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## New Play Area for Cobblers Hall

The official opening of  
Cobbler's Hall Play Area  
took place on Friday 3rd  
August.

The new, much-anticipated,  
£150,000 project, which  
includes a substantial play  
area and Multi-Use Games  
Area, was delivered by Great  
Aycliffe Town Council,  
with financial support from  
Durham County Council.  
Great Aycliffe Town Council  
entered into an agreement  
with Durham County  
Council to adopt the County  
Council's existing small play  
area and redevelop it into a  
highly-valued play facility  
for residents.

The project was funded  
by £20,000 from the Great  
Aycliffe and Middridge  
Partnership Area Budget,  
a further £45,000  
from Durham County  
Council's Neighbourhood  
Budgets and £15,000 from  
Durham County Council's  
Delivering Differently fund.  
This was match-funded  
by Great Aycliffe Town  
Council, with an initial  
£75,000 capital investment.  
The Town Council also  
provided bins and seats  
and will be responsible for  
ongoing maintenance and  
supervision.

Present for the opening were  
Sue Cooke (Great Aycliffe  
and Middridge Partnership  
Vice Chair), Mike Dixon  
(former DCC Councillor),



the Mayor of Great Aycliffe,  
Cllr Jed Hillary (Chairman of  
Great Aycliffe Town Council  
Recreation Committee), Cllr  
John Clare (DCC Councillor)  
, and Cllr Brian Hall (Vice  
Chairman of Great Aycliffe  
Town Council Recreation  
Committee).

Extensive consultation  
took place with residents  
regarding the chosen play  
scheme, which was provided

by Kompan.

The new play area is already  
proving to be very popular  
with local families. Speaking  
at the opening ceremony, the  
Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Cllr  
John Clark said 'It's great to  
see this new project being  
so well received by local  
families, all the equipment  
looks fantastic' it's another  
brilliant asset for the people  
of the town to enjoy'.

## Goodbye Vane Road



After 59 years standing proud  
on the edge of the town and  
welcoming generations of  
youngsters through the gates,  
Vane Road Primary School  
in Newton Aycliffe will reach  
the end of an era.

Headteacher, Kieran Pavey  
is opening the school gates  
to the original Vane Road  
Primary School, one last  
time and is inviting the  
community, students and  
colleagues past and present to  
walk the corridors and relive  
some old school memories  
before the school is set to be  
demolished to make way for a  
vibrant, new facility.

The primary school was  
successful in its bid to the  
Department for Education to  
be renovated through the  
Priority Schools Building  
programme 2 in 2014. The  
decision was made to rebuild  
the school which opened  
in 1959 in order to create a  
modern, efficient environment  
where children can learn and  
grow now and in the future.  
390 students will start the new  
academic year in September  
in the £5.5 Million purpose-  
built facility which sits just

behind the existing school  
building. The redevelopment  
which has been managed  
by Kier Construction has  
taken 14 months with work  
still ongoing to remove the  
old school and landscape the  
school grounds. The project is  
set to be completed by April  
2019.

Mr Pavey, said: 'We are  
all extremely excited to be  
moving in to the new  
building, the team have  
worked incredibly hard to  
ensure a smooth transition  
for our students and we  
look forward to welcoming  
them all in September. We  
have some great plans in  
place to mark the opening  
of the school which will be  
announced soon.  
'We hope the community  
will join us for one last visit  
to the old school before the  
builders take over and begin  
demolition.'  
Goodbye Vane Road will take  
place on Friday 17th August,  
visitors can attend anytime  
between 10am – 5pm. For  
more information please visit  
the school Facebook page @  
VaneRoadSchool.

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**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August**

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Tickets £3 Doors open 7pm

## SUMMER FETE

St. Clare's Court in Newton Aycliffe will be holding their Annual Summer Fete on Saturday 18th August from 1pm - 4pm and would like to invite members of the local community to come along and join us in the fun - we have craft stalls, cake stall, tombola, raffle and refreshments. Their will be entertainment, vintage cars and the local police will be bringing one of their cars for the children to have a look at. Please come along and meet the residents, our friendly staff and manager Jason Parkinson and family members.

## Family Cobbler Opens



A new family business has opened in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre offering shoe repairs, key cutting, engraving, watch batteries and straps as well as watch repairs. Andrew's Family Cobbler also sell bags, purses, wallets, rucksacks, suitcases, shopping trolleys, shoe care. Andrew has been involved in this trade for ten to twelve years, initially trained by his Father-in-Law who has been in the business for over 40 years. "We are a true family run business and look forward to serving the residents of Newton Aycliffe". said Andrew.

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### SUNDAY LUNCH

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## August Gig Guide

Friday 3rd	Concert Hall - "The Jersey Tones" £7
Saturday 4th	Upstairs Lounge - "Chris Davies" Free
Sunday 5th	Pub in the Club - "Suzanne Reece" + Howie's Disco/Karaoke Free
Tuesday 7th	Kids Disco, £1.50
Saturday 11th	Upstairs Lounge - "Dave Lynn" Free
Sunday 12th	Concert Hall - The Whole Hog + 2 Hogs £3
Saturday 18th	Pub in the Club - "Lily" + Howie's Disco/Karaoke Free
Sunday 19th	Upstairs Lounge - "Sam Naylor" Free
Tuesday 21st	Concert Hall - Aycliffe Soul Club £4
Saturday 25th	Pub in the Club - "Marty Thomas" + Howie's Disco/Karaoke Free
Bank Holiday Monday 27th	Kids Disco, £1.50
	Upstairs Lounge
	"Trevor John Merrilees" Free
	Concert Hall - "The Pretend Beatles" £5
	Concert Hall - "Charity Night" £10 in aid of 'Kick it for Seonaid'
	Pub in the Club - "Ian McDonald" + Howie's Disco/Karaoke Free
	Concert Hall - "Tony's Soul Session" 3.00pm to 9.00pm £3

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24th - Karaoke / Disco free entry

25th Duo K2 REVIVAL &amp; solo TBC £3 ENTRY.

26th from 2 till 6.30 Karaoke / Disco free entry. evening solo artist ELLIOT and bingo £1 entry

31st - Disco / Karaoke with Disco Dave FREE entry.

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Gig-Pit Review: "Well, I don't know what to say, apart from . . . THIS MACHINE were absolutely amazing last night, one of the best - especially when the guitarists were on the tables and bar. Every song was awesome, perfect sound, and just all round excellence. Also it was the best atmosphere I've ever felt, everyone was having fun."

Gig-Pit Review: "One of the most entertaining bands on the circuit, music by Motorhead, Van Halen, Metallica, Pearl Jam, Bon Jovi, Guns 'n' Roses, Deep Purple, AC/DC, Billy Idol, Thin Lizzy and more."

**Saturday 18th August - "1 0 1"**

For more information on bands go to  
[www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk) or 313034  
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## Mayor's Charity Race Night

The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor John Clark is holding a Charity Race Night on Sunday 19th August, in aid of his chosen charity, the Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group.

The host venue for the night is The Iron Horse, Emerson Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 5HQ and it starts at 7pm. Tickets are only £5.00 and include a pie and peas supper. To book your ticket please ring 01325 300700 or email sharna.stretch@great-aycliffe.gov.uk for more details

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## Academy Rome Trip



From Monday the 9th of July until Thursday 12th July, Woodham Academy's More Able students travelled to Rome. Although only being in Rome itself for two and a half days, the trip managed to take in many of the major sites of this great city.

25 students (year 7 to year 10) and 3 members of staff (Mrs Scott, Mr Zielinski and Mr Gore) arrived in Rome early Monday afternoon, and after dumping their bags at the hotel, hit the street to make their way to the Time Elevator (a 4D cinematic experience detailing the history of Rome and its most famous inhabitants) grabbing a quick pizza on route. After being thoroughly educated on the lives of Augustus, Michelangelo and Bernini they set off back to the hotel, via the Trevi Fountain, to eat more pizza and get an early night.

The next day students set off bright and early to catch the packed rush hour metro to St Peter's Basilica and The Vatican. The group was met by a local guide and shown around the interior of the Vatican museums, seeing incalculable sculptures, mosaics, tapestries and paintings (Belvedere Torso, School of Athens by Raphael, Laocoön and His Son). The visit culminated in the Sistine Chapel where students were given time to admire Michelangelo's ceiling and many other frescoes by Renaissance artists. From there the group visited St Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the world, admiring its scale and collection of further masterpieces.

Paninis, pizzas and mountains of ice cream were required to see the group through the rest of the day. They pounded the streets in the blazing sun visiting the Pantheon (the temple to all gods and the resting place of Raphael) Piazza Navona (a beautiful Baroque square) and the Ara Pacis, Augustus' Altar to Peace. For those exhausted by the miles of walking in the heat of the day another early(ish) night was needed to recuperate after dinner. A small hardy bunch headed out with

Mr Gore to see the Trevi Fountain lit up at night. The final full day in Rome moved from the Renaissance to ancient Rome. The first port of call was Rome's most famous building, The Colosseum. The group spent over an hour walking in the footsteps of ancient Romans, taking in the scale of the building and looking for shade when they could. More of ancient Rome followed after that as the group visited the Roman Forum, Palatine Hill and Trajan's Market.

The evening's meal was supplied by the Hard Rock Café and from there the majority of the group spent the evening watching the doomed exploits of England in the World cup semi-final in their hotel rooms. Another small group headed out to the Spanish steps with Mr Gore to get their last view of Rome before an early bus journey back to the airport and from there back home. The More Able Academy students were a credit to Woodham Academy, they thoroughly enjoyed

the visit, broadened their horizons (and probably their waistbands with all the ice cream and pizza...especially Mr Zielinski) and showed a lot of resilience in their ability to walk for miles in the midday heat of Rome.

Woodham Headteacher, Christine Forsyth, says, "I am delighted that we are able to give our students cultural experiences which take education way beyond the classroom. The students who went will always remember this week."

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Dear Sir,  
I love living in Newton Aycliffe, but how sad it is to have to admit that I now must go to Darlington for my weekly grocery shopping. I would prefer to shop in Newton Aycliffe, but recently so much of what I buy regularly is now not sold by Tesco: uncut malted grain bread, ground rice, McDougal's sponge flour, goats milk, goats butter, Imperial leather talc and today added to that list was "pickling vinegar", all now not stocked by Tesco, Newton Aycliffe. What is happening? When I ask staff in store they merely agree with me saying, "there are a number of items which we used to sell, but now we don't stock them any more, it's a management decision." Wherever possible I try to shop locally but I'm afraid that in the case of supermarket shopping this is now not an option. However, thank goodness for

a good fruit and vegetable shop and a great butcher in The Thames Centre. Come on Tesco - get your act together and give people what they want instead of trying to become yet another cut price limited choice store.  
Derick Sutton

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## Energy Award for Warm Homes Project



A scheme which has helped hundreds of people heat their homes has received a prestigious energy efficiency award.

Durham County Council's Warm Homes scheme was named the best small scale project at the North East Energy Efficiency Awards held at the Gateshead Hilton hotel.

Since October 2017 the council has worked with partner organisations to install 150 new gas central heating boilers in homes across the county, as well as wall and roof insulation measures.

The scheme is helping households keep their homes

warmer and in the long-term achieve lower energy bills, leading to sustainable health and wellbeing improvements. Cllr Kevin Shaw, Cabinet member for strategic housing and assets, said: "As the average UK energy bill is now more than £1,300 per year it is becoming increasingly difficult for vulnerable residents to heat their home, prompting a decision to heat or to eat."

