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Newton News, Blue Bridge Centre, St. Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham DL5 6DS -Editor: syd@newtonnews.co.uk • Advertising: paul@newtonnews.co.uk

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ELECTRICIAN

Newton Aycliffe based cycling club VC167 ran an event to take on the iconic Coast to Coast cycle ride. A total of 25 riders took part in the 140 mile event, 15 VC167 members, nine Darlington cycling club members and NOW ON a member from Stockton Wheelers. ü

The youngest rider on the event was VC167 member, Megan Plews and at 12 years old she is the youngest ever VC167 member to complete a C2C, a fantastic achievement.

On Saturday 28th April

The day began at 5.15am with the riders meeting up in Newton Aycliffe ready to be transported to Silloth in Cumbria for the 8.30am start. After a quick pit stop on route, for a breakfast bun and coffee, the convoy arrived at Silloth at 8.00am to a sunny morning and beautiful view over the

Solway Firth. We left Silloth in the morning sun but unfortunately riding into a head wind lasting for the length of our journey made the ride just a little tougher. We rode through Wigton on the way to the notorious Hartside climb, and on reaching the summit,

Easter Gift



Girl cyclist Megan Plews

it was sad to see the now burnt out remains of the famous Hartside cafe.

Now it was time for the descent thrilling Alston for a welcome lunch at the Cumberland Inn. After lunch, we set off for another epic climb over Yad Moss. Descending through Middleton in Teesdale past High Force, the last big climb was Folly Top then downhill all the way to Staindrop.

It was an ironic twist that the final part of the journey to Seaton Carew took us through Newton Aycliffe with a 12-year-old girl determined to ride to the end, no-one else was quitting. The arrival on Seaton Carew sea front was a very welcome sight with everyone relieved but proud of their achievement.

Many thanks to Gordon Panicca for all his hard

work organising the event. Also thanks to Ian and Sam Baronowski for their work in the support vehicle. Those pit stops were very welcome with the chocolate brownies

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Children's Blessings team would like to say a huge thank you to Junior Pageant Princess, Layla Belle Thompson who used her pocket money to buy Easter Eggs to give out to children who wouldn't have



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MAY-HEM BEER FESTIVAL

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"Covering tracks by: Led Zeppelin, 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"

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

Reduced prices on all remaining beer festival ales.

Saturday 12th April - "Fizzy Fish"

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Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

INTERNATIONAL JAZZ STARS AT DARLINGTON

fans when the town's New

Orleans Jazz club welcomes

Orleans Jazz club weiconics back two of its most popular performers on Saturday 5th May – international stars John Hallam on reeds and Jeff

John and Jeff will certainly

make the good times roll when

they join forces to play jazz tunes familiar, less familiar and some downright obscure

- but fun. John's career stretches across Europe and America and he's held the

front line in bands featuring jazz greats including George Melly, Stephane Grapelli, Digby Fairweather and Harshau Little

Jeff's career is equally international, playing back to back gigs around the world

and getting his audiences on the edge of their seats as he brings his larger-than-

life personality to flawless performances. There'll be a lot of laughs too as he's a great

There's a further treat in store

on the day – John and Jeff are joined by club favourites Keith Stephen on guitar and banjo and Bruce Rollo on bass –

together the line-up forms the Mr Men Quartet. The gig is part of the packed Darlington

Jazz Festival programme that runs from Friday 4 to Sunday

6 May.
And get ready for ragtime on Saturday 2 June when Mike Lovell and his six in a

bar bandmates hit the club. They'll be dressed to impress,

playing and singing fantastic music out of the 1920s and 30s by such greats as Louis Armstrong, Jelly Roll Morton, Clarence Williams, Fats Waller, Fletcher Henderson,

Duke Ellington to name but

Humphrey Littleton

entertainer.

Barnhart on keyboard.

There's a double delight in store for Darlington jazz

FUN AT KILLHOPE

rockets, there's lots of exciting things to make and do at a County Durham museum this Bank Holiday weekend.

Youngsters can get craft at sand art workshops on Sunday, 6 May. Sessions, which should be booked in advance, run at 12 noon, 1pm and 2pm and cost £3 per child.

Sunday also sees the opportunity to join in the craze for painting and hiding rocks at free Killhope Rocks workshops. Drop-in sessions start at 12 noon and 2pm.

And on Monday, 7th May, youngsters can design and build their own water rocket to launch on site. The water rocket workshop is aimed at children aged between four and 14. Places are limited but can be booked on the

Maria McArdle, museum operations officer, said:
"There will be lots
happening over the Bank Holiday weekend with our programme of activities but. of course, there's also our amazing mine to explore, displays and exhibitions and our stunning surroundings." For information, visit www. killhope.org.uk/events.

> Darlington New Orleans Jazz Club meets at St Augustine's Parish Hall, Larchfield Street, Darlington 12.30pm Street, Darlington 12.30pm on the first Saturday of every month (except January). Entry is just £10 on the door), and children 15 and under go free. Darlington for Culture members are eligible for discounted entry on production of their membership card. It's a good idea to arrive early to get good seats for all the gigs—capacity audiences are becoming the norm at the Club.

and coffee is available; and everyone is very welcome to bring their own food along for a picnic whilst the band is entertaining. There's the added benefit of plenty of free onsite car parking. It's also just a short walk from the bus stops on Tubwell Row and Darlington railway station. For more information go to www.darlingtonjazz.co.uk

or contact Ray Sams ray@ darlingtonjazz.co.uk 07860 Graham Foster graham@darlingtonjazz.co.uk Graham Foster

P.A.C.T. Meeting Police And Community Together

AYCLIFFE WEST Wednesday 9th May 20018, 18:00hrs Simpasture Court.

Thursday 10th May 2018, 18:00hrs Neville Community Centre. PCSO's will be at the meetings to discuss any concerns about the local

area. PCSO 7758 Jen Atkinson Newton Aycliffe Neighbourhood Policing Team Email: Jennifer. Atkinson@ durham.pnn.police.uk Newton Aycliffe Comm-

unity Police and Fire Station Central Avenue Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5QH

ACORN R.A. Meeting

This month's meeting will be on Thursday 10th May at 6pm in the Phoenix Club. Everyone is welcome for tea, coffee and a chat.

We usually have Councillors who are willing to help with any problems that involve them.

Bookings are being taken for our next two trips - South Lakes Zoo on 12th May and Windermere on 16th June. We look forward to seeing

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Saturday May 19th

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May Entertainment Guide

Friday 4th

Saturday 5th Sunday 6th

Fire Lady Luck, £2.50 on the door Bank Holiday - 3 Fantastic Artists 4pm-11.30pm, £2 on the door

Friday 11th T.B.C.

Saturday 12th Celestine, £2.50 on the door

Tuesday 15th Kids Disco, 5pm-8pm, £1 on the door Friday 18th Beyond Madness, Tickets £5 Saturday 19th

Aycliffe Soul Club, £4 on the door Friday 25th The After Party, Tickets £4 Upstairs Soul Sessions, Free Entry

Broadway, Tickets £5 Saturday 26th Bank Holiday, T.B.C.

Sunday 27th Tuesday 29th Kids Disco, 5pm-8pm, £1 on the door

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Saturday 12th April - "Fizzy Fish"

BAND QUOTE - Fizzyfish are a band........ but what sort of band? We aren't rock...we aren't pop....
were not indie or even punk........
We are the edges in between, we feed on the flux flowing through them all and fuse them all together.
The subject matter of some of our songs can be a bit dark, but you wont care as you sing away
oblivious to the hidden messages in these anthemic tunes, all plucked from our own Juke Box of
Doom stretching from 1976 to nearly now and back and forth. We try and pick songs that you will
know, but not ones that every other band plays. Were not really a club, wedding or Barmitzvah band,
you may find some parts of our set a bit anthemic a bit serious, you may find the humour a bit off
the wall, the imagery a bit surreal, you may find you have a damn good night, a daaaaamn good
night. The first set is designed to listen too, while you get comfy in your surroundings, the subliminal
messages gradually turning you to drink, loosening your resolve, you may want to get up and dance
and that would be great, but stick around for the second set as we know you will definetly feel the
need to dance as the energy ramps up.
We will then send you out into the world having journeyed through time and space, faced some
demons and come out the other side full of fabulousness a humming and a smilling. The list of acts
we cover evolves through time, most stuff is post punk, we could do classic rock, but there are other
bands that cover that area really well and we suspect that we are a bit different For more information on bands go to

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just £21 (including VAT), which can be purchased online at aycliffeawards.co.uk

AYCLIFFE'S 4th ANNUAL MAKE YOUR MARK AWARDS

A total of 52 nominations have been received for the fourth annual Make Your Mark awards event being held on Aycliffe Business Park in three weeks.

The submissions involve 32 separate companies all vying for 11 different awards which

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HOT TUB HIRE



will be dished out during the grand final at the Xcel Centre on Thursday May 24. Seven businesses are hoping

of PWS by winning this year's coveted Company of the Year award, including Arlington Automotive, Eldon Financial Planning, M5tec, Newton Press, Roman, Stiller Warehousing & Distribution and Virtual College.

And the event organisers, Aycliffe Business Park Community (ABPC), say they're expecting

judges with the unenviable task of picking out a shortlist and then the 11 winners. "But the night itself will be a fantastic collective celebration another of all our achievements across the whole of Aycliffe Business Park, so we're very much

looking forward to it. Headline sponsors this year include Business Durham, Gestamp Tallent and Ebac, while other category sponsors include Razorblue, Handelsbanken, County Durham Engineering & Manufacturing Network Endeavour (CDEMN). Partnership, Teesside University, Fleet Recruitment, Logico and Maven Capital

bumper turn-out for what has

become the business park's

biggest annual event.
ABPC chair Kerina Clark said: "Make Your Mark has

very much become a firm highlight on the business park's calendar, and the

park's calendar, and use excitement is already building

for this year's event.
"We're delighted to have

received so many nominations again, which will provide our

An independent panel judges are due to meet on May 4th to whittle the nominations down to shortlists, before winners for all 11 categories will be chosen.

This year's nominations are: ation of the by Company (sponsored Durham): ne Year Business Arlington Automotive, Eldon Financial Planning, M5tec, Newton Press, Roman, Stiller Press, Roman, Stiller Warehousing & Distribution, Virtual College.

