfires and fireworks.

The Under 6's continued their series of friendly games and this week enjoyed playing the Under 7's who had no league or cup commitments.

The Under 10's 'Black' were playing in Darlington against 21st Allstars Jets and they were in fine form. Jayden Leaver and Jayden Ferry scored early goals with Kalib adding the third before half time. A second half hat-trick from man of the match Jake and a goal from Theo completed a 7-0 win. In the second friendly game Jake (2), Jayden Ferry and Joseph scored in a 4-0 win.

The Under 10's 'White' played Darlington Young Bulls in the second round of the League Challenge Cup. A strong performance ensured progress to the next round with a 4-1 win. Jayden scored twice with Archie and man of the match Harvey getting the other goals. In their second friendly game two goals each from Aidan, Oliver and Jayden were added to by Archie, Will and man of the match Dom in a 9-1 win.

The Under 12's Russell Foster League team travelled to play Beamish Sparks. An improved performance and



two good goals were not enough to beat a strong team. They went 2-0 down but two well finished goals from Noah had them in the game at 3-2. Beamish ended the game strongly to win 6-2. Ted and Charlie were named as the Aycliffe men of the match. The Under 12's TJFA team played in the League Cup fourth round away at Billingham Synthonia. They went a goal behind but then dominated the game. Lucas, Kayne and Liam scored two goals each with Evan also on target in a 7-1 win that sealed a quarter final place. Next weekend will see a few more teams in action with the usual schedule of league fixtures.

# YOUTHY FOOTBALL ROUND UP

## Darlington 21st All Stars 6 - 3 Newton Aycliffe Youth U11's Eagles

A difficult cup game for the lads against a team a few divisions higher. A slow start saw our lads 0-2 down before we started playing our football. Jay scored a great goal for the Eagles, but another 2 goals from All Stars saw the half end 1-4.

An open start to the second half, with chances at both ends. Daniel kept the All Stars out with some great saves and Sam made two excellent goal-line clearances, but the All Stars extended their lead with a speculative effort from outside the box that left Daniel stranded. Noah responded for the Eagles with a shot from distance to bring the score to 2-5. The comeback looked like it was on when Noah struck with the goal of the game following a great ball from Harry, 3-5.

The comeback was snuffed out when a defensive lapse let All Stars seal the victory with a calm finish inside the area. Final score was 6 - 3. Men of the Match: Noah & Sam.

## Newton Aycliffe Youth U9's Eagles 3 - 4 Farringdon Detached.

Another fantastic performance against one of the strongest sides in the league. We played some of our best football to date passing confidently from the back and causing all sorts of problems for the opposition. Eagles went 1-0 up in the first



10 minutes with a great run and pass from Kai on the left wing, finished by Will. The Eagles created more chances to add to the score. Makai in particular was making some great runs and creating chances as our striker, but it was Farringdon who levelled it up against the run of play.

Edwin and Nathan were strong in defence and Trystan made some good saves to keep it level. Another good team move saw Will play in Kai just inside the box who slotted it in the corner for 2-1. Shortly after, Jaydn made a fantastic mazy run into the box dribbling past two players, but the ball was taken off his feet as he was about to shoot.

Before half time Farringdon scored two quick goals to go into the break 3-2 ahead. The team talk was straightforward

as they were playing great football. It was a much tighter second half and a great move by the Eagles led to the equaliser. Liam ran with the ball then passed to Jaydn who knocked it through to Will and he scored 3-3. Liam and Edwin continued to cause problems for their defence and Edwin sent some great crosses over from corners, but their goalkeeper made a number of good saves. With 10 minutes to go Farringdon got a free kick which Trystan did very well to save but they were just a bit quicker to the rebound and knocked it in for 4-3.

The Eagles continued to play great passing football but could not get the goal they needed. Great support again from parents and we are all proud of the team who kept working so hard for each other. Real progress made and evidence that some of the things we are working on in training are coming out on match day.

