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Hitachi Investment in Train Factory Tops £100 million

Editor: syd@newtonnews.co.uk • Advertising: paul@newtonnews.co.uk



Hitachi opens £5 million building at Newton Aycliffe, taking total investment in the site to over £100 million

Investment in Newton Aycliffe felt across the North and country with over 1000 British suppliers used by Hitachi

Phil Wilson MP opens the building, named by a member of staff at the factory

Hitachi announces the opening of a new building at their train factory in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham. The £5 million building, which increases production capacity, means Hitachi's total investment in the site reaches over £100 million.

Established in 2015, Newton Aycliffe is building intercity commuter fleets harnessing Japanese bullet train technology. Its first order was the Governmentled £5.7bn Intercity Express Programme which includes the Azuma fleet for the East Coast main line

The new building, named

'Aspire' following a staff competition, was opened by Phil Wilson MP.

Investment felt across The North

Hitachi's investment in Newton Aycliffe has supported thousands of jobs in the North.

As well as creating 730 permanent jobs at the factory, Hitachi uses a British supply chain for train parts.

The train builder has spent over £628m in past few years using 1166 British suppliers who employ thousands of This is part of a long-

term investment in British manufacturing as important member of the Northern Powerhouse delivering the government's industrial strategy.

70% of parts that are locally fitted for new intercity trains are sourced within 40 miles of the factory, whilst £20 million was spent with regional supplies in 2017

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Ross Nagle, Chief Operating Officer for Manufacturing said: "Our train building team are delivering truly world class trains to run across the country, and this new building is another in Newton Aycliffe's lopment. We are development. We are proud add a new chapter to the region's rail heritage and seeing our long-term investment making a real impact to manufacturing in

Phil Wilson MP welcomed the new investment by Hitachi: "The ripple effect of Hitachi's investment is being felt across the North East, for every one job created by them an additional 1.5 are created nearby. I'll be working hard to help Hitachi win more orders, which will not only support train building jobs, but also thousands more in the regional supply chain.'

Mini **Fun Day**

are holding a Mini Fun Day on the Silverdale grassed area in the Western area of Avcliffe.

summer holiday free packed lunches and games on the grass. CDTVRM made and served over a 1000 packed lunches during the holidays, along with providing games on the grass where children and parents joined in.

County Durham Tees Valley Rescue Mission with Livin

This event is to end the

The Fun Day will have a free barbecue, Professor Nicompoop, foundation of light, face painting, tug of war, games on the grass plus other activities. All FREE. Friday 31st August 12noon to 3.00pm - all welcome.

Jane Johnson County Durham Tees

Valley Rescue Mission

Community Mini Bus

Avcliffe Community Mini Bus Available to all groups in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding area. You can use your own driver or we may be able to provide a Volunteer Driver. We ask for a small donation and the group affiliation to the J.N.W. Group.

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Darlington Diva Back in Panto Local Artist Exhibits

Having wowed audiences and critics alike in last year's festive production, Darlington Hippodrome have announced that Darlington's own diva Zoe Birkett will be back by popular demand to star in this year's wish-filled pantomime Aladdin alongside actor Robin Askwith, Louie Spence, Eric Potts and Liam Mellor from Saturday 8 December.

The West End leading lady, Darlington-born Zoe, will Darlington-born Zoe, will star as the beautiful Princess Jasmine having played the Wicked Queen in last year's pantomime, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, a role for which she was nominated for Best Female Villain at this year's Great British Pantomime Awards. Having been propelled to

fame by entering Pop Idol in 2002, Zoe quickly solidified her reputation as a stunning vocalist, actress, presenter and pantomime star. Having signed to Simon Fuller's 19 Management at just 16, Zoe went on to headline numerous arena tours and featured on the Pop Idol Big Band album which reached sumber one in the album chart and went triple

platinum within one year. Her subsequent stage roles include Diva in Priscilla Queen of the Desert at the Palace Theatre, lead vocalist in What a Feeling, Respect La Diva and Thriller Live in London's West End, Maureen in Rent at the Greenwich Theatre and Dion in the infamous musical Hair in Zurich. She went on to star as Rachel Marron in the critically-acclaimed UK tour of The Bodyguard in the



Whitney Houston.

Whitney Houston.
Her concerts include headlining at the Royal Albert Hall, A Party to Remember as part of the VE Day 60th anniversary live from Trafalgar Square and she has sung for The Prince's Trust by Royal Appointment of Prince Charles and Prince Edward at Charles and Prince Edward at Buckingham Palace.
No stranger to the world of

television, Zoe has presented Top of the Pops, hosted The Clothes Show Live and the live tour of Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Take Away and Strictly Ballroom in Las Vegas. Last year Zoe realised her dream by opening her very own school, The Zoe Birkett Academy in Darlington, allowing hundreds of local children the opportunity to follow in her footsteps and learn every facet of music, drama and performing arts from Zoe herself.

Completing the line-up as

film and television star Robin Askwith. A regular on the big screen throughout the 70s Robin went on to appear in numerous television shows including Public Eye, Dixon of Dock Green, Z-Cars, Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased) and, most recently, Emmerdale, Coronation Street and Benidorm. His extensive stage work includes numerous farces including Run for Your Wife, One for the Road and Dead Funny, and the title role in Brecht's The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui and the Child Catcher in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.
Speaking on her return to

Darlington Hippodrome, Zoe Birkett said: "I am absolutely delighted to be back home for Christmas and starring with Louie and Robin in Aladdin, and to be reunited with Eric and Liam playing to a home crowd once again is an absolute honour. We had a ball doing last year's panto and I can't wait for us to get back out there and entertain the wonderful audiences at the Hippodrome once again."

With tickets flying out of the box office, audiences shouldn't leave it any longer to secure their seats for this year's must-see show. Make tickets to Aladdin one of your three wishes this festive season and book your tickets now. Aladdin flies into Darlington

Hippodrome from Saturday 8 December 2018 to Sunday 6 January 2019. For full 6 January 2019. For full details and to book visit www. darlingtonhippodrome.co.uk or call 01325 405405.

The Lost Voice Guy

is Heading Home



As a local artist living in Newton Aycliffe, I would like to tell your readers about an exhibition of my work at the Crown Street Gallery, Darlington Central Library from 29th August until 17th October.

It will display acrylic and watercolour works featuring scenes from the era of steam railways and landscapes. I will be present on most

Wednesdays and Saturdays to discuss my work. This exhibition is being held in conjunction with Creative Darlington.



Village Aycliffe History Society will host a talk in Aycliffe Village Hall on Wednesday 5th September at 7.30pm by Lynn Lamport called 'A Weaver Went to War.'

All welcome, members £1, nonmembers £3, includes tea/coffee/biscuits Furtherdetails01325301093.



R.I.P. **Democracy**

In response to last week's article 'People's Vote Rally for the North East' may I simply ask that our elected representatives/leaders consider the possible adverse consequences of their actions and to plagiarise Benjamin Flanklin: "Those who would seek to reject an electorates majority decision in order to further their own political agenda deserve neither liberty nor democracy and will eventually lose both". Regards, Derreck Pinkney.

> He may not be able to speak, but he definitely has something to say, and his comedy will

leave you speechless. Britain's Got Talent winner The Lost Voice Guy, aka Lee Ridley, is heading back to his hometown of Consett, where The Empire Theatre is playing host to two celebratory homecoming gigs.

Lee will be taking to the stage on Sunday 21 October for the unmissable shows which promise to be packed full of fun and laughter.

Tickets for the comedian go on sale tomorrow Friday 27 July. Lee may have won Britain's Got Talent back in June, spent the summer performing at Edinburgh Fringe and be set to appear at the Royal Variety Performance, however, he is still to realise his ultimate dream.

Lee says his greatest ambition

is to perform to a sell-out audience where it all began, in Consett.

Cllr Ossie Johnson, Cabinet member for tourism, culture and leisure, said: "It's great to welcome Lee back to Consett for this unmissable homecoming gig.

"We're pretty confident he'll be playing to a packed house at these two shows so our advice to people is make sure you get your tickets before they sell out."

Lee will be joined on the bill by two more fantastic acts and the shows will be hosted by the comedian Matt Reed.

A PG rated family friendly version takes place at 4pm with tickets £12 and £8 for under 16s.

An 18+ version is on at 8pm with tickets £18.

Tickets can be ordered online at www.empireconsett.co.uk

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Saturday 1st September - "Revenant"

Female fronted Classic and Hard Rock covers band including AC/DC, Saxon, Iron Maiden, Ozzy, Scorpions, Guns 'n' Roses, Motley Crue, Whitesnake, Heart, Def Leppard, Aerosmith etc. Gigit Review: Revenant - Trillians - "What a cracking band, been very brilliant first set so far. Great set of musicians, outstanding lead singer in Hannah who's totally blown me away. If this continues like this they're gonna hit a GIGIT MUST SEE. Seriously, if you are near Newcastle you are missing a brilliant gig".

Saturday 8th September - "Fire Lady Luck"

For more information on bands go to www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

Here is a message to invite all UKIP supporters and Members to attend our next meeting at The Oak Leaf Centre Newton Aycliffe at 7pm on 4th September 2018. As we all know, the Prime Minister Theresa May has reneged on the Referendum Result of 17.4 Million voters, and our own MP Phil Wilson has also ignored his own Constituents, who overwhelming voted to Leave.

