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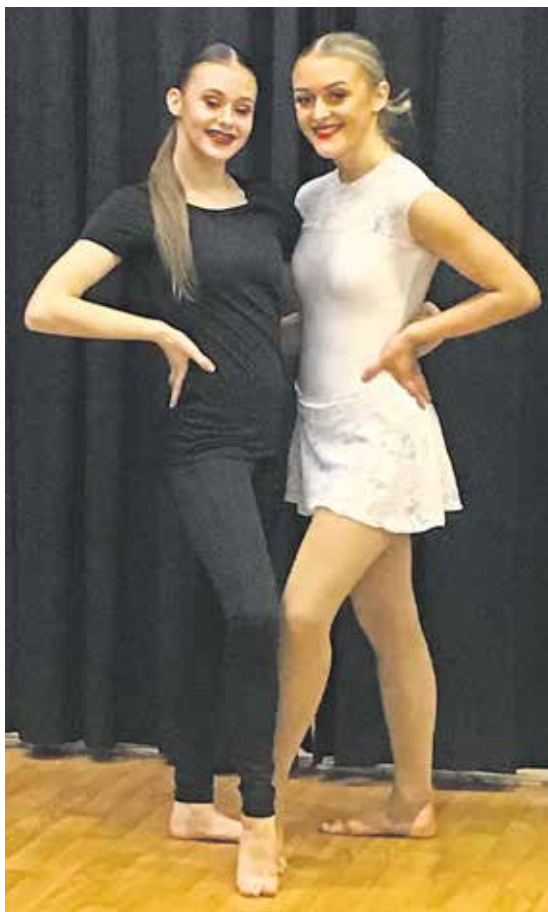
Woodham Dance Showcase

This half term has been exceptionally busy for Woodham Academy's Dance showcase. They have performed at the 'Feet First' dance showcase at the Gala Theatre in Durham, as well as at the 'Great Big Dance Off' at the Victoria Theatre in Halifax. Tuesday 2nd April saw Woodham Academy host their annual Dance Showcase. This event is a celebration of the Dance Academy's work throughout the year.

This year's showcase is the biggest it's ever been with 60 students all performing together. This included students from year 7 right through to year 11 and for all ranges of abilities. There was a total of 21 different performances encompassing a vast array of styles, from contemporary to commercial. Woodham Dance Academy is proud to offer as many disciplines as possible. The night was hosted by Mr Clough, and Sonny Fielding. Sonny played one of the lead roles in this year's school production 'Grease'.

The evening opened with a powerful piece that incorporated Woodham's full Dance Academy and was performed to "All these things that I've done". This was also performed in Durham and Halifax. Subsequent performances included solos, group pieces and a River Dance inspired Irish dance medley. Woodham Gymnastics Academy display team closed the first half with a stunning routine.

The second act then began with an exciting performance choreographed by Kay Clarey of Joanne Banks Dancers. This was performed to "Rise" and was a really uplifting piece. Highlights of the second half were an exceptional tap solo and a very moving duet. This year's choreography was done by Miss Kent the Director of the Sports Academy, Miss Aitken a teacher of History and Kay Clarey. Any solos or duets were choreographed by the students themselves. The event was exceptionally well attended with an audience of



over 240. Students attending Woodham's Thailand Experience raised funds selling cakes, drinks and 'pick and mix'. All of the students that will be travelling to Thailand this summer were either performing as part of Dance Academy or were involved

in the sound and lighting. The Dance Academy loved the experience of performing to friends and family. The atmosphere on the night was buzzing and was a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their hard work, dedication and commitment to the Dance Academy.

Free Senior Citizens' Excursions

Application forms and information brochures for Great Aycliffe Town Council's FREE Senior Citizens' Excursions will be available from 9.00am on Wednesday 24th April.

You can collect them from the Library and Recreation Centre in Beveridge Way, the Oakleaf Sports Complex, Golf Complex and Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane.

Please note however, that the library does not open on Wednesdays.

The forms and full information will also be available from the Council's website www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk. The closing date for applications is Friday 3rd May 2019.

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Pensioners Special - Every Monday
One course meal with tea or coffee - £6.00

Two for £12 - Thursday 5-8.30pm

Fish Friday - Two Fish & Chips
with a round of bread and butter, tea or coffee - £15.00

Full English Breakfast - Saturday
9.30 to 11.30am - £5.95

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Serving food Monday-Saturday 12-2.30pm & 5-8.30pm
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The Phoenix Club Newton Aycliffe

APRIL ENTERTAINMENT

Friday 12th April - "Ray Von Karaoke & Disco"
With Tony - Free Entry

Saturday 13th April - "New Jersey Tones"
plus "Powerplay Entertainment Disco" Tickets £7

Sunday 14th April - "Karaoke & Disco"
Dave's Retro Roadshow - Free Entry (afternoon)
Fabulous solo artiste "Dixie" - £1 Entry (evening)

Thursday 18th April - "Line Dancing"
With Fools Gold - St George's Day Party Night - £3.00

Friday 19th April - "Karaoke & Disco" Free Entry

Saturday 20th April - Fabulous Duo "Velvet"
plus great solo artiste "Lewis Laking" £3 on the door

Sunday 21st April - Great Solo Artiste "Jackie Hudson"
"Karaoke and Disco" - FREE Entry (afternoon)
Great solo artiste "Ashton Hayes" - FREE Entry (evening)

Thursday 25th April - "Line Dancing"
With Dave Weston - £3.00

Friday 26th April - "AC/DC Tribute Band"
£2.50 on the door

Saturday 27th April - "Roy Orbison Tribute"
with fabulous solo artiste "Hayley Morrison" £3 on the door

Sunday 28th April - "Karaoke and Disco"
with Gary - Free Entry (afternoon)

Weekly Offers on Draught Beers and Spirits
Ask staff for details

PLAY CAFE AT BIG CLUB



Play Café welcomed Councillors Jim Atkinson, Kate Hopper and Sarah Iveson on Monday, to see for themselves the support offered to families struggling financially in the school holidays. A buffet lunch and play activities were set out in Big Club's concert

hall, as well as Easter Eggs for everyone, generously donated by a Club member. Much of the lunch was prepared and delivered from Walker's Butchers at Simpature Gate. The project is very grateful for Don's help towards the cost, and of course - his delicious

sandwiches, pies and cakes! Big Club's Alan Nelson and Tom Brumwell also joined us to see Play Café in action. The Club allows us space and use of a room to better store equipment for the pop up café events and to distribute groceries. We aim to provide breakfast cereals for children and adults and enough foods to help make lunches for the family when children have no access to Free School Meals.

Play Café volunteers explained how the support is offered and how well it is received. One person said, 'The groceries are fantastic and will come in really handy.' Another parent who is now more secure financially said, 'I really do appreciate everything you have done and I hope you can help more families like mine as it was a life saver.'

Any parent in crisis needs immediate support, such as emergency food from a Food Bank.

But if a bit of help during school holidays will feed the family, then a referral to Play Café can take away some of the worry, particularly in the long 6 week summer holidays.

For more information text 07565 134194 or email aycliffeplaycafe@gmail.com

THE BIG CLUB

Easter Entertainment

Northern Soul Night

Easter Saturday 20th April
in the Concert Hall
Guest DJ: Chris De Leun
7.00pm till late, £4 otd



THE STONE ROSES

The Stone Roses (Tribute Band)

Easter Sunday 21st April
in the Concert Hall
Doors open 3.00pm
Tickets £5.00

Tickets for The Stone Roses Tribute at the Club or call 01325 312949

Thank You Honest John

Dear Sir

Junction 7 would like to thank Shanaya for the donation of £300, which was raised at a charity event that Shanaya put on to raise money for three charities.

Junction 7 would like to say that they appreciate this as the money will go towards the community Easter dinner and stocking the shelves of the emergency food bank service. We are always grateful for all donations as we are a self funding group that is run by volunteers.

Junction7



Spring into April Offers at The County, Aycliffe Village

Tuesday is the New Sunday!!!
Every Tuesday in April

Lunch 12 - 2; Dinner 5.30 - 9
2 x Tuesday Roasts of the Day for £16
Includes Roast of the day, served with roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, seasonal vegetables, mashed potato & jug of gravy.

Fish Pieday - Every Friday in April
Lunch 12 - 2; Dinner 5.30 - 9
2 x Fish pies topped with Cheddar cheese mash and served with a glass of crisp white wine for £20.

Easter Bank Holiday Weekend

Good Friday 19th to
Bank Holiday Monday 22nd April
Bookings now being taken!
Easter Sunday Lunch 12noon - 6pm

Spring into a New Job at The County

We are now recruiting for a part time Kitchen Assistant to work an average of 8-12 hours per week, evenings and weekends. Send a current CV to info@thecountyaycliffevillage.com

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Saturday 13th April - "Gate Crashers"
Stars of the main stage at 'Stormin the Castle' 2012

A rare public performance by the Gate Crashers on 12th March 2011 prompted this review in a local North East 'rag': "The Brandling Villa in Gosforth, Newcastle, buzzed with excitement. The place was packed to the rafters with fans as well as musicians from other local bands - all here to spend an evening with the fabulous Gate Crashers. It was the first time I'd seen them with their vibrant new lead vocalist. And I was impressed - so very impressed. Nick (Saints of Arcadia) Jennison has more than enough charisma to set a stage alight - and then some. And he can sing - oh, can he sing? Sharing lead guitar with Ant Wright (who provides great backing vocals) they had a ball while entertaining their discerning Geordie audience. And the crowd roared. Add the brilliant bass guitarist, Dave Hildreth and talented drummer, Doug Hayes to the flavoursome mix - and the Gate Crashers were a big green GO!" For me they were the best band at 'Stormin' last year, these guys know how to PARTY!!

Saturday 20th April - "1 0 1"

A great mix of modern and classic rock. Tracks covered by Led Zeppelin, Killers, AC/DC, Kings of Leon, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Kieser Chiefs, Nirvana, Razorlight, Pink Floyd, Green Day and more.

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Make a Splash in The Fish Tank

Get ready to make a splash in The Fish Tank, the exciting new Centre for Early Years activity coming to Aycliffe Business Park in November 2019.

Newton Aycliffe is set to benefit from a £2 million pound development designed to bring a whole host of baby and toddler focused activity providers together under one friendly roof.

The new build is 400m2 and designed from the ground up to be a warm and welcoming hub of activity for local families. You'll be able to enjoy swimming lessons in the 10 x 6m 32°C



swimming pool, designed to be the perfect depth for baby swimming classes at 1.2m deep throughout. The two activity rooms will be hired out to baby,

toddler and parent focused activity groups so there will be a wide variety of pre-bookable activities to enjoy. The operation will be ran from 56m2 of high quality office behind the scenes. All alongside a warm, welcoming coffee

shop designed to be super baby friendly.