## Newton Aycliffe Youth U11's Falcons 3 - 1 Norton & Stockton Blacks.

Aycliffe travelled to Norton & Stockton for an early kick off with a tough game against a physically big team, but the players came through and managed to take all 3 points. Really pleased with how we played and how hard everyone worked for each other, especially when under pressure in certain spells of the game. We saw some very good build up play which was pleasing to see. Well done everyone keep it up. Goal scorers - Cole Gaskarth, Alex Beattie and Travis Dixon. Man of the Match Cole Gaskarth.

## Newton Aycliffe Youth U13's Eagles 3-0 Ferryhill

Return to cup action with two new signings returning from last year. It was a tight first half with Ferryhill probably having more of the ball, but without threat. You could tell the lads had a tough couple of weeks and were struggling with confidence. A late first half breakaway and finish by Leon gave Aycliffe a boost at half time.

Both new lads on for second half and we took control with a great strike from Kian on the half volley from distance secured the result and a similar effort from Tom capped off a good second half display. Special mention to Callum who was given Man of the Match for a much improved centre midfield performance with some lovely through balls. Fingers crossed we can kick on and start competing in league.

## Newton Aycliffe Youth U13's Falcons V North East Sports Blues

Following on from a couple of bad results and a couple of players leaving, the last thing

we needed was to play the top of the league team with a 100% winning start to the season. I asked the lads to make sure they stay disciplined in their positions, to work hard closing down the opposition and when in possession keep things simple, which was exactly what they did. A simple 1-2 between Declan Kavanagh and Tyler Bowater, put Declan through, finishing it in the top corner. The second came when Tyler put through a killer pass for Declan to run on to and beat the keeper. The third was created by Declan for Ben Johnson before Declan completed his hat-trick. Final score 4-3 to Aycliffe, a well-deserved win. The attitude, determination and performance from all the lads was absolutely fantastic.

## Bishop Auckland St. Marys 0 - 3 Newton Aycliffe Youth U16's Girls.

Away to Bishop, was a local derby the girls really needed a win, starting with a tactical change of positions. The girls played brilliantly and all that they had learnt in training was brought to the game. Aycliffe was on the attack at all time, first goal came from Molly C with a header. The girls continued to battle and another goal came from a scramble in the goal mouth, with Molly putting the ball in the net for 2-0. Aycliffe started second half passing well with the midfield and defence on fire. We had several attempts on goal by various players and then our final goal, a corner from Molly was flicked onto Katie who got it in the net: 3-0. If you are interested in playing

football and being part of our club, please visit our website where there are lots of information and also links to league tables for competitive football age groups [www.nayfc.com](http://www.nayfc.com)

## LEGO SHOW AT LOCO

Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon is delighted to be hosting Brick Alley LEGO User Group's LEGO Show on Saturday November 11th & Sunday November 12th, 2017.

There'll be something for all the family at this fun event. Check out the ten largest LEGO sets ever released on display, plus view a great range of displays of LEGO sets and "my own creations" by members of Brick Alley LEGO User Group and other clubs.

Browse the LEGO trade stands, offering everything you need to enjoy your LEGO hobby at home. Plus get hands-on with brick pits and colouring stations for creative kids to play with!

The event will run from 10am to 4pm on both days, in the museum's Collection Building. Admission to the museum and the event, plus parking, are free of charge.

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# Changes to Social Care Charges Proposed

Charges for social care costs will be brought into line with the latest Department of Health (DH) guidance if proposed changes are introduced.

Durham County Council's Cabinet will be asked for approval to consult on proposed changes to the charging policy for non-residential social care services which will bring it in line with Department of Health national guidance.

When the Care Act came into force in April 2015, the Government set a minimum amount of income a person must be left with after being charged for care and support. However, councils have the option to allow people to keep more than the minimum amount, referred to as minimum income guarantee (MIG).

Until now, Durham County Council has used MIG+25 per cent, meaning individuals

are left with income plus an additional 25 per cent buffer when calculating their contribution to care costs. The Department of Health issued guidance earlier this year confirming a buffer of MIG+18.6 per cent should be used.

