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SHINE THANK YOU



The end of 2017 was an extremely busy and exciting time for this popular youth choir. Beginning with an invitation to sing at the Christmas Light switch on in Brafferton Village - they delighted villagers with a jolly selection of carols and songs and were made to feel very welcome, THANK YOU for that. Then they came together for the Civic Carol Service in St. Clare's Church entertaining Mayor Wendy Hillary and invited guests as well as local parishioners with a joyful and heartwarming performance. SHINE children looked wonderful in their official t-shirts expertly printed by local company CUSTOMISE - IT NOW LTD. THANK YOU so much to them.

Next was a surprise visit from Simon and Carl who recorded SHINE singing a Christmas melody for Cleveland Radio Station. They interviewed choir member Chloe Ashcroft



and SHINE leader Helen about why the choir was so successful. This recording has been played in local hospitals and on air over the Christmas period a grand total of 8 times - WOW!!!! How wonderful to brighten up a Christmas in hospital for so many. THANK YOU for such an amazing community opportunity.

The SHINE SHOW - Baubles was a sell out on



both performances with 56 children all taking part in a super musical nativity based upon an outstanding school!! Councillor Jed Hillary exclaimed it was a production on a grand scale with polished performances and most of all happy faces. THANKS to all who came, supported and encouraged. And to Santa too, who took time out of his very busy

Continued on page 2

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Domino Double for the Bay Horse, Heighington



Tony Goodman, (right), landlord of the Bay Horse, Heighington is presented with both the Domino Knockout Trophies for 2017 by Alan Gibson who organises the competitions. The smaller of the two cups is contested for on a points basis each Friday night throughout the year and is the Domino League Iain Gibson Memorial Trophy. The larger cup is the Christmas Domino Knockout Trophy and is the Chris Flint Memorial Trophy. The landlord was embarrassed to win both, but took the money anyway!

Residents Encouraged to Report Tenancy Fraud

Durham County Council is joining forces with partners across the region to warn people of the harm caused by 'tenancy fraud.' The council has teamed up with other local authorities and housing providers for Regional Tenancy Fraud Awareness Week (RTFAW) which aims to let people know about social housing fraud and the impact it has on public funds and families in need of homes. The forum members will be providing information to the public and staff via social media, websites, posters and presentations, on the different kinds of tenancy fraud. Examples of tenancy fraud include:

- Unlawful subletting – where a tenant lets out their council or housing association home without the knowledge or permission of their landlord;
- Abandonment – where a tenant leaves their property, has no intention to return and does not inform the landlord. This can cause problems with anti-social behaviour, vandalism and deterioration of the property and also stops it being used to house someone in need of accommodation;
- Obtaining housing by deception – where a person gets a council or housing association home by giving false information;
- Right To Buy/Right to Acquire – where a tenant has applied for or completed the purchase of a property under the Right to Buy or Right to Acquire schemes when they are not entitled or misrepresented their circumstances to gain a discount;

- Wrongly claimed succession – where a tenant dies or moves out and someone, who is not entitled to, tries to take over or succeed the tenancy;
- Unlawful assignment – where a resident stops using their tenancy as their main or principal home, allowing another person to live there without permission;
- Key selling – where the tenant passes on their keys in return for a one-off payment. In 2013, the National Fraud Authority estimated that the cost of tenancy fraud to councils was £900 million per year. When combined with tenancy fraud experienced by housing associations this gave a total loss of £1.8 billion in England.

Figures from the European Institute for Combating Corruption and Fraud from last year show local authorities carried out 2,700 investigations into social housing fraud, saving £50.2m. The institute's research also put the value of Right to Buy fraud at just over £46m.

Paul Bradley, the council's chief internal auditor and corporate fraud manager, said: "The figures from the National Fraud Authority show how much tenancy fraud hits taxpayer funded councils while it can also stop families in genuine need of homes from getting them. "This is why we are working with partners across the North East to raise awareness of what tenancy fraud is and the harm it causes, in order to encourage people to report it should they become aware of it."

To report tenancy or any

other kind of fraud phone 03000 266745, email: corporatefraudteam@durham.gov.uk, go online at www.durham.gov.uk and search 'fraud' or call in to any council building.

Information about tenancy fraud will be available on social media during RTFAW and can be found by searching #NEHousingFraud.

Also taking part in RTFAW are Gateshead, Newcastle, Northumberland and North Tyneside councils, County Durham Housing Group, Livin Housing, Gentoo Group, Karbon Homes, The Guinness Partnership and Your Homes Newcastle.

Referees' Association Meeting

One of England's elite match officials will be guest speaker at the Bishop Auckland Referees' Association next week.

FIFA and Premier League referee, Anthony Taylor will visit the Association's meeting on Thursday 18 January 2018 at The Manor Public House, Cornwall Road, Bishop Auckland, DL14 6UR starting at 7.30pm. Entry is free.

Anthony refereed the 2017 FA Cup Final between Arsenal and Chelsea, and recently officiated in the FIFA U17 World Cup in India.

Anthony, 39, from Cheshire joined the 'Select Group' list of Premier League officials in the 2010/11 season, gaining FIFA international status in 2015.

Terry Farley MBE, President of Bishop Auckland Referees' Association, said: "Once again, we are delighted to welcome one of our finest match officials to Bishop Auckland.

"We are very much looking forward to hearing about Anthony's experience officiating in the FA Cup Final and tournaments abroad. I'd like to extend the invitation to anyone who has an interest in football or refereeing, to join us at The Manor public house in Bishop Auckland on Thursday 18 January.

SHINE THANK YOU

Continued from front page



along.

A huge THANK YOU to Wendy and team at local Sainsbury's - Cobblers Hall who provided the mince pie refreshments! Finally SHINE children were rewarded with an end of show party. How it all happened I still don't know!!

THANK YOU to the amazing team who help each week and to all our wonderful parents and talented children who never cease to amaze us. THANK YOU to the church for our hall space and for the love and support you give us. We will continue to SHINE as lights in the world.

SHINE begins term on Monday 15th January 5-6pm in St. Clare's Community Hall - free and fun. We are nearly full to the brim and have some 2018 bookings already so make sure you come along to keep your



place as we now have a waiting list. Keep an eye on Youth/Children's clares Facebook page for lots of info and photos.

THANK YOU to the Newton News who help us to reach people in our town and promote us so well. Keep SHINING Helen McCormick Youth/Children Team Lead.

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Review: "Huge sound! I had to check there was only three, well worth a watch!"

Saturday 20th January 2018 - "Alcatraz House Band"

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Left to right: David Bolt, Darren Lowe and Lee Weldon

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Resident Aycliffe Radio Sports Presenters Darren Lowe and Lee Weldon were delighted to have England International Bowls player Dave Bolt from Sunderland as their guest on their show this week.

Dave is a current England International bowler and Team England Commonwealth Games member for the lawn bowls team in 2018. He has had a 28 year career in the sport starting when he was only 10 years old and currently is employed on a flexible basis as a delivery driver due to the time required for the sport.

Dave said after the show that

"it is brilliant to have two great lads promoting sport within the local community and not just covering the elite sports such as football and cricket etc". He added that "I hope your show goes from strength to strength and I will certainly be tuning in for future shows".

Previous guests on Aycliffe Radio have included Referee Terry Farley; Youth Football Coaches Billy Horn and Jonathan Gallagher, as well as regular contributor Ben Potts from Newton Aycliffe FC.

If you would like to get your sport on Aycliffe Radio; have a major sporting achievement to talk about or would like to give a round up from your club, contact us by email on sport@ayclifferradio.co.uk Daz and Lee's Sports show on Aycliffe Radio is broadcast live every Tuesday from 6.00pm to 8.00pm and then repeated every Sunday from 12.00pm to 2.00pm.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

COUNCIL "FLY TIPPING" ON PRIVATE LAND

Dear Sir,
I write this in response to Mr. John D. Clare's recent article regarding the increase in charges for the removal of garden waste for 2018 and onward.

In particular the do's and don'ts of the alternatives. He mentioned that if you were to dump your garden refuse over the garden fence onto council land, you could be fined for "Fly Tipping". I am a resident of Woodham Village where my property is bordered by a bridle path with an overhanging Ash tree of many years of age.

Consequently at a particular time of year it tends to shed not only it's leaves but, as Ash trees are prone to do, it's twigs and branches as well. So my garden is absolutely covered in the leaf/branch fall of the offending tree. Also, because of the proximity of the branches, my garage roof is infested with moss, to which it will cost me money to get removed.

I am in my early 70's and suffer from a Chronic respiratory disease, and every year I have to clear the Council's rubbish from my garden, then they have the audacity to charge me

for taking it away. As the tree in question is standing on Council land and it is depositing it's leaves etc onto MY land isn't this tantamount to indirect Fly Tipping? Why should I be charged for clearing up the mess caused by the Council's trees?

I have contacted the Council many times over the years to ask them to trim back the offending branches so they don't encroach over my garage roof. Guess what? I repeatedly get told "Because of cut backs we are attending to emergency issues only". The residents of Woodham Village will know that we all pay a very high rate of Council Tax, but just try and get some service from what you pay for. Talk about cut backs, ironically that's all I'm asking for to "Cut Back" their tree.

Mr. A. Elders
Woodham Village.

New Years Eve Disco Raises £850 for Charity

Over 100 family and friends gathered together to celebrate the New Year while raising money for charity.

This successful event has been running for 14 years now with a different charity being chosen each year. This year's chosen charities were St Theresa's and James Cook Delivery Suite Bereavement Room, which sadly members of our family have used this year.

The Amazing sum of £850 was raised by the sale of entry tickets, raffle and tombola.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and bought tickets, also to those who donated raffle and tombola prizes.

Thank you also to the following businesses who donated raffle prizes: Stephen Russell, Mikes Fish & Chips, Maxine's, Thames Dry Cleaners, Wilkinsons, Heads Up, Julie's Pets, Creations, Slaters Butchers, Occasions, Love Thy Cupcake, Precious Creations, Bay Horse, The Tuns (Sadberge) and everyone else.