"Our Warm Homes project provides help for residents and anyone interested in advice about the boiler and insulation grants from the energy companies should contact the Housing Solutions Team on 03000 268 000."

## Options Street Party

The annual Options Street Party returns to the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe, on Thursday, 16th August 2018 from 12pm-4pm. The event is being organised by the members who attend Options, a day service for adults with learning disabilities based at the PCP. Last year's event was a huge success with over 900 people attending throughout the day and the members have been working really hard to make this year's event an even bigger success. The Options Street Party is free to attend and everyone is welcome so come along for a fun-packed day.

The Options Street Party will take over the Pioneering Care Centre grounds for a day of family fun. The day will consist of a street party in the staff car park with live music, DJs and performances, funfair, strong man challenge, police interceptors, disco dome bouncy castle, bungee run, Mr Bungle children's entertainer, penalty shootout and hook a duck. Inside the centre there will be stalls and activities including craft stalls, cupcake stalls, face painting and the coffee shop will be serving delicious homemade food including quiche, toasties and jacket potatoes, and a selection of scones and cakes.

There will also be a Bake Off-style competition on the day which is free to enter. We kindly request you to bring along your showstopper!

It can be anything from a bread masterpiece to a celebration cake, all baking abilities welcome. Guests will vote for their favourites during the event and there will be a prize for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Once decided, the show stoppers will be divided into portions and sold to anyone who wants a try with all of the money raised going to Options.

On the evening there will also be a disco and BBQ from 5:30-8pm with some very special Star Wars-themed guests. Tickets for the BBQ and disco are £3 per person and include a burger or hot dog.

Each year the members of Options take part in a sponsored activity to raise money for the Options project and this year the members will be taking part in a Fancy Dress Challenge where they will all don fancy dress outfits and take part in different challenges throughout the day. Challenges will include a live karaoke performance, superhero challenge and a dance.

If anyone would like to sponsor the members to take part in the Fancy Dress Challenger or simply support the Options project, you can do so by donating to their Just Giving page at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/options2018> or by following the group by searching on Facebook for Options at PCP. Everyone at Options hopes to see you there!

## Bishop College Annual Graduation Ceremony

Dozens of students from across south west Durham celebrated their success at Bishop Auckland College's annual HE graduation ceremony.

More than 120 graduates have received their scrolls after years of study in subjects ranging from engineering to teaching, counselling, sport, healthcare, music and performing arts.

They include Kerrie Brown, from Darlington, an Advanced Technical Engineering Apprentice with global power leader Cummins. She has completed her HNC in mechanical engineering at the college's engineering training partner South West Durham Training. Kerrie, 28, plans to progress on to an HND then a full engineering degree. She said: "I'd like to work my way up through Cummins and become a chartered engineer. Along the way I hope to experience several departments of interest in order to build up my knowledge and skills."

Teacher Catherine Douglas, 49, went back to being a student herself to wider her career prospects as she looks to move into college lecturing after three decades working in early years.

Praising the "superb organisation and support of excellent tutors", the mother-of-one, of Bishop Auckland, who received her PGCE, said: "With a lecturing qualification, my career options will be stronger as a result of having several qualifications that I can teach in. This qualification is very versatile and transferable and I may seek employment in another part of the country or world once my daughter finishes her A levels."

Returning to the classroom also put Pat Hodgson right into the driving seat. For the 55-year-old gained so much confidence after joining the college to study counselling she decided to take driving lessons – and passed! She has graduated with a Foundation Degree in Counselling.

Pat, of Bishop Auckland, who is married with a 28-year-old son, said: "Counselling is something I had always wanted to study. Four years ago I decided it was now or never. I nervously walked into the college and enquired about enrolling. That began a journey that changed my life and from which I have never looked back."

"I am now going on to compete my honours degree in counselling and continue my work with Butterwick Hospice. Without a doubt doing this course has changed my life - I am so proud of what I have achieved professionally and personally in four years." Charlotte Murphy, 20, of Bishop Auckland, (HND Performing Arts) hopes to run her own youth theatre group after completing her degree in technical drama at Lincoln University, which she starts this autumn.

Charlotte has volunteered since she was 14 for local drama groups Shildon Tearaways and Bishop Auckland Theatre Society, and has this year been working at Daisy Arts on show production.

Gareth Brown, 34, from Durham City, (HND Sport) dedicates his free time to helping other disabled people take part in sport. He works as an assistant project officer and disability sports coach



for SMILE Through Sport, an organisation which promotes and delivers disability sport, and volunteers for Boccia England, the national governing body for the Paralympic sport.

Accounts manager Rachel Flowers, 37, of Darlington, (FD Counselling) hopes to become a counsellor and completes her honours degree at the University of Sunderland in September.

She said: "The course has been challenging, life changing and incredible. Bishop Auckland College is a lovely place to study with very supportive tutors."

Drummer Jimmy 'Stix' Robinson has travelled the world playing with bands for 50 years, but has proved an old dog is never too old to learn new tricks. The 68-year-old has passed his HND in Music and will also complete his degree at the University of Sunderland over the next year. The father-of-six, of Bishop Auckland, said: "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at the college. Mixing with all age ranges, passing on my experience to younger students and learning from them, has been a wonderful experience."

Addressing the ceremony at Bishop Auckland Town Hall, guest speaker Bishop Auckland MP Helen Goodman said: "Learning is a lifelong process and tonight was a fantastic celebration of this. The successes were achieved through hard work which demonstrate that the students receiving

their certificates and awards tonight will continue to achieve, whether in the work place, benefiting their communities or in further studies."

The college is also celebrating its own Higher Education achievement, having just received a bronze award in the Teaching Excellence Framework ratings "for delivering teaching, learning and outcomes for its students that meet rigorous national quality requirements for UK higher education".

The TEF awards are decided by an independent panel of experts comprising students and academics, measuring excellence in three areas: teaching quality; the learning environment; and the educational and professional outcomes achieved by students.

College Principal and Chief Executive Natalie Davison-Terranova added: "The graduation ceremony is the culmination of several years of hard work and dedication for each student and I would like to congratulate every graduate for their own personal success story and wish them well."

The college offers HE courses in a wide range of subjects including HNCs in engineering, HNDs in business, public services, art & design and sport, Foundation Degrees and Higher Apprenticeships. Applications are being taken now for HE courses starting in September.

Visit [www.bacoll.ac.uk](http://www.bacoll.ac.uk)

### Raising funds for ARMS Group

(Aycliffe Alcohol Recovery & Mutual Support)

with Medium

**"John Pattison"**

plus guest medium

### Phoenix Club

Macmillan Road, Newton Aycliffe

**Tuesday 21st August, 7pm**

Tickets £5.00 each, available from Love Thy Cupcake, The Phoenix Club, Aycliffe Framers and 07598 994054

## Residents Asked to Help Fight Fraud



Residents in County Durham are being urged to join their council's fight against fraud with the launch of a new campaign.

Each year, it is estimated that hundreds of thousands of pounds are unlawfully claimed from Durham County Council through fraud. This includes council tax and tenancy fraud, as well as false claims for direct payments for social care and support, insurance and blue badges for disabled parking. Now the council is encouraging anyone who knows of anyone committing fraud, to report it.

Paul Bradley, the council's chief internal auditor and corporate fraud manager, said: "Fraud takes money away from vital frontline services. "Fighting this crime helps us not only protect these services but ensure taxpayers' money is not

wasted. But we can't do this alone, so we are asking anyone who is aware of it or has concerns to let us know. "We investigate all reports we receive and will not hesitate to prosecute offenders to ensure we deal with fraudulent activity to protect the public purse."

Over the last three years the council has recovered or intercepted more than £3 million from fraudulent activity.

As well as investigating reports from the public, the council carries out regional and national data matching and works closely with neighbouring local authorities, police and law enforcement agencies.

To report fraud, email [corporatefraudteam@durham.gov.uk](mailto:corporatefraudteam@durham.gov.uk), text 07797 870 192, starting your message with the word 'fraud', call 03000 266 745 or visit [www.durham.gov.uk](http://www.durham.gov.uk)

Great Aycliffe Town Council presents

### FUN IN THE PARKS 2018

11.00 am-3.00 pm each day

**Oak Leaf FREE**

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**Friday 10th August**

**Horndale Park**

*The Minions will be visiting the park and the kids can take part in a Minions Hunt*

**Wednesday 15th August**

**Aycliffe Village Park**

**Friday 17th August**

**Simpasture Park**

*Plus two face painters, Crazy Cottage & bumpy cars*

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, JOHN  
Visit John's website: [www.jack4.co.uk](http://www.jack4.co.uk)



## Sedgefield Folk Festival

Dear Sir,  
I am the organiser of the Sedgefield Folk Festival held each year in the village, this year from 31st August to 2nd September.

There are main concerts held Friday and Saturday afternoon and Saturday night in the Parish Hall, featuring Marty Craggs and his Unexpected Visitors. Jez Lowe, Stony, Real Time, Grannies Attic, Los Capitanos, John Wrightson Band and many others.

There is a ukulele concert in Ceddesfield Hall on the Friday night and a free singaround on Friday night at the Social club.

Saturday brings free workshops/singarounds and a traditional song writing competition.

There will be a dedication to Bert Draycott and Martin Nesbitt on Saturday afternoon in Ceddesfield Hall.

Saturday night there will be a Open Mic session led by the Old Age Travellers.

The whole event finishes on Sunday morning with a big sing and free buffet lunch in Ceddesfield Hall.

Tickets are available from the Festival office on 01740 621347 or the website [www.sedgefieldfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sedgefieldfolkfestival.co.uk)  
Thank you  
Joan Edmundson

## HORNDALE RA BUILD NEW FRIENDSHIPS



Since November 2016 Newton Aycliffe has seen Syrian Refugees settle in our town after fleeing their war torn country. Government figures show Durham is the best in the country for re-settlement and Newton Aycliffe the best in Durham which shows what an understanding and welcoming place we live in. Last year we were approached by our local County Councillors to organise a trip to bring local residents and refugees together to build new friendships and a stronger community. So last Friday 57 people sailed on the Teesside Princess up

and down the river Tees, enjoying the views and wildlife while indulging in cake and tea.

There was a great atmosphere and everyone mixed together, watching the young families dancing and singing traditional song was a joy. We hope this is another step forward in the new lives of the refugee families, some are giving back to their community by volunteering at the Food Bank and other charities also one father is seen litter picking in around his local streets, a true asset to our town.

Thank you to Newton Aycliffe County Councillors

E. Adam, J. Atkinson, J. Clare, S. Durham, K. Hopper, P. Howell and S. Iveson for supporting this event through their Neighbourhood Budget a true community event.  
Thank you  
Philip Clark  
Chair.

## PCP Annual General Meeting

The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) was delighted to welcome Phil Wilson MP, the Deputy Mayor of Great Aycliffe Cllr Mary Dalton and her Consort Cllr Sarah Iveson, along with partners, volunteers and staff to the 19th Annual General Meeting recently.

As well as managing the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe, which had over 365,000 visits during 2017-18, PCP delivers a wide range of projects and services across the North East supporting the Charity's mission of Health, Wellbeing and Learning for All.