The council is now proposing to change its policy to bring it in line with the DH guidance. The proposals will not impact on people who already contribute towards their social care costs and will be brought in so that they apply to new users from April 2018. Other councils across the region are already applying the new guidance. If agreed, a 12-week consultation will begin to inform a Cabinet decision next spring.

Councillor Lucy Hovvels MBE, Cabinet member for adult and health services, said: "Our means-test financial assessments

ensure that people only pay what they can afford and these changes will mean everyone is treated fairly and consistently.

"We encourage people

to take part in the public consultation which opens later this month and which will be taken into account before a final decision on the proposals is made next year."

## Commissioner Calls on Chancellor to Support Police in the Budget

The Government needs to be demonstrate its support for policing in the November 2017 budget, according to Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner Ron Hogg. In a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Hogg explains that pressures on the Police are rising, whilst the number of Police Officers has fallen by nearly a quarter since 2010. The number of reported crimes is rising to record levels.

Mr Hogg said "The Home Secretary is in denial and

out of touch when she suggests that the Police have sufficient funds to address all the challenges they face now, and in the future. The Government needs to listen to Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables. We experience every day the demands on our services. Even Durham, the best force in the country, cannot take further funding cuts. That's why I am writing to the Chancellor to ask him to support the Police in his November budget".

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lifted when it was safe to return to the area. Chief Inspector Stephen Ball said: "If you find any potentially dangerous items that you would like to hand over to police, please leave them where they are and contact 999. We will attend to make sure that the items are properly and safely disposed of."



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# SEVEN TYPES OF BAD DRIVER

Bad drivers are the bane  
of every motorist's life but  
now a new study claims poor  
drivers always fall into one  
of seven categories - so do  
you recognise them?

Car leasing giant LeaseCar.  
uk analysed the data of  
thousands of drivers and  
found that those who get  
careless behind the wheel  
almost always fall into just  
seven types.

There are thrill seekers such  
as Boy Racers, young males  
who can't resist breaking  
speed limits as soon as they  
get their licence, and Amber  
Gamblers, who won't stop at  
traffic lights unless they've  
been red for at least three  
seconds.

But there are also the slow  
and hesitant motorists such  
as the Sunday Drivers,  
usually old people on their  
way to church, or the Just  
Passed, who may have a  
licence but are still nervous  
out there on the roads.  
Then there's the Mum in  
a Hurry, who parks on the  
pavement while doing the  
nursery drop off, and the  
Know It All, who thinks he  
owns the road.

Finally there are the Short  
Fuses, perhaps the most  
dangerous type of motorist of  
all to encounter, these are the  
drivers who fly into a road  
rage if you dare overtake  
them.

Tim Alcock, of LeaseCar.uk,  
said: "Everyone knows a few  
drivers who fit one of these  
categories, in fact it's likely  
you'll know someone who  
fits a few.

"It could be that in reality  
they have a very calm and  
relaxed personality, but once  
they get behind the wheel  
they develop a Short Fuse  
and the road rage kicks in or  
perhaps they become a risk  
taking Amber Gambler.

"If you feel someone you  
know falls into one of these  
categories it might be worth  
having a gentle word in their  
ear to make the UK's roads a  
safer place."

Here are the seven different  
types of driver, according to  
LeaseCar.uk:

### 1. BOY RACER

The young male driver  
who you're likely to catch  
speeding down residential  
roads and committing  
multiple speeding offences  
in a souped-up high-powered  
car. They're always revving  
their engines to try and  
sound like a sports car, even  
if they're only driving a  
hatchback.

### 2. SUNDAY DRIVER

Sunday is the one day of  
the week that these drivers  
spend out on the roads,  
often driving an old banger.  
Usually they're off to church  
or to see their grandkids,  
and travel well below the  
actual speed limit. It can be  
hugely frustrating to be stuck  
behind one.

### 3. MUM IN A HURRY

Busy mums are always  
zipping about between  
school, football practice or  
dance lessons. Their car is  
most likely a complete tip,  
with sweet wrappers, muddy  
boots or baby changing  
equipment strewn across  
the vehicle. Parking can  
be tricky so they'll think  
nothing of mounting a kerb  
or leaving the engine running  
on double yellows while the  
collect their offspring.

