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Big Club Make Big Savings Thanks to Energy Grant

Newton Aycliffe Workingmen's Club and Institute, known as The Big Club, is reaping the rewards of energy efficiency after teaming up with a council project.

The Business Energy Efficiency Project (BEEP) is a Durham County Council led project, supported by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), to help small businesses in County Durham save money by reducing their energy consumption.

The Big Club contacted BEEP after its new management committee decided to identify areas of the company where money was being wasted.

The BEEP team carried out a free in-depth energy audit on the premises and



DCC project officer Lawrence Callender, BEEP project manager Calum Baker, DCC lead energy officer Gary Stevenson and DCC energy officer Simon Baines, alongside Alan Nelson and Tom Brumwell – joint secretaries of The Big Club

identified the most cost effective solutions; replacing the inefficient internal and external cellar chiller units, updating the lighting in the building and replacing the outdated drinks pump chiller units in the cellar and bar areas.

The Big Club was awarded a 40% grant from BEEP to support the cost of purchase and installation of replacing the cellar chiller units with modern equipment.

The club also worked with the brewery to replace the pump chiller units, and took

STOP PRESS

See page 9 for a report on Town Council meeting debating Livin's regeneration scheme.

the BEEP team's advice to replace the lighting throughout the building with LEDs.

Alan Nelson, joint secretary of The Big Club, said: "The BEEP team have been very helpful and always on hand to advise and guide us."

"We are delighted by the financial saving we are seeing through better energy management and the efficient equipment the BEEP team recommended."

Calum Baker, BEEP project manager, said: "We were really pleased to work with Newton Aycliffe Workingmen's Club and help them to make reductions with financial costs and energy consumption."

"Many businesses waste thousands of pounds every year doing simple things like leaving lights or equipment on when not in use or using inefficient equipment and we help them to understand energy better and make improvements."

"Through the improvements the club has made from our recommendations, it has seen a great result and reduced its energy consumption by 85 per cent."

The Business Energy Efficiency Project launched in 2017, in partnership with Business Durham. The team provides County Durham SMEs with fully funded energy audits and advice and offers grant funds to support the installation of energy efficient equipment.

Businesses interested in finding out more about the BEEP can visit www.bEEP.uk.net or email bEEP@durham.gov.uk

Editor: It is good to see the Big Club making real progress and becoming a preferred venue for private and community events.

The facilities offered are fantastic and the new Committee are taking great strides to bring their premises into full use.

Foodbank Need Carrier Bags

Have you carrier bags you could donate to the local Durham Foodbank at St Clare's?

Most people in food poverty do not arrive with bags to carry the food home. They come directly from their support agency; hungry and anxious. Many do not know that a voucher for food will be one of the kinds of help they will receive.

Please donate clean, spare carrier bags to support people in food crisis. Neatly folded they will fit into the yellow donation bins in the town. One bag can hold so many more.

Why not collect in your school, social club or work place for a week? Bring them along to Foodbank on Wednesdays or Fridays, 1.30 – 3.30pm, Unity Hall, St Clare's. Please help.

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New Craft Group Starts

Come learn a new craft or bring your own project. Anybody welcome to visit and have a coffee and a chat. No craft skills necessary and all materials are provided. Sessions held at the Western Area Community Centre (Silverdale) on Monday 30th April, 1-3pm. Contact Jane for more details on 07804 454471

THE TURBINIA COMEDY NIGHT

Hilary Bites present an evening of Top Quality Comedy at the Turbinia - Aycliffe's Award Winning Pub

WEDNESDAY 2nd MAY

SEYMOUR MACE: (replacing Dave Johns, due to filming). Edinburgh Comedy Award Nominee 2015. One of the few comedians to appear at the famous 'Glastonbury Festival' & the 'Farmyard Party'.

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

Tickets are £6 in advance or £8 on the door
Doors open at 7.00pm and the show starting at 8.00pm.

AYCLIFFE POLO PLAYERS IN FINAL



Back Row Left: Richard Cousins (Coach) Matthew Taylor, Richard Murray, Ben Stephenson, Michael Cousins, Connor Keeble, Pete Griffiths (Coach), Mat Kendall
Front Row Left: Haydn Craggs, Joe Barron, Jake Mendelsohn, Michael Hampshire, Matt Bottomley, Kris Egginton, Nathan Brown

Sedgefield Water Polo Club once again entered the Swim England National Age Group competition for Under-19 Boys. A strong team of players completed a couple of training matches against Northumbria University before setting out to defend the title the club had won the previous year. Travelling to Grantham for the preliminary round of the competition saw Sedgefield defeat Carmarthen 15 - 3 and Watford 11 - 4 to progress into the qualifying stages.

Back on the road again the team travelled to Gloucester, for three matches, where success would bring a trip to Manchester. The first match was against City of Sheffield and in an extremely tough encounter, Sedgefield fought back from 4 goals down to take the lead only for Sheffield to fight back and re-take the lead going into the final minutes. Sedgefield scored twice in rapid succession to bring the game level 11 - 11. The team showed real determination not to be defeated and went into the second match of the day against Newton Abbott full of confidence. Sedgefield roared to a convincing 31 - 4 victory with many of the younger team players displaying their water

polo credentials for the future. The final match of the weekend Sedgefield faced Croydon. The team had two objectives for this match, first was a win and second to outscore City of Sheffield's goal difference of 11. Up for the challenge Sedgefield dominated the London team and ran out victorious 20 - 5. This victory set the team up for a semi-final against City of Manchester in their home pool. Finals weekend saw Sedgefield have the early match against City of Manchester. There is a lot of history between the clubs and Sedgefield have never been defeated by City of Manchester in a national competition. In a physical encounter, Sedgefield stuck to the game plan of solid defence and fast counter attack. Sedgefield controlled the match from the second period and ran out winners 9 - 4. The other team for the final was to come from Caledonia v City of Sheffield. Caledonia took a strong grip on the game and scored consistently in the first two periods. With City of Sheffield having to play catch-up the opportunities for be countered become greater and Caledonia ran out winners 18 - 11. The final was expected by many

to be a one sided affair with Caledonia dominating. What

they didn't account for was the determination of the Sedgefield team not to hand over the title. Excellent defence held the Scots at bay for long periods and allowed Sedgefield to take a half-time lead. Caledonia worked hard and drew level in the third quarter. In the fourth and final period, the clock ticked down to the last minute with the score level at 6 - 6. Caledonia raised their game one last time and scored two quick goals. At the final whistle, the score was Sedgefield 6 - 8 Caledonia. A defeat on the scoreboard but never outplayed. Sedgefield have competed in these championships for many years - but from 2013, they have played 43 matches, won 38, lost 5 and drawn 1. They achieved 4 Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze in that time. A truly fantastic achievement.

THE BIG CLUB

Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe DL5 5NU

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April Entertainment Guide

Sunday 1st	The Wainstones Supported by The Thieves 3.30pm - Tickets £5 or £7.50 otd
Tuesday 3rd	Kids Disco, 5-8pm, £1 otd
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 Liddle Band, Tickets £4
Saturday 28th	Elvis Tribute, Tickets £5 <i>in aid of Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group</i>

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Saturday 28th April - "NorGaards"

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

MAY-HEM BEER FESTIVAL

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DAY ONE - Thursday 3rd May - Chill Out Night

DAY TWO - Friday 4th May - Buskers/Open Mic
Some top entertainment from some of our best local artists

DAY THREE - Saturday 5th May - "Alcatraz House Band"

Hard-working, hard-playing rock covers band, gracing pubs and stages throughout the Northeast for the past 8 years. Always up for a drink/laugh, always about playing to the crowd and making sure EVERYONE has a good time, including ourselves! High-energy performances with plenty of passion and rawness, never disappoint! Stars of the main stage at both 'Stormin The Castle' & 'Farmyard Party' and many festivals
Covering tracks by: Led Zepellin, AC/DC, Queens Of The Stone Age, Guns & Roses, Queen, Foo Fighters, Cult, ZZ Top, Police & many more.

DAY FOUR - Sunday 6th May - "The Inspectors"

Massive band, that plays major gigs and top festivals including regularly headlining the HUGE VW Festival at Harewood House. Band Members: Daz Gough - Guitars and Vocals; Paul Hill - Guitars and Vocals; Mick Scothern - Drums and Percussion; Aidan Shaw - Bass and Vocals.

About: Music that you will remember . . . tap your feet to . . . Get up and dance to . . . Played like only "The Inspectors" can!

Biography: We are four Generation X rock guys from Yorkshire that just love to play the awesome tunes that you either forgot about or missed the first time round! Guitar based . . . full interaction with the crowd a bit of something for everyone. Three vocalists with a cheeky gag impression thrown in free of charge.

Covering tracks by: Jam, Who, Stone Roses, Blur, Jet, Housemartins, Cure, James, Fratellis.

Testimonials: "typical, we get a new roof fitted, and The Inspectors come and blow it off!"

"We really need to get more people to see you . . . that gig was great . . . I was really impressed"

"Awesome night last night, great band, great music and great people. big thanks to The Inspectors!"

"Thank you so much guys for playing at this year's Field of Dreams VW show, you were loved by all!"

You rocked!!! See you again somewhere soon. Awesome band! Thanks again!!"

DAY FIVE - Monday 7th May (bank holiday) - DRINK US DRY
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History TALK

On Wednesday 2nd May at 7.30pm in Aycliffe Village Hall, Phil Dyer will speak on Victorian Pit Children. All welcome, members £1. non-members £3, includes tea/coffee/biscuits. Details 01325 301093.

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THE latest cohort of Police and Community Support Officers (PCSOs) who will be serving County Durham and Darlington has been unveiled.

Seven new PCSOs will soon take to the streets after undergoing an intensive three-week training programme where they will learn about the law, problem solving, technology, communication, personal safety and partnership working before joining a local neighbourhood policing team.

Assistant Chief Officer, Gary Ridley said: "This is great news for the people of Durham and Darlington. Our PCSOs are highly professional and well-liked by the public. They provide an invaluable role in terms of solving local community problems.

"The new PCSOs replace existing ones who have quite often gone on to become police constables. This helps to ensure service continuity and means that we get the best people to

protect local people. They are given excellent training and ongoing support before being allocated to a neighbourhood team.

"It's always a pleasure to welcome new faces to the force and I am sure that these PCSOs will have a varied and exciting career ahead of them. PCSOs are an important part of what we do and I know how much their reassuring presence means to local residents."

Budding recruits could be conducting house-to-house enquiries to support police investigations one day and helping locate a missing person the next.

Newcomer Benjamin Scott, 36, of Darlington, previously worked as an associate practitioner in mental health within the NHS. He said:



"I am incredibly proud to work for my local police force - one of the best forces in the UK. I look forward to being at the heart of the community."

Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner Ron Hogg said "I am delighted that the force has been able to recruit these very promising new PCSOs. Their recruitment reflects my commitment to the public of Durham and Darlington that I will use their money wisely, giving real priority to front-line policing by maintaining officer numbers. Our resources remain stretched however. I continue to call on the Government to provide sufficient funding to maximise the number of officers in Durham and Darlington in the future."

Regeneration Could be a Positive Move

Dear Sir,
After seeing several negative letters in the Newton News, I would like to ask why this can't be a positive thing for the Western Area?

People have the power, but its currently being used to throw the baby out with the bath water. But why can't we all come together as residents and make it work for us?

Yes there is going to be upheaval, but were in a world where we must either move forward or be left behind. People talk about crime and lack of opportunity in the area, but studies all over the world have proved that better homes have a positive impact on peoples access to education, healthcare and improved crime rates. The country doesn't need more Social Housing, but rather Affordable Housing, so that people of all backgrounds can get onto the property ladder and start creating a better life for themselves and their family.

The various news articles I have seen have shown the older generation in the area as the main ones unhappy about change, meaning the younger people in the area who may still be here in 20-30+ years will miss out on this massive opportunity. Why should the younger generation miss out because of it? How is that fair?

A quick bit of research shows that in the local area, the value + all the extras, will leave you with anywhere from £55,000 - £70,000, as of writing this there are 12 homes in Newton Aycliffe in that range, so like for like

with the current homes is possible.

Overall I think everyone needs to calm down a bit, Livin would need a majority vote to even get the plans to the Secretary of State. Lets all come together and see if we can make this work for all of us, and if not then we say no.

A.P.C.R.

Name and address supplied

"ACORN UKES" FORMED



Twenty four people came to the second ukelele get together last week. We had a very constructive class with Lol and learnt some more chords. We all thought of a good name for our group and we all voted and are now called "The Acorn Ukes".

They were able to recruit a secretary for the committee and her and Joanna are going to open a bank account on Friday. They just need a treasurer now.

"It is going better than I ever dreamed and we will be meeting at the Youth Centre near Tesco from next Wednesday 25th April from 1.30pm till 3.30pm for the foreseeable future.

"The success of this new group is all down to Newton News and the great publicity it gives to our town", said Joanna the founder.

Young Musician Finalist Comes North

The second in Bishop Auckland Music Society's 2018 concert series features saxophonist, Jess Gillam with Jonathan Fisher at the piano at 7.30pm on Friday, 18th May at St. Andrew's Church, South Church.

Jess Gillam made history in 2016, at the tender age of 17, as the first saxophonist to win the Woodwind Final of the BBC Young Musician competition. Over the last year, Jess has made her BBC Proms debut at the Royal Albert Hall, performing with both the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the BBC Concert Orchestra.

'A true inspiration, she frankly rocks' (Huffington Post Entertainment review of BBC Young Musician Competition) Tickets £13.50 (£15 On the door). Available from Brotherton's Music (opposite Morrisons) or by contacting Brian Varley (01388) 606075

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Hitachi Win RICS Project of the Year

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors are delighted to announce the RICS Project of the Year 2018, North East — the Hitachi Rail Europe (HRE) plant in Newton Aycliffe - along with the winners and highly commended for the RICS Awards 2018, North East. Over 55 of the North East's most impressive and community beneficial property schemes battled it out for top honours at the annual RICS Awards, North East. Veteran BBC TV news presenter, Alex Lovell hosted this year's ceremony — supported by headline sponsor, Sika Sarnafil - held at the Marriott Hotel, Gosforth Park in Newcastle on 20th April. **Project of the Year — Hitachi Rail Europe, Darlington (sponsored by Ward Hadaway)** The highly acclaimed 'Project of the Year' title is presented to the scheme which demonstrates overall outstanding best practice and an exemplary commitment to adding value to its local area. Not only does the Hitachi Rail Europe (HRE) plant facility build and deliver a new generation of high speed passenger trains, it also provides an important import and export facility and has helped return train manufacturing back to the North East. RICS judges praised the project team -

including Merchant Place Developments, Shepherd Construction and Ryder Architecture – for what they described as an outstanding and remarkable facility that is acting as a catalyst for further regeneration in the area. It has also brought much needed employment opportunities to the area, creating over 1,200 directly employed by HRE, whilst a further 8,000 further jobs have been created within the supply chain.

CHANGED VENUE FOR NEW CLUB

“GOLDEN YEARS TOGETHER GROUP” will now meet at The Navy Club opposite Stephenson Way Cemetery, Burnhill Way. The bus from the Town or Woodham stops close by. Meeting every Thursday 2pm until 4pm. Starting 3rd May 2018. There will be trips away, Arm Chair Aerobics, New Age Curling, Dominoes etc. and we hope to have guest speakers. The bar will be open if the weather is hot to quench your thirst or there will be cups of tea. Just come along and enjoy yourselves. Ring 01325 308094 / 07967 901477

MP & COUNTY COUNCILLORS SHOULD BACK THE PEOPLE

Dear Sir, Livin have developed a 2 year Strategic Plan referred to as 'Plan A'. In the introduction it is clearly stated 'THERE IS NO PLAN B'. From my reading of this plan, and the attitude of Livin, it appears they are not going to listen to any alternatives to their view, yet, clearly stated: 'We go above and beyond the traditional duties of a landlord, working closely with our communities'

This appears to belie their attempts in their proposals for the western area and the resultant lack of discussion, consultation or presentation of these proposals. In their own report, Livin have stated they have acquired 300 homes within the last 9 years – yet they intend to demolish over 500 in the western area. Livin do not have 500 empty properties in Aycliffe – where are they to house the

dis-possessed? My belief is that they intend to break up and destroy the established community – but why? The proposals indicate that Livin will have a net reduction of 100 'affordable' homes – where are the lost homes? They state they are to build some executive properties. This is the answer I believe – a profit making enterprise, for the business not the community. And how are they to achieve this – Compulsory Purchase Order(s). However Livin cannot enact these, they must be raised by a public body and approved by Parliament and be for the 'public benefit'. The public body would be Durham County Council. I do not want my elected officials making a deal with a private company to force people from their homes and be replaced with 'executive homes' for the purpose of profit. I would therefore suggest that our MP, Phil Wilson, informs the Secretary of State that this CPO is NOT for the public benefit. I would also suggest that our DCC representatives examine their potential role in this unpleasant business and support the people who elected them and not a business that seems set on destroying the community. John Hillary Aycliffe Village

Join the Monthly Trips to the Seaside

Bus Trip to the seaside Sunday 6th May Leaving St. Clares 9.30am and Stephenson Way Cemetery at 9.40am Cost £10. New Friends New Places invite you to join them on their outings to the seaside on the First Sunday of every month. We have chosen six seaside places to visit over the summer months Redcar, Whitley Bay, Tynemouth, Saltburn, Amble South Shields - not necessarily in this order. We always call it a mystery trip and the only mystery will be the destination but it will be the seaside. Phone 01325 308094 / 07967901477 to book .

Livin Could Have Blood on Their Hands

Dear Sir, I am currently a Livin tenant residing in Honister Place and have been tenants for almost 3 years, having moved here from Darlington. I am writing in regards to Livin's proposed regeneration plan for the Western Area. As a tenant and not a home owner I find myself in a small minority of tenants who are opposed to the regeneration plans. I absolutely love my home and the location. We have never had any issues with anti social behaviour, and I would like to say to other householders that have reported the area as being scruffy and untidy, that they should try living on some of the council estates in Darlington, as I have. We are so lucky to have as many green spaces as we do, and I feel the council here do an excellent job overall of keeping the area clean and tidy. However, my main point of concern is my neighbours. On our particular row of houses, only two properties are owned by Livin. The rest are privately owned. Both sets of neighbours on

either side of us are elderly, one couple are both 87. They have owned their house for over 50 years, having bought it from the council back in the late 60's. They raised their children here, and have spent thousands over the years improving their home. The gentleman has suffered from poor health recently, and having discussed the regeneration plans with them, the wife of this gentleman, also 87, said she strongly believes that if a CPO were to be imposed upon them, her husband would not survive such an upheaval. As the majority of the home owners on our row are also elderly, as are many others who have written in to you, I really do think that if these plans go ahead, Livin are going to have blood on their hands, and I personally cannot find any justification in any of these plans. I would like my letter to be printed, in the hope that Livin and those concerned may take into account that lives are at stake here! Miss C Bamford

DEPUTY MAYOR VISITS CARE HOME OPEN DAY

John Clark joined HC-One's Defoe Court in Newton Aycliffe, to celebrate the sixth annual Care Home Open Day on 21st April. The Open Day is a national event that gives local people the opportunity to learn more about the services at the heart of their community. This year's theme is 'Linking Our Community', and HC-One has decided to launch a 'Big Sing', with HC-One homes across the country forming their own choirs with Residents, their loved ones, colleagues and neighbours. The choirs sang 'You Are My Sunshine' at the same time, creating a 'Big Sing' that brings HC-One homes across the country together in unison. To celebrate in style, John Clark joined the home in their summer fete which included games, a raffle and a special performance from the Age UK ukulele band. The home managed to raise an impressive £260, which will be donated to the Residents' fund. A host of local businesses supported the event including Julie's Pets, Love Thy Cupcake, Tesco, Themes Fruit and Veg and Stephen Russel. Deputy Mayor, John Clark was given a tour of the home and met with Residents and colleagues to see first-hand the kind care being delivered. Defoe Court Home Manager, Sarah Todd said: "Thank you to all who came to



take part in Care Home Open Day with us, especially John Clark. We all had a wonderful time sitting and chatting with our neighbours and singing in the sunshine." HC-One Managing Director, Stephen Butterworth said: "Care Home Open Day embodies our ethos at HC-One, as our relationships with the local communities we serve are such an integral part of the work that we do. "We strive to be the first-choice provider for those looking for the kindest care and the employer for choice for the best, most professional and kindest staff, and we

are so pleased to be able to demonstrate this to our visitors during Care Home Open Day. "We hope that John enjoyed his day at Defoe Court and look forward to welcoming them back soon." HC-One is proud of achieving a 9.2/10 average rating on the sector's leading care home comparison website carehome.co.uk, with Defoe Court boasting an impressive 9.8/10. The high rating puts HC-One homes into the very best company in the care home sector, committed to providing the kindest care to Residents.

Spanish Ambassador Visits Art Gallery

A senior Spanish representative has visited the North East to see how the art of his homeland is helping to revitalise a former industrial town. His Excellency Don Carlos Bastarreche Sagües, Spanish Ambassador to the UK, took a tour of the former Barrington Bank and Backhouse School buildings in Bishop Auckland Market Place, where the UK's first gallery dedicated to the arts and culture of Spain is currently under construction. The Spanish Gallery, due to open in 2019, will form part of The Auckland Project, a new arts, faith and heritage destination, which is being created to help revitalise Bishop Auckland through employment, training and educational opportunities and to draw in visitors from across the UK and further afield to help oxygenate the town and surrounding region. It was originally inspired

by Jacob and His Twelve Sons, a series of paintings by Spanish master, Francisco de Zurbarán, which have hung in nearby Auckland Castle for more than 250 years. While the paintings themselves are currently on tour in the USA, His Excellency Don Carlos Bastarreche Sagües was given the opportunity to see inside their 900-year-old home, which is undergoing a multi-million pound conservation programme by The Auckland Project, supported by National Lottery players via the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Due to re-open to the public on December 1, 2018, Auckland Castle and its Zurbarán paintings will form the centrepiece of The Auckland Project's new world class visitor destination, which will open in stages over the next three years.