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Film Show

"THE MILLION POUND NOTE"

The "FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 16th January features the British comedy "The Million Pound Note" starring Gregory Peck, Joyce Grenfell, Wilfrid Hyde-White, Ronald Squire and Jane Griffiths.

Is it enough just to have a million pound note to live well, or do you have to actually spend it?

Two wealthy men bet on it and use a penniless American as their guinea pig, with riotous results. Gregory Peck is joined by a fabulous cast of British talent in one of the best comedies for all ages. Everyone is welcome.

Tea and coffee are served at 1pm, included in the £2, and the film starts at 1.15pm. A variety of chairs are provided for your comfort, and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a great film in friendly company.

For further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.



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CARAVAN OWNERS BEWARE

Last Friday night, Newtonian, Mr Carr found someone underneath his motorhome and it looked as though the person had been sleeping there with a view of possibly trying to break in to the motorhome.

Mr Carr lives in Ashfield and has reported this incident to the police, but wanted to warn other caravan/motorhome owners to be vigilant.

GARDEN WASTE

With regard to the letter entitled 'Garden Waste Collection Fees'.

Whilst I object to paying for this service it is still cheaper than the cost of paying someone else petrol money to transport my smelly waste in the boot of their car (I don't drive).

I do however object to paying for the removal of some eighteen 100 litre bags of leaves blown onto my property from the council property (a wood). As these accumulate after the Garden Waste collection has finished I have very little in the way of options to remove them.

As they are council property I would maintain that I am saving the Council time and labour by collecting them and disposing of them. Therefore I believe the Council should pay me for carrying out work and propose to send them the bill for labour and expenses!

Yours Faithfully
Peter Shepherd

Police Interceptors Raise £9k in Memory of Colleague



Police Interceptors have helped raise more than £9,000 in memory of their colleague PC Gavin Smith. The money was raised at an afternoon tea event in aid of Butterwick Hospice which 350 fans attended on January 2.

PC Gavin Smith, who died of cancer in February 2017, had been with Durham Constabulary for 12 years and worked with the Roads Policing Unit at Spennymoor station. He was also a star of the show Police Interceptors on Channel 5.

His widow, Kezi Smith and daughter Tilly attended the event. Kezi said: "It was a real comfort to us after Christmas, where we all missed Gav terribly."

"A great way to start the new year. The Interceptors

did Gav proud and it was fantastic to see them joining in the spirit of things, even auctioning themselves off to raise extra cash. I am really thankful to all those involved as their effort was evident throughout.

"Butterwick Hospice is such a well-deserving charity." PCSO Lisa Hall, who organised the event held at Hardwick Hall, said: "It was amazing and the amount raised blew me away. It took a lot of hard work but it was certainly worth it in the end. Everyone loved meeting the guys and they did a great job at interacting with guests, both young and old. The feedback has been great. I even shed a tear at the end. "I never met Gav personally but after hearing colleagues speak of him and knowing

how well thought of he was, I just wanted to do my bit to help."

An auction raised £3,085 and prizes included a dinner date with an Interceptor, tour around HQ, a ride out in a police vehicle and a training session with the police dogs. Capital FM presenter Martin Lowes, hosted the afternoon and the Durham Constabulary male voice choir performed at the event, as well as entertainment from Marko's Circus Workshop and Happy Faces Face Painting, which all provided their services for free.

Helen Kirby, a fundraiser at Butterwick Hospice, said: "It was such a well-organised day and all the officers were such good sports. The kids all really enjoyed it."

"The money raised will go towards helping families like Gavin's in the local community."

Chief Constable Mike Barton, Deputy Chief Constable Jo Farrell and Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner Ron Hogg were all present.

Mr Ron Hogg said: "It was a brilliant afternoon for a very worthy cause. A great demonstration of how fantastic the officers we have working in Durham are. They really do go above and beyond. Many hours of their own time has been put into the planning and preparation to this excellent event."

Shocking Reasons People Give up Their Dog

"He wasn't a vegetarian" or "didn't like being dressed up" blamed, as Dogs Trust braces itself for influx of unwanted dogs, after receiving a call every five minutes last Christmas.

Dogs Trust in Darlington is bracing itself for the post-Christmas influx of unwanted dogs and is urging the British public to remember the charity's iconic slogan 'A dog is for life, not just for Christmas' after a year of bizarre reasons offered by people giving up their dog.

Dogs Trust's Sadberge Rehoming Centre received a total of 8 calls a day from



people looking to give up their dogs in the month following Christmas last year. Reasons over 2017 included:

- I won a free holiday and I couldn't take my dogs with me
- I'm a vegetarian but he always wanted to eat meat
- I got him as a secret Santa present
- She was too friendly and wanted to greet every dog and human we met on a walk
- He was panting too much
- He didn't like it when we played dress up
- She sleeps in her own bed all night – I thought she would want to sleep in my bed

To bring the message home the charity has created a video called "Why I left you" with a twist, which highlights the carefree attitude which people sadly display towards dog ownership.

The charity's iconic slogan has proved just as meaningful today as it was when first coined nearly 40 years ago as a new survey reveals 17% of dog owners in North East England spend less than two weeks researching before buying a dog and 1 in 5 people confessed to buying a dog simply because it was a cute accessory.

The survey also revealed that 17% of people admit to buying or receiving a dog as a Christmas gift. The dog owning public also significantly underestimated the financial cost of dog ownership with 78% believing their dog will cost them less than the actual cost of £10,000 during its lifetime.

Following 509 calls in the weeks following Christmas last year from people unable to care for their dogs, Dogs Trust Darlington are preparing themselves as they expect to take in many dogs in the weeks following the festive period.

Jake Flatman, Assistant Manager at Dogs Trust Darlington, said: "Dogs Trust take in thousands of much loved dogs from heartbroken owners who sadly find themselves unable to continue to care for their dogs due to unavoidable changes in their circumstances so it's particularly hard for staff when they see the other end of the spectrum; dogs handed in simply because their owner's bought them on a whim and consider them little more than toys to be discarded when the novelty wears off."

"We really hope this Christmas is the year our nation of animal lovers finally takes heed of our slogan 'A dog is for life, not just for Christmas' and we don't see dogs discarded because their owners have not considered the lifetime commitment of dog ownership."

Dogs Trust urge anyone considering getting a dog to ensure they do their research to find a dog compatible with their lifestyle so they are fully aware of the realities of caring for a dog for the duration of its lifetime. To find out more about what to consider when getting a dog and Dogs Trust work over the Christmas period please visit: www.dogstrust.org.uk/Christmas2017

Messy Church

The first Messy Church of 2018 will be on 20th January at 4pm. Come along to our 'Lost and Found' afternoon where there will be a family treasure hunt, tent making, cress planting, prayer scrolls and a Lego activity.

Create your own treasure box to take home and help us make a growth wall. Tea will be treasure chicken nuggets and potato waffles and a pudding. Tea/coffee and juice also.

Please come along to register from 3.30pm with the crafts beginning at 4pm. Messy Church for 2018 will continue to be on the third Saturday of each month at St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe. Youth/Childrenst.clare is our Facebook page where you will find details of all the church youth events. Take a look!

Residents Meeting

A quick reminder that the next meeting of the Neville Residents Association is on Monday 15th January 2018 in Neville Community Centre. Refreshments are available from 6.30pm and the meeting starts at 6.45pm.

All Residents are welcome - please ask your neighbours to come and join us.

Rose Lodge Burns Night Celebrations

Rose Lodge care home, Carers Way, are hosting a Scottish-inspired party in honour of Burns Night. The free event, which will be held on Wednesday 24th January from 10:30am, will feature a haggis, neeps and tatties taster morning and live bagpipe performance.

No booking is required however places are limited so those wishing to attend are encouraged to arrive for the 10:30am start time to avoid disappointment.

For more information contact Rose Lodge on tel: 01325 271301 or email roselodge@cwch.com

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ALLSORTS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE RESULTS

1st Food Hamper 331 Blue
Winner: A. Kirtley
2nd Xmas Cake 461 Blue
Winner: A Newson
3rd Singing Bear 331 Yellow
Winner: B Tarvit.
Thank you to everyone who supported the raffle which raised £122, yet a further contribution to the MRI Scanner Appeal from Allsorts Charity Shop. Also many thanks to Shirley Bennett who donated the fantastic hamper; to Paul Wakefield for the home made cake and Godfrey Bennett for the bear.
Following the festive holidays, Allsorts Charity Shop will reopen on Tuesday 16th January. Still at the side of St Clare's Church.

NEW YEAR, NEW YOU!

Complementary, Alternative and Holistic therapies are terms applied to a variety of treatments that can be used to help you recover from illness or stress or just to help you relax and have some 'me' time. So what are the differences?

Alternative medicine or therapy is, as it says, an alternative to conventional medicine. Complementary therapy works alongside conventional medicine. Holistic therapy (which can also be complementary) treats the whole person not just the symptoms of the disease:

Mind (where we have our thought processes, our beliefs);

Body, (our physical shell, we grow, we change);

Spiritual, (our soul, our life purpose) and

Emotional (our feelings, reactions to things).

A disruption in or between any of the four bodies can lead to health problems.

An example of holistic/complementary therapies include Massage, Reiki, facials, aromatherapy, reflexology and the new(ish) kid on the block is sound therapy.

Sound therapy is healing through the vibration of sound. Depending on the problem, you can experience healing through singing bowls, drum, gong, chimes, voice. Almost any ailment can experience healing from sound therapy. Massage therapists are now using tools to send vibration waves to the injured part of the body, sound therapy has been doing this for decades.

Made to Sparkle is a local business using complementary therapies, from Swedish massage and Reiki to sound therapy and here are some of the exciting things planned for the new year: Starting in February, a six week programme. It will give you the skills to increase your energy and encourage you to build your own core practices of meditation and stillness within.

An ongoing weekly meditation group starting again in February.

Reiki courses for attunements, can be completed over a weekend or following the meditation group for 6 weeks.

Weekly Sound Baths (you get to keep your clothes on and you don't get in a bath!) Reiki shares . . . please Reiki Masters get in touch and join together once a month for healing our community and planet (and selves!) All Reiki practitioners are welcome to the Reiki share but Masters are needed, and its what we signed up for.