### 4. AMBER GAMBLER

When these chancers see the  
lights change from green to

amber their first thought isn't  
to slow to a halt, but instead  
hit the accelerator and prey  
that they miss the red light.  
Mostly they get it spot on, but  
if two Amber Gamblers meet  
at a junction it can be hugely  
dangerous.

### 5. JUST PASSED

These motorists never put a  
foot wrong, and would be too  
scared to even think about  
driving over the speed limit.  
Don't get stuck behind them  
on a busy roundabout, as  
you could be waiting a while  
before they decide to move.

### 6. KNOW IT ALL

Know it all's can recite the  
entire highway code from  
memory, and take great  
pleasure in pointing out  
mistakes and having a go  
at other drivers for making  
them.

### 7. SHORT FUSE

These are the dangerous  
drivers who can be a real  
menace to other road users,  
mostly but not always male,  
they regard overtaking as  
a personal slight and if you  
dare cut them up even by  
accident they are likely to  
force you off the road for a  
confrontation.

## MIDDLE-LANE HOGGERS CAUSE LONGER MOTORWAY JOURNEY TIMES

New research reveals that  
motorists are complaining  
about more congestion and  
longer journey times on  
the motorways. Amanda  
Stretton, motoring editor at  
Confused.com comments:

"It's unsurprising that many  
drivers are blaming middle-  
lane hogging as one of the  
main causes of extended  
motorway journey times.  
Our research showed that  
one in three drivers (32%)  
admit to being a middle-lane  
hogger, so there's a fair few  
offenders out there.

"Worryingly, almost two in  
five (37%) UK drivers are  
unaware that middle-lane  
hogging is a punishable  
offence and drivers can lose  
three points off their licence.  
This was made clear when I

went out on the road to see  
how the offence is policed.  
It was astounding to see just  
how many hoggars there  
really are, clogging up the  
motorway when the left-hand  
lane was entirely clear.

"Middle lanes aren't for  
coasting in and drivers who  
do this can cause congestion  
and make other perform  
dangerous manoeuvres to  
get around them. Not only  
could you find yourself with  
a £100 fine or points, but  
you could also put your own  
life and others at risk. Those  
who have received penalties  
for middle-lane hogging  
and face rising premiums,  
should shop around online  
using sites such as Confused.  
com to compare the cheapest  
deals for them."

## Big Tent Engagement Event

Representatives from  
Durham's health and care  
community have been brought  
together for the annual Big  
Tent Engagement Event, to  
help shape the future of health  
and care provision in the  
county.

The County Durham Health  
and Wellbeing Board, of which  
Durham County Council is a  
member, brought together a  
range of service users, patients,  
members of the voluntary  
and community sector and  
representatives from other  
organisations, who came  
together to give their views,  
share their experiences, and  
provide feedback for health  
and care providers.

The feedback gained from  
the event is the start of a  
consultation process which  
will influence the development  
of the new Joint Health and  
Wellbeing Strategy, which  
is due to be presented to the  
Health and Wellbeing Board  
for agreement in March 2018.

CLr Lucy Hovvels MBE,  
Durham County Council's  
Cabinet member for health  
and adult services, and chair  
of the HWB, said: "The vision  
of the board is to improve the  
health and wellbeing of the  
people of County Durham and  
reduce inequalities, and we  
can only do this by working in  
partnership with organisations  
who provide services and  
working with local people to  
help shape the service of the  
future.

"It's fantastic to see so many  
people, all with different views  
and opinions, coming together  
under one roof and contributing  
towards improving local health  
services for County Durham."



The event, facilitated by  
the Local Government  
Association, featured two key  
note speakers, Professor Ann  
McNeill, a professor of tobacco  
addiction at the National  
Addiction Centre, King's  
College London, and Lenny  
Shallcross, head of community  
engagement at the Alzheimer's  
Society, who spoke to the 200  
delegates who attended the  
event.