Penny Gordon, co-founder of The Fish Tank, said: "It has long been our dream to build a centre in our home town to give our local families a high quality venue to come and enjoy all sorts of activities for their little ones. We believe in learning through play and getting our little ones active from an early age. On top of that, we want to use the coffee shop space for parent support groups to provide a support network for families."

There is a growing concern that our children are simply not active enough. We all know the importance of activity on our well-being, with a growing awareness of the importance of the first years of our lives. The most rapid development occurs in the first 1,000 days of life – a critical window for learning to see, walk, talk and think. We hope by building this centre, we can support parents and give the opportunity for our children to experience and learn through a variety of fun packed activities, all provided under one roof in the heart of Newton Aycliffe.

In addition to the classes on offer, another key focus of the venue is enhancing bonding and generally having great fun together. Penny adds: "With research showing that new mothers are less likely to suffer from post natal depression if they can gain support from their peers, that's another reason why we're very proud of what we are doing."

The build has been privately financed by Penny and Paul Gordon, who have made Newton Aycliffe their home for the last 10 years.

Paul Gordon, co-founder of The Fish Tank said, "It was a monumental task to bring all the pieces together to enable us to secure the finance, but we've done it and are over the moon to start building"

Paul adds: "We are looking for activity providers to join us to ensure we have a diverse offering of classes available. We're already in talks with several high profile businesses from baby swimming companies to parenting groups and learning through play classes. We're planning to be able to offer a host of activities, all carefully selected to give people the widest choice and best selection of classes under one roof."

Finance was secured through a LEADER grant aimed at rural development and backed by development finance through HSBC.

The entrepreneurial couple are backed up by a top team of professionals who bring a vast amount of construction experience. "Our special thanks go to John at Ashdan Consulting for guiding us through the design and development process and to Gradon architecture for giving us their architectural expertise. The build is now in the hands of Northern Bear Building Services who have worked tirelessly with us to ensure our dreams become reality."

Neil Jukes, Managing Director Northern Bear, "We are looking forward to delivering another great project in the North East that will be a real asset to the local community when completed".

The Fish Tank will be open to the public from November. For more information, please email enquiries@thefishtank.com or visit www.thefishtank.com

Tragic Accident Kills Two



Two local residents lost their lives following a one-vehicle accident in Newton Aycliffe on Monday 1st April. Roads were closed and traffic was diverted as emergency services attended the incident.

Pat Metcalfe, the driver, was pronounced dead at the scene. Her son Gary was airlifted to James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough. He died five days later after life support was withdrawn.

The vehicle left the road and crashed into trees near the junction of School Aycliffe Lane and Horndale Avenue. It is thought that Mrs. Metcalfe had suddenly taken ill and lost control of the car.

Pat Metcalfe was an early resident of Newton Aycliffe, having moved to the new town in 1950. Relatives wish to express their gratitude to emergency services and to the staff at James Cook University Hospital.

Funeral details to be announced shortly.

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PLEASE STOP DROPPING LITTER

Dear Sir,
I am writing to tell you and your readers how cross I am about everyone dropping litter everywhere.

I have just been on a long, nice nature walk through the woods near where I live. Whilst walking along I saw some beautiful cow-slips (very rare), but also, very sadly, lots of litter.

Why is litter bad?

- It doesn't look nice
 - It is bad for the environment
 - Bad for animals
 - Bad for wildlife
 - Costs money to collect
 - Animals get injured
 - People get injured
 - Plastic in the ocean
- I would like to ask all your readers to help save the planet by not dropping their litter.

**Keep Calm
Stop Littering
JUST BIN IT**

Yours sincerely
Daisy Granger, aged 8

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ACE AGM

The ACE (Aycliffe Community Engagement) Annual General meeting will take place on Monday 29th April 2019 at 4.00pm, with signing in from 3.30pm.

The meeting will take place in the Concert Hall of the Big Club, Sheraton Road. As well as our members, we welcome any interested residents who would like to attend, particularly those interested in helping those in crisis and/or in need. We have over 30 members including Partners, Associates and Friends. Only Partners and Trustees can vote on the Agenda business.

At the AGM there will be two speakers: Paul Howarth from Newton Press, Newton News and Aycliffe Radio, eldest Son of our Founder, the late Syd Howarth and Philippa Parsons, Charity Support Officer of the CDDFT Trust based at Darlington Memorial Hospital.

Any non-member who would like to attend and would like an agenda in advance of the meeting, please contact Ron Mitchie assistantsecretary.ace@aycliffe@gmail.com or ring on 07749 236853

MISSED DOCTORS APPOINTMENTS

Dear Sir,
I am writing in response to the comment written by Honest John as regards GP surgeries in Newton Aycliffe. On average, surgeries in Newton Aycliffe each have 265 appointments which are booked and then people do not attend, that's 3352 working hours per month wasted. So for those out there who complain about no appointments they may want to look at the time wasters who get appointments and don't turn up! On top of that there are the appointments that are used for ailments that can be seen to at the chemists/opticians/dentists, but people choose to see the GP as they can access free prescriptions, even though the minor ailment scheme offers 'free' medication that some people are entitled to for certain conditions.

Honest John chooses a comparison between a vets and a GP surgery, maybe if a GP surgery charges for every appointment like a vet does, the availability of appointments might be better, or charging for those who don't turn up, they might think twice about wasting appointments. The receptionists who work in these surgeries are normal human beings like the rest of us, they aren't magically able to conjure up an appointment out of thin air, so when they advise there are no appointments, then that isn't their fault, so shouting and screaming at them doesn't make the situation any better. To conclude, we actually have a fabulous NHS service, and maybe the way to make it more efficient is to actually think if we really need an appointment in the first place. Because, without wasting appointments 265 more people could be seen per month!

Name & Address supplied



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH APPEAL

Dear Sir,
Would you consider supporting St. Michael's Church, Heighington in our efforts to install facilities.

About Us

St. Michael's is central to the rural village of Heighington, both as a beautiful building, a centre of Christian worship and a focal point for the community. It serves both the Methodist and Anglican worshipping communities, following the closure of the village Methodist Chapel. In addition to the normal Sunday Services, there are frequent baptisms, weddings and funerals. The church reaches out to the local community in many ways, eg: pastoral visiting, as well as providing a vital network of support to those in need through initiatives such as 'street angels', a community lift scheme and a collection point for local food banks. Conscious of the need to reach out, the church welcomes a number of groups, and acts as a meeting place for elderly residents for fellowship as well as providing an opportunity for agencies such as the police and fire service to contact vulnerable people.

The church also provides a facility for young parents with preschool age babies and children ("Stay and Play"). The building is also used by other groups such as a weekly relaxation class, as the next door village hall is already used to its full capacity.

The Problem

The church has no toilet, which severely hampers our use of the building and hinders our plans to increase its use to make the church more sustainable in the future. It also puts off some parishioners, both young and old, from attending events and services and creates difficulties for the local church school when they bring children for weekly activities. We cannot safely prepare food in the building either, as the only facilities consist of a single sink in a cupboard!

Proposed Solution

We propose to install toilet facilities and a small servery, and to reduce the length of some of the pews, so that wheelchair access is improved, as there is currently nowhere, other than in an aisle, for a wheelchair to be located. We have all the necessary permissions in place and building work is due to commence next month.

The Cost

We have accepted the lowest tender of £55,376. In addition, we will have architect fees of £4,950 (both exclude VAT). The church has been setting aside money for this project

for some years now, but we are still £16,000 short of our target. Donations can be made either by cheque, payable to Heighington St. Michael Parochial Church Council, or direct to the church's bank account (Sort Code 20-25-29, Account Number 50315435), reference: 'new facilities'.

Further Information

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Yours faithfully
Chris Enzor
(Project Leader)
07956 064580
acenzor17@msn.com

We Need Brexit Now

Dear Sir,
We voted for our local MP's, then we find out they will vote against our opinions. We pay millions into the EU kitty.

Why? To bail out Italy who are nearly bankrupt, as are other EU countries.

We are also paying so Poland can lower their retirement age. How many of our women born in the 1950s now have to wait for their pensions. Poland are still using the Zloty as they feel it is better than the Euro. Poland received nearly 12 billion Euros from the EU while their contribution is only 2 billion Euros.

That is why a pint of beer is £1.25 and Poland has one of the highest minimum wages in Europe.

We pay £13 billion a year, I am sure the NHS could use this money.

When we joined in 1973 we were promised price reductions that never came. Let's get out as soon as possible, that means now!
D. Sinclair
Newton Aycliffe

PRELOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM

Junction 7 have a selection of school uniforms for most of the schools in Newton Aycliffe.

On Wednesday 17th April we will be in Silverdale House, 8-9 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ from 1 to 3pm.

Come along and take a look at what uniforms we have which may suit your requirements. Refreshments will be on offer.

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For more details contact Jane 07804 454471, email junc7tion@gmail.com

Sensational Soulful Shanaya

Dear Sir,
On Friday 29th March I attended the "Soulful Sounds of Shanaya 2". After attending the first one, I had no intention of missing No 2. What a night - I went along with my family and friends to support such amazing charities and Shanaya has a superb voice and her Mum Belinda, who I know well from Sugar Hill Primary School, is a fantastic friend who comes into her own when caring, sharing and organising.

"I Don't Have a Problem"

Dear Sir,
I am a long-standing patient of Bewick Crescent Surgery and I wish to respond to Honest John's letter in which he states that he has heard many complaints about how difficult it is to get an appointment at the doctors. We all have reason to see a doctor regularly and whilst it is necessary to be patient when ringing the surgery the receptionists will always do their very best to see you are attended to. It's only if you want to see a specific doctor that you might have to wait. Recently I have been offered telephone consultations or practice nurse appointments if the situation wasn't urgent and there were no GP appointments left. I have not experienced an issue with booking an appointment at Bewick Crescent Surgery, which John's customers must not be patients of.

Name & Address supplied

It is great to see such a young talented person willing to give to charity and her local community. Shanaya certainly follows in Mum Belinda's footsteps. I hope Shanaya continues to

follow her dreams, she is an inspiration to young people and the people of Newton Aycliffe. Thank you for a wonderful worthwhile evening.
Janine Cant.

Shanaya's Soulful Sounds Raises £1167

Dear Sir,
What a success, exceeding all my expectations... a full house, not a seat to be had! Standing room only! Despite emotions running high, after my Auntie Sue, so beautiful, leaving our world on Sunday 24th March, we had five days before the gig to ensure we would celebrate the life of a wonderful lady and support such deserving causes.

The charities to benefit from the event are Bright Red, St Teresa's Hospice and within our local community, Junction7.