Export (sponsored by Ebac): Crafter's Companion, Mill Masters International, Roman.

Apprenticeships and Training (sponsored by Gestamp Tallent): M5tec, Gestamp Tallent): IVICENT South West Durham Training.

of the Year Apprentice of the Year (sponsored by Razorblue): Arlington Automotive –
Dominic Mincher, Arlington
Automotive – Kaylee McNally, Arlington Automotive – Martin Clutterbuck, A-Tech Fabrications – Andrew

Martin Clutterbuck, A-1ccii Fabrications — Andrew Archer, Beaumont Grounds Maintenance — Luke Shaw, Gregg Little — Ben Clemmet, M5tec — Thomas Lavender, More Time — Sophie Bartlett, Sporting Force — Adam Holland, Thrive Marketing — Rachael Farley, Tree Tops Children's Occupational - Rachael Farley, tree tops Children's Occupational Therapy - Simon O'Hanlon. Employer of the Year (sponsored by Handelsbanken): Arlington Automotive, Eldon Financial Planning, Thrive Marketing. Engineering and

Engineering

Manufacturing (sponsored by CDEMN): Aycliffe Fabrications, Formula Plastics, Palram DPL, Roman, Senstronics.

Heart of the Community

(sponsored by Endeavour Partnership): Beaumont Grounds Maintenance, Planet Leisure, Ruff 'N' Tumble,

PETITION AGAINST LIVIN'S REGENERATION **SCHEME**



May I take the opportunity to advise residents of the six streets in Livin's Western Area Regeneration Project.

be going around the Estate collecting signatures from Tenants, Owners and Private Landlords in opposition to Livin's Option 3.

In accord with majority, Great Aycliffe Residents' Association Association oppose the demolition and rebuild of the Estate.

It is intended that when we have obtained those signatures from residents we will ask the Town Council to receive the Petition and authorise it's Leader to go down to London and meet with the Secretary of the State and call a halt to Livin's option 3. Thank You

Arun Chandran Secretary GARA

Respect for John Clare

Dear Sir,

I was disappointed to read the letter titled 'For the Many not the Jew' by Alastair P.G. Welsh in your issue dated 27 April.

Mr. Welsh is entitled criticise the Labour Party and its members. including Councillor John Clare, but he had no need or justification to use unwarranted implications of anti-Semitism as a convenient weapon for personal or political gain. Let's have political debate without resorting to such

desperate tactics. John Clare is known and

respected for his hard work in this town and throughout the county, he's even admired by political opponents and I think he deserves an apology. Paul Mooney

GREENFIELD ARE "SCHOOL OF ROCK"



Following the great success of last year's 'We Will Rock You' students at Greenfield Community College are now in the final stages of rehearsals in preparation for their production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's 'School of Rock'.

Tickets are now on sale for what is sure to be a fabulous evening with Greenfield showcasing their talent as they once again take to the boards for their renowned annual school production.

The show will run from Tuesday 22nd May to Thursday 24th May and each show starts at 7.00 pm. Tickets are now on sale via the school office priced at £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children and concessions.

Come and bring the family along and experience a West End style production, right on your door stop! For further information you can contact the school on 01325 300378 or email contact@greenfieldschool.net

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POPULAR FOLK MUSICIAN TO AWARD FOR AYCLIFFE ESTATE AGEN PERFORM AT GALA



One of the UK's most popular folk singers is making a return to Gala's stage this spring. Kate Rusby, whose music career spans more than 25 years, will showcase her latest album as well as old favourites from her previous collections

"I'm bringing a little bit of everything – old songs, new everything

songs, old songs with new tunes, new songs with old tunes, sad songs and happy songs," she said.

"The audience can expect guitars, banjos, chatting, accordions. laughing, fairy lights, dresses the list goes on. A little something for everyone I

singers to be nominated for a Mercury Prize – has always stayed true to her and acoustic roots and is promising a truly unforgettable concert when she returns to Durham on Thursday, 3 May. 'It's been four years since I

The Yorkshire-based artist one of the very few folk

last visited the lovely Gala and over the many times I've been I've always been given a warm welcome - that's why we keep coming back," she

Tickets for the show, which starts at 7.30pm, cost £25 and can be bought at www. galadurham.co.uk or via the box office on 03000 266 600.

Newton Darlington & Billingham, based agency Northgate received Silver in Sales & Lettings category for the North East Region at ESTAS prestigious Customer Service Awards for 2018, the biggest awards in the UK property industry. The awards, celebrating their 15th year determine the best estate and letting agents in the UK based purely on feedback from customers who are asked a series of questions about the service they have received from their agent, over 36,000 surveys were completed by customers

during the competition.
Phil Spencer, who has hosted the ESTAS every



2003 said "The ESTAS are special because shortlisted and winning firms are selected purely on the service you deliver to your clients. Real feedback from real customers experiencing real service, I don't think there can be a greater honour in the industry than to receive an award based on that mantra.

Estate and letting agents were recognised in 25 regions around the UK. National Grand Prix Awards were also announced for the Best Single Agent Office in sales and lettings.

Simon Brown Founder of The ESTAS said "At The ESTAS we're proud to say we believe in old fashioned values like customer service. We know

it and that's why we put the spotlight on property firms who are committed to providing excellent service. The ESTAS brand helps generate consumer trust for all property professionals involved in the home the home

moving process."
Charlie Bryant, the new Managing Director ZPG's Property division addressed audience "ZPG's objectives are precisely aligned with those of The ESTAS because we know how demanding consumers are, The ESTAS awards are based on the public votes you receive, so your recognition today is much deserved. Many congratulations to all of this year's winners and runners up who have been recognised for the excellent

service they delivered throughout the year."

Russell Hartshorn from Newton Aycliffe and Northgate Founder Estate Agents said "We are absolutely thrilled to be recognised at this year's ESTAS. It means so much to us as we know it's our customers who have judged our performance. We take our levels of customer service very seriously because we know clients have a choice.

We have always been very proud of the personal service and this proves we are delivering what we promise." If you need to sell or rent a property contact Northgate on 01325 315869

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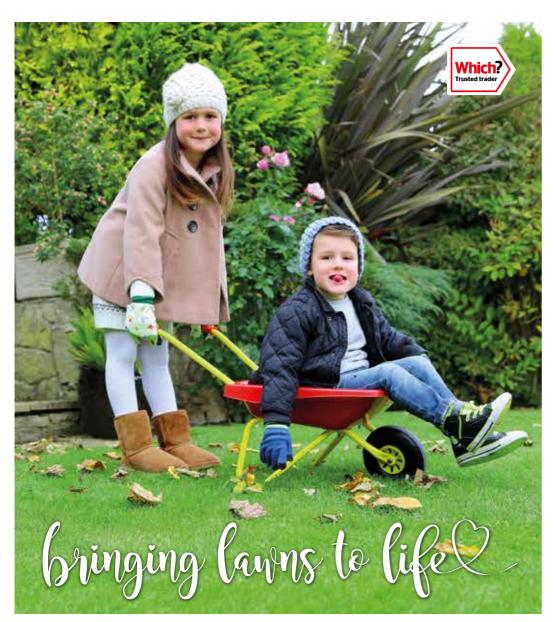
I WILL NOT BE **LEAVING MY HOME!**

I just want to state for the record my home is not for sale at any price! My husband and I are hoping to retire in a few years and as my mortgage will soon be paid off we are looking forward to a rent free future and a relaxing retirement

I am not in the best of health with Crohn's disease and this proposed regeneration is most stressful and is not helping. Over the last five years we have had new heating installed, new fibreglass roof, new doors, front and back, and a lot more expensive jobs.

I feel so strongly about this and I for one, will not part with my home and they will have to bulldoze my home with me inside!

Irene Thompson Whinlatter Place.



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Commonwealth Celebration Last Chance to Bid GREAT RESPONSE



Constabulary's Mini Police, including Year 6 pupils from Stephenson Way Academy, led a procession of over 1500 children from schools across the north east through Durham city centre and on to a special celebratory service at Durham Cathedral.

This exceptional event was held to celebrate the diversity of the many communities that belong to our schools, National and indeed the Commonwealth of Nations. Bystanders lining the route were treated to quite a spectacle as pupils paraded through the streets of Durham carrying flags to represent each of the 53 countries within the Commonwealth of Nations.

From Australia to Antigua, Canada to Cameroon, the diversity in the many religions, cultures and geographical locations stood harmoniously side by side in a show of togetherness to celebrate the unity of our wider communities.

Following a spine-tingling rendition of The National Anthem, the Queen's Lord Lieutenant, Mrs Sue Snowdon, opened the special Service with a warm and welcoming

collection of acknowledgements friendship and songs sung beautifully by the children the congregation brought together in celebration.

All agreed that the memories of this wonderful experience will be fondly remembered by everyone for a long time to

for **GAMP** Funds

opportunity to apply for funding in your local area. Are you part of a group that works in the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership

(GAMP) area? Do you have a project idea that requires funding?

Could your project help GAMP address its priorities for the area? If so, grants of between £5,000 and £11,000 are available to groups for projects which support our key priorities.

GAMP has an Area Budget of £100,000 available to fund projects within the Great Middridge Aycliffe and village areas. There is £33,333 available within each of the 2018/19 GAMP priorities; and projects should address at least one of the following priorities and the specified key issues:

Children, Young People & Families Priority Older People Priority • Health, including mental

health, dementia, depression,

 Access to activity; facilities, welfare/money transport, issues and lifelong learning opportunities
• Social support: having

regular contact with friends, family or neighbours

Employment, Enterprise & Training Priority

Funding can be spent on either capital or revenue costs, but projects which include a specific element of capital spend are strongly encouraged. Contact the GAMP Team for an application pack. You can also contact the team if you are unsure whether your project fits with our priorities.