The conservation of Auckland Castle is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Heritage Conservation Trust, Sir James Knott Trust, The Charles Hayward Foundation, The Headley Trust, The Linbury Trust, The Rothschild Foundation,

Garfield Weston Foundation, J Paul Getty Jnr Charitable Trust and Richard Oldfield. More information about The Auckland Project, including a full list of supporters, can be found online at aucklandproject.org or by searching Auckland Project on Facebook and Twitter.

Livin Do Not Reply to Complaints

Dear Sir, I have had almost three years of trying to get Livin to do what they should be doing as responsible landlords and keep the place in good order. Since they sacked the Council from grass and garden duties in the areas they are responsible and it is now like a tip, and an absolute eyesore. When the Council were grass cutting, they also sent litter pickers to make sure the cutters could do their job unhindered. Now the grass is very rarely cut, and litter abounds; the shrub areas are a shambles and are no more than a dumping ground for old mattresses and any other unwanted detritus. I have written to DCC Leader Simon Henig directly on many occasions, but the council simply say

take it up with Livin, and when I do, they do not reply. When I write to the CEO of any company I expect a reply, even if it's from a subordinate, but Colin Steel simply ignores my letters. I would like to suggest that if a company can't afford to cut the grass, how are they able to raise the cash for this planned demolition/building plan? If they do have funds in place, spend it where it's needed now! I remain highly suspicious of Livin's motives and just because they are 'Not for Profit', does not mean that somebody, somewhere is not making money out of it. Who it might be, remains to be seen, but I am sure that the last thing livin have any interest in, is the welfare of it's residents. Neil McKee

Church Easter Garden Knitters Help Zambia Project



Church member, Ric Hargreaves, with the Easter Garden he created outside of St. Clare's Church. Many of the townspeople made lovely comments about this beautiful Easter scene and it caused a lot of them to pause and reflect on this special time of year.

Thank you Ric for all your hard work on this, and for your commitment to St. Clare's as Parish Warden now that you are standing down.



Some of our wonderful knitters, parishioners from the Holy Family Parish at St. Mary's Newton Aycliffe and St. Thomas's Shildon, along with members of the Methodist congregation of Newton Aycliffe and Shildon plus St. Clare's Church, who have been knitting baby vests for parish Priest Fr. Tony Cornforth's project in Zambia.

To date over 400 vests have been knitted and are due to be shipped to Zambia in the next few weeks. A big thank you to all

Youth Council Launch Young Citizen Award

Dear Sir
The Aycliffe Youth Council has always strived to make Newton Aycliffe a better town for young people to live in. For several years, we have initiated, organised and assisted with many projects, in order to enrich the lives of young people. This includes helping out at yearly STEM events with the schools, volunteering at the Fun in the Parks, helping out at local community events, improving our connections with the local educational providers and so on.

As of this year, we have decided to provide a young people's award; the "Aycliffe's Young Citizen" award. This is an award we hope will benefit and reward an outstanding young person who lives in Aycliffe. The prize is a "One 4 All" card worth £250, a voucher that can be spent in a wide variety of retail places and restaurants. Our plan is for this to be presented to the individual at the Mayor at Home event ran by the council in the summer.

To be eligible for the "Aycliffe's Young Citizen" award, the young person must be between the age of 11-18, live in Aycliffe and to simply have a reason to receive the award. For example, they may have overcome a personal difficulty/tragedy/adversity, be a young carer, battled illness, volunteered within and enriched their community, perhaps excelled in vocation or academic achievement and so on. There is no particular criteria, only that there is a reason for them to receive this unique award. Anyone can nominate a young person by the deadline of Friday 25th May, and can send nominations by emailing Chrissy Walton (christine.walton@great-

aycliffe.gov.uk) or by addressing a letter to herself at the council offices. The Youth Council will then read all nominations and decide who will be the recipient of the prize.

We would like to advertise this in the Newton News in order to let people know about this, and hopefully promote/inspire people to nominate a young person they believe to be suitable for this reward. We have also informed the local secondary schools, however advertising in our local community newspaper will help us to reach a wider audience and perhaps allow us to receive more nominations.

Charlotte Kirton
Chairperson of the
Aycliffe Youth Council

Special School Requests Unwanted Junior Bikes

Peter Wallbanks, Headteacher at Walworth Special School on Bluebell Way, Newton Aycliffe is appealing to Newton News readers requesting unwanted working bikes for his 7 - 9 year old students.

The school is trying to offer the children a different type of fitness opportunity while also helping them ride a bike safely.

If you can help please contact the school on 01325 300194 or by e-mail: p.wallbanks100@durhamlearning.net
The bicycles can be collected from your home.

Aycliffe Self Storage Ltd.

Unit 25 Whinbank Road, Aycliffe Business Park DL5 6AY

"Your Key, Your Container"

20' Self Storage Containers
£19.00 per week

10' Self Storage Containers
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Contact Allan on 07496 423440

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www.painttechnicsnortheast.co.uk

Unit 11, Gurney Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6UJ



Furniture Factory Outlet

Fulbeck Road, Aycliffe Business Park - Tel 07825 777966

Facebook - affordablefurniture uk



Open
weekdays
and
Saturday



UPCOMING MAY EVENTS

04 KARAOKE / DISCO
with NIGEL
of BURNBABY DISCO
FREE ENTRY

05 ELITE DUO
and solo artist
CONNOR
£3 ON THE DOOR

06 BINGO 12 - 2pm
2pm - 6pm
KARAOKE / DISCO
with CRAZY HOWIE
MARK MCCANN
Evening - ANDY MAX
AFTERNOON £1 - EVENING £1 ON THE DOOR

11 PETER KELLY &
KARAOKE / DISCO
with NIGEL
of BURNBABY DISCO
£1.50 ON THE DOOR

12 The Band ZEN
& BINGO
£3 ON THE DOOR

13 BINGO 12 - 2pm
2pm - 6pm
KARAOKE / DISCO
with NIGEL
of BURNBABY DISCO
EVENING
ANDY JAMES
AFTERNOON FREE - EVENING £1 ON THE DOOR

18 KARAOKE / DISCO
with NIGEL
of BURNBABY DISCO
FREE ENTRY

19 duo RAZMATAZ
and
solo artist
MATT HILTON
£3 ON THE DOOR

20 BINGO 12 - 2pm
2pm - 6pm
KARAOKE / DISCO
with NIGEL
of BURNBABY DISCO
EVENING
ALI JAY
AFTERNOON FREE - EVENING £1 ON THE DOOR

25 JOHN STEPHENS &
KARAOKE / DISCO
with NIGEL
of BURNBABY DISCO
£1.50 ON THE DOOR

26 the fantastic JAY
FRANCIS With his
GEORGE MICHEAL
Tribute
£5 TICKET

27 BINGO 12 - 2pm
2pm - 6pm
KARAOKE / DISCO
with NIGEL
of BURNBABY DISCO
&
DAMEN CLARK
EVENING
BILLY LORT
AFTERNOON £1 - EVENING £1 ON THE DOOR

LINE DANCING THURSDAYS
BINGO Monday & Wednesday
Games Nights Mondays & Fridays



The Phoenix Club

01325 312876

MacMillan Road - Newton Aycliffe

FRIDAY 1ST JUNE

We have the fantastic soul and Motown trio M TOWN and a solo artist to be confirmed at ONLY £6 a ticket

Woodham Debaters Enter Championships



Woodham Academy debating team Thomas Wilkinson, Ellie Farn, and Tilly Boulwood at York High School

Woodham Academy's debating team pitted their wits against students from across the North of England when they competed in their first championships.

Members of the school's new Debating Society took part in the Up for Debate championships, held at York High School.

Staff recently launched the society as one of the latest additions to Woodham Academy's extensive and growing extra-curricular activities programme.

Woodham Academy teacher Richard Gore said: "The team acquitted themselves well at their first championships. This was a tough competition against experienced teams and our students did their school proud.

We created the Debating

Society to help our students gain confidence in public speaking, and to improve their research and team working skills. At Woodham Academy, we are committed to giving our students as many opportunities as possible to realise their potential, and to prepare them for future success."

The Woodham Academy team of Tilly Boulwood, Ellie Farn and Thomas Wilkinson were joined by student supporters Hannah Cox, Jennifer Beenham and Sophie Britton.

The team argued in favour of the proposition that cultural treasures should be returned to their country of origin, and against the proposition to tax junk food. The championship concluded with a round of impromptu debates.

ROADWORKS CHAOS IN AYCLIFFE

Dear Sir,
Does anyone at the Planning office for roadworks actually live in the areas that they authorise the works to take place? Aycliffe Business Park is now completely ringed by traffic lights and closed roads.

They have closed Preston Road and Whinbank Road with very poor signage resulting in cars and lorries doing u-turns. There are single way traffic lights on Durham Way North and St Andrew's Way (Not working again today!) That's without mentioning the absolute comical mess being made at St Andrew's Way (Hadrian built his wall quicker than that lot).

Great to see Stillers expanding in Aycliffe but how about making the roads big enough for them? Someone authorised the massive extension to their operation without any thought to access and when their current vehicles are already too large to negotiate the two junctions without taking up both sides of the road.

In fact Whinbank Road junction with Horndale is so busy at rush hours that the Stillers' lorries are turning left and taking shortcuts via School Aycliffe Lane thereby churning up the road surface in the village.

Some common sense would be appreciated in the Council's approach to

this grand mess which is laughable.
Name & address supplied

Town Centre Barriers

Dear Sir,
Can someone please advise me why our town centre has now become a storage centre for metal barriers. Undoubtedly we will be told they are there to protect pedestrians from trips or falls if accessing the non-bricked areas, but these have been there since shortly after the town centre was improved and there was no need for barriers then.

It also begs the question if there is work to do why not get on and get it done as surely barriers spread throughout the centre do little to enhance or attract? Perhaps the council could find the time to repaint the walls situated at the entrance to the town, remove the graffiti and clean the concrete balls which are somewhat filthy and again do nothing to enhance the area

William Walton
Ed: Town Centre Manager Bryan Haldane replies: "Barriers are in place in anticipation of future works which will be commencing shortly. Please note the Centre has no involvement in the entrance to the Business Park"

CHARITY LEADER SLEEPS ROUGH TO HELP HOMELESS



the work of Changing Lives and other charities fighting poverty through this experience then it will be

very worthwhile."