As well as this there will be a drum workshop . . . planned for March, some spell casting and always on offer, Swedish or Indian head massage, Reiki treatments and sound therapy.

If you are a local group and would like a demonstration or talk about therapies please get in touch.

To book onto any of the courses or workshops please send a text message to Monica on 07449 312530 or email mncmddln@aol.com. I look forward to meeting you.
Monica

THANK YOU ... AND MORE HELP PLEASE!



TESCO
Bags of Help

A "BIG" thank you to everyone who helped with the ROCSOLID Christmas appeal – and the local charity is asking you to make even more of a difference to some of Newton Aycliffe's most vulnerable people via Tesco Bags of Help Scheme.

Every time you shop at Tesco in Newton Aycliffe, Darlington and at Bishop Auckland you are given a plastic token which you pop into one of three project slots in the Bags of Help unit in store.

Tesco gives money raised from plastic carrier bag sales to local projects which benefit the community, in partnership with Groundwork.

"The one which gets the most votes by the end of February receives a grant of up to £4,000, the second receives up to £2,000 and third, up to £1,000," said ROCSOLID service manager Mandy Shaw, pictured above.

"We want to use our grant to renovate the gardens of the houses in the local community to make them low maintenance and improve how they look. The work will definitely help improve the environment."

Mandy said she and her team had been bowled over by the generosity of local people in the run up to Christmas. "The response to our Newton News article was amazing. We support around 45 households and we like to make sure everyone gets something - it's quite an undertaking! Lots of people popped into Hope House bearing gifts!"

"We are grateful to the ongoing support we receive from Tesco in terms of food, ALDI was very generous with their unsold Christmas food on Christmas Eve and Harvest Christian Centre pulled out all the stops again in terms of hampers and gifts. We have been amazed

at everyone's goodwill and kindness . . . please pop your token in the ROCSOLID slot!"

• Since ROCSOLID was founded in 2007, it has supported 315 clients and has very positive feedback from other professionals, including social workers.

Primary School Admissions Deadline Nears

Parents in County Durham are being reminded they are running out of time to apply for primary school places for their children.

The deadline for applications for the next academic year, which starts in September 2018, is Monday 15th January 2018.

In order for a child to be eligible to start school in September 2018, the child's birthday must fall between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014. Cllr Olwyn Gunn, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for children and young people's services, said: "In our county we benefit from many schools with superb facilities and dedicated staff, and we hope that through our admissions arrangements parents can express their preferences and see their children enjoy a happy and successful education. "We know that the decision of where to send

your child is a major one, and can be difficult, but we would urge parents to make sure they apply by the deadline.

"A late application greatly reduces your chances of getting into your preferred school." Applications can be made online, at www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions, or by post.

Application forms can also be requested by phoning 03000 265896 or by writing to the school places and admissions team at Durham County Council, County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UJ.

If posting, the forms should be sent back using signed for or special delivery services.

Offers of places will be made to parents on 15th April 2018.

If you apply online you will receive an offer email.

If you apply by post you will receive an offer letter.

These should arrive by no later than 16th April 2018.

Made to Sparkle

Weekly Sound Baths, Meditations & Reiki Course

Starting
Wednesday 31st January

Please contact Monica on

07449 312530
for more details

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Durham
County Council

Awareness of Rules on Employing Apprentices

New research shows more than one in five of employers of apprentices in North East are unsure of the minimum wage rules.

The findings from Learning and Work Institute come after a government survey showed one in five apprentices across England reported being paid less than the minimum wage they are legally entitled to.

The government is expanding apprenticeships, aiming for three million by 2020 and introducing an Apprenticeship Levy requiring large firms to invest. But the research raises concerns over whether the government will hit its target and the quality of some apprenticeships. Worryingly, 31% of North East employers said they had not recently employed apprentices and would not consider doing so in the future.

Learning & Work Institute surveyed 2,000 employers across England, finding high awareness of the National Minimum Wage, but low awareness of the rules for apprentices. Among North East employers who were past and current employers of apprentices:

- 35% were unaware apprenticeships required 20% off-the-job training
- 27% did not know this off the job training needed to be paid
- 24% did not know minimum wage rates rose after the first

year of an apprenticeship. The research also involved focus groups with apprentices, organised by the National Society of Apprentices. They said they felt ensuring compliance with the rules was primarily the responsibility of the employer and training provider, and that they would not feel confident raising a concern over pay if they had one.

Action is recommended in three areas:

- Employer awareness. More needs to be done to ensure all employers are aware of the rules
 - Rights and responsibilities. Minimum wage entitlements and likely changes should be set out at the start of the apprenticeship, with training providers taking a lead
 - Enforcement. Apprentices should be clear about what to do if they think there's a problem
- Stephen Evans, Chief Executive of Learning and Work Institute, said, "The expansion of apprenticeships is a good thing, it can help us meet our post-Brexit skills needs and give people the chance to earn and learn. However, it's clear we need to do more to ensure everyone's aware of the rules, for example we think training providers could play a bigger role in making sure employers know the minimum wage rules."

CLEAR ENTRANCE WITHOUT FEAR

Members of the public do not need to worry about being sued if they use common sense when clearing paths and driveways of ice and snow, says a leading personal injury lawyer.

"After the recent snowy and icy conditions, the myth is still circulating that you will be held legally responsible if anyone slips on a path or driveway you have cleared," said Brett Dixon, president of APIL, a national not-for-profit group which represents injured people.

"I am not aware of any successful claims against good neighbours who have cleared paths or driveways. As with any personal injury claim, negligence must be proven for it to succeed.

"Just don't be reckless with your acts of kindness. Using grit and a shovel to clear ice and snow is a sensible, neighbourly thing to do. But using hot water to melt snow which is then going to refreeze into a dangerous sheet of ice, for example, makes the situation far more dangerous and someone could be hurt," Mr Dixon explained.

"It is a real shame that a baseless rumour has been allowed to go as far as preventing people from doing good deeds for each other. We need a greater understanding about the difference between accidents which cannot be helped, and negligence which causes needless injuries," he said.

Locomotion Reaches 2.5m Visitor Milestone

Locomotion in Shildon has started the New Year on the right track after officially welcoming the museum's 2,500,000th visitor.

Sean Richards from Sedgefield, visited on Wednesday 3 January 2018 with his daughters Anna and Alex and nephew Thomas.

A regular visitor to the museum, Sean brought his family to Locomotion during the Christmas holidays to see Tim Peake's spacecraft and Queen Alexandra's luxurious Royal Saloon carriage.

Sean and family were presented with an exciting goody bag by museum manager Gary Campbell.

Opened in September 2004 and originally called Locomotion the National Railway Museum at Shildon, the museum showcases important railway vehicles and items from the national collection.

Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Durham County Council and the European Regional Development Fund, Locomotion was built on a historically significant railway site close to the route of the Stockton and Darlington Railway.

In the first full year, 140,000 people visited the new museum, considerably more than the 50,000 anticipated and the museum now receives



around 200,000 visitors each year.

Permanent exhibits include the original Sans Pareil locomotive which took part in the Rainhill Trials in 1829, prototype Deltic and Advanced Passenger Trains and many other unique and historic railway artefacts.

Since November the museum has hosted astronaut Tim Peake's spacecraft as part of a temporary exhibition from the Science Museum Group and Samsung.

Museum Manager, Gary Campbell, said:

"Ever since Locomotion opened in 2004 the response from the public has been fantastic and

major national exhibition, adopt a new name and logo and become a full part of the Science Museum Group.

"We have ambitious plans for the museum and the historic parts of the site and I look forward to seeing the public reaction to these developments in the coming months."

From 1 December 2017 the National Railway Museum at Shildon was renamed Locomotion and became a full part of the world's most prestigious family of science museums—the Science Museum Group.

Although the Science Museum Group will now manage Locomotion, the strong partnership with Durham County Council will continue to be key to the future of the museum.

To find out more about Locomotion visit the museum's new website at: <https://www.locomotion.org.uk>

Neville Residents Association

We last met on Monday 27th November in the Neville Community Centre where we had an increased number of residents attending the meeting, and again, support from Horndale and Acorn Residents Associations.

Both established residents associations provided two ideas each for attracting funding and ideas for activities.

Thank you to Neville Community Centre and Arun Chandron for their kind donations.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 15th January 2017 at Neville Community Centre. Refreshments at 6.30pm and meeting at 6.45pm.

HOW TO TUNE IN

Aycliffe Radio is an internet based station

TO TUNE IN YOU REQUIRE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET OR A WI-FI HOT SPOT

You can listen directly via our website

www.ayclifferadio.co.uk

click the "Listen Live" link in the top right hand corner of the home page

Alternatively you can download our Free App from Google Play or Apple Store simply search "Aycliffe Radio" and download (App to be upgraded in the new year)



Aycliffe Radio can also be found on Facebook and Twitter.



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Email: info@ayclifferadio.co.uk



AYCLIFFE RADIO

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HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

TUNE IN Tune in to our Presenter's shows and support your local radio station.

VOLUNTEER Help out at the station by becoming a presenter or volunteer.

SPONSOR Sponsor a show, presenter or the station for a nominal fee.

ORGANISATIONS You are invited to come along and record a 5 minute info slot about your club - for no charge.

ADVERTISE Could your business benefit from advertising on Aycliffe Radio?

LOCAL BAND/CHOIR Send us a pre-recorded session of your set or invite us along to record for you.

SCHOOLS We can attend and record your Concerts, Performances, Presentations to be played on air for all to enjoy.

PUBS/CLUBS Send us your upcoming events and our presenters will promote them during their shows.

EVENTS If you are organising an event, why not let us help you promote it.

Watch out for our new morning 8-10am scheduled shows coming soon.