It was a poignant event as we celebrated another year of achievements, inciting both tears and laughter during the morning. Those present were touched by our speakers, who shared stories about volunteering in Sunderland; accessing Together 21 a project that supports children with Down syndrome; and the help health trainers provided to the gypsy Roma traveller community. The common



theme centred around the positive impact PCP services have had on their lives and how their confidence, knowledge or self-esteem had improved.

Carol Gaskarth, PCP Chief Executive, spoke about the highlights from the past year and said, "PCP's annual report provides a snapshot of the year and during 2017-18 we had much to celebrate. PCP received the highest accolade awarded to voluntary organisations - the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service - and our volunteers continue to provide fabulous support giving over 7000 hours service to PCP, equating to £63,000 of donated time."

"PCP also received national recognition through the RSPH National Workplace Health and Wellbeing Award 2017 and a National Public Health England (PHE) Commendation for Reducing Inequalities at a Community Level, one of only two awarded across the UK."

"I am privileged to lead PCP, which is respected for being a responsive, dynamic and forward thinking health and wellbeing charity. Adaptability and

creativity have been key to PCP's success. Our team of trustees, staff and volunteers work tirelessly to ensure our projects and services are excellent quality for the people we support, thank you to them for their work throughout the year."

Finally we said a fond farewell to a number of ardent PCP supporters, including Melanie Fordham, who stepped down as PCP's Chair after 3 years and almost 10 years as a Trustee. Melanie said, "Trustees take their governance responsibilities very seriously and I am indebted to them for their work. As I come to the end of my tenure I wish to thank them for their support, I will miss working with them very much and wish the organisation the very best for the future."

If you would like to find out more about the work of PCP please contact Kath Ferry, Chief Executive's PA, Tel: 01325 321234, Email: [kath.ferry@pcp.uk.net](mailto:kath.ferry@pcp.uk.net)

## Volunteers Help Keep County's Beaches Clean

Hard working volunteers have cleared more than 500 bags of rubbish from County Durham's beaches so far this year.

Plastic bottles, balloons, food wrappers and shopping trolleys are among the items removed during the regular litter picks, organised by the Heritage Coast team.

Heritage Coast is a partnership of local authorities, agencies and community bodies with an interest in protecting the coastline in Durham, Sunderland and Hartlepool. Louise Harrington, Heritage Coast project officer at Durham County Council, one of the partners, said the contribution of volunteers was instrumental to the scheme's success.

She praised the many schools, businesses and individuals who have supported the beach cleans, adding: "Anyone who watched the BBC's groundbreaking and harrowing documentary Blue Planet 2 knows how detrimental rubbish like this is to wildlife - from the smallest seabird to the biggest marine mammal."

"It's vital we educate people about the dangers and remove as much rubbish as we can. This not only protects wildlife but helps ensure our coastlines are safe and beautiful places to visit."

So far this year, Heritage Coast has organised 17 beach clean-up operations, collecting an average of 30 bags of rubbish per clean. And they are not alone, with members of the Seaham Beach Cleaning Crew often spending an entire day on the beach and regularly collecting more than 100 bags per session.

The rubbish collected is a mixture of cans, bottles and food cartons which people have left behind, along with plastic items and fishing waste from the sea. A growing number of balloons are also being found, possibly due to the popularity of mass balloon releases. Other items removed include supermarket trolleys, bags, tyres and lobster pots. To find out more about the Heritage Coast project, visit [www.durhamheritagecoast.org](http://www.durhamheritagecoast.org)



## Calling all Budding Photographers

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# AYCLIFFE RADIO

## Programme Schedule

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



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

### MONDAY

9-12noon	Amy in the Morning	Amy Harrison
2-6pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
<b>"Through the Decades" with Elachi Indian Restaurant</b>		
Mention Aycliffe Radio for 10% Discount on Takeaways		
6-7pm	60s Show	Karl Simons
7-8pm	70s Show	Peter Rush
8-9pm	80s Show	Paul Gittins
9-10pm	90s Show	Paul Baker
10-11pm	00s Show	Producer Dan
11-12am	Teens Show	Owen Dickinson

### TUESDAY

2-6pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
<b>Sports Show sponsored by Honest John</b>		
6-7.30pm	Sports Round UP	Darren & Lee
14th Aug	No show tonight due to holidays	
21st Aug	Ian Wilkinson - Tennis Coach	
7.30-9.30pm	Northern & Classic Soul	Kevin Sowerby

### WEDNESDAY

1-5pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
5-7pm	Tea Time Out	Amy Harrison
7-8pm	Community Connect	Phil Hawkins
8-10pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gary & Alby
10-12am	Garage/Indie Show (Repeat)	MC Supa

### THURSDAY

2-6pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
6-7pm	Mystery Year	Paul Baker
7-8pm	"Throwback Thursday"	The Doctor
8-10pm	"Beat" Roote	Graeme Roote

### FRIDAY

9-12noon	Amy in the Morning	Amy Harrison
2-6pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
6-8pm	Tech-House Mix	PVR Studios
8-10pm	<b>Guest Presenter Session</b>	
10th Aug	<b>Andy Little</b> (from Central FM Spain) - 80s	
17th Aug	<b>Nathan Abbott</b> - 90s Classic	
24th Aug	<b>Pauly Mac</b> (from Australia)	
31st Aug	<b>Owen &amp; Amy</b> - Pop and Chart Show	
10-12am	Alternative Aycliffe (Repeat)	Gary & Alby

### SATURDAY

8-11am	Kitchen Floor Fillers	
11am-1pm	Kent Collective	Daz Kent
1-2pm	Ska Session	
2-4pm	School Disco	
4-6pm	Northern & Classic Soul (R)	Kevin Sowerby

### "THE SATURDAY NIGHT EXPERIENCE"

6-7pm	Evening Session	JimJams
7-8pm	PH7 MixTape	Paul Hardy
8-9pm	Chart & Dance Remixes	Alan Hastie
9-10pm	Retro Tech House Mix	OZ-DJ
10-12am	Street 'n' Drum 'n' Bass	MC Supa

### SUNDAY

9am-12	Dante's Sunday Dinner	Dante McGuire
12-2pm	Sports Round Up (R)	Darren & Lee
2-4pm	Country Music Special	
4-6pm	Folk/Celtic/Rock Show	Steve & Col
6-7pm	Church Service	Xcel Centre
7-8pm	Owen's Politics Show	Owen Dickinson

**Check our website for full schedule**  
**www.ayclifferadio.co.uk**

### PROMOTE YOUR ORGANISATION - ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW

Contact John Atkinson - john@ayclifferadio.co.uk

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Registration number 1121835. Registered office: Aycliffe Radio, c/o Blue Bridge Centre,  
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Aycliffe Radio is CIC Registered (No. 11455404)



Scheduled shows can be changed/cancelled at any time.



# "I'M NOT A RACIST... BUT..."

Dear Editor,  
The Newton News has an excellent reputation as a local community paper and is much valued by the people in this town. I understand it's management take no responsibility for the content of the letters it chooses to publish and allows residents to voice their opinions on most matters, which is a great service to our great British tradition of freedom of speech.

But with freedom of speech comes certain responsibilities, and over recent weeks we have been subjected to the thinly veiled bigotry and cultural prejudice from one contributor, a man who constantly complains of others accusing him of racism yet, seems to lack the ability to reflect on why that is, and given the content of his rantings, it's not difficult to imagine why such accusations may be made. Alongside this worrying hate speech, this person also seems intent on personally targeting one of our local councillors. It is always good to hold local elected representatives to account, and it should be encouraged, but there is also a point when this crosses the line into obsessional behaviour. I feel it's time the Newton News took some

responsibility in what it publishes. If people want to read such extremist rantings, bile and untruths, they can buy one of the tabloid newspapers, but as residents have little choice in what is freely posted through their letter boxes, I would ask the Newton news to consider drawing up just a few simple rules or some basic code of conduct for contributors, to ensure such blatant hate speech and personal grudges are not promoted and encouraged through the use of its publication. Freedom of speech is a principle we must all uphold, but that freedom must not be abused to promote hate. The Newton News may use a disclaimer to absolve itself from legal responsibility, but as it's the vehicle being used for such abhorrent opinions, it has an ethical obligation to prevent the promotion of hate speech in its pages. I hope some consideration will be given to this plea and we will not be subjected to more "I'm not a racist... BUT..." type of contributions by the individual in question, and others in a similar vain. Thank you.  
Miss Kathy Beetham.  
*Editor: Newton News are keen to allow readers to put forward their point of view without fear or favour.*

# "Do Something"

Dear Sir,  
I note that yet again Messrs Welsh and Clare are in the process of trying to score points off each other – this time over the visit of President Trump and the policies that he represents within the USA and their reactions to the same. I would remind both that the US President was elected by the people of the USA who knew who and what they were to elect -and did so. We should respect their choice and not try to make political capital of the American ways.

Again, I would remind the two protagonists that at least the USA get to elect their leader directly – we in the UK do not get that choice. The establishment figures get to select our leader(s), for instance Brown, Cameron/ Clegg, May, of recent. Maybe the mother of democracy has something to learn from one of its children! They also need to bear in mind that people will only 'hear' what they wish to hear unless there is a strong reason to hear otherwise. Trump's election is 'old news' and something we all need to accept and live with, otherwise where are all the protests against the leaders of Russia, North Korea, China, et al and why aren't you both out there 'wasting' your time talking about those issues, whereas the people of Aycliffe who voted for you (or you wish to vote for you) want you to deal with those issues that affect our daily lives, viz;  
• helping Hitachi (with

Bombardier) win UK train building contracts – rather than Italian based companies,  
• curtailing the excesses of Livin and getting them to provide good quality social housing and maintain those they already have (as a gift from the electorate of Aycliffe),  
• getting other companies to invest in Aycliffe and surrounding areas,  
• helping generate/establish the 'Northern Powerhouse',  
• providing a sustainable environment for us all to live in and enjoy,  
• pressurising the Town Centre Management to improve the centre – living trees, more shops (not an out of centre retail park at the A1 – Quick question Are the traffic lights to be switched on for Christmas ?),  
• maintain the open areas (again gifted by the electorate) enabling people to fully enjoy Aycliffe,  
• assist 'Honest John' in finding a new home to enable him to continue to support our community.  
No doubt they will respond, via Newton News, and I encourage them to do so, however I would prefer they (and their colleagues) actually did something about it other than just talk and empty promises. Come on gents, rather than 'Same Old, Same Old' points scoring with meaningless political diatribe – do something and help the people of Aycliffe.  
John Hillary  
(Again, though I share their surname, I am not related to the politicians of that name.)

# UK's Largest Light Festival Spectacular in Durham



Durham will host its most ambitious ever Lumiere light festival in 2019, featuring a selection of some favourites from the past decade of festivals.

Durham County Council's Cabinet agreed to re-commission Artichoke to deliver large scale events in both 2019 and 2021, with community activities and legacy artworks in the years between. The 2019 event will run from 14 to 17 November and will see a number of highlights from the previous five festivals shine a light on the county - to mark the event's 10th anniversary. Lumiere was established in Durham in 2009 and the 2019 programme is expected to wow the hundreds of thousands of people who flock to the biennial event and to ensure that the county is showcased on a global scale. It will feature a mix of some favourites and brand new artworks.