If you would like to sponsor Carol go to her JustGiving page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/carol-gaskarth> or call in to the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe. Please give what you can, every small donation will really make a difference.

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



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

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

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

- Text **SCAN02 £10** to 70070 to donate £10 to CDDFT.
- To discuss fundraising or for more information, ring 01325 743786 or email: cddft.charity@nhs.net
- Follow us on twitter: @CDDFTCharity
- Find the charity on Facebook

Swimathon to Help Your Club

WANTED: Teams of one to six people from Clubs, Schools, Factories, Offices, Friends and Neighbours to swim for 55 minutes in relays for charity.

The Annual SWIMATHON, organised by the ROTARY CLUBS of Newton Aycliffe, Bishop Auckland and Spennymoor and the LIONS CLUB of Darlington is now in its 37th year and has raised over £385,000 for local charities and good causes.

50% of the proceeds from this year's event will be donated to the BISHOP AUCKLAND and DARLINGTON HOSPITALS MRI SCANNER APPEAL. Other charities are nominated by the swimmers taking part in the event so

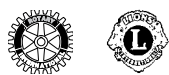
this is an opportunity for you to have a great day knowing that you have made a worthwhile contribution to your local community and your own club or choice of charity.

The state of the art scanners will make an important contribution to the health of our region and the life they save may be yours or one of your loved ones.

If you wish to take part in this **FUND Raising** event or donate to the swimmers please contact the organiser listed below.

APPLICATION FORM shown below - please complete and send in or hand in at Newton News offices, Blue Bridge Centre. Further details from John Snowball of Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club, Tel 01325 317804.

THE LIONS CLUB OF DARLINGTON,
THE ROTARY CLUBS of SEDGEFIELD
BISHOP AUCKLAND, NEWTON AYCLIFFE
and SPENNYMOOR



Invite you to take part in

SWIMATHON 2018

ON

SUNDAY 13th MAY 2018

(9.00am - 5.00pm)

at

SPENNYMOOR LEISURE CENTRE

We challenge you to enter a team or several teams of up to 6 members to swim in relay style for 55 minutes to raise funds through sponsorship for local charities including:

The Bishop Auckland & Darlington Hospitals MRI Scanners Appeal

YOU MAY NOMINATE A CHARITY OR "GOOD CAUSE" TO RECEIVE HALF THE SPONSORSHIP RAISED BY YOUR TEAM(S)

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR TEAM EARLY
IN ORDER TO OBTAIN YOUR SPONSORSHIP FORMS,
YOU DO NOT NEED THE NAMES OF YOUR
SWIMMERS UNTIL THE DAY OF THE SWIM

PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Name of Team.....

Name of Contact

Address of Contact

.....Postcode:.....

Telephone Number.....

Email.....

EXACT TITLE of Charity or Good Cause nominated to receive half of sponsorship raised by team

Signature of Team Contact.....

The organisers reserve the right to refuse the nomination of a "cause" which is considered inappropriate. Any refusal will be given in writing following receipt of this entry form.

Sessions will start promptly on the hour, every hour, from 9am to 4pm. Whilst no guarantee can be given, every effort will be made to accommodate your preferred day time.

PLEASE STATE YOUR PREFERRED START TIME

9.00am ☐ 10.00am ☐ 11.00am ☐ 12noon ☐

1.00pm ☐ 2.00pm ☐ 3.00pm ☐ 4.00pm ☐

If children under the age of 14 are competing a Parent's Consent Statement must be completed on sponsorship form. NOTE: Confirmation of time of swim and sponsor forms will be forwarded by the organisers to the Team Contact, whose responsibility it is to advise the team of all relevant information.

Please return to Swimathon Chairperson:

KEITH PATTON
'Greenfields', The Paddock
Tudhoe DL16 6YW
Tel: 01388 811 963

Email: kpatton0201@aol.co.uk



Lack of Information

Dear Sir,
I can remember the day when all building sites had a notice board informing the public what was being erected.

Going around Newton Aycliffe today there are many building sites but very few if any have a notice board informing the public what is being erected.

So what are they trying to hide? Are they erecting a building that the local people would object to? Are they breaking the planning rules? Will the buildings alter the local identity?

At the end of my street we have a bungalow site. Ideal for the elderly and the disabled but some of them have been knocked down. It now has a number of building sites. Are they changing it to something else?

Mr C C C R Palmer.
40 Gilpin Road



Our highly regarded and popular Pre-School, has served the local community for many years, providing an excellent Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) learning environment for generations of children.

From April 2018, we are able to widen or availability of morning places for 3-4 year olds living within and beyond the local area.



Heighington Pre-School

Based within the Village Hall

Places available at our outstanding Pre-School

For more information please contact Helen Lyon (Manager) on 07845 980151

EMAIL: heighingtonpreschool70@gmail.com

(Only during pre-school hours 9am - 12pm, term time only)

Alternatively contact Laura McGrath (Committee Secretary) on 07890196194.



DID YOU KNOW!

- Heighington Pre-School recently got OUTSTANDING in their latest Ofsted inspection.
- The recent Ofsted inspector reported that the "teaching is inspirational", "The children show overwhelming levels of respect and consideration for each other" and "they show readiness for starting School earlier than expected as they are resilient and well prepared".
- They offer 15 hours funding however you can use your 30 hours funding and split them with an alternative setting or childminder.
- They currently have vacancies which can also be used by children outside of the Heighington area.
- Heighington Pre-School is a registered charity; the staff and the committee work really hard organising events and activities to raise extra money to provide children with additional learning opportunities.

In the market for a new home?

Why not pop along to one of our Help to Buy events where mortgage specialists will be on site to answer all of your mortgage related questions

CLARENCE COURT
Newton Aycliffe

• Saturday 28th April
from 10am to 2pm

ST AIDAN'S VIEW
Chilton

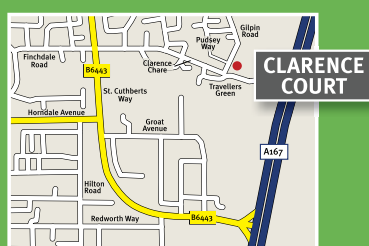
• Saturday 5th May
from 10am to 2pm

2, 3 & 4 bedroom homes
from as little as

£258 per month!
with Aspire to Own*

Help to Buy
Event

gleeson



ST AIDANS VIEW

St Aidans Way, Chilton, Ferry Hill, DL17 0EH

01388 721499

Sales office & show homes open daily from 10am to 5pm

CLARENCE COURT

Travellers Green, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5EB

01325 320787

Sales office & show homes open Thursday to Monday
from 10am to 5pm



homes by

gleeson

gleeson-homes.co.uk



Prices correct as of 24/04/2018. Images for illustration purposes. Schemes subject to terms and conditions and available on selected plots only, ask Sales Negotiator for details. *Mortgage repayment figure based on purchasing a 2 bedroom semi-detached home at St Aidan's View priced at £97,995 using Gleeson's Aspire to Own scheme. *Eligible applicants will be offered a gifted deposit up to 5% of the purchase price [based on the open market value]. The Example assumes a purchase price of £97,995 with Gleeson Homes offering a 5% gifted deposit [£4,899.75] and a personal deposit of 10% [£9,800.25] therefore the basic mortgage debt is £83,295. The rate is fixed at 1.49% fixed for 2 years. After the fixed rate period the mortgage will revert to the lenders standard base lending rate (currently 3.99%). There is an early repayment charge on the mortgage of £1,685.88 in Year 1 and £842.94 in Year 2. This charge is payable if all of the debt is repaid. A proportionate charge is payable for partial repayment. You are free to move the mortgage to another lender after the fixed rate term has ended. The APRC for this mortgage scheme is 3.81% and the total amount payable of the 35 year term will be £151,356.99. This means that every £1 borrowed will cost £1.80 to repay. There is an arrangement fee of £999 charged by the lender that can be added to the loan. There is a £65 redemption charge. There is no valuation fee payable on this deal. The monthly mortgage payment currently would be £257.68 for 2 years. Additional costs for life insurance cover and insurance of your contents may need to be added to the above monthly figure. For apartments the insurance in the building is incorporated into the service scheme. The mortgage is subject to status and credit scoring by the lender, the example does not represent any form of mortgage offer and does not oblige the lender to provide a mortgage. Not all mortgages are regulated by the Financial Services Authority. YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE. Written illustrations are available upon request.

Livin's Plans Must be Exposed

Dear Sir,
As Secretary of the Great Aycliffe Residents Association, I blew the whistle on Livin's Regeneration Scheme.

Having received a copy of Livin's original bid to the government for funds, under Freedom of Information Act, it is obvious that from the outset Livin only ever preferred Option 3.

They planned for wholesale demolition and regeneration right from the outset, and in my honest opinion, I do not think it too strong to say they misled residents, me and their own Livin Champions. It is clear they have been working hand in hand with Durham County Council since 2014, a whole year before they chose to consult residents.

Livin told the residents there were three options, but in my opinion they only discussed Option 3 with the Government and County Council and have privately discussed with the County Council to get the scheme incorporated into the County Plan, which would smooth the way for outline planning permission and Compulsory Purchase Powers and to present residents with a fait accompli.

According to their grant bid they plan to reduce the number of Social housing to

rent not by 100 as I previously mentioned, but by 128! How could anyone agree to this? It beggars belief and confirms that this is intended to be a money generating scheme to knock down 514 houses of which 286 are Livin rented and replace them with 632 houses of which only 158 will be Livin rented housing - a loss in rental income of £576,000 yearly!

This is not openness and transparency as required by the Government, and it shows that no resident should trust anything Livin say. They have refused to say anything publicly or attend public meetings.

What I and the residents of the estate want to know is - what did our Labour Aycliffe County Councillors know? when did they know and have the Labour controlled Durham County Council agreed to reduce the number of houses for rent by Livin, by 128?

Will they allow Livin to build executive houses for sale, and other houses for sale. Something is not right and we must get to the bottom of it and expose the full plan.

Does our MP go along with County Councillors in reducing Livin's Social housing for rent by 128 houses?

Arun Chandran,

DISC CAMPAIGN ON SCHEDULE TO HELP HUNDREDS INTO WORK

A call has gone out to local people who may need a little extra help to get into employment, education or volunteering.

More than 500 people have so far embarked on #DISC2020 programmes run by this County Durham based charity, DISC to help them into the world of work. Liane Taylor, Operations Director Employment & Social Enterprise for DISC, said: "DISC is a charity that works across many fields to support people who may be in need of help to fulfill their potential."

"The #DISC2020 vision is to try to further help them move on with their lives through education, employment and volunteering."

It had a target of reaching 400 by the end of its first 12 months, at the end of March this year. But by then it had helped 529 people to progress into employment, training, education and volunteering.

"We're really proud that we are exceeding our target. Our dedicated workers across the DISC services - education, young people and families, drug and alcohol misuse and independent living services - have encouraged users of



our services to get involved in activities and it has proved so successful.