MONDAY
10-12am Jack's Request Show
6-8pm 70s Show - Peter Rush
8-10pm Local Band Night
10-12pm Dance Anthem (R)

TUESDAY
10-12am Jack's Tuesday Chill
6-8pm Sports - Darren & Lee
8-10pm Motown Classics
10-12pm Dance Mix (R)

WEDNESDAY
10-12am Kent Collective
6-8pm 80s Show
8-10pm Alternative Aycliffe - Gary
10-12pm Garage/Indie (R)

THURSDAY
10-12am Jack's Eclectic Mix
6-8pm Peter's Rock Show
8-10pm 90s Classics
10-12pm R n B Show (R)

FRIDAY
10-12am Jack's Moderation Show
6-8pm PVR Studio House Mix
8-10pm Guest Presenter Session
10-12pm Alternative Aycliffe (R)

SATURDAY
12-6pm 70s-90s (R)
6-8pm Dance Anthems - The Dr
8-10pm Dance Mix - OZ DJ
10-12pm Garage/Indie - MC Supa

SUNDAY
10-12pm Classical Hour
12-2pm Sports Round Up (R)
2-4pm Country & Western
4-6pm Lazy Sunday
8-10pm R n B Show - Jack
10-12pm PVR House Mix (R)

Scheduled shows may be changed/cancelled at any time.

Concerns Grow for Missing Denon

POLICE are growing increasingly concerned for a 13-year-old girl who has been missing for almost a month.

Denon Young was reported missing on the afternoon of 10 December and there have been no sightings of her since.

Denon is known to have links to the Peterborough, Lincolnshire, Durham and Northumberland areas.

Detective Inspector Claire Hewson said: "We are growing increasingly concerned for Denon's

welfare and would urge anyone who has information about her whereabouts to contact police.

"It has been almost a month since she was last seen and someone out there must know where she is.

"It may be that people don't feel comfortable talking to police, in which case we would urge people to contact Crimestoppers anonymously. "We would also appeal directly to Denon to get in touch with us to let us know she is ok."

Anyone with information



should contact Cambridgeshire police on 101 or Crimestoppers, anonymously 0800 555 111.

READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Colin Wharton, a Newton News reader from Sedgfield offered his photo of the 13 foot snowman he built in the recent snowfall. Send your photos to syd@newtonnews.co.uk



Seasoned Hardwood Logs For Sale

£65.00 per bag
(large builders dumpy bag - includes Free Delivery)
Mix of Ash, Beech and Sycamore Trees

Contact Wes 07970 186738

"Being Together, Hearing Together"

If you sometimes feel lonely and/or are hard-of-hearing and would like to start the New Year on a positive note; meet new people and make new friends, come along to our little 'Get Together'.

St. Mary's Church
Friday, 19th January, 5.30pm

Light refreshments will be provided.

Donations welcome on the day.

Contact **Angelina Cooke** for further details and to book your place on **07813 945226**.
(Leave a message/send a text with your name and number)



COUNTY NEWSBITS

Compiled by
County Councillor John Clare

Some interesting newsletters, plus health opportunities and consultations to take part in. And don't miss my talk on the History of Aycliffe! As always, further details and links online at: bit.ly/CNB101

COUNCIL ITEMS

- Last chance: the Primary School admissions application deadline is Monday 15 January.
- Consultation: Police element of council tax to increase.
- Durham Countryside New Year Newsletter.
- Middridge Parish Council Meeting, Monday 8th January.
- Latest local roadworks information in the Newton Aycliffe area.

COMMUNITY NEWS

- Are you taking part in the 'Dry January' challenge? The harder you might find it, the more you need to do it.
- 'Walk Durham' to improve your health and fitness – Tuesdays 10-11am from the Pioneering Care Centre.
- Healthwatch County Durham January Newsletter.
- Consultation: Healthwatch County Durham are asking your opinion on which services they should investigate in 2018/19.
- Consultation: Should the system for organ donation be changed to one where you are automatically signed up unless you opt out?
- Consultation: How should decisions be made when people do not have capacity to make them for themselves?
- The Kings Drive estate is 'a place to be proud of' – thank you North Echo for recognising what has been done.

THINGS TO DO

- 'When the Bugle Calls' DLI exhibition in Bishop Auckland Town Hall (until 16 March).
- 'Chinese Pots' (5-11s), Durham Oriental Museum, drop-in 1-3pm, Saturday 20 January.
- I am speaking to the Bishop Auckland Civic Society on the fantastic History of Aycliffe, 7.30pm, Tuesday 27th March.

Wellbeing For Life, Not Just January



Wellbeing for Life, not just for January!

In the New Year, there are some things you should cut back on to be healthier, but also so many things you should add in. The best part? They're so simple and cost absolutely nothing.

The County Durham Wellbeing for Life service will be out and about in the New Year providing people with information and ways to access the free service, including their 'New Year, New You!' programme.

Wellbeing for Life aims to help people to live well and maintain good health for themselves and those around them. Health Trainers work with individuals on a 1-1 basis and in groups to recognise the issues that are affecting their wellbeing and help them make positive changes.

They recommend trying the Five Ways to Wellbeing to make this year better than the last. The Five Ways to Wellbeing are simple, achievable actions we can do in our everyday lives to help us feel good and function well. The five ways are:

Connect - with the people around you; your family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. The Wellbeing for Life team can help you find a social activity to help make new friendships. Building connections will support and enrich your everyday.

Get active - Physical activity makes us feel good. Step outside, being in green open spaces increases your sense of wellbeing and relaxation. Health Trainers can support you to try an activity that you enjoy and suits your

level of fitness; such as an exercise class or walking group.

Learn - Learning new skills can give you a sense of achievement and a new confidence. Wellbeing for Life can help you find a training or informal learning course which interests you.

Give - Whether it's a thank you, a kind word or volunteering your time. Helping others makes you feel good about yourself. Wellbeing for Life offer a range of volunteering opportunities across County Durham from; Community Health Champions who support the Health Trainers to Community Volunteers who provide much needed support at events and activities.

Take notice - Be aware of the world around you and what you are feeling. Take time to breathe, unwind: yoga, listening to music, reading a book – time on your own. Reflecting on your experiences will help you appreciate what matters to you.

People's lifestyles and the conditions in which they live and work, act together to influence their health and wellbeing. The wellbeing approach goes beyond looking at a single-issue and instead aims to take a whole-person and community approach to improving health.

For further information on the Wellbeing for Life service and free activities in your area contact freephone 0800 8766887 or visit www.wellbeingforlife.net, Facebook @ CountyDurhamWellbeingForLifeService, Twitter @ WBFL_Durham

New Year, New Writing Sessions at Libraries

Budding writers are invited to explore their creative side at County Durham libraries this month.

North East writer Rachel Cochrane is heading to Durham County Council libraries to host 'New Year, New You' themed writing sessions to encourage and inspire creative minds.

In the two-hour sessions Rachel will use diaries, archive materials and stories to stimulate the imaginations of participants and give advice and support on bringing words to life.

Finished works will be compiled by Rachel to be displayed at the libraries.

Three pieces of writing from everything produced in the workshops will also be chosen and recorded in audio, for a podcast.

Rachel said: "Express yourself! The sessions are relaxed and informal, using the theme of diaries as inspiration for your own writing.

"All are welcome including those new to writing and trying it for the first time." All sessions cost £1 and booking is required, by phoning the host library.

Details are as follows:

Monday 15 January

- Consett Library, 10.30am – 12.30pm, 03000 269 513
- Stanley Library, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, 03000 269 517

Tuesday 16 January

- Peterlee Library, 2pm – 4pm, 03000 269 509

Wednesday 17 January

- Barnard Castle Library, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, 03000 263 409

Thursday 18 January

- Crook Library, 10.30am – 12.30pm, 03000 269 002
- Spennymoor Library, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, 03000 269 531

Friday 19 January

- Durham Clayport Library, 10.30am – 12.30pm, 03000 265 524
- Newton Aycliffe Library, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, 03000 269 519



Monday 22 January

- Chester-le-Street Library, 10.30am – 12.30pm, 03000 269 512

- Seaham Library, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, 03000 262 510

Linda Dobson, the council's principal library manager, said: "January is a great time to learn something new and these sessions offer an opportunity for people to discover their writing talents in a fun and creative way.

"With Rachel's passion for words and the North East we're thrilled to have her on board and I'd encourage anyone with an interest in writing to book a place."

For more information about libraries in County Durham or to find one near you visit www.durham.gov.uk/libraries

TABLE TOP SALE

Sunday 14th January 2018
Burnhill Community Centre

9.00am for Sellers

£5 per table

10.00am for Public £1

Tea, Coffee and Bacon Sandwiches. Tel 01325 308094 / 07967 901477 to book or just turn up.

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Visit John's website: www.jack4.co.uk

Courses and Exhibitions at Greenfield Arts

As we welcome the new year, we look forward to the new Spring Community Learning Programme, starting next week with plenty of spaces left. It is full to the brim with creative opportunities for those looking to try new things or develop their professional skills.

We look forward to the return of our regular adult courses, including: Spanish, Yoga and Floral Art as well as new art development opportunities, including illustration with local artist Sharron Bates, which will offer participants the chance to explore their skills and develop with the guidance of a professional artist.

Creative Forum has flourished so much that we are opening new opportunities in the form of an additional evening Core Arts group, which will help participants dispel misconceptions and develop basic skills in a variety of core disciplines. Masterclasses Thursdays will also continue due to its brilliant success this last term, offering opportunities in digital photography, reduction printing, wire weaving and more.

We also look forward to the return of our after school activities for young people including: Young Yoga and Art Club. There is something for everyone of all ages and abilities, whether you are looking to get fit, improve wellbeing or develop your artistic talent, whatever level, we look forward to seeing you! This season we also bring you the latest exhibitions taking place in The Greenfield Gallery from both local artists and regionally recognised mining artist Tom Lamb. We welcome the return of the annual Open Art exhibition



which is open to all and offers the chance to display three pieces of creative work of any discipline for £10. This year we are looking at 'The Power of the Pen' and how art can inspire creativity and passion in us all. Applications can be found on the gallery page of our website and are open

until Friday 26th January 2018.