All three charities are vital to families, their children, welfare, and extended needs of unique individuals.

I wish to thank my Mum, although broken-hearted, worked her socks off. An enormous thank you to family, friends and local people, for your time, kindness and consideration.

We celebrated my Uncles 60th birthday - congratulations Ian; and my Grandparents Sheila and John's, 61st Wedding Anniversary.

It was great to hear: "Cracking Night", Nev Jones; "Excellent fund raising ideas", Jane at Junction7; "What a voice", Sophie (Cancer Care

Nurse from Liverpool); "Exceptional, Inspirational", Lisa from Bright Red; "Just Amazing", Susan Davies; "So Proud of You", Amy Wennington (cousin); "You did so very very well, love you", Grandad; "Will you please sing at my wedding?", Abbie.

Yes, I am available for weddings, parties, proms, christenings and funerals alike... People often ask me what I am up to presently, well, I am working at FVP studios in London on my new single, as well as working in Newton Aycliffe local school offering vocal coaching and singing at after school clubs, it's amazing to be given these opportunities by headteachers, to work with such enthusiastic children in their schools.

Music and singing can bring such happiness, it is so therapeutic and it brings me such joy to be involved in delivering such sessions.

I also give vocal coaching and singing lessons privately from home, should anyone be interested, please contact Belinda Atkinson-Jones (Mum), who manages my affairs in the north east 07771 814412

Many thanks, Shanaya

Close up
Free Prize Draw
DARLINGTON MAGIC CIRCLE Cabaret Bar Buffet

Easter Show
Suitable for Adults Only (18+)

Tickets
£10 Guests & £7.50 Members
7.30pm until late
Thursday the 18th of April 2019
at the Railway Institute, Whessoe Rd
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or email: info@ayclifferadio.co.uk

to view last year's event visit www.ayclifferadio.co.uk/ourevents

HEIGHINGTON MATTERS

FREE ENTRY - History of the Village with thanks to Heighington Scouts and Chris Lloyd. About 3 months ago I received an email from Tees Valley Rural Action Group offering to provide a sum of money to pay to organise an event, with young and old working together to

Help & Advice to Find a Job

Dear Sir,
I work for Citizens Advice County Durham, promoting the training they offer young people aged 16-24 who are not in education, employment or training. We do this as a Delivery Partner with a European funded youth employability initiative called DurhamWorks (Durham County Council being the lead partner).

Previously, we have delivered the programme in Peterlee but have recently started to offer it in The Four Clocks Centre in Bishop Auckland. It runs one day per week, over 12 weeks (9.30am-4pm) and is FREE, we can reimburse travel costs and provide lunch. Other support to remove barriers to participation are also available (such as covering the cost of childcare, or taxis if required).

We can offer lots of practical support to young people, in getting prepared for and finding work. Includes help with CV's, job matching, applying for jobs and interview preparation. Also, having fun with a small group of other young people facing similar challenges. The next cohort begins on Tuesday 16th April and we would welcome enquiries from any eligible young people (resident in County Durham, aged 16-24 and not in education, employment or training).

A simple call is all it takes, to Eve Galloway on 07876 346 047 or email eve.galloway@citizensadvicecd.org.uk, for more information about signing up to DurhamWorks and to the training offered by Citizens Advice.

We're also offering a shorter course for those who really are very close to getting that job, just need a bit more extra support in making applications, maybe extra knowledge about a particular work sector and fine tuning their interview skills.

This 3 day workshop is open to eligible young people (as above) and takes place on Monday 29th, Tuesday 30th April and Wednesday 1st May.

All our training takes place at The Four Clocks Centre on Newgate Street in Bishop Auckland.

Eve Galloway
Network Officer
DurhamWorks
Mobile: 07876 346 047

create the event to bring at least 100 people of all ages together.

At 12 noon April the 20th the young part of the team, Heighington Scouts, will reveal the culmination of several hard but fun weeks of researching the history of the old school, Heighington during the War years, the Environment, the church and the history of the Scouts - ALL ARE WELCOME.

It promises to be a great event with Chris Lloyd, Editor of the Northern Echo and famous local historian, opening the event and giving a short but interesting talk on Heighington in keeping with the afternoon's history theme.

In addition to the amazing facts our enthusiastic scouts have discovered, video clips on Britain's Most Perfect Village i.e. Heighington and photographs, old and new, will be accompanying their display.

Refreshments courtesy of the culinary skills of our scouts will be available to all.

Money raised will be donated to the Defibrillator Appeal.

So please do come along on the 20th April to support our Scouts, learn about old Heighington and why not linger a while to explore our 12th century church and village greens to see for yourself why Heighington has been described as Britain's Most Perfect Village.

Defibrillator Appeal

Ruth, my better half, is a member of Bewick Crescent Patients Panel. Not too long ago one of our doctors suggested to her that Heighington should have a Defibrillator positioned somewhere in the middle of the village. Having spoken to a lot of residents and noted that lots of communities are going ahead with installing their own Defibrillators including Redworth and Newton Aycliffe, Ruth is spearheading the appeal to bring a Defibrillator to Heighington and the Chestnuts although further investigation is required on where a Defibrillator can be installed in the Chestnuts. Donations have already been offered from individuals, Heighington Homemakers organised a Fashion Evening with money raised going to the Defibrillator Appeal, the Scouts History Event has also pledged money to the appeal and a Coffee Morning with Plant Stall is being planned. Add to this support from Heighington Parish Council and others, the wheels are moving in the right direction. Hopefully the Defibrillator will never be used, but just like insurance, it is better to have - just in case.

One life saved will be worth all the effort - all donations welcomed and please support the events.

Thank you
Gerald & Ruth Lee

'They've Got The Power'



On 26th March, students from Woodham Academy visited Hartlepool Power Station. Over the course of the day, the students were enthused about nuclear power, generating electricity and the importance of conserving the local environment.

The students enjoyed two different sessions during their trip to the power station. The first session involved the 45 year 9 students being taken on a tour of the Nuclear Power Station in Hartlepool. During the tour, the students visited the turbine room, pumping station and talked to the Civil Nuclear Police about their duties and responsibilities. The tour was conducted by an expert from EDF, allowing the students to ask any questions they had about the station.

In the second session, the students travelled to the neighbouring Teesmouth National Nature Reserve. Here the students learned about the various animals that inhabit the site and the importance of conserving the local environment. The day ended with the students helping to clear plastic from a small section of the beach, highlighting the role that everybody can play in keeping our environment clean. One of the students, Ben Graham, commented: "The power plant trip was

educational and fun as we explored how important electricity and the seaside are to the world".

Throughout the day the students were amazed by the size and complexity of the power station and the local environment. Mr Harrison from Woodham Academy said, "We are delighted to be able to offer these educational visits to our students. The

visit to the Nuclear Power Station epitomises our goal of delivering a broad curriculum, which allows the students to see the real world application of the science that we teach. We would like to thank EDF for allowing us to take part in the visit and we look forward to being able to offer similar educational visits to our students in future years."



newtonnews Easter Deadline

Thursday 18th April - Easter Edition
Deadline: 5pm Tuesday 16th April

Friday 26th April - Back to Normal
Deadline: 5pm Wednesday 24th April

Please be aware of the opening times below and deadline times above to ensure your advert is placed on time and in the correct edition

Advertisements can be placed at our offices
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Office Opening Times

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Reopening on Tuesday 23rd April at 8.30am



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CPI Welcomes Resident Clients to New Electronics Centre

CPI has welcomed new resident clients to its state-of-the-art facility - just months after opening. The printable electronics centre, based at Newton Aycliffe, has welcomed Silent Sensors, Datatecnics Corporation and HPI as tenants, along with Wootzano and PST Sensors at its original site on NETPark, in Sedgefield. Moving into incubator space, the companies will benefit from CPI's technical expertise and cutting-edge equipment as they seek to take innovative products to commercialisation. CPI's facility supports the advancement of smart label and tag technology, which allows everyday physical objects to wirelessly communicate and exchange data across the Internet of Things. It has the capacity to

create rolls of thin, flexible inlays containing multiple electronic components that can be converted into labels or embedded into smart products or wearable goods. This technology is already prevalent in devices enabling remote monitoring of heating and domestic appliances from smartphones, while it also holds great potential in the healthcare sector, where patients can be prompted to take medication via a smartphone reminder. CPI's facility holds the key to companies being able to both develop prototypes and then rapidly scale up to levels to test manufacturing quantities. Silent Sensors has moved into the facility to build upon existing work with CPI at the latter's NETPark-based printable electronics hub. The initial collaboration,

funded by Innovate UK, was focused upon improving existing antennae designs and incorporating printed sensors into the tyre-making process and supply chain. A second Government-backed Innovate UK funded project looked at incorporating energy harvesting technology into the sensor tags as well. The current collaboration with CPI, at Newton Aycliffe, is funded through the EU's current innovation framework Horizon 2020, with the 'OnTrack' project for Intelligent Tyre Life-Cycle Management. By developing such an intelligent tyre life-cycle management system, users will benefit from accurate, real-time data on tyre condition and performance - enabled by the Internet of Things - to increase safety and efficiency.



M5TEC SETS SIGHTS ON US MARKET



Ambitious engineering solutions provider M5tec is aiming to crack the US market.

As part of its plans, the firm has secured a place at the world's largest oil and gas conference in Houston, Texas, which will be attended by more than 60,000 energy industry professionals. M5tec, based in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, intends to make valuable contacts and secure business leads by highlighting its industry-leading expertise at the prestigious Offshore Technology Conference (OTC).

It is the first time M5tec has attended an industry-wide conference outside Europe, and the move is part of a new strategy to expand into the global marketplace.

OTC, which showcases leading-edge technology for the offshore drilling, exploration, production and environmental protection sectors, represents a major opportunity for the company in North America.

More than 60,000 energy professionals, including engineers, operators, executives and scientists, from 100 countries are due to attend the conference, which features in excess of 2,000 exhibiting companies. In addition, OTC is due to attract more than 300 journalists from around the world.

Natalia Maslowska, M5tec's Business Development Manager, said: "OTC is the world's foremost event for the development of offshore resources and is taking place in Houston, which is itself a global hub for the oil and gas industry, so this represents a significant business opportunity for M5tec."

"We are one of the fastest growing and most dynamic companies in the North-East and as such we are seeking to expand outside the UK - and exhibiting at OTC represents a firm commitment towards achieving this ambition."

"OTC, which this year celebrates its 50th anniversary, provides the company with a major platform on which to promote its extensive capabilities, as well as offering extensive networking opportunities."

M5tec, which was founded in 2014 by a group of time served engineers with experience in the Oil & Gas, Subsea, Nuclear and Renewables sectors, offers design, engineering and draughting services within various disciplines including Mechanical Electrical,

Structural and Hydraulic.

