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Sally Lakey, chairperson of 1407 (Newton Aycliffe) squadron's civilian committee has been awarded



a Long Service Certificate of Appreciation from Head Quarters Air Cadets. She joined the squadron in 2004 to assist with fund raising and cadet welfare and in October 2007 was elected as Chair of the committee. She is now one of the longest serving committee members in Durham/Northumberland Wing. Mrs Lakey gives a huge amount of her time to support the squadron's activities including grant applications and fund raising, running the tuck shop and every year she cooks Christmas dinner for over 30 cadets for their Annual Dinner. The commanding officer, Flt Lt Karin Scott RAFAC, all the staff and cadets would like to thank her for everything she does for 1407.

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- Pick up a donation envelope

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

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PRAISE FOR LOCAL CARE HOME IN NATIONAL SURVEY

Residents at Rose Lodge care home, Newton Aycliffe, are celebrating after it performed strongly in a nationwide survey of care home residents and their family members and friends. The results, launched today, show Rose Lodge was given an Overall Performance Rating (OPR) score of 914 out of 1,000 by residents, and 891 by their family members and friends. This compares favourably to the national averages of 878 for residents, and 836 for their families and friends, and is the 6th year in a row that the home has been rated above the national average.

Now in its sixth year, the Your Care Rating survey is the country's largest and most authoritative survey of care home residents and now of their families and friends as well. The nationwide survey gives residents and their families and friends a voice, putting their care at the heart of understanding more about how well care homes perform. Over 16,700 residents in 820 care homes across the UK responded to the Residents' survey, which achieved a 41% response rate. Meanwhile, 48 per cent of relatives and friends of residents living at 686 homes responded to the Family and Friends' survey.

Each care home achieved an Overall Performance Rating and four statistically derived 'theme' scores ('Staff and Care', 'Home Comforts', 'Choice and Having a Say', and 'Quality of Life') based on residents' responses to all questions in the survey. Care homes participating in the Family and Friends' survey achieved a separate Overall Performance Rating and four theme scores (mirroring those of the Residents' survey).

Rose Lodge achieved scores



of 956 for quality of life and 936 for staff and care, meaning the residents of Rose Lodge highly rate the standard of care they receive. Their friends and families rated the standard of care for quality of life and choice and having a say with scores of 962 and 887 respectively.

Nicola Wheatley at Rose Lodge, said: "It's great that not just our residents, but their families and friends value the care they receive at Rose Lodge. Most of our scores across the four themes are really positive, which shows that life for our residents is happy and fulfilling and is recognised by their loved ones. While we're really pleased with our scores, we obviously want to get even better and the survey helps us do that by giving us direct resident and friends and family feedback. Families can also see at a glance which care homes are committed to raising standards and being transparent as they take part in the survey. Every care home resident, and their family and friends, should be able to speak up about their care and this is what the Your Care Rating survey does – it gives them a voice." Rose Lodge care home provides residential and dementia care, and was the winner of the 'Home of the Year' category in the 2017

MMCG and Countrywide care awards.

All of this year's results for every care home surveyed are displayed on the Your Care Rating website (www.yourcarerating.org). The website also shows how homes that took part in the survey last year performed. All of this helps families and potential residents who are choosing a care home for a loved one by giving them vital information on what the current residents and their loved ones actually think of each home and the standard of care.

The survey was compiled by leading research company Ipsos MORI with input from the care home operators taking part, plus the National Care Forum and Care England. This means the survey is the most authoritative of its type, and is also the country's largest, capturing more views of residents than any other.

Honest John Easter Times

Honest John's Aycliffe Community Kitty has raised £300 for Aycliffe Boxing Club, £200 for Great Aycliffe Residents Association and donated £500 to Community projects.

Thanks to DISC for accommodating John's shop, Val his assistant donors and customers.

The shop will be closed over Easter: Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, reopening on Tuesday 3rd April at 10am.

LOTS OF GIVERS IN NEWTON AYCLIFFE

Dear Editor.

I want to say how overwhelmed I was on Friday night at the Big Club. The entertainment was top class! The event was run by Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club with all proceeds going to the MRI Scanner Appeal for Darlington and Bishop Auckland.

I understand that The Big Club donated the room free of charge and the entertainment gave their time and talent free too. Gary Hepple and his staff were on the go all evening. As usual the number of raffle prizes was vast as was the tombola stall. We came home laden with tombola prizes.

It is so good to see that in

the middle of Newton Aycliffe we see a people who are generous to a fault. I have to say, as Secretary of Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership (GACAP), I frequently see Newtonians (and incomers) giving and giving in an area of our country that is far from affluent.

My husband Ron, Chairman of GACAP, along with myself honour all those people who give, for the benefit of people or organisations who are raising money for causes that are close to the hearts of so many people. Keep up the good work Syd Howarth and the Rotary Club.

Joan and Ron Mitchie
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Friday 6th	T.B.C.
Saturday 7th	Private Party
Friday 13th	T.B.C.
Saturday 14th	Amy Housewine + Support - Tickets £6
Tuesday 17th	Kids Disco, 5-8pm, £1 otd
Friday 20th	Boxing Night
Saturday 21st	Aycliffe Soul Club, £4 otd
Sunday 22nd	St. George's Day Special
Friday 27th	Tony Little Band, Tickets £4
Saturday 28th	Elvis Tribute, Tickets £5 <i>in aid of Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group</i>

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If you haven't already seen this band, go and see them, you won't be disappointed!

Saturday 7th April - "Fossil"

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Rotary Club's Mad March Gig Fantastic Sell-out Show



Fabulous Shanaya



The Rotary Club "Mad March Gig" at the Big Club was an outstanding event with almost 300 people in attendance singing and dancing the night away to the fantastic music provided by home grown Show Band "Groovy Street".

X Factor star Shanaya put in a brilliant guest appearance performing five of her favourite numbers to tumultuous applause.

One of the highlights was the Raffle organised by Rotarians Angela and Bob Stevens which had prizes to the value of £1700 donated by local businesses including a Robot Mower



Walkers Caterers at work

from Husqvarna worth £700.

Aycliffe Bank Santander staff were on hand to sell raffle tickets and worked hard helping the Rotary Club raise cash for the MRI Appeal which they have pledged to match fund. There was a Tombola run by Rotarians Nora and David Scott and tasty Hot Roast Sandwiches with Roast Potatoes were provided by Walkers Butchers of Simpasturegate.

Everyone enjoyed a fantastic performance by Groovy Street whose singing and dancing was colourful and diverse in its content.

Rotary Club president Tony Robinson wishes to thank The Big Club for hosting the event at no charge and all who bought tickets to support the evening. "It was a great community effort to help the MRI Appeal" said Tony.

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US GIRLS SUPPORT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AFFECTED BY CANCER

Six young ladies from Newton Aycliffe are to put on an ambitious community event to benefit children and families from County Durham affected by cancer. The young ladies have been participating in a skills development programme run by North East based youth charity, The Key. The charity aims to inspire belief in young people by challenging them to think, plan, do and review their own projects. US Girls Sedgefield wanted to base their project around supporting local families affected by cancer and so have teamed up with the Solan Connor Fawcett Family Cancer Trust. The group will be providing free activities for families and children currently supported by the trust over a 9 to 12 month period. Activities will include trips to Seven Stories, the Discovery Museum, Planet Leisure,



Preston Park providing an opportunities for families to spend time together and make lasting memories. Abbie Foster, fundraising and marketing manager of The Key said: "The Key aims to inspire belief in young people by delivering our unique Framework, which supports young people to discover what they're truly capable of and build their skills and self-confidence for the future. It was great to see the US Girls take their passions for helping others and turn them into a project that will

have a lasting impact on their chosen community. This is what The Key is all about and it's great to see the young people break barriers and take the initiative." Laura Langdale, US Girls support worker said: "It has been an incredible experience to watch the girls grow and develop over the 4 stages of The Key Framework. The group have excelled and their self-confidence has boomed. I am so proud of their hard work, commitment and determination to give something back to their local community."