For all courses and events please book your place via the online enrolment link, which can be found on the 'Courses and Activities' page on our website. If you would like any further information please contact our friendly team on 01325 379048 or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk

Charity Sky Dive

Dear Sir,
My cousin, who is currently 15 years old, turning 16 in September, is to complete a sky dive in aid of the NSPCC on Saturday 6th October 2018. It will be a 10,000 feet tandem sky dive in Peterlee. Her name is Tia McConnell and she is in year 10 at Woodham Academy. Tia's goal is to reach £500 sponsorship. If anyone would like to donate to this, here is the link to her just giving page: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tia-mcconnell1 Alternatively you can text TIAM94 with the amount you would like to donate to 70070! Thank you
Brenna Finn



Playday Christmas Appeal



During December the parents and staff of Playday Nursery collected Christmas presents for TFM Radio Christmas Appeal. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated presents, we made up three large boxes to donate. They were collected from the Playday

Nursery and were to be delivered to children throughout the north east. We hope the children who received these presents enjoyed them through the Christmas period. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy and prosperous New Year.



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they laugh

#BeTheReason

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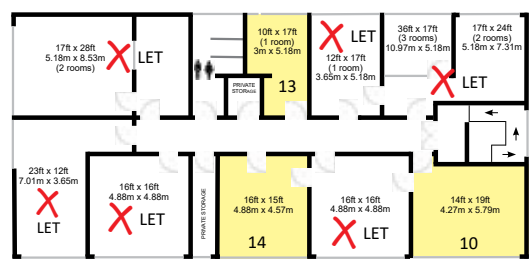
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For more information contact Stuart on 01325 300212



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Get Outdoors with Walk Durham this Winter



People are being encouraged to get outside and make the most of the wonderful winter scenery this new year as part of a free walking programme across County Durham. Walk Durham is inviting people across the county to join them for a seasonal stroll this January. Stephen Clough, scheme coordinator of Walk Durham, said: "Winter is a wonderful time to get outdoors and enjoy your surroundings in the fresh air and Walk Durham offers an easy way to head out for a winter wander with friends and family. "A short walk is a great way to help kick start your new year fitness resolutions. Our walks are open to anyone, no matter how fit you currently are, and our specially trained

volunteers will be on hand to give you a warm welcome. Plus you don't need any fancy kit or specialist equipment. "Who knows, what starts out as a one-off walk could lead to life-long friendships and a serious walking habit." Walk Durham offers free, short group walks throughout the year as part of Walking for Health, England's largest network of health walk schemes, delivered in partnership with Ramblers and Macmillan Cancer Support. The walks are perfect for those new to walking, and those who want to meet new people while keeping active. For more information and the full programme of walks visit www.durham.gov.uk/walkdurham

Police Appeal



POLICE are becoming increasingly concerned for the welfare of a teenager who has been missing for four days.

Jordan Jeffrey Profit was last seen on January 6 leaving his home in Framwellgate Moor, Durham.

The 16-year-old may be sleeping rough in Durham City, but is also known to frequent the Newcastle area. He is described as being 4ft 9in, of slim build with mousey hair. He was last wearing a black sweater, black joggers, black baseball cap, black puffer body warmer and black Nike trainers.

Sergeant Chris Spencer, from Durham Constabulary, said: "We have serious concerns for Jordan's welfare as he may be sleeping rough. We also believe he is suffering from a chest infection.

"We would urge anyone who thinks they may have seen him, or has any information regarding his whereabouts to get in touch with us as soon as possible."

Call 101 with any information on his whereabouts, quoting incident number 434.

YOUNG DRIVERS NOT LEARNING TO AVOID CRASHES QUICK ENOUGH

A new report by the UK's leading road safety charity IAM RoadSmart and TRL into crashes involving young drivers has concluded that they need to learn quicker how to avoid crashes with the most vulnerable users on our roads. The report found that while they learn much quicker than expected to avoid single vehicle loss of control collisions, they learn a lot slower how to deal with vulnerable road users, be safe on the motorway and safely complete low speed manoeuvres.

IAM RoadSmart said these findings proved a surprise, as the classic young driver crash usually involves going too fast on a country road. It would seem that new drivers themselves soon pick up the skills to stay safe on our highest risk roads.

The report, titled Young Novice Driver Collision Types, makes several key recommendations to improve new driver training particularly in hazard perception around vulnerable road users and around other vehicles.

The report underlines the critical importance of gaining driving experience in a wide variety of traffic situations. In their first year on the road experts suggest an average 17-year-old driver can expect their risk of being involved in a crash to reduce by 36% as a result of driving experience, but only by 6% owing to ageing and maturity.

This report set out to try and identify which aspects of driving are learned quickest and which take more time. Targeting those skills that they struggle to take in could bring the largest benefits to road safety for new drivers.

Some positive news is that analysis of collision trends

suggests a substantial reduction in crashes overall for the two youngest age groups between 2002 and 2015. The accident rate for 17-20 year old car drivers reduced by 49% in this time, while the rate for 21-29 year olds reduced by 33%. Existing research found the following factors led to a higher rate of crashes amongst younger people:

- Inexperience and poor judgement in more difficult driving conditions (poor weather, poor visibility, minor rural roads)
- Inadequate control of the car (single vehicle accidents, skidding, overturning, leaving the road)
- Lifestyle factors (social driving particularly at night and at weekends, when factors such as alcohol and peer pressure affect where and how young people drive)

- Economic factors which result in young drivers being more likely to have cheaper older cars which offer them less protection from injury than newer cars would do

The report also concluded:

- Travel behaviour has changed with 17-20 year olds driving less and walking or cycling more
- Those aged 21-29 years travel further than 17-20 year olds each year, with largely employment related journeys
- The collision rate for drivers aged 17-20 years declined more quickly than the rate for 21-29 year olds between 2002 and 2015

- Compared with the overall rate of learning, young drivers learn more quickly to avoid crashes involving a single vehicle, loss of control, on a B roads, at night or where the vehicle leaves the carriageway
- Possibly related to these crash types, young drivers also

learn more rapidly to avoid contributory factors such as speeding, driving too fast for the conditions, swerving, loss of control, inexperienced and anxious

- The trend for crashes on motorways is unique and initially increases before demonstrating a possible delayed learning curve. Results also suggest that learning to safely use slip roads take longer than the general learning rate
- New drivers also appear to be slow at learning to avoid collisions in certain conflict scenarios in slow manoeuvring situations and with vulnerable road users. This might be indicative of poor hazard perception skills

And it recommended the following actions:

- Further research to understand why novice drivers are involved in and learn quickly to avoid single vehicle loss of control type crashes. This can inform the development of targeted interventions and possible training.
- Consider options for reducing young driver crashes at night (e.g. additional experience gained during the learner phase)
- The government's plans to allow learners on motorways

are fully justified by the report as it is clear new drivers are likely to benefit from practice on motorways.

- Explore the role that advanced hazard perception training might offer in reducing the threat young drivers pose to Vulnerable Road Users.
- Explore the apparent trend of young drivers' vehicles being more likely to be hit from the rear. There may be practical, hazard perception or anticipation training that could be of benefit.

Sarah Sillars, IAM RoadSmart Chief Executive Officer, said: "It is really useful to learn more about how young drivers are gaining the experience they need to have a safe driving career.

"However, analysing the results, it is vital that government, road safety bodies and the driver instruction industry work together to generate new strategies to target those skills that are not being learned at the fastest rate.

"It also shows that in the formative years of driving, there is clearly a need for post-test training to continue, to build experience that can reduce the number of needless tragedies on our roads."

2017 The Most Popular Year for Rehoming a Dog



2017 was the most popular year for giving a dog a home, according to Dogs Trust Darlington. Last year the Sadberge Rehoming Centre broke its own rehoming record, with an astonishing 1,214 canine residents finding their forever homes. The highest number of canine residents rehomed in previous years was 1,159 so the team at Dogs Trust Darlington are delighted to have built on this success. The 1,214th dog to be rehomed from the centre was six-year-old crossbreed Nico, who had been a resident at the Centre for three months before being spotted by a lovely family.

Despite this fantastic milestone, there are still plenty of residents at Dogs Trust Darlington waiting on special owners to give them loving new homes. One resident, who has been at the Centre for sometime is seven-year-old German Shepherd cross Samson, who is a happy boy looking for a family that will give him all the time and patience he needs to adjust to a new family home.

Jake Flatman, Assistant Manager at Dogs Trust Darlington, said:

"2017 was a great year for lots of dogs at the Darlington Rehoming Centre, however we hope 2018 will bring even more joy for canine residents still waiting for their special someone. We are very fortunate to have so

many dedicated supporters, including players of People's Postcode Lottery, whose donations and funding continue to help staff provide dogs with the TLC they need whilst they await new owners."

"This year our slogan "A dog is for life, not just for Christmas" celebrates its 40th anniversary, so we want to do everything possible to keep Dogs Trust at the forefront of peoples' minds so that if they are thinking about getting a pet dog, they will consider adopting a rescue dog. It is important that any dog that comes into our care gets every opportunity to find a home, as they will make great companions for the right families."

As an energetic chap, Samson would love to find an adult only home with owners who are willing to give him time to settle in and provide lots of exercise as he needs to be kept physically active. Samson is a clever boy who is fully housetrained and loves nothing more than cuddling up with his human companions.

If you are interested in finding out more about Samson or adopting a dog from Dogs Trust Darlington, please get in touch with the team on 0300 303 0292 or visit www.dogstrust.org.uk/our-centres/darlington

Police Appeal



POLICE have released CCTV images of two men they would like to speak to in connection with an unprovoked assault. The incident happened in the early hours of Saturday, December 23 in Joe's Bar, on Grange Road, Darlington. As the victim made his way to the toilet, he was punched to the floor and kicked repeatedly by several unidentified people, leaving him with serious injuries which required hospital treatment.

Detective Constable Neil Stannard, from Darlington CID, said: "This was an unprovoked assault which left the victim needing medical treatment.

"Anyone who recognises the two men in the images should get in touch with us as soon as possible."

Call 101 and ask for DC Stannard or DC Helen Hudson at Darlington CID, quoting crime reference number CRI00097657.

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Aycliffe Return to Winning Ways with Hard-Fought Victory

Aycliffe register good win against local rivals Bishop Auckland.

The First XV hosted Bishop Auckland, a strong rival well established in Durham Northumberland 2 and a team who had already beaten Aycliffe earlier in the season. Despite missing several key players through unavailability and injury, Aycliffe were able to field a strong XV.