Professor McNeill said:  
"Tobacco is still the number  
one cause of premature death  
in County Durham and a key  
driver of health inequalities, so  
I am pleased to see the priority  
that the Health and Wellbeing  
Board is giving this.

"I am delighted to be attending  
the 'Big Tent Event' and  
discussing the importance of  
maintaining the momentum  
around tobacco control and  
building upon the excellent  
progress that has been made.

"Durham's vision of 5%  
smoking by 2030 sends a  
very clear message of its  
commitment to improve the  
health and wellbeing of

communities across the whole  
county."

Lenny Shallcross said  
"The Alzheimer's Society  
are delighted that Durham  
recognises the importance of  
dementia and have made it one  
of the priorities in their Joint  
Health and Wellbeing Strategy.  
"The Dementia Advisor  
Service and the roll out  
of dementia friendly  
communities across Durham  
which will focus on improving  
inclusion and quality of life for  
people living with dementia  
are really important and  
exciting initiatives to support  
those that maybe affected by  
dementia, their families and  
carers."

Seven workshops were  
arranged for the event,  
included a wide range of  
discussion topics that affect  
the health and wellbeing of  
residents in County Durham.  
Included this year were both  
adult and children's mental  
health, dementia, obesity,  
smoking, the role of carers,  
and the Active Durham  
Partnership.



# PROTECT AGAINST WINTER PEST INVADERS

Extreme weather conditions expected in winter could leave householders in Durham with unwanted visitors in its wake. High winds - and in some areas flooding and storms - experienced nationally could lead to pests, including rats and squirrels, seeking shelter in your home.

According to the British Pest Control Association, (BPCA) homes are a prime target, with access to warmth and food sources providing the right conditions for them to take hold. The average property may have more than a dozen potential entry points for rats and squirrels.

Dee Ward-Thompson, BPCA Technical Manager, said: "Rats and squirrels are exceptionally agile and despite their size even adult males can get through gaps as small as two centimetres. Of concern, particularly from a public health perspective, is the way rats can travel along flooded drains, surviving even the most aggressive weather conditions."

"They often use plumbing pipes, as well as unscreened vents or gaps in the eaves and roof edges, to gain access. For most householders, the first evidence that rats have entered their home is noises under the floor, in the walls or loft, as that's where most will head to once they're inside. Once indoors, they do their best to find sources of food, which means they can

soon move to other areas of the house occupied by humans".

Rats breed rapidly and will create nests in attics or walls, so the problem can soon escalate. For squirrels, the wind has displaced a large number of leaves in the trees fairly early on, so they will be looking for shelter too.

They will enter a property usually through roof ducts and set up home above the ceiling. Squirrels in the home can present a real hazard. They are generally bigger than rats and once indoors they start to chew aggressively and can do a lot of damage quickly. That can include electrical wires, which can present a real safety risk.

BPCA says the best course of action for householders is to prevent an infestation taking hold in the first place, rather than tackle it when rats or squirrels have moved into a property. They advise that properties are inspected and any external gaps, holes or crevices that could give pests an access point are plugged.

Other tips from the trade body include keeping yards and gardens tidy and clear of vegetation to prevent rats and squirrels taking cover near properties, making sure doors and windows are closed properly and closing off access to drainage routes with properly fitted drain covers.

Refuse bins should also be kept in good order, particularly as

windy weather can cause them to knock over and provide a feed source to rats. They should have solid lids and no leftover food or debris nearby. Compost heaps should also be covered and bird feeders kept clean and well maintained.

If a householder suspects they have an infestation, it is important to employ recognised professionals.

Mrs Ward-Thompson added: "Rats and squirrels must be dealt with by a professional pest controller who knows the area in question and their likely

habitat, and knows how to treat any particular issue.

Most people simply want the job done right first time and, by employing a company or individual affiliated with BPCA, they can be sure they're

using an expert in the field.

They've established strict criteria to ensure the professionalism of members so controllers carrying their logo will carry out safe, effective and legal treatments."