UKIP interest is growing and Membership is increasing at a rate not foreseen until the betrayal of our own MP, and the present Government.

Look forward to seeing you on 4th September at 7pm. Clive Taylor-Sholl

Branch Membership Secretary

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UKIP MEETING GACAP Move Venue



L-R: Geoff Batchelor, Vice Chair of GACAP, Terri Driver new Secretary of GACAP, Ron Mitchie Chair of GACAP, Alan Nelson Secretary of the Big Club, Tom Brumwell Assistant Secretary of the Big Club, Peter Driver Assistant Secretary of GACAP.

It was change of venue and Trustees for Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership (GACAP) first Trustees meeting following its move towards full charity status.

GACAP said a fond farewell to their previous venue which has been its home since late 2015 at the offices of Humankind (formerly DISC) by the Blue Bridge to another iconic location the "Big Club" otherwise known as Newton Aycliffe Working Men's Club.

Ron Mitchie has been keen. since the second year of his post as Chairman of GACAP to find a suitable location where GACAP have a venue that it could call their own. The Big Club too were keen to embrace the local community to make fuller use of the many rooms that are within the big brick building which lays between St Clare's Church and the Blue Bridge. The Big Club do themselves, have an ear to the ground whereby people in need within the

entertainment taking place and their newly refurbishes Gin and Cocktail Bar has recently been opened. As a community we can do our best to support the club who in its best returns the proceeds of many an event to the needy within our community.

There was friendly welcome to the Trustees of GACAP present at their first meeting at the club with a formal handshake by the chairman of GACAP Ron Mitchie to Alan Nelson the Big Club Secretary along with Tom Brumwell who is the Assistant Secretary at the Big Club. Others in the photographs are trustees of GACAP, newly appointed Secretary Terri Driver, Vice Chairman Geoff Batchelor Assistant Secretary

Peter Driver.
There is an invitation for you to attend the first full meeting of GACAP at the Big Club or If you haven't been to a GACAP meeting for a whilst you will be made most welcome on Monday 3rd September at 3.45 pm, commencing with refreshments registration. For more information please contact the chairman on chair@ gacap.org.uk

Late news is that Joan Mitchie has joined the board as our Treasurer.

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September is a busy month at the scout Centre. After a lull over the holidays things are getting into gear and we have three things planned for your enjoyment,

Howies Karaoke is on the 8th at 7pm all are welcome to come along and sing your song, good or bad just come down and enjoy yourselves. This year's Macmillan Day

in memory of Keith Sams (Wor lil Keiffy) will be 29th September. 9am till 3pm at The Scouts Centre. Any donations for raffle and tombola will be very

clare's previous fund raising has raised enough money to pay for a team of nurses for 1 month caring for those who are suffering with this terrible illness, a massive well done to Clare and all your volunteers, let's help her keep up the good work. Hope to see you

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If you have any energy left after eating cake and drinking coffee how about coming to the Northern Soul night and show us your moves, the music starts at 7pm admission is £3.00 on the door

The Scout centre is run by a team of volunteers and we always welcome another pair of hands – if you think you can help in any way, please contact the Scout centre 01325318901, answer machine when closed, or call in to see us during our opening hours. 7:30pm till 11pm Monday and Friday, 1pm till 11pm Saturday and 12pm till 11pm on Sundays.

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Residents Meeting

parameters of Great Aycliffe can look to the group within the club. For a full list of

what is happening in the

Big Club why not pop in and

take a look for yourselves. Every weekend there is live

Williamfield Association meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th September 2pm in the Western Area Community Centre. We are hoping to keep these meetings to the Wednesday in every month

Prior to this meeting we hope that there will be a meeting of the people who would like to be on the committee.

We would like residents from Honister Place Kirkstone Place Whinlatter place to join us as we are hoping to include the opinions of all the residents in the Williamfield Area to join together to take this group forward. LIVIN WILL ATTEND and maybe the Police may call in along with our local Town Councillors who are interested in our area.

For further information ring 01325 308094 and 07967

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Following Repair



An historic footbridge over the River Tees has reopened following a short closure for repairs.

The Wynch Bridge near Low Force waterfall in Teesdale has been repaired by engineers from Durham County Council and reopened recently

The suspension bridge is a popular attraction at Low Force, and allows walkers to access a stretch of the Pennine Way National Trail from the North Pennines AONB Partnership's Bowlees Visitor Centre up to High Force.
Dating from 1830, the current

bridge was a replacement for one which collapsed in 1802 that gave lead miners from Holwick access over the river to work in lead mines on the north side of Teesdale.

Earlier this month a routine inspection of the bridge found that suspension hangers were in need of repair. New steel brackets have now been manufactured and fitted to the crossing, allowing it to reopen Some further work will taking place at the bridge later this week, although it will remain open throughout.

Brian Buckley, the council's strategic highways manager, said: "We recognise the said: "We recognise the importance of this historic bridge and we've taken steps to repair it as quickly as

possible.
"In the interests of preventing further closures we would please ask that all users adhere to the restrictions displayed at each end of the bridge and do not hang from or stand on its wires ropes. People should also note that use of the bridge for undertaking water related activities is strictly prohibited."

Simon Wilson, from the North Pennines AONB Partnership, said: "We're extremely pleased to have the bridge reopened, restoring access to this very popular walk. It is such an iconic and well-loved structure and it is a popular entry point to a very spectacular part of the Pennine Way.

"This is a favourite spot for visitors to upper Teesdale."

The council will be developing a scheme to fully refurbish the bridge and will carry out the work when sufficient funding is available.

Historic Bridge Reopens | Students Shine Amid Changes to GCSE's

across County Durham have won praise for their GCSE performance in the face of major changes to the exams.

The majority of GCSE courses are now giving pupils a 1-9 grade with a level 4 being deemed as a 'pass' which is similar to the old 'C' grade and level 5 as a 'good pass.

County Durham students got their results this morning with 62 per cent achieving level 4 or above in both English and maths.

While national figures are not yet known, the figures results represent a major improvement on last year. Similarly the number of students achieving a level 5 in both English and maths has significantly improved on 2017

Whellans. Margaret Durham County Council's corporate director for children and young people's services, said: "We'd like to congratulate students for these brilliant results which come amid the most significant changes in the exam system since O-levels were replaced in 1987.

"GCSEs are now widely regarded as tougher as the national intention is that they be of the same standard as the highest achieving countries in education such as Singapore and Finland.

"This makes our students' improved performance on last year all the more pleasing." Cllr Olwyn Gunn, Cabinet member for children and young people's services, said: "We are delighted that our young people have worked so hard to achieve these excellent results. I congratulate them and the teaching staff in all of our schools.

pupils as they are the first to experience these new tougher exams, but we hope future employers will take the time to understand and appreciate their efforts with the removal of coursework and more difficult questions. "We also recognise and greatly value the support and encouragement given by our schools, parents and carers.'

Students who didn't receive the grades they hoped for and those who are looking for careers advice can visit www. durhamworks.info where they will find information on apprenticeships, recruitment and training for 16-24 years olds across the county.

Alcoholics Find Spirits Helpful

On the 21st August the AARMS group hosted a Spiritual/Medium charity night. Medium John Pattinson along with his guest mediums, Linda and Andi, gave some fantastic spiritual evidence to several members of the audience.

Although they had given their time free of charge we felt that they deserved something in return for providing us with such a lovely night and we presented John with a small donation for Diabetes UK which is a charity close to his heart.

We also had some fabulous prizes donated to us for our raffle and tombola stalls and this enables us to raise a substantial amount of money which will help us keep the group going.

We would like to thank the following people for their help in making the night such a huge success: The Phoenix Club, John Pattinson, Linda and Andi. Gladys Brown. The Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe, Geoff Bachelor, Press, Newton Newton News, Saffron at Love Thy Cupcake, Aycliffe Framers, Tesco, Geoff and Viv, Alison

Special thanks to Terry, Christine, Helen and Laura for running the tombola stalls and selling raffle tickets. As the night was so successful John has offered to do another fundraiser for us next year, so watch this

ACORN Continue Blooming Marvellously



group ACORN are thrilled to announce that they have been successful in being awarded a special award in the Community garden section of social housing provider livin's Blooming Marvellous garden competition.

Many ACORN members were concerned about the deep scars on grassy areas caused by cars and delivery vehicles, consequently when the group were successful in gaining funding from "In your Neighbourhood" a project funded by Durham County Council they threw themselves into purchasing refurbishing half whisky tubs which were placed in places where they could discourage anti-social parking.

Competition became intense between quite members as they vied to provide the best display of flowers and in some cases

vegetables. ACORN Chair Ken Robson is very proud of what residents have achieved remarking that" so impressed were some local people that many have enquired as to whether they too can get involved".
ACORN have also entered

the community garden into the Northumberland in bloom competition and eagerly await results of iudging.

The awards were given out at a lavish reception held at livins Durham gate headquarters and included a

voucher from B&Q. Many thanks for the support, help and advice given by DCC, livin, Great Aycliffe Town Council and Northumbria in Bloom.

Of course the real heros behind the beautiful floral displays were those residents who planted weeded and watered the displays. Well done all.

Help Needed for Local **Food Bank**

Have you an hour to spare. If so you are desperately needed.