It looked like it might not be the home side's day when their kick off travelled straight out, giving the visitors a scrum on halfway. However Aycliffe managed to hold the scrum and defended well around midfield, forcing the turnover and going to the boot to gain territory, but the kick rolled just too far, allowing the visitors to dab down for a twenty-two.

The following phases of play saw the two teams locking horns in the midfield as both vied for the ascendancy, Aycliffe showed the most promise, and made good ground with ball in hand. The visitors forced a turnover, however a big hit on the twenty two caused a knock on which skipper Andy Littlefair hacked downfield, scooping up to cross, only to be held up over the line.

In the following phases, Bishop knocked on, giving Aycliffe a scrum advantage, which was won and kicked downfield for the lineout. Aycliffe knocked on ceding possession to the visitors, who surged upfield, stopped only by James Thacker who effected a rip in the tackle, Aycliffe again kicked the corner, but lost the lineout, a situation only saved by Neil Morgan's charge down which gave Aycliffe the lineout fifteen metres out. An attack from the set piece saw Adam Gascoigne link up nicely with Chris Richards, who stepped the last man and



crossed, bringing the home side back into the game.

The restart was brilliantly stolen by Neil Morgan, who set the phase, with Linden Dixon crashing down field on the carry. A loose ball at a ruck was lept upon by Andy Littlefair who again hacked through, this time making sure and diving over under the sticks on thirty minutes. A Bishop chase on the restart knocked on into touch which gave Aycliffe the impetus once more, pressing down field with Thacker and Gascoigne finding themselves with a two-on-one a try seemed certain, however the Bishop defender knocked the ball down.

Half Time: Newton Aycliffe First XV 12 - 7 Bishop Auckland RUFC
Aycliffe started the second half well, applying pressure

from the kick off and kicking smartly for territory. The visitors were not done however, and turned the lineout over, launching another attack which was only stopped by a sharp turnover by Luke Harty. Bishop regained possession and again forged down field, working hard around the corner and making metres each time. Eventually the pressure told and they crossed on 50 minutes, which was converted, taking them two points to the good.

A brief break in play saw both sides' medics take to the field and try to patch up numerous players who were scattered across the pitch after what had been an extremely physical set of phases. Play resumed, and Aycliffe won a penalty on half way which replacement scrum half Richie Brown elected to tap and go, feeding rampaging tight head prop Linden Dixon, who crashed into the Bishop defence, taking three tacklers to be brought down.

Bishop showed real mettle to regroup and regain possession before launching another attack downfield, once more doing what they do best, working the corner with big runners. Aycliffe regained possession and kicked up field only to give the penalty for not letting the man regain his feet, however, in the following phases, James Thacker read the play from 10 to 12, rushing out and taking the ball with two hands to dive over and take the home side ahead, but only by three points.

The visitors regained possession following a scrum, but a great chop tackle out wide allowed Luke Tinkler to lock onto the ball and turned it over, which was hacked up field by Andy Littlefair, following the chase, a Bishop player punched Littlefair and was sent from the field, however the clock was red, and Richards turned and put the ball in to touch.

Full Time: Newton Aycliffe First XV 17 - 14 Bishop Auckland RUFC

New Year and New Challenges

Dear Sir,

In June we will be driving a car to Benidorm to raise awareness and funds for The Solan Connor Fawcett Family Cancer Fund from Spennymoor. We will also be holding Car Boot Sales and Rallies.

Would you like to help?

We require donations for the Car Boot Sales, we also need a sign writer to put vinyl lettering on the car and a mechanic to help make sure the car is ready.

Having met Mark Solan, we decided that this year we would do what we could to help him continue the great work he already does to help people who suffer from the dreaded "BIG C", and also the patients families to overcome whatever the BIG C chucks at them.

So, if you can, please help us to help Mark carry on the great work that Team Solan do.

LET'S KILL CANCER

Dave Spikey at Gala



One of the country's most popular comedians is performing at Gala Theatre as he marks 30 years in the industry.

Dave Spikey, best known for writing and co-starring in award-winning Phoenix Nights alongside fellow comedian Peter Kay, brings his Juggling on a Motorbike tour to the venue on Thursday, 25 January.

The 30th anniversary show will see the Lancashire-based comic look back on his life, which saw him spend 19 years as a biomedical scientist for the NHS before turning to comedy.

After winning national talent show Stairway to the Stars thanks to his unique routine about a juggler on a motorbike in 1987, it was another 13 years before he gave up his day job in the Haematology Laboratory at Royal Bolton Hospital and make comedy his full time career.

The comic, who was previously team captain on hit TV show Eight out of Ten Cats as well as hosting the new version of Bullseye, will share highlights from his successful career and how a routine 30 years ago completely changed his life.

Tickets for the show, which starts at 7.30pm, cost £16.50 and can be bought at www.galadurham.co.uk or by calling the box office on 03000 266 600.

GOLD MEDAL SUCCESS FOR GREENFIELD ATHLETES



Students from Greenfield Community College gave an excellent performance in athletics recently when all four teams from different year groups were awarded with medals. The County qualifying event organised by Sedgefield SSP Apprentices was a great success, held at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre the event attracted a range of Secondary Schools from the area including Ferryhill, Sedgefield, Whitworth and Greenfield Community College.

Students from Year 7 and Year 8 competed in a range of track and field events with a number of individuals gaining first place position. The event was a great credit to the team of apprentices who were involved with the organisation which included Greenfield's very own Ben Walton.



All of the Greenfield teams performed to a high standard and were worthy medal winners. Year 8 girls achieved an excellent win and earned themselves a

place in the County Final which will be held in March 2018.

Well done to everyone involved and good luck to Year 8 girls in the finals!

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Cornmill Shopping Centre and a Healthy You

Cornmill Shopping Centre is working in partnership with Healthy Darlington to promote a healthy start to the new year following the indulgent Christmas festivities. Throughout January (Friday 19th and Saturday 27th), Healthy Darlington will be

supporting residents and local shoppers by getting them to 'eat well, move more and live longer', through improving the availability, accessibility and quality of sport and physical activity across the borough.

As part of Healthy Darlington's campaign, Cornmill Shopping Centre will be hosting a pop-up event to support Healthy Darlington's campaign from 11am to 2pm each day, providing information and visuals on services available to customers at the Dolphin Centre and Eastbourne Sports Complex. Additionally, details on Healthy Darlington's partner and the Department of Health's public health programme Change 4 Life will be available, with regards to information on their 7-day challenge which targets snacking in families. The event will encourage shoppers to adopt a healthy lifestyle by offering the chance to win trial passes for

a selection of fitness classes and entry to the gym.

Alongside the free competition give-aways, on 27th January Healthy Darlington will be bringing along their Tanita scales to the centre. The scales, which will provide customers with sophisticated body composition measurements, use advanced Bioelectric Impedance Analysis

technology to produce an accurate reading in under 20 seconds.

Susan Young, centre manager at the Cornmill Centre, said: "Our centre will be supporting Healthy Darlington's movement to get the town fit on the 11th, 19th and 27th January. We believe that promoting a healthy lifestyle and showcasing local health

services that are accessible to all will really benefit the residents of Darlington. We can't wait to start our health kick this year and wish everyone a happy and healthy 2018."

To find out more about the Cornmill Shopping Centre and other promotions and events please visit <http://cornmillcentre.co.uk>

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NEW YEAR FLYTIPPING WARNING FOR NORTH EAST FARMERS AS INCIDENTS RISE

An agricultural expert is warning of the 'hidden cost' of flytipping, after it was revealed that councils have spent more than £3m on cleaning up the North East in just 12 months.

Newly-released figures from Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) revealed that more than one million incidents of fly-tipping were dealt with by councils in England in 2016-17, costing taxpayers nationally £58m to clear up. Every January, councils see a surge in flytipping, with rogue residents and traders dumping post-festive waste, including old Christmas trees.

On a regional level, there were 48,966* reported flytipping incidents in the North East between April 2016 and March 2017 – 899 more incidents than last year.

The clean-up cost to taxpayers in the North East totalled £3,318,436*.

The worst hit area was Gateshead, with 11,826 incidents, followed by County Durham, with 7,768 incidents, and Sunderland, with 5,891. Unsurprisingly, Gateshead had the highest bill for flytipping clearance, totalling £672,870.

But Rupert Wailes-Fairbairn, director of Lycetts' rural division in Newcastle, warns that these figures, as high as they seem, are not a true reflection of the cost of flytipping across the North East.

The DEFRA figures only account for flytipping incidents on council land, not private land.

Farmers who fall prey to this crime are having to shoulder the burden, responsible for meeting the cost of clearing rubbish from their land themselves – at an average cost of £1,000 per incident. They are also liable if the dumped rubbish damages the countryside.

Rupert said: "Farmers are well aware of this issue and are saddened by the visual impact it has on the countryside they maintain, as well as it being a nuisance and inconvenience when trying to get on with their normal, daily jobs."

"However, I don't think that farmers are as aware that, should they fail to deal with incidences of flytipping on their land and it leads to environmental damage, they could be held liable under the Environmental Protection Act 1990."

"With many authorities looking at introducing charges for bulky waste and organic waste collections and charging for dumping waste at council-run tips, there is a fear that flytipping incidents on farmland will increase."

Rupert said that, despite the increase in flytipping incidents, a relatively small number of farmers make claims for flytipping, as many have the kit and manpower to deal with such incidents.

But he stressed the importance of having sufficient protection for farming businesses, particularly in the case of repeat offences. Many combined farm insurance policies cover the cost of flytipping – generally around £5,000 per incident and capped at £15,000.

"If farmers are unfortunate enough to have a flytipping 'hot spot' on their land, costs soon tot up and their business could be put in jeopardy," added Rupert.

"Farmers are not only having to fork out for clean-up costs but are having to worry about the damage it can cause to workers and their animals. Flytipping can affect every part of their livelihood."

"Like all insurance, most of the time you may wonder what the point of having it is, however, come the day, you could be very glad the cover is in place."

Rupert outlined a number of ways in which farmers can help protect themselves against flytippers.