Application packs are available now. The closing date for expression of interest forms is 5.00pm on Friday 11 May 2018. To request an application pack or to find out more about the GAMP project callout, please contact the GAMP Team: Email: gampaap@durham.gov.uk Tel: 01325 327 441

Following an article in the Newton News requesting Chicken unwanted bikes **Race Night** Walworth Special School Raises £300 last week, the children and staff would like to thank all

TO NEWTON NEWS

APPEAL FOR BIKES

Friends and neighbours joined together to enjoy a Chicken Race Night at School Aycliffe Community Hall on Saturday 21st April. Proceeds will be donated to The Great North Air Ambulance and with donations received from other sources will total £300. Organisers Margaret Gent, Anne Gamblin and David Hogg wish to thank all who attended and contributed not just their money, but also their time in helping to organise food etc. for the

Disillusioned with Regeneration Scheme

It is with deep regret that I have now found out very disturbing details of Livin's Western Ward Regeneration scheme from attending the recent Town Council meeting last week at Newton Aycliffe. Councillor Arun Chandran suggested residents attend. I am glad many residents did attend and what a surprise it was for us, all I am sure. The Regeneration project has

been exposed to the public and contains anything but an honourable and community benefiting based agenda.
As one of the residents my wife and I became willing early volunteers to work as Community Champions for the project.

attending g previous Association Residents Residents Association meetings, I had seen and heard of the many problems in the community. Ranging

from anti-social behaviour by bored high potential filled young children and teenagers who truly deserve and need life skills training and encouragement by being involved in supervised focused programs and an adult supervised Community Centre to encourage a caring and participatory community spirit.

Right through to the visible lack of responsible Livin Landlord action to maintain lack legal tenant agreements, property maintenance, public pathways, garages and parking, and open spaces maintenance. My wife and I really believed the project had/ has the potential to have huge benefits for all our community young and older if handled

with integrity.
Fortunately for the community much of the anti-community real business driven 'hidden motives" of the Option 3 were publicly exposed during the Town Council meeting. Including total demolition of all existing houses privately owned and Livin owned to begin early 2019.

Final reduction by 128 family units of social rental housing at an annual "loss" of over £0.5 million to Livin. Compulsory Purchase Orders for all existing house owners to buy in, accept shared ownership or move out with a standard value plus 10% being applied to every house. And final figures of over 600 replacement housing units planned from Executive housing down to new rental Livin units.

This was apparently already planned by Livin long before the Champions were encouraged to get involved early in 2017. This was all exposed to the public at the Town Council meeting.

If Livin had been open and up front with their plans right from the first meeting (which the Council Meeting recording clearly defies) then I believe the potential regeneration plans could have been of huge benefit and uplift in lifestyle improvement potential to all members of the community for years to come.

I believe we were deceived right from the start but now the real Livin Agenda has

been exposed and can be correctly understood. Thank you to GARA and Cllr. Arun . Chandran.

I look forward to a public apology from Livin to all Champions and Volunteers and stressed out Residents and to a serious rejection of (the money making for Livin) option 3 and a renewed open agenda focus by Livin on community beneficial options including revisiting and revising of options 1 and 2. Peter Driver

Silverdale Place (home owner)

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those very kind people in our community who donated

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Head Teacher Peter Wallbanks said "I am delighted and thankful to

the people of Aycliffe for

their kindness. This will

allow another activity to

take place both in and out of

school for our children who

attend either as day children or residential. The children

described all the bikes as

and improve their fitness.

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Closing date: 12 Noon Tuesday 15th June 2018



For more information visit - www.sedgefieldssp.org.uk Contact: apprenticeships@sedgefieldssp.org.uk Phone: 01388722317



PCP TO HOST ROYAL **AFTERNOON TEA - £6.95**

afternoon tea in honour of the soon-to-be newlyweds Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.

The Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe will be holding afternoon tea for a whole week prior to the Royal Wedding.
Customers can book for a

price of £6.95 a head from 2.00pm-4.00pm to enjoy a delicious selection of food based in the conservatory Mall Café in the centre.

There will be both a regular and gluten free menu fit to satisfy Royalty. Guests can book tables to enjoy the afternoon relaxing with friends and family surrounded by a wonderful atmosphere as the countdown to the Royal Wedding comes to an end.

For further information about PCP please contact us at the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Aycliffe,DL5 4SF tel: 01325 321234 email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net website: www.pcp.uk.net.

a truly British Or follow PCP on Twitter: @PioneeringCare and Facebook: @PCPandCentre



Rotary Donate £2,250 to Marie Curie Charity



Lauren Flint from Marie Curie Cancer Care attended the Rotary Club Meeting last week to speak about the charity and receive a cheque for £2,250 from the club. The money was part of the proceeds from the annual Charity Golf Day held at Woodham Golf Club, who donated the course in support of Marie Curie and Prostate Cancer Research.

President Tony Robinson (left) and Golf Day organiser Rotarian David Hogg.

Great Aycliffe



Town Council

Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings of the Town Council and its Committees

ANNUAL GENERAL **MEETING**

WEDNESDAY 16th MAY 2018 - 7.15 pm

Agendas are available on Notice Boards, by request at the Council Offices (01325 300700) and the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.

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

MAYOR'S PRESENTATION

Would you please note that prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Council to be held on Wednesday, 16th May 2018 I will be making a presentation to my nominated

MRI Scanner Darlington and Bishop Auckland Hospitals

The presentation will commence at 7.00 p.m. prompt and the public and press are cordially invited to attend

Councillor Wendy Hillary Mayor of Great Aycliffe

Film Show

SHOW" at St Clare's Church on TUESDAY 8th MAY features the 2017 British comedy "THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES" Starring JOAN COLLINS PAULINE COLLINS.

A former Hollywood siren and a repressed English housewife hit the road to gate-crash a former lover's funeral in France. Money is limited so travel is by anything available, coach,

feel-good. EVERYONE IS WELCOME Tea and coffee are served at 1pm, included in the £2, and the film starts at 1.15pm.

A variety of chairs are provided for your comfort, and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a great film in friendly company. For further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.

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Surprise Birthday MUSIC STUDENTS Party for his Wife MAKE THE GRADE



Bill Jameson is a resident at Defoe Court Care Home. He and his wife Gina have been married for 18 years and Bill always celebrated his wife's birthday with a big surprise. When the staff at Defoe found out about this, they got together with Bill to organise a birthday for his wife to remember.

Val, the Wellbeing Co-Ordinator, took Bill out shopping for Gina's presents and decorations, which the team then used to decorate Bill's room. Bill struggles with his speech but wanted to surprise Gina by singing 'happy birthday' to her. With the help of Toni and her ukulele, they practiced until he was word perfect.

As Gina turned up at the home, Toni began playing the ukulele and Bill sang 'happy birthday' to his wife perfectly. Gina was overwhelmed and there wasn't a dry eye anywhere. opened presents er before being together together before being whisked away to a beautiful garden centre Tea Room in Northallerton, where they enjoyed an all-expenses paid afternoon tea from everyone at Defoe Court.

Gina said: "I can't thank the staff enough for the love they have shown Bill and I, and the support they have given to help Bill celebrate the most perfect birthday, just like we used to."

Deloe Court's Manager, Some Home Sarah Todd commented: "It lovely to see Bill and Gina together; they are the most amazing couple. The love and support all the staff show the Residents at Defoe Court is heart-warming. They go above and beyond every single day, I am so proud of my team."

Defoe Court is celebrating achieving a 9.8 average rating on the sector's leading home comparison website carehome.co.uk. website carehome.co.uk. The high rating puts HC-One homes into the very best company in the care home sector, committed to providing kind care to Residents.

For more information or to arrange a tour, visit www. hc-one.co.uk or call 01325

Conservative Surgeries







Conservative County Councillors, Paul Howell and Scott Durham have arranged venues to offer residents the opportunity to speak to them and ask questions. These will be in fixed locations over the summer but will also be undertaking walkabouts around their ward.

The Surgeries will be held between 6.30 and 7.30pm on the following dates.

24th May - Greenfield Arts Centre 17th June - Woodham Community Centre 12th July - Greenfield Arts Centre 5th August - Woodham Community Centre

We are awaiting dates for Greenfield after the summer holidays, so will update residents later in the year. Scott is taking the 3 Yorkshire Peaks Challenge on Saturday the 5th May, which is 24 miles climb in 12 hours. I am seeking donations for MRI Scanner Appeal so if you would like to see an elected member of the Council suffer please visit the "just giving page" on: https://www.justgiving.com/SD3Peaks, Scott hopes to raise £500 minimum.



Rory Hubery and Rebecca Cox

Two Students from Woodham Academy are celebrating after passing their Graded Music Examinations. Rory Hubery and Rebecca Cox both passed the tests set by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.

Year 10 student Rory passed Grade 5 saxophone just two years after he began to learn the instrument. Rory, who is also a very talented drummer, performs in a variety of ensembles within school as well as Durham County Big Band, South Regional Wind Band and the County Little Big Band. He is currently studying GCSE Music, and hopes to pursue a career in music as a performer or teacher. Rebecca Cox, a Year 9 student,

passed her Grade 4 Piano and is now working towards her Grade 5 theory. She has been playing for four years and has worked hard to develop her piano skills.

Taylor, Headteacher and Teacher of Music, said: "Congratulations to Rory and Rebecca, who have combined their talents with a lot of hard work, and thoroughly deserve their success. As a school we are committed to ensuring that music remains an important part of a child's education. It is sad to see that this is not always the case, with schools across the country having to reduce music provision due to funding cuts and Government changes."
The Music Department at

Woodham Academy has an excellent track record of results at Key Stage 4, with many students moving onto post-16 courses in music and performing arts. The Music Department regularly delivers high quality concerts and musicals.

This is in addition to the work that goes on within the classroom as part of the weekly curriculum. Students of all abilities are encouraged to participate and instrumental tuition is available for those who wish to start to learn to play a particular instrument.

Former student Abbie Finn, also a drummer as well as a trumpeter and bass guitarist, has since gained a 1st Class Music Honours Degree at Leeds College of Music and is now studying for her Master's Degree at Trinity Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London.

In addition, Nathan Elwick, a former Woodham student is currently performing in the West End, and recently took to the stage at the Olivier Awards.



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 ailability of morning places for 3-4 year olds living within and beyond the local area.





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Hair Donated to Little Princess Trust



Izzy Walsh never had short hair and only ever had a trim, but she recently decided to get her hair cut off to shoulder length so that she can donate it to the Little Princess Trust who help provide wigs for children and other young people who have lost hair due to illness and cancer treatment.

She was inspired to do this as a girl at her brother's school, has a brain tumour and has lost most of her hair. This made Izzy realise how lucky she was to have hair and how we all take our hair for granted so she wanted to be



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

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able to help others who are less fortunate.
Izzy had her hair cut on the

28th April at Ruffles Hair Salon.