The Town's Food Bank which runs from St. Clare's church hall in the town centre is badly in need of people who could help out if only for an hour each session. This food bank is NOT run by the church, it is only using their premises. If you could possibly help out in any way please do get in touch with Kath Pinner or any of the staff there. The food bank is open every Wednesday and Friday afternoon from around 10.30 until 3.30pm. It held in the rear hall of the It held in the rear hall of the church building which is around the back of the church and has a small car park.

If there are any other churches in our town especially those who are in Churches Together in Great Aycliffe could you please give out this notice in your services and encourage your congregations to think about helping out. At the present time the Food Bank is running with a very small band of helpers who are very much in need of your help, vou do not have to stav all the time just do as much as you can.

The staff there are trying to cope as best they can, but food bank has a large amount of folks coming along from not just our town but nearby ones as well. Thank you so much for reading this article, and let's hope it proves and let fruitful.



THURSDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2018

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Running for MND

Parkin and I am running the Great North Run 2018, a half MNDA (the Motor Neurone Disease Association).

In 2016, I lost the eldest of my five sisters to Motor Neurone Disease and it was heart-breaking to see the devastating impact that this fatal, rapidly progressing disease, that kills a third of people within a year and over half within two years of diagnosis, had on my sister. With a horrifying pace, she became 'locked' inside her own body most powerfully described to me a like being in a small room whose walls close in by a few inches each day taking away people's physical capacity to move, communicate or swallow whilst keeping full capacity of mind and senses - most people's worst nightmare. yet, sadly, there is no cure and perhaps more shockingly in this day and treatment provided 22 years

As a rare disease with no government funding, the MNDA is wholly reliant on voluntary donations and contributions to help provide practical support and care for those with MND and much needed funding for research and raising of awareness for this rare disease.

In my voluntary role as an Association Visitor with the MNDA, I have the privilege of starting to get to know Syd Howarth, who was sadly diagnosed with MND relatively recently, and who I find, as most people in and around Newton Aycliffe will already be aware, was awarded an MBE for a 'lifetime of Service' to the people of Newton Aycliffe. It would be a privilege to run the Great North Run this year with his help in raising as much funding as we can for this devastating disease.

Donations can be anything from £1 as every little helps for practical support and reserach at the same time as raising awareness of MND.

Should anyone like to sponsor me, you can look online at my Just Giving which gives you more information by using: https://www.justgiving.com/jognr2018

Or going to www.justgiving.com and then typing Jo Squires-Parkin into the search box at the top.

Alternatively using your mobile at no cost to yourself by texting JOSP57 followed by an amount restricted to £1, £2, £3, £4, £5 or £10 to the number 70070.

New Pre-School Group for Heighington



This September Serendipity Pre-School will be re-opening where Heighington Pre-School closed this July, leaving the

Village's children without nursery places. Serendipity hope to emulate the ethos of their Outstanding Darlington setting, and will be introducing daily Forest School and weekly Beach School sessions, with their four qualified Beach and Forest School Leaders, their outdoor learning sessions are a way of giving children in their early years the opportunity to learn and develop in a natural environment. sparking their intrinsic motivations to explore, create and be curious about the world around them.

Children indoors have access to a well resourced, natural and home from home environment, where children are supported by qualified teachers and graduate practitioners. They have extended the opening hours to full days 7.30 - 18.00 and have spaces available for children aged from 12 months to five years, contact Sam on 07432129909 for more information or to arrange a visit.

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Being Colour Blind and Bullied Didn't **Stop Me Being A Confident Designer**













Honest John is

The final day of trading in Humankind will be **SATURDAY 25th AUGUST** Moving on Friday 31st August to **29 DURHAM WAY SOUTH AYCLIFFE BUSINESS PARK, DL5 6ZF**

Goods will be accepted at Humankind until Friday 31st August. The new unit will open on Wednesday 5th September at 10am parking available outside the door.

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

Brookes grand daughter of the late Clive & Peggy Brookes who were long time residents of Newton Avcliffe. I am a passionate writer, artist, illustrator, surface pattern designer and I always wanted to be a fashion designer. I have been painting, drawing and writing ideas for childrens' books, making jewellery, exploring fabric types and sewing occasional wear from a very young age.

When I was young,I was actually colour blind but that did not stop me from art. I was born in London and spent my early years in the outskirts of London Essex. It has not been easy and I did suffer bullying around year one and two perhaps due to my ethnic minority background. Because of these issues my parents put me into home schooling.

we moved to Recently Newton Aycliffe I had go to attend The experience another school. wasn't great; I still got bullied and got called ugly names like "greasy Ox" which in the year 2018 my parents could not believe! I did however make a couple very good friends at school whom I'm still in contact with. I know I am different but unique, kind and strong.

www.bevourselfgirls.com is a blogging site I just launched where I will share all my life experiences, my art, fashion and beauty tips which I think it will encourage girls to do what they love and accept themselves as who there are. Also, if there are any other girls in the North East who have had similar experiences to mine they are most welcome to say Hi at my site and share ideas. I am a believer, life should be fun, caring and sharing, unique is all about showing

you. My parents have given me amazing support and my dad bought my sewing machine when I was 8 years old. One good thing I found in newton Aycliffe was a very kind and ex-professional of all things textiles and sewing. She is currently supporting me and has given me knowledge, skills, confidence and that has encouraged me to launch my fashion business.

My aim is to bring art and colours to life with designs that merge luxury and contemporary African and western designs together. The brand is for anyone that believes in small business, social development, ethical and fair trade. My mum is a Ghanaian and my Dad is British, My art work are all drawn by hand before scanning and editing , there is a lot of care and love that goes into every piece I have made. All my product are made to order it makes your shopping experience authentic also tell a story of who you are, buy APB with pride Shop products at

www.apbboutique.com Visit my blog site www.beyourselfgirls.com Visit my Art portfolio site andrinapeggybrookes.

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS I FOR US?

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

Tel: Syd 01325 300212

or syd@newtonnews.co.uk

100 Years Remembrance

Sunday 11th November 2018 St. Clare's Church War Memorial



Newton News has started an appeal for poppies to adorn the railings outside St. Clare's Church War Memorial for the 100th Year Remembrance of Armistice Day. We are appealing for local residents to make or purchase

woollen poppies and fix to the railings ready for Sunday 11th November Remembrance Day Parade.

To see the railings covered in red poppies would be a great accolade to the fallen who will be remembered on this special 100th anniversary. Poppies can be purchased from Crafters Companion, or you can knit your own from the instructions opposite.

There is a group at St. Mary's who meet on a Wednesday 1-3pm (Knit and Natter Group). This group are actively knitting woollen poppies. Anyone is welcome to attend and join in or drop off balls of wool. Contact Margaret Lee on 01325 316963. Crafters Companion also hold a Wednesday knitting group 2-4pm.

An appeal is now published for

donations of red wool to help with

the construction of the poppies at the Knit and Natter Groups. Red wool and black buttons are requested and can be left at St. Mary's on a Wednesday between 1-3pm, Newton Press offices or Crafters Companion.

KNITTED POPPY **PATTERN**

(Large Poppy) - 3.5/3.75mm (UK 9), DK Yarn, Black Button Cast on 120 stitches. Rows 1 to 4 Knit. Row 5 Knit 3 stitches together

across the row - 40 stitches. Row 6 to 9 Knit.

Row 10 Knit 2 stitches together across the row - 20 stitches. Row 11 to 14 Knit. Row 15 Knit 2 stitches together

across the row - 10 stitches. Break off yarn with long tail and thread back through remaining stitches and pull tight.

Join edges with mattress stitch. Use a black button to sew to centre of the poppy.

PAGE 6 www.newtonnews.co.uk

Labour & Momentum

Dear Sir

Momentum is a fanatical. extreme, left wing political movement whose are so toxic that it cannot get elected in a democratic country. They 'invaded' the Labour Party at national level and got Corbyn elected as Labour leader. Since then they have joined local Labour Constituency Parties and are developing their local powerbase under the guise of being traditionally Labour. One of their tactics is to close down freedom of speech such that those who oppose them cannot 'call them out' in the local press. Cllr. Kathy Beetham is a Momentum supporter and is also fanatically anti-Brexit. We know this because she has berated the Editor for allowing Free Speech, apologised for (but did not publish) a Facebook page which, it seems, was less than complimentary about the local electorate who had voted LEAVE, and in her last week's letter, she advocates Political Correctness'.

Political correctness 'went out of the window' when we got a secret ballot on Brexit and voters got a chance to express their views on all the matters which the establishment and 'Political Correctness' had previously dissuaded them from expressing. Prior to the Referendum if you expressed the view that you were not in favour of, say, free movement of people, you were immediately branded a racist by the left wing, politically correct, brigade.

Recently, there has been an upsurge in black on black stabbings in London. The Police are reluctant to reintroduce 'stop-and-search' which they had desisted from because they were accused of applying it in a racist manner! I hold the 'left' directly responsible for some of the deaths which could have been prevented by stopping and searching those most likely to be armed; black youths!

Due to the lack of condemnation from the local Labour Party of Cllr. Beetham's unjustified attack on the Editor for allowing Free Speech. I can only conclude that Momentum has gained the 'upper hand' and that locally the party should be properly called 'Momentum/Labour'.