Announcing the confirmation, Durham County Council's leader, Cllr Simon Henig, said: "I am absolutely delighted to invite Artichoke back and I can't wait to hear more about what we can expect. 2019 marks a decade from the birth of Lumiere in Durham and it seems fitting to mark that in spectacular fashion, particularly as we anticipate the combined visitor numbers linked to previous editions will see us surpass one million next year. "Every event delivers huge opportunities for us to shout about what a wonderful place Durham is and to use that profile to promote our county as a fantastic destination to visit, live, study and do business. This importance is also reflected in the growth in support from the private sector with an ever increasing number of sponsors and supporters getting involved each time. We are also really grateful for the continuing support from all our partners including Arts Council England, the Cathedral, University and Durham Constabulary."

Welcoming the news, CEO and artistic director of Artichoke, Helen Marriage, said: "The festival's continued success shows what is possible when the local authority, local business and local people come together behind a project, allowing us as producers to push the boundaries and do really exciting things. "The challenge is to keep it feeling fresh, so that Lumiere is always an adventure. I know a lot of people head for the centre: Cathedral, Market Place, Riverside and Castle. But I

never want Lumiere to become predictable and I think this has been the key to its success over the years. I'm always thinking of new ways to explore the cityscape and make the experience something of a magical journey of discovery." Asked what we can expect for 2019 Helen continued: "That would be telling wouldn't it? What I can say is that I'm so excited to be programming the 10th anniversary Lumiere festival and that it will be a moment to reflect and look back as well as forward. There will be highlights from the last ten years, a sort of 'director's cut', alongside new commissions. Watch this space!" At Cabinet members heard that Lumiere 2017 attracted record 240,000 strong crowds, delivered the greatest ever community outreach opportunities involving 1,700 people across the county, provided volunteering opportunities for more Festival Makers than ever before and saw its regional audience grow significantly - securing the festival's place as one of both regional and national significance. It was also worth more than £7.5 million to the county's economy.

It was agreed that together these factors presented a compelling case to commission further festivals and to facilitate this a £1.8 million VAT windfall ring-fenced for cultural activity from the council's culture and sport department to support future events was agreed. It will help deliver two full Lumiere light festivals in 2019 and 2021, interspersed with light-themed activities in the off-years. This will, in turn, release an additional £1 million from Arts Council England to support the festival. The balance will, as usual, be raised by Artichoke via partnerships, sponsorship and grants.

The evaluation report also outlines how well received the festival was with 90 per cent of those surveyed by independent company Marketwise, saying the event is good for the city's image. The festival also delivers legacy public artworks for the city – Helveticot in Millennium Place, Light Benches on the Riverside, and later this year the stunning illuminated heron – all made possible by the Banks Community Fund. A further legacy work, supported by Milburngate, which involves illuminating the railway viaduct in the city is also expected to be completed later this year.

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## Film Show

### "THE FIVE PENNIES"

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St. Clare's Church on Tuesday 14th August features the musical drama "The Five Pennies" starring Danny Kaye, Barbara Bel Geddes, Louis Armstrong, Harry Guardino, Bob Crosby, Tuesday Weld and Bob Hope.

It is a semi-biographical film about Red Nichols and his band, parts very funny, others very weepy, great music and song inc. "The Five Pennies", "After You've Gone", "Goodnight Sleep Tight", "Lullabye in Ragtime", "Back Home in Indiana", and the best ever performance of "When the Saints Go Marching in" by Satchmo and Kaye.

It is a real feel-good U-cert film. Tea, coffee and juice are served at 1pm, included in the £2, children £1. The film starts at 1.15pm. Please note that children must be accompanied, and the film has a "15" rating, containing some strong language.

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.

## LIFESTYLE FITNESS GUESTS



The Daz and Lee Sports Show on Aycliffe Radio on Tuesday 7th August were delighted to welcome special guests Sharon Darter and Lewis Wood who are both Gym Instructors from Lifestyle Fitness based at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.

Sharon has worked in the gym for nine years and says that she has thoroughly enjoyed her time there and made many friends along the way. However she also said during Tuesday's live show that she will soon be leaving to start a new job with the NHS and both Daz and Lee wish her all the very best in her new job.

Lewis previously worked at the Spennymoor Leisure Centre for about 7 years and transferred to his current full time role at Newton Aycliffe about 12 months ago. Lewis is hoping to complete the Great North Run, which is taking place on 9th September and despite one or two injury set backs, he'll be looking to step up his training during the next five weeks and all at Aycliffe Radio wish him well on that adventure.

*Daz and Lee's Sports chat show is live every Tuesday at 6pm and repeated on Sundays at midday on Aycliffe Radio. There will however be no show on Tuesday 14th August due to holidays, but they will be back on Tuesday 21st August.*

# North East Meningitis Survivors Join Forces to Raise Awareness

Tilly Lockey and Lyndon Longhorne have individually been campaigning and raising awareness of meningitis for years, but now they are coming together and uniting in the fight against meningitis. The pair are well-known in the North East with local communities following their stories since they were babies, and it is this popularity and interest that they are hoping to draw upon as they stand together to raise awareness.

The dynamic duo are hoping that their combined efforts will not only raise vital awareness of meningitis, but also show the world that despite living with the after effects of the disease you can still lead a very successful and happy life.

Both Tilly and Lyndon had limbs amputated in a bid to save their lives; Tilly had both hands removed and lost her toes, and Lyndon had both of his legs, part of his right arm and the tips of the fingers on his left hand removed.

Despite the challenges that Tilly and Lyndon have faced, they are both achieving great things in their personal lives. Lyndon is currently training for the Para-Olympics in 2020, and has recently



become a first-time dad to his beautiful baby girl Aubree-Olympia; and Tilly has been busy helping prosthetic companies develop 3D printed bionic hands for children and teenagers.

One of the main objectives of

joining forces is to show that no one affected by Meningitis is alone. Sarah Lockey, Tilly's mum and Community Fundraiser for the North at Meningitis Now said: "We are on a mission to create a large Meningitis Now family in the North East, who will stand together to fight meningitis."

"Together we can support each other, raise awareness, and fundraise together as one big team. Just think how powerful that could be – helping to reach Meningitis Now's vision that no one in the UK loses their life to meningitis and everyone affected gets the support they need to rebuild their lives."

Tilly and Lyndon are keen for supporters to hold their own fundraising events or take part in challenges to raise money for Meningitis Now. They are also happy to come along and support fundraising events in the North East.

The pair are also in the process of discussing ideas to host their own fundraising event, with some weird and wonderful suggestions being made!

Sarah continued: "I am extremely excited to see what Tilly and Lyndon can achieve together."

"We do not want to keep seeing families affected and devastated by this disease. We want to make people more aware of the signs and symptoms of meningitis, and we're asking the North East to get behind us."

Tilly and Lyndon are two very determined young people. Their families were told to prepare for the worst and say their goodbyes - but both survived against the odds.

They live with the effects of meningitis every single day, but don't let their experience define them. They show strength and compassion, and want to help others that have experienced this horrible disease too.

Their stories have already proved inspirational to others, with Tilly receiving positive, heartfelt messages after she appeared on Davina McCall's 'This Time Next Year'.

One mum said: "I knew my daughter was going to be ok after her amputations because I saw how strong Tilly is."

If people are interested in helping Tilly and Lyndon raise awareness and fundraise for Meningitis Now, please get in touch with Sarah:

E: sarahl@meningitisnow.org  
T: 07864763025

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100010115258151>

Meningitis Now is working towards a future where no one in the UK loses their life to meningitis and everyone affected gets the support they need.

It does this by funding research into vaccines and prevention, raising awareness so people know what to look for and what action to take if they suspect meningitis and rebuilding futures by providing dedicated support to people living with the impact of the disease.

For more information and to donate visit [www.meningitisnow.org](http://www.meningitisnow.org)

## Hitachi Start Work on LNER's Azuma



• Hitachi's train factory in the North East begins building new fleet for the East Coast main line

• LNER's Azuma fleet to start carrying passengers later this year

Passengers are a step closer to experiencing new trains as work steps up on Azuma. The new fleet for the East Coast main line is being built at Hitachi's Newton Aycliffe factory in County Durham. The factory, home to 730 permanent employees and has recently seen 50 apprentices graduate.

This milestone for Newton Aycliffe follows Azuma trains built in Japan testing on the route.

Azuma arriving this year Azuma is due to begin carrying passengers later this year along the East Coast main line, connecting London and Yorkshire, and from 2019 running in Scotland.

Hitachi has designed the trains using their Japanese bullet train technology, with the front of the train using a sleek aerodynamic design. With much faster acceleration passengers can expect their journey times to be cut once the fleet is fully introduced. The name Azuma

means "east" in Japanese, an acknowledgement of Hitachi's roots and Japan's advanced railways.

David Horne, Managing Director of LNER explains: "We're delighted that manufacturing has now commenced on Azuma in County Durham. Our customers can expect a fleet of high-tech, modern trains that will deliver more seats and space, as well as faster journeys. Azuma will play a key role in revolutionising travel on the east coast mainline, delivering first-class service as well as extra services for Bradford, Lincoln, Harrogate and Edinburgh"

Karen Boswell, Managing Director of Hitachi Rail Europe said: "Newton Aycliffe continues to go from strength to strength, now building three separate fleets to serve passengers across the country."

"Our pioneering Azuma trains, inspired by Japanese bullet trains, will transform journeys on the East Coast main line. By building them at Newton Aycliffe, we are supporting thousands of jobs with a strong British supplier base".

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# GET BACK ON YOUR BIKE THIS SUMMER



People who haven't ridden a bike for a while are being encouraged to get back in the saddle with free Back on your Bike courses.

The courses offer cycling advice and basic maintenance demonstrations, in turn this will build the participants' confidence to ride the bike, progressing from cycling in a quiet traffic free environment, to eventually cycling on quiet roads. Bikes and helmets can be provided free of charge, so

people who don't own a bike can also get involved.

The next Back on your Bike courses are taking place at Chester-le-Street and Murton on the following dates, and places must be pre-booked:

- Friday 10 August, 9.30am – 3.00pm, at Riverside Sports Pavilion, Chester-le-Street
- Thursday 16 August, 10am – 12noon, at the Glebe Centre, Murton. (4 week course)

Stephen Clough, Physical Activity Officer said "The

thought of starting to cycle can be a bit daunting for some people, so these sessions are a great place to try it out to see if it's for you, and to start to build your confidence. Regular cycling has a number of health benefits, including helping you lose weight, build muscle and reduce stress, so the sessions are a good form of exercise, but they're also the perfect excuse to get out in the fresh air and meet new people. You don't even need any equipment to join in as it's all provided."

The courses are suitable for ages 16 and over, and anyone wanting more information, or to book a place can email Sportandleisure@durham.gov.uk or call 03000 266 555.

For those with a little more cycling experience, but who want to cycle with others, free weekly cycle rides are also held across County Durham. Details and booking information can be found by visiting [www.durham.gov.uk/cycling](http://www.durham.gov.uk/cycling)

## Messy Seaside

Come and join us at Messy By The Seaside on Saturday 18th @4pm in St. Clare's Church. Enjoy sand and water play, make a sand sculpture, beach cards and decorate shells and pebbles. Hear about the wise and foolish men who build their houses on the sand. Tea will be fish, potatoes and peas with of course an ice cream to follow. Messy Church learning and growing together, fun, fellowship and faith where everyone is welcome.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page - Youth/Childrent.clare for all our latest information.