She's in Year 5 and 10 years old - attending Aycliffe Village Primary School and has an older brother, Sam, who is 12 years old.

Both children have fund raised before - last year they raised funds for SANDS, the still birth charity, in memory of their older brother who was still born. They wanted to raise money and awareness and is something they are both passionate about. Both children adopt the Tesco motto of 'Every Little Helps'! Her Just Giving page is https://www.justgiving.com/ fundraising/katie-walsh19

Good Start for Aycliffe Triathlon Club Season

group.

April has been a busy month for Aycliffe Triathlon Club seeing club members participate in a number of events across the North East. On 8th April Den Dale participated in the Washington Duathlon, a 5.5k run, 20k bike, 2.7k run with a time of 1:35:26, 13th in his age category. Brett Lambert completed the Durham Duathlon, a 5k run, 25k bike, 5 k run in a time of 1:46:24, 16th in his age category.
On the 22nd April Dan

Halliday participated in the challenging Teasdale Mountain Time Trial, a 42 mile cycle road race with 5000ft of climbing across the North Pennines travelling from Barnard Castle to



Stanhope and back again! Dan finished the time trial in an impressive 51stplace with a time of 2:29:52.

Also on 22nd April the fantastic Stockton Duathlon Festival attracted five club members who took on two distances; the Sprint Duathlon (5k run, 20k bike, 2.5k run) and the Standard Duathlon (10k run, 40k bike, 5k run). The races are categorised into age categories. First across the line for the club in the Sprint Duathlon was Nicola Darragh with a time of 1:14:02, Nicola was 13th in her category, next was Den Dale with a time of 1:22:04 who was 49th in his category, and Tracey Warrior with a time of 1:24:20 who was 18th in her category. In the Standard Duathlon Ian Readman came in first for the club with a time of 2:17:39. Ian was 23rd in his category and Mick Casey with a time of 2:52:48 who was 14thin his category

Nicola Darragh was in action again on 29th April at the Oulton Park Duathlon, a 4.3k run, 21.6k bike, 4.3k run with another impressive performance achieving 8th in her age category this time with a time of 1:26:54. The start of the Triathlons on

29th April saw double Aycliffe success at the Ponteland Tri (400m swim, 20k bike, 5k run). Despite the initial cold and wet weather Anne Kellett and Alan Kellett both achieved fantastic times. Anne logged an overall time of 1:38:25 which placed her in 2nd in her

age category. Alan's overall time was 1:22:33 placing him friendly and active club then contact us on facebook or by 3rd in his age category; two podium finishes. email:aycliffetriclub@gmail. Richmond Triathlon,



Residents Association Trip to Goth Festival



Sunday 29th April saw a group from Horndale Residents Association visiting Whitby to enjoy the Goth weekend. A lot of people dressed in Goth and Steam Punk outfits with some very impressive designs.

Thankfully it stayed dry if not a little cold, but everyone enjoyed the day, especially the Fish and Chips.
Thank you to Wilkos and The Bay Horse Middridge for their

continued support.

We are hoping to organise more trips soon, once funding is in place. We welcome any support from local companies to assist us in delivering community events. Philip Clark, 07886 204199

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Durham's Friendship Force Plan Trip to New Zealand



Friendship Force Co Durham, a club in FFI - Friendship Force International, held their annual St George's Day Lunch at Woodham Golf Club last week. The Guest of Honour was Carole Duckett with her husband Bernard. Carole spoke to members about her new role as UK

of Field Rep. Carole has been a member of FFI for eight y and was President of Bristol Friendship Force. Every Friday she said technology takes over and with her laptop she has a video conference meeting with Matthew in America and Valerie in Germany.

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- cddft.charity@nhs.net Follow us on twitter:
- @CDDFTCharity
- Find the charity on Facebook

Traffic Jams Waiting to Happen at A1M Junction



There are about 16 sets of traffic lights ready to come into operation at the new opening to the extended Aycliffe Business Park, MacDonalds, the petrol station and Holiday Inn. With the large amount of traffic travelling to and from the A1M motorway how many would bet there is bound to be traffic jams in that area?

Volunteers Celebrate Securing Employment



Two volunteers are sprinting ahead to a career in fitness after securing employment in County Durham leisure centres.

Karen Lamb was studying towards a gym instructor towards a gym instructor qualification when she started volunteering at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre, shadowing the fitness instructors and assisting customer inductions as well as general day-to-day support of staff. She was recently offered a

casual assistant role with Durham County Council and believes the skills and

and believes the skills and experience she gained whilst volunteering were invaluable to securing the job.

Karen said: "I've always wanted to work in leisure and really enjoyed the time I ment volunteering. When the spent volunteering. When the vacancies came up I applied and was thrilled to get an

interview. "I definitely think experience, skills and support I received through the council's Volunteer Durham

council's Volunteer Durham programme has played a big part in me getting the job."
Similarly, James Bulmer started volunteering at Woodhouse Close Leisure Centre and was supported by Volunteer Durham with regards to retraining gaining by volunteer Durham with regards to retraining, gaining his pool lifeguard and gym instructor qualification. His passion for working in the

leisure sector shone through and by spending a few hours a week volunteering, he too has

secured a casual role.

James said: "Volunteering gave me the chance to meet different people and learn the role from the inside but

most importantly it gave me the opportunity to gain the qualifications needed. The interviewers were definitely impressed that I'd been giving up my time – it showed them I was committed to progressing my career in the leisure inductor.

industry.
"It's not just about getting experience either, building contacts and a rapport with the organisation really helps too." Last year, more than 4,500 people volunteered with Durham County Council's Volunteer Durham. volunteer Durnam, supporting everything from festivals, walking, cycling and running groups, to libraries and museums and much more. Julie Lavery, volunteer and skills manager at Durham County Council, said: "Volunteers like Karen and James make a huge difference across the county on a daily

"I'm thrilled that the skills and knowledge they gained from volunteering have helped them secure jobs. Our aim is to ensure volunteers gain valuable experience and receive the support needed, especially if they wish to gain employment

basis.

especially it they wish to gain employment. "Getting experience and enhancing your CV as well as improving physical, social and mental wellbeing are just some of the reasons to volunteer and we are always on the lookout for more people to sign up. I would encourage anyone thinking about it to

find out more."
Inspired to volunteer? Check out all of the opportunities all of the opportunities ilable at the council www.durham.gov.uk/ available

West Park Trees to be Felled



Following an independent tree report regarding damage to the playground in Stephenson Way Academy, a copse of mature poplar trees in West Park have been identified as the cause of the extensive root damage within the school grounds.

As the trees are within the ownership of Great Aycliffe Town Council, the Councils insurance company have agreed to reinstate the playground, and the Town Council will remove all the trees causing the issue to avoid the problem reoccurring.

The group of mature poplar trees will therefore be felled, removed from site and the stumps ground out to avoid regrowth. This work will be completed in the forthcoming weeks. The Town Council will ensure that additional trees are planted within the park next winter when suitable locations have been identified.



If you are interested in travelling with friends and meeting people on localities across the world, being hosted in their homes and learning their culture, please contact Cynthia Scott President of The Friendship Force of Co Durham on 01325 31305.

In 2019 our travels will take

In 2019 our travels will take us to New Zealand for three

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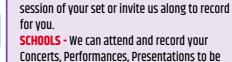
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As the football season comes to an end the Aycliffe Juniors teams were busy getting all their remaining fixtures played.

The Under 8's played their penultimate league game hosting Bishop Auckland Aces. A great performance sealed a 3-2 win. Thomas, Dylan and Oliver scored the goals as they came back from being 2-1 down to win. Stephen was chosen as the man of the match. The teams season finishes at Stockton

next weekend.
The Under 9's concluded their TJFA league season playing away at top of the league Seaton Carew. A tough game ended in a 5-0 loss for Aycliffe.
The Under 9's Russell

Foster League continued with their Spring Cup and the 'Clarets' faced Hebburn Town, the 'Whites' were up against Washington AFC Lynx. Both teams came away with victories, the Clarets winning 3-1 and the Whites 4-1.

The Under 10's 'Black' played Stockton Rangers in midweek and then Hardwick Youth on Sunday. Against Stockton the league game was lost 5-2 but a great effort in the development game led to a 2-2 draw. At Hardwick they lost out by four goals to one. Their final league match is at Ferryhill next week.

The Under 10's 'White' had a midweek trip to play Norton & Stockton 'Amber'. Two goals from Niall and one from Archie sealed a

£1000 Target to Start **School Mini Police**

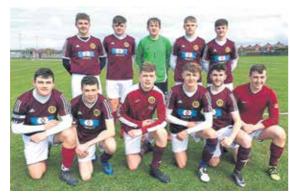
Dear Syd,

Marys RC Primary are hoping to run a Mini Police programme. To do this we are trying to raise £1000 to provide children with a uniform, training to understand how to be mini police and to support our local community.

In January we we were acknowledged as an Inclusive School and received the Centre of Excellence award for the work we do and are very proud of this. One of the targets we have set is to be involved as a school with the Mini Police programme. In our local area I believe this would be a fantastic opportunity for our pupils and our community.

Any donation would be greatly appreciated. Please could you contact me at school on the following contact information. Or if you would like to contribute, cheques should be made payable to Durham County Council and sent to the school at the above address. 01325 300339.

Thank you Joanne Wills SENCO and Inclusion Manager



Jayden was the man of the match. The development game was won 6-0 and the goals came from Niall (3), man of the match Will (2) and James. After only earning promotion to Division 1 a year ago this win secured a top four finish in the highest Durham league, a great achievement for the team.

The Under 11's were at home against Redcar Town. An exciting encounter ended with the them losing by the odd goal in nine. The Aycliffe goals came from Zak (2), Charlie E and Jake. They now have two more games to fit in to the coming week against Great Ayton and Normanby.
The Under 12's Russell

Foster League team played Birtley Town and ended up on the wrong end of a 2-1 scoreline. The Under 12's TJFA League team had no fixture this week and will now play their final both against two games, Whinney Banks, needing at least one victory to secure fourth place in Division

The Under 13's finished league programme

this week facing Leven on Thursday and Sedgefield on Sunday. First up against Leven they won 2-1 to take their recent record to 5 wins in the last 6 games. Then against Sedgefield their winning run was extended further with a 6-1 win. This team have put in a great effort to end the season well and are now likely to finish third in the league.