BREXIT & DEMOCRACY LETTER

Dear Sir,
Last week, Arun Chandran submitted a letter about Brexit to the Newton News (page 7). On checking, I found that he had word-for-word copied an article by a professional writer called Brendan O'Neill for a publication called Spiked Online: <http://bit.ly/BON1217>. I have had cause to confront Cllr Chandran about plagiarism – passing off the work of others as his own – before. Plagiarism is intellectual theft and in this case arguably breach of copyright. It deprived Mr O'Neill of his moral right to be identified as the author. And when a local councillor copies someone else's article on Brexit and pretends it is his own work, then it is also deceiving the electorate – a situation to which of course Cllr Chandran is no stranger. **UPHOLDING DEMOCRACY**
After half-a-dozen paragraphs of plagiarism, Cllr Chandran added his own thoughts – a jumble of points

alleging that, by questioning the government's position on Brexit, Labour was "backstabbing and undermining" the government and thereby "democracy is being euthanised". Whatnonsense – 'questioning the government's position' is what democracy is all about! As Newton News readers all know, I was a strong 'Remainer' and voted to stay in the EU. However, the 'Brexiters' had been campaigning to leave for decades, got their referendum and won it. Moreover, in County Durham we have to accept that some of our local communities were amongst the most ardent pro-Brexit areas in the country. So – however disastrous we might personally fear Brexit will be – I believe we are constrained by democracy and our constituencies to accept the referendum decision (as indeed the Labour Party has officially done). **LABOUR'S COMMON SENSE**
I have, therefore, ceased to

be a 'remainer', and instead now am a 'retainer' – I want a deal which will retain as much of worth of our EU membership as possible. For example, I think the Labour Party is spot on right to say that, although we may have to leave 'THE' single market, we should negotiate to be part of 'A' single market of some sort. Again, as the Labour Party is insisting, we need to make sure that the Tories do not use leaving the EU as an opportunity to take away our rights at work. And on immigration, many industries (NHS, care services, farming, restaurants, hotels etc.) *depend* on migrant labour, and we must not let a few racists use Brexit as a reason to turn us into 'fortress Britain'. All this seems to be the approach being taken by Kier Starmer (Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union) – and should not be confused with a rearguard action to try to stay in the EU. That boat has sailed.

You need a very skewed view of Brexit to think that the divided and clueless Tories are making a good job of the Brexit negotiations – their approach seems to be to start by making tub-thumping nationalistic demands ... and then to capitulate cravenly. Labour are 'Her Majesty's Opposition'. They have therefore in such a situation not just a mandate but an obligation under the constitution to scrutinise and challenge the government's actions – that is how our democracy is meant to work. Everybody has a different view on Brexit and, with the final deal still up for grabs, is would be counter to democracy to try to stop MPs and lobby groups advancing their varied opinions. However, what is coming out *officially* from the Labour Party through Starmer and his team, in terms of authority and sheer common sense, makes the Tories look incompetent ... and Cllr Chandran – even in Brendon O'Neill's words – just wrong. John D Clare



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Newtonian's Second Place at Crufts



Along with his dog, Avatar, young Newtonian Ashley Sutton wowed the crowds at Crufts last week with a prize winning performance. Although he has only been handling dogs since October 2017, judges at the world-renowned competition, commented on Ashley's calm nature and praised the way he handled his puppy. With poise and presence, the pair were rewarded with an amazing second place in the Junior Handler Class. Such is this young handler's

confidence with dogs, he even stepped in to save the day when a family friend qualified with two dogs in the same category. Unable to lead them both, Ashley (quite literally) took the lead and made his way into the ring at Crufts with a dog he had never handled before. His family, friends and all at Stephenson Way Academy are incredibly proud of this Year 6 pupil's achievements and can't wait to see what the future holds for Ashley and his furry friend.



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CHARITY RAMBLE

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It is arranging a sponsored walk or ramble on Saturday 19th May 2018. The event will start and finish at Heritage Park, home of Bishop Auckland FC.

After the event all walkers will be invited into the Colin Rowell Suite at the ground for refreshments, and as it is FA Cup Final day the football club will be showing the FA Cup Final live on its large screen.

The Supporters Club's adopted charity for 2018 is Butterwick Hospice and we are pleased to tell you that the Hospice will jointly benefit from all monies raised by participants on the walk.

We are sure that it will be a great day out for all the family so make sure to apply

early. Applying couldn't be easier, simply register for the 15k ramble by email to: supporters@bishopaafc.com and a registration form and information pack will be forwarded to you by post. Alternatively, a pack can be obtained from the bar in the Colin Rowell Suite at any home match-day for the rest of the season.

Dave Illingworth, Bishop Auckland Supporters Club Chairman, is enthusiastic about this latest fundraising event and said; "Come and join the Supporters Club for a great day out, enjoy excellent company on the ramble and raise money for worthy causes at the same time."

We look forward to seeing you on 19th May and in the meantime if there are any queries please contact John Rowell on 01388 600069.

Thank you for your continued support.
Bishop Auckland FC Supporters Club

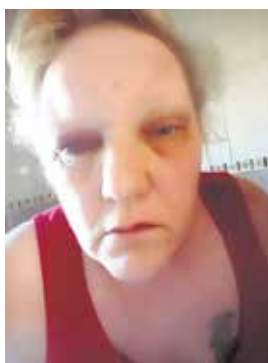
Unprovoked Attack on Two Women

TWO women have spoken out about a nasty assault in a bid to catch their attacker. Diane Brown, 53, of Biscop Crescent, Newton Aycliffe was left unconscious and with broken front teeth following an unprovoked attack on her and friend, Debbie Scanlon, 53, who suffered facial injuries.

The incident happened at Silverdale Place in Newton Aycliffe at 10.50pm on March 23rd.

Diane, a grandmother-of-five, said: "I had been at a friend's house playing cards when we went outside to go for a walk. A man passed us and said 'hello.' The next thing I know, I was on the deck with my teeth in my hand. I don't remember much after that."

Diane was taken to Darlington Memorial Hospital before being transferred to James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough for further



treatment. She said: "It has left me gobsmacked, hurt and in a lot of pain. My husband died last year so I have been coping with that and now this. I have had a lot of family support."

Debbie's partner, Samantha Pearson-Scanlon, 31, of Silverdale Place, said: "It is a horrible thing to do to two women. We just hope the man responsible is caught."

PC Andy Denham of South Durham CID said: "The suspect was walking from the direction of Williamfield Way when he passed the two females. He spoke to them briefly before attacking the pair, resulting in them both suffering nasty injuries. The man left in the direction of the subway towards Horndale.

"This has had a profound effect on the victims who are understandably upset and shaken from their ordeal. We are appealing for information that will identify the man involved. Do you know him? Do you have CCTV in the area that shows a man walking alone before and after 10.50pm in the areas of Silverdale Place, Williamfield Way and Horndale? We want justice to be served."

A 29-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of assault on the night of the incident but has since been released with no further action. Anyone with information should contact PC 2159 Andy Denham on the non-emergency 101 number.

"Alexa, Start Mowing!"

Husqvarna, the world leader in robotic mowing, announces that Husqvarna robotic mowers will be compatible with the cloud-based voice service Alexa. With the integration, homeowners with Husqvarna Automower® will be able to start, stop, park and get status-updates from their mower by asking Alexa.

At a recent press event in Newton Aycliffe, Husqvarna demonstrated the functions of "Just ask Alexa" and future Amazon Alexa features for Husqvarna robotic mowers. The first version will be available September 1 in all Automower® Connect equipped robotic mowers from Husqvarna, including the many thousands of connected Husqvarna robotic mowers already in gardens and parks across the world today.

This first version will be able to take care of the most commonly used commands such as start, stop and park, hence providing an additional way of integrating with the robotic mower, besides the existing mobile applications.

"We are the pioneer, innovation and market leader in the field of robotic lawn mowing: now we have made our Husqvarna Automower® Alexa-compatible, as cloud-based voice services are growing fast", says Sascha Menges, President of the Husqvarna Division. "Our customers rightly expect Husqvarna products to be in the forefront, giving them multiple and ever more convenient ways of interacting with the product."

About Husqvarna Automower®
Husqvarna Automower® is the world leading robotic lawnmower since 1995, mowing public and residential lawns around the world, and known for its quiet and reliable handling of complex lawns.

Husqvarna Automower® is one of the few robotic mowers on the market that can easily handle steep slopes, automatically return to its charging station, as well as be controlled from anywhere in the world with connectivity.



AYCLIFFE RADIO Programme Schedule

"GOOD MORNING AYCLIFFE" with Aidan Thompson

Starts Tuesday 3rd April
broadcasting live Monday to Friday from 8.30am - 12 noon
plus more new presenters - watch this space.