## Thank You

Dear Sir,  
Please can you print a HUGE thank you in the Newton News from the Children's Blessings team to the man who donated £300 to help us with toiletries.

This person donated anonymously, but what a difference it will make to us. Thank you

## Kynren in Top 5 UK Attractions

TripAdvisor has listed Kynren - An Epic Tale of England in its Top Five Performances in England to visit this summer. With rave five-star reviews, this 'must see' live action show in Bishop Auckland, County Durham, is proving to be as big a hit as world renowned West End shows, such as The Lion King and Les Miserables, both of which also feature in TripAdvisor's top-five. Kynren has even outshone Phantom of the Opera and War Horse.

Set against the magnificent backdrop of Auckland Castle, the 1,000-strong cast and crew bring the history of the UK and the North East to life in a 90-minute world-class spectacular.

This acclaimed seasonal show is currently in its third year, taking visitors on a breath-taking odyssey through 2,000 years of history, filled with and brand new scenes, new characters and daring and fiery new stunts. With state-of-the-art special effects, pyrotechnics and evocative orchestral music, this amazing celebration of heritage and history is both remarkable and unmissable. This year Kynren focuses on the theme 'In Remembrance', marking two very special centenaries, the World War I Armistice – a moment laced with poppies and poignancy – and the Suffragette Movement winning the vote for women, as well as a World War II commemoration of the Royal Air Force and rousing moments of modern history, such as Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation and England winning the 1966 World Cup – every era stamping its mark for all generations.

Impressive five-star credentials in their hundreds of thousands from TripAdvisor add further endorsement of the passion and professionalism of the cast and crew, who have taken the show to world-class status, making arts and entertainment accessible to all generations.

## Competition Winner



The winner of the Newton Press/Whitehouse Funeral Services photo competition for spring was Johnlee Griffiths who took his stunning photograph at Whitley Bay of St. Mary's Lighthouse on 17th May in the early evening. John was presented with his canvas print prize by Director of Newton Press, Stuart Howarth.

The competition continues... to win a canvas print of your shot, visit competition page [www.photocomp.co.uk](http://www.photocomp.co.uk) and upload.

**Marie Curie**

2-5pm Saturday 20th October

**SPARKLING AFTERNOON TEA**

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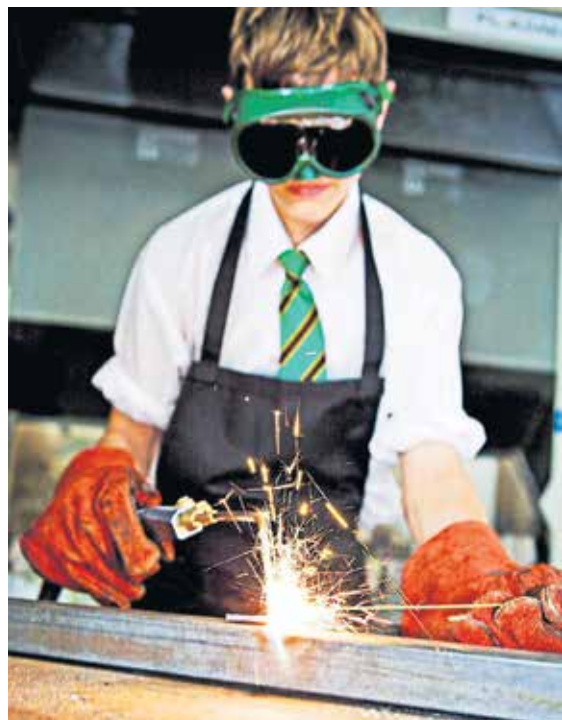
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Tickets are £20 and must be purchased in advanced.

Dolphin Centre, Central Hall  
Contact Rachel - 07968 169260 or [darlingtonfundraiselgroup.mariecurie@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:darlingtonfundraiselgroup.mariecurie@hotmail.co.uk)

## Enrichment Week



Woodham Academy takes careers education, information advice and guidance very seriously and has a varied programme of careers-related events in place throughout the school year. In the week beginning 9th July Year 10 students at Woodham Academy took part in an enrichment week designed to support their understanding of career progression. The week saw students visiting further education and sixth form providers and experiencing taster sessions.

"This week forms an integral part of our guidance programme" said Mr Walker, Careers Coordinator "and is an excellent opportunity for students to start to explore what is out there for them when they leave school. Those students who are studying for a GCSE in Engineering participated

in a work placement with companies in the engineering and manufacturing industries.

"This was a real opportunity to see what a career in the engineering/manufacturing industry is really like" said Andrew Blair who worked at Lucite International Speciality Polymers and Resins for the week.

He worked between the maintenance and the technical engineering departments learning about different aspects of the company.

"I enjoyed the mechanical maintenance the most and I am definitely looking down the apprenticeship route when I leave secondary education".

Engineering results at the school were outstanding this year with most students exceeding their targets in the exam component of the qualification.

**Horndale Residents Association**

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## Paper Bag & Trolley Amnesty

Newton News are appealing to any past deliverers who still have fluorescent paper delivery bags and/or trollies. Why not recycle the bag and trolley you have in your garage?

In this amnesty we will pay for bags and trollies which are in good condition for use by our current deliverers. Please ring 01325 300212 to arrange collection.

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11th August 2018 @ 11.30am

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe



## PCP FAMILY FUN DAY SUCCESS



On Saturday 14th July Pioneering Care Partnership held a Summer Family Fun Day event with tons of fun activities. The turnout for the event exceeded expectations and everyone had a huge amount of fun, including the staff! The sun was shining and the PCP garden was thriving with different activities including face painting, penalty shootout, a basket-ball shoot, hook-a-duck and a huge play bus! Inside the centre there was an animal petting zoo, a tombola and sales of books and plants.

Small donations were made to aid the fundraising campaign of PCP's Hydrotherapy pool; as there are plans to refurbish, modernise and provide essential improvements. Overall, those small donations have added up to over £470, an astonishing amount!

Carol Gaskarth, PCP Chief Executive said, "An event of this scale was made possible through match funding received from Great Aycliffe Town Council as part of the Aycliffe Festival. We were delighted that the event attracted over 600 people and feedback on the day was overwhelmingly positive. We had guest appearances from Star Wars characters who proved a real hit with people of all ages!"

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



## Aycliffe Oktoberfest Becomes EMCON

Engineering & Manufacturing Expo EMCON has secured one of Europe's biggest rail manufacturers as its first ever headline sponsor.

Stadler Rail, which last year was a gold sponsor alongside long term supporter Business Durham, was so impressed with the event that it has agreed to take on the headline sponsor role.

It enables the Swiss manufacturer to fully maximise its participation in the event and take full advantage of opportunities to raise its profile within the region's engineering and manufacturing sectors.

Elaine Greenwood is UK Light Rail representative for Stadler's UK division. She said: "I am delighted that we've agreed to be EMCON's first ever headline sponsor."

"Last year was the first time that Stadler participated in the event but knew it would not be our last, as we found it so beneficial, particularly as we're keen to get to know the local suppliers which is something we were given the opportunity to do."

"It was also very appreciated to be able to showcase ourselves to the area, and that's something we're keen to fully maximise through our partnership with EMCON."

EMCON is also delighted to announce that sector-based recruitment specialist Jackson Hogg has come on board as delivery partner.

It enables organisers of EMCON to tap into a new business database through the Newcastle-based company's vast network of contacts, showcasing the event to a diverse audience, and for Jackson Hogg to reach new customers through the hundreds of exhibitors and visitors to the show.

Richard Hogg, Managing Director, said: "We have attended EMCON in the past and have been very impressed

with it, and felt there was a lot both the organisers and ourselves could gain from us becoming delivery partners. In such a big year for the event, we're delighted to be so closely involved in helping make it a huge success."

EMCON will continue to be held at the Xcel Centre in Aycliffe, with long term supporter Business Durham remaining as the event's gold sponsor. David Land is Chairman of CDEM, which organises EMCON. said: "Securing Stadler as our headline sponsor, and Jackson Hogg as our delivery partner, is a real coup and demonstrates just how much the event has grown since launching in 2008."

The 2018 event will also see the return of the Incubator Zone, which is taking place for the second time and is aimed specifically at County Durham micro and small businesses that have never exhibited before but want to tap into new markets. It is being delivered by LEC Communications and Design

working with the Durham Business Opportunities Programme with European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funding.

Other elements include an Education Zone for young engineers to meet regional employers; themed workshops on issues that impact on businesses; and a Q&A session with a panel of industry experts.

The event returns on Thursday, October 18. For updates, or to book as an exhibitor, visit emcon.show. EMCON stands for the Engineering and Manufacturing Convention.

## HUB OF WISHES

The Hub of Wishes are pleased to report we have obtained funding to open each Wednesday evening 6pm till 9pm. This service is a pilot for 12 months

for people who work therefore cant access our services through the day. We will be offering stress busting techniques, coping with stress strategies, one to one advice, taster sessions of alternative therapies, recovery plans, advice and support on all aspects of mental health and signposting to other specialized organisations. There is no other service like this operating in our area, and we felt it wasn't fair on those who work who

cant access our service to be excluded, there is a need for the service as we have many calls asking what our opening times are but then finding we are closed when their work is finished.

We are also willing to go into businesses, and workplaces to talk about mental health and leave our leaflets to open up communication and let everyone know we are here to help. Any workplaces or businesses who are interested in us coming along and delivering this service please contact Vicki Lawrence or Joanne Howe on 01325 300121

No one should ever suffer in silence we are here to help.

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## Moonlight Ribbon Walk

This October Butterwick Hospice welcome you to our very first Moonlight Ribbon Walk.

Raby Castle, Saturday 6th October, from 7pm. 5k walk around the castle grounds.

### The Walk

Our Moonlight Ribbon walk is a moonlit 5k route around the stunning Raby Castle. The walk will begin in the Walled Gardens of Raby Castle and will take you past the beautiful grounds, up through the woods, past home farm, and back past the ponds. The route is suitable for all ages, but please be aware it does include ¼ mile of gravelled ground, before continuing on path ways. Dogs are more than welcome, but must be kept on leads and all times, and all waste must be cleaned up. The route will be marshalled, and sign posted the whole way around.

### Ribbons

You will receive your ribbon once you have registered, we will be sending out a little information pack with everything you need to know before, during and after the event. Your ribbon will be blue. We encourage everyone to write a message to a loved one on the ribbon, whether this be in memory of, or just someone who means a lot to you. The ribbon can be written on with permanent marker (which works best). Book in today at www.butterwick.org.uk/moonlightwalk or call Milly on 01388 603003 or email milly.toner@butterwick.org.uk for more information!