"The World of Work clubs, known as WoW clubs exist in DISC projects in the community throughout the North. They have developed from job clubs to include sessions on personal development, confidence building, personal finance as well as CV writing and interview technique. The #DISC2020 campaign aims to support a total of 2,020 people into employment, training and volunteering by the end of the year 2020.

"For the Many not the Jew"

Dear Sir,
I previously responded to a letter from Cllr. J. D. Clare on the above subject in which I complained about his implication that Leave voters were racist. I also commented about the horrific anti-Semitic abuse being experienced by Labour MPs. Cllr. Clare's subsequent response was that my letter was "hysterical" and he went on to detail Labour's six tests of a 'good' Brexit.

However, since the Labour party stood for in the last General Election on the manifesto promise to Leave the EU, subsequently, it has decided that we should remain in the Single Market and the Customs Union!

Why don't you tell Labour voters the truth Cllr. Clare? That is what Democracy demands. Labour voters who voted Leave now have to think where their loyalties lie.

I am not racist, indeed I abhor racism. This is why I take offence when people insinuate that I and other Leave voters, are racist. Who are the "few racists" Cllr. Clare referred to? Name them in writing and let them defend themselves!

Our current Immigration policy is racist; it discriminates between EU and non-EU immigrants. We are required by the EU to have open borders with all other EU members. This being the case, we can only control immigration by restricting immigration from non-EU countries (including Commonwealth Countries). This is one of the factors I considered when deciding to

vote to Leave the EU and take back control of our borders. We can only do this if we Leave the EU

Unfortunately, in his response, Cllr. John. D. Clare chose not to condemn the anti-Semitic abuse of Labour MPs. Last week there was an urgent debate in Parliament on that very subject! The testimony of Jewish MPs (predominantly Labour MP who were being abused by people purporting to be Corbyn supporters) was shocking. There can be no doubt that there is a high level of anti-Semitic belief in Cllr. J.D. Clare's national Labour party.

Perhaps, as a historian, Cllr. J. D. Clare could advise us on the historical factors that makes a disproportionate number of left of centre Labour supporters have a propensity for anti-Semitic utterances? Personally, I do not wish to label Corbyn, or anyone else, anti-Semitic. However, I have my own conspiracy theory. As there are more Islamic

migrants in Britain than there are Jews (circa. 240,000), it suits Corbyn and Momentum to risk losing a few Jewish votes in order to gain more of the Islamic vote. Indeed, on Social Media the Labour party slogan now reads, "For the Many not the Jew"

Since the democratic Brexit vote there has been a democratic deficit in this country. Over 80% of the voters in the last General Election voted either Labour or Conservative and both parties' manifestos contained a promise to leave the EU. On the 24th of April 2018 our politicians (MPs and Lords) attended the unveiling of a statue of suffragist Millicent Fawcett, erected in recognition of her work in getting the vote for women.

It is hypocritical to honour the achievement of women's right to vote and then to ignore the vote of all the women who voted Leave in the Brexit Referendum!

Alastair P.G. Welsh

Tesco's Surprise Gift for Baby Blessings



Aycliffe "Children's Blessings" Charity Manager, Sheena Stephenson with Shirley, Tesco's Community Champion. Sheena ordered a trolley full of nappy bags to distribute to needy families and went to pay for them and was surprised to receive the goods as a gift from Tesco along with a voucher. Sheena said: "Tesco and their staff are great supporters of charities in the town and I would like them to know how much they are appreciated".

Will Woodham Get a Post Office?

Dear Sir,
In August 2017, Newton News reported the Post Office were proposing to relocate Woodham Post Office to Burnhill Way Services.

In March this year, the St Elizabeths Close branch closed permanently, however, the post office has not moved to the services so the Woodham estate is currently without a post office service.

I wonder if you know any details (or can find out) why the PO has not moved to Burnhill Way services? If it isn't moving there, then where is it going to open and when?

I think with your help this would make a decent story for the Newton News as a lot of Woodham residents must be thinking the same.

I hope you can help. I always enjoy reading the Newton News - keep up the good work!
Mark Mitchell.

Editor: We have contacted the Post Office and will print their reply when received.



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WOODHAM ANNUAL MEETING

Woodham Village Community Association will hold its AGM on Tuesday 15th May at the Community Centre at 7pm. Light refreshments will be served and all are welcome. On Tuesday the 24th April at Woodham Community Centre from 9-30am David Sutton-Lloyd closed the end of the CPR and Defibrillator partnership project. It is on time, slightly under budget, and will be over target. David set a target which many said was optimistic of 250 trained in CPR and Defibrillator usage. Numbers stand at 243 so far and 11 booked in for the final day. The surplus cash will be used for further training. Whilst this part with GAMP and other support had to have an end date David has personal plans to carry on.

Two Drawn Games for Aycliffe F.C.

Newton Aycliffe FC travelled to Jarrow Roofing and came away with a 2-2 draw. They started nervously, but came back and should have won, missing several chances and conceding two soft goals. Roofing took an early lead when centre half Andrew Grant-Soulsby missed a through pass; Knight got through the middle and slipped the ball past Winter. This unsettled Aycliffe, and within a minute they Roofing had another chance, but Winter made a fine save. On three minutes, Roofing hit the post from distance. Aycliffe started to settle and play their football. On 18 minutes, Grant-Soulsby headed a good chance over from a free kick. Then Jordan Jewson got through and put in a dangerous cross which Roofing put out for a corner. Craig Hutchinson came on for Jewson on 40 minutes and within a minute he had a great chance one-on-one with the keeper, but put

his shot wide. However, with a minute he made amends when he latched onto a knock-down in the box and shot past home keeper Regan for the equaliser. Two minutes into the second half, Stuart Banks dribbled through the back line, but Regan made a sharp save. Then Matty Pennal got through one-on-one, but he too couldn't beat the keeper. Thibault Charmey came on for Pennal on the hour, was soon in the action. He got a shot away, which Roofing somehow managed to scramble away. Aycliffe were dominating the second half, with Kurt Matthews and man-of-the-match Hutchinson tormenting the Roofing defence. They got their reward when a pass into the box found Charmey after a good move down the right. His first shot was saved, but he put the rebound away to give Aycliffe the lead. It looked like they would hold on, but in the first minute of injury time, Roofing won a dubious penalty. Campbell stepped up to score, and earn Roofing the draw. The result leaves Aycliffe in 16th position, with four home games to play. Aycliffe followed that draw with another on Monday night against Seaham Red Star. The Star took the lead just before the half hour but Thibault Charmey equalised on 62 minutes to earn Aycliffe a point. The home side suffered a blow in the closing minutes when keeper James Winter sustained a knee injury. Aycliffe have three home games to finish the season: Thurs 26 April Whitley Bay, Saturday 28 April Consett, Wednesday 2nd May Sunderland RCA.

Aycliffe "Work Place" Seeks New Trustees



An interesting and challenging opportunity exists for anyone interested in becoming a trustee of the Vocational Learning Trust, a charity which owns The Work Place in Newton Aycliffe. The building will be celebrating 10 years in 2018, and it is time for the charity to bring in some new blood. Trustees should have an underlying belief in the importance of economic well-being in the North East, and in the work readiness of the Region's young people. The Vocational Learning Trust's Board is looking for trustees with the skills needed to be an effective landlord of an iconic building, able to rise to unexpected challenges. The Trustees work closely with

the Directors of the wholly owned trading company -The Work Place (Aycliffe) Ltd., who manage the day to day operation. The Vocational Learning Trust Board meets twice a year, with other meetings arranged when issues arise. Trustees then need to be able to give some time until a solution is found. Interested people should contact the Chairman who will arrange for a visit to the Trust. A letter of application should be sent to Miss Jane Ritchie MBE, The Vocational Learning Trust, The Work Place, Heighington Lane, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6AH by 31st May 2018. Alternatively letters of application can be emailed to info@twpa.org.uk marked FAO Miss Jane Ritchie.

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Jane McAnaney RN Cert ECBS Bowen Technique Practitioner

Telephone Jane on 07751 920 464
www.the-bowen-clinic.co.uk

PUBLIC PACK COUNCIL CHAMBER IN OPPOSITION TO LIVIN'S REGENERATION SCHEME



Over 150 members of the public from the six streets, destined to be demolished in a regeneration scheme proposed by Livin, crammed into the Town Council chamber to express their fears and resistance. The Council have never had such a massive protest and along with the general public were outraged that Livin were not present to answer their questions. The Social Landlord had previously agreed to give a presentation, but on hearing the general public would be present, withdrew. Questions were put to the Council, but the Leader

Bob Fleming explained the council only knew as much as the public, as they had not been included in any discussion on the proposed scheme. Many expressed fears and everyone was opposed to the scheme and the lack of information issued by Livin. Great Aycliffe Residents' Association Chairman, Syd Howarth, in support of residents, gave a report to the meeting, stating the majority of residents were in opposition to the scheme. He was particularly concerned for elderly home owners who did not want to face the upheaval and

danger to their health, in moving house at their time of life. Another important point made was that part of the proposal meant 128 less rented properties. The Council and Syd were in disbelief, when there was a housing shortage, and they also wondered where these people would be housed. The Council heard proposals from Cllr. Iveson in supporting the residents in opposing the scheme which were met with loud applause. The vote was carried unanimously and it was suggested that GARA call a Public Meeting to which Livin will be invited.

Quinn Brothers Invent Water Leak Detector



Brothers Michael and Mark Quinn formed Qinov8 to develop and sell their unique AquaNav and AquaPea systems, which will revolutionise the way suppliers deal with burst and leaking pipes, saving money, time and precious water. Senior contracts manager Michael said potential growth was "phenomenal" and could quickly push revenue through the £1m mark. The firm has moved into large premises on Shildon's Dabble Duck Industrial Estate as it looks to create at least ten jobs over the next two years. The two patent-pending inventions have attracted attention from water companies across the UK, which can face heavy fines from regulator Ofwat for missing leak targets. "The interest we're getting and the reaction to the products is incredible," said Michael. "We're in talks with almost all the major UK water suppliers, including Thames Water, Yorkshire Water, Anglican Water and Scottish Water, as well as with companies in China, Turkey and South Africa. If talks

turn to licensing agreements then projected growth will be phenomenal." Qinov8 developed the AquaNav system to locate leaks inside large plastic water mains, at a depth of up to 16 feet underground. With a transmitter encased in a waterproof buoyancy carrier, the AquaNav travels along the leak by walking pace until it locates and stops at the source of the leak, the whole time sending a signal to a hand-held receiver. "The current system of locating leaks in plastic pipes is to dig, a lot. It is hard, time-consuming work. AquaNav can revolutionise how leaks are located and then fixed, saving money, time, carbon footprint and, of course water," said Michael. Qinov8's AquaPea system is designed to repair leaks in smaller, domestic water pipes. The pea-sized, formulated material is placed into the pipe and allowed to freeflow, drawn to the source of the leak by the flow of escaping water. On finding the leak, the unique material hardens and repairs the crack from the inside.