Time	Session	Presenter
MONDAY		
6pm-7pm	70s Show	Peter Rush
7pm-8pm	80s Reminiscing	Paul Gittins
8pm-10pm	UK Number Ones	
TUESDAY		
6pm-7.30pm	Sports Round Up	Darren & Lee
7.30pm-9.30pm	3rd Apr - Michael Bloomer NAYFC U18s	
	Soul Session (start 10/4)	Kevin Sowerby
WEDNESDAY		
8pm-10pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gary & Alby
THURSDAY		
8pm-10pm	"Beat"Roote	Graeme Roote
FRIDAY		
6pm-8pm	House Mix	PVR Studios
8pm-10pm	Guest Presenter Session	
	6th Apr - Owen's Local Politics	
with guest Lisa Turnbull, send your questions via the App, text 07512 253333 or email: info@ayclifferadio.co.uk		
SATURDAY		
8am-11am	Kitchen Floor Fillers	
11am-12pm	Kent Collective	Daz Kent
12pm-1pm	Rolling with the Stones	Honest John
1pm-2pm	"School of Rock" by Woodham Academy	
2pm-4pm	Metis Take Over	
4pm-6pm	School Disco	
6pm-8pm	"Beat"Roote	Graeme Roote
8pm-10pm	Dance Mix	Nathan Abbott
10pm-12am	Garage/Indie	MC Supa
12am-2am	Alternative Aycliffe (R)	Gary & Alby
SUNDAY		
12pm-2pm	Sports Round Up (R)	Darren & Lee
2pm-4pm	"Aycliffe Goes Country"	Aidan Thompson
6pm-7pm	Church Service	Xcel Centre
7pm-10pm	R'n'B Show	Jack Hall

Check our website for full schedule

As part of the 2018 Aycliffe Festival

AYCLIFFE RADIO

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT
"Aycliffe Town Centre... Shopping for You"

present a

LIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL

to take place on SATURDAY 28th JULY 2018
in NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE MALL
from 12noon to 8.00pm - FREE admission

We require local bands, singers, choirs to volunteer a session on the day, if this is you contact Aycliffe Radio:
info@ayclifferadio.co.uk or 07931 701444

Well Done Honest John

Dear Sir,
I was born in Thornley Colliery, and have lived in Newton Aycliffe for the past 16 years and really love the place, I remember seeing Honest John at the boot sales under the car park in the town centre years ago and he is still going from strength to strength and the donations he hands out are staggering! He must have given a lot over the years, and my main question is.....Can this town not give him some recognition for all the good causes he helps? If every community had someone like him what a difference it would make.
I do not know Honest John personally, but I must say he does a wonderful job.
Edward Worthington
McMillan Road

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YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED
(No Collections)

Public Discourse Celebrating the
Who Really is Anniversary
Jesus Christ? of the death of
Jesus Christ

10:00am 7:30pm
Sunday March 25th Saturday March 31st

Venue
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
Rear Alington Road
Newton Aycliffe DL5 4LS

Honest JOHN



Reg. Charity Number 1152038

Honest John is inside DISC Furniture Showroom
IES Centre, Next to the Blue Bridge
Monday to Saturday 10.00am to 4.00pm

More Spacious - Pop in anytime for a browse

DIRECTIONS:
From town centre, go right after the bridge, then sharp right, past Newton Press and straight on towards the trees and past DISC

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, JOHN
Visit John's website: www.jack4.co.uk

FIVE NEW RECRUITS AS S.W.D.T. EXPANDS

One of the region's oldest training providers is gearing up for growth after expanding its team with five new recruits. South West Durham Training (SWDT) celebrated its 50th anniversary towards the end of 2017 with a high-profile event headed up by BBC Breakfast presenter Steph McGovern.

The Newton Aycliffe-based organisation says the major landmark has given it new momentum, with a surge of new enquiries coming in. And SWDT has now taken on five key new members of staff as the firm also prepares to launch a series of new Higher National Diploma (HND) courses for employers later this year.

Vicky Chapman has been taken on as the training centre's new supervisor, while workshop technician Peter Johnson joins estates technician Dave Wheatley through the door. Keith Shepherd and Ryan Blewitt have also bolstered SWDT's Btec and higher education teams to accommodate an increase in learner numbers. General manager Jason Howe says all five new appointments have put the organisation in a much stronger position going forward.

"We're on the crest of a wave after the 50th anniversary celebrations at the end of last year," said Jason.

"We enjoyed a lot of positive local coverage and PR from the event which seems to have had a really positive impact, in terms of enquiries and the general feel-good factor around the place.

"Now we're looking to kick on with these new appointments as we look to strengthen our offering to employers while we also prepare for the HND courses."

SWDT already offers HNC courses in mechatronics, mechanical engineering and electrical and has been delivering a range of commercial courses for some now, including fork lift truck driving, electrical, health and safety, PLC programming, lean manufacturing, quality assurance, CAD, fluid power, fabrication and welding and plumbing and gas.

That's as well as its full-time apprenticeship provision which covers mechanical and electrical engineering, toolmaking, fabrication and welding, manufacturing, plumbing and gas, polymer production and manufacturing and engineering technical support.

The provision of HNDs has been on the pipeline for a couple of years, and Jason added: "We've adapted and grown our training



SWDT general manager Jason Howe (right) with some of his new recruits (left to right) Terry Childs, Vicky Chapman, Ryan Blewitt, Keith Shepherd, Dave Wheatley and Peter Johnson.

provision carefully over the last two years to ensure we've maintained the quality levels of our existing training courses. "We're now geared up for the HND courses and it will be another very valuable training offering for our existing and new clients."

A subsidiary of Bishop Auckland College which employs more than 25 staff, SWDT

works with many of the region's big employers including Hitachi Rail, Cummins in Darlington, Richmond-based Pipeline Engineering, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) in Barnard Castle and car parts maker Nifco in Stockton, and currently has more than 300 learners on its books.

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

Wood Burning Stoves Causing Pollution

Dear Sir
I feel I must protest through your paper about the people who have wood burning stoves and they are burning old pallets and fences as fuel, or as kindling to set the fires away.

Having done my research into the burning of these types of wood I find most will have been painted with a preservative or insecticide at some point during use.

The burning of the wood creates a more potent and bad air quality to the surrounding area giving off deadly poisonous minute particles which are potentially very serious to asthmatic and people who have COPD.

I have lived in Newton Aycliffe now for 43 years choosing this town to bring up my family as the town was a designated Smoke Free area. Has this now changed? meaning anyone can burn whatever they want to the detrimental health of small children, older and infirm people and anyone who may have breathing problems.

Myself and my son live within yards of some

contamination and find it seeping in through vents and I am at times unable to open the doors or window to provide ventilation as it is so bad. I may have to consider moving from a much loved home if this problem continues.

A. Dunn

Loud Bangs Scare Dogs

Dear Sir,
Relating to the letter in last week's paper about the loud bangs. I also live in Woodham and have heard these loud bangs for weeks now starting from 6.30 in the morning onwards.

I am intrigued to what this is, as my dog is very nervous with loud noises and due to this it is making it impossible to walk him some days as he is scared.

F. Henderson

Editor: It would appear that a local farmer is using Bird Scaring apparatus to keep them off the crops. We have suggested people contact the County Council Environment Department.

Easter Services in your local churches

Churches Together in Great Aycliffe would like to extend an invitation to all in our town to join us at any of our Easter services next weekend – a warm welcome awaits you at all our churches!

Parish of Great Aycliffe – 01325 324622

Good Friday	2pm	St Clare's	Solemn service
	3pm	St Elizabeth's	Stations of the Cross
Easter Sunday	5am	St Elizabeth's	Sunrise Vigil
	6am	St Elizabeth's	Easter Ceremonies followed by breakfast
	9.30am	St Elizabeth's	Morning worship
	10am	St Clare's	Morning worship
	11am	St Andrew's	Morning worship

St Mary's – 01325 313611

Good Friday	10am	Stations of the Cross
	3pm	Commemoration service
Saturday	5.30pm	Easter Vigil Mass
Easter Sunday	10am	Easter Mass

Newton Aycliffe Methodist Church – 01388 778207

Easter Sunday	8.30am	Holy Communion followed by breakfast
	10.30am	Celebration service of Holy Communion

Harvest Christian Centre – 01325 308284

Easter Sunday	10.30am	Easter Celebration
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Xcel Church – 01325 329500

Good Friday	11am	Family communion service
Easter Sunday	10.30am	Family Celebration service
	5pm	Easter concert (free and open to all)

Old People Disturbed by Livin Plans

Dear Sir,
I am writing on behalf of myself and Miss B.C. Stephenson who reside at Honister Place, Newton Aycliffe.

We read your article and it has left us both very surprised and upset at the contents. We were aware that there was a plan but not that it would affect us, as we are both pensioners aged 89 yrs of age and Miss Stephenson being 65 yrs.

It would appear that we could possibly be involved with our home coming under a Compulsory Order Purchase. This concerned us as we are Joint Owners of this property. It is only a short time since we had a new roof put on had a new bathroom installed also we had a patio put down at the

back of the property plus New Windows throughout.

We have seen the map but as we didn't think it would affect us as neither could read it properly due to the fact the writing was too small.

We are too old to have to worry about this and we both have lost sleep over it and wonder why it had to take a letter in Newton News to inform us about the scheme. We are sure that we are not the only people who have been disturbed by this proposal.

We hope you will keep us in touch with any further developments.
Joan Meynell
& Brenda Stephenson.

EDITOR: We have received numerous similar letters on this subject expressing deep concern.

Tasty Carvery at Oak Leaf Sports Complex



Members of the New Friends New Places senior group enjoyed their Carvery Lunch at the Oak Leaf Complex on Wednesday where the food was very good and Tasty - Hot and served quickly. Although 44 people attended there were no delays every person gave good feedback with no complaints.

Our thanks to the staff especially Judith who made sure that the air conditioning was turned off when required by some members and turned on when other members were too hot. Thank you Judith for your patience.

The group have either three free meals or three bus trips or a mixture of both every three months paid for by the club.

The members pay £2 per week membership which covers a cup of tea and a biscuit each week. They also enjoy monthly Line Dancing Aerobics, Christmas and Easter Parties, trips/meals.