Phil Wilson, who is our elected LABOUR MP, has recently spoken out against Labour leader Corbyn and the anti-Semitism in Momentum /Labour at a national level. Has he as good as resigned? Or will his Constituency Labour Party support him? What happens will show the electorate how well established the Momentum parasite is in the Labour Party locally. If Phil Wilson resigns (or is deselected) then Labour Central Office may direct that the candidate list should be 'all female', in which case, Cllr. Kathy Beetham could be in poll position. Cllr. J.D. Clare would then have to 'self-identify' as female in order to oppose her selection! Cllr. Beetham says that

hate crime has increased in some areas by 40% since the Referendum. I would suggest that the increase coincided the advent of Momentum and the increase in hate crimes against British Jews and, in particular, Jewish Labour MP's.

Yours sincerely, Alastair P G Welsh



Editor: We have included one last letter in criticism of Councillor Beetham.

Newton News, whilst always believing in free speech does not exist to conduct arguments through it's columns. Where each side has made its point there comes a time to draw a line under the subject, so as not to bore or upset our readers.

IRONIC & DISTURBING

Dear Sir.

I find the recent letters from Cllr Kathy Beetham somewhat ironic disturbing. She has called for tolerance and opposed bigotry in her letters whilst, in her 'rather angry and private Facebook post' in June 2016 under her pseudonym Lilith Mooney. having described all leave voters (ie the majority who voted) as 'racist idiot scum' and 'morons', and expressed the view that they should be 'gassed first'. Interestingly, this appears to have not merited expulsion from the Labour Party.

It is particularly ironic and disturbing that she talks of 'gassing' people when Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbin is widely recognised as having an intense dislike of Israel and is considered by many to be anti-semitic, when gassing Jews (as well as black people. homosexuals and

others disliked by the regime) during the Second World War was one of the most notorious acts of genocide in the history of mankind.

Cllr Beetham refers to this as a 'private posting'. Does that make such appalling comments acceptable? They certainly do not reflect the thought patterns of a tolerant individual.

All this stems from Cllr John

Clare's attendance at a protest rally opposing President Trump, pictured holding a banner saying 'refugees welcome here'. I respect Cllr Clare's right to attend such protests - that is everyone's prerogative in a free society. However, I have to take issue with the factual accuracy of his banner, as there is strong evidence to suggest that a sizeable chunk of residents are not happy with us taking refugees - surveys clearly show that opposition to immigration is one of the key reasons for the Brexit

vote.

I do not concur with Cllr Beetham's view that opposing immigration amounts to being 'racist idiot scum'. Many people are legitimately very concerned about the high risks of bringing into the country people from war-torn countries where law and order has broken down, murder is de rigeur, religious extremism is rife, and it's very difficult to tell the good guys from the bad guys. Common sense dictates that this is a potential recipe for disaster, and we must not let political correctness get in the way of common sense.

The volume of immigration is also a legitimate concern. due to the pressure it places on already stretched public services. Again ironically, the Brexit vote appears to have reduced net immigration from the more civilised. more Anglophile European countries, while that from outside Europe has risen. I think most people would agree that the country does need some immigrants, but it needs to be those who will make a positive contribution, respect UK law and integrate effectively into UK society. not commit terrorist atrocities fabric of British society.

Whilst I may be concerned about immigration, I do not advocate violence or intimidation and find talk of 'gassing' people totally abhorrent

John Snowball



"OPENTO QUESTION"

Dear Sir

I am a non political resident of Newton Aycliffe and usually merely browse the "Political Content" of the letters page but felt I had to respond to some of the points made by Kathy Beetham of whom I have never heard of until recently. Her letter makes a number of statements which seem to be factual and true but on closer examination are open to question. I attempt to make counter points in the order she made her statements. Regarding the Brexit Referendum.

The majority won by almost 4%, around 1.2 million votes. That means less than half were totally devastated. True the Tories may well have handled it better but this is a unique situation. The Irish tried to leave but were bullied into a second vote, bottled it and decided to stay. We ARE leaving to a bigger more democratic world of trade and business which may or may not include the EU.

Our Government is to stockpile food just in case of devastating consequences of Brexit. Well yes, I think it prudent to start to take some steps to help ease any supposed pain so I have no problem with that. We survived food shortages during WW2, our citizens quite capable of surviving some privations and probably many more. Hate crimes rose in the aftermath of the result. Yes they did but such a crime is one perceived by an alleged victim and by definition it may not be a hate crime. Most, according to CIVITAS were of a verbal nature not violent. I do not degenerate hate crime in any way but a sense of balance is needed here. She alleges that Jacob Rees Mogg has moved his business abroad, I suppose avoid the supposed financial impact Brexit will have on his business. Evidence please

Beetham. Jeremy Corbyn tried to make similar accusations in Parliament recently alleging Mogg had moved some of his business to Dublin. Mogg challenged Corbyn as peddling "Fake News" and possibly being guilty of "Terminal Inexactitude" (lying) this in Parliament where Mogg

could be in trouble for misleading the House if he himself were lying.

He steadfastly denies moving his business to EU countries and maintains offices in London and Singapore amongst other places. I well remember the last Socialist Labour Government under Harold Wilson and James Callaghan.

What a pig's ear they made of our economy. Political Correctness was hard at work in Rotherham was it not when it allowed the continued proliferation of the child Rape scandal. No myth there.

Finally her call to join the Labour party and fight bigotry while respecting peoples race, religion etc. She ignores the furore at present surrounding the allegations of anti semitism and racism surrounding Corbyn.

What I find with Politicians from whatever party is that they do not present a balanced view supported in many instances by hard facts such as in the letter by Ms Beetham. I hope she understands that there is no way I would join a Labour Party run by Corbyn and Momentum.

J. Walker

Film Show

"FOSTER"

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St. Clare's Church on Tuesday 4th September features the British comedy-drama "FOSTER" starring Toni Collette, Joan Gruffudo, Richard E. Grant and Hayley Mills.

Zooey and Alec are waiting to hear that they can foster when Eli, a 7 year-old boy turns up on their doorstep. They soon feel there is something magical about him.

Very touching, very funny, as summer disappears this film will warm you up nicely.

Tea, coffee and juice are served at 1pm, included in the £2, children £1. The film starts at 1.15pm.

starts at 1.15pm.

Please note that children must be accompanied, and the film has a "PG" rating, containing some strong language.

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.







Bank Holiday Sunday saw two ladies "Brave the Shave" naid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

There was also a collection bucket passed around the main hall and the bar which received generous donations. The Phoenix Club added £250 which brought the total raised to £640.

Picture left to right. Chairman Stuart Isaccs, Ros Iveson and Nikki Jane Simmons.





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Slimming World Group "Walk All Over" Aycliffe to Raise Funds

welcomed so warmly and instantly made to feel part

of the group. We are all there for the same reason – to lose weight and to help and

support each other to do the

"I have so much more energy

thanks to my trimmer figure.

The eating plan means I

can fill up on lots of tasty

everyday meals - I never

feel hungry or deprived and I can still enjoy my favourite

things, like a glass of wine

and a bar of chocolate - just

"At group we learn that

getting more active doesn't have to be joining the gym or

running marathons. It can be

walking the kids to school,

doing the gardening, hitting

the dancefloor - anything

that raises the heart rate a

"Before I lost the weight

a group event like this

would have felt completely

unimaginable. I always joked I couldn't run for a

bus! I wouldn't have had

the confidence to try the distance let alone have

lots of people seeing me in sportswear! I'm a new

in moderation now.

little counts.

have been putting their best feet forward to raise money Cancer Research UK.

Members from Newton Aycliffe, Chilton, Ferryhill, West Cornforth and Sedgefield Slimming World Cornforth celebrated their groups, weight-loss success walking around an organised route made by the Slimming World Consultants

together on 25th August. All month they have been sponsored to up their daily step count, and they rounded off their Walk All Over with Slimming World campaign with a celebratory group walk at the Oakleaf Complex. The event aims to raise awareness of the links between keeping a healthy weight and reducing





MRI SCANNER

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

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

with more information, from one of our waiting areas or

- Text SCAN02 £10 to 70070 to donate £10 to CDDFT.
- · To discuss fundraising or for more information, ring 01325 743786 or email:
- cddft.charity@nhs.net Follow us on twitter:
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OFSTED quote: "Playday Nursery offers an outstanding provision with high quality teaching provided by highly qualified staff.



and so excited about the Completing this Walk all over Cancer with all of my Slimming World friends has been the cherry on top of my weight-loss journey.

Nicola Dale one of the areas Consultants said 'We had gorgeous, sunny weather conditions for our walk and in true Slimming Worldstyle our members, their friends and families were out in force to support each other. They showed just what can be done when we come together – both in terms of achieving something amazing and raising money for a great cause too. For their time and commitment a goodie bag with a slimming World magazine, refreshments and a winners medal was awarded to each

walking more this August. At Slimming World, we help our members find enjoyable of getting more active and encourage them to increase their activity levels step-by-step, until it becomes part of their daily routine.

"I'm sure my members will inspire more people to get active and improve their health, while also helping raising awareness of the links between obesity and cancer. The money raised will go towards an amazing cause - one my members feel very passionate about - helping to support Cancer Research UK's life-saving research.'