## Congratulations

### Cayden Jackman



#### Happy 3rd Birthday

To our gorgeous, cheeky Grandson. Lots of love, Nannie and Ganga xxx

### Cayden Jackman



#### 3 TODAY

16th November

Lots of love from Mummy and Daddy xxxxx

### Cayden Jackman

#### Happy 3rd Birthday

16th November

Lots of love from Uncle Macca and Auntie Jade, Nannie and Davy, GG and Rachel, Great Grandad and Rose, Rachael and Gary, Uncle Simon, Bryn and Aron xx

Love and licks from Maverick, Marley, Madison and Merlin

### Benjamin and Ellie-Mae Leighton



Benjamin 11/11/1999  
Ellie-Mae 11/11/2001

Benjamin 18th birthday  
Ellie-Mae 16th Birthday  
Both still as cute now as you were back then...

Hip Hip Hooray Benjamin you are officially an adult, 18 years of awesomeness. Ellie, you are a sweeter 16. Happy birthday. Love you both to the moon and back, so proud of you both. Enjoy!

Love from Mam, Dad and Luci xxxxx

### BENJAMIN LEIGHTON

11th November. Happy 18th birthday to our Grandson. Lots of love, Gran and Grandad

### BENJAMIN LEIGHTON

11th November. Happy 16th birthday to our Granddaughter. Lots of love, Gran and Grandad

## Obituary

**NORA DIXON.** Peacefully on 1st November. Nora (nee Dawson), aged 79 years. Loving Wife of Clive; much loved Mam of Ann; also a loving Grandma and Great Grandma to her loving family. Will family and friends please meet for a Service and Cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Tuesday 14th November at 1pm. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu if so desired may be made to The British Heart Foundation, a plate will be provided at the crematorium.

## Do you Want to be Santa?



After raising £1000 for the MRI Scanner Appeal from selling items from his AllSorts Shop, Godfrey Bennett is continuing his support for this fantastic cause which will save so many lives.

In addition to selling bric-a-brac at his shop in St. Clare's church buildings each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10am-1pm, Godfrey hit on the idea of hiring out a Santa Claus costume for those who are running Xmas events.

You can make your booking by calling in to see Godfrey.

## Acknowledgement

**CHAPE** The family of the late Gary Chape would like to thank everyone for their kindness, condolences and support we have received during this time. A special thanks to Air Handling Systems, David at Seaton Leng and close friends of Gary. All the donations received to go to the North East Ambulance Service and the ICU Unit at James Cook, total amount raised was £948.80

## Thank You

**THE FAMILY** of Brenda Barker would like to thank you very much for cards, flowers, charity donations. All the support, care and kindness Brenda received from many. Mam, you left us beautiful memories. Your love is still our guide. Although we cannot see you, you're always at our side. Dawn, George and family.

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## In Memoriam

### Alan Dixon



#### 10th November 2014

We miss and love you as much now, as we did when you were so very suddenly taken from us.

Your Wife Jean, Daughter Fiona, Sons Stuart, Ian and their families

**ROBERT DOUGLASS** (Bob). 12th November 2011. Deep in our hearts your memories are kept, to love and to cherish and never forget. Loved always, Grace and family

**NATHAN SOWERBY** 2006. In loving memory of a very much loved Son and Brother. In our hearts you will always stay. Loved and remembered every day. Dad and Joanne

**ANTHONY EDWARD NEAL** 26th October 2014. I remember the day I met you and the day God made you mine. I remember the day I lost you and will till the end of time. My love always, Yvonne

**GEORGE SMITH** 11.11.11. 6 years gone Dad and you re still missed just as much. The years fade away, but our memories don't. Lots of love, Steven, Graham and John xxx

**GEORGE SMITH** 11.11.11. Thinking of you George. Love from Irene xx

**GEORGE SMITH** 11.11.11. Miss you Grandad George. All our love, Millie and Bradley xx

**EARLE RAYMOND FLETCHER.** You loved and looked after us in our yesterdays. We wish you were here for our tomorrows. Beatrice, Children and Grandchildren xx