We meet every week and we

are now a recognised charity in our tenth year. Thank you to all loyal members.

Chairperson Dorothy Bowman.
Vice Chairperson Betty Boal

COMMUNITY SERVICE PRAISED

Dear Sir,
May I, through the Newton News pass our great thanks onto John Hannah of Silkin Way for his public spirit and hard work put into enhancing the appearance of the grassed area in the square where we live in Silkin Way.

John, has gone around the whole perimeter of the grassed area where the grass has been neglected and has overgrown onto the paving and cut it back to where it should be and used the sods to infill tracks and holes on the green.

He has done a really good job and I believe, other residents here, feel the same and he should be thanked for his actions.
S. Wild

Two Donations to MRI Appeal

The appeal to bring new state of the art MRI scanners to Darlington Memorial and Bishop Auckland Hospitals

Hospitals continues apace with two recent donations by Bishop Auckland Civic Society and Barnard Castle Rotary, totalling over £2,300.

Dr Robert McManners, who was a GP in Bishop Auckland for 36 years before retirement, said, "Bishop Auckland Civic Society holds a town quiz each year and the proceeds are donated to a local charity. We agreed that our most recent quiz should support the MRI scanner appeal. The quiz is a very popular event with almost 200 people taking part. We also donated a legacy left by Mr Fredrick Hutchinson of Howden le Wear, bringing the total to £1,236.00."

Members of Barnard Castle Rotary raised £1,098.22 by organising a French gypsy jazz evening with French food and wines served to the 85 guests attending. The President of Barnard Castle Rotary, Ross Law, said: "Rotary are always keen to support worthy causes such as this and I sincerely hope that the Appeal goes from strength to strength."

Charity manager at County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, Pat Chambers, said, "We're so grateful for these and other generous donations. Individuals, organisations and businesses are all stepping up to support our campaign. Modern MRI scanners can play an important part in helping consultants diagnose



Dr Robert McManners, his wife, Stefa and Mr Glynn Wales, from Bishop Auckland Civic Society, Mr Colin Dunnigham and Mrs Hilary Dunnigham from Barnard Castle Rotary, Pat Chambers, charity manager at CDDFT and Dr Elizabeth Loney, Care Group Clinical Director, CDDFT

and determine treatment plans for what can be life threatening or life limiting conditions, including many types of cancer and heart disease.

"Thanks to the generosity of manufacturer, Philips, patients at Bishop Auckland Hospital are already benefiting from the new scanner, whilst fundraising continues during 2018.

The scanner at Darlington Memorial Hospital will be installed later in the spring, once building work to accommodate it has been completed. We really need people to keep donating and fundraising throughout this year and welcome speaking to anyone who can help, we can be contacted on 01325 743781."

WWW.SUPREMEFENCING.CO.UK



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Calling all Budding Photographers

Newton Press and Whitehouse Funeral Services are sponsoring a

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The competition is open to all professional and amateur photographers of all ages, whether using your phone or state of the art kit . . . snap away . . . upload your photo and details to

www.photocomp.co.uk

and be in the chance to win your photo beautifully printed and mounted by Newton Press.

Seasonal Competition.
Get your Winter entries in by 31st March 2018.

Spring photos accepted from 1st April

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Big Apple in Sight



Joe Richardson, Macy Cane and Tia McConnell

Enterprising Woodham Academy students travelled to the University of York as they bid to seal the deal on a trip to the Big Apple.

The team of Year 9 and 10 students are taking part in the leading university's 'The Big Deal' competition. The challenge sees teams of high-achieving students develop business plans, which they then pitch at a Dragons' Den style event. The winning team is then taken on a business trip of a lifetime to New York City. Woodham Academy Headteacher Christine Forsyth said: "At Woodham

Academy, we are all committed to providing our students with as many opportunities as possible to realise their potential. We regularly work alongside leading universities and employers to raise our students' aspirations, and to enable them to succeed in their future careers."

As part of The Big Deal challenge, the Woodham Academy team is working through an online curriculum with mentoring support from business professionals who work across a range of sectors. The team will return to York in June for the final.

Situations VACANT

FLT Drivers Required

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(6am-2pm, 2pm-10pm and 10pm-6am)

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Heighington Lane, Aycliffe Business Park, DL5 6AH

01325 375900

angela.wilkinson@twpa.org.uk | www.twpa.org.uk

Music Society Concert Programme

Bishop Auckland Music Society's concerts all take place in the delightful 13th century parish church of St. Andrew's, South Church, at 7.30pm, utilising the excellent Steinway Model B piano as appropriate - one of the finest pianos in the region and one which continues to delight both players and listeners alike. The season begins on Friday, 6th April with one of the most accomplished and intriguing violinists of the younger generation - as illustrated in her prominent presence at the 2015 BBC Proms - Alina Ibragimova. Her long-standing duo partnership with pianist Cedric Tiberghien will focus on works by Brahms. This will be followed, on Friday 18th May, by an eclectic musical evening as presented by Jess Gillam - the first saxophonist to win the Woodwind Final of the BBC Young Musician ('A true inspiration, she frankly rocks.' Huffington Post 2017) - accompanied by pianist Jonathan Fisher. Summer is heralded by Beethoven and Prokofiev amongst others, on Friday,

15th June by Latvian cellist, Kristiana Ignatjeva and pianist Sven Heinoja. Kristiana, who is studying at the Royal College of Music in London and is a twice winner of the First Prize and Unaccompanied Bach Prize at the Violoncello Competition, will be playing an Italian cello by Matteo Goffriller on loan from her alma mater. Luckily for music lovers, on Friday, 13th July flautist, Fiona Mancey-Jones, together with pianist, Marija Scott, will perform at a concert featuring Debussy and Poulenc. The season culminates, on Friday, 7th September when Clare Hammond, acclaimed as 'a pianist of amazing power and panache' (The Telegraph), demonstrates mastery of her instrument in a brilliantly imaginative concert programme - not to be missed! Season tickets, including all five concerts for roughly the price of four: £55, are available in advance. Single concert tickets price £13.50, £15 on the door, can be purchased from Brotherton's Music (opposite Morrison's car park), or by contacting Brian Varley on (01388) 606075.

County Councillors Will Pursue Aycliffe's Interests

Dear Sir,
Please can I respond to the letter from Mrs A Bergg last week which ended with a question to County Councillors asking whether we would be fighting to keep the benefits of this grant within Newton Aycliffe. I would like to reassure her and others that along with the other County Councillors for the Newton Aycliffe Divisions I have recently met Cabinet representatives to both seek clarity as to precisely where these funds are to be directed and to push for us to ensure we get the maximum benefit from them, and other regeneration plans within County Durham. We are currently waiting for feedback from these discussions and I can assure you we will robustly pursue the interests of our residents as this develops. Cllr Paul Howell Aycliffe North & Middridge Division
Tel: 03000 268713

STILL TIME TO SIGN-UP FOR GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS THIS YEAR

Garden waste collections in County Durham are due to start next month - but there's still time to make sure your house is included.

The first collection for those who have already subscribed to the service take place the week beginning Tuesday, 3 April, followed by fortnightly collections until autumn when the collection season ends.

Cllr Brian Stephens, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Local Partnerships said: "More than 51,000 residents have already signed up to receive garden waste collections in 2018 but we would like to remind people that it's not too late to join the scheme."

Residents can still sign up for the service for a fee of £30. Collections will start as soon as possible after they sign up and they will receive the remaining collections before the season ends.

To sign up to the service or find out if a property is eligible, call 03000 261 000 or visit www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste. Residents who have already subscribed to the service are reminded to fix their bin sticker to the garden waste bin and put the bin out for collection by 7am on their collection day. Collection days can be found by visiting www.durham.gov.uk/MyDurham and entering the postcode and property number. Residents are reminded that the following items can go in the garden waste bin for composting:

- GRASS CUTTINGS
- SHRUBS
- LEAVES
- WEEDS
- FLOWERS AND BEDDING PLANTS
- HEDGE CLIPPINGS
- PRUNINGS
- SMALL BRANCHES

Durham County Council provides garden waste collections to eligible properties in County Durham. For residents in the Teesdale area, garden waste collections are carried out by Rotters working in partnership with the county council. Residents in this area should call 01833 690 022 or visit www.rotters.org.

HRA April Meeting



Our next meeting is on Wednesday 4th April at Greenfield Arts Centre starting at 6pm with refreshments at 5.45.

As usual your local Councillors, Police and hopefully a representative from Livin will be in attendance.

Our crocus bulbs planted last year have flowered and brighten up a small area. We had to cancel our litter pick twice due to the weather, but hopefully as you read this article we will have done a pick and the streets are a bit tidier.

We are currently reevaluating our plans for the coming year after we received news we had been turned down for funding, which would have allowed us to offer

a wide range of trips and events.

Due to our good finance management we can still do a small amount of events but nowhere near what we had planned. We will re-apply and look at other funding sources, so fingers crossed it all comes good.

Philip Clark Chairman

Evening Talk

On Wednesday 4th April at 7.30pm in Aycliffe Village Hall, Chris Lloyd will give a talk entitled 'A moment of Folly, Extravagance and Jobbery'.