For more information about the groups, please SlimmingWorld.co.uk

Localconsultants: Miller, Nicola Dale, Gordon Brockbank. Sam Hudson. Annette Garner, Collette Trimmer, Tina Brydon, Barker Christine







Afternoon Aycliffe Paul Baker 2-6pm "Through the Decades" 60s Show Karl Simons 70s Show Peter Rush 7-8nm 80s Show Paul Gittins 8-9pm 90s Show Paul Baker 9-10pm NNs Show 10-11nm Producer Dan Teens Show 11-12am Owen Dickinson **TUESDAY** 2-6pm Afternoon Avcliffe Paul Baker Sports Show sponsored by Honest John Sports Round UP 6-7.30pm Darren & Lee 4th Sept - John Burnside (Marathon Runner) 11th Sept - Lewis Harrop (MMA) 7.30-9.30pm Northern & Classic Soul Kevin Sowerby WEDNESDAY Afternoon Avcliffe 1-5nm Paul Baker 5-7pm Tea Time Out Amy Harrison Community Connect Phil Hawkins 7-8pm 8-10pm Alternative Avcliffe Garv & Albv 10-12am Garage/Indie Show (Repeat) MC Supa

AYCLIFFE RADIO

Programme Schedule

Every Night from 12 Midnight to 3am

cuddle up and listen to classic "Love Songs"

Amy Harrison

Amy in the Morning

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT

9-12noon

THURSDAY 9-12noon It's Nearly the Weekend! Aiden Goldberg 2-6pm Afternoon Aycliffe Paul Baker Paul Baker 6-7pm Mystery Year "Throwback Thursday" The Doctor 7-8pm 8-10pm "Beat"Roote Graeme Roote 10-12am **Rock Session** Craig "CAD"

9-12noon Amy in the Morning Amy Harrison Afternoon Aycliffe Paul Baker 2-6pm Tech-House Mix **PVR Studios** 6-8pm 8-10pm **Guest Presenter Session** 7th Sept Nathan Abbott - 90s Classix

14th Sept Andy Little - 80s Session 21st Sept Nathan Abbott - 90s Classix

PH7 MixTape

10-12am Alternative Aycliffe (Repeat) Gary & Alby

SATURDAY

4-6pm

6-7nm

7-8pm

Kitchen Floor Fillers 8-11am Kent Collective 11am-1nm Naz Kent 1-2pm Ska Session School Disco 2-4pm

Kevin Sowerby Northern & Classic Soul (R)

Paul Hardy

Owen Dickinson

"THE SATURDAY NIGHT EXPERIENCE" **Evening Session** limlams

8-9pm Chart & Dance Remixes Alan Hastie 9-10pm Retro Tech House Mix OZ-DI 10-12am Street 'n' Drum 'n' Bass MC Supa **SUNDAY** 12-2pm Sports Round Up (R) Darren & Lee 2-4pm Bear Blues Show Colin McNeillie Folk/Celtic/Rock Show Steve & Col 4-6pm Church Service Xcel Centre 6-7pm

Check our website for full schedule ww.ayclifferadio.co.uk

Owen's Politics Show

PROMOTE YOUR ORGANISATION - ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW

Contact John Atkinson - john@ayclifferadio.co.uk

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Scheduled shows can be changed/cancelled at any time



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Toothless Legal System

Dear Sir, Re last week's anonymous letter attacking landlords for not referencing and taking action against badly behaving tenants, I'm left wondering how the writer knows the landlord did not carry out any checks, what exactly he or she expected the landlord to do about their tenants' anti-social behaviour, and what they expected would happen to the evicted tenants?

The laws of the land dictate that there are strict limits on what information on a prospective tenant can be accessed by a prospective landlord, references are not infallible, and prospective tenants can be extremely devious. Landlords also have very limited powers to deal with badly behaving tenants. The law is stacked in favour of the tenant. All the landlord can ultimately do is go through an eviction process which can be tortuous and expensive. Clearly the police were unable to solve the problem. The writer says the police gave warnings, but warnings they would do what, and why didn't the police take action to back up the warnings? Probably because there was very little they could do under the current legal system. In this case, it appears the tenant was eventually evicted, but the

tenant was re-housed by another private landlord, who may well have been duped by them and may well by now be ruing his or her naivety. However, what would've been the alternative? They would've been homeless and the Council would've been left with a legal responsibility to house them. Options are a social house, private landlord or a B&B, and the antisocial behaviour is just re-cycled to another location. Maybe the tenants will eventually get sick of moving around and start behaving themselves, but not before they cause a lot of unrest, annoyance and expense, with the main victims most likely being their landlords!

It seems to me that the main blame here lies with the bad tenants

and the toothless legal system, not the landlords. John Snowball





Greenfield 'Class of 2018' Results DOUBLE

Greenfield Community College 'Class of 2018' celebrated strong and welldeserved GCSE success this summer, sustaining school's the reputation academic high achievement. Executive Headteacher David Priestley acknowledged the hard work of both staff and "We are proud students. of each and every one of our students. The students received dedicated support not only from our strong expert teaching team but have had the benefit of invaluable support and encouragement from our wider school community including parents/carers. We are very proud of all of our students and wish them every continued success.3 These GCSE results have achieved amidst been reorganisation of huge the national examination system and 2018 was always going to be the time that significant national change was at its peak. The effort, dedication and commitment from staff and students at Greenfield Community College should be credited and has been realised in the successful improved results. The school achieved English GCSE 4+ (C+) at 69% and Maths GCSE



4+ (C+) at 69%. students achieved grade 7+ (A+) in Dance, 20% achieved 7+ (A+) in German and seven students achieved the illusive grade 9 English Literature whilst four students achieved the same grade in English Language and six at grade 9 in RE. Greenfield Community College Vice Chair of Governors, Ian Dennis added, "I am delighted to acknowledge the great team effort from everyone involved with the school. The governing body appreciates all the hard work of staff and students and support of our families and the community in the continuous journey of improving results. best wishes for continued success to the 'Class of 2018' in the next step on their journey.'











Have You Got News For Us?

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

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

There's a double measure of fun guaranteed this September when Darlington New Orleans Jazz Club's hosts two stellar

gigs from international piano man Jeff Barnhart. First up, on Saturday 8th Septembr, Jeff is joined by guitar and banjo virtuoso Thomas 'Spats' Langham and together they'll captivate their audience with music from the Great American Songbook, and

Great ...
earlier.
And then for some different,
-4av 15t! something completely different, the following Saturday 15th, Jeff presents his Great Silent Movie Show, a treasure trove of stories and films from the early days of cinematic comedy. Jeff provides the piano accompaniment as they did all those years ago, weaving his musical magic from scene to scene, while the likes of Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin romp through car chases, stunts, suspense and romance on the silver screen.

Darlington New Orleans Jazz Club meets at St Augustine's Parish Hall, Larchfield Street, Parlington, at 12.30pm.
Entry is £10 on the door, and children 15 and under go free.
St Augustine's Parish Centre is a short walk from the bus stops on Tubwell Row and Darlington railway station. www.darlingtonjazz.co.uk

Great Aycliffe



Town Council

COMPLETION OF AUDIT

Notice of the Completion of the Audit of the Annual Return for the Financial Year ended 31st March 2018

> Section 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 (SI 234)

- 1. In accordance with Regulation 13 and 16 of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, notice is hereby given that the audit of the Council's accounts for the financial year ended 31st March 2018 has been concluded and the audited Annual Return has now been published.
- 2. Section 25 of The Local Audit and Accountability Act sets out the following rights of local government electors in relation to the inspection of the statements of accounts and auditors' reports of local authorities:-
- A local government elector for the area of a body subject to audit, other than a health service body, may inspect and make copies of:-
- the statement of accounts prepared by the Council;
- the auditor's certificate that the audit of the Council's accounts, including that statement, has been completed;
- the auditor's opinion on the statement of accounts;
- any public interest report relating to the authority or an entity connected with it;
- any recommendation relating to the authority or an entity connected with it.
- 3. A copy of the audited Annual Return has been made available for inspection on the Finance Section of the Council's website at www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk.
- 4. The audited Annual Return is available for inspection by any local government elector of the parish of Great Aycliffe.
- 5. Any elector wishing to inspect the Accounts should make an appointment with the Finance Manager at the Town Council; Mr Dan Austin, who can be contacted by telephone on 01325 300700, or by email at Daniel. Austin@great-aycliffe.gov. uk. Appointments are available at the Council Offices between the hours of 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday.
- 6. Copies will also be provided to any local government elector on payment of £1 $\,$ for each copy of the Annual Return.

Mr Dan Austin C.P.F.A, Finance Manager Announcement made by:

Date of announcement: 31st August 2018

CAR WASH SUCCESS

The Car Wash on Saturday 25th August was a huge success, even the children helped! Many people had seen the advertisement in the paper and on Facebook. A total of £150 was raised, which the family were delighted with, as were the staff at John Meynell



Andrew, Tamsin, Ben, Geradeen and Joling





Six MOT Fails That Can Easily Be Avoided

British drivers are being warned about six of the silliest MOT fails that can easily be

The team behind motoring giants LeaseCar.uk have researched and revealed some of the most minor causes of MOT failures – but most of them are preventable and could save drivers the hassle of having to put their vehicles

through a re-test.