"Be vigilant, communicate with neighbours and report suspicious vehicles to the



authorities," he said.

"Consult with your insurance broker, to see what cover is afforded to you in the event of an incident, and check with your local council, who may have schemes to assist with the removal of waste."

"Deter would-be flytippers by ensuring that fields, particularly those which are roadside, are gated and locked where possible. If the problem persists, consider setting up security lights and a camera. This will help provide crucial evidence should the council decide to investigate."

"Finally, and most

importantly, make sure that any rubbish dumped on your land is disposed of properly. By failing to remove the waste or moving it on to public land, you will leave yourself open to prosecution and could face fines of tens of thousands of pounds."

To find out more about Lycetts or obtain further information about farm insurance, visit lycetts.co.uk.

*In some instances, flytipping incidents are estimated or left blank (2015/16 figures), due to either missing, incomplete or incorrect returns. Estimates are included in the published totals, but not made available in the local authority breakdown. For this reason, the England totals may be higher than the sum of regional totals and the sum of individual local authorities.

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Wedding Fair Debut for Aycliffe Couple



A couple from Newton Aycliffe have organised the first wedding fair for Bishop Auckland Rugby Union Club. Dan Lewis and Donna Bell have managed the rugby club for over three years. Within this time they have overseen a modernisation programme, overhauling the clubs main function room and have reignited the club's events and functions calendar. This year, the ambitious pair will host the first wedding fair for the club in the hope of attracting local couples to take a look at what the

affordable venue can offer. Donna, events manager, said: 'Our wedding bookings have exceeded previous years. We are becoming a modern, flexible and affordable local option for couples from not only Bishop Auckland and surrounding areas, but also Ferryhill and Newton Aycliffe. The fair is an opportunity for those planning their big day to see how our function room can look and how we can make use of our outside space. We have a number of local suppliers also lined up on the day to help with all those extra touches to make your day special.'

The event will take place on Saturday 3rd February at 11am - 4pm, visitors will receive a glass of prosecco and a welcome pack on arrival.

If you would like more information about events at Bishop Auckland Rugby Club, please visit www.barufc.co.uk or find them on Facebook @barufc

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100% Attendance for Greenfield Students

Students from Greenfield Community College have been rewarded for gaining maximum attendance during the autumn term. Students from both the Aycliffe site and the Sunnydale Campus were offered a day of special activities to recognise their commitment and achievement. The range of activities meant that students were spoilt for choice and quickly signed up for a fun day taking part in karaoke, DJ skills, watching films and even a nail bar experience with sweets and popcorn!

One group from our Sunnydale Campus got very crafty and created some fabulous Christmas centre pieces which they donated to local care homes in Shildon. The grateful recipients were Holly Lodge, The Grange, Redworth House and Crisis and Recovery House. The students not only enjoyed the day but also the opportunity to do something positive for the community.

Over 100 students from the Aycliffe site alone were able to take part and try new interests. Overall attendance has also been very positive as the school aim to achieve the very best for students as they encourage families and students to support and recognise that "every day counts".

Success for Gala's Swashbuckling Pantomime



Over 31,000 people enjoyed the action-packed tale of Robinson Crusoe, this year's pantomime at the Gala Theatre. Families flocked to 72 performances of the show, which received rave reviews across the north east, and organisers are now looking forward to next year's production with tickets already on sale for Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. The show was once again written and directed by Neil Armstrong and Paul Hartley, who also starred in the show as baddie Captain Blackheart and Billy Bob. They were joined by Jamie Brown as Robinson, along with Paul Dunn as Dame Connie Crusoe, Lauren Waine as Polly Perkins and Jayne Mackenzie as goddess of the

sea Aqua Marina. Robin Byers, Durham County Council's manager for the Gala Theatre, said: "We are always really thrilled when so many people enjoy our pantomime. We put a lot of work into creating it, so we are delighted to hear such positive feedback from our audiences. "We are already looking forward to our next pantomime, with Neil and Paul set to return with the ever-popular Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." Anyone booking for the 2018 pantomime before Wednesday, 31 January can save up to £5 on selected performances with an early bird offer. To book tickets visit www.galadurham.co.uk or call the box office on 03000 266 600

SIBLINGS WORKSHOP



A local Sensory Processing Disorder Parent Support Group obtained funding from Tesco's Groundwork Scheme just before Christmas and with part of the money, hosted workshops for the siblings of the children who have sensory processing disorder (SPD). They were split into two groups; 6-9 year olds and 10+ years. The children took part in practical activities to give them an understanding of what their brothers and sisters experience on a daily basis.

It can be very difficult for the siblings as SPD children can fluctuate in their behaviours which can affect them too, making them angry, sad or frustrated. By giving them knowledge and emotional support will not only help

their siblings but parents too. Some of the comments after the workshops from the children were: "I thought he just wanted attention from my family but he actually needs to do the activities to help"; "I learned that my sister does not mean to hurt me"; "My brother gets sad sometimes but I can now help him"; "I can help my brother not feel frustrated"; "Their senses are different". The workshops took place at Tree Tops Children's Occupational Therapy on the Aycliffe Business Park.

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Carbon Monoxide Poisoning is a Silent Killer

Four people are treated for carbon monoxide poisoning in the UK every day, but over half of Brits (58%) would not be able to spot the signs of a carbon monoxide leak, new research reveals.

The survey2 conducted by Certas Energy asked more than 1,000 UK residents how much they know about carbon monoxide poisoning and general boiler maintenance.

Eight out of ten (80%) stated that they knew carbon monoxide poisoning could be caused by a faulty boiler, but one fifth (20%) of those surveyed admitted to having never checked their boiler to see if it is working properly.

In addition to this, almost two fifths (39%) don't have a carbon monoxide alarm fitted at home and more than half (58%) said they would not notice anything wrong with their boiler unless their heating wasn't working. When it came to understanding the symptoms of a carbon monoxide leak, almost half

of people (45%) incorrectly identified the signs, when the most common symptoms are: a tension-type headache, nausea and vomiting, stomach pain, shortness of breath and dizziness.

Looking into the upkeep of the nation's boilers, two fifths (40%) confessed that they don't have regular annual checks carried out by their gas provider.

Commenting on the findings, Dr Sarah Brewer from ExpertHealthReviews.com, said: "Carbon monoxide is a colourless, odourless, tasteless, non-irritant and therefore undetectable gas, yet it is a killer. Exposure to carbon monoxide is the most common cause of lethal poisoning worldwide and can affect anyone in a confined space contaminated with fumes.

"Mild carbon monoxide poisoning causes headache, dizziness, feeling sick or vomiting, shortness of breath, rapid pulse, abdominal pain, irritability and confusion. You may feel like you have food poisoning or 'flu, but without a temperature. These symptoms will gradually get worse if you continue breathing the carbon monoxide, but will improve on breathing fresh air. Other people in the same environment will be affected too. If you think

you have been exposed to low levels of carbon monoxide, seek advice from your GP but if symptoms are serious, go straight to your local hospital A&E department where a blood test can confirm the diagnosis and oxygen treatment given.

"Fitting a carbon monoxide alarm can save lives. If not detected and treated, carbon monoxide poisoning can lead to loss of consciousness and death. Sadly, symptoms are often missed when carbon monoxide poisoning occurs during sleep."

Angus Blundell, Director of Marketing at Certas Energy, said: "Looking after your boiler is imperative to having not only a warm, but a safe household, as there are a number of things that could go wrong if your boiler broke down, including carbon monoxide poisoning which could prove fatal.

"Carbon monoxide is a silent killer and it is clear from our research that people are unaware of the associated risks with a broken down boiler.

"We recommend having your boiler checked by a professional engineer annually and carrying out your own safety checks every few weeks to ensure everything is in working order. You can also invest in a carbon monoxide alarm, for added peace of mind."

Turnpike Tantrums Talk

A tale of intrigue, plotting and violence will be revealed next week as a County Durham historian tells the story of Turnpike Trustee Tantrums.

David Butler's talk will also shed light on why pages are mysteriously missing from documents dating back to 1780s Darlington.

David, who is also an archivist at Durham County Record Office, will present the talk at County Hall, Durham, between 12.30pm and 1.15pm on Thursday, 18 January.

Dawn Layland, education and outreach archivist, said: "Our Third Thursday talks have proven very popular and are a great way of exploring the fascinating history of our local area, through the archive collections we keep." The session is part of a series of talks taking place at Durham County Record Office under the name of Third Thursday Talks. Talks cover topics ranging from the Durham Light Infantry and the First World War to changing fashions through the ages.

The talk is £2 per person. To book, call 03000 267 626.

Fun For all the Family at the Gala Theatre

Families looking to keep their children entertained this spring should look no further than the Gala Theatre.

The Durham city venue is hosting a number of shows especially for young people over the next few months, starting with the charming tale of Bear and Butterfly – two creatures who become the best of friends.

The show, presented by Theatre Hullabaloo, includes puppetry, live music and spellbinding storytelling and will be at Gala for two performances on Wednesday, 24th January for children aged between four and seven. February sees brand new show Monstersaurus! come to Gala, following Monty as he creates a world of wacky inventions and incredible monsters.

Created by the team behind the popular Aliens Love Underpants, the show is suitable for those aged three

and above and takes place on Sunday, 4th February at 11.30am and 2pm.

On Tuesday, 27th March, Kitchen Zoo presents children's tale The Owl and the Pussycat, which uses puppetry and live music to bring Edward Lear's classic rhyme to life.

The following month, the company brings its latest production The Tin Foil Astronaut to the theatre, which promises to be excellent entertainment during the Easter holidays. The show, ideal for three to seven year olds, follows Alba as she tries to make it all the way to the moon.

Performances will take place at 12pm, 2pm and 4pm on Sunday, 15th April and is perfect for all those who dream about going up into space.

For more information and to book tickets visit www.galadurham.co.uk or call 03000 266 600.

COUNCIL BACKS CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE CHILDREN'S SUGAR INTAKE

Parents across the county are being encouraged to help their children choose healthier snacks in a move to reduce sugar consumption and tackle obesity.