All welcome, members £1, non members £3, includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Information 01325 301093.

Oakleaf Golf Complex School Aycliffe Lane Newton Aycliffe DL5 6QZ

2018/19 Memberships

Unlimited Golf until 31 March 2019

Adult 7 day £375 Adult 5 day £330 Over 60 - 7 Day £330 Over 60 - 5 Day £280	*19 - 24 £125 Junior 15 -18 £50 Junior (U14) Free *In Full Time Education
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Special Offer

Driving Range and Green Fees Frozen PLUS

Play between 1pm and 5pm Monday to Friday - special price of £10 per round (adult) and £7.50 per round (concessions)

Visiting Party Package Available	Driving Range £2 small £4 large	Green Fees Mon - Fri £13 Weekends £16
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18-hole course, floodlit driving range, buggy hire, changing facilities and shop.
Coaching available from PGA Professionals.
Bar and catering available at the Oakleaf Sports Complex.

Tel: 01325 310820 or see www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk for further details

DAMAGE FROM BUILDING SITE AT SCHOOL AYCLIFFE

Builders of new houses at School Aycliffe have received complaints from local residents about the damage heavy lorries are causing to grass verges on the main road.

A reader sent in pictures which have been forwarded to Darlington County Councillor Gerald Lee who promises to take up the complaint.

Gerald said: "I will contact DBC/Millers to seek recompense from the company concerned. I organised a site meeting yesterday morning to discuss issues received from residents about the new housing site.

I met with the Site Manager and talked through a list of issues. My intention is to send Darlington Council and Millers Homes the minutes from my meeting and once agreed I will share them with the Newton News.

In the meantime one issue that hopefully can be resolved quite quickly is for all delivery lorries to come into site from the Heighington bypass so that the heavy vehicles do not need to drive through School Aycliffe.

This should reduce the number of heavy vehicles making the village much safer and quieter for all. The Site Manager can see no reason why this cannot be implemented but advice must be taken from his head office, DBC and the Police".



HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature **good** news and interesting items on achievements & community service

Tel: Syd 01325 300212
or Email: syd@newtonnews.co.uk

Environment Award Sponsors Wanted

Hosted by the County Durham Environment Partnership, of which Durham County Council is a partner, the awards aim to celebrate and reward projects and individuals that demonstrate community spirit, environmental guardianship and great design across the county.

Over the years thousands of people have been awarded or commended for their contributions to the environment and sponsors are being sought to continue to support the awards.

Oliver Sherratt, Chair of the County Durham Environment Partnership, said: "The awards are a real opportunity to highlight the excellent environmental work that goes on in our county every year.

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

"We want people, businesses and organisations to get on board and celebrate the environmental work that goes on in their communities and, in doing so, to help inspire others to do their bit."

There are three packages available to sponsors this year:

- Gold – Sponsors have an award in their name, a representative on the judging panel and their

corporate logo included in all publicity material for a minimum contribution of £2000.

- Silver – Sponsors have a representative on the judging panel and their corporate logo included in all publicity material for a minimum contribution of £1000.

- Bronze – Sponsors have their corporate logo included in all publicity material for a minimum contribution of £500.

Additionally, all sponsors receive an invitation to the award ceremony and recognition in the official presentation brochure.

The rewards cover several categories to recognise the efforts of a range of organisations and individual, including:

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

For more details on these sponsorship opportunities and the County Durham Environment Awards call 03000 267 147 or visit www.countydurhampartnership.co.uk/envawards

Family Easter Fun at the PCP Centre

Over the Easter school holidays the Pioneering Care Centre are hosting some great family fun activities, so you can make the most of time off with the children.

Take part in the family exercise class; encouraging children to keep fit with gentle exercise and family fun games.

PCP also have gardening sessions on during the Easter holidays; suitable for 3+ ensuring a lively and enjoyable environment whatever the weather!

Lastly, the Pioneering Care Centre will hold a story time of The Gruffalo and The Very Hungry Caterpillar where children can re-enact the stories using puppets. All sessions plan to be fun and interactive with the children to ensure they get the most out of their Easter holidays.

The sessions are spread across the school break, and there are two of each session to ensure you don't miss out! Please contact the Pioneering Care Centre for more information.

For further information about PCP please contact us at the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF tel: 01325 321234 email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net website: www.pcp.uk.net or follow PCP on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: @PCPandCentre



Activity	Cost	Day	Time
Family Exercise	£2 per family	Tuesday 3 April	2.15pm - 3.15pm
Gardening	£2 per child	Wednesday 4 April	10.00am - 12.00noon
The Gruffalo Story Time	£2 per child	Friday 6 April	1.30pm - 3.00pm
Family Exercise	£2 per family	Tuesday 10 April	2.15pm - 3.15pm
Gardening	£2 per child	Wednesday 11 April	10.00am - 12.00noon
The Very Hungry Caterpillar Story Time	£2 per child	Friday 13 April	1.30pm - 3.00pm

For further information and to book your places:

T | 01325 321234 E | enquiries@pcp.uk.net

pcp.uk.net [@PCPandCentre](https://www.facebook.com/PCPandCentre) [@PioneeringCare](https://twitter.com/PioneeringCare)

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PAUL CONTINUES TO SUPPORT LOCAL AREA



Brian Riley, GAMP Coordinator said, "On behalf of all 3 AAPs, we are delighted to have Paul continue his role with the Durham Savers project and the benefits this will bring to local residents, schools and businesses."

Anyone interested in being part of the project should contact: savers@Durham.gov.uk

Easter Fun at St. Clare's

On Friday 6th April the Children/Youth team will be holding an Easter Fun Day at St. Clare's Church!

Lots of fun, crafts, cakes, games and tea for all children 5 years and over. We will finish the afternoon with a outdoor egg hunt (hopefully, NO SNOW)

Entry is £3 per child or 2 tickets for £5. Limited spaces available so booking is advised.

Please book by contacting the youth/childreinst.clare Face Book page.

Some spaces maybe available on the day but not guaranteed. Looking forward to having some Easter fun and chocolate!

After a very successful first year in the post, Durham County Council's Durham Savers Project Officer Paul Atkinson, has been appointed for a further year in post to help schools, families and businesses engage in saving in County Durham.

In the first year, Durham Savers has introduced over 500 young people to saving, and helped businesses in Aycliffe introduce salary savings schemes to their employees.

Paul has also been busy building relationships with key advocates across Durham, including Police, Crime & Victims' Commissioner Ron Hogg, who has offered real support

to the project. As a result of this, the Durham Savers Project is working closely with the Police Cadets Unit, Mini Police and Proceeds of Crime, and in the last 6 months has helped the Stop Loan Sharks Team identify and prosecute illegal lenders in the region.

Paul has also been working closely with the 3 AAP's who fund the project, Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP) East Durham Rural Corridor and Spennymoor, Business Durham, Durham Business Opportunities Programme, South Durham Enterprise Agency and many businesses in the south of the County to spread the message about the benefits of saving at work.

Volunteers Wanted

If you're over 18 and live in County Durham, volunteering for the County Durham Youth Offending Service could be for you.

The YOS work with young people and families to prevent offending and reduce the number of children who receive a prison sentence.

They work with victims of crime and encourage young people who have offended to pay back in some way for the harm they have caused. YOS have a number of opportunities for volunteers within their service – all of which involve establishing a good relationship with young people who have offended and also with the victims of offending.

The service offer a certified training programme and the support and appreciation of all our professional staff.

You will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have made a difference and improved lives of young people and the communities they live in.

If you would like to find out more, please call 03000 265999, or alternatively email CDYOSHQOps@durham.gov.uk"

AYCLIFFE ROC SOLID WINS SHERIFF AWARD

ROC Solid supported housing project has £2,000 more to spend on vulnerable young people – thanks to the High Sheriff Youth Awards.

"We were over the moon to be recognised in this way," said deputy manager Steve Cook who attended the Wynyard Hall event with two ROC Solid clients Stephanie and Jamie.

Last year the charity, based in Burnhope, Newton Aycliffe, accommodated 50 new clients, some of whom had children and/or parents. This latest award comes in the wake of Nepacs awards for two of the charity's managers in recognition of the excellent work they do with people on probation and ex prisoners and their families.

The youth awards are supported by County Durham Community Foundation, Sir James Knott Trust, Durham Constabulary, Office of the Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner and Brewin Dolphin. It was attended by a host of regional and local civic dignitaries. Twelve organisations shared £13,000. ROC Solid will use its award for confidence-building activities. Many of its clients have been in the care system – all



High Sheriff Caroline Peacock (left) with ROC Solid client Stephanie and deputy manager Steve Cook

have vulnerabilities and were homeless, or a risk of homelessness.

Michelle Cooper, Chief Executive of County Durham Community Foundation, said: "We are so lucky to have so many

brilliant organisations supporting young people, helping to keep our communities safe and giving them an opportunity to demonstrate the confidence these awards give them has been fantastic."