Some of the most common reasons for MOT failures include worn out brake pads poorly aimed headlamps and tyre tread depth that falls below the 1.6mm limit – all which seem rational and fair. However, there are some fails that may seem a little unreasonable, including badly

placed car stickers and dirty

number plates.
Tim Alcock from LeaseCar.uk
commented: "Taking your car
for its annual MOT can be a source of anxiety for many.
"Most of us will have had to

go through the motions of an MOT fail at some point and it can be disruptive, and extremely costly. "We've resear

"We've researched and highlighted some of the silliest reasons cars might fail their MOT test in a bid to warn drivers and help them to prepare and prevent unnecessary re-tests."

1. Car stickers

If you've got a car sticker on your windscreen that's deemed to obscure your view in any way, this will result in an

2. Registration plates

Illegal fonts, dirty number plates and plates that are the wrong colour amount to a great deal of MOT fails.

3. Windscreen washer fluid

It's easy to forget about checking your washer fluid, particularly during the summer months when you're less likely to use it, but this simple mistake results in hundreds of MOT fails each year.

4. Car hygiene

Many garages have been known to simply refuse to MOT a vehicle on environmental health grounds. Cars that are full of fast food leftovers, cartons and cans of drinks often fit into this bracket, as well as drivers that have risked

their own healthy by allowing mould to grow on the interior and window

Warning lights

Warning lights are pretty self-explanatory – they're there to warn you of potential faults. Ignoring them – whether the fault itself is an MOT fail or not – will see you having to put your car through a re-test once they've been checked out.

Not only will a particularly dirty number plate result in an automatic fail, but leaving the entire body of your car excessively dirty will too. So think twice before trying to use the dirt to your advantage to try hide a bit of dodgy bodywork or rust that you don't want the tester to see.



MONDAYS

** Relaunching with New Consultant Sam - 3rd September ** **Woodham Community Centre St Elizabeths Close** 5pm & 7pm with Sam - Tel: 0770 451284

Neville Community Centre Neville Parade 5.30pm & 7.30pm with Annette - Tel: 07974 696241

TUESDAYS

R.A.F.A. Club Barrington Road 3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm with Nic - Tel: 07791 909376

WEDNESDAYS

Navy Club Bluebell Way

9.30am with Nic - Tel: 07791 909376

5pm & 7pm with Christine - Tel: 07970 666291

Eden Arms Hotel Rushyford

3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm with Joni - Tel: 07716 484472

THURSDAYS

R.A.F.A. Club Barrington Road

9.30am & 11.30am with Sam - Tel: 07970 451284

5pm & 7pm with Nic - Tel: 07791 909376

SATURDAYS

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre Burn Lane

8.30am & 10.30am with Gordon - Tel: 07572 240010

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Sainsbury's Local Charity of the Year - PCP



PCP is thrilled Sainsbury has named them Local Charity of the Year following the recent public vote. Cobblers Hall Sainsbury's will be supporting Options, one of PCP's user-led services supporting the independence of adults with disabilities.

Sainsbury's Manager Carl Duckling said "It's great to be supporting a charity that's right on our doorstep, often you see a lot of national charities being nominated but this is really what local charity of the years is all about. We can't wait to get fundraising to support such a worthwhile cause."

Kath Willington from Sainsbury's is looking forward to working with Options to plan events and activities to raise much needed funds.

Phil Thompson, Options member said "It's nice of Sainsbury's to support us, it's our local store and we go there all the time and will be calling in even more now! Thank you to everyone who voted for PCP."

If you have any ideas to help with fundraising or would like to know more about Options please contact Linda West at the Pioneering Care Centre, Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe,DL5 4SF tel: 01325 321234 email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net or follow Options on Facebook: @optionspcp

Picture shows: Options Members, Kath and Carling visiting Sainsbury's Cobblers Hall.

Academy Students Celebrate

Woodham Academy students celebrated excellent GCSE results, with 65% achieving pass grades in both English and Maths. Students did well in all subjects including traditional subjects such as geography, history, french and art as well as vocational subjects such as engineering, where all students passed with merit or distinction.

with merit or distinction.

This is the first year where the majority of subjects have been graded 9-1, with a grade 9 representing the top 2% nationally. Amazingly, 15 students achieved one or more grade 9s.

Woodham Academy

Woodham Academy Headteacher Christine Forsyth, says "Congratulations to all of our students. They should be very proud of their achievement."



Woodham students celebrate another excellent set of results



Ellie Gard, Alice Benson and Alivia Hoy were three of the five students who achieved the top grade 9 in Art



Mille Robson and Laura Anderson, both injured in last year's Manchester bombing, passed every subject

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BGT Semi-Finalist at the Turbinia Win & Draw for Aycliffe

who reached the Semiof Britain's Got Talent in 2018. He was 52 at the time of audition, and stated before his audition that 'if I do bad on this show, I'll probably give up'. Surreal, bizarre, absurd, intelligent, and yet, intelligent, yet, strangely somehow attractive. No, seriously he is a very accessible act who generally goes down well anywhere. Noel has performed at many of the major comedy clubs festivals including

Glastonbury, Reading and Edinburgh.

'Stands out like a droll giant in a comedy land of trite dwarfs" - The Independent "Liberates the lunatic side to our personalities -brilliantly!" - *Time Out* "Huge fan!" - *The Sunday*

Times 'Absolutely Hilarious!" HTV & Wales on Sunday
TV Credits wor

worth mentioning include: Packing Them in - Channel 4; The Stand-up Show -BBC; Giamocs - S4C

George Rigden Despite

exciting, hotly-tipped and sought after new acts on the UK comedy circuit and frequently gigs up and down the country for the countries leading clubs and promoters. Having excelled in a host of new act competitions in his first year, George made his Edinburgh debut in 2015 when he performed as part of the prestigious AAA Stand Up Late showcase

at the Pleasance Courtyard

only performing his first for a full sell-out run. He gig in June 2013, George returned to Edinburgh is already one of the most again in 2016, again as returned to Edinburgh again in 2016, again as part of an established and respected showcase (The Lunchtime Special at The Tron)

"Rigden is the result of a genetic mash-up between Mitch Benn and Tim Key, perhaps with a few strands of Ricky Gervais's DNA

thrown in . . . Very funny stuff" - Chortle. Host Barry Dodds
Self-confessed come Self-confessed comedy geek, Barry took to the comedy stage at the tender age of 21 and soon had audiences eating out of the palm of his hand. Using his own combination of irrepressibly cheeky, and surprisingly dark material, he quickly found himself taking the national comedy circuit by storm. A talented who uses imagery and storyteller, whimsical observations. evocative Barry is an assured closing act, with regular bookings at many of the UK's top comedy clubs including The Stand, XS Malarkey and The Frog and Bucket. "Wonderfully crafted stories and top-c audience interaction . top-class brings his cheekiness to the stage in absolute buckets" -Bunbury Magazine.

This show will also feature a newer act in the middle. Tickets for this show can be bought online at www. hilaritybites.co.uk, in person from The Turbinia, or telephone 01325 313034. The event takes place on Wednesday 5th September and tickets are priced at £6 in advance, or £8 on the door, with doors opening at 7pm and the show starting at 8pm.

Newton Aycliffe took 4 points from their Bank derby Holiday against Bishop Auckland and Shildon.

On Saturday Newton Aycliffe won 1-0 at home to Bishop Auckland. The Bishops came into the game on a fine run of form. But it was Aycliffe who started well and exerted a lot of early pressure. Bishops keeper Liversedge dropped a couple of crosses, but no one was able to to turn in the loose ball. Bishops came into the game, and Hoganson hit a free kick from a good position straight at the wall; Richardson had a chance on 22 minutes for Bishops, but shot straight at James Winter in the Aycliffe Aycliffe goal. had the edge on the play though, and were rewarded when a cross from Aaron Brown wasn't cleared by the Bishops defence, and Aaron Ramsbottom ran onto the loose ball and rifled it low into the net. Bishops had a good spell just before half time, but Winn and Patten were unable to trouble Winter with their efforts. Bishops came out of the blocks well in the second half, and had half chances from Winn and Johnson which missed the target. Aycliffe came through this spell, with man-of-the-match Gavin putting in a strong performance at left back against the Bishops attacks. Ramsbottom had a good chance to seal the points, but his lob over Liversedge went wide of the post. Aycliffe got back on top as a couple of substitutions



introduced fresh Daniel Kent and Harrison went close with chances to finish the game. Bishops frustrations boiled over, with Winn being sent off late on, as Aycliffe took

the three points.
Bank Holiday Monday saw
Aycliffe make the short trip to Shildon for their second derby of the weekend. A crowd of 448 were treated to a six goal thriller with

the spoils shared. It looked as though it wasn't going to be Aycliffe's day when Alan Harrison put the ball into his own net on 12 minutes. James Winter got a hand to the ball but it was adjudged to have crossed the line. However, the visitors provided an immediate response when Tom Gavin equalised direct from a free kick. On 19 minutes Aycliffe took the lead when Daniel Kent got a head to Harrison's

immediate pressure from Shildon & just on the hour substitute Billy Greulich-Smith equalised with a header. Two minutes later the home side took the lead through Aidan Haywood following a hotly disputed corner. minutes Kurt

Matthews came on as a substitute & within two minutes his low shot found the corner of the net bringing the score to 3-3. Shildon pressed hard for

the final 10 minutes but Aycliffe held out for a well deserved draw. Next up for Aycliffe is

game against Auckland. This another Bishop time in the Buildbase FA Vase at Heritage Park on Saturday 1st September, kick off 3pm.