AYCLIFFE RADIO Programme Schedule

"GOOD MORNING AYCLIFFE"

with Aidan Thompson

Text, Email a request or shout out/mention, to win one of **FOUR** weekly prizes
(info@ayclifferadio.co.uk - 07512 253333)
broadcasting live Monday to Friday
from 8.30am - 12 noon

"AFTERNOON AYCLIFFE"

with Paul Baker

broadcasting Monday to Friday
from 12 noon to 4.00pm

** WATCH FOR NEW SHOWS/PRESENTERS **

Time	Session	Presenter
MONDAY		
6-7pm	60s Show	DJ-A
7-8pm	70s Show	Peter Rush
8-9pm	80s Show	Paul Gittins
9-10pm	90s Show	Paul Baker
TUESDAY		
6-7.30pm	Sports Round UP	Darren & Lee
1st May	David Bolt - 2018 Commonwealth Games Bronze Medal winner in Lawn Bowls	
8th May	Tommy Lowther - Sporting Force	
7.30-9.30pm	Northern & Classic Soul	Kevin Sowerby
WEDNESDAY		
7.45-10.15pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gary & Alby
THURSDAY		
7-8pm	"Throwback Thursday"	The Doctor
8-10pm	"Beat"Roote	Graeme Roote
FRIDAY		
6-8pm	Studio House Mix	PVR Studios
8-10pm	Guest Presenter Session	
27th Apr	Matthew Doughty	
4th May	Owen's Politics Show	
Guests: Cllr John Clare and Cllr Paul Symons Discussing Education System and The Locomotion Pub		
SATURDAY		
8-11am	Kitchen Floor Fillers	
11am-1pm	Kent Collective	Daz Kent
1-2pm	28th Apr - Honest John "Sixties Favourites"	
	5th May - Community Hour	John Atkinson
2-4pm	Aycliffe Radio Take Over	Metis
4-6pm	Something for the Weekend	Aidan Thompson
6-7pm	"The Evening Session"	DJ-jim-jams
7-8pm	"MixTape"	Paul Hardy
8-10pm	90s Classix	Nathan Abbott
10-12am	Garage/Grime/Drum n Bass	MC Supa
12-2.30am	Alternative Aycliffe (R)	Gary & Alby
SUNDAY		
12-2pm	Sports Round Up (R)	Darren & Lee
2-4pm	"Aycliffe Goes Country"	Aidan Thompson
4-6pm	Folk/Rock Show	Steve & Colin
6-7pm	Church Service	Xcel Centre
7-10pm	R 'n' B Show	Jack Hall

OPEN INTERVIEW INVITATION

Got an event or organisation you would like to promote?

Contact John Atkinson for an interview appointment, held in the Aycliffe Radio Studio on Wednesday afternoons.

Email: john@ayclifferadio.co.uk to book yours ...

www.ayclifferadio.co.uk



STEAM FESTIVAL

Locomotion, Shildon, invites visitors to a NEW event from Saturday May 5 to Monday May 7, 2018 – the Festival of Steam. Suitable for all the family, the Festival will showcase a range of steam power – from steam locomotives to traction engines and more.

Visitors to the event will have the chance to enjoy a steam train ride behind No. 7063 Eustace Forth, which will be the museum's guest operating locomotive for Summer 2018. The Festival of Steam event will also offer visitors their last chance at Locomotion for a steam train ride behind Furness Railway No. 20, the oldest standard gauge locomotive still operating in the UK, before the locomotive departs for the Ribble Steam Railway and major overhaul. Visitors will have the chance to get on board the cab of a steam locomotive in light steam – where they'll meet the experienced crew, and learn more about what's involved in operating one of these historic vehicles.

The event will feature FREE craft activity sessions with Locomotion's Learning team,

suitable for all the family and available from 11am to 3pm daily (whilst stocks last). What's more, Locomotion's Learning team will give demonstrations at 12noon and 2pm each day, exploring the forces behind steam power.

Plus don't miss walkabout performances from Same Difference of "Sense-O-Matic", at 11am, 1pm and 3pm daily. This features an eccentric pair of Victorian scientists, inviting the audience to try a range of gadgets to explore and understand the world around us. The Festival of Steam is the first event in Locomotion's Steam Season – a programme of inspiring events, exhibitions and activities which explore the power of steam, from May to September 2018.

For more information on the Festival of Steam and Locomotion's Steam Season, please visit www.locomotion.org.uk

Locomotion is open from 10am to 5pm daily. Parking and admission are free of charge. Please note that there is a charge for steam train rides. For more information, please call the museum team on 01904 685780.

AYCLIFFE'S BIGGEST & BEST BEER FESTIVAL AT THE "TUB"

Next weekend is The Turbinia's May-hem Beer Festival - Our BIGGEST & BEST yet with 18 CRAFT ALES, + 3 CRAFT CIDERS. Local & Regional beers, with some amazing brews and something for everyone. Porters, Lagers, IPA's, Bitters, Blondes & Ruby's all 'chilled' & served through hand-pulls and all reasonably priced at £3 pint.

The Festival is in 2 rooms, 1 for entertainment, one quiet for the craic - FREE entertainment all weekend.

Thursday 3rd: Preview Day
Friday 4th at 8pm - Open-Mic, with some outstanding local talent.

Saturday 5th at 8pm - 'THE ALCATRAZ HOUSE BAND' - Excellent band and regulars on the main stages of 'Stormin The Castle' & 'Farmyard Party' plus many other top festivals. Always about playing to the crowd & making sure EVERYONE has a good time. High energy performances with plenty of passion, rawness, and never disappoint.

Sunday 6th at 4pm - "THE INSPECTORS" - Massive party band, normally seen at top festival & major gigs, including regularly headlining the HUGE VW Festival 'Field of Dreams'

Monday / Tuesday - 'Drink us Dry' reduced prices on all festival ales. The Tub

always provides one of the best weekends of the year, so don't miss it!

HRA Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Wednesday 2nd May at Greenfield Arts Centre starting at 6pm with refreshments from 5.45.

We will be discussing plans for our upcoming Community/Emergency Services Fun Day to be held on the 16th August. We are looking for any local charities or groups who would like to join us on the day and advertise the work they do.

You can also raise funds for your own group. If you would like more info email. horndaleresidentsass@outlook.com

We will also be arranging some trips for the summer.

As usual your local councillors and maybe a rep from Livin and the local Police will be in attendance. The mini daffodils we helped Byerley Park School pupils plant last November as part of 'Operation Spruce Up' have all flowered giving a great display for everyone to enjoy.

Philip Clark, Chairman

RUNNING CLUB NEWS



As usual the racing weekend began on the Saturday with many members attending various parkruns around our region with the following achieving PB's.

At Sedgefield, Rob Youngran in 21.08 and Jan McLuckie in 36.58. Ian Baronowski then achieved a course PB at Darlington Parkrun in 26.07. Julie Nisbet achieved her course PB at Shild Parkrun on 24.57. Finally at Chester le Street Parkrun, Carrieann Ingledew achieved a PB of 38.36 with Lisa Dowell achieving her PB of 38.35.

In addition on the Saturday one member, Andrew Lumley travelled to run 101 at the Cragside Estate in Northumberland. The race was set in the grounds and

incorporated the hills and apparently this led to a good downhill finish. Andrew enjoyed the race and completed the same in 51.09. On Sunday many members arrived in Hartlepool for the annual Marine 5 mile race. This is a popular race for the club members and there was a great turnout from the club. The race starts near to the museum in the Marina and leads you on to the promenade all the way along to the dunes at Seaton Carew before turning you back for the finish which is close to the start area.

Fortunately the weather conditions were kind and were perfect for the race and the good weather meant there were plenty of

spectators along the way. Results as follows: - John Surtees 28.12, Richard Campbell, 31.20, Tracey Surtees 32.52 (1st female 3 age 20-34), Richard Holland 33.01, Michelle Jane 33.37 (2nd female 20-34), Dave Blewitt (34.25, Alan Wilks 35.24 (2nd male 70-74), Trevor Needham 36.34, Austin Donoghue (37.52), Angela Sutherland 38.26, Trish Kay 39.04 (3rd female 55-59), Michael Brunskill 41.28, Mandy Heywood 41.35, Ian Baronowski 42.02, Heather Fenwick 42.19, Lindsey Brown 43.47, Denise Evans 45.45, Donna Campbell 47.45, Susan Clark 50.26, Eve Doe 52.52, Ray Todd 54.11 rd male 70-74), Jan McLuckie 57.35.

New Friends - New Places

A trip to Blackpool for the "SWINGING SIXTIES" is from July 13th/14th/15th and owing to cancellation we have two places vacant on our trip. The coach picks you up in Newton Aycliffe, evening meal on Friday, Saturday Breakfast and evening meal Sunday Breakfast. Depart back at midday on Sunday

COST: £129 including transport in a luxury coach and staying at THE ELGIN HOTEL BLACKPOOL. This is our second visit to the ELGIN The Staff are great, the food is fantastic and the entertainment is top class. Deposit £60 to book and the balance is due by 15th May. Ring 01325 308094 /07967 901477.

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Email: stephen@newtonpress.net

www.newtonpress.net

Free Lady's Golf Class

Woodham Golf Club are running some **Free of Charge Ladies Get into Golf sessions** in early May to try to encourage more ladies into the game

First date: Saturday 5th May 1pm-2pm - All Equipment is supplied.

Booking is essential call the Golf Shop on 01325 319977 and speak to Coach PGA Golf Professional Ernie Wilson



Ernie's daughter Rebecca

Twelve Medals for Aycliffe Swimmers



Sedgefield 75 swimmers competed last weekend at the Spa Town Gala in Harrogate. Swimming were Katelyn and Ethan Craig, Leah Smith, Kathryn and Charlotte Lee, Matthew Winbury and Chloe Harding. A total of 12 medals were won, 6 gold, 1 silver and 5 bronze.

All swimmers gave maximum effort in very hot conditions and they all swam fantastic new personal best times in every event they entered sharing excellent team spirit and making their club very proud.

Emma Price who also competed won all three of her races but due to smashing the upper time limit had to forfeit her gold medals for three speeding tickets. Speeding tickets are issued to swimmers who swim a race faster than the upper time allowed. They are put in place to allow fast swimmers to race but to prevent them taking all the medals in a lower level gala for swimmers who aren't of such a high standard. Two of these times qualified her for next years N&D Championships.

All swimmers pass special thanks to Emma Craig who was pool-side coach for both days.

JUNIORS FOOTBALL REPORT

Aycliffe Juniors teams continued their football seasons with a variety of games this week. There were many league matches and a Challenge Cup semi final to enjoy.

The Under 8's were playing at home against Leven and a determined effort was not enough to challenge great opposition. The Aycliffe team worked hard but slipped to defeat.