St. George's Day Party

On Thursday April 19th at the Phoenix Club the Line Dancing Club are holding a St. George's Day Celebration Party where you are invited to attend dressed in red and white.

There will be an Open Buffet

so please bring a plate. Great entertainment is promised with a top duo. "Honky Tokin".

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RAF Cadet Joins Navy



A former member of 1407 (Newton Aycliffe) Squadron Air Cadets has swapped his RAF uniform for a naval one.

Aaron Robinson, who is 20 and from Newton Aycliffe, has completed his phase 1 training at HMS Raleigh winning the Royal Naval Association Trophy for his positive contribution to training. He will now be starting his trade training and we wish him well for his future career.

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Juniors Football Report

There was another weather enforced lay off for all the Aycliffe Juniors teams last weekend. So everyone was excited to get back on the pitch and enjoy some football this week before the Easter break. The Under 7's made the trip to face Wynyard Village and it proved to be a difficult morning. The league game was lost 7-0 and in the development game goals from Evan and Alex (2) could not stop a 5-3 defeat.

The Under 8's also played Wynyard Village but this game was on Friday evening at Sunnydale they sealed a 4-3 win with goals from Thomas, Dylan, Stephen and man of the match Oliver. Their Sunday game was the Challenge Cup quarter final against Darlington FC Quakers, a great first half effort and goals from Dylan and man of the match Stephen put them 2-0 up at the break. The Quakers though came back strongly to score six second half goals with Dylan getting one in reply for Aycliffe and the game ending 6-3.

The Under 9's teams were in Russell Foster Spring Cup action at Castleview. The 'Clarets' were playing Wrekenton Nou Camp and they dominated the game with good link up play on show. Despite their dominance the game ended 1-1 with Kai scoring and Jude the man of the match.

The 'Whites' were up against Silksworth & Hall Farm they also played well and had most of the possession. Ethan, Joel, Sam and man of the match Flynn scored and the game went in to the last minute with the Aycliffe team leading 4-3. It was disappointing that



a penalty was then scored by their opponents to make the final result a 4-4 draw.

The Under 10's 'Black' travelled to play league leaders Stranton FC and an impressive performance secured a 4-2 win. Cole and Jayden were the first two scorers but Stranton pulled two back to make the score level at half time. Man of the match Cole was in great form and he completed his hatrick with two second half goals to give Aycliffe the win. The development game saw Jake score in a 1-0 win with Jack named as the man of the match.

The Under 10's 'White' faced top of the table Leven at home and a good game ended goalless with James named as man of the match. The development game was won 3-1, Dom, Jayden and Harvey were the scorers and Will was the man of the match.

The Under 11's reversed their fixture and played away at Billingham Synthonia, this proved to be a good trip as they returned 3-2 winners. A good start was rewarded with a goal when Thomas played in Alfie to score. A couple of minutes later a Thomas free kick doubled the lead.

Billingham though got level before half time with two well taken goals. The second half saw a stream of Aycliffe chances saved by the excellent home keeper but the winner came when Charlie B broke through and finished. Zak was rewarded for a good game by being named as man of the match.

The Under 12's Russell Foster League team were up against Ouston Juniors. They were determined to get a win and a good ball from Taylor set up Tom to score the opening goal. Noah then scored to double the lead. Ouston then pulled one back, making the half time score 2-1. Noah scored again in the second half to make sure of the victory and this game ended 3-1.

The Under 12's TJFA League team had Grangetown Boys Club visit them. It was an even start but two quick goals were conceded and an Aycliffe penalty was then missed before half time. A goal from Will after a good break by Lucas looked to get them back into the game. However it wasn't to be and they slipped to a 5-1 defeat.

The Under 13's had a local derby against Heighington, a superb performance saw them to a 7-3 win.

The Under 16's had a mid-table clash at Kader FC and a physical team effort led to a 3-2 win.

The Under 23's hosted Consett and a penalty save from George Slatcher kept the score 0-0 at half time. An Aycliffe penalty scored by Iley then put them in front. Consett though came back and after equalising with ten minutes remaining they went on to get the winner in the closing stages.

Film Show

"A LITTLE CHAOS"

The "FEEL GOOD FILM SHOW" at St Clare's Church on TUESDAY 3rd APRIL features the 2014 British period drama "A LITTLE CHAOS" starring Kate Winslet, Matthias Schoenaerts and Alan Rickman. In the 17th century King Louis XIV wants the gardens of Versailles completed. Sabine de Barra (Winslet) is given the job of landscape architect, unusual for a woman at that time. Court intrigues, professional jealousies and a tangle of love makes for a great film. 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.

Aycliffe Students' VIP Match Day Visit to Darlo FC

On 17th March, footballers from Stephenson Way Academy were treated to a VIP Match Day experience at Blackwell Meadows, home of Darlington Football Club. Braving the icy, Arctic conditions, the group of youngsters met the club's ambassadors, Andrew, Matty and Ben outside the ground where they were given their itinerary for the day. First stop on the access all areas tour was a trip into the changing rooms to meet the players.

The children were given the opportunity to ask the squad a range of questions, which would help them gain an insight into life as a semi-professional player. The interrogative bunch left no stone unturned and the players were impressed as pupils asked questions such as, "Who inspired you to play football?" and "How will you change your strategy to cope with the slippery conditions?" Jayden was amazed that the players all had jobs, including being a gas fitter, teacher and fashion designer as well as training and playing all of the matches.

Having completed the grilling, pupils were led to the pitch where the DFC coaching squad put them through their paces. Reminders to communicate



with one another and advice about moving tactically into spaces were well received by the team and school defender Robert noted that they echoed the words of Miss Whitfield during their recent matches.

A guard of honour to welcome players from both teams to the pitch completed the pre-match activities and the children took their seats to watch the first half action unfold.

As Darlo battled against the snow and wind, the goals kept on coming and the home team were already enjoying a 5-0 advantage as the half time whistle blew.

While the players enjoyed some warmth and a well-earned rest, Stephenson Way pupils stepped up to the penalty spot. Dominic's sweet chip from the spot

(which smashed straight into the back of the net) received rapturous applause from the crowd. He later told us, "It was awesome, I felt like a professional!" Despite much protest, goal-line technology declared Mrs Alton's rebound off the top bar a no-goal.

As the two teams returned to the pitch, Darlo led the attack and it was only a matter of time before the score line shifted to 6-0.

Though the visiting team, North Ferriby United, kept the Darlington goalkeeper under pressure right until the final whistle, the children were delighted to see a home victory on their visit.

Pupils, parents and staff would all like to offer their thanks to Darlington FC for their hospitality and a truly memorable experience.

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Learners Honoured at Awards

Individuals who have shown determination to learn are set to be recognised at an awards ceremony later this year – and you can help pick the winners. Nominations are now open for Durham County Council's Adult Learning and Skills Service annual awards

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ceremony, which celebrates the achievements of its most inspiring students. Categories include:

- Learning in a Digital Age
- Inspirational Learner of the Year
- Unsung Hero
- Outstanding Apprentice
- Learning Project of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Outstanding Family Learner
- Cultural Learning
- Inspirational Tutor
- The Festival of Learning Award

Nominations are open until Friday, 13 April. Cllr Olwyn Gunn, Cabinet member for children and young people's services, said:

"Learning provides people with the skills and confidence which can transform their lives and this is a great opportunity to recognise the work they do."

"Both learners and those who teach them deserve to be celebrated and I'm sure

we will have plenty of worthy nominations in each of this year's categories."

The ceremony is taking place as part of the Festival of Learning, the biggest celebration of lifelong learning in England. Durham County Council's Adult Learning and Skills Service works with local communities to deliver training and help change lives for the better.

Courses include a broad range of opportunities for personal development, support for health and well-being and the chance to gain skills and qualifications for further education and employment.

To make a nomination, fill in the online form at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/M2Z8TYG> or download the online nomination form and return it to alssadmin@durham.gov.uk

For more information visit <http://www.durham.gov.uk/adultlearning>

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therefore reminded to still put their bins out on Good Friday (30 March). Residents are also advised to put their bins out for collection by 7am on their normal collection day. Those who are unsure of their collection days can find out by entering their house number and postcode into the 'My Durham' section at www.durham.gov.uk. For more information about bin collections visit www.durham.gov.uk/recycling and to find

out which items go in which bin visit www.durham.gov.uk/whatgoeswhere. To subscribe to the garden waste scheme, visit www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste or call 03000 260 000 during office hours. Residents can 'Save time and do it online' if they wish to report a missed bin collection or order replacement bins. Simply register an account at www.durham.gov.uk/doitonline. Accounts can be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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Knit & Natter Club



Yvonne Beynon and Liz Joy (right) on behalf of Children's Blessings are seen here collecting knitted items for local families as Easter gifts from new Rector Ann Anderson and members of the St. Elizabeth's Knit and Knatter group. The Knitters meet Mondays 2-4pm (term time only). New members or home knitters are always welcome to come and join. Phone Milly 313819 for any enquiries.