Photo: Aaron Brown in against Bishop action Auckland

CRICKET **Aycliffe** SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store had a mixed weekend, dramatically losing one game and then bouncing straight back to win on the Monday to still leave them with an outside chance of promotion to division one.

On the Saturday, the first team suffered an agonising defeat by just two runs away at Redcar first team in the 2nd division of the NYSD. Electing to bowl first, Aycliffe found the home side's batsmen in top form as they scored an impressive 222 for 7 in their allotted 50 overs. Patrick Howe was the pick of the bowlers on a tough day taking 3 for 32 and he was supported well by James Layfield-Carroll, who took 2 for 58. In reply, Chris Palmer (sponsored by Vanila Design and Print) gave the innings some momentum with an excellent 67 from 60 balls. smashing 12 boundaries and a six and Adam Gittins also batted well scoring 30 from 77 balls, including four boundaries. In a tense finale, Patrick Howe (26 runs), Lucas Pilling (25 runs) and James Layfied-Carroll (7 not out) all batted with tremendous maturity, but they fell just short of winning target as Aycliffe were bowled out for a very gallant 220 after 49.2 overs.

the bank holiday Monday, the first team bounced back with an excellent 59 run win at home to Northallerton first After being asked to bat first, Aycliffe scored what appeared to be an under par score of 147 all out after 46 overs. Darryn Bancroft batted well to top score with 41 and he was given good support from Adam Gittins (29 runs) and Luke Telford (22 runs). In reply Northallerton found Aycliffe's Jack Slatcher (sponsored by Dean & Tina Greaves) in superb form, taking 6 for 33 and with James Layfied-Carroll mopping up the tail with 3 wickets for just 2 runs, Aycliffe bowled out the visitors for 88 after 32 overs. Special must go to all rounder Michael Howe who scored 11 runs in the Aycliffe innings, which

means he joins a select band of Aycliffe cricketers who have achieved the notable seasonal double of 500 runs and 50 wickets.

The 2nd team got their weekend off to a flying start with a thumping win by 111 runs at home to Northallerton 2nds in the NYSD 4th division. Electing to bat first Aycliffe piled up the runs finishing their allotted 40 overs with an imposing 233 for 8. Dave Wright top scored with an aggressive 63 from 55 balls faced (including 10 boundaries and a six), opener Lewis Gimple scored a patient 58 from 93 balls (including eight boundaries) and Dan Weldon had some fun at the end of the innings, smashing an unbeaten 44 runs from only 23 balls, thumping six boundaries and two huge sixes.

In reply the visitors were bowled out for 122 from 29 overs thanks to some superb bowling from all rounder Lewis Gimple, who finished a fine day with 6 wickets for 10 runs to become only the fourth 2nd team player in the club's history to achieve the notable milestone of scoring a fifty and taking five wickets in a match. On the bank holiday Monday, the seconds travelled to Preston 1st XI and came out on top with another big win, this time by 100 runs to cap an exceptional weekend for the Club's second team. Aycliffe lost the toss and were asked to bat first and scored a very respectable 164 for 6 in their allotted 40 overs. Opener Lewis Gimple was again the backbone of the innings with his fourth half century in five innings, this time scoring 68 from 106 balls, George Slatcher scored 40 from 64 balls and Neil Bancroft chipped in with 23 from 26 balls. In Preston's reply, all rounder Gimple again lead the way taking 4 for 7 and with Matty Greaves taking 3 for 22 and Dan Weldon taking 1 for 18, the home side were dismissed for 64 after 22.3 overs to give Aycliffe's second team the maximum 50 points from their two games.

Photo attached of 2nd team all rounder Lewis Gimple who added his name to the Club records after his excellent performance on



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LASSROOM MURAL STIMULATES

School are looking forward to welcoming back all of the children to school and are also looking forward to meeting our new starters.

Over the Summer holidays Miss Waller the reception school leader has been very busy drawing and painting this amazing mural for the children to enjoy. Miss Waller has a natural talent as an artist and over the coming months the children will enjoy lots more of her artistic talent watching of her artistic taken and learning from her.

Waller said "We want

Miss Waller said "We want to provide all children from Nursery to year 6, with stimulating, multi-sensory space. Research has shown that this kind of space greatly improves children's

learning behaviour, focus and motivation. Hopefully the room will enrich children's learning experience and be a place they love to visit".

Woodham Burn school

believe integrating creativity in education from an early age helps develop children's imaginative, creative and innovative thinking skills, builds confidence and promotes a focus on team

Mrs Edwards, Head Teacher said "Miss Waller has worked hard over the summer creating a wonderfully stimulating and colourful wall painting for the children. We are looking forward to seeing the children next week after their summer break".



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PartyLite with Carrie H

Sleeping Beauty, Roy Orbison, Jekyll and Hyde and Orville the Owl are just some of the stars gracing a popular arts venue this autumn.
Bishop Auckland Town

Hall's new season brochure is out now and features music, theatre, comedy, film and exhibitions to suit all tastes and ages.
Through the Decades with

Roy Orbison and Bully Holly is a must for music with leading tribute artists Darren Paige and Marc Robinson joining forces to celebrate the legendary performers on Friday, 12 October, at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £17.50.

American Rock 'n' Roll will make way for traditional and contemporary Irish music when Share the Darkness takes to the stage on Friday, 23 November, at 8pm. Once described as "more Irish than a Dublin pub," this upbeat show is suitable for all ages. Tickets cost £10 or £8 for

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concessions.

Theatre lovers, meanwhile, to en, Theatre sure Northumberland Company's production of Heartspur on Wednesday, 10 October, at 7.30pm. Set in gangland Newcastle in 1963, the play brings together the best of Shakespeare's words with modern dialogue and memorable songs from the 1960s. Tickets cost £10 or £8 for concessions.

On Wednesday, 17 October, at 7.30pm, the National Production Company will perform Jekyll and Hyde. This fast-paced production stays true to the classic tale, following Dr Jekyll as he fashions a controversial concoction that transforms him into an evil monster. Tickets cost £10 or £8 for

concessions. Anyone who attends one show can buy tickets for the other production half price. Little theatre goes are also catered for with Orville the

My daughter, Jane Quigley,

is taking part in the Great

North Run on Sunday 9th

(formerly Leukaemia and

Lymphoma Research). Jane

will be running in memory

of her uncle, Joe Hennessey,

who sadly passed away on 19th April after suffering

from Leukaemia for bout 2

vears. He will be with her

in spirit as she runs to raise

money for such a worthwhile

If anyone would like to

sponsor Jane, the best way is

through her JustGiving page

(www.justgiving.com) and donate what you can. If you

are a tax payer then you can

Gift Aid your amount and the

government will add 25% to

cause.

Her chosen "BloodWise"

September. Her charity is "Blooming"

Owl, an interactive play featuring poetry, music and puppets. Orville will take the stage on Monday, 22 October, at 10.30am. The play is suitable for children under six and tickets cost £2. As Christmas approaches, what better than a pantomime to help foster the festive spirit?

ENTERTAINING AUTUMN AT

BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN HALL

Sleeping Beauty, brought to you by Talegate, a brand new theatre company for 2018, runs from Saturday, 1 December to Monday, 3 December and is jam-packed full of songs and silliness. Tickets cost £9, £7 for concessions or £30 for a family of two adults and two children. Performances take place at 2pm and 6pm on Saturday, 2pm on Sunday and 10.30am and 1.30pm on Monday.

is Further magic store on Thursday, 20 December, at 6.30pm, when Northumberland Company will perform The

Great North Runner

for Bloodwise

Little Girl Who Danced Every Mood. to contemporary Scandinavian adventure follows a princess as she seeks to find her true place in the world, with plenty of singing, dancing and drama along the way. Tickets cost £10 or £8 for concessions.

The Hilarity Bites Comedy Club also returns with a string of Friday night gigs featuring much-loved comedians. Upcoming acts include: Steve Harris. Upcoming Caroline Mabey and MC Andy Fury on 21 September; Eddie Brimson, Harry Garrison and MC Tony Jameson on 19 October; Tom Houghton, Jenny Collier and MC Sam Avery on 16 November; Gavin Webster on 30 November; and Tanyalee Davis, Kelsy de Almeida and Matt Reed on 21 December. All gigs start at 7.30pm and tickets cost £8 in advance or £10 on the door.

Film highlights include The Mountain Between Us on Thursday, 18 October and The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society on Thursday, 8 November. Screenings start at 7.30pm

Bishop Auckland Town Hall is also hosting special events paying tribute to late and great creative heroes from the region. On Wednesday, 3 October, at 7.30pm, a free illustrated talk will delve into the sketchbooks of pitman painter Norman Cornish.

And on Monday, 8 October 7.30pm, friends of the beloved poet, playwright and novelist Julia Darling will come together to celebrate the publication of Pearl, a new short story collection. This intimate performance will feature readings and memories, with tickets memories, with tickets priced at £5 including a glass of wine.

Janet Strong, operations officer at Bishop Auckland Town Hall, said: "This season looks set to be one of the busiest and best to date. We are delighted to bring so talented performers to Bishop Auckland and are looking forward to sharing all of the drama, music and laughter with our audiences. To book tickets, call 03000 269 524 or visit www. bishopaucklandtownhall.org.

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your donation

Anne Molyneux.

Jane only started running a

couple of years ago when she

was 50. She has sine joined

Aycliffe Running Club and

is seriously following her

training plan for the Great

North Run. Please support

Jane and give what you can.



On Saturday 28th July while most of the Aycliffe Radio team were busy with the Live Music Festival in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre, Austin Donoghue (OZDJ) was completing the gruelling Coast2Coast in aid of the Great Avcliffe Cancer Support Group.

The presenters and volunteers at Aycliffe Radio had a whip round and collected £100 which was presented to Austin at a

OZDJ was thankful to his co-presenters and also expressed his thanks to Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group for their

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TEAM SUPPORT AT **AYCLIFFE RADIO**

Hospital Garden Show



Calling all green-fingered gardeners - an opportunity for all gardeners, irrespective of age, to enter produce in the annual Bishop Auckland Hospital Garden Show at 32A, Show at Road, B Escomb Bishop Auckland.

The show takes place on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd September.

All entries to be benched on Saturday between 12.30 and 2.00pm - at a cost of 50p per

Judging will take place 2.00 - 4.00pm by champion grower and respected judge,

Bob Latcham

Produce will be auctioned at a celebratory supper on Sunday 2nd September at 8.00pm - to which all are most welcome - and all monies raised, including a raffle draw, will be donated to a local charity.

Schedule, includes flower as well as vegetable classes, contact Gil on (01388) 450524 or Liz (01388) 662954 or email: liz.drakel@outlook.com

Flower Picture (using any medium) - free entry.

WEEKLY EXERCISE CLASS ENCOURAGES INDEPENDENCE

Defoe Court Care Home in Newton Aycliffe, has Certificate received of Achievement for the improvements he's made since taking part in weekly exercise classes.

Brian Shield has attended Jerome's exercise sessions ever since he first arrived at Defoe Court, along with 10 other Residents.

Jerome visits the home every Monday where he helps the strength through various exercises, so that they can become as independent as possible.

Before taking part in these classes, Brian was unstable on his feet and required support from the staff when walking but now, thanks to Jerome, he is delighted to be able to walk independently. Brian commented: "Thank you so much for this award, I'm so happy with

independently, support from the team

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

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

Birthday Remembrance

DEMI HESLOP 1st September 2006. All my life I will miss you, as the years come and go. But in my Mammy's heart you will live forever. Because I love you so. Happy 12th birthday baby girl. I love and miss you with all my heart. Love forever,

DEMI HESLOP 1st September 2006. Happy birthday to our beautiful sister up above. Like every day we are sending you all our love. We miss and love you Demi. Love you all the world. Shannon, Daniel and

Megan xxxxx **DEMI HESLOP** 1st September 2006. This birthday token brings you love, it's just a simple touch, to let you know how dear you are. You'll always mean so much. All our love always Princess. Grandma and Granda xxxxxx

Obituary

June Fisher

Passed away peacefully in Defoe Court Care Home on 19th August, aged 80

Much loved Sister of Margaret, Charlie, Dougie and the late Irene and Phyllis; dearly missed Aunty of Brian, Jill, Peter and Sharon; also a Great-Aunty and Great-Great Aunty

Will family and friends please meet for a Service at . Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Monday 3rd September at 12.30pm. flowers

donations lieu if so desired to the Alzheimer's Society.

In Memoriam



Doris and Wilf Kelly

Sadly passed away 1st and 2nd September 2017



A million times we've needed you both. a million times we've cried. If love alone could have saved you both, you never would have died. In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still In our hearts you hold a place, no one can ever fill. It broke our hearts to lose you, but you didn't go alone. Part of us went with you, the day God took you home.

Loved and sadly missed by all the family

McGRADY, Paul Christopher. 30th August 2017. In loving memory of a devoted Dad to Sean; a loving Son to John and Carole; a dear Brother to Russell; also a much loved Nephew, Cousin and a dear friend to many. Forever in our hearts, never to be forgotten

Obituary

Margaret Lynne Jaques

of Newton Aycliffe and Heighington, passed away peacefully on 19th August, 2018 aged 71 years. Sadly missed by all. Service will be held at the Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter-Day Saints, Shafto Way, Newton Aycliffe on Friday, 7th September at 12.30pm

Jimmy Joy



His family and "parsons" are holding a memorial night in his honour on September. Anyone interested in attending please contact James Joy on 07517 988810 or via

We would be grateful for any raffle donations as we hope to raise funds for local Youth Football teams/ Pandas in his memory.

Details of the raffle prizes will be posted on Facebook

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Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



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RUNNING CLUB NEWS



ARC RACE REPORT -**23RD AUGUST 2018** It was a relatively quiet week this week in terms of racing, although there was still plenty although of training happening. Obviously, the Great North Run is fast approaching and there are many of our members doing this race as well as some taking part in another half marathon



on the same day. Wednesday 15th August 2018 two of our second claim members ran in the Quayside 5k although they were running in the vests of their first team clubs. Paul Dalton for Quakers completed

this course in 18.51 and

AC completed it in 22.50.

Park 10k took place. This does actually take place at the Dalton Park Shopping Centre. Lisa Dowell completed this in 1.23.27 followed by Carrieann Ingledew in 1.23.49

Finally on the same day two members took place in the Scorton Feast 10k trail race. This was a last minute decision by Husband and Wife Peter and Sue Milburn. Sue described this race as really bumpy off road terrain (which made it difficult to run on and maintain pace) which incorporated two laps around the reservoir. However, despite that Peter was 15th finisher overall in 41.38 and 2nd O50 male and Sue was 49th in a time of 51.29 and 1st O60. Well done to all



Aycliffe Sports Club Continue Good Run



After the 4 all draw against Bay Horse Blues last week, Aycliffe Sports Club followed that game with the same result against Gainford Cross Kevs, which was played inside Moore Lane Park

The large pitch was a leveller for both sides and it took until th 30th minute for the deadlock to be broken, when Gainford centre forward Alan Haycock broke through with a suspicion of offside to slot home past keeper Craig Hannant. The home side showed their resiliance and were level on 35 minutes when a long cross field pass from Stuart Cameron found Kyle Allen who stabbed the ball home for the equaliser. With only five minutes left before the break, a neat one two released Stu Cameron to put the home side in front going into the break.

70 minutes Gainford grabbed the equaliser after a long ball into the box was knocked into the net and just a few moments later the away side went in front when the Sports Club failed to clear the area. The home side had to dig deep and equalised through Stu Cameron after an unselfish Kyle Allen cut the ball across for him to shoot into an empty net.

Gainford were not to be outdone and caught the home side off guard to race through to make it 4-3 on 83 minutes. Kyle Allen made sure the Sports Club grabbed the point with an equaliser on 87 minutes notching his second of the game. A fair result for both teams in what is looking like a strong division this season. The Sunday game at home to Bishop Auckland Bay Horse was another tough game. The Sports Club started slowly and were 2 goals down within the first 10 minutes. Both goals were invited on by themselves with the first goal coming from a high ball into the box with no-one taking ownership and the ball was easily tapped in. The second was a mistake from the homeside keeper who gifted the opposition with their 2nd.

quickly forced substitutions how helped to change however game. Injuries to Anthony Campbell and Sean Johnson saw Jimmy Cameron and Adam Gittins come on

and the home side quickly started to get to grips with the game. Kyle Allen's long range effort deflected off Jimmy Cameron and past the Bay Horse Keeper to make in 1-2. A long through ball from Ryan Stonehouse found Kyle Allen who broke through and slotted home to

The second half was an

even affair but it was Jimmy Camerons second goal to make it 3-2 that killed the game off. The Bay Horse lofted long balls forward as the game approached the final minutes but the Sports Club defence held on for a well earned victory. Next week is derby week again as we are away (albeit at Moore Lane) to The Gretna.







6 St Elizabeth's Close, Woodham Village, DL5 4UE TEL: 301066 or 313326 Newton Aycliffe Junior F.C. GOALKEEPER Our U11's Blacks are on the lookout for a goalkeeper for the upcoming season. Do you know someone without a club? Or someone not getting a

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Respect #



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Heighington Matters

School - It is that time of year when school uniforms are being brought out of the cupboard to be ironed, parents with little ones going to school for the first time are shopping with pride to buy their child's first uniform while at the same time thinking through on how to get them to the school gate - safely.

Most parents living in and around Heighington will walk their children to school and many others will have to drive because of the distances concerned. It is important that ALL parents read the School Transport Charter to remind themselves on where to park, which roads are the preferred routes into school and the one way system through Hopelands which allows parents with older children to stop outside of the school gates, drop off their child and then drive to work or back home. This reduces the number of cars that need to find a parking space in a village that was not designed for motor vehicles. All parents will have seen this Charter and parents with children starting school should have received a copy from school.

If there is anyone who is not

aware of the School Charter, it is important that you either contact the school or myself for a copy.

The Charter has been created many years ago and modified over time. Most parents adhere to the recommendations but there seems to be a small number every year who ignore everything that is asked much to the concern of many Mam's and Dads who witness the occasional

near miss.
So to ALL parents including those driving into school for the first time, please, please drive slowly approaching the school gates and adhere strictly to the School Charter which has been developed to improve the safety of your children coming to school.

Housing Development – As Approval have been given to three planning applications to build new houses in School Aycliffe, Beech Crescent and Walworth Road and there will be large lorries delivering material to all three sites so we all need to drive more carefully to minimise the risk of an accident.

Councillor Gerald G. Lee Heighington and Coniscliffe Ward



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