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**Tuesday:** 10am-12noon - Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe  
1.30-3.30pm - Shildon Alive, Church Street, 2-4pm - Trimdon Village Hall

**Wednesday:** 10am-12noon - Shildon Alive, Church Street  
1.30-3.30pm - Newton Aycliffe Food Bank, St. Clare's Church

**Thursday:** 10.30am-12noon - Ferryhill Food Bank, St. Luke's Church  
2-4pm - Spennymoor Town Hall

**Friday:** 9.30-11am - Cornforth Partnership, West Cornforth

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# Farewell Jessica Credit Union Merger to Benefit Savers



Dear Sir  
I am writing to tell you about a wonderful cake that was made for us by Saffron and Leanne from "Love thy Cupcake", Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe town centre.  
Our Daughter, Jessica, is off to Fresno State University in California next week to start a four year scholarship in golf. The golf mascot is a bulldog and I wanted a cake to reflect that.  
After searching far and wide I came across "Love thy Cupcake" and commissioned them to make me a cake that would look like the mascot. It was a real challenge for them as I wanted the cake to stand and be life-size.  
They delivered a perfect cake and I would like to show my appreciation by sending Newton News a photo of the finished article.  
The print on Jessica's T-shirt is the mascot and I think you will agree that the cake matches the mascot. It stood up exactly and seemed to defy gravity.  
Thank you Saffron and Leanne for a wonderful cake.  
Carolynne Hall

The merger of two community banks is proving a prudent decision, bringing benefits to members and strengthening the region's credit union movement.

NEFirst Credit Union and Prince Bishops Community Bank merged on 1 June after a detailed review concluded it would be in the best interests of members and the wider population of County Durham.

Durham County Council has supported the directors during the merger to help ensure a smooth transition. Existing members' savings and loans will not be affected in any way and they should continue to access all services in the usual way.

The council's Durham Savers Project continues to work with the new organisation, NEFirst Credit Union, to help develop savings schemes with employers and schools across the county.

Credit unions are not-for-profit social enterprises which are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. They provide secure savings accounts, low interest loans and free life insurance.

Following the merger, NEFirst credit Union has 16,000 members across the region, shares in excess of £4.5m and a loan book of more than £3.5m.

Cllr Jane Brown, the council's



Cabinet member for social inclusion, said: "Credit unions offer a stable and straight forward way for people to save. They also provide a much safer alternative to payday loan companies, pawn brokers and door-step lenders, with far lower interest rates. However, they have been underused in this country for decades, with just three per cent of the UK population credit union members.

"The merger of these two respected credit unions will help to strengthen the credit union movement in the North-East as a whole, helping people to reduce their debts and save for a brighter future."

Peter Mackie, chairman of NEFirst Credit Union, said: "This merger is good news for people in County Durham and across the North East. We look

forward to helping more and more families with sensible savings and affordable loans." NEFirst Credit Union was formed by the merger of a number of smaller North-East based credit unions which have been providing savings and loan accounts for more than twenty years.

It is continuing to develop its services and now offers a debit card for its members. Anyone who lives or works in County Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear is eligible to join. To find out more, visit [www.nefirstcu.co.uk/](http://www.nefirstcu.co.uk/)

The Durham Savers project is part of the council's wider strategy aimed at tackling poverty and changing the debt culture into a savings culture. More information can be found online at [www.durham.gov.uk/durhamsavers](http://www.durham.gov.uk/durhamsavers)

## PLAY CAFE POPS UP AT MORE TIME

The first two pop up Play Cafes of the school summer holidays were generously hosted by More Time Café, Sapphire House in the IES Centre off Horndale Avenue. Families were able to enjoy a delicious two course lunch and spend time playing table top games, doing puzzles and relaxing with colouring therapy.

The Play Café Team had a real challenge trying to win Tic Tac Toe games against some very competitive youngsters, whilst there was little competition for dessert. The cooling range

of ice creams was without doubt a winner in the fabulous hot weather we have been enjoying.

Thank you to Jill, Sophie and Ian Dewar of More Time Café, for making the pop up café so successful. You offered a great Menu and fantastic value. We are really grateful for your wonderful welcome and support for families and for the Play Café Team. It was rewarding to link with you through GACAP.

Photo: Jill Causer and Sophie Bartlett relaxing after Play Cafe.



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## POSITIVE OFSTED FOR ADULT LEARNING & SKILLS SERVICE

Adult learners across County Durham are receiving a good standard of education, a recent inspection has found. Durham County Council's Adult Learning and Skills Service, which works with voluntary organisations, employers and public health to deliver training for people to change their lives for the better, was rated Good by Ofsted following a short visit. Key findings of the inspection include:

- Senior managers have responded successfully to a series of changes to the service

- The portfolio holder and senior leaders demonstrate strong support for the service in its work to develop a curriculum that meets the needs of the most economically disadvantaged and vulnerable residents in the county

- Staff and senior managers are honest and self-critical about the strengths and weaknesses of the provision

- Safeguarding arrangements are effective and learners and apprentices are safe

- The quality of teaching, learning and assessment has

improved since the previous inspection

- Highly qualified staff provide effective and impartial advice and guidance to learners prior to their enrolment, meaning the proportion of those who complete their courses is very high.

Inspectors also highlighted the external partnership board, which has been set up to provide greater scrutiny, and the strong performance of sub-contractors as examples of good practice.

Cllr Olwyn Gunn, Cabinet member for children and young people, said: "I am delighted that Ofsted has recognised the great work of our Adult Learning and Skills Service, which gives people the opportunity to improve the quality of their lives by gaining new skills and qualifications."

"Both those who learn with us as well as the staff who support them should be proud of this achievement, which is a result of their continued hard work and passion over the last three years."

## Swim Club News



National qualifiers from Sedgefield 75 Swimming Club were Niall Coulthard and Liah Smith.

Niall's week got off to an unbelievable start with a bronze medal in the 400 FS. His entry time was 4:14, he improved on this in the heats going 4:11. Niall went into

the final in 5th place but his superbly timed swim took him to 3rd place in a time of 4:07. This was his first National Medal. Niall's time of 55:12 in the 100 FS was a PB but not good enough to make the final in the 200 FS his entry time was 1:59 and he posted 1:58 in the heats. This meant he went to the final as second fastest qualifier but a slip on the wall on the last turn meant he finished 4th in a new best time of 1:57.

Every swim was a personal best, Niall competed in a way that brought great credit on himself and the club.

Leah competed in the Summer Championships swimming the 50 Breast Stroke.

## Aycliffe Tri-Club News

July has been another action packed month for Aycliffe Triathlon Club. Kicking off the month on 1st July was Dave Wilkin competing in the Holkham Half Ironman in Nottingham. This is a 1.2mile open water swim, a 56mile bike followed by a 13.1mile run. Dave finished in 5:20:31 which was 30th in his category.

The 8th July was the Castle & Derwent Triathlon in rural Northumberland which saw Fraser Kirkley and Austin Donoghue both compete in the standard distance which is a 1500m swim in Derwent reservoir, a 40kmbike and a 10km run. Fraser was 4th in his category with a time of 2:51:09, Austin finished in 3:19:23 seeing him take 7th in his category.

The Washington Sprint triathlon was also held on 8th July and Den Dale completed this 400m swim, 21.4km bike and 5.5km run in a time of 1:34:13. Den was 5th in his category.

The Big Welsh swim on 13th July was a 3km open water event in which Susan Brown represented the club with a time of 54:05 which saw her place 3rd overall, 2nd female and 1st in her category; more silverware and podium finishes for Sue!

The Croft cycling time trial on 18th July saw four club members compete, this is a 10 mile event against the clock at Croft racing circuit. Dave Wilkin (26:10), Den Dale (28:04), Tracey Warrior (29:48) and Penny Johnson (30:33) all participated and

represented ATC.

25th July was round 2 of the award winning Triology Super Sprint Triathlon at Ellerton Lake. The course consisted of a 400m open water swim, a 15.5km bike and a 2.2km run. The event saw two club members competing with lots more marshalling and supporting the race. Brett Lambert finished in 48:31:06, 9th in his category and Tracey Warrior in 55:47:00 which was 8th in her category. The Redcar Sprint Triathlon on 29th July was a 750m sea swim, 20k bike and 5k run along the main seafront in front of cheering crowds. Nicola Darragh completed in 1:33:21 which was 11th in her category and Mick Casey in 1:35:17, again 11th in his category.

A number of club members also took part in a sponsored Coast to Coast cycle ride in aid of two local cancer charities arranged by club member Austin Donoghue after the support his family have received from both of the charities. Well done to all who participated in this challenging two days.

For the month of August there are more races and events planned as well as a range of training for club members including bike skills, training rides, run coaching, swim coaching and core strength and conditioning sessions. If you would like to join this friendly and active club then contact us on facebook or by email: aycliffetriclub@gmail.com



## AYCLIFFE LOSE SEASON OPENER

Saturday 4 August  
Newton Aycliffe 0 v Ryhope Colliery Welfare 2

Newton Aycliffe FC's season kicked off with a home defeat at the hands of Ryhope Colliery Welfare. The first half was a cagey affair with Aycliffe being slightly the better of the two sides. They had the ball in the net on 17 minutes, but centre forward Ian Ward was judged to have fouled the Ryhope keeper Jonathan Ball. Ryhope then had a good chance four minutes later, but home keeper James Winter made a comfortable save from a far post header. On the stroke of half time, Aaron Ramsbottom beat his marker and got his shot away, but Ball made a good save.

Aycliffe huffed and puffed after the break, without creating any good chances. They had a penalty shout on 49 minutes when Matty Pennal appeared to be bundled over, but it was waved away by the officials. Aycliffe then went behind when a long ball evaded the defence and Josh Home-Jackson ran on to head past Winter. Thibault Charmey had a couple of chances to equalise on 64 and 68 minutes, from free kicks on the edge of the box, but both were put over the bar. Five minutes later, Ryhope doubled their lead when a cross from the left found Robbie Bird unmarked at the far post, and he slotted the ball past Winter. Full time 0-2.

Aycliffe now travel to Penrith for a midweek game on 8 August. That is followed on Saturday 11 August with the Extra Preliminary Round of the Emirates FA Cup when the Newtonians visit Guisborough Town.

The next home game at Moore Lane is Saturday 18 August when Aycliffe entertain Seaham Red Star in the Ebac Northern League

Photo: Matty Pennal challenges the Ryhope defence.



## Landlords Beware

Dear Landlords, Please do not take in any tenant who will pay your rental without doing previous landlord and agency checks on the suitability of the prospective tenant - for the community's sake.

I am writing in response to a very disturbing incident that has developed over the past year. In the West Ward a family unit with multiple young children, who has been constantly visited and warned by the police has just been evicted.

The landlord was apparently warned on multiple occasions about his tenant's anti community behaviour but did nothing for months. Finally the tenant has successfully been evicted and the house has now been boarded up. This means apparently no rental income for the landlord for 3 months. Consequences to bad management by the landlord.

More disturbing apparently another private landlord has immediately accepted this same family in as tenants in a nearby street.

It seems money is more important to some landlords than being a responsible community minded participant for the benefit of all the neighbours they infect due to their greed and lack of responsibility. Landlords please do your homework. You can raise up or destroy whole communities by your single one at a time choices. Name and address provided

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not being a resident of  
Newton Aycliffe, but I  
have a good friend who  
I see on a regular basis  
and also read the Newton  
News when I can. So I  
have a good idea of what's  
going on and I am greatly  
impressed.

However I am taking  
exception to the letter  
and photograph from  
John D. Clare (issue  
Friday 20th July) about  
his protestations about  
everything under the sun.  
What really annoyed me  
was his placard "Refugees  
Welcome Here". Who is  
Mr Clare speaking for?  
Himself or the whole of  
Newton Aycliffe? Every  
refugee taken in has to  
be fed, housed, educated, etc.  
Is Mr Clare prepared to do  
this?

Every person housed  
pushes people already on  
the housing list down one  
place. Further strain is  
added to the NHS. When  
one refugee arrives they  
are soon followed by their  
extended family.