**JOY MITTON** 18th November 2015. A dear Mam and Nanna. Not a single day passes when you're not thought of. Loved and missed every day. Debbie, Jez, Chloe, Charlie and Jamie xxx

**JOY MITTON** 18th November 2015. Lovingly remembered, you were my Cousin but we were brought up as Brother and Sister. Thinking of you always, Chris

**JOY MITTON** 18th November 2015. It's been two years, but our memories and love will never fade. Still very much in our thoughts and hearts. Much loved, we miss you very much. From Stuart, Julie and Hannah xxx

**JOY MITTON** 18th November 2015. Treasured memories of a cherished Mam and Nana. Loved, remembered and missed every day. Forever in our thoughts. Dougie and Grandson Alex xxx

**BERYL RICHARDSON** (nee Kelly). 25th February 1949 to Friday 13th October 2015. Two years has passed, no one knows the bitter pain without you. For one lovely lady the gates of Heaven opened. Dance around the golden clouds for the Lord has chosen you to be with him and I should feel nothing but pride. Although he has taken you from me and my pain a lifetime will last. Your memory will never escape me, but make me glad for the time I did have. Your face will always be hidden deep inside my heart. Each precious moment you gave me shall never ever depart. So go and run free with the angels and please be sure to tell them to take good care of you for me. Always will love you. Grumpy Old Joe

**GEORGE SMITH** Died 11th November 2011. Remembering my darling Brother George today and every day. Life goes on George, as they say. But the pain of losing you never goes away. Memories can't be taken though, you live on in my mind. A special friend, so caring, so loving and so kind. Forever by my side dear Brother. God bless you George, your loving sister Margaret and family xxxxx

**MOUNSEY** In memory of Fred (12th November 2004) and Edna (13th November 2015). Remembering all the happy times. Sadly missed by Son Adrian, Daughter Vivian and all the family

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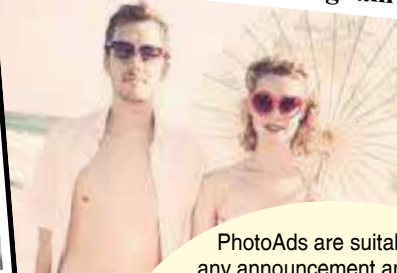
### Alice Springs



#### Happy 21st Birthday

10-10-10  
to our beautiful Daughter on your 21st birthday. Lots of love from Mam & Dad xxx

### Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



#### Golden

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on 1st Jan  
thers, Gra

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



# AYCLIFFE JUST LOSE TO STRONG DARLINGTON SIDE

The First XV hosted Darlington, in a fixture which was expected to be a fairly even match. Aycliffe took to the field with their strongest squad this season, including the recently returned from injury Aaron Arkley, who made his debut in the 10 shirt.

The game started well, with Aycliffe pressuring their kick off and holding Darlington firmly within their own half. Having no luck in tight to the rucks, or in the scrummage, the visitors were forced out wide and worked a set piece move which gave them an overlap, which they exploited, taking them into an early lead on five minutes. Having not been able to add the extras, Darlington pressed forward from the restart, drawing play wide, before switching the play and leaving Aycliffe's midfield standing, crossing under the posts on seven minutes, which was converted taking them twelve points ahead.

Aycliffe knew they would have to respond, or risk the game slipping away from them. Fearing a repeat of the last few



weeks, the home side worked the corner hard, carrying well and allowing Aaron Arkley to kick for space. This pressure told on twelve minutes, with a solid backline move drawing in the defence and allowing James Thacker to cut through, converted by Arkley to take the home side within five points. Both sides then elected to play safe rugby, with neither looking like taking control, until on twenty minutes, the visitors struck once more, working the ball to their hard

carrying 13 who hit a line, breaking an Aycliffe tackle to cross. Aycliffe were quick to respond, with strong work from the restart by the tight five giving a good platform for the backs to work with. Adam Gascoigne profited from a well-executed set move, cutting back inside and beating his opposite number to cross, which was converted by Aaron Arkley, taking the home side to within three points.