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Recycling Centres Summer Opening Hours

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) in County Durham will soon be switching to summer opening hours. From Sunday, 1 April until Sunday, 30 September, HWRCs will operate the following opening times: **Monday to Sunday - 9am to 6pm: - Heighington Lane, Newton Aycliffe.** Centres are open as normal during the Easter holiday

period, unless stated otherwise. John Shannon, Durham County Council's strategic waste manager, said: "HWRCs opening longer from 1 April enables residents more opportunity to use the sites to dispose of waste and recycle household materials. Residents who are planning to visit a HWRC in a van, trailer, mini-bus or pick-up will need to apply for a free waste permit in advance. Save time and apply online at www.durham.gov.uk/householdpermit or by calling 03000 26 0000. Commercial waste produced by businesses and landlords is not accepted at HWRCs and must be disposed of by a registered waste carrier. Further details can be found at www.durham.gov.uk/commercialwaste

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Scout Centre Shows

The Scout centre, in Newton Aycliffe is hosting a number of shows in the next few weeks. This Saturday 31/3/18 its **NORTHERN SOUL** calling for all Northern Soulers out there in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas, to come along and have a great night with DJ's that play all the top tunes and hard to find rare ones that will keep you dancing all night. They are always good nights so be there or be square. Admission is £3 on the door over 18's only, doors open 7:30pm. There's a licenced bar selling a good range of alcoholic and soft drinks at competitive prices. This one is adults only but if you want to bring the kids along we have a couple of Family Disco's planned. The first one will be a Bits 'n' Pieces Family Disco on the 14th April 2018, Saturday night, where the DJ's will be playing music

from the 60s right through to the latest charts, taking requests all night long. Come along, kids are welcome too, usual £3.00 entry- kids under 12 free. Starts at 7pm and finishes at 11.30 unless told otherwise. Last orders at bar will be 10.50pm and Bar closed at 11pm.

Everyone out by 11.30 please. Same again on the 19th May 2018, Saturday night, another Bits 'n' Pieces Family Open Disco where anything goes, so come to that if you can and have some fun, also £3.00 entry. Big waves from Mike, Paul and Phil the DJ's.

Livin's Plans will Cause Major Upheaval

Dear Sir,
Regarding Livin's plans for the regeneration of Newton Aycliffe's Western Area, I wonder how many tenants realize that more than a third of them will stand no chance of returning, as Livin intend to have about 100 fewer homes available to rent after the regeneration. I wonder how many homeowners are naive enough to think they will

be given a good deal on the Compulsory Purchase Order that is used to acquire their house ready for demolition? I think that Livin has been less than clear about the major upheaval to people's lives that their "Option Three" is going to cause, and I can't see this ending well for the majority of the current tenants and homeowners of the Western Area.
Dave Catleugh

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Elderly Livin Tenants Don't Want Disruption

Dear Sir,
As a Livin tenant myself there are a great many other tenants too who totally oppose the third option. Personally I moved to this house a little more than two years ago and this was to be mine and my wife's retirement home for the rest of our lives. I am 72 and my wife is almost 70. We don't want to move, as we are happy in our present house and dread the thought of 10-15 years of continuous disruption in a partly derelict estate. D Sutton

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* Subject to small business relief ** Heating subject to fair usage

Award Winning Acts at Turbinia

Hilarity Bites at The Turbinia in Newton Aycliffe on April 4th 2018: featuring Michael Fabbri, Gary Meikle, and host Danny Deegan. Michael Fabbri - has worked as a writer for Radio and TV and recently had his own stand up series: 'Dyslexicon' on BBC Radio 4. He has done several solo shows at the Edinburgh fringe festival

and worked as a support act for Micky Flanagan, Lucy Porter, and Stephen K Amos. Michael regularly performs for all of the major clubs and promoters on the UK circuit, including:- The Comedy Store, Jongleurs, Komedia, Glee Clubs, The Stand, Up The Creek, 99 Club, Funny Side of Covent Garden, Off The Kerb, CKP, Just The

Tonic, GSOH and Mirth Control. Chortle Award Nominee 2012 - Best Club Comic. - FINALIST ON CHANNEL 4's SO YOU THINK YOU'RE FUNNY? Hilarious, clever, sick and completely unrepeatable - BBC

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His seamless interactions with the crowd demonstrate that he's a natural-born comedian - appealing to both the young and old, female and male.

Mid show will also feature a newer act. Tickets can be bought online at www.hilaritybites.co.uk, in person from The Turbinia, or telephone 01325 313034.



COUNTY NEWSBITS

Compiled by
County Councillor John Clare

This Easter's County Newsbits includes great police and business news, opportunities to get involved, and interesting things to do! Find out more about the following on my blog at: bit.ly/CNB293

COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY

- Chrystus zmartwychwsta!
- DCC's Hardwick and Wharton Parks are fabulous – when did you last visit?
- DCC is carrying out a consultation to identify areas suitable for future public funding for superfast broadband.
- Good business news on Aycliffe Business Park for Hitachi and Commercial Expert, and great news on the Stockton & Darlington Railway.
- Visit County Durham had a successful English Tourism Week.
- This week is World Autism Awareness Week.
- Durham Constabulary has for the third year running been rated 'Outstanding' by inspectors.

• Ron Hogg PVCV is seeking volunteers to work for the County Durham Youth Offending Service.

- Landlords warned of upcoming energy regulations.
- Please do the Stockton & Darlington Railway Heritage Action Zone initial survey.
- Have you signed up for Muddy Mayhem?
- Latest roadworks information.

THINGS TO DO

- Veggie Patch in Hardwick Park, 11am-3pm, Wednesday 4th April, £3.
- Elephant Objects (5-11s), Durham Oriental Museum, drop-in 1-3pm, Wednesday 4th April.
- Pond Dip Detectives (5-11s), Low Barns Nature Reserve, 1-3pm, Thursday 5th April, £3
- Mysterious Mummies (5-11s), Durham Oriental Museum, drop-in 1-3pm, Friday 6th April.
- Easter Petting Zoo, ACORN Residents' Group, Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, 10am-2pm, Saturday 7th April, £1, 01325 321471.
- Make your own DLI Badge (5-11s), Palace Green Library, drop-in 1-3pm, 7-8th April.
- Great War Steam Fair, Beamish Museum, 5-8th April, (entrance fee).
- Forgotten Railways around Shildon (7 mile guided walk), starting Locomotion Museum, 10am Wednesday 4th April, £4

Livin's Option 3 Not Preferred

Dear Sir,
I wish to express my grave concern over the proposed Western Area Regeneration Project, specifically Option 3 "The preferred option." I feel that Livin have not communicated out clearly to tenants, private landlords and private home owners in the "six streets" of the huge implications if this project is given the green light to go ahead. After reading up on the Livin website about this regeneration project there is an 0800 number to call if you have any questions or concerns. I tried calling and it took me to the council switch board about bill payments etc. Nothing about Livin's plans. I think Livin has possibly done this on purpose as a smoke screen in regards to how home owners would be compensated because, as a home owner in Honister Place who has done any home improvements even if Livin were to give me "market value" for my home it may only be £65,000 – where can I buy an equivalent 3 bedroom home with a garage for that money? E Nugent

Thank You

MICHELLE PANCHEN (nee Maddock). Thanks for being a great Daughter all your life. Love, Mam and Dad xx

In Memoriam

Norma Barnes

4th April 2015

Of all the special gifts in life, however great or small, to have you as my Wife was the greatest gift of all.

A special time, your smiling face, a special Wife, I can't replace. With an aching heart I whisper low, how I miss you Norma for I love you so. They say that time is a healer, but I know that is untrue. For the hurt is still as strong today as the day that I lost you.

Ditto Graham and family
Together forever always

Congratulations

Tom Dudding



Happy 60th Birthday
28th March 2018

Sorry Tom we couldn't let this special milestone go by without an embarrassing photo!! We are looking forward to celebrating with you. All our love and best wishes Chris, Michelle, Jack and Joe xxxx

Birthday Remembrance

Tina Allan

30th March

I'm sending a dove to Heaven, with a parcel on it's wings. Be careful when you open it, it's full of beautiful things. Inside are a million kisses, wrapped in a million hugs. To say how much I miss you and send you all my love.

I hold you close within my heart and there you will remain, to walk with me throughout my life, until we meet again. Love, Mum xxxx

Tina Louise Allan

30th March

You left the world before I'd planned for you to go. But though our time to say goodbye came way too soon, you will never be forgotten, you will live on in my heart.

In that special place reserved for you only, there is no doubt you are safe and sound in Heaven. But with you gone, I will be forever changed and though I cherish every moment of every memory, how I'd love to have you back again. Missing you, Jacquie xx

DES WALKER 29th March. Our birthday wish must be a prayer, this special day we cannot share. But in our hearts you are always there. Love forever, Julia and all our family xxxxxxxx
DENNIS GARTLAND 3rd April. Thinking of you today on your 82nd birthday. Love and miss you always. Irene and all your family xxx
RONNY MAYOH Happy 83rd birthday on 28th March. From Rose, Maria, Christine, Ian, Anita and Kimberley xxx

Obituary

Elaine Weatherill

of Newton Aycliffe
formerly Spennymoor

Passed away on 14th March aged 50 years.