The Under 9's 'Clarets' faced Escomb Tigers they started slowly and found themselves 2-0 down at the break. Jude scored a second half goal but this wasn't enough as the game ended in a 2-1 loss. Harry was named as the man of the match.

The Under 9's 'Whites' played a re arranged game against Durham United on Friday. A consolation goal from Ethan was all that could be taken from a 5-1 loss where Roman was the man of the match. They then played Hepworth FC Pumas on Saturday, dominating from the start with two goals from Ethan earning them a 2-1 win. Daniel's excellent work rate and support play saw him gain the man of the match award. The two Under 9's teams also came together for a TJFA League game against Greatham FC 'Blue' on Sunday. A free flowing game started evenly, with both teams having chances. Man of the match Harry scored with a shot from outside the box to give Aycliffe the lead. Greatham though equalised and the game ended 1-1 with all the players putting in a good display.

The Under 10's 'White' had their League Challenge Cup semi final against North Riding Division 1 side Boro Rangers 'White'. It was a tight game but the visiting team came out 2-1 winners to end Aycliffe's cup run.

The Under 11's faced Billingham United Hornets in a repeat of last weeks game. A solid first half performance led to the game being goalless at the break. Billingham though went on to score three quick goals early in the second half before Charlie E scored and then Alfie hit a wonder goal to get Aycliffe back in the game at 3-2. As they searched for the equaliser a fourth goal was conceded and game ended 4-2.

The Under 12's Russell Foster League team were up against Washington AFC Lions but lost out 5-1.

The Under 12's TJFA League team played two midweek games, the first at Golden Flatts and then at Marton 'Whites'. A well contested match at Golden Flatts saw Jake P score first before the hosts equalised. In the second half Lucas and Evan scored to open up a 3-1 lead but it was a tight finish after Golden Flatts got one back. The game finished with Aycliffe gaining a 3-2 win. At Marton the Aycliffe team ended the game with only eight fit players and slipped to a 4-1 defeat with Lucas on target for Aycliffe.

The Under 13's hosted New Marske FC and their good form continued with a 2-0 win. They will look to keep up their positive efforts in to the last two games of their season, both of which take place in the next week.

The Under 16's played Darlington RA Locomotives in midweek and then Billingham Synthonia on Sunday. At Darlington they won 4-0 then at Billingham they carried on



their winning ways and worked hard to earn a 2-1 victory. The lads have another busy week ahead with two more games scheduled.

The Under 23's played Whitley Bay Sporting Club. Sam Dawson played well in the unfamiliar position of striker and Brad Blythe added good impact off the bench in a 1-1 draw.

Situations VACANT

Byerley Park School

Greenfield Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 7LE

Telephone: 01325 300598

Email: byerleypark@durhamlearning.net

Vacancy for Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant

6.25 hours a week - Salary Grade 1

(£16,863-£17,007, pro-rata) (£8.74 per hour)

Hours of work: Monday to Friday 12 noon - 1.15pm (Term Times Only).

Governors are seeking to appoint a highly motivated and enthusiastic Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant for our school. The successful candidate would be expected to work alongside pupils at Lunchtimes, maintaining very good relationships with pupils and adults in school and be able to maintain our good standards of pupil behaviour. Candidates would also be expected to initiate and develop active play with pupils.

Application packs are available from Byerley Park School and can be collected during office hours or you can email school on the above address and a pack will be emailed back to you.

Closing date: 12 noon on Wednesday 9th May 2018

Successful applicants will be invited for interview by telephone or email and interviews will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 16th May 2018.

Durham County Council is an equal opportunities Employer. We want to develop a more diverse workforce and we positively welcome applications from all sections of the community. Applicants with disabilities will be invited for interview if the essential criteria are met.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to receipt of satisfactory DBS Enhanced Disclosure.

Please note that the Childcare Disqualifications Regulations 2009 apply to this position and therefore you are required to complete the 'disqualification by association' declaration form. Should you be successful in your application for this post, your appointment can not be progressed without this declaration.

This position is paid whole time with retainer adjustments applied to periods of school closure periods however your salary in these periods will be adjusted accordingly in line with the retainer regulations as specified in the National Joint Council (NJC) Green Book agreement.

This post is not open to job share.

The school operates a No Smoking policy.

Under 8's Football Team Bag Pack at Tesco's



Newton Aycliffe Youth FC Under 8's would like to thank Tesco's and their customers for the money raised at a Bag Pack on Friday 16th February. They managed to raise a whopping £566.50, which has been spent on jackets and hats for their 16 player squad.

Situations VACANT

FLT Drivers Required

Counterbalance and Reach Licenses Accepted
Based in Newton Aycliffe and Darlington

X3 Shift Rotation Basis

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

Wages £8.22 to £8.50 p/h + shift allowance

Immediate start available to the right candidates
Drugs and alcohol testing prior to commencing

Contact WHURK Recruitment

Telephone: 01325 778535



Receptionist Vacancy

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Real Nappy Week Gala Theatre Summer Shows

A campaign encouraging people to make the switch to reusable nappies takes place next week.

Real Nappy Week, which runs from Monday, 23 to Friday, 29 April, spreads the word about the benefits of using cloth nappies and asks people to share their experience and encourage others to find out more. As part of this year's campaign, Durham County Council is joining with Durham Cloth Nappy Library to host sessions where people can find out more.

All are welcome to come along to the sessions on:
Saturday, 21st April. Busy Bees, The Hut, Ushaw Moor, DH7 7LJ, 10am - 12pm
Monday, 23rd April. Big Nappy Meet at Kalma Baby Durham Studio, Durham, DH1 2XL, 10am - 11.30am

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To celebrate Real Nappy Week, Durham County Council is giving away two real nappy starter packs worth £70 each. To enter, go to the Recycle for County Durham Facebook page www.facebook.com/recycleforcountydurham. The competition closes for entries on Sunday, 6th May. To find out more about using real nappies, visit www.durham.gov.uk/realnappies

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 please ring the bell

A poignant play marking the 100th anniversary of the First World War, a family musical with a twist and a spectacular showcase from two Strictly stars are part of a packed summer programme at Durham's Gala Theatre.

Birdsong, which runs from Monday 21 to Saturday 26 May, is based on the world famous novel by Sebastian Faulks and will be performed by a large ensemble company including Olivier-nominated actor and former Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan. Tickets cost £25 or £23 for concessions but can be bought for £20 if booked before Friday, 4 May.

The new season's theatre schedule also includes **Rattle Snake** on Wednesday 30 May, a dramatic story based on real life experiences of women who have faced and survived domestic abuse.

Other productions include **Woven Bones**, a tale which brings to life the untold accounts of Scottish Soldiers who were marched to Durham and imprisoned in the disused Cathedral and Castle, and **Happy Hour**, a fast-paced comedy exploring the modern obsession with happiness and success. There's plenty to keep

young people entertained, from Northern Ballet's **Ugly Duckling** on Thursday, 10 May to **Tidy Up** - a dance theatre show inspired by children's desire to create order, patterns and systems on Sunday, 27 May.

Gala Theatre Stage School will return with their latest production, **The Addams Family**, from Wednesday 1 to Saturday 4 August.

The heart-warming story of love, family and friendship will include some of the region's most talented young performers, with tickets costing £15 or £50 for a family ticket.

Kate Rusby, one of folk's most original songwriters whose musical career spans over 25 years, will grace Gala's stage on Thursday, 3 May for an unforgettable concert, while inventive musicians **Decostruttori** Postmodernisti showcase their unusual arrangements on Friday, 8 June - featuring the electronic instrument the Theremin.

English Touring Opera is also returning to Gala Theatre, starting with a new production of **The Marriage of Figaro** on Monday, 14 May. The following day sees a double bill of **Il Tabarro**

and Gianni Schicchi, one-act operas that show Puccini at his finest. Tickets cost £29 each or £49 when booking for both evenings' shows.

Strictly's Ian Waite and Oti Mabuse will also bring their dazzling dance routines to Durham on Sunday, 17 June, followed by one of the most popular dance shows in the world, **Rhythm of the Dance**, on Thursday, 12 July.

Side-splitting comedy returns to Gala, with **One Woman Sex** and the City promising both laughs and heartaches on Sunday, 13 May, and **Grumpy Old Women** - starring Jennie Eclair, Dillie Keane and Lizzie Roper - visiting the city on Saturday, 19 May. For more details, visit www.galadurham.co.uk

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"ALL SORTS" Charity Shop at the side of St. Clare's Church is open 10am to 1pm every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. On sale is a huge selection of bric-a-brac, toys, household goods, jewellery, electrical goods . . . the list is endless. All items are perfect and at low prices. All money raised will continue to be given to good causes. All Sorts is a charitable project run and funded solely by Godfrey Bennett. All Sorts will be closed for the full month of May to allow for a complete shop refurbishment. Reopen on Saturday 2nd June with lots of new stock and space to look around.

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COUNTY NEWSBITS
 Compiled by
 County Councillor John Clare

Interesting Council meetings, local community news, and something to do. Find out more on my blog at: bit.ly/CNB19
COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY

- DCC Full Council meeting, Wednesday 18 April - children's mental health provision; taxi licensing; £2million extra on roadworks.
- Latest unemployment figures for County Durham and Newton Aycliffe.
- Good beeping scheme, Big Club!
- GATC Policy & Resources Committee, Wednesday 18 April - grants; tree roots; service plans.
- County Durham welcomes seven new PCSOs.
- Ron Hogg PCVC is supporting Durham Savers.
- The Hitachi Rail Europe Newton Aycliffe has won Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Project of the Year 2018, North East.
- Latest roadworks information.

THINGS TO DO NEXT WEEKEND
 • Celebrate Japanese Children's Day (5-11s) at Durham Oriental Museum, drop in 1-3pm, Saturday 5 May.

• Dragonfly Identification and Survey Techniques Introduction (adults), Low

FEED BIRDS

Dear Sir,
 In reply to Irene Hewitson's letter (Newton News 20th April) where she states that she now feels "Over the Moon" to know that she is not breaking the law in feeding the birds.

The physical act of doing so may not be illegal but the results of which have been pointed out to her, are illegal because it is tantamount to littering and if caught you can be fined for such an offence.

She says that she loves going to the big cities where they actually sell bags of seed to feed her precious birds could I politely suggest that she spends more time there.

Instead of quoting from the Mary Poppins song, "Feed the Birds" she should "Heed the Words" of a previous writer (Newton News 23rd March), namely a Mr. Brian Sowerby, who is a Pest Control Professional from "PestGuard" who quite plainly put it:
PLEASE STOP FEEDING THESE BIRDS NOW!
 Mr. A. Elders
 Hickstead Rise



At Last Aycliffe Can be Recognised

Organisers of events in the town should be pleased the County Council have given notice via Facebook of the publication of their Summer Guide delivered to each house.

Many people including Newton News have complained in the last few years about the lack of Aycliffe news in this publication.