It is a member of business development organisation, NOF, which supports the supply chain across the global energy sector to help identify new business opportunities.

Caroline Lofthouse, NOF's Head of Stakeholder Engagement, said: "M5tec is an NOF member which is an exemplar of the type of innovative and highly technical services available within the UK supply chain. "We fully support M5tec's ambitions and are confident it can successfully grow the business within the US marketplace."

Its involvement in OTC is an excellent way of highlighting and promoting the company's expertise across a wide range of energy sectors to a whole new audience."

CRAFTERS EMBARK ON FIRST US VENTURE

Chloe's Creative Cards, a Durham-based craft company, has made its first international business trip to explore the American market. Chloe Edean, founder of Chloe's Creative Cards, travelled to the Home Shopping Network's (HSN) Florida-based TV studio, to present her products to a US audience following to an introduction from Sara Davies MBE, founder of Crafter's Companion.

Sara and Chloe have known each other for a number of years and Sara has supported Chloe with business advice and guidance during this time. In her capacity as a mentor and Angel Investor, Sara is passionate about helping women in business, so was keen to support Chloe with her first US venture.

Sara introduced Chloe to the HSN team and took her to the US on one of her recent trips. Sara and Crafter's Companion have worked with HSN for more than ten years and the company recently won the network's Merchandising Excellence Award, in the Home category, at the Network's Vendor of the Year Awards.

Durham-based Chloe's Creative Cards was established in 2011 by craft enthusiast Chloe. She was introduced to the world of stamping by her Grandma and today, designs all of the company's products. Chloe also regularly presents shows

on Create and Craft TV in the UK.

Chloe's products were so popular in HSN's pre-show promotions that one of her products had completely sold out before the show aired.

Chloe said: "I have known Sara for a while now and her support, as both a business mentor and friend, has been invaluable. It was amazing to get our products on such a huge, international platform and I am overwhelmed at how well our products were received."

"Travelling to Tampa was my first time on a plane and the trip has given me a huge insight into how Chloe's Creative Cards can grow throughout the next few years. I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it and am already planning my next trip."

Sara said: "It's so important to show growing businesses support, especially fellow craft companies because their success contributes to a stronger, more dynamic market. The fact that Chloe is also flying the flag for the North East makes it extra special."

"I have known Chloe on a personal level for years and have long admired her professionalism and the beautiful products she creates. I am so glad that I have been able to play a small part in her Florida success and I think that we will see many great things from Chloe's Creative Cards in the future."



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Hydrotherapy Pool Refurbishment

HELP US TO RAISE £410,000 TO IMPROVE PEOPLE'S LIVES

Families in your local community rely on our Hydrotherapy Pool for recovery and rehabilitation from serious illness and for pain management.

People like Mandy, pictured here, use the Hydrotherapy Pool to relieve pain and to regain their independence.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

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The pool is available to everyone without the need for a GP referral, with your support we can keep providing this vitally important therapeutic service.

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Duck Day at Woodham Academy



Thursday 7th March saw all Year 8 students at Woodham Academy developing their skills in the work place. Students worked alongside the Durham Education Business Partnership to work in teams as part of the interactive workshop entitled 'Duck Day'. Students in each team were allocated a role within their company ranging from accountancy to sales and marketing. 'it was a fun day' said Christi Jemmerson and Mia Gash, Year 8 students at the school, 'we had to make merchandise and work in a team'. The teams had to present their learning to the rest of their year group in a bid to be crowned the winner of the day. The day forms a part of a much wider strategy that Woodham Academy

is taking towards careers education, with a particular focus on STEM subjects. The strategy has been developed in line with the government's Gatsby Benchmarks which outline the stance schools should be taking on careers education. 'Opportunities to work alongside companies through work placement or as part of the curriculum are a big part of life here at Woodham Academy' said Dave Walker, the curriculum leader for careers. All students taking vocational subjects, including Engineering and Health and Social Care, take part in relevant work experience. Last summer students taking Engineering at Woodham Academy achieved outstanding results.



COUNTY NEWSBITS

Compiled by
County Councillor John Clare

This week's County Newsbits include a DCC Cabinet and Environment Scrutiny meeting, a meeting with livin, a police enforcement campaign, livin's new grass-cutting contract ... and some ideas of things to do next week. Find more information on my blog at: bit.ly/CNB108 And don't forget to join me on POLITICAL / Aycliffe Radio, 6-7:30pm, Sunday 14 April, when the 'Big Story' is: 'Is Politics Broken?': bit.ly/ARLIVE

COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

- DCC Cabinet meeting, Wednesday 3 April (Council activity, transport functions, Think Autism, safeguarding children).
 - DCC Environment Scrutiny Committee, Friday 5 April (Performance management, fly-tipping, EU funding).
 - Meeting with livin, Wednesday 3 April.
 - Joint statement on regional inequality.
 - Police to carry out mobile phone enforcement campaign.
 - New livin grass-cutting arrangements.
 - Friends of the Stockton & Darlington Railway meeting, Thursday 4 April.
- THINGS TO DO NEXT WEEK**
- Travel advice for the

Bishop Auckland Food Festival, 13-14 April.

- Easter Eggs (5-11s), Palace Green Library, drop-in 1-3pm Tuesday 16 April, FREE.
- Woodland Easter Crafts, Hardwick Park, 10am-3pm Wednesday 17 April, £3 per child: 03000 262 899
- Japanese Cherry Blossom (family activity), Durham Oriental Museum, drop-in 1-3pm, Wednesday 17 April, FREE.
- As You Like It, Gala Theatre Durham, 7pm Wednesday 17 April, £15.
- Easter Fun at Beamish Museum, 19-22 April (entrance fee).
- Easter Bunny in the Park, Hardwick Park, Saturday 20 April, £8.50 per child: book on 03000 262 899
- Iron Age Round Houses, Palace Green Library, drop-in 1-3pm Saturday 20 April, FREE.
- Pony Walk, Low Barns Nature Reserve, 10:30-noon Sunday 21 April, £5.
- An evening of Eric & Ern, Gala Theatre Durham, 7:30pm 19-20 April, £20.50.
- Stories from the Durham Light Infantry archives for family historians, County Record Office, 10am and 6pm, Thursday 25 April, £10.
- Live Music Festival coming to Aycliffe, 8-9 June.



Brafferton and Coatham Mundeville Village Hall Association would like to invite all to our Easter Coffee Morning and Mini Spring Fete to be held in our wonderful hall on Thursday 18th April from 10.00am to 1.00pm.

There will be a few stalls showcasing businesses from the local area; an Easter egg raffle and the opportunity to register for our new '100 club' lottery. Needless to say, tea and coffee will be in plentiful supply and we will be selling homemade cakes from Cozy Coffee, which we are very pleased are back up and running!

Anyone local wishing to promote their business please email Braffertonvha@outlook.com for further details.

Sam McCormick

Neville Residents Association

Our next monthly meeting will take place on Tuesday 16th April at 6.45pm in Neville Community Centre. Our speaker for this month is a representative from DCC Strategic Waste Management to talk to us about Domestic Waste Recycling. Refreshments are available from 6.30pm. All Residents are welcome to pop down for a cuppa and a chat.

AYCLIFFE RADIO

LOCAL RADIO brought to you by LOCAL PEOPLE

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"

SATURDAY

10-12pm	Saturday Brunch	Sean Lawless
12-2pm	Weekly Edition	Paul Baker
2-4pm	The Saturday Big Show	Graham Dale
4-6pm	Northern & Classic Soul (R)	Kevin Sowerby
"The Saturday Night Experience"		
6-8pm	Evening Session	JimJams
8-9pm	Chart & Dance Remixes	Alan Hastie
9-10pm	Retro Tech Trance Mix	OZ-DJ
10-12am	Street 'n' Drum 'n' Bass	MC Supa

SUNDAY

10-11am	Church Service	Xcel Centre
11-12pm	Reiki Therapy with	Phil Hawkins
12-1:30pm	Sports Round Up (R)	Darren & Lee
2-4pm	Bear Blues Show	Colin McNeillie
4-6pm	Folk/Celtic/Rock Show	Steve & Col
6-7:30pm	POLITICAL	John D. Clare

14th Apr - Guests: Scott Durham, Mel Wilson and Rev Mike Dixon.

8-10pm	The Live Rock Show	"CAD"
10-12am	Paul's Down Time	Paul Kjenstad

MONDAY

9-11am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
5-6pm	Teenage Tunes	Ellarae Bower

"Through the Decades"

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	Andy Fittes

TUESDAY

9-11am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
3-5pm	MusicMania	JAG

Sports Show sponsored by Honest John

6-7:30pm	Sports Round Up	Darren & Lee
16th Apr -	Tracy Stevens & Jo Loring	(Spectrum)
7.30-9.30pm	Northern & Classic Soul	Kevin Sowerby
9.30-12am	Motown Classics	

WEDNESDAY

9-11am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
TTO & Community Connect sponsored by ROF59		
5-6.30pm	Tea-Time Out	Phil & Amy
6.30-8pm	Community Connect	Amy & Phil
8-10pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gary & Alby

THURSDAY

9-11am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
3-5pm	MusicMania	JAG
6-7:30pm	POLITICAL (R)	John D. Clare
8-10pm	BeatRoote	Graeme Roote

FRIDAY

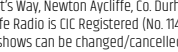
9-11am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
3-4pm	The Weekend Starts Here	Kieron Mills
4-6pm	Councillor DJ	John D. Clare
6-8pm	Tech-House/Trance Mix	PVR Studios
8-10pm	Guest Presenter Session	

19th Apr - Nathan Abbott - 90s Classix

Check our website for full schedule

www.ayclifferadio.co.uk

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Mental Health Awareness Day

Do you
feel Lost?

Struggling
with Life?

Nowhere
to Turn?

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10.00am to 4.00pm at Unit 37 Beveridge Way

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Therapy

Willow
Tree
Counselling

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Fitness
Instructor

Bach
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Reiki
Therapy

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Therapies

Relax Kids
Darlington
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therapy

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[editorial]

paul@newtonnews.co.uk

in the community, with the community, for the community

THE NEGATIVES

If all you looked at was the national news, you could easily come to the conclusion that we live in a broken world, and Newton Aycliffe is not immune. The Newton News was alarmed to read about the large number of people living in fuel poverty in County Durham, and we would support the call for more to be done to ensure we protect the most vulnerable in our society. And who would not agree with Daisy Grainger for getting cross about litter – we have never found anyone who thinks that littering is a good thing, yet bewilderingly this does not seem to affect the behaviour of so many people, spoiling the enjoyment of all of us.

