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Friday 17th May 2019 First Published in 1948 and still FREE

# newtonnews

Incorporating "The Newtonian" - Aycliffe's Community Newspaper  
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# ASTOUNDING PUBLIC GENEROSITY

Public generosity has fully funded the latest two 24 hour Public Access Defibrillator Units at Washington Crescent and School Aycliffe Community Centre. These two units take the number of Public Access Units to ten. Woodham Community Centre, PCP, Bay Horse Middridge, Greenfield College (limited access), Navy Club, St Clare's, Neville Community Centre, Oakleaf Sports Field, 75 Washington Cres, and School Aycliffe.

Another two units, one at Aycliffe Village Community Centre, and one at St Mary's Church should be fitted soon. Aycliffe Village Residents, together with the newly formed residents group, and the Aycliffe Community Centre Committee should have their unit in by the end of this month. The friends of St Mary's Church and the Taylor family, in memory of their daughter Seonaid, are raising funds via the Kick It 4 Seonaid appeal and have several fund raising events



planned. Please help them. Pictured we have the Patterson family, staff and residents of Oswald House who have fully funded and installed a 24 hour unit on the outside of 75 Washington Crescent.

Also pictured are the first residents of School Aycliffe to benefit from the free CPR and Defibrillator Awareness Course run at School Aycliffe Community Centre. This unit again was fully funded by an anonymous donation from an Aycliffe resident.

This latest free CPR and Defibrillator awareness course, funded by all seven of our Durham County Councillors via great Aycliffe and Middridge



Area Partnership, has now taken the number of people to gain potential life saving knowledge to 375. More sessions are being organised at local venues,

watch Newton News for dates, venues and times, or contact David Sutton-Lloyd 01325 316144 [woodham.community@gmail.com](mailto:woodham.community@gmail.com)

## St. Josephs Mini Police

Mini Police officers at St Josephs Primary are enjoying their role supporting the police in a week long road safety initiative to coincide with National Road Safety Week. They have designed road safety posters which are displayed all along the school fence.

Each day a group of Mini Police from year 5 have come to school earlier, put their uniform on and policed the front of the school alongside headteacher Mrs Brown and a police officer. They have relished this role and been very confident. Great role models for St Josephs. Photo: Children with PC Michael Welch



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# Indulge Yourself at Award Winning Ramside Hall Hotel



A leading County Durham hotel is inviting guests to dine in style this month with an exclusive new offer.

The multi-award winning Ramside Hall Hotel, Golf and Spa has launched a new stay and dine package. And for a limited time only, those booking the deal in May can make the most of a free bottle of prosecco and a room upgrade on selected dates.

Guests will enjoy an overnight in one of the hotel's luxury bedrooms and a £50 food allowance to help them get the most out of their stay.

Diners can choose to visit the hotel's popular Rib Room Steakhouse and Grill or request to dine in the Spa at Ramside's Fusion Restaurant, with a range of Asian-inspired dishes on offer.

The Stay and Dine deal starts at £149 per couple and also includes free WiFi and parking.

To book or for more information, visit [www.ramsidehallhotel.co.uk](http://www.ramsidehallhotel.co.uk) or call 0191 386 5282.

## OVER 50's FITNESS & TONING

Aycliffe Boxing Club are running an Over 50's Fitness and Toning class every Tuesday morning at 11am costing just £2.50 per session. Come along to Aycliffe Boxing Club at Acorn House, Durham Way North, Aycliffe Business Park DL5 6HP. If you require any further information please call Paula on 07746 307 165 or email [paula.gibson279@googlemail.com](mailto:paula.gibson279@googlemail.com)

# Aycliffe Boys Brigade at Swimathon



Six junior boys from 1st Newton Aycliffe Boys Brigade, took part in the Rotary Club Swimathon at Spennymoor Leisure Centre, raising £258.

## CHILTON COMMUNITY SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

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Dubbie: 07972 885396  
Paulie: 07432 621087

Facebook: Big Club Disco Night

## The Phoenix Club Newton Aycliffe

### MAY ENTERTAINMENT

**Friday 17th - "Karaoke & Disco"**

Dave's Retro Roadshow FREE Entry

**Saturday 18th - "Eddie Popescu"** FOREVER ELVIS SHOW  
Featuring Powerplay Entertainment Disco - £6 ticket, available at the bar

**Sunday 19th - Absolute Entertainment "Karaoke & Disco"**  
with Lee - FREE Entry (Afternoon)

Fabulous solo artiste **"Kelvin James"** - £1.00 Entry (Evening)

**Thursday 23rd - "Line Dancing"**

With Country Cousins - £3.00 entry

**Friday 24th - "Almost Pink"** with Kyla Porter and  
Absolute Entertainment Disco - Tickets £6 available at the bar (selling fast)

**Saturday 25th - The fantastic "Kayleigh Louise"**

and the amazing **"Chris Atkins"** £3.00 on the door

**Sunday 26th - "Karaoke & Disco"**

with great solo artiste **"Mark Carter"** - FREE Entry (Afternoon)

Fabulous solo artiste **"TS Short"** - FREE Entry (Evening)

**Thursday 30th - "Line Dancing"**

With Brian Gibson - £3.00 entry

**Friday 31st - "Karaoke & Disco"**

Dave's Retro Roadshow - FREE Entry

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**Saturday 18th May - "Fossil"**

The band comprises some of the finest singers and musicians in the region, all experienced professionals with a long pedigree of performing, recording, teaching and composing. With an emphasis on powerful guitar-driven rock with massive vocal harmonies, FOSSIL have been taking the local gig scene by storm recently. Gig-pit review - "Cracking band, really good players and four singers all taking lead vocals! Excellent harmonies, good sound! Loved the set list, Asia, Kansas, Zeppelin, Gary Moore, Yes! Great lead guitars from both Brian Emerson and Ritchie Reeve! Ritchie also adept at simulating keyboard parts on the guitar and a very fine player as well! Drummer & bass player were tight as a frog's bum! Drummer sang Zeppelin stuff and was amazing! Definitely a band I would go to see again and again. Highly Recommended."