It seems the Editorial team have taken note so please take advantage and show what a vibrant town we have.

Notice below:
Durham County News editorial team are about to start production of this year's Summer Guide (to be distributed in early July) and are looking for events to be included in the 'What's On' section.

Events featured will be within the period 13th July – 14th September (where space allows).

You can fill in the online submission form <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QNFQ3HD>

Learn New Skills at Greenfield Arts

Greenfield Arts are offering a full programme of activities and courses for the summer season. Why not come along and learn something new in a friendly environment.

As part of our Community Learning Programme our popular Spanish sessions offer a range of levels and a great chance to learn a new skill. Our Beginners session is perfect for those just starting out and will bring your Spanish up to scratch in time for your holidays.

The Intermediate session is ideal for those who know the basics and want to progress their knowledge of speaking and grammar, a great help for those who want to hone their skills or use Spanish for business purposes, or perhaps you are thinking of spending more time abroad. Many of our students have progressed to our advanced class, where you can perfect your conversational skills within a friendly group. All classes are led by professional tutor Daria Coates who is on hand to guide you through the sessions.

We are also offering courses in a range of activities including Yoga, Floral Art and more Specialist Arts



courses such as Exploring Collage, Exploring Paint and our popular Creative Forum. Or perhaps you would like to try our Masterclass sessions, this summer we are also offering workshops in Print Making and Digital Photography, a great chance to learn from expert tuition improve your skills and get creative!

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, www.greenfield-arts.co.uk. If you would like any further information please contact 01325 379048 or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk.

School Gear up for Big Pedal

Byerley Park Primary School is encouraging children, teachers and parents to jump on their bikes and scooters for Sustrans Big Pedal 2018 - a UK-wide event to get more young people cycling and scooting to school, backed by world record breaking cyclist Mark Beaumont. Mark holds the Guinness World Record for cycling around the world in 78 days, after 18,000 miles, covering 240 miles a day and taking in 16 countries.

Sustrans Big Pedal 2018, which runs from Monday 23 April to Friday 4 May, will see pupils, parents and teachers across the UK leave their cars at home and get on their bikes and scooters for their journeys to and from school. During the 10 days, Byerley Park will compete with other UK schools to make the most journeys by bike or scooter.

Mrs Alison Gargan, Head Teacher at the school, said "We're really excited to be taking part in Sustrans Big Pedal. We hope that by encouraging our children to walk, cycle and scoot to school over the next two

weeks we will see a reduction in congestion and pollution around the school gates, as well as helping the children adopt a healthier way of travelling to school, which in turn will make them feel happier."

In Memoriam

MARGARET CLARK

Former school secretary at Elmfield and Sugar Hill Primary Schools. Peacefully on 18th April, aged 85 years. Beloved Wife of the late Ron; dear Mam, Mother-in-Law, Grandma and Great Grandma. Funeral Service and Cremation to be held in Wear Valley Crematorium on Thursday 3rd May at 1.30pm. Would family and friends please meet at the Crematorium. Family flowers only, please, donations in leu, if so desired, to Dementia UK.

Adrian Cairns

1st May

Tears still flow since you left us, with a huge void in our lives. But we have memories, all good, of a loving and caring Son. In our hearts you will always stay, you are loved and remembered every day. Dad and Mam xxx

Also sadly missed by Brandon and Ebony xxxx

MARGARET ARCHER



To Margaret Elizabeth Archer (Peggy), our dear Mam, Nanna, Sister and Auntie. You are so sadly missed by all the family and friends since your death on 24th April 2016. We are all thankful to have had such a loving and caring beacon of light in our lives. You kept us all together and will forever be in our thoughts and hearts. Love you loads xxx

KIM FOWLER OAKENFULL NEWMAN

25th April 2009

Reunited with her son Michael (29th April 2007). We know you are still with us Kim, especially today, because we shared a closeness even death can't take away. And when a pure white feather falls softly from the sky, we know you are lovingly saying "chin up, I don't want to see you cry".

For there is a special golden thread from Earth to heaven above that keeps you ever close to us. It's called the bond of love "one wish is all we need!" Kim, you are held close in our hearts forever. Mam Tessa, Dad Ian, Brothers Craig and Martin

Newton News apologise to Kim Fowler Oakenfull Newmans family for the omission in the previous notice.

Birthday Remembrance

ALEXANDER SHEDDEN 28th April. Best wishes on your special day Dad/Grandpop. In our thoughts daily, loved and missed everyday. Elaine, Ian, Emma and John-Paul

TONY DOBSON 26th April 1972. Remembering a very special Son on his birthday. Loved and longed for more each day. Mam, Dad and all your family and friends. Always our hero.

TONY DOBSON Wishing a very special Uncle a happy birthday. Miss you more every day Uncle Tony. Kieran, Jason and Kathleen
SUSAN ELLEN HARCUS Died April 2008. My dearest Daughter. Another year gone, I miss you so much. You are in my heart and thoughts always. Never far away, just as you promised, miss your smile, laughter and your caring ways, all of you. I love you. Till we meet again, God bless my darling. All my love, Mam and all the family xxx

Thank You

Maureen Holland (Maur)



Maureen passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on Sunday 11th March 2018. A loving Wife, Mother, Grandmother (Nanny), Mother-in-Law, Sister and Sister-in-Law. Thanks to David Scott from the Co-op and to Carole Briggs for the lovely Humanist Celebration of Maureen's life. All our love from Nick and family

THANK YOU to the person who handed my keys in to the Police Station

Acknowledgement

MARILYN NOBLE

The family of Marilyn would like to convey their heartfelt thanks for all the floral tributes, cards and messages of condolences received at this sad time and thank all relatives and friends for attending the Church Service and Marilyn's Celebration of Life at Redworth Hall.

We would also like to pass on our gratitude to Bryan at Whitehouse Funeral Service and the Reverend Ann Anderson from St. Clare's Church. We felt the eulogy for Marilyn in church was excellent and captured Marilyn's personality perfectly. Finally we would like to express our gratitude to all the medical support Marilyn received, especially the MARA Units at Darlington and Bishop Auckland. Sweet dreams. Dennis, Andrew & Clare

Congratulations

Madison Jackman

30th April



Happy 22nd Birthday Mads

Hope you have a wonderful day. Lots of love from Mum, Dad and Macca xxx Woofs from Mav, Marley, Merlin and Madison xxxx



Happy Birthday to my Mummy

Love you lots and lots, Cayden xxx



Happy Birthday

Love from John and all your family and friends xxxx

newtonnews

GIVE US YOUR OPINION

Newton Press and Newton News are constantly moving with the times and we would like your opinion on the future of the Newton News publication.

OPTION ONE:

Leave as it is; weekly delivery to all homes and businesses in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding villages as well as view/download online.

OPTION TWO:

No house to house deliveries, however a printed version will still be available from various pick up points around the town as well as being able to view/download on the website.

OPTION THREE:

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Youthy Football Round Up

Newton Aycliffe Youth U16's Girls played in the Shield Final against Norton and Stockton on Saturday.

Aycliffe turned up as professionals wearing shirt and tie. The girls were buzzing. Both teams walked out the changing room following the referee. The tension was high, and it could be felt by the players and supporters alike. It was a perfect pitch and the sun was shining.

The next 80 minutes, proved that both team wanted to win Norton had the better chances in the first half but the defence held strong and Courtney pulled off another goal line save to keep Aycliffe in it. Changes were made at half time the girls started to pass the ball around, then Katie B got the ball on the right wing whipped in a teasing ball and Matilda was there to tap the ball in at the back post. The girls were then flying defence and midfield were coping with everything Norton had to offer, then Katie B drove through the Norton defence and slotted the ball home for 2-0. The girls saw the game out to become 2018 shield winners. Well Played Girls.

Newton Aycliffe Youth Falcons U11's 3 - 2 Norton & Stockton
Newton Aycliffe Youth Falcons U11's 0 - 2 Leven Athletic

This week the Falcons had two fixtures and in the midweek fixture we played away to Norton and Stockton. A really difficult fixture but we managed to come from behind to win the match 3-2. Great character from the lads and good battling performance. Goals all scored by Dylan Stewart who also picked up



man of the match. Well done lads

Sunday's game the Falcons played away at Leven on what seemed to be a local farmer's field. To say the ball was bobbling around a bit was an understatement. Regardless we started the game really well getting the ball down and playing some good positive football. However two unfortunate goals in the first half against the run of play really set us back. Into the second half and we tried to go for it and pushed more players forward. This asked a lot of our defenders but they really did step up and defended admirably when outnumbered against Leven counter attacks. Also the defenders were helped by some really good recovery runs from our midfield who worked tirelessly box to box to try and get back into the game. Today just wasn't our day and having several chances to pull ourselves back into the game we just could not find the net. Final score 2-0 to Leven. Good effort by the players who gave it their all against a really good team. Well done lads. Man of the match Thomas Dearden. Solid defensively throughout the game on a really unpredictable pitch. Read the game very well and was calm and composed at all times. Great performance, well done Tom.

Congratulations to Newton Aycliffe U14 Hawks on gaining promotion today. Boys are now guaranteed a top 2 finish. Great effort from the whole squad this season. The Hawks are only in there 3rd season together. There 1st season together was a struggle and were on the end of some heavy defeats but that season has stood them in good stead. They developed there game with in game challenges and hard work in training. The boys left the TJFA for a crack at the RFYL and finished runners up last season and came back to the TJFA this season to challenge themselves against teams who had beaten them heavily 2 seasons ago.

The boys have taken up the challenge well and played some really good football. The team ethos has never changed and all players who turn up are guaranteed at least half a game of football, no matter the

ability of the player. The core of the squad is the same as the first season. You boys should be proud of your achievements this season. Well done boys.

Very good couple of days for the U14's Eagles. Saturday the Eagles played Norton and Stockton and won 12-0. Joey Howarth scored 6, Adam Lowe got 3, Dylan Bowater, Callum North and Jake Goad all scored one each.

Sunday the Eagles played away to Kader Juniors. In a game where the Eagles found themselves 5-3 down with 15 minutes to go, they pulled it back and win the game 6-5. Joey Howarth scored another 5 goals and Adam Lowe got one too.

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

Trophies for Juniors

Pictured above are Chris Lawson Junior Liaison Officer at Woodham Golf Club (second left) with the three trophies bought by the Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club in memory of their late member and past president Richard Gent. Also present is Richard's widow and President of Newton Aycliffe Inner Wheel, Margaret Gent Tony Robinson and Rotarian David Hogg.

The Claret Jugs (engraved "The Richard Gent Rotary Memorial Trophy") will be played for by all Juniors this summer and the Plaque will be presented to the winner of the Juniors v Men's competition to be held later in the year.



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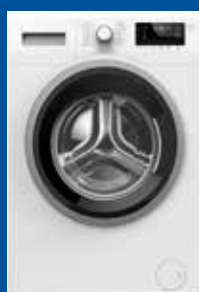


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