THE POSITIVES

However, there are other articles in this week's Newton News to remind us that the world is not all doom and gloom. It's only a small notice, but have you seen that application forms for Great Aycliffe Town Council's FREE Senior Citizens' Excursions will be available from 9.00am on Wednesday 24th April? As far as we're aware, GATC is the only town council in the country to provide this amazing service.

More information on the excursions will be published next week.

Local firms CPI and M5TEC both have good news to report, and this week's edition of the Newton News seems packed with the successes of our local sports teams and young people. Then we read about Shanaya, whose well-received gig raised £1,167 for charities Bright Red, St. Teresa's Hospice and Junction 7, and we see that Durham County Council Chairman John Lethbridge is to throw himself out of an aeroplane to raise money for the Royal British Legion (you can sponsor him here: <http://bit.ly/JLJUMP>). The old hymn bids us "shine you in your small corner and I in mine", and sometimes it does seem that it is as much as we can do to keep up to our own 'small corner' of the world. But all our individual successes and good deeds add up, and they have certainly made this week a week of good news for Newton Aycliffe.



New Notice Board and Defibrillator for School Aycliffe



School Aycliffe Community Association have, this week, received a new notice board. The board was kindly donated by our local councillors, Kate Hopper and Eddy Adam. We would like to record a massive thank you to both of them on behalf of our residents.

A wholehearted thank you also goes to an anonymous resident, who very kindly donated the funds for a new defibrillator to be installed at our community hall.

Many thanks
School Aycliffe Community Association



GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

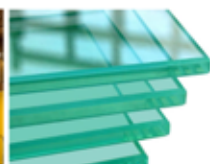
Wednesday 24th April 2019 - 7.15pm
Full Council Meeting

NOTE:- Further information on Public Participation and Public Questions can be obtained by visiting the Council's Website: www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

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DLI Archive Stories for Family Historians

Family historians can discover a popular collection of local military records at an archive talk later this month. The Durham County Record Office event will explore the Durham Light Infantry Archive, which includes official regimental records, together with thousands of photographs and items of personal correspondence, which tell the stories of individual soldiers. As well as introducing the collection, and explaining how to find documents

within it, the talk will look at some of its highlights, including the story of Jimmy Durham a Sudanese boy adopted by the DLI in the 1880s. The talk is one of a series of regular Branching Out courses for people who are familiar with the basics of family history and want to find out more about specific subjects. After the hour-long talk, participants can spend the second half of the session using the Record Office's

research facilities, with support from an archivist. Dawn Layland, education and outreach archivist, said: "Since it was transferred to us in 1998, the DLI Archive has become one of the Record Office's most searched collections. "It is an amazing collection, containing both official records and personal documents of soldiers,

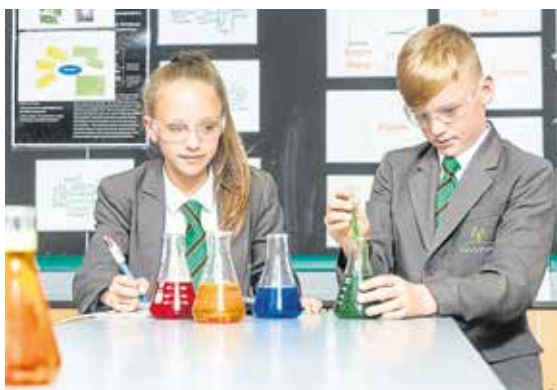
including photographs, diaries and letters." The talk runs twice on Thursday 25 April, from 10am to 12 noon and from 6pm to 8pm. Places, priced at £10 per person, must be booked in advance from the Record Office's online shop <https://recordofficeshop.durham.gov.uk/pgHome> or by telephone on 03000 267 619.



£370K Woodham Academy Success in Funding Bid

Woodham Academy has been awarded £370,000 in capital funding following a successful bid to the Department for Education. The funding is available to help schools with refurbishment costs and will finance necessary electrical improvements, providing improved lighting in classrooms and other areas. Woodham has attracted significant backing in recent years and brings the total awarded to the school to almost £2.5M. The school has also invested money in 4 state of the art science laboratories and sports facilities to improve

learning environments. Further significant works are planned over the summer to improve a further science laboratory as well as dining and toilet areas as the school prepares to welcome a new intake of students. The allocation is over and above the normal grants used to pay for the day to day running of the school. Headteacher Mrs Christine Forsyth commented, "Woodham is committed to providing not only the best teaching possible but also the best learning environment and this funding will contribute to that".



Share Your Thoughts for the NHS Long Term Plan

NHS England has set out plans for the next 10 years – but now people in County Durham have the chance to influence what actually happens where they live. Healthwatch County Durham is seeking views from across the county to contribute to a national project that will help determine the final shape of the NHS 10-year Plan. Ideas are wanted for how the local NHS could better support communities in County Durham to stay well and how the support that is currently available could be improved. Feedback is also wanted on how services for people with specific priority conditions - including cancer, heart and lung diseases, and learning disabilities - could be made

better and how people can be given more control of their care. Your feedback can be submitted via two online surveys (links below) or you can request paper copies to complete by calling Healthwatch County Durham on 0800 304 7039. Survey 1 – general needs: www.healthwatch.co.uk/what-would-you-do-general Survey 2 – specific conditions: www.healthwatch.co.uk/tell-us-what-would-you-do The deadline for submissions is the end of April. This is your chance to influence the health services that will be available across the county in future, so don't miss it! For more general information about Healthwatch County Durham visit www.healthwatchcountydurham.co.uk

SKY'S THE LIMIT FOR CHAIRMAN



The sky's the limit for the Chairman of Durham County Council as he gets set to take on a charity skydive challenge. Cllr John Lethbridge is to complete a tandem skydive to raise money for his chosen charity The Royal British Legion on Saturday, 4 May.

The grandfather of two was elected as chairman last May and has spent the last 12 months meeting residents, promoting the county and raising money for his chosen charity.

To celebrate his year in office Cllr Lethbridge, who represents the Woodhouse Close ward, will go one step further than any council Chairman before and jump 10,000 feet out of an airplane at the Peterlee Skydiving Academy. Cllr John Lethbridge, said: "I intend to stretch my comfort zone to its furthest limits by taking part in my first ever skydive."

"When I was elected Chairman for the year 2018/19 it coincided with the centenary of the end of the First World War so I chose to support The Royal British Legion to give back to those who have given so much to all of us." Cllr Lethbridge is hoping to raise £1,000 for the charity. Donations can be made by visiting <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/john-lethbridge>

RAISING MONEY AND AWARENESS OF AUTISM



The first week in April was 'Autism Awareness Week', to mark this Playdays Nursery held a week long pyjama fundraising drive. The children could choose to wear their pyjamas all week long whilst donating money for Autism Awareness. Altogether the children managed to raise £130. A huge well done to all the children and staff who got involved and helped support this worthy cause.

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GIRLS GOLF ROCKS IS BACK IN DURHAM!

Girls Golf Rocks is back in Durham! Free tasters will again be on offer, followed by coaching courses, to attract more girls into golf.

Four clubs are involved in Girls Golf Rocks in Durham in 2019. They will all offer free tasters, for girls aged five to 18, followed by six-week coaching courses.

Castle Eden
Saturday 11 May
11:00 – 13:00 with coaching starting from Saturday 18 May, 11:00 – 12:00.

Darlington
Saturday 11 May
13:00 – 15:00 with coaching



starting from Saturday 25 May, 13:00 – 14:00.

Houghton-Le-Spring
Saturday 4 May
10:00 – 12:00 with coaching starting from Saturday 11 May, 10:00 – 11:00.

Woodham
Wednesday 1 May
18:00 – 20:00 with coaching starting from Wednesday 8 May, 18:00 – 19:00.

Bookings can be made by visiting www.girlsgolfrocks.org/Durham

At the taster sessions the newcomers will get together with other beginner girls to relax and play fun games. PGA professional coaches will lead the activities and Girls Golf Rocks Ambassadors from local clubs and the county girls' squad will be on hand to help and encourage. Equipment will be provided and there will be plenty of time to chat and make new friends over refreshments.

Girls can wear what they like as long as it's comfy and keeps them warm. Trainers are fine for footwear.

Girls who enjoy the taster can go on to join a beginner coaching group. They'll join a group of other girls and learn the basics during six weekly, one-hour sessions. They will

also have the chance to get out on the golf course on the sixth week and play in a team alongside the Girls Golf Rocks ambassadors.

They will also receive a golf club and goody pack to help them continue to play golf. Girls Golf Rocks is run jointly by England Golf and the Golf

Foundation and it's bigger and better than ever in 2019. Durham is one of 26 counties taking part this year. That's up by five on 2018 when over 1600 girls enjoyed a taste of golf, with many going on to coaching sessions.

Image copyright Leaderboard Photography

Heighington A.F.C.



Heighington AFC Under 9 Blacks 3 v Hartlepool FC TJFA 0

Heighington went into the final game of the season knowing 3 points would be enough to clinch promotion and potentially the league title and sure enough Heighington made sure they clinched promotion in epic style as Raine, Malsbury and an OG sinks Hartlepool.

Considering this is the first season Heighington have had, they have put in a fantastic run of form which has earned a return to the second tier after this result. This was always going to be a tough game having been beaten by Hartlepool earlier on in the season but Heighington were in no mood to let go of the

promotion party.

"You'd have to be involved inside the football club to see how desperately the lads deserved this," said their manager, David Raine. Heighington made a great start, they pressed the ball really high and didn't give Hartlepool chance to settle on the ball.

Hartlepool must have fancied their chances as the game went on with Heighington players looking dead on their feet. They perhaps should have got back into the game from the penalty spot only to put wide.

A massive well done to the lads and thanks to all the parents and coaches involved in this team. It wouldn't be possible without you all.

Heighington AFC under 9s vs Hebburn Town Gold Madrid, RFYL.

The mighty Red and Blacks played a close match against Hebburn Town. They won 3-1 to maintain their push for the title. Still sitting in top spot after other results went their way.

Our defence and keeper played excellent all of the game to keep Hebburn at bay. Midfield and attack were probing the entire game and were constantly pushing for more goals.

Goals scored by Dylan x1 and Coleby x2.

MOM went to Olly W for some brilliant saves and one in particular, a one handed save from a vicious shot that was heading straight for the top corner. Well done Heighington AFC.

More Medals for Spectrum



Six Spectrum Roller Skaters competed at Nationals this weekend in Kettering. Four skaters teamed together with a performance titled - Remembering Titanic the unsinkable ship of dreams and came home with second place.

The youngest skater in the squad Ella Newson, 7, achieved 8th in Figures and 11th in free with her routine to music from Miss Saigon.