Aycliffe applied the pressure, making good progress upfield before Jon McGuigan picked and went from a ruck ten out, and barged through five defenders to cross, taking the home side into their first lead of the day. Inspired by their new lead, Aycliffe took it to Darlington, with big hits raining in on the visitors, one of which, from centre Lewis Stephens, hit the 10 so hard he knocked on, and the referee blew for half time.

Half Time: Newton Aycliffe First XV 19 - 17 Darlington RFC

Aycliffe returned to the field unlike the visitors, with no changes, and the fresh legs told as Darlington immediately broke the line, crossing to take back the lead, which was converted giving a six point cushion. The home side were unmoved, and continued their excellent work in defence, Matthew Wiper once more leading from the front as he put a big shot in on the Darlington 10.

Aycliffe wrestled with the big Darlington pack, with the front row of Jamie Whelan, Alfie Wilson and Linden Dixon not giving an inch in the scrummage or open play. This pressure told as Thacker cut through once more, stopping short and popping to Jon McGuigan who forced his way to the line and crashed over, taking the scores level. McGuigan struck again within five minutes, this time taking a well-timed pass from the midfield to cross out wide and take the home side into another lead.

Tellingly, it was the visitors who struck next, again forcing their way over, which, with the conversion gave them a two-point lead with 12 minutes on the clock. The home side forced two penalties in quick succession, with returning Captain Alex Lineton electing for posts, but pulling one wide and one falling short. The final play of the game saw the visitors give the penalty, and again Lineton indicated the posts and stepped up, hitting the ball sweetly the whole club willed the ball over, but it drifted just wide and bounced dead.

Full Time: Newton Aycliffe First XV 29 - 31 Darlington RFC

# Silver for Stephenson Way School Team

On Tuesday 7th November, a group of 19 children from Stephenson Way Academy attended a Sports hall Athletics event at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. The event started with the girls competing in the field events, while the boys competed in relay races.

All children pushed themselves to their limits and many achieved their own personal bests. Explaining about her field event, one Year 5 girl told us, "Even though I was the smallest one there, I still jumped higher than the rest." While her team mate said, "My legs started to hurt halfway through my event but I didn't give up!"

After a while, it was time to swap and the boys did

their field events while the girls raced. Although many of the children admitted to feeling nervous, it did not show in their performances. Speaking on behalf of the boys, a Year 6 pupil beaming with pride expressed her thoughts by saying, "All the way through I just kept on trying my best. It was really intense and I feel really proud about how well I did."

This was a team event in which everyone's individual scores were added together to give an overall team score. The effort and determination shown by every child resulted in the team winning silver medals and a place in the Sedgefield School Sport Partnership's final later this month. A huge well done to all involved.



# Heighington Football



Heighington under 7's have had great results in the last two weeks keeping up their unbeaten start to the season.

hey beating Barnard Castle 2-0 and 3-0 in the performances of the season with goals from Kyleo and Alex and a hat trick in the second game from Maddix. They also made it to the QF of the Challenge Cup with victories over Boro Rangers, Thornaby of 8-3 and 5-0 with goals from Kenzi (5) Kyleo (3) Tyler (3) Archie (1) and Louie (1) with his first goal for the club.

Heighington AFC Boys under 8's played their first ever match on Saturday 4th, their debut in the Russell Foster Youth League. They played against Pass Soccer Greens, narrowly losing 7-5. Two goals each for Ellis Hendrix and Harry Irvine and 1 for Oliver Ward. Great match and unlucky to lose after a late rally. Some excellent defending by Ollie Anderson, making it hard for anyone to get a sight on goal. With a lot of trickery and skillful runs and hard work by Joshua Hill and Edward Stokes, made this a quality first match. Can only get better and they look like a very promising team.

The entry into the league was made possible by an extremely generous sponsorship from 'Hair We Go' on Dalton Way, Newton Aycliffe. We would like to send a massive thank you from all the lads in the team, the parents, club and myself for helping make this possible.

We are still looking for a couple of extra players to add to this fantastic group

of lads. If you would like to find out more contact manager John Anderson on 07507 281020.

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