Durham County Council is supporting Public Health England's Change 4 Life campaign, which encourages parents to choose 100 calories snacks for their children and give them a maximum of two a day.

Currently, half of children's sugar intake comes from unhealthy snacks and sugary drinks, leading to obesity and dental decay.

The project complements Durham County Council's ongoing work to tackle sugar consumption, including the launch of the SUGAR SMART Durham campaign in July last year.

The 18-month project, co-ordinated by Food Durham, aims to help people reduce their sugar consumption and has been endorsed by the council's Health and Wellbeing Board.

The campaign encourages employers and organisations to take action such as promoting free drinking water, reducing high sugar options in vending machines and providing healthy meal deals.

SUGAR SMART registration has also been added to the Better Health At Work awards scheme as a criteria for participating employers.

Cllr Lucy Hovvels, Cabinet member for adult and health services, said: "We know that nationally, children consume three times more sugar than is recommended and in County Durham nearly one in four children aged four to five have excess weight – a figure that has risen to one in three by the time they reach

ten years old.

"It is vitally important we address the issue of sugar consumption and these campaigns which will help busy families make healthier choices could make a big difference to the health of residents across the county."

Thank You

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To the gentleman who passed my bag into Tesco. I would like to thank you very, very much.

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In Memoriam

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JEAN PARKER 11th January 2009. Thoughts of a lovely Mam. Love and miss you always, Mandy xxx

LOL GREEN died 11th January 2003. Loved and remembered always. From Sue and your family in Wallsend xxxxx

MARJORIE LOCAL 27th June 1943 to 15th January 2015. Will never be forgotten. John Local xxxxxxxx

BRIAN MASON 14th December 2017. Special memories of a great friend to everyone, "MASSA", one of the lads. From Mozlad
SAMANTHA MADDISON 12th January 2014. You have gone from our home, but not from our hearts. In our thoughts we are never apart. Until we are together again our darling Daughter. Our love for always, Mam, Dad and family
BILL GATENBY 13th January 1990. Always in our hearts, never forgotten. From Wife Mary and family xxxxx

Obituary

Isabella Garbutt

formerly known as Isabella Chapman of Ferryhill, passed away peacefully on 2nd January at Lindisfarne Care Home. Much loved by Daughter Ann and Son-in-Law John; Granddaughter Andrea and Husband Kevin; Great Grandsons Adam and Daniel; Son Harry, Partner Suez; Grandson Jonathan and Great Grandson Woody. Family and friends please meet at Durham Crematorium on Tuesday 16th January at 9.30am. *We stayed with you until the end and kissed you gently good bye. We can't believe you have gone. A golden heart stopped beating.*

Sue Feeney



Suddenly on 25th December, aged 61 years. Beloved Partner of Nev; dearly loved Sister of Carol, Linda, Gordon and Graham; a dear Sister-in-Law and treasured Auntie and Great Auntie. Funeral Service and Cremation to take place on Tuesday 16th January at 10.00am at Wear Valley Crematorium. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu of flowers, if so desired, to Dogs Trust, Sadberge. Would family and friends please meet at the Crematorium.

Winifred Mary Wayman

(Winnie) of Newton Aycliffe passed away peacefully on 4th January, aged 96 years. Dearly beloved Wife of the late George; a much loved Mam to Veronica and the late Judy; treasured Nana to Paul, Angela and the late Sharon; a loving Grangran to Christopher and Michelle. Family thanks to Helen who was forever by her side. Family and friends please meet for Service at Wear Valley Crematorium (Coundon) on Friday 19th January for 10.00am. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for Help The Aged, plate provided at the Crematorium.

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Congratulations

EMILIA HOWEY One year old on the 18th January. Happy 1st birthday to our beautiful little Princess. Lots of love and kisses from Nana & Grandad x
JULIE BOWES Happy 60th Birthday to our amazing Mam. Love you millions from Emma, Helen, Kev, Paul, Claire & Mark
JULIE BOWES Happy Birthday to the Best Nana in the world. Lots of love, Olivia, Owen, Lucas and Will
GILLIAN SPENSLEY Happy birthday Mammy. Love from Emily, Abbie and Ruby xxx
GILLIAN SPENSLEY Happy birthday to my beautiful Wife. Love always, Vince xxxxx

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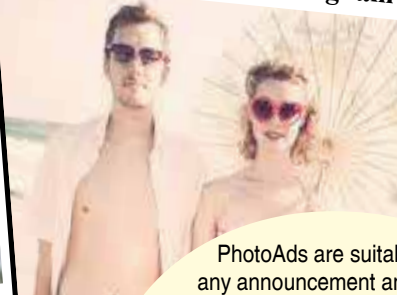
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Happy 21st Birthday

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

Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



Golden

ations Mar on 1st Jan ters, Gra

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Youthy Football Round Up



Following the festive break, some of Newton Aycliffe Youth's football teams were back in action this weekend.

Newton Aycliffe Youth U10's 4 v 1 Waldridge Park Denwick

Great performance on Saturday and good win with some good football. Special mention to James Know and Finley Garner who slotted in really well today and battled hard. A hat-trick from Jake and a goal from Will Houlahan settled this game. Jude did really well in goal. Man of the match on Saturday was Jake but all credit to Will who made some great through passes which Jake finished well.

Willington Youth Blues 5 v 2 Newton Aycliffe Youth U9's Eagles

Tough game of football on Saturday against a very physical team who are top of the league and unbeaten this season. Our player's didn't have time to warm up properly due to an accident on the motorway delaying all players and the match started as soon as we had 7 players arrive. Despite this the Eagles started very well, however it did take a while for them to find their feet following the Christmas break and soon

found themselves 3-0 down. Hamza found the back of the net twice with his first two goals for the team, very well done Hamza. The Eagles continued to try their best but couldn't keep the ball and Willington managed to score another 2 very good goals making it 5-2. The Eagles battled hard until the final whistle but couldn't get past the Willington defence. Makai and Ollie stepped up and took their turn in goal and did very well, thanks to them both for this. Proud of how they all played today we certainly gave Willington a shock. Back to training on Thursday to continue working on the excellent football they have been playing lately as a team. Players today were Makai, Nathan, Trystan, Adam, Will, Kai, Hamza, Liam and Ollie. Man of the match this week was Hamza for not only scoring 2 goals but for the effort he put in all over the pitch finding great space and applying pressure when needed. Well done Hamza and all the Eagles. Keep up the good work.

Newton Aycliffe Youth U18s 5 v 5 Bishop St Marys
Massive game this weekend for the under 18s away at

local rivals and rivals for the league Bishop St Marys. Bishop started the better taking the lead after some poor defending. Danny Godfrey got us back level with a goal from distance. Bishop scored again from some poor defending. Ben Knights then levelled things up following some good pressure from Aycliffe. Second half Bishop started the better and took the lead again. Aycliffe broke and a good cross was nodded in by Jay Bateman which was quickly followed by a 35 yard chip from Danny Godfrey for Aycliffe to take the lead for the first time in the match. With 15 minutes to go Bishop drew level and then added their 5th to retake the lead. Aycliffe had the last say when Jay Bateman again headed home. Great game of youth football that both teams played their part in. Joy to watch and a massive well done to the under 18's. If you are interested in playing football and being part of our club, please visit our website where there is lots of information, results and also links to league tables for competitive football age groups, www.nayfc.com

AYCLIFFE JUNIORS TRIP TO MILAN



After December saw only a handful of games played involving our teams, it was great that some of the Aycliffe Juniors returned to action on the first weekend of 2018. There was a variety of fixtures this week including a superb trip to Milan for one of the teams.

Heighington Under 7s Reach Semi Final!

Heighington welcomed St Marys to the parish this week. Heighington started with Louie in goal, Kyleo and Liam at the back with Tyler in the middle & Kenzi up top. St Marys took the lead. After a free kick from the edge of the box was bravely saved by Louie, the rebound was driven home.

Kenzi then set up Kyleo who bent an effort in to the top corner to level things up. Tyler then found the top corner with a wonder strike to put the hosts ahead. Liam was a rock at the back, whilst Louie made a good save as well. Heighington went in at the break 2-1 up.

Kyleo then squared for Tyler who rifled home Heighington's 3rd. A similar move saw Kenzi slot home soon afterwards. Before Kenzi bent home a free kick, Maddix was introduced for the last 10 minutes, then the goal of the game, Kyleo skipped a challenge on the right hand touch line just ahead of halfway before he unleashed a stunning strike into the far top corner, FT 6-1 which saw Heighington advance to the Semi Finals. The second game saw Kenzi go in goal, Kieran as a one man defence, the tireless Maddix in midfield and Archie and Zane up top.

Heighington then took the lead as Kieran moved out from the back and found Zane who then found Maddix who slipped Archie in to score the 1st. A wonderful team goal. Maddix then slotted home a second from the edge of the area, giving the keeper the eyes. The score at HT 2-0 Kenzi made 4 or 5 one on one saves at the start of the 2nd half as the visitors came on strong, they did pull a goal back after a goal mouth scramble. Heighington were now struggling to get back from their attacks and St Marys scored 3 quick fire goals to go 4-2 up and finish the scoring.

MOTM 1st game - Tyler
MOTM 2nd game - Maddix

The Under 12's planned a trip to Italy to bring in the new year and a fantastic weekend away included a friendly against the local team, SSD Franco Scaroni 1925. The hosts are a development side for Serie A's Atalanta so were sure to be tough opponents. It would be fair to say the Aycliffe lads had enjoyed their trip and rest before the game was not a priority! However they all put in a great performance and after Charlie B beat his man and chipped a cross Alex headed in to open the Aycliffe account. Tom stepped up to score from the penalty spot in an entertaining game which crowned an excellent experience for all involved.

The Under 10's 'White' hosted Stockton Town 'Blue' and played well to secure a 4-1 win. Jayden (2), Niall and Oliver scored the goals and Harvey was named as the man of the match.

The Under 11's squad were all proud that their goal keeper, Noah, was selected to play for Darlington and District Schools on Saturday. Then on Sunday they had a Challenge Cup game and travelled to play Division 2 Skelton. It was a tough challenge against higher league opponents and the lads lost out despite a goal from Thomas.

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