The Under 16's hosted Yarm Juniors on Tuesday and then travelled to Redcar Town Royals on Sunday. Against Yarm they extended their winning league run to five games with a 4-0 win. At Redcar they kept the positive results coming with a 4-1 win. They will now look to keep this great run going for their final two games of the season.

The Under 23's played at Chester le Street Town and they were 2-0 down at half time but second half goals from Howe, Allenby and Taylor led to a 3-2 win. Jack Slatcher was chosen by the referee as the man of the match. The team now wait until the 20th May for their final league game at

Juniors Football Report THANK GOD FOR THE NEWTON NEWS!

meeting saw an unprecedented number of members of the public attend, concerned about the social cleansing of the west ward, whoops, sorry, I meant to say West Ward Regeneration They were busy dropping correspondence through our doors instead of answering questions and providing much needed facts.

But yet once again, what they say does not stand up to scrutiny. They state that there are several problems on the estate including anti social behaviour, low demand, high levels of deprivation low levels of deprivation, low property values, high energy bills, poor parking and poor and run down play areas and public spaces. So lets look a little closer.

1. Anti social behaviour. If you 1. Anti social behaviour. If you go onto https://crime-statistics. co.uk and enter postcode DL5 7DT for example. You will see that there were 171 reported crimes for February and 47 of which were for anti social behaviour. Alarming yes, BUT, and this is important seroll. and this is important, scroll down until you see them listed as categories and street by

Number of crimes on or near Eskdale Place 2, number of crimes on or near Kirkstone place 6, Langdale Place 2, Whinlatter 2, Silverdale 1. In fact looking back through over a years worth of data the west ard area is comparable to a fair few other streets in the town in terms of crime.

There are problems I admit but it is certainly not the High Levels of anti social behaviour that Livin's fact sheet insinuates. And since Livin is the major landlord for the estate, some of the responsibility must lie with them and their vetting procedures

2. Low Demand. To quote

Low Demand. 10 quote historicengland.org.uk "pockets of low demand housing are still prevalent in parts of the Midlands and north of

significant numbers of houses are empty and even boarded up" Now Livin have stated that the reason they in their initial bid reduced the number of their properties was due to the

number of empty properties at the time and low demand. So in January 2017 when you put your bid in there were 128 empty properties on the West Ward, so in January 2017 when you put your bid in over a ¼ of properties on the West Ward were empty. REALLY, and where are these properties? Does the West ward have it's own version of Narnia where as you walk through the gates you are presented with row upon

are presented with row upon row of empty houses? NO!. Was there really 21 empty homes per street? NO! As for demand, even on Livin's own website there are only 3 properties to rent in the West Ward. Not bad for somewhere with low demand with low demand.

3. High levels of Deprivation. Again this isn't exactly true is it. Yes it is a poorer part of town but it is hardly "the ghetto" is it. In fact we are no more deprived than many other parts of the

4. Relatively low property values, Yes this is true, but then isn't that why you have chosen this area.

5. High energy bills. Rubbish, absolute rubbish. These houses have modern boilers, cavity wall insulation and loft insulation. My energy consumption is well within the national average.

of. Poor parking. Again not exactly true. A lot of these houses have garages, most have yards and there is plenty of parking bays. Granted it is not ideal for those who have more than 2 cars but then would these

new houses be any better
7. Poor and run down play areas
and public spaces. The town
council do a good job looking after our green spaces, in fact the grass has been cut and the litter pickers have been out. When will you be out to cut your bits of grass, remove

As for play areas we have 2, one in Eskdale and one in West park. Both of which I am West park. Both or which I am more than happy to take my granddaughter to. West park is one of the jewels in Aycliffe's crown, a lovely place to walk around, feed the ducks etc., play with the dog etc.
You said in the Northern Echo

that invites would be sent out to all residents, where are they? On Friday you turned up completely unannounced. The first I heard was a phone call from my mother who was really distressed. She is 71 and terrified at the prospect of losing her home. And I know she is not alone. Since your preferred option was dropped on us my mother's health has started to suffer and seeing her so upset on Friday has really made my blood boil.

You mention scaremongering and rumour spreading, but the biggest scaremonger is Livin, you are the one who came to the West Ward and said "we want to

demolish all your homes". Residents want straight answers facts, figures, guarantees, they want all relevant information to make an informed choice, but most of all residents want

Honesty.
Is it really too much too ask Thank God we have the Newton

Name/address provided

Town Council Prepare for 100th Anniversary

Great Aycliffe Town Council has agreed to establish poppy meadows in high profile areas of the town to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One.

The red poppy meadows will be in strategically positioned locations across the town including outside St Clare's Church near the war memorial and Aycliffe Village green. Further meadows will be located outside the Town Council offices on School Aycliffe Lane and at Woodham and Horndale Parks.

In addition, the Town Council has agreed purchase two 6-foot sculptures of the WW1 soldier, 'Tommy' which will be positioned outside St Clare's Church and at Aycliffe Village, among the poppies.
In the next week the areas

concerned will be prepared



seeding. information please contact Great Aycliffe Town Council on 01325 300700.

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Programme Schedule

"GOOD MORNING AYCLIFFE" with Aidan Thompson

Text or Email a request or shout out/mention, to win one of FOUR weekly prizes (info@aycliferadio.co.uk - 07512 253333)

Monday to Friday, from 8.30am - 12 noon

"AFTERNOON AYCLIFFE" with Paul Baker

Monday to Friday, from 12 noon to 4.00pm

Every Night from 12 Midnight to 3am cuddle up and listen to classic "Love Songs"

** 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	
	8th May - Tommy Lowther - Sporting Force			
15th May - Gregor & Finley - Ice Hockey Players				
22nd May - Steve Wilkinson - Aycliffe Karate Club				
	7.30-9.30pr	m Northern & Classic Soul	Kevin Sowerby	
WEDNESDAY				
	7.45-10.15p	m 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		
	4th May - Owen's Politics Show			

Guests: Cllr John Clare and Cllr Paul Symons

Kitchen Floor Fillers

Discussing Education System and The Locomotion Pub

11th May - Andy Little (Spain) 80s Flashback

SATURDAY 8-11am

o nam	Micchell 11001 Tille15	
11am-1pm	Kent Collective	Daz Kent
1-2pm	5th May - Community Hour	John Atkinson
	12th May - Honest John "Sixties	Girls"
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	Alan Hastie
10-12am	Garage/Grime/Drum n Bass	MC Supa
SUNDAY		
12-2pm	Sports Round Up (R)	Darren & Lee
2-4pm	"Aycliffe Goes Country"	Aidan Thompsor
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





Dear Sir.

I was shocked to see the price of diesel at Tesco Newton Aycliffe at today's date 23/4/18 showing their diesel price at £1.23.9 per litre. At Sainsbury's Tindale it is £1.16.9 per litre. That is a fair own Tesco branch at Tindale is only £1.18.9 a litre.

I thought Dick Turpin was long gone but apparently not. It only goes to show this Town is crying out for competition to this greedy store, but no doubt when that new store arrives Tesco will be pleading for loyal customers, but at this rate they won't have any.

Editor: Manager Helen asked Head Office who said Tesco have no comment.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store began the new season with an excellent eight wicket win at home to Stokesley 2nd XI in the NYSD 2nd division. New Aycliffe captain Luke Telford won the toss and elected to bowl first and the decision proved to be a good one as the visitors were bowled out for just 123 from 43.2 overs thanks to some excellent bowling from both Jack Slatcher (3 for 25) and Michael Howe (3 for 34).

In reply, Darryn Bancroft (sponsored by Utility Warehouse) was given the man of the match award after smashing the Stokesley bowling to all parts of the

ground as he scored a brutal 70 runs from just 58 balls including seven boundaries and four huge sixes. Adam Gittins chipped in with an unbeaten 14 and Chris Palmer also contributed with 12 not out as Aycliffe comfortably reached their winning target after just 25.5 overs.

The 2nd team made the short journey to Sedgefield 2nd XI and were heavily defeated by 134 runs in the NYSD 4th division. New 2nd team captain Neil Bancroft also won the toss and likewise chose to bowl first. However the homeside put on a powerful batting display scoring 190 for 6 from their allotted 40 overs, despite some good bowling from Bancroft (3 for 33) and Lucas Pilling (2 for 25). In reply Aycliffe were blown away by some excellent fast bowling from the homeside and were dismissed for just 56 after 21.4 overs with only Joe Haines (17 runs) and man of the match Neil Bancroft, who scored 13 before retiring hurt. reaching double figures for Aycliffe.

The club's under 15's side also began their season at the weekend with a difficult away game against a Barnard Castle side packed with County players and unsurprisingly were defeated by 212 runs in the NYACC league. The home side batted first and scored 173 for 2 with Aycliffe's Jak Kennedy and Leo Mercy each picking up a wicket. In reply Aycliffe were held to 52 for 7 with good contributions coming from captain Will Varley (10 runs), Kyle Cuthbertson (10 runs) and an unbeaten 13 from Iain Robson.

Squash Champions



Champions Neil Ross and Karina Dixon

Aycliffe Squash Club's championship finals evening took place at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex on Saturday 28 April. First on court, the ladies' final was dominated by Karina Dixon, comfortably beating Meryl Graham 3-0, to retain her title for the third year in succession.

The men's final was a much closer affair - a repeat of the last two years' finals between Neil Ross and Nick Hill. After up four times, Nick looked determined that this would be his year and started off like a train, winning the first two games 13-11, 13-7, with some great squash, but the momentum shifted in the third game, which Neil fought back to win 13-5. The fourth was anybody's at 10-10, but Neil took the last three points to take it 13-10.

points to take it 13-10.
All the bets were on Neil at this point. Nick looked more tired and frustrated and Neil had the momentum. However, against all expectations, and despite picking up some painful injuries in a couple of accidental collisions in a full on game, Nick rallied for a massive effort.

In an epic final game of very

high quality, with both players playing as if their lives depended on it, Nick got to match point at 12-11, but he was unable to get over the line, and Neil took the next three points to prevail 14-12 and take a record 8th title.

It was a classic match neither player deserved to lose, with huge credit going to both guys for their skill, effort, physical fitness and sportsmanship.