Jazzmyn Loring, recently selected to skate internationally, gained 6th in figures and 7th in free, skating for the first time in Minis event.

Skating in elementary category, also for the first time, our 4 skaters had superb results:

Elementary Hannah Godwin - Figures 6th, Free 11th

Elementary Lucy Richardson - Figures 13th, Free 9th

Elementary Niamh Dawson - Figures 11th, Free 13th

Elementary Nicola Stevens - Figures 4th, Free 14th

The club is now preparing for Jazzmyn's first international competition in Paris as well as The British Championships. To keep up to date please find Spectrum Roller Skating Club on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. To make a donation to support Jazzmyn's Journey please go to Go Fund Me and search for Jazzmyn.



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Swimming Club Diving to Success



Funding from Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP) has been used to help Sedgefield 75 Swimming Club purchase new diving blocks. The club were successful in securing £7629 as part of the Area Budget Project Callout 2018/19.

The new blocks have been a much welcomed addition to the club who were using blocks over 40 years old. Advances in the sport mean that swimmers were no longer able to practice to their full potential using the old blocks.

John Moore, Head Coach at Sedgefield 75 said "The original diving blocks were over 40 years old with flat tops that made the track start used in competition difficult to practice. The new state-of-the-art blocks have adjustable back stops meaning each

swimmer can set the blocks to their own requirements. Final positions are often decided by a fraction of a second meaning a good start is of paramount importance. Despite only having a membership of 60 swimmers we were the only club in Co Durham who had a swimmer representing Great Britain in Europe over the past four years. We are looking to achieve good results at County, Regional and National level in the coming year.

My sincere thanks to everyone at GAMP for their support and the help we get from staff at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre." If you would like more information on the club please contact the club via their website which is www.sedgefield75.com or contact John on 07836 385487.



N.A.F.C. REPORT

Aycliffe Win at Shields



Newton Aycliffe played their penultimate game of the season away to North Shields and came away with a 1-0 win. Shields started the game 22 points ahead of Aycliffe, but Aycliffe dominated the game and should have won the game by a bigger margin. Aycliffe started the better, and Alex Barnes got a powerful shot away in the third minute, but it went wide. Then Kurt Matthews had a shot deflected just wide. From the resulting corner, Gez Richardson got in a strong header, but it was deflected onto the top of the net. From that corner, Aaron Brown had a header tipped over the bar. Aycliffe were well on top, playing attractive football, with Barnes influential in midfield. Ethan Wood and Alan Harrison had good attempts at goal, but both fell just wide. Full back Connor Phelan went on a good run just before the break, but hit his shot straight at Purvis in the Shields goal. Aycliffe started the second half well, with Richardson's header just missing the target in the first minute.

They had a strong appeal for a penalty turned down in the 55th minute when man-of-the-match Kurt Matthews appeared to be fouled as he was about to shoot, when through one-on-one. On 64 minutes, Richardson hit the bar for Aycliffe, and it seemed that it might not be their day. But a minute later, Jermaine Metz got through by Matthews and he made no mistake to break the deadlock. Ali Alshabeeb came on as a substitute late on and made some good runs. Every Aycliffe player was at the top of their game on the day, as they put in one of their best performances of the season to take all three points.

The next game is the last of the season and is at home to Guisborough on Saturday 13th April - 3pm at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, Moore Lane. Come along and support the town's team. MOTM: Kurt Matthews

Cautions: none
Substitutes: Alshabeeb for Metz (80m)
Attendance: 200.
Photo: Man of the Match Kurt Matthews

Juniors Football Report



There was a mixture of fixtures for the Aycliffe Juniors football teams this week. Some teams continued league campaigns and others played friendly fixtures.

The **Under 6's** enjoyed a development game against Darlington. There were some fine performances with Finley and Regan going close to scoring but Darlington ended the match as winners. The **Under 7's White** faced Hurworth who were sitting second in the league. After going two goals down Jack R. (2) and Jack C scored to win the game 3-2. Due to an excellent team performance the whole squad were named as men of the match.

The **Under 7's Juniors** played a friendly against Darlington 21st All Stars. After going a goal down they came back to win 3-1 with goals from Jonah, Alfie and Dom.

The newly formed **Under**

7's Black played their first development game and a brilliant solo goal from Rhys was the highlight of the match.

The **Under 9's** faced Billingham Synthonia Greens in the absence of their regular manager Scott. Richard stood in and guided the team to their first league win, the final score was 3-1 with Callum, George and Stephen scoring and the whole side named as men of the match. The development game ended in a 1-1 draw with Jack scoring and Jacob making his debut.

The **Under 10's White** played host to Norton & Stockton Ancients. The visitors started well scoring two early goals. Aycliffe battled to get in to the game and despite a man of the match performance from James they fell to a 9-0 defeat. The development game was much closer with noted improvements from

Danny, Jack and man of the match Sam in a 1-0 loss.

The **Under 10's Claret** played a strong Seaton Carew side at Woodham. The Aycliffe team battled hard in the first half but turned round 1-0 down. Seaton went on to capitalise on some tired legs in the second half to win the match with a depleted home team having only one sub. Roman was named as the man of the match for a spirited performance in midfield.

The **Under 11's Black** played away at Cargo Fleet. They didn't start well and against strong opposition found themselves 5-0 down at half time. In the second half Rhys scored but the match ended in an 8-1 defeat. Alyssa was the player of the match.

The **Under 14's** played away at Seaton United and received a hostile welcome that should not be seen in junior football. The game ended in a 6-2 defeat.

RUNNING CLUB NEWS

After a relatively quiet weekend last week, things picked up this week with runs spreading across the north of the Country to participate in races of all distances.

Firstly on Wednesday 3rd April, Alan Wilks made the journey to South Shields for the monthly mile organised by Run Eat Sleep, South Shields. Alan finished this in 6.41 despite an icy wind howling off the North Sea.

Next up was Albert Parkrun on Saturday where Mark Wade secured a PB of 17.06 which placed him third on the day.

The busiest day was Sunday when we had members competing in four different races all across the North of the Country.

First up was Richard Holland who took place in the Forestry 10k at Hamsterley Forest. This race was a race of two halves with the first being uphill and then a more pleasant descent for the second half. Richard completed the race, placing 7th, in a time of 43.23.

Next up was Alan Wilks again, who took part in the Blyth 10k. This was a race that was part of the Masters Association. Alan had a great race finishing in a time of 44.02. This meant that in the Master results he placed 4th but was second in the over 70 category.

Next up was David Stothard who travelled even further North for the Druridge Bay Half Marathon. This is a two lap course of Druridge Bay Country Park which



includes running on the beach and through the sand dunes to passing the freshwater lakes and surrounding meadows and woodland. David completed this race in 2:05:44. Last, but by no means least, is Mark Bainbridge, who travelled to Lancashire to participate in the Manchester Marathon. Mark completed this marathon in 3:59.11 (also attaining a PB).

For anyone interested in joining the club, you can simply turn up at one of our sessions all of which start from the Oakleaf Complex in Newton Aycliffe. Monday night is beginners run at 6.30p.m., Tuesday is endurance/speed session from 7.00 p.m., and Thursday is a track session and this takes place at Shildon Track. Further details can be found on our website or facebook pages or alternatively you can message the club via facebook for more information.

Youthy Football Round Up

Newton Aycliffe Women 2 - 0 Bishop Auckland Ladies

NAYFC women were playing with a new back 4 due to injuries but it looked as if they had played together for years as they dealt with everything that Bishop could throw at them. Midway through the first half, Matilda at right back put in a great tackle then played the ball to Amber on the wing. Amber picked out Molly in the middle with a great pass, Molly took a touch then played a perfect through ball for Katie to run on to...Katie kept her cool and finished low in the bottom corner to take them ahead. Aycliffe were now on the front foot and didn't have to wait long for the second. Amber played a ball in to Danielle's feet at the edge of the box, Danielle played a defence splitting through ball which Naomi ran on to, took a touch, then slotted the ball past the goalkeeper. Score at HT 2-0. Second half the team were told to keep the ball and play for the clean sheet and that's exactly what they did. A few chances did come Bishop's way but that didn't matter, it was all about the defence; Matilda, Martha, Karyn, Lottie and Zoe, backed up by Courtney in goal who caught every ball, frustrating Bishop's attack. Midfielders today; Amber, Molly, Hallie, Rio, Vicky and Danielle all put a shift in defending when needed, then backing up the front two; Katie and Naomi. FT 2-0

Today was the best team display we've seen for a few

weeks - well done everyone.

Durham Tigers U11's 1 - 10 NAYFC Falcons

This was the 2nd time Aycliffe played Durham. The first time they won 5-3 which was earlier in the season. We started the game looking a bit nervous, with Durham making some strong tackles. The lads settled down and started passing the ball with confidence. Our 1st 3 goals came from corners, which had been practiced in training; from a great header and two tap ins. Durham started to press and missed a few sitters, Aycliffe's keeper made some good decisions but Durham eventually got a goal making it 3-1. The lads stepped up a gear and got another goal, taking the score to 4-1 at HT. Second half saw some great tackles from both sides, along with some great sportsmanship shown. Aycliffe scored another 2 goals by making some great runs down the wings and the middle. Unfortunately Durham's heads went down and Aycliffe's confidence was on a high - some great passing showed the Falcons were really enjoying the game - netting a further 6 goals! Hat tricks from Will and Logan, a brace from Theo and goals from Alex and Finley. MOM was Theo.

Farrington 0 - 8 NAYFC U11 Girls

The Girls were away against Farrington, travelling with only 8 players available due to injury & holidays. The girls were asked to work hard for one another and put plenty of

effort in. Finding a foothold in the game, the girls started brightly asking plenty of questions of the Farrington defence but struggled to find a break through. Their defence weren't really tested and Imogen in goal was a mere spectator for the whole first half. Finally in the 27th minute they found a breakthrough with Amelia scoring, less than a minute later Amelia got her second and a minute later Ebony got in on the action. 3-0 HT.

The girls didn't rest on their laurels in the second half and were hungry for more, carrying on where they left off in the first. Three further goals from Amelia, another from Ebony and Keira-Leigh getting in on the act, saw them finish 8-0 winners. Outstanding attitude and teamwork from Imogen, Gracie, Jasmin, Fearne, Ebony, Sophie, Keira & Amelia, to play for 60 minutes with a player less than the opposition and still come out convincing winners. This shows just how well they worked for one another tonight demonstrating a true team performance.

Wins from U7, U9 and U10 Girls at the weekend, all progressing well in their cup matches. U14 Girls have played three matches since last Thursday, winning them all convincingly.