I really think Mr Clare  
should think more about  
the use of the "we" and  
substitute the word with  
"me" or "I".

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## Dogs Trust Begin Rebuild

Dogs Trust's Rehoming Centre in Darlington is set to receive a makeover after beginning a two-year rebuilding process which will create even more facilities and kennels for canine residents. The new Rehoming Centre, due for completion in 2020 will feature 10 additional kennels, increasing capacity from 65 to 75 dogs; however in the meantime staff are currently in need of more foster carers to come forward and give residents a temporary home away from kennels.

At the moment the Sadberge Rehoming Centre is on the lookout for more foster carers while the rebuild progresses. Kennel space is likely to become limited, so it is important the team ensure they have as many active foster carers as possible.

The new centre will also boast a state-of-the-art hydrotherapy pool where dogs can be aided in recovery if they have undergone surgery or have long-term mobility problems. There will be a new training and play area where dogs can spend valuable time with their designated canine carers.

Sue Embleton, Rehoming Centre Manager at Dogs Trust Darlington, said:

"Dogs Trust Darlington will remain open during the rebuild



process, however we ask that anyone visiting the Rehoming Centre be patient with us as there will be limited parking facilities. We will continue to do the best we can to help everyone in their search for a new companion.

"This is an exciting time for staff and dogs here at the Rehoming Centre because the new facilities will ensure the lives of our dogs are enriched further and new kennels will provide an even more homely environment."

Natalie Waller, Home From Home Foster Coordinator at Dogs Trust Darlington, said:

"Our ideal foster carers are required to be adult only families, who have a bit more time on their hands to spend with a canine companion. They don't have to have a lot of experience of caring for dogs, however we would like them to be open minded to all different shapes, sizes and breeds."

"We currently have lots of Greyhounds staying at the Rehoming Centre which would benefit from time in foster care. We are not sure why there has been an influx in the number of

Greyhounds, however this may be in part due to a preconception that Greyhounds require a lot of exercise; yet despite this common belief, they are often real couch potatoes who love nothing more than cuddling up in their bed for a nap."

Dogs Trust's Home from Home Foster Scheme was developed to give dog lovers, who are not in a position to adopt on a permanent basis, the opportunity to experience the rewards of dog ownership on a temporary basis and help homeless hounds experience life in a home environment. Foster care placements range from as little as one week to nine months.

All foster families receive full support and advice regarding the dog in their care. Dogs Trust also equips them with everything they need such as food or bedding, and any veterinary treatment is covered by the charity.

If you are interested in adopting a dog or becoming a foster carer, please get in touch with the team on 0300 303 0292, or visit: [www.dogstrust.org.uk/our-centres/darlington](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk/our-centres/darlington)

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Aycliffe's Front Line  
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

By Sergeant Andy Boyd



Hello Newton Aycliffe.

July has presented the Beat Team at Newton Aycliffe with a variety of issues and crime, ranging from anti-social behaviour in the form of off-road bikes and adults purchasing alcohol for minors, to a handful of burglaries and theft from motor vehicles. There has been a vehicle security campaign across County Durham with an emphasis on reminding car owners to make sure their vehicles are secure overnight. I would urge you to get into the routine of not only checking that your house doors are locked overnight, but taking a few seconds to make sure that your cars are secure also. If you didn't see the video created for this campaign, please do so following this link (<https://www.facebook.com/durhamconstabulary/videos/1796666077078668/>).

We have a number of suspects for these burglaries, one of which was arrested this morning (08/08/2018) at his home address and remains in police custody. Another was arrested for Burglary and Theft from a motor vehicle on the Industrial Estate and was charged with both offences.

In relation to off road bikes, we continue to gather evidence to identify the persons responsible, and have issued a Traffic Warning Notice to an individual in Silverdale Place, this means that if caught again that the vehicle will be seized. We have also issued a £90 Fixed Penalty Ticket to an adult buying alcohol for a minor and continue to work with licensed premises to identify other suspect for this offence.

We have been attending numerous events around the town including the Emergency Services Event in the Town Centre, St Josephs Summer Fair, Sugarhill Primary School and the PCP Family Fun Day. All events were well attended and the team had a great time interacting with the community (some photos of these events can be found on our Facebook page). Three of our PCSO's also received WOW awards this month in recognition of fantastic customer service. These awards are particularly special to us as they are nominated by the community, so we are very proud of Christine O'Brien, Jennifer Atkinson and Matt Walls who are a great asset to the team. A major amount of work was also carried out by Christine O'Brien in relation to the Anti-Social Behaviour caused by a male resident in Silverdale Place over a period of months, this caused a great deal of stress to other residents living in the local area. On the eve of a court appearance in order to obtain a Premises Closure Order to evict the tenant and close down the property, this particular tenant decided that it was in his own interests to move of his own accord.

The team are attending the Horndale Residents Association Family Fun Day on Thursday 16th August at Greenfields Arts and Community College. It promises to be a fantastic event, PC Welch has promised to get into the stocks so everyone can throw wet sponges at him too!!

Newton Aycliffe is starting to grow on me, there are some fantastic events and amazing people working in the community, and my hope is that by working with partners and the community that we can make it a more enjoyable and safer place to live. Please follow us on Facebook to see what we're up to, and for information on current issues and PACT meeting times/dates.

TESCO FUN DAY  
RAISES £103

The sun shone and the music played throughout the TESCO Fun Day which helped raise funds for good causes.

Alison and Kath wish to thank hosts TESCO for enabling them to raise £103.00 for the County Durham Foodbank.

Thanks also to all who donated prizes, to Aycliffe Radio, the local Police and Fire Brigade; and to all the good folk who came along

to support us, had fun and bought tickets.

The money raised will be used to buy shortages during the summer period.

Foodbank require tinned spaghetti, sugar, fruit juice (long life), coffee, instant mashed potato and sponge puddings.

The above picture shows lucky brother and sister tombola winners at last the event last Saturday 4th August.

## Day Trips

**Wednesday 15th August**  
trip to Preston Park, £5

**Wednesday 22nd August**  
trip to South Shields, £5

Leaving Silverdale Place  
10.00am; Horndale 10.15am;  
Wilkinson Town Centre  
10.30am.

These time apply to both trips  
which are open to residents  
across the town. Young  
people must be accompanied  
by a responsible adult. Ring  
308094 or 07967 901477.

New Friends New Places  
older peoples group have  
seats available for a trip to  
York on Wednesday 22nd  
August, £10. Leaving St.  
Clare's Church opposite  
Wilkinsons at 8.30am and  
Stephenson Way Cemetery at  
8.45am. Please ring 308094  
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# Auckland Castle Open Spring 2019

With construction well underway, new dates have now been announced for the launch of The Auckland Project's purpose-built welcome centre, Auckland Tower, and the re-opening of 900 year-old Auckland Castle, Bishop Auckland.

Auckland Castle, once a private palace for the Prince Bishops of Durham, will re-open to the public in spring 2019, following a multi-million pound conservation programme to recapture its former Georgian Gothic grandeur.

It had originally been hoped that this extensive work would be complete in time for Christmas, however the complexities of working with an ancient structure and the ongoing discovery of hidden historic features has led to a small adjustment in the timescales, as The Auckland Project's CEO, David Maddan, explains.

"Since work began in September 2016, Auckland Castle has continued to throw up a number of fascinating surprises," David said, "starting with the discovery that the Scotland Wing had no foundations, which meant we needed to underpin the entire structure before any of the planned work could commence."

"In the months that followed our contractor Meldrum Construction Services Ltd has continued to uncover hidden historical features, from coats of arms and fireplaces dating back to the 15th century, to hidden staircases and former windows."

"As a result of such discoveries our work programme has had to be repeatedly adapted to ensure these intriguing and unpredictable finds could be documented and protected wherever possible."

"It is this ongoing succession of relatively small but necessary changes that has ultimately combined to create a shift in the overall timescales, which will now see Auckland Castle open to the public in spring 2019."

The conservation of Auckland Castle is supported by a £11.4m grant from National Lottery Players via the Heritage Lottery Fund, as well as the Heritage Conservation Trust, Sir James Knott Trust, The Charles Hayward Foundation, The Headley Trust, The Linbury Trust, The Rothschild Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, J Paul Getty Jnr Charitable Trust and Richard Oldfield. Work at the Castle is currently being carried out by Gateshead-based Meldrum Construction Services Ltd, with the site due to be handed back to The Auckland Project in early 2019.

From there, the charity's Curatorial Team will work alongside expert craftspeople to dress the space, using sumptuous fabrics and furnishings to reflect its former Georgian Gothic opulence and hanging more than 50 artworks, including Zurbarán's Jacob and His Twelve Sons, which have been housed at the Castle for more than 250 years.

Auckland Tower will serve as the welcome centre for the wider Auckland Project visitor destination



will open on Saturday, 20 October 2018. Before that, there will be two chances to take a sneak peek inside the unique site, with an Auckland Tower Town Update event on Saturday, 21 July 2018 and a special community event on Saturday, 29 September 2018.

It was previously expected that the Tower would be complete in time for July's event, however the complexity of the structure and impact of the weather has meant work will now be ongoing into the autumn, as The Auckland Project's Property Director, Chris Blacklock explains. "The unique design of Auckland Tower has brought with it some unusual challenges, making it very difficult to predict the exact timescale of the building programme," Chris said.

"That, coupled with the harsh weather we had earlier in the year, including high winds and snow that were particularly dangerous for a structure stretching 29m high, has meant we will not be fully complete for 21 July as originally hoped."

"We are however keen to ensure the public have a chance to venture inside the building as soon as it is safe to do so, and, in partnership with VEST Construction, are committed to opening the doors on 21 July and 29 September to offer a sneak preview, ahead of the official launch in October."

Work on Auckland Tower, supported by Headley Trust, began in February 2017, following the appointment of Bishop Auckland building and engineering firm, VEST Construction, as the main contractor.

The building's unusual, modern design by award-winning architects Niall McLaughlin, reflects that of a great wooden siege engine, standing proudly against the walls of Auckland Castle and effectively opening up the former private palace for the Prince Bishops of Durham by creating a more direct link between it and the town.

Once complete Auckland Tower will serve as a starting point for visitors to Auckland Castle and all of The Auckland Project's forthcoming attractions, including the Spanish Gallery, Walled Garden and Faith Museum, with a 15m high viewing platform offering unrivalled views across the destination. Bishop Auckland and the wider region beyond. Visitors will have their

first opportunity to venture into Auckland Tower with the Town Update event for Bishop Auckland residents running from 10am to 3pm on Saturday, 21 July. This includes a chance to learn more about the building's unique design and the construction work in progress, as well as hear what the tower will be used for and how to get involved with The Auckland Project as a whole. A special community event at Auckland Tower will also be available on a drop in basis to coincide with Bishop Auckland Town Council's Produce and Horticultural Show and Bishop Auckland Town Team's Celebrating Together event on Saturday, 29 September 2018. The official launch of

Auckland Tower will take place on Saturday, 20 October 2018, with a day of activities still to be announced. For more information visit [www.aucklandproject.org](http://www.aucklandproject.org) or by search Auckland Project on Facebook and Twitter.