The Club thanks its sponsors, car dealers Pulmans, for supporting the event. If you are interested in playing competitively and/ or socially, learning to play or watching squash, contact the Oak Leaf on 01325 300600 and ask about the opportunities available, or visit the Club's website aycliffesquash.co.uk

Bank Holiday Bin Collections & Council Opening Hours

There will be no changes to bin collections in County Durham over the two May Bank Holidays. Residents are advised to put their refuse and recycling bins out for collection by 7am on their normal collection day during the weeks beginning Monday, 7 and Monday, 28 May.

Residents who have signed up for garden waste collections should also put their bins out as normal.

Anyone who is unsure of their collection day can find out by entering their house number and postcode into the 'My Durham' section on Durham County Council's website at www.durham.gov.uk.

Residents are also reminded that the council's Customer Access Points and customer surgeries will be closed during the Bank Holidays.

Offices will close at 4.30pm on Friday, 4 May and reopen at 8.30am on Tuesday, 8 May. Similarly, they will close at 4.30pm on Friday, 25 May and reopen at 8.30am on Tuesday, 29 May.

In the event of an emergency, residents can still contact the council on 03000 260 000 or use the 24/7 automated payments line on 0300 456 2771.

Online services will still be accessible over the Bank Holidays but requests will not be processed until council offices reopen

Gym Classes for Over 50's in Aycliffe

Newton Aycliffe based strength and conditioning gym 'CrossFit All Out', has recently introduced weekly Sunday afternoon 50+ classes in an effort to meet the needs of older individuals.

These sessions that were started in the New Year are led by coaches Allen McGee and Dan Boulton, and they are specifically designed to cater to all fitness levels and are constantly varied. Many older individuals are becoming less able due to the fact that their activity levels are low.

Here at CrossFit All Out we want to promote a healthy and active lifestyle for all, so individuals can live a strong, able life for as long as possible.

Our new 50+ sessions not only offer functional training at a mild to moderate intensity, but they also provide a great opportunity to socialise with others who likewise, want to improve the quality of their lives.

Current members ages range from early 50's right



82 year old Alan with his coach, Dan

up to 82 year old Alan who is the gym's oldest member as pictured here with coach Dan Boulton.

For more information, contact Vikki on 07788 123321, see the website www.crossfitallout.co.uk, or visit the CrossFit All Out Facebook page





Still Campaigning for Gender Equality

Dear Sir

This year marks the hundredth anniversary of women taking the first step to get the vote. On the 16th of February 1918, five years after the death of Emily Wilding Davidson under the kings horse as at the Epsom Derby, certain groups of women were allowed to vote, but it wasn't until 10 years later women were given the same voting rights as men. A hundred years on and women are still campaigning for equality in many areas, such as political representation, pay equality, and corporate leadership roles. Research by the House of Commons Library in March 2017 revealed that under this Tory government, 86% of the burden of its failed austerity tax and benefit policies have been born by women.

women. In total, the analysis estimated that the cuts will have cost women a total of £79bn since 2010, against £13bn for men. It's no wonder then, that at the last general election, Labour increased its vote share much more amongst women than men.

nen.

I occasionally talk to people who think politics is something that doesn't affect them, and voting is a waste of time, but political decisions affect pretty much

every aspect of our lives and democracy does work, but it only works if enough people engage with it.

this a hundred years since women first voted, sometimes sacrificing everything they had to win the right to be represented, and a hundred years on women are still fighting for equality and still being hit hardest by political decisions made in Westminster, but we can change this by making sure our voices are heard, by making sure we are ready to speak through the ballot box and have a say in the future we want to see.

This year the Labour party has launched its #TheNextStep campaign for gender equality, to make sure women finally achieve the equal representation we are entitled to. From family support to better pay and representation at work — Labour always has been, and always will be, the party for women.

party for women.
So please register to vote, then join the Labour Party and take the next step with us to create a more equal society for the many, not for the few. You can find out more about Labour's Next Step campaign at https://labour.org.uk/page/

the-next-step/ Cllr Kathy Beetham

Woodham Students Bike | Hamsterley Mountain Bike Challenge in Hamsterley Forest



Woodham Academy students got on their bikes explore the great outdoors at Hamsterley Forest. The offers mountain school biking to its students as part of its extensive range of sporting and extra-curricular activities.

Launched last year, the weekly after-school trips

have resumed with the return of lighter evenings Deputy Headteacher Danny Morgans, said: "We are committed to providing our students with every opportunity to try new activities and improve their skills. Mountain biking is a challenging and enjoyable

explore the outdoors. We are very pleased to have added mountain biking to the wide range of sports we offer to students at Woodham Academy."

Woodham Academy making good use of a bike trailer, funded by the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership, enabling students to participate in mountain biking during the spring and summer.

The sound of the Beast fast approaching. The biggest and greatest non competitive mountain bike challenge is returning on May 13th and this year looks to have over 600 riders challenging themselves to raise money for the incredible Great North Air Ambulance Services. Mountain biking is well known for being a sport that pushes

riders to the limits, not only physically but also through high risks. Bikes are routinely being manufactured to go bigger and larger through jumps, rocks and roots.

Falling off in trail centre rock gardens now a days has really high consequences and these places are often very difficult to get to due to poor access and being off the beaten track. This is where the Great North Air Ambulance comes into play, it is not uncommon to see the helicopter flying over Hamsterley Forest on a weekend from month to month.

To give you some perspective, every time the GNAAS is called out to an injured person, not only does it cost £4000 to treat that person, but that person also has a greater chance of survival. person, but that person also has a greater chance of survival. The GNAAS has an internationally enviable team of medics, paramedics, pilots and support teams. The 3 helicopters need servicing like everything else, but you wouldn't expect much change from £1,000,000 each time. You may even hear folk complain that it's a disgrace such a valuable service is funded by charity, but their Chief Executive Grahame Pickering states it helps them remain independent of government regulations and policies. Grahame is one of the most inspirational people to meet. He started the GNAAS off as a paramedic with time spent flying on the region's air ambulance, and through sheer determination, dedication and his expertise the GNAAS became the charity it is today.

The event has grown year on year, and 2017 turned into more of an event festival. With more people camping the night before than rode the first Hamsterley Beast in 2015, the organisers arranged local bands SRS, RockMonsters and a headline act Black Nevada. The campers bought beers and the atmosphere was all too good the night before a challenging mountain bike

event.

2018 is set to be even bigger, with greater emphasis on a mountain biking festival and weekend event. With bands planned, beer sponsors, specialist coffee, hog roasts, tepees, camping and loads of stands and demos on the Saturday, this is one mountain biking event not to miss out on. With 3 different challenges for differing levels of fitness you can choose 20, 40 or a 66.6 mile Beast of a ride. The organisers have listened and again changed the course. More fun has been included, but don't underestimate the power of the 66.6 mile Beast!!

For more information regarding the just giving page follow this link https://www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/gnaa/



hamsterley-beast-2018 Not only does much of the entry fee go to the GNAAS, but individuals were encouraged to support the event and gain as much sponsorship as possible. It is important to know that the final date for entries will be 30th April 2018, after that no more entries. Potentially, places may well sell out sooner, so don't delay!!!! Get entered http:// hamsterleybeast.com/entry into any of the challenges and become part of the greatest fund raising MTB event in the north.

become part of the greatest fund raising MTB event in the north. This year we have set the target of fund raising high, we want to collectively raise enough to make our total to GNAAS hit £100,000. Lets do this!! See you on the day If you are reading this and thinking, that's really not for me, but I'd love to help out, get in touch https://www.facebook.com/groups/beasthelpers, we still need helpers and marshals. Events like this would never happen without the help of others. Website can be found http://hamsterleybeast.com

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Leaf Litter

I write in the hope that the person responsible for dumping several bags of leaves against the fences of properties on Langley Road which back onto Central Avenue reads this.

Please stop dumping your leaves, take them to the tip or pay for a green waste bin like a responsible member of society.

I have reported this littering to both the Council and Police.

John Humble Langley Road

FLOWER FESTIVAL

way to improve fitness and

The Musicals in Bloom at St. John's Church, Shildon are hosting a Flower Festival. The event will span over the Bank Holiday Weekend from Friday May 4th to Monday 7th May between 10am and 4pm (12 noon to 4pm on Bank Holiday Sunday).

Come along enjoy a free cuppa and be prepared to be amazed, with specialist floral designers from across the North East.

Admission is £3

REGENERATION PLANS or LIVIN - ON A PRAYER?

If anyone was hoping for any clarification on the proposed re-generation plans for Aycliffe West from the meeting held at the Councils' Offices yesterday (25.04.18), they'd be disappointed -because there was none! I am a retired, single, home-

owner and I was about to put my property on the market in order to move closer to family, when the announcements regarding started appearing in the press. Call me a sceptic if you want but I immediately knew this would not bode well for residents-and home-owners

especially.
I wanted to ask anyone representing 'Livin" how they intended compensating me for the fact that my property was now worthless and 'un-sellable' as no one in their right mind would want to buy a house that was (potentially) about to be demolished.

Well, that's what I would have liked to have asked but as no-one from 'Livin' was there Oust as they haven't been at the previous two meetings) I didn't get to voice my concerns.

The meeting was crowded with inadequate seating arrangements many members of the public were left to find a place to stand wherever they could - loud discussions were could - loud discussions were being carried on regardless of whom was speaking from the 'chair' - clearly everyone there were anxious about their

there were anxious about their future housing security. When questions were put to the 'Council' regarding the plans the 'Chairs' response was 'We don't know- it's nothing to do with us! - and 'You'll have to ask 'Livin'!

How 'helpful' was that? Just as 'helpful' was the chair-persons' statement that



the meeting was a Council meeting and NOT a public meeting (why were we invited then?) Ouite a few local Councillors

were in attendance and spoke about a number of concerns - some more relevant than others - some were making no sense at all and just added to the general confusion!

Two or three Councillors declared a 'vested' interest in the proceedings and excused themselves from some of the agenda.
Their 'vested' interest was

(apparently) because they either lived in the affected area or had family members living there.