**Saturday 25th May - "RED 5"**

"One of the best cover bands I have seen.. Fantastic musicianship, really good singer, brilliant choice of songs.. And overall great sound"

**Saturday 1st June - "FIZZYFISH"**

*Every Friday is Open-Mic/Buskers featuring some great local talent, players welcome*  
For more information on bands go to  
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at The County, Aycliffe Village

**Tuesday is Still the New Sunday!**

Every Tuesday in May

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Includes Roast of the day, served with roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, seasonal vegetables, mashed potato & jug of gravy.

### Fish & Fizz Fridays

Receive a complimentary bottle of Italian

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Seafood Mixed Grills, served with a

Chardonnay cream sauce and new potatoes

(Offer available lunch and dinner)

Every Friday in May

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Every Monday in May Make it a Happy Monday  
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Offer available Mondays, 5pm to 10pm

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Pie Night

(choice of four pies)

### THURSDAY - GRILL NIGHT

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2 x 10oz Rump and bottled house wine for £20  
(best offer ever)

### FISH FRIDAY

from 6.00pm - includes a glass of house wine

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# EPILEPSY WEEK

Dear Sir,  
Would your readers know what to do if they saw someone having a seizure?  
Would they know what was happening and how to help?  
One in 100 people in the UK have epilepsy. For National Epilepsy Week (20-26 May) we are encouraging everyone to step up and learn how to keep someone with epilepsy safe when they have a seizure.  
Recent statistics reveal that 36% of the public would be unsure or unwilling to help somebody having a seizure. A further 57% admit they have little to no knowledge about epilepsy.  
Helping someone who is having a seizure is simpler than people think. Staying with someone, protecting them from further harm, and calling for help if it's needed, are three vital steps. If in doubt, always call 999 and ask for an ambulance. Epilepsy Action has created first-aid cards that can be ordered, they fit neatly into a purse or wallet so people can always have information handy.  
Posters are also readily available to be displayed in public places, such as schools, workplaces or waiting rooms. You can order these free of charge and find out more at [epilepsy.org.uk/epilepsyweek](http://epilepsy.org.uk/epilepsyweek)  
Your support could be life-saving.  
Yours faithfully,  
Phillip Lee, CEO at Epilepsy Action

# May Holiday Activities at Greenfield Arts



Greenfield Arts are offering free school holiday activities for young people this May half term. 'Crazy Crafts' sessions will take place at Greenfield Arts Centre, Newton Aycliffe and Foundations Building, Shildon.  
Artist Dawn Belshaw will be on hand to help young people be creative, finding the beauty in the everyday and express themselves. Why not come along to these family focused sessions, enjoy getting crafty in a lovely environment and make something special to take home.  
Crazy Crafts will take place at Greenfield Arts Centre, Newton Aycliffe on Thursday 30th May from 10:30 – 12:00 and at Foundations Building, Shildon on Friday 31st May from 10:30 – 12:00.  
The free sessions are suitable for all ages, although children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult. You can now book via the website using

a simple online form or contact the friendly team on 01325 379048 for further information.  
The sessions form part of a wide-ranging programme with creative events, projects and courses and activities, check out the website at [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) to find out further information and find something to inspire your creativity and have a voice.

# Woodham Prepares for Record Intake



Woodham Academy is preparing for a significant increase in its intake of year 7 students this coming September. To prepare for the additional numbers, Woodham Academy is investing the money that the Department for Education has set aside for 'little extras' in the updating of

the final science lab that is in need of renovation as well as increasing the capacity of the dining halls by providing a self-contained sandwich bar.  
September marks exciting times at Woodham Academy as Andrew Bell will be taking over as headteacher from Christine Forsyth who retires at the end of this academic year. Mr Bell has already written to all students who are due to start year 7 in September welcoming them to the school, and in addition transition events are planned on 26th June and 27th June to help the integration of year 6 students into Woodham Academy.  
There are also open mornings planned on Tuesday 11th June, Friday 14th June and Friday 21st June, 9.30am – 11.00am for parents of year 5 students who are interested or are considering a secondary school for their child and are interested in seeing the academy operating as it would on a normal day. There is also an open evening on Tuesday 11th June, 6.00pm – 7.00pm where members of the Leadership Group will be available to speak to parents. Any year parent who is interested in attending can secure a place by contacting the school reception on 01325 300328.

# Free Family-Friendly Activities For May Half Term

There's a range of free, family-friendly events and activities at Locomotion, Shildon this May half term holiday.  
Locomotion celebrates its 15th birthday later this year, and there will be a range of activities taking place over the coming months to help mark the occasion.  
Every day from 25 May to 2 June, younger visitors can follow a fun trail which celebrates Locomotion's birthday, learning interesting facts about our vehicles on the way. There's a chocolate prize for everyone who solves the clues (available while stocks last).  
On 28, 29 and 30 May, join in sessions with Locomotion's Learning Team to explore how technology has changed over the past 15 years, or design a 15th birthday card for the museum.