Much loved by her Daughters, Mother, Sister and Aunt.

Family and friends please meet for Service at Durham Crematorium on Wednesday 4th April for 1.00pm

Margaret Freak

Peacefully on 24th March aged 86 years.

Beloved Wife of the late Alec; treasured Mam of Maureen, Katherine and the late John; dear Mother-in-Law to Stephen; Nana and Great Nana.

Funeral Service to be held in St. Mary's R.C. Church, Newton Aycliffe on Monday 9th April at 2.00pm followed by Cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium.

Family flowers only please, donations in lieu, if so desired, to Rose Lodge Residents' Fund.

Please wear
something bright.

JOY TRON died peacefully on 18th March. Loving Wife of the late David; Mother of Steven, Beverly, Michelle, Linda and Jonathan also a dear Grandmother. Funeral Friday 6th April. Would friends please meet at 1.15pm for a Service at Darlington Crematorium.

RESIDENTS' MEETING

Western Area Residents' Association will meet on Wednesday 4th April 2018 at 2pm at the Western Area Community Centre Silverdale Place. LIVIN, Councillors, and Police hopefully will attend. We hope to have an officer/person from LIVIN who can clarify some points that are not clear to residents involved with the Western Area Regeneration. Everyone welcome - ring 07967 901477.

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Youthy Football Round Up

Newton Aycliffe Youth U10 Girls 9 - 1 Consett

WOW!!! Undoubtedly the best girl's football performance I've seen!!! After gaining promotion to the Premier Division for the Spring Cup the girls were today playing against Consett who won the Premier Division Winter League without losing a game and had only ever lost one game previously before today's encounter.

The girls were asked to play with a high tempo and lots of energy to pressure the Consett players and they certainly didn't disappoint. We raced into a 1 - 0 lead inside the first 60 seconds but Consett weren't fazed and equalised a couple of minutes later. The girls didn't let this effect their performance and increased their effort levels and harassed Consett into making several mistakes by constantly putting them under pressure.

Imogen Paterson kept alert in goal, Fearne & Gracie kept the defence organised and tight while the midfield trio of Ebony, Sophie & Aishia with Imogen Milburn as striker worked tirelessly in attack asking plenty of questions of the Consett defence.

By half time we found ourselves ahead 4 goals to 1 and it could have easily been more. The girls were asked to maintain their high energy levels and continue to keep Consett under pressure in the second half and again didn't disappoint. Poppy & Grace were introduced in the second half and contributed excellently to the already impressive team performance running out deserved 9 - 1 winners.

Goals were scored by Imogen Milburn 5, Aishia Pearson-Clark 2, and Sophie McLean



& Ebony Newman 1 each. Both managers couldn't be any prouder of how the girls performed today AS A TEAM showing us, the parents and most importantly themselves just how good this team is. They are a pleasure to coach and I'm certain this team are destined for the top if they continue playing like they did today.

Billingham Whites 4 - 4 Newton Aycliffe Youth U8's

Considering we played Billingham Synthonia Whites a few weeks back at home and got beat 7-2 it was evident today that the lads are really listening to what we do in training and putting it into practice on the pitch. This game could have went either way today and a draw was a fair result all around. Some cracking goals, passing, encouragement and saves made for an entertaining game.

Newton Aycliffe Youth U14's Hawks 6 - 3 South Park Rangers Red

A game of 2 halves today, SPR were at it from the off

and Aycliffe started slow. 1 minute in and SPR took the lead. We were slow and gave possession away far too easy. We had forgotten everything we had been working on in training. SPR had us penned in and added a 2nd before HT. We made changes and told the lads what we expected of them. Ethan pulled a goal back with a well taken free kick from about 25 yards out finding the top corner. 5 minutes later Jack rounded the keeper and made it 2-2. Straight from kick off we pressed the ball and forced a mistake and Ethan scored to make it 3-2. We were a different team and Jaydn added a 4th with a bullet header. Callum added a 5th when the keeper fumbled his shot into the net. 5 minutes to go Drew scored a looped effort from outside the area. Credit to SPR who never gave up and finished the scoring on the day with a lovely free kick of their own. FT 6-3. Lots of lessons to be learnt today. Asking the lads at FT why we started the game slow, response- we expected to win

easy. Lesson, never turn up expecting to roll teams over as you will get found out. Really pleased with the 2nd half performance though. Well done. Mom Charlie for making some crucial saves at important times and keeping us in the game.

Newton Aycliffe Youth U14's Eagles 10 - 3 Billingham Synthonia.

Outstanding performance by the whole squad today. Rolling on and off substitutes worked well today. Isaac Hume had a stormer of a game in defence, and Joey Howarth was unbelievable in front of goal. He scored 7 goals today and I brought him off for 15 minutes!! Everything he touched went into the net.

Newton Aycliffe Youth U18's 4 - 4 Bishop Auckland St. Marys

The game started off with both side evening things up in the middle of the pitch and restricting each other to a couple of shots from distance. About 15 minutes in Aycliffe conceded a penalty which was converted by an ex Aycliffe player. This seemed to affect us for a while and we soon found ourselves 2 down when we give away a free kick 20 yards out. Bishops midfielder struck it well into the top corner. Aycliffe were then the better side going forward with shots hitting the post and a couple of goal line clearances from Bishop.

Second half, Aycliffe made a change of personal and formation and with a few words of wisdom, Aycliffe came out fighting. Danny Godfrey played some love one two football down there right getting free and squaring for Sam Thompson to smash home game on. Aycliffe then committed the sin of not being switched on after scoring and Bishop went up the other end and grabbed their third.

Credit to the lads they didn't give up and with Ben Knights putting their defence under pressure with hard work there poor pass found Sam Thompson who again scored. More sheer hard work from our midfields again made Bishop panic and a poor back pass was pounced on by Sam allowing him to grab his hat trick. 15 minutes to go was anyone going to find the winner!

Following a throw in, a Bishop Player somehow found his way past 2 defenders and from level with the goal managed to squeeze it passed our keeper. Aycliffe shuffled the pack again going 3 up top and with 6 minutes or so to go the ball fell to Luke Sinclair who rifled into the bottom corner 4-4 Man of the Match went to Thomas Nesbit.

If you are interested in playing football and being part of our club, please visit our website where there are lots of information and also links to league tables for competitive football age groups www.nayfc.com

Mixed Results For Aycliffe FC

Aycliffe travelled to 5th placed North Shields and came away with a valuable point. The match was played in driving wind and rain. To their credit, both teams tried to play good football in the conditions. There were no real chances in the opening 25 minutes as both sides tried to get the upper hand. Aycliffe broke the deadlock when Kurt Matthews finished a good team move with a low shot into the corner of the net.

The lead only lasted a minute as Shields equalised when a low shot from McFarlane beat James Winter. Half time 1-1. Aycliffe went close on 52 minutes when Ben Trotter hit a long range shot just over the bar. Three minutes later Winter pulled off a fantastic double save for Aycliffe, which even the Shields fans applauded.

On 58 minutes Shields failed to clear a Paul Weldon free kick and Aycliffe man-of-the-match Marc Costello lashed the ball home. Shields came back though and Harmison finished off a team move with a strong shot that gave Winter no chance. Aycliffe then had a couple of half chances through Matthews and Craig Hutchinson.

Shields pressed for a winner and Winter made another fine save in injury time. A Shields shot then skimmed the bar right at the end. Aycliffe saw out time to gain the draw, which pushed them up to 14th place. Full time 2-2.

Newton Aycliffe suffered a 2-1 defeat away at Dunston. They weren't at their best on the day, on a heavy pitch. Although they had players missing through absence and injuries, they could had no complaints about the result. Dunston were on top in the first half and went ahead in

the 12th minute. They worked a move down the wing and when the cross came in, Thear hit an unstoppable shot into the top corner past keeper Jack McLaren. The rest of the half saw no real chances until the 43rd minute when Dunston doubled their lead.

A long throw into the penalty box wasn't cleared by Aycliffe, and the ball fell to Burrell who poked the ball home. Aycliffe improved after the break. They were grateful to young keeper McLaren on 66 minutes when he made a fine stop.

They then gave their fans some hope on 75 minutes when Thibault Charmey hit a fantastic free kick which Dunston keeper Harrison could only push out to centre half and man-of-the-match Andrew Grant-Soulsby, who scored from close in.

Aycliffe pushed for an equaliser and had the ball cleared off the line late on, but Dunston deservedly took the 2-1 win and the three points. Aycliffe remain in 14th place and take on Washington at home on Tuesday 27th March at 7.30pm.

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Roller Disco

Spectrum Roller Skating held a Roller Disco on Friday 23rd March with a cake sale and the profit was donated to Sport Relief. The club based at Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre would like to thank everyone who donated cakes and supported the event. In total we made £42!



wildcats 2

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