It occurred to me that these to occurred to me that these were EXACTLY the people needed to champion residents' concerns! -why should they be 'barred' from taking part in

barred' from taking part in the agenda? One thing I did get out of the meeting was that someone stated 'Livin" are a registered charity and as such a 'non-profit making organisation' - to which someone else replied 'No!... organisation' - to which someone else replied 'No!... they are no longer a registered charitable organisation' (They withdrew this claim last year

apparently).
This now puts a whole

different angle on Livin's re-generate area.

Where I live I look out of my kitchen window and I overlook 'West Park' I see the grass, the trees, and the lakes, these views are one of the reasons I chose to buy a house here in the first place. This part of West Aycliffe is actually a prime piece of real estate that, if and when it is re-developed, houses will sell for at least five times the

current housing values.
To my cynical eyes anyway
'Livin' have been absolutely 'Livin' have been absolutely devious in first of all claiming charitable status which allowed them to gain control of the estate (for nothing - because after all they're a charity - right?) and then withdrawing their 'charitable' status in order to re-develop and build bouses re-develop and build houses they can sell for a fortune.

Organisations such as 'Livin make plans years and years in advance and they have simply taken advantage of a 're-generation' instigated by nationwide programme

central government.
Go on line and see how wonderful this program is! regeneration.gov.uk Name and address supplied



Burnhill Way

COACHING

Ladies Only FREE Taster Session Saturday 5th May, 1-2.00pm (Equipment supplied)

Juniors, aged 7 to 14 years Learn to Play and Improve in a Day Sunday 6th May, 12noon-5pm (£20.00 - Equipment supplied)

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DCC Councillors Kate Hopper & Eddy Adam are conducting a ward walkabout in the Silkin Way area, accompanied by representatives of partner organisations where available. Starting at 9.30am on Monday, 14th May at Stead Close, we look forward to meeting local residents to hear of any neighbourhood concerns they wish to raise. Alternatively, residents can get in touch using the contact details below.

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SPONSORS NEEDED TO GET LOCAL DANCERS TO DISNEYLAND

Woodham students are raising funds for a "once in a lifetime opportunity" to dance at Disneyland.

Thelwell Georgia Sydney Etherington together with former student Lisa Robinson have been chosen to perform live on the main stage at Disneyland Paris in August.

The trio are organising a variety of events, including selling cakes, and packing bags, to help cover the costs of travel and accommodation. They are also seeking sponsors to take part in the Colour Run Marathon in June.

Georgia and Sydney, who've each been dancing for 11 years, and are members of Woodham Dance Academy, described the Paris trip as a "once in a lifetime opportunity'

Teacher Hannah Kent. who runs Woodham Dance Academy, said: "Lisa, Georgia and Sydney are all Academy, very talented, hardworking dancers. They are passionate about their dancing and wish to pursue it as a career. Performing at Disneyland will be a magical experience and an opportunity for them to showcase their talents, which could lead to even greater things. We hope local businesses will help them take this step to realising their dreams.

The trio, who recently performed at Woodham Academy's sell-out Dance Showcase, also train Walton Clare Newton Aycliffe, Centre

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Syndey Etherington, Lisa Robinson and Georgia Thelwell

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The company identified Lisa, Georgia and Sydney's talents while the trio took part in a workshop in Liverpool in January, offering them places on their Disney Dance Team for

If local businesses interested in sponsoring the dance trio, please contact Miss Kent, or Mr Clough, at Woodham Academy on 01325 300328.

County Schools Win Government Funding



Three schools in County Durham have taken the first steps in a major initiative to further boost achievement of students in South West Durham and have won government finding of over £100,000 in the process.

Chilton Academy, Ferryhill Business and Enterprise and Woodham College Academy have decided to combine their strengths to help their students achieve at the next level in a group called the Eden Learning Trust.

Kevin Brennan. Headteacher of Ferryhill

said "this tremendous is opportunity for the 3 highly successful schools to work together. Whilst each school will remain Whilst independent, there will be a raft of collaborative projects planned to help to boost the achiement of all our students."

"We have a great starting point with Chilton being nationally recognised for its work with young people, Ferryhill with GCSE results often in the Top 10% and Woodham's GCSE results this year that are simply outstanding. It's a winning

Business

Headteacher of Woodham Academy said "our focus will be the children and to ensure that we provide the very best quality of

Members of the 3 schools came together at Chilton Academy where children had organised a musical event to celebrate the launch.

Mrs Headteacher of Chilton

combination."
CELEBRATE: Star pupils from Chilton Academy, Woodham Academy and Ferryhill Enterprise College at the launch. Christine Forsyth.

education, which ever school they may be in."

Pvbus Coates,

Academy said "these are exciting times for the schools and we have already had interest from other schools in the area, asking

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.abour Party & Anti-Semitism

evil. It has been described as the canary of racism - whenever racism starts to infect a society, it often begins with attacks on the Jewish community.

we should welcome the Board of Deputies of British Jews' and the Jewish Leadership Council's ringing of the alarm hell

DEFINING ANTI-SEMITISM

Anti-semitism is not just hatred of Jewish people for being Jewish. Things are being said which are deeply insulting to the Jewish community and just as we took the racist image off our marmalade jars - there 'anti-semitic slanders' which need discarding.

Although there are many definitions of anti-semitism, the one favoured by the Board of Deputies and the JLC is the International Holocaust Alliance's Remembrance (bit.ly/2qkXzfr), definition which outlines what it calls 'manifestations of antisemitism'. The idea is that, if someone does or says certain things, then that is a sign that person harbours anti-semitic

MANIFESTATION OF ANTI-SEMITISM

These 'manifestations of antisemitism' include:

- Downplaying the Holocaust anti-Jewish
- Spreading conspiracy theories • Writing or speaking about the
- state of Israel in an anti-semitic

alongside the openlythat

MPs have received, current disciplinary cases against Labour Party members include: one member who shared a link on his Facebook page to an article claiming that the death of 6 million Jews was a "hoax"; another who suggested that Jewish people financed the slave trade; and another who interpreted a 1933 agreement as implying that Hitler was a

LABOUR AND ANTI-SEMITISM

In 2016, Shami Chakrabati conducted an Inquiry into anti-semitism in the Labour Party. She found that "the Labour Party is not overrun by antisemitism", although she did acknowledge "minority hateful or ignorant attitudes". She made twenty recommendations, including improving the Party's disciplinary procedures, and banning abuse words, stereotypes, Nazi metaphors, minimising of the Holocaust (bit.ly/2HoOcT7).

And whilst it is clear that the Board of Deputies and the JLC want the Labour Party to take much firmer action, we need to acknowledge too that there are Jewish groups who support Jeremy Corbyn, and who oppose attempts to widen the definition of anti-semitism beyond its meaning of 'hostility or discrimination against Jews

Therefore, we need a process of respectful discussion and political education so that honest Labour Party members who believe with all their heart that they do not have an anti-

Roller Skaters 4th Birthday

be confident to act and speak in a way which overtly values, and does not unintentionally distress, the Jewish community. John D Clare

This letter is a precis of a longer article which you can read online at http://bit.ly/LAA-S

County Durham Tees Valley Rescue Mission Forthcoming Events

Friday 11th May, Curry & Film Night start time 7pm all welcome.

Saturday 26th May, Men's Breakfast start time 9am. Saturday 9th June, Lady's Afternoon Tea start time 1pm.

Saturday 16th June, BBQ and Music Day start time 3pm all welcome.

Thursday 5th July, Human Trafficking Awareness Evening start time 7pm.
All the above will be free

to the community but donations will be thankfully received.

All to be held at Western Area Community Centre (Silverdale)

Please could anyone help with raffle prices to help raise money for future events. For more information please contact Simon on 07754

COUNTY **NEWSBITS** Compiled by County Councillor John Clare

All this week's Newsbits seem to be about protecting/ regenerating our communities. Find out more about the following headlines on my blog at: bit.ly/CNB27 COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY

A DCC Environment
Scrutiny site visit focused
on engineering and energy
efficiency.
 The latest DCC Scrutiny

Retail Review Group reports.

• A thought-provoking regeneration visit to Craghead. A report on the Town Council Meeting of Wednesday 25

April.
• Time running out for GAMP funding applications. A report on the Aycliffe

- Anti-Social Behaviour Group, Thursday 26 April.

 • County Durham suffragette

Connie Lewcock has been recognised as a

pioneer'.

• Healthwatch County
Durham May newsletter
– have your say on mental
health services, cancer, heart
surgery research, and learning
disability services.

• Could you be a Trustee of the
Vocational Learning Trust?

Vocational Learning Trust?
• Latest roadworks Latest information. THINGS TO DO

• Festival of Steam, Locomotion Museum Shildon, Saturday 5 - Monday 7 May,

10am-5pm.

Nostalgia Day, Market Place Durham, 11am-4pm, Monday 7 May.
• The Nasty Nile (5-11s),

Durham Oriental Museum, Saturday 12 May, drop-in

Our M.P. Calls for **Landlord Registration**

New legislation to regulate private landlords reduce crime and anti-social behaviour

Areas where a lot of people live in private-rented accommodation will be less likely to suffer crime and anti-social behaviour if new legislation to regulate private landlords is approved by Parliament this week.

A Private Member's Bill tabled by Phil Wilson, MP for Sedgefield, would make it compulsory for all private landlords to sign up to a national register. One key benefit of this would be that the Police, Local Authorities and other service providers would know who to contact when there are issues with environmental damage, antisocial behaviour and crime locally.

Commenting on the draft legislation, legislation, Police, Crime and Durham's Victims Commissioner Ron Hogg said "When Police are carrying out investigations, so much time can be lost trying to identify who owns the property where suspects are living.

mandatory scheme for private landlords would make a significant difference to resolving crimes, and I believe it would also act as a deterrent because offenders would know there would be a greater likelihood of them being caught."

Mandatory registers are already in place in Scotland and Wales, and some Local Authorities have

Anne and family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for kindness and sympathy shown to them during the sad loss of John, also for the many cards and flowers. Special thanks to Celebrant Carole Briggs who conducted a comforting personal service and Julie Guest at the Co-op for providing such excellent service. Grateful thanks for the

also introduced mandatory schemes across their area.

Thank You

LINDLEY JOHN WALTER. generous donations totalling £300 for our chosen charity.

In Memoriam

forgetting, Chloe xxx

Wayne, Dawn and Amir xx

vour age!