The annual Meccano Magic event returns to Locomotion on 26 and 27 May. Marvel at the range of models by the North East Meccano Society, and have a go yourself in the Meccano activity area.  
Then on 1 and 2 June, Locomotion hosts Shildon Model Railway Club's Spring Exhibition. This is your chance to see the world

of railways in miniature, with model railway displays by SMRC members and guests.  
Locomotion, Shildon, is open daily from 10.00 to 17.00, and parking and admission are free.  
For more information, please contact the Locomotion team on 01904 685780 or visit [www.locomotion.org.uk](http://www.locomotion.org.uk)

## Monthly Craft/General Fair

Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre  
Burn Lane, Newton Aycliffe

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Next Fair: SATURDAY 25th MAY

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\*The last Saturday of every month excluding September

ROF 59

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ROF59 | Durham Way South | Aycliffe Business Park | Newton Aycliffe | Co. Durham | DL5 6XN

f t g+



## Woodham Exam Time

This week has seen the start of the GCSE examinations at Woodham Academy. This has begun with Art, where students have had 10 hours completing their final examination pieces. This is the culmination of two years of hard work and preparation with their course. The quality of the work is superb. Last year's examination results were excellent: 92% of students achieved between grade 9 and 4, the old A\*-C grades with 5 students gaining a grade 9 – the very highest grade. This placed the school's Art department

amongst the very best in the country. Woodham Academy is confident that this can be repeated this summer. Every year there is an exhibition of all of the GCSE work where anyone who is interested can come and view the work. Last year's exhibition saw some of the students' work being bought by members of the public as the quality was so good. The exhibition will be held on 26th June 2019 from 3.30pm until 6.00pm. If you are interested in attending please contact the school.



Do you enjoy listening to and helping people?

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Would you like to help make a difference for people living with MND in your area?

Our local volunteers provide vital support, raise awareness, campaign and fundraise.

For more information on how you can volunteer with us please contact:

volunteering@mndassociation.org  
or 03456 044150

## The Red Box Project Durham Reaches Milestone

On Friday we delivered the last of our primary school Red Boxes to those schools in DL5 that wanted one. Afterwards the volunteers celebrated with breakfast at the Thames Diner - one of our donation points. Work continues to supply the secondary schools and to top-up all the boxes as required. We currently have a total of eleven Red Boxes to maintain with more to follow.

The Red Box Project will continue to function until the promised government scheme to supply all schools and colleges in the country is up and running. No details have been announced but it is expected that the Project will run for at least another twelve months, so we cannot sit back on our laurels: we still need YOU!

Donation boxes are set up in the Thames Diner, Youth Centre, Library, Pioneering Care Centre, DeBNhair Beauty Salon (Simpasture Gate), McColls (Neville Parade), St Elizabeth's Church (Woodham) (Monday's 2-4pm only) and Stephenson Way Children's Centre.

Our girls and young women will no longer miss their education because of period poverty and it is thanks to the amazing efforts of our community.

We still need volunteers to help: it will involve no more than an occasional hour collecting or delivering. We are particularly in need of drivers with cars! Please email [durhamredboxproject@gmail.com](mailto:durhamredboxproject@gmail.com) or find us on Facebook. Many thanks to our volunteers, our wonderful donation centres and



gmail.com or find us on Facebook. Many thanks to our volunteers, our wonderful donation centres and



everyone in our community who has donated. Community Kindness Matters and you are making a real difference. Well done!

## Film Show

### "DANCER & THE DAME"

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St. Clare's Church on Tuesday 21st May features the comedy "Dancer and the Dame" starring Billy Gardell, Eva Larue and Cuja the police dog. Dancer, the wisecracking, disgruntled cop, a failure, meets Princess, a fussy canine cop, cue lots of laughs. Everyone is welcome, please come and enjoy. Tea and coffee are served at 1.00pm, included in the £2 admission, film starts at 1.15pm. A variety of chairs are provided for your comfort, and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a great film in friendly company. For further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.

## HONEST JOHN LATEST DONATIONS

£500 - Newton Aycliffe Bowling Club  
£500 - PCP Options Disability Group  
£310 - Simpasture Court

John's Aycliffe Community Kitty is now accepting donations of good quality second hand clothes, towels, shoes, curtains, handbags and bedding to be sold by weight, raising extra funds. Please do not leave donations outside when the shop is closed.

Opening hours are 10am until 4pm, Monday - Saturday, closed on Sunday's.

Thanks to all customers and donors.

John

## Trust Urges People to 'Get Active' to Raise Funds

Durham Wildlife Trust is seeking ramblers and runners to take part in two events as a way of raising funds for its vital work.

The first event is the Sunderland 3 Peaks on June 22 between 10:30 am – 1:00pm, beginning at Tunstall Hills. Walkers will enjoy the views and climbs of Tunstall Hills, Herrington Hill and Penshaw Hill over a route of approximately eight miles.

On the way, they will meet expert guides on Herrington Hill, the Trust's newest Sunderland Nature Reserve, who will offer an insight into its importance for flora and fauna, including the spectacular display of wildflowers which adorn the reserve.

The walk will finish at Penshaw Tearooms. Durham Wildlife Trust will run a Minibus shuttle service from Herrington Country Park to the start of the walk. Walkers can enter for £8 per person or £15 per couple and dogs on leads are welcome.

The second event is the annual Run Rainton on Saturday August 17 at the Trust's flagship Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve near Houghton le Spring.

Beginning at 10.30am, the 5k Trail Fun Run will take participants over a challenging circuit of Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve, including Nicholson's Hill.