U18, U23 and U12 Boys all achieved wins too. Great football being played. New Wildcats Sessions starting after Easter. Sundays 10-11am at Greenfield School. Contact Berni 07939 045242

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Grill the Experts: Date Set for Lively Brexit Meeting

15th April has been announced as the date for the long-awaited, Brexit: The Town Hall Meeting, to be held in Bishop Auckland at 7pm. It will be the first opportunity for the public to express their views since the special EU Council meeting (10-11 April), which will confirm Britain's long-term future relationship with Europe. John Elliott, Chairman of Ebac, who started work as a 15 year old apprentice 60 years ago, recently challenged Helen Goodman

MP to publicly discuss her views on leaving the European Union. He is organising the event at Bishop Auckland Town Hall to give the public a chance to grill the experts. The evening will include speeches from high profile regional figures with specific views on the Brexit issue, from revoking Article 50, to "no deal". A panel discussion and questions from the audience will follow. John Elliott, commented: "I've never been party political but I've campaigned for years to have a sensible industrial

strategy. Looking at the debacle in Westminster, it's clear why we don't have a sensible strategy. 90% of politicians are clueless, lacking ambition and vision, they are simply fighting tooth and nail to maintain the status quo because it suits them personally. "I'm sure the event on 15 April will provide an interesting and stimulating discussion for the people of Bishop Auckland and surrounds to hear a range of views." Speakers and panelists invited include, Anne Elliott (Latimer Hinks),

Trevor Honeyman (Honeyman Group), John Elliott (Ebac), Claire Preston (Tees Business Woman of the Year) and representatives from each of the main political parties. John, whose company is the only UK maker of washing machines, is an ardent supporter of British manufacturing. Despite two thirds of the company's exports going to the European Union, John is a passionate advocate of "leave". Brexit: The Town Hall Meeting, will be held at Bishop Auckland Town Hall on Monday 15 April. Attendance is free but by ticket only. Tickets can be booked in advance from: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/brexit-the-town-hall-meeting-tickets-59827683211?fbclid=IwAR2gqJZXq1rML5SsB4EtYC9mDsxivo8YzIA24TqVB4YMVI93tIrw65Cvts> Doors open 6:30pm for

a prompt 7pm start. The event will be live streamed on the internet.

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PLAN YOUR TRAVEL AHEAD OF POPULAR FOOD FESTIVAL

As excitement builds for one of the region's favourite food festivals, visitors are being encouraged to plan their journeys in advance.

Tens of thousands of people are expected to attend Bishop Auckland Food Festival when it returns this weekend with a tempting line-up of world-class producers, celebrity chefs and interactive workshops.

Organiser Durham County Council is keen to make the free festival as easy to get to as possible and has

arranged for a special park and ride service to operate on Saturday and Sunday. The buses, provided by Weardale Motor Services, are all wheelchair accessible and will run to and from Bishop Auckland College's main campus in Woodhouse Lane to Newgate Street in the town centre every ten minutes.

On Saturday, buses will leave the college from 9.45am to 5.15pm and the last bus will leave the festival at 5.30pm. On Sunday, buses will run from the college from 9.45am

to 4.15pm and the last bus will leave the festival at 4.30pm. Return tickets cost £2 for adults, 50p for children aged six to 15 and free for children aged five and under.

Along with the park and ride service, all the town centre car parks will be open as normal.

Local bus services will also be operating over the weekend but the bus stops on the Market Place and North Bondgate will not be in use. Instead, services will stop at the bus station, which is located behind the Newgate Centre, a four-minute walk from the Market Place and Bishop Auckland Town Hall. Those travelling by train can use Northern Rail services which run to Bishop Auckland Railway

Station, with connections from the mainline station at Darlington. Weardale Railway will also be running a service from Stanhope.

The following road closures will also be in place between Friday, 12 April and Sunday, 14 April:

- Castle Chare (north-west bound only) – 5am Friday to 9pm Sunday
- Market Place Southern Service Road – 5am Friday to 9pm Sunday
- Market Place Southern Circulatory Road (St Anne's Church) – 5am Friday to 9pm Sunday
- North Bondgate – 5am Friday to 9pm Sunday
- Fore Bondgate – 5am to

9pm Saturday and 5am to 9pm Sunday. Last year, 27,000 people attended the festival, resulting in record-breaking sales for traders and boosting the profits of businesses in the town. This year, there are even more traders and organisers have expanded the festival site to encourage visitors to explore more of the town.

Jill Wood, festival and events team manager at Durham County Council, said: "Bishop Auckland Food Festival is a fantastic day out for all of the family and we want the whole experience to be positive, including getting to and from the event. That

is why we are encouraging those who can to use public transport or to make use of our park and ride service." This year's celebrity chef line-up includes BBC MasterChef's Gregg Wallace, actress and restaurateur

Jennie McAlpine, BBC MasterChef's reigning champion Kenny Tutt, television presenters Angellica Bell and Stefan Gates, and Great British Bake Off finalist Briony May Williams.

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One of the latest businesses to move in is High Impact Development. For over two decades, they've supported CEOs, business owners, entrepreneurs and MDs to lead their people and businesses to higher performance and success. The Emotional Intelligence Company equips businesses with the skills and certifications to deliver emotional intelligence training and boasts a roster of regional, national and international clients, including Hitachi Rail Europe, AlixPartners and BAE Systems. Their latest success story is winning an international contract to deliver leadership coaching with 180 global leaders - the biggest contract in the business's history - with confirmation this contract is being extended a further 12 months to 2020.

Angela Wilkinson, Business Manager of The Work Place said 'We are delighted to welcome High Impact Development to The Work Place. Eight businesses have now made their home here. In the modern environment we offer, it's great to see each business using their space to reflect their company culture and working practice. It also shows how flexible the building can be in creating different working areas that work best for individual businesses'.

High Impact Development joins other local businesses to move into TWP after another successful year in 2018 and demand for its services surging.

Gary Hosey, founder of the business explains why he chose The Work Place to be his work base. "The Work Place has been a brilliant move for us and the whole team have welcomed us and helped with pretty much every request we've needed. It was a strategic move for us to upgrade the office facilities for our team and The Work Place more than delivers on this aspect, with superfast broadband as standard and great offices too. We also need regular access to meeting and training rooms for some of our workshops, which include our EQi

Certifications for emotional intelligence. The last one we had people from all over the UK and 1 delegate from the Netherlands. We couldn't be more delighted with having our HQ at The Work Place, if you're considering taking an office on Aycliffe

'Unnamed' Locomotive Mystery to go Under Spotlight

Experts in early railway history are heading to Locomotion in Shildon this month to investigate a mysterious, 'unnamed' engine as part of a new research project.

Thought to be the world's first replica locomotive dating from 1855, the mystery engine has been referred to as 'The Hetton Engine' or 'Hetton Lyon' after the colliery in County Durham where it spent its operational life.

The engine is believed to be a replica of an original 1822 George Stephenson design, now lost to history, and it is hoped the research will reveal further secrets about the world's very oldest steam engines.

The project will be led by Dr Michael Bailey and Dr Peter Davidson who are recognised as world-leading specialists in the field of locomotive investigation. The team will take photographs and measurements and will systematically and carefully dismantle parts of the engine to compare materials and methods of construction with archive evidence.

Work is set to start on 9 April and is expected to continue over a number of three-day sessions lasting several months. The project will take place in public view at Locomotion so people can ask questions and see the investigation taking place and perhaps come up with their own thoughts about the locomotive's history.

Michael and Peter recently led a similar project in Newcastle which found Killingworth Billy to be ten years older than previously thought - making it the third oldest locomotive in the world. In the past Dr Bailey has also carried out investigations

Business Park, Angela and her team provide a world class service, come see for yourself!

The Work Place, a not for profit organisation, also has other plans in mind for the business. Angela commented 'We have a lot of great ideas for The Work Place including a business lounge which we hope to open in the Summer, offering shared office working space and we have also just introduced a virtual office service. We are proud of the building and want to offer our facilities to as many businesses as possible to use'.

She added: 'Our office space shows how flexible the commercial offering at The Work Place can be, to meet a range of needs and we look forward to helping other businesses plan how they will use the space. We continue to have active

discussions with potential tenants and we're confident that The Work Place is one of the best business park locations available'.

If you are interested in office space at The Work Place contact the Team on 01325 375900 or visit our website at <https://www.twpa.org.uk/office-services>.

Palm Sunday Celebrations

There will be a **PALM SUNDAY** Service this week at **St. Clare's Church** near the town centre. Service begins at 10.00am, but a little before this we have our annual procession around the church perimeter with a **REAL**, live donkey leading us. All are very welcome to come along and join in.



The Hetton Locomotive at Locomotion in Shildon - Anthony Coulls

with his colleague Dr John Glithero, into other historic locomotives such as Samson, Albion, Nelson and Canadian National No. 40.

Although its name is a mystery, the Hetton locomotive may be a familiar sight to people based in the North East after spending the past eight years on loan to the Living Museum of the North in Beamish.

At the end of the project, the engine will remain at Locomotion and will go on public display. The findings of the study will be sent to the National Railway Museum, before being offered to the next Early Railways Conference due to be held in 2021.

The last project of this type involving the National Railway Museum took place 20 years ago when Dr Bailey worked on an investigation into the early history of Stephenson's Rocket. The results were published in the book 'The Engineering and History of Rocket'. This project is the first of its kind to take place at Locomotion in Shildon.

The locomotive was based at Hetton Colliery and hauled coal wagons there until 1912 - after more than sixty years of active service. The locomotive took part in the 1925 centenary procession for the Stockton and Darlington Railway as well as other exhibitions such as the George Stephenson centenary celebration held in Newcastle in 1881.

The Hetton Colliery Railway was opened in 1822 by the Hetton Coal Company in County Durham. The line was eight miles long and was the first railway to operate without animal power and the first new line to be developed by George Stephenson. It is thought there were originally five locomotives built to work at the colliery between 1820 and 1822. Hetton Colliery closed in 1950.

A private donor is providing funding for this project.

Dr Michael Bailey was the first student to obtain a DPhil from the Institute of Railway Studies in 2000, a joint project run by the National Railway Museum and the University of York

Schoolchildren Get Sneak Peak of Food Festival's Most Explosive Demo



Hundreds of schoolchildren have enjoyed an explosive journey inside the human digestive system ahead of Bishop Auckland Food Festival.

CBBC Gastronuts and Incredible Edibles presenter Stefan Gates captivated youngsters with eye-catching experiments and fascinating facts as part of the festival's school outreach programme this week.

More than 600 children from local primary schools attended the sessions in Bishop Auckland Town Hall, gaining an exclusive first peak of the exciting demonstrations Stefan will deliver when the festival returns on Saturday, 13 April and Sunday, 14 April.