GEORGIE **STOKES**

Died 5th May 2015

A devoted Husband of Joy-Marie. Your love and all our special memories I treasure

xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

AGNES HILLS

Congratulations

Danny and Eunice Gales

30th Wedding Anniversary

7th May 2018

To Our Mam & Dad

We remember how young, beautiful and happy you both were when we were little and the only thing that has changed is

28th April 1948 to 1st May 2014

It's four years since you went. Always loved, never forgotten.

Husband Tommy xxx

Thank you for showing us a true and loving relationship. Love, Kaya, Haywood, Keavy, Adam, Matthew, and not Congratulations and love to you both from Liz, Myra, Frazer, **HOWEY** Happy 40th birthday Michael. Can't believe how fast forty years has gone, but from the day you were born

vou have always brought me so much joy and pleasure and always made me so very proud to call you my Son. Enjoy your day 'Micky Luv'. Love always, Mam xxxxxx HOWEY Happy 40th birthday

Michael. Hope you have a wonderful day. Love and best wishes always from Nanaa and Grandad xxx

Birthday Remembrance

JOANNE MCCOURT / YAYA. 05.05.1961. Happy Birthday to the best Mum and Yaya. Not a day goes by when you're not in our thoughts. We miss you so so much. Hope you're partying with angels. Love always, Michelle, Colin, Cameron & Amelia

Obituary

Photo Competition Winner



Congratulations to Gary Foster winner of the Newton Press and Whitehouse Funeral Service Photographic Competition receiving a canvas print of his winning entry from Stuart Howarth, Director, Newton Press (left). Keep entering your photos - the Spring competition ends 31st May. Scenic photos especially of the North East welcome.

SWINDALE

Aycliffe Village Adrian died peacefully at home on April 28th. He will be sadly missed by all his family and many friends. Funeral Thursday May 10th. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 3.30pm. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu in aid of MENCAP may be given at the crematorium or will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Newton Aycliffe, Road. Aycliffe, 6EN. Tel: 01325 318600.

ALFRED AIREY, died peacefully in hospital on 29th April 2018. Alf aged 77 years, beloved wife of Ann, a much loved Dad, Father-in-law, Grandad and a dear Brother, Brother-in-law and Uncle. Would family and friends please meet in St. Mary's R.C. Church, Newton Aycliffe, Thursday 10th May for a Service at 12:15pm followed by interment at West Cemetery.



for club funds. The money will go towards travel expenses to competitions later this year. f our youngest Jazzmyn Loring One of our will be the first member of Spectrum Roller Skating Club to take part in The

British Champion ships.Jazzmyn will compete in three disciplines of artistic roller skating - travelling to two competitions held at Haywards Heath in May and Kettering in June.

Jazzmyn aged 8, will compete in the tots event of figures, free and solo dance. She started skating with Spectrum Roller Skating Club almost four years ago and is very excited to be taking part in such a prestigious event.

If you would like to keep up to date with Jazzmyn's progress please give our social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) a like/follow. We appreciate your support and are aiming to reach 1k likes.

The club has recently celebrated its 4th birthday and the skaters and families celebrated with a meal at The Hungry Horse Newton Aycliffe. Spectrum Roller Skating Club would like to thank everyone who has supported the club and we are very excited moving forward into our 5th year.

If you are interested in roller skating for fun or to compete please contact Tracy Stevens 07891 461 958 for more

Youthy Football Round Up

Newton Aycliffe Youth FC are extremely pleased to announce that they will be entering a LADIES FOOTBALL team into the be entering a LADIES FOOTBALL team into the Women's Development League next season!! Great news for all female footballers in and around the town. The league is run by Durham FA and games will be Sunday afternoon

If you want to get your boots on again, no matter how long it is or has been, why not give it a go?

We are actively looking for players to come and represent the town and club so if you're interested please contact Berni Borsberry on 07939 045242 or Helen Clark on 07904 886885. Mount Pleasant 1-12 Newton Aycliffe Youth U8's Falcons The Falcons ran riot in their last match of 17/18 season. Great passing and finishing all around to set up the summer tournaments starting Haggerstone Castle with weekend.

Newton Aycliffe Youth Falcons U11s 2 - 1 Tibs Yellow Youth

Last game of the season and it was a must win game against a team who could catch us in the league should they win their remaining games in hand. The first half was a nervy and

ne first nail was a nervy and scrappy start from both teams. Neither team took a good grip of the game and several half chances came and went. However just before half time we unfortunately conceded when a corner was deflected in off one of our player's heads

when trying to clear.
Half time came and a good chance to regroup. The chance to regroup. The message was to get the basics right and play with a better tempo and confidence in ourselves. The game and attitude changed and within minutes we had started to force Tibs into several errors in defence. The equaliser came when the striker chased a lost cause and won the ball from the goal keeper, after a bit of a scramble the ball was slotted calmly into the bottom corner from the edge of the box by Reece Smith. It was only a matter of time until

another goal came and it was

another goal came and it was a great relief when we took the lead through Dylan Stewart.

The match then got a bit scrappy again and we were able to see the game out to win our final match of the season. Now we wait for Leven Athletic and Tibs Yellow to play their final games. We need both teams to drop points to allow us to finish second. We have done all we can now and are keeping our fingers

Goal scorers Reece Smith and Dylan Stewart. Man of the match, Reece Smith.

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

LANDLORDS UNHAPPY | Cup Final at | Western Area WITH LIVIN'S SCHEME

As a landlord with several properties in this area. I too am worried about the proposed regeneration plans. previously lived in the area and loved the sense of community, friendship and also the green space available to all residents.

I only recently found out about Livin's plans and have since been in contact with them. Livin have said they have contacted all landlords and residents in the area in Autumn last year.

I'm not sure if these claims can be backed up as I and landlords other I know have yet to be contacted.

Livin are due to report back to their managers about consultations on the 11th May 2018. So my advice to anyone who hasn't managed to meet with Livin so far is to contact them urgently.

want all voices to be heard on this matter. residents, tenants, landlords, homeowners, families couples, contractors everyone's views are valid. Let your voice be heard and don't let Livin bully you into thinking that "Option 3" is the best option for everyone in the area. To book an appointment with Livin call 01388 424683.

Concerned Landlord

Moore Lane

The final of the Darlington Charity Cup will be played at Newton Aycliffe FC's Moore Lane ground tonight, Friday 4th May. The finalists are West Auckland The Club & Darlington The Albion. Kick off is 6.30pm with admission at £2 adults & £1 concessions.

Residents' Meeting

Western Area Residents' Association meet on Wednesday 9th May at 5pm in the Western Area Community Silverdale Place. Everyone welcome, and we may have some updates on the Regeneration Programme. Ring 308094 / 07967 901477

Win Against Consett Sees Aycliffe Safe

Newton Aycliffe guaranteed Northern League division 1 football for next season with a fine home win against a strong Consett side.

Aycliffe were the better side in the first half; Consett came into the game in the second half, but didn't trouble Aycliffe keeper Jack McLaren. Aycliffe started well and had the first chance on 4 minutes, when Thibault Charmey got a shot away that just missed the target. Centre half Liam Browne

got a volley in on 20 minutes, that brought a good save from Consett keeper Hayes. Consett were restricted to a couple of long range shots over the bar from centre forward Sweet. On 32 minutes, Jordan Jewson crossed to Craig Hutchinson, who controlled the ball and

got a shot away. Hayes saved, but only succeeded in knocking the ball back to Hutchinson and he made no mistake for 1-0. He hit a great volley a minute before the break, but Hayes made a good save. Consett upped their tempo in the second half, and had more possession than in the first. However, they couldn't create any clear-cut chances; centre half Purewal headed over from a corner on 71 minutes, but otherwise McLaren had an afternoon off in the home goal. Consett appealed for a penalty on minutes, but the referee deemed that centre half Andrew Grant-Soulsby had got a touch on the ball as he

tackled Mackay.

Aycliffe man-of-the-match Kurt Matthews was causing the Consett defenders some problems and he was unlucky with six minutes to go. He got in a good header that Hayes saved well, at the expense of a corner.

Aycliffe went on to secure the victory and three points; they now lie in 14th place with one game to play.



RUNNING CLUB NEWS



In this week's round up I would like to mention the five hardy runners from the club who took on the Gisborough Moors Fell Race on 15th April. Unfortunately the results weren't released in time for last week's report. This was

IN CONJUNCTION WITH NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT **Avcliffe** "Aycliffe Town Centre . . . Shopping for You" present a LIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL

As part of the 2018 Aycliffe Festival

to take place on SATURDAY 28th JULY 2018 IN NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE MALL from 12noon to 8.00pm - FREE admission We require local bands, singers, choirs to volunteer a session on the day, if this is you contact Aycliffe Radio:

a 12 mile fell race in the North Yorks Moors which included running up and down Roseberry Topping. Those brave enough for this were Dez Fielden in 1.54.08, Matt Heron in 2:02:00, Rob Nicholson in 2:28;56, Dean Barclay 2:37:46 and Louise Thompson Wright in 2:42:05. following weekend started with the usual park runs where again members were recording course PB's, namely, Richard Holland with 20:55 and Craig Robinson with 32.46. Over at Chester le Street, Carrieann Ingledew ran in 37.45 and Lisa Dowell

On Sunday 22nd April several members attended the London Marathon. This was the hottest London Marathon on record and fortunately all of our members completed the course safely despite the difficult conditions.

Results from this are: Paul Dalton in 3.:28:07, Dave Blewitt in 4:07:12, Mark Bainbridge in 4:53:59, Judith Porter in 5:23:36 and Richard

Tonge in 5:32:58. In addition we have also seen midweek races take place this week. First up was the Spring Coast Road 5k in Marske. This was attended by three of our runners who all had great races. John Surtees was first home for the club and 6th overall with a time of 16:58. Next home was Tracey Surtees in 19.44 (PB) and was second female. She was followed by Michelle Jane in 20:10 and Michelle was third female. Finally the club took part in

the Neptune Relays which took place at Hardwick Park. We had 10 teams competing the course which was an approx 1.6 mile lap around Hardwick Park on a cold and blustery evening.

That didn't stop the good atmosphere created from such a good turn out. Indeed one of the women's teams won First Place so well done on that to Julie Nisbet, Heather Fenwick, Mandy Heywood and Lindsey Brown. But well done to all on some great running.





TEL: 301066 or 313326