## In Memoriam

**YVONNE ROBINSON**  
8th August 2016. Treasured memories of a dear Wife, Mum and Grandma. Time slips by and life goes on, but from our hearts you have never gone. Love, Sid, David, Lesley, Trevor, Lauren, Alan, Kate and Tom

**SHAUN HARPER** 13th August 2010. Eight years have gone by so fast. In my thoughts on this sad day. Glen

**DOROTHY POSKETT** Died 6th August 2005. Treasured memories of a loving Mam and Grandma. Loved and remembered always. Sandra, Michael and Gemma xxxx

**ANN TOMLINSON** 13th August 2016. To our Mam and Nanna there will always be a heartache and often lots of tears. As we treasure the beautiful memories of the days when you were here. Miss and love you so much. All our love, Lyn, Stan, Sharon, Nigel, Tony, Karen, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren xxxxxxxxxxxx

## Birthday Remembrance

**BRIAN DUNN** 9th August - I feel that you are with me, in everything I do. So I'll celebrate your birthday, but I'll spend it missing you . . . Always in my thoughts and loved forever. Your loving Wife Margaret xxxxxxxxxxxx

**BRIAN DUNN** 9th August - *The Best Little Dad and Granda in the World!!!* You are deeply loved and missed always, you were wonderful in every way. We cherish all our memories of you, not just on your birthday but all year through. Loved forever from all your Bairs and Grandbairns xxxxxxxxxxxx

## HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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

email: [syd@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:syd@newtonnews.co.uk)

## Congratulations

## Congratulations

### Sylvia & Roly Burnside



**Golden Wedding Anniversary**  
10th August 2018  
50 Golden Years Together

### Julia Catherall



**Happy 50th Birthday Julia**

Lots of love, Mam, Dad and Nana xxx

### The Big Five-oh!

Same age as me now haha! Happy birthday, hope you enjoy your weekend and your break away. Love you lots, Davey and Ryan xxxx

### Happy 50th Mam

Wishing you a great birthday and a lovely weekend. Nathan and Laurie xx

### Rachel Barion



### Happy 30th Birthday

Bet you thought I'd let you get away without a photo in the paper!!!

Love you loads  
Carrie and Sebastian

### ANDREW CURTIS-HAIGH

Happy 50th Birthday. Have a fantastic period of birthday celebrations, starting with your 100 mile bike ride. Love, Denise and James x

**VICKY & ANDREW.** Congratulations on your Wedding Day 10th September 2018. Lots of love, Lynn and Jeff

**KADEY** Happy 2nd birthday. The fairies are flying just for you, because they know it is your birthday and they know that you are 2. Have a lovely birthday "My Little Tinkerbell". LYTMMTFUARAEMTT, Auntie Pamela and Harvey the Horse xxx

## Acknowledgement

### DON PIGGFORD

Valerie, Declan, Kane, Connor and Kai would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness, sympathy and support following their sad loss.

Also to Carole Briggs for her caring and comforting Service and to Don's friend Pye.

Thanks to Carol Foster and The Big Club at Newton Aycliffe for their hospitality and The Co-op Funeralcare for their support.

### Lee George El-Hakim



### 11th August 2006

Well my love it's been 12 years on the 11th August since you left your loving family. Time goes by but your memories will never die. I see your picture every day, your smiling face. You were my man full of grace. A true gentleman through and through. A loving Husband honest and true. A wonderful Father so full of love. That's why God took you high above. A man of principles a good heart. That's why I loved you from the start. They say time heals . . . but the pain won't go away. I long to hold you every day. A gentle kiss, a warm embrace, oh God I would love to see your face. But that's so hard as we all know. God took you 12 years ago. At first I was mad and very sad. Why did you leave us, guess I will never know? They say God only takes the best, so now I lay you down to rest. My heart is sad but this I know, one day I will be with you, the perfect show! So until then sleep my prince, my love, my man. I will love you forever till we join our hands.

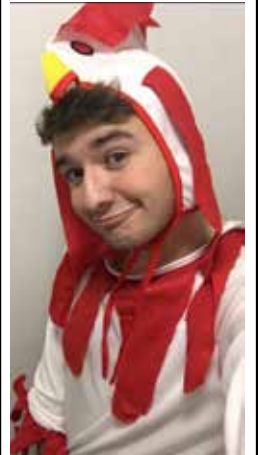
Marie El-Hakim  
Georgie and Kay  
Michelle and Alister  
Elie Jnr., Solomon  
and Georgia Grace  
(Grandchildren)

### Lorraine Sivell

A loving lady and friend. Always in our thoughts.

Marie El-Hakim  
and Family.

### Joseph Ferguson



### Happy 21st Birthday

Wishing you a fabulous birthday. Lots of love, Nana

### Happy Birthday Joe

Have a great birthday, enjoy!!

### Nicola & Graeme Ferguson



### Happy 25th

**Wedding Anniversary**  
Congratulations on your 25th Wedding Anniversary on 14th August 2018.

Lots of love Mam xx  
**Silver Wedding Anniversary**

I remember that day so well. Congratulations and looking forward to celebrating many more. Love, Davey, Julia, Shaun and Ryan



# Local Athletics Club News



It was another week of attendance at varied races. These started on Wednesday 25th with members taking part in the Darlington Trail Race series with the Rocket Trail at Middleton St George. Dez Fielden was first home for the club in 19.32 followed by Rob Nicholson in 25.04, Gemma Holland in 29.12 and Lindsey Brown on 29.48. On Friday 27th July two members travelled to South



trail race over what was a very hilly course and of course this was made more challenging by the weather. Dave Blewitt was first home for the club in 76.35 (managing to knock 4 minutes of him time in this race last year), followed by Andrew Lumley in 81.13, Trish Kay in 94.10 and Ian Baronowski in 96.60.

Also in Sunday three of our members took part in the Northumberland Coast Half Marathon. Dez Fielden was first back for the club in 1.42.04, followed by Susan Rees in 2.11.31 and Judith Porter in 2.42.10.

Finally on Monday 30th July Alan Wilks competed again in the Track and Field League at Monkton Stadium where he participated in the 800m's race. He completed this with a PB of 3.3.8.

It should also be mentioned that over the last weekend, several of our runners were participating in a cycling challenge by doing the Coast to Coast. This was arranged by Austin Donoghue to raise funds for local cancer support group who have supported his family. They completed the challenge over two days, starting Saturday morning at Workington and finishing Sunday afternoon at Roker. Whilst this is a challenge in itself it was made more difficult with the weather conditions having to deal with rain, hail and wind. Some of the people taking part were relatively new to cycling also.

A big well done to all.

**Aycliffe C.C.**

**CRICKET SCOREBOARD**



Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store had a tough four wicket victory over fellow promotion candidates Rockcliffe Park 1st XI in the NYSD 2nd division. The visitors were asked to bat first and found Aycliffe bowler Jack Slatcher (sponsored by Dean & Tina Greaves) in scintillating form as he finished with his career best first team figures of 7 for 63. Michael Howe also bowled well taking 3 for 37 as Rockcliffe were dismissed for 101 from 24.2 overs. In reply, Aycliffe had to work hard for their runs and were thankful for good contributions from Adam Gittins (34 runs from 63 balls), Luke Telford (14 runs from 21 balls) and an unbeaten 19 from 14 balls from Michael Howe as they reached their winning target after 30.4 overs.

The second team played superbly and were unlucky not to get the club their second consecutive double victory as Rockcliffe Park 2nds held out for a home draw in the NYSD 4th division. Electing to bat first, Aycliffe piled up the runs scoring 201 for 2 in their allotted 40 overs. Captain Neil Bancroft lead the way with a superb unbeaten 82 from 75 balls, including eight boundaries and five sixes and he was supported well by George Slatcher with a career best 70 not out from 95 balls including ten boundaries. The pair set a new club 2nd team record in the process as their unbroken 3rd wicket partnership reached 144 when the innings closed. In the homeside's reply, excellent bowling from 13 year old Matty Greaves (3 for 39) and a couple of wickets each from Neil Bancroft and Lewis Gimple was not quite enough to win the game for Aycliffe as the Rockcliffe innings closed on 155 for 8 from their allotted 40 overs.

The u15's team played well, but were still beaten away at Stockton by just 14 runs in the NYACC Cup. Stockton chose to bat first and scored 116 for 3 in their allotted 20 overs. In reply, captain Lucas Pilling batted superbly, scoring his 2nd unbeaten half century in consecutive matches and in the process set a new club record for the most runs in a season for the u15's team of 285. Harry Wright chipped in with 13 as Aycliffe were restricted to a

very respectable 102 for 7 in their allotted 20 overs.

Our u13's team were beaten away at Hartlepool by 8 wickets despite a decent display by the Aycliffe team. Choosing to bat first, Aycliffe scored a respectable 75 for 4 in their 20 overs thanks to some good batting by David Robinson who scored 16 runs and Jai Sander, who scored 15. In reply the home side reached their winning target after 13.4 overs despite a wicket each for Aycliffe bowlers Charlie Cayless and Brandon Grant. The u11's team played really well, but were still beaten at home to Norton by 19 runs. There were good performances from Dan

Heaton, who took 3 wickets for 1 run and Will Dearden who took 3 wickets for 11 runs and also held a catch and contributed a great bit of fielding when he hit the stumps from a direct throw to run out a Norton batsman. The u11's put in another good performance but were unfortunately also beaten, this time by 14 runs at home to Stockton. Harrison Pearson and Alfie Spensley both bowled well for Aycliffe each taking three wickets and Adam Shaw top scored in the Aycliffe innings with ten runs.

*Photo of captain Lucas Pilling who set a new club record for the most runs in a season for the u15's.*

## MRI SCANNER APPEAL

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

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

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

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

Shields for the Temple Park 5k. John Surtees finished this in 17.61 with Michelle Jane finishing in 21.01.

There was another good turn out at the parkruns in the area this week despite the turn in the weather and the wet conditions that Saturday.

On Sunday 29th July four members travelled to take part in the James Herriott Country Trail run near Aysgarth in North Yorkshire. This was a 14k



# AYCLIFFE RADIO

Blue Bridge Centre, St. Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6DS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT

"Aycliffe Town Centre ... Shopping for You"



Newton Broadcasting Limited (t/a Aycliffe Radio) is a Private Company Limited by Guarantee, registered on 19th February 2018 in England and Wales. Registration number 11211835. Registered office: Aycliffe Radio, c/o Blue Bridge Centre, St. Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6DS.

## HOW TO TUNE IN

Aycliffe Radio is an internet based station  
To tune in you require access to the internet or a wifi hot spot  
You can listen directly via our website

**[www.ayclifferadio.co.uk](http://www.ayclifferadio.co.uk)**

click the "Listen Live" link in the top right hand corner

Alternatively you can download our FREE App from Google Play or Apple Store, search "Aycliffe Radio" download and install

Aycliffe Radio is also available on **TUNEIN**

Simply say "Alexa Play Aycliffe Radio on Tunein"  
(Tunein App should be enabled and emphasise the "A" in Aycliffe)

Contact Aycliffe Radio via

**Facebook or Twitter**

**Text: 07512 253333**

**Email: [info@ayclifferadio.co.uk](mailto:info@ayclifferadio.co.uk)**

## How to Get Involved:

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

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

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

**ORGANISATIONS** - You are invited to come along and record a 5 minute info slot about your club.

**ADVERTISE** - Could your business benefit from advertising on Aycliffe Radio?

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

**SCHOOLS** - We can attend and record your Concerts, Performances, Presentations to be played on air.

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

**EVENTS** - If you are organising an event, why not let us help you promote it?

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