Advanced entry for the run is available for £10, places must be booked in advance, runners will not be able to join on the day. Ages 6+ are welcome, under 14s must be accompanied by an adult. There will also be stalls including tombola and cake sales, fundraising for the Trust on the day.

The entry fees to Sunderland 3 Peaks and Run Rainton go directly to Durham Wildlife Trust, enabling the charity to manage Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve as well as 36 other Nature Reserves from the Tees up to the Tyne. Trust Membership Development Officer Emily Routledge, herself a keen runner, said: "These events are a lot of fun and give people an opportunity to get out into the open air and appreciate our spectacular flora and fauna."

You can find out more about both events at [www.durhamwt.com/events](http://www.durhamwt.com/events)

## Furniture Factory Outlet

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Saturday





## Sam Helps Butterwick Hospice Get £250 Grant



Cllr Sam Zair helped Butterwick Hospice with their application for a £250 grant from Durham County Council. This grant helped us to raise awareness with signs around town for our Car Boot Sale, which is taking place at Bishop Auckland College Car Park, the last Sunday of every month from 10am - 12pm. It also helped pay for a PA System to help keep our attendees safe at events. Butterwick Hospice would like to say a huge thank you to Durham County Council for the grant, and also to Sam Zair for all of his help. Butterwick Hospice in Bishop Auckland welcome you into their gardens on Friday 21st June 2019 to celebrate their 24th anniversary. We will be celebrating in a western style, with the wonderful Hayley McKay singing country music, the BBQ will be going and there will be plenty of games to take part in. Tickets are £5 per person, and this includes one burger from the BBQ. There are alcoholic and non alcoholic refreshments for sale on the night. Everyone is welcome, come and join Butterwick Hospice, with their staff and volunteers celebrate their birthday in style. To book your tickets please call 01388 603003 or pop into our Butterwick Hospice in Bishop Auckland.

The Rainbow Dash is back for the 6th year. **EARLY BIRD TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW, £17.50 per adult and £12.50 per child, under 5's go free!!** This year is going to be bigger and better than ever. Colour yourself happy in vibrant powder whilst enjoying a run, jog or stroll. Bring all the family and friends for the brightest event suitable for all (5k run). **FAMILY FRIENDLY OBSTACLES BACK FOR 2019.** Registration open from 11.30am, run starts at 1pm! Hardwick Park - sign up at [www.butterwick.org.uk/rainbowdash](http://www.butterwick.org.uk/rainbowdash) or call 01388 603003.

Butterwick Hospice invites you on Saturday 29th June 2019 to Sedgefield Racecourse to join us for a fun packed day 2pm-11pm, with an option to stay at our after party in the marquee from 11pm - 1am! We will have 7 amazing bands, lots of stalls, food, entertainment and much, much more! Tickets are £12pp, under 10's go free! Please note tickets are £15 on the door.

**THE BANDS:** Renegade Jukebox Oily Bum Print Blister in the Sun D'ukes of Scarth Toni Sidgwick Euphoria Choir Connor Hodgson This day will be a perfect event for the whole family or friendship groups! Once you have signed up you will receive your tickets, along with an information pack, letting you know everything you need to know about the day. There is an option for camping, this can be booked through the racecourse itself for only £10 per pitch. If you would like to know a little more please call Milly on 01388 603003, or book your tickets online [www.butterwick.org.uk/butterwickmusicfest](http://www.butterwick.org.uk/butterwickmusicfest)

## NCA Change of Status

Our next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 21st May at 6.45pm in Neville Community Centre. Due to Charity Commission rules, we are required to register as an Unincorporated Charitable Association. Part of that registration process requires us to have a constitution that is agreed by the Community Association and Fit for Purpose as far as the Charity Commission is concerned.

We are therefore required to discuss the proposed constitution at this meeting. There will be a few copies available at the meeting and copies are available by emailing [neville.community.association@btinternet.com](mailto:neville.community.association@btinternet.com) We will also have news of our next Community Association Trip. Refreshments will be available from 6.30pm. Pop down for a cuppa and a chat. **Heather Brewster** Chair, Neville Community Association

## HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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

Tel: Paul  
01325 300212  
or [paul@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:paul@newtonnews.co.uk)



Compiled by  
County Councillor John Clare

An array of significant events this week (including a vitally important survey), plus some interesting things to do next week. Find more information on my blog at: [bit.ly/CNB116](http://bit.ly/CNB116)

And don't forget to join me for my community/council radio show jdcclj on Friday afternoon, 4-6pm; and for my politics discussion show POLITICAL, 6-7.30pm, Sunday 19 May, both on Aycliffe Radio at: [bit.ly/ARLIVE](http://bit.ly/ARLIVE)

## COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

- DCC funding bid provides £800,000 to help rough sleepers find accommodation.
- A Climate Change meeting with Northern Powergrid.
- Road Safety Awareness Week targeting traffic outside schools.
- Middridge litter-pick, Sunday 12 May.
- Middridge Parish Council AGM, Monday 13 May.
- This year's County Durham Big Spring Clean saw 2,215 people spend more than 5,200 hours carrying out 187 litter picks to collect 3,318 bags of rubbish.
- DCC operation conducted roadside inspections to catch would-be flytippers.
- Please respond to the Digital Durham 2019 broadband consultation (includes your postcode's superfast classification) – this is something we need not just to 'consult' about, but to start shouting about.
- Aycliffe ASB Group, Friday 10 May.
- Ron Hogg spoke at a Serious Violence Conference discussing the government's policing strategy.
- Ron Hogg has endorsed the NCA's call for more

resources for policing.

- The May 2019 GAMP e-bulletin is published – Board meeting 21 May; project callout for bids currently open; 10 Years of Success; Wheels2Work; NHS Long-term Plan; open air music festival; Carers Support newsletter.
- Road closure Nimbies take aim at Velo North.

## THINGS TO DO

- Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Darlington Hippodrome, 21-25 May, tickets £12.50-£38.
- Guided walk – the Heritage Coast and Horden (7½ miles/4 hours), meet 10:30am 24 May, Easington Colliery car park, SR8 3RU, £4.
- Beginner's Guide to Maps & Compasses: 25-26 May, £35 – call 03000 264589 or email [countryside@durham.gov.uk](mailto:countryside@durham.gov.uk) for more information and to book.
- Craft & Trade Fair, The Big Club Sheraton Road DL5 5NU, 10:30am-1pm Saturday 25 May, FREE.
- Sk8fest, Town Park Newton Aycliffe, 11am-4pm Saturday 25 May, FREE.
- Japanese manga series Rozen-Maiden magical dolls (5-11s), Durham Oriental Museum, drop-in 1-3pm Saturday 25 May, FREE.
- Enchanted Village trail (families), Hardwick Park, 25 May-2 June, £1 – phone 03000 262 899 for more information.
- Durham Pride (family event), The Sands Durham, 10:30am-11pm Sunday 26 May, FREE.
- Meccano Magic, Locomotion Museum Shildon, 10am-5pm, 26-27 May, FREE.
- Women's Gala, Wharton Park Durham, Saturday 8 June.

## GREENFIELD BID FAREWELL TO FLORAL PROFESSIONAL

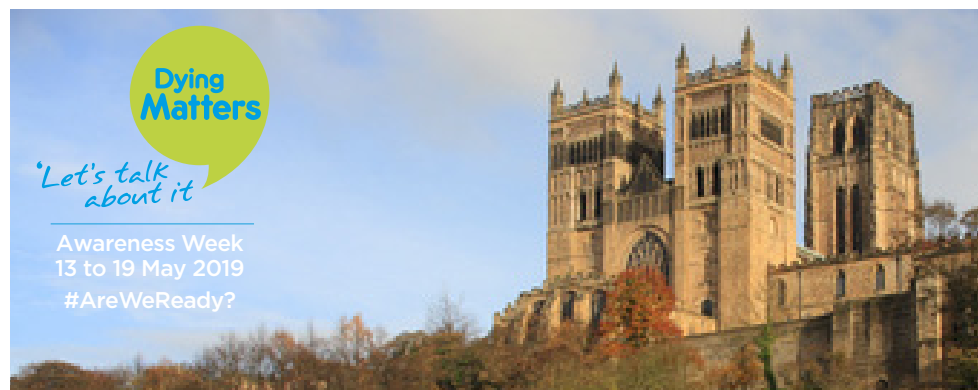


Greenfield Arts are sorry to say goodbye to an inspirational member of their community. Respected Floral Art tutor, Cynthia Scott, has been a constant presence at Greenfield since 1992 and has inspired a stream of participants to create fabulous floral displays encouraging students to become proficient and creative in their discipline. Cynthia is very well respected in the world of floral art and has even been part of the team who decorated Westminster Abbey for the Wedding of Prince Andrew to Sarah

Ferguson in 1986. Her enthusiasm and friendly manner have brought pleasure to the many participants at Greenfield Arts and to the staff who have appreciated her professionalism and inspirational attitude. The floral art group has grown in confidence with many members returning every season to learn creatively and share ideas with expert guidance from Cynthia. The group have been inspired to further their creativity at Greenfield and are continuing to meet on a regular basis, a testament to Cynthia's influence. The

group meet up on selected Fridays and new members are welcome. We wish Cynthia all the very best for her retirement and although her teaching has come to a close we look forward to seeing her at Greenfield Arts at events and activities in the future. If you would like more information about floral art or any other activities and projects please visit our website at [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) or email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk) alternatively you can call our friendly team on 01325 379048 for further information.

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**Dying Matters**  
*'Let's talk about it'*  
Awareness Week  
13 to 19 May 2019  
#AreWeReady?

**Gordon Fletcher & Sons is one of the oldest established family businesses in Spennymoor.**

The business has grown over the years and is now entering its third generation, a truly family ran business with over 80 years of service to our local communities, which now has premises in Spennymoor, Ferryhill and Newton Aycliffe.

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Back in 2004, an average funeral cost around £1,920. Today, it's £4,271. That's an increase of 122%, which is well above inflation.

This rise in funeral costs means there's no guarantee that, when the time comes, your savings or an over 50s insurance policy will cover the cost of your funeral director's services. With either of these options, your family may need to make up the shortfall.

**Basic funeral plans from £2,800**

Plan Includes; Hearse, Simple coffin, Cremation fees (Durham), Doctors' fees, Minister fees

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Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SE**

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 **[www.gfs.uk.com](http://www.gfs.uk.com)**

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**Golden Charter**  
Smart Planning for Later Life

 **Trustpilot**  




## St Mary's Mini Police



This week has been Road Safety Week. All schools within the Newton Aycliffe area in partnership with local Police Officers and PCSOs have been taking part in activities to promote awareness. Sergeant Andy Boyd and his team have worked with the uniformed Mini Police (children from Y5) here at St Mary's RC Primary School on Central Avenue.

The St Mary's Mini Police have taken a key part in supporting and promoting Road Safety Awareness Week. They were involved in the creation of the posters and leaflets distributed to parents and carers at all schools. In order to produce

the posters Central Avenue outside the school was closed off to road traffic as the children role played road traffic accidents that could occur when cars are parked on the yellow school markings. The children were then photographed by an overhead drone.

This week each morning and after school, the Police and our Mini Police have worked hard to spread the word. During the monitoring sessions cars have been ticketed and drivers warned regarding their speed and parking outside of school and parking on double yellow lines.

I feel that the effort the Police and our Mini Police has had a huge impact on some of the drivers. The use of the 'child's voice' has we believe been the key factor in spreading the word. By-passers and the public have been thrilled at seen our young citizens taking positive role in sharing Road Safety within our community.

## Preparations Underway for Appleby Horse Fair

Preparations are underway across County Durham for Gypsies and Travellers heading to this year's Appleby Horse Fair.

Temporary Stop Over Areas (TSOA) are being set up in the Teesdale and South West Durham areas ahead of the annual event, which runs in the Cumbrian village from Friday, 7 June to Sunday, 9 June.

The nine designated TSOAs are located along the traditional travelling routes to Appleby: Westerton Layby, Tindale Park, Wackerfield Layby, Winston Corner, Broomielaw Picnic Area, Stainton Bank, Shaw Bank Field, Binchester Corner and Guidepost Corner, Bowes.

They will be open between Friday, 25 May and Friday, 22 June, with Tindale Park opening a week earlier on Friday, 17 May. There is also a TSOA at Gurney Valley, Bishop Auckland, which is open now and throughout the summer.

Durham County Council's Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Service (GRTS) will ensure facilities are provided at all TSOAs, including temporary toilet facilities, refuse collections and, in some cases, water supply for animals. This is to encourage people to use TSOAs, rather than unauthorised encampments.

Officers from the GRTS and the council's neighbourhood wardens will be making regular visits to the TSOAs, as well as visiting any

unauthorised encampments. The TSOAs are being provided as part of a coordinated response from the South West Durham Residents', Business' and Travellers' Forum and the Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum, which include representatives from the county, town and parish councils, Durham Constabulary, local businesses and the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities.

Mike Taylor, chair of the Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum and a member of the South West Durham Residents', Business' and Travellers' Forum, said: "All members of both forums will address any problems which are brought to them by residents and businesses in the area they represent in order that the migration period both to and from Appleby Horse Fair passes without incident."

Sergeant Simon Rogers, of Barnard Castle Neighbourhood Police Team, said: "The police and our partners will be monitoring the migration through Teesdale and will be supporting our communities, with extra patrols on the run up to, during and after the event."

"Some residents accept the migration of Travellers through Teesdale at this time of the year, but others have concerns about the potential for trespass and there can be feelings of unease from the settled community."

"Our joined-up approach means that, in recent years, we have experienced a relatively small number of incidents directly linked to the Travellers."

Temporary signposts will be in place to show the locations of key TSOAs and to advise residents and road users. Signs will also be put up at each location outlining the conditions and expectations for anyone using the facilities.

Ian Hoults, neighbourhood protection manager at Durham County Council, said: "We would encourage those making their way to Appleby Fair to use our temporary stop over areas as they travel through County Durham."

"We are committed to working with our partners to provide these locations, which are equipped with a range of facilities that won't be found at an unauthorised camp."

Those travelling to the fair are being advised not to set off too early to prevent people arriving before the TSOAs open. Fair organisers are also encouraging those who plan on attending the event with trailers, towed caravans or horse drawn wagons not to arrive at the fair too far in advance of it starting.

For more information about the fair, visit [www.applebyfair.org/](http://www.applebyfair.org/)

Any members of the public wishing to speak to the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller service can call 03000 260 000.

## VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONS



A team of 10 cadets from 1407 (Newton Aycliffe) Squadron Air Cadets took part in the Durham /Northumberland Wing Volleyball competition. The team played in a league with 10 other teams and finished at the top of their league which put them through to the semi finals. After a close game they won and had to face a very competitive Morpeth Sqn in the final. 1407 played exceptionally well and finished the day champions!

If you are in Yr 8 or above and would like to find out more about the squadron then please visit our website <http://www.1407aircadets.com/> or come along on a parade night.

## STILL TIME FOR GARDEN WASTE SERVICE

County Durham residents can still sign up to have their garden waste collected. Durham County Council's garden waste collection service is still available to residents, with collections starting as soon as possible after sign up.

Victoria Burrell, waste strategy team manager, said: "Well over 56,000 residents are already taking advance of our garden waste service and it is not too late for other green fingered residents to apply."

The following items can go in the garden waste bin for composting:

- Grass cuttings
- Shrubs
- Leaves
- Weeds
- Flowers & bedding plants
- Hedge clippings
- Prunings
- Small branches

Residents can sign up for the service for a fee of £35, with collections occurring fortnightly until November.

To sign up to the service or find out if your property is eligible, call 03000 260 000 or visit <https://www.durham.gov.uk/gardenwaste> Those who have already subscribed to the service are reminded to fix their bin sticker to the garden waste bin and put the bin out for collection by 7am on their collection day.

## Greenfield's Artist in Residence Inspires Cree Group



Greenfield Arts are delighted to bring artist in residence Richard Bliss to the area to work with the wider community including the community connected to Greenfield Arts, the Men's Cree and our volunteers. Richard is a collaborative artist who engages the public in his work and seeks to question the role of men and masculinity in our society today.

Richard has recently been working alongside the Greenfield Arts Men's Cree Group exploring what masculinity means to them and sharing ideas of individual perceptions. The group are creating new work that will represent the enquiry which will be showcased as part of a high-profile exhibition at Greenfield Arts in late summer.

The exhibition 'Man-made' is an exploration of how men adjust to changing masculinity and will include work supported by Lubaina Himid (Turner Prize Winner 2017) and artist William Tittle. The exhibition will run from Thursday 25th July – Wednesday 18th September and includes a preview and talk event on Wednesday 24th July from 18:00 – 20:00 which is free and open to the public.

The residency is one of many projects and activities as part of the work of Greenfield Arts that seeks to encourage creativity and the opportunity for people to express themselves and have a strong voice. If you would like to know more about the full programme just visit our website at [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk) or call our friendly team on 01325 379048.

### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

**Wednesday 29th May 2019 - 7.15pm**  
**Environment & Recreation Meetings**

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

## Honest JOHN



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Then final Left, unit 29

**"Put on your boots and get on down,  
There ain't nothing like it in this town"**

# DIVE in

Hydrotherapy Pool Refurbishment

## PCP Boutique!

PCP Customer Service Team Fundraiser

Take a look around our pop-up boutique filled with pre-loved items: including designer labels and some brand new with tags still attached!

Equipped with a changing and seating area, enjoy food & drink refreshments whilst browsing around all types of clothes, shoes and accessories!

**PCP's Foster Room**  
**Thursday 28th March 2019**  
**10.30 - 15.30**

Do you have anything you would like to donate to our boutique? Please drop off all good quality unwanted materials into the Pioneering Care Centre!

Please call 01325 321234 or email [enquiries@pcp.uk.net](mailto:enquiries@pcp.uk.net) for more information

Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4SF Tel: 01325 321234

**PCP**  
Health, wellbeing and learning for all  
Registered Charity: 1367888



## Christian Aid Appeal



12th-18th May 2019

This year's Christian Aid Appeal focuses on Sierra Leone which is the world's most dangerous place to become a mum. No mum should die in childbirth and Christian Aid believe that every mum and baby's life is worth fighting for. That's why our local volunteers are just a few of the thousands raising money during Christian Aid Week for the world's poorest people.

### How can you help?

Tesco have kindly allowed us to take a Bucket Collection in Tesco on Saturday 1st June. Volunteers from our churches in the town will

be there so any donation, no matter how small, will be much appreciated. There will also be envelopes available for donations and tax payers can Gift Aid their donation adding 25% to their gift.

Christian Aid carry out vital work with poor communities across the world to bring lasting change for the most vulnerable people, regardless of faith, gender or race and this is our opportunity to help those people who are less fortunate than ourselves.

On behalf of Christian Aid and CTGA, I would like to thank you in advance for your support.

Anne Molyneux

Secretary  
Churches Together in Great Aycliffe

For more information about Christian Aid Week please visit [caweek.org](http://caweek.org)

## Apprentices Wanted At Durham County Council

The region's largest council is looking to recruit 66 apprentices to a wide range of posts, from entry to degree level.

Durham County Council is advertising the vacancies to coincide with the launch of its Apprenticeship Strategy for 2019-2022.

Representatives from the council and the GMB and Unison trade unions were joined by current apprentices as they signed their commitment to the strategy, which outlines what the council wants to achieve as an employer and the positive action it will take over the next three years to increase the number and range of apprenticeships within the council.

Leader of Durham County Council, Cllr Simon Henig, said: "Our apprenticeship programme is an integral part of our approach to address current and future skills needs. Apprenticeships help us to attract and retain the very best talent and to benefit from a skilled, motivated and flexible workforce."

"We are committed to investing in the continued expansion and development of our apprenticeship programme. Through increasing the range and extent of apprenticeship opportunities, we can help to improve the skills base of our own workforce and across the county."

Vacancies for 66 apprenticeships, from entry to degree level, are currently being advertised at [www.northeastjobs.org.uk](http://www.northeastjobs.org.uk). Posts are available in a range of occupations including business administration, ICT, financial management, civil engineering, highways, electrical, bricklaying and horticulture.

Twenty-two-year-old business administration apprentice, Amber Kotwall,



from Wolsingham, said: "I graduated from Durham University last year and was looking for a job where I would feel fulfilled. The process of searching for jobs can be stressful and I had looked at several different types but the Durham County Council apprenticeship at the North Pennines AONB Partnership really stood out to me. I have learnt so much about the area where I grew up, helping the environment and being in a workplace for the first time. I am not sure what path I will go onto next, but I am confident that my apprenticeship with Durham County Council will help me secure it."

Twenty-four-year-old Aaron

Evans, ICT apprentice and Durham County Council apprentice ambassador, from Durham City, said: "I've enjoyed moving between the different ICT teams to see different aspects and ranges of jobs I could work in. I've also had the opportunity to develop and learn new skills while being supported by my managers and colleagues. The training has given me a good knowledge base and the confidence to apply for future job opportunities within this area of work."

A copy of Durham County Council's Apprenticeship Strategy 2019 to 2022 can be viewed at [www.durham.gov.uk/apprenticeships](http://www.durham.gov.uk/apprenticeships).

## DURHAM WELCOMES NORTHUMBRIA IN BLOOM JUDGES



Green fingered groups, volunteers and residents are hoping for horticultural success after a visit from competition judges.

Representatives from the Royal Horticultural Society headed to Durham City and Chester-le-Street to consider the areas' entries for the Northumbria in Bloom contest.

The judges began their visit to Durham, which is represented in the Small City category, at the Botanic Gardens before visiting various Durham in Bloom partners to view their displays and environmental improvement projects. The panel returned to the county for a tour in Chester-le-Street, which is flying the flag in the Large Town category.

Judges also met some of the community groups and volunteers who have been working hard, supported by Durham County Council's Clean and Green and Civic Pride teams, to keep the areas looking at their best.

Oliver Sherratt, Durham County Council's head of environmental services

said: "Northumbria In Bloom aims to bring cheer to the region through community gardening."

"A lot of hard work goes in to environmental improvements across our county and we are very proud to introduce the judges to some of the many groups who put so much effort into making our towns and villages such colourful and attractive communities. "We're hopeful that we can follow on the fantastic success we had last year with our In Bloom entries, when Chester-le-Street was awarded the Best Large Town prize and Durham won both the Small City category and Best Overall Entry."

The results of this visit will form part of the overall competition results when judges return in July to assess further horticultural developments and projects, with competition awards set to be announced in September.

More information about County Durham's In Bloom entries is available at: [www.durham.gov.uk/inbloom](http://www.durham.gov.uk/inbloom)

## 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 Moderation Jack & Daz  
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 Mystery Year Paul Baker  
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

19th May - Guests: Trish Pemberton, Joey Collins and Pat Loneragan

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  
21st May - Judith Porter (Marathon Runner, 65yo)  
7.30-9.30pm Northern & Classic Soul Kevin Sowerby

#### 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  
22nd May - Guest: TBC

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 BeatRoute 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

17th May - Nathan Abbott (90s Classix)

Check our website for full schedule

[www.ayclifferradio.co.uk](http://www.ayclifferradio.co.uk)

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Full training given if required.

Genuine reason for sale.

£7995 for quick sale

Call Steve on 01325 316771



## COACH TRIP TO DALTON PARK AND SEAHAM

Sunday 26th May 2019. The cost is £5. Pick up Wilkinsons 9.30am, Stephenson Way Cemetery 9.40am. New Friends New Places invites you to join them on their trip. If you want friendship and company and are living alone book a seat and enjoy yourself for the day, you will meet new friends. You can also join our weekly club held at the NAVY Club every Tuesday from 1.30pm until 4pm. We have line dancing, armchair aerobics and much more. Ring 01325 308094 / 07967 901477 to book for the trip or receive info about the club. We have, during the next 6 months, trips to Scarborough, Whitby, Skipton (with a boat trip), Redcar and Saltburn etc. etc. Funded by GAMP.

## Bishop Sarah Opens Next Chapter in Shildon Success Story

The Rt. Revd, Sarah Clark, Bishop of Jarrow has formally opened the new premises of Shildon Alive marking the next stage in the project ongoing success story.

Like her predecessor, Bishop Sarah was delighted to continue the patronage of the Bishops of Jarrow for the St John's church project that has become a crucial lifeline for the community in the County Durham town.

Shildon, which is amongst the most deprived communities in the North East, has grown in its reliance on Shildon Alive. Centred on the high street, it provides a safe space for its visitors to come and engage with services such as a food bank, a credit union, a learning environment for home cooking, as well as a place of sanctuary and calm.

The project has been awarded more than three-quarters of a million pounds (£0.75M) during the last few years, with the recent award from the big lottery enabling the opening of



a new, more significant centre of food and finance solidarity. Shildon Alive continues to build on the experiences of the last five years by continuing to enable local people to care for local people.

The project was founded by the Revd Canon David Tomlinson when he was vicar of St John's and is now responsible for helping other churches in the diocese to become advocates of their communities and grow for their communities.

Revd David said: "The larger premises [grown from 3 shop units from the previous 1] will allow us to respond better to demand. This is exemplified by the Credit Union now running daily instead of twice weekly, and more excitingly the expansions of the food for all program to include a healthy take away for children and young people, intergenerational cooking and learning together, a community supermarket with low priced staples not otherwise available in a town that has no supermarkets."

Projects Coordinator Paula Nelson said: "The 'food for all' program was established with the support of Morrison's, Co-op, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Aldi M&S Food and Greggs. It recognises that the £13bn of food trashed in the UK every year is a national scandal, impacting the environment, food costs, and human flourishing.

"As a Christian group, Shildon Alive believes passionately in taking care of the world around us so every week we collect surplus food from local

supermarkets, encouraging local people to make use of it and working together to minimise this problem in their area. Our food champion Joanne Icton also runs the intergenerational cooking programme we call Littlechefsbigchefs which aims to bring generations together to learn and share in the joy of cooking.

"Alongside the Credit Union, partnering with NE First, we run savings clubs in schools, budget lessons, and seek to challenge loan sharking. A financially healthy people are an emotionally healthy people too."

Revd David added: "A full-time advocacy service supporting people out of difficult places, signposting and being a kind and listening presence is making a massive difference to families and individuals who simply need a 'leg up' every now and again. Physical health and caring for the environment go hand in hand with two community gardens, a guerrilla gardening project involving around 800 children and young people (annually) litter picking and planting across the community.

"We also have an Alzheimer's café which has proved popular with both carers and those living with the condition, giving support, along with planning musical and other events that have combined to make this a success. Girls keep fit, pop up table tennis table, youth group meetings, and more complete the picture."

Bishop Sarah said: "We are called to shine the light of our faith in our everyday lives and for the people of St. John's this means caring for our community in a way that ensures no one need be hungry, or lonely, or broken by financial crisis or family heartache. Shildon Alive is the lamp through which the church shines its light into the community of Shildon.

"I speak on behalf of this church, one that seeks to stand with the communities it serves, that listens to its people, and that offers itself through acts of love daily." Revd David added: "Coming from the Welsh Valleys, Bishop Sarah, understands what it feels like to be part of a community that has seen its industries closed and work opportunities erode, so having her in Shildon and adding her support to the next phase