A distinguished television presenter, author and broadcaster, Stefan is just one of the famous food personalities attending the Durham County Council event, with BBC MasterChef co-host Gregg Wallace heading the line-up.

From sitting on giant whoopee cushions to demonstrate the science of flatulence, to sampling unusual foods and exploring how the taste buds work, Stefan's young audience hung on his every word.

Visitors to the food festival can expect even more exciting antics from Stefan, who will deliver sessions in a dedicated marquee in the New Bondgate car park on both days at 11am and 1pm. Tickets cost £3.

Joining Stefan and Gregg

at the event will be actress and restaurateur Jennie McAlpine, BBC MasterChef's reigning champion Kenny Tutt and television presenter Angellica Bell. Tickets are still available for all of the demonstrations but are selling fast so food fans are encouraged to book in advance. Great British Bake Off semi-finalist Briony May Williams will also be cooking up some of her favourite recipes on the festival's free stage.

Entry to the event will be free once again this year and festival-goers can look forward to even more choice, with more than 150 traders preparing to serve up the finest local produce and workshops for people of all ages.

Obituary

EDWARD PORRITT (Eddy)

on 8th April, peacefully. Eddy, aged 81 years. Much loved Husband of Janet; Father of Dennis and Gary; Father-in-Law to Mandy and Kelly; Grandad to Chantelle, Alex, Francesca and William.

Funeral on Thursday 18th April at 3.40pm. Would friends please meet at St. Andrew's Church.

Win a Yorkshire Railway Family Pass

Ever wondered what it takes to run a steam train, operate a signal box or how a locomotive works? Wonder no more, as the North Yorkshire Moors Railway (NYMR) reveals what goes on behind the scenes, and you could win a family pass!

During the Bank Holiday weekend in May (4th, 5th & 6th) NYMR will again open its doors, inviting the public to learn about inner workings of a heritage railway, view demonstrations and take

a peek behind usually closed doors!

At Pickering station visitors will see what goes on inside the Carriage and Wagon workshop, led by Manager Kieran, currently starring in series two of Channel 5 documentary 'The Yorkshire Steam Railway: All Aboard'. The Archive and Education departments will also be producing an exhibition showcasing

'50 Years of Steam at the NYMR'. Short Brake Van rides* utilising class 08 shunters, will take you along the railway line to New Bridge and back. Visitors of Levisham station will take signal box tours and at Goathland station there'll be talks on the history of the Pelton Wheel. Hull & Barnsley Stock Fund open up their carriages to show the vital repair work that

goes on to the bridges.

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Happy 50th Birthday
15th April 2019



Hope you have a great birthday to a wonderful Son, Brother, Brother-in-Law and Uncle.

Happy 50th birthday from Mam, Paul & Beverley, Stu & Joanne, John-Paul & Lisa, Carrie & Chris, Matthew; Adam and Alex.

Not forgetting the next generation: Kameron, Aimee, Loren, Dylan and Sebastian.

Chris Howarth



LOOK WHO'S FIDDY on 15th APRIL

Happy 50th birthday to my amazing husband. Hope you like your surprise. All my love allways and forever, Michelle xx

Happy birthday Dad, how half a century has flown by ... thank you for everything you have done for me in my 19 years and I hope to have many more amazing times with you! Have a bottle or 10 on me, Jack x

Happy birthday Dad, hope you have an amazing day. There isn't one day that's gone by where I haven't looked up to you. Enjoy yourself, you deserve it, love, Joe x

Happy 50th birthday Chris, enjoy celebrating, love Rob, Brenda, Lee and family xxx

Film Show

"CAROUSEL"

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St. Clare's Church on Tuesday 16th April features the 1956 Rodgers & Hammerstein musical "CAROUSEL" starring Shirley Jones and Gordon MacRae. Romance, dance, laughter and tears, mixed with songs like "When I Marry Mr Snow", "If I Loved You", "You'll Never Walk Alone" and many more, this is two hours of pure joy.

Everyone is welcome, please come and enjoy.

Tea and coffee are served at 1.00pm, included in the £2.00 admission. The film starts at 1.15pm and 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.

In Memoriam

STEPHEN P. IBINSON (Ibbo)

Died 16th April 2009



In loving memory of our Son on the 10th Anniversary. Gone from our home, but not from our hearts. Always remembered by his Mam, Dad and family. As well as Stephen's Wife and Children in Northern Ireland.

MIRIAM ROSSITER 8th April 2004. Remembering you is easy Mam, we do it every day. Missing you is the heartache that never goes away. Love always, Lesley and Tony xxx

ANN HORDON (The Milk Lady)

To a wonderful Mother, Grandma, Auntie, Mother-in-Law and friend to many. Have a wonderful party and enjoy your weekend away with the gang. Wales, here we come! Enjoy your big day - 80 on 12th April - what a milestone.

ANN HORDON (Auntie Ann)

Happy birthday Mam
80 today 12th April

Ann Hordon, but everyone knows her as Auntie Ann. Thanks for being a great Mam. What would we do without you? From the Belton boys, Russell and Duncan.

Birthday Remembrance

JOAN NICHOLSON 16th April. Though you have passed away, every day in some small way, memories of you come our way. Time cannot steal the treasurers that we carry in our hearts. Remembering you on your birthday too. Love, Derek and all the family xxx

Ann Hordon



Happy 80th Birthday
Auntie Ann
From the Golden Girls

Obituary

HARRY BAIN

Newton Aycliffe

4th April, peacefully at home. Harry (Edward Henry) aged 79 years. Much loved Dad and best friend to David, Paul, Ian and Kathleen; a devoted Grandad to his ten Grandchildren and a very proud Great-Grandad and loving Brother to Keith. Sadly missed by his family and many friends.

Funeral Thursday 18th April. Would friends kindly meet for Service in St. Mary's R.C. Church at 11.00am followed by private interment.

Floral tributes, if so desired, will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6EN. Tel: 01325 318600.

GRACE CLARKE

Newton Aycliffe

30th March, peacefully. Grace, aged 87 years, much loved Wife of the late Spencer; loving Mother to Paul, Carol and Michael; dear Mother-in-Law to Ann, Keith and Karen and beloved Grandma to Andrew, Ben and Dominic.

Funeral on Thursday 11th April. Would friends kindly meet for Service in St. Clare's Church at 2.00pm followed by Committal and Cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium.

HARRY DIXON

Newton Aycliffe

6th April, peacefully. Harry, aged 86 years. Dearly loved Husband to Joan; a much loved Dad, Grandad, Great-Grandad, Brother and Uncle. Sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral on Monday 15th April. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 3.30pm.

Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu, in aid of The Stroke Association, may be given or will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service, Surtees House, Hilton Road, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6EN. Tel: 01325 318600.

GOODWIN, June Jones, peacefully in hospital after a short illness. Leaving Sister Norma and much loved dog "Liffy". Funeral to take place on Tuesday 16th April at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 12.30pm. No flowers or cards by request. Donations in lieu will be given to Dogs Trust. R.I.P. June. Love, Miriam
OLGA BLENKINSOPP (formerly McKee). Peacefully on 1st April, aged 96 years. A dearly loved Wife of the late Robert James; a beloved Mam, Mother-in-Law, Gran and Great Gran. Funeral Service and Committal to be held at Darlington Crematorium on Monday 15th April at 1.45pm. Would family and friends please meet at the crematorium.



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AYCLIFFE LADIES' SQUASH SUCCESS

The final for the 2018/19 Durham and Cleveland Lockforce Handicap Squash Cup took place at Redcar on Wednesday 3rd April.

Aycliffe ladies, who are sponsored by Pulman Cars, were up against Leyburn ladies with just a 1 shot advantage.

Having had a tough season in the league, underdogs Aycliffe ladies, who play at the Oakleaf Sports Complex, went on to secure a storming 4 rubbers to 1 victory. The team comprises Karina Dixon, Stephanie Storry,

Carole Dixon, Sarah Aisbitt and Sharon Chapman (with Meryl Graham in reserve).

Two rubbers were won by 3 games to 0, one was won 3-1, and one by 3-2, with the other being narrowly lost 3-2. An excellent effort by all members of the team.

A deserved win by Aycliffe ladies squash team and a great end to the season. If you want to get into squash, whatever level you are, please check out the website Aycliffesquash.co.uk or call the Oakleaf on 01325 300600.



Tough Season Start For Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club



Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club, sponsored by Frank's the Flooring Store, begin the new season this Saturday (13 April) with a tough NYSD Division 2 fixture away at Stockton Cricket Club.

Last season saw Newton Aycliffe just miss out on promotion and also get to the Brunton Cup Final, so expectations will be high again this season that they will be challenging for honours.

However, the task will be much harder this year as two established first teams in Guisborough and Norton were both relegated to

Division 2 last season. In addition, Stockton have also rejoined the NYSD after spending 19 seasons in the North East Premier League (NEPL). Having joined the newly formed NEPL in 2000, Stockton became Premier League Champions in 2013. However, after struggling for a few years, culminating in relegation last season, they have made the decision to come back to the NYSD and will start with teams in Divisions 2 and 4.

Newton Aycliffe have kept the majority of last season's squad although father and son Neil and Darryn

Bancroft have decided to move to Sedgfield and promising junior Lucas Pilling is not available at the moment as he pursues his career with Hartlepool FC. However, the playing squad has been strengthened with the acquisition of former Durham Academy player Adam Randall from Washington and with a couple of other senior players being available more regularly this season, due to changes in work commitments, the squad is still looking capable of challenging.

The Club is also delighted with the progress of some of the junior players who will be putting themselves in contention for regular senior cricket with the second team this season.

Aycliffe's first home game of the season is scheduled for Saturday 20 April when the first team welcomes Marton CC in a game sponsored by J&C Coaches.

Scarlet Amongst Country's Front Runners at Rowrah



Scarlet Dunn had a great weekend at Rowrah, Cumbria this weekend for Round 2 of the "Let's Go

Karting" Championship. She was competing against the biggest number of competitors on the grid she's ever faced - as some were there practicing for next weekend's Motorsport UK British Championship round - and it didn't phase her at all; the School Aycliffe racer hit the ground running and qualified 3rd against 15 others including some of the fastest young drivers in the country.

In the heats there was lots of overtaking to be done, which was great practice, and her results placed her 5th overall on the day.

This also moves her up to 5th place in the Let's Go Karting championship. Brother Harrison was also at hand to watch his big sister compete. They will both be out practicing during the Easter School holidays at Teesside Autodrome and Scarlet will be competing once again at Wombwell kart circuit near Barnsley this coming weekend.

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Family Easter Fun Day

Easter Sunday 21st April
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Easter Egg Hunt with Easter Bunny, Bouncy Castle,
Face Painting, Painted Egg Competition
Parents are invited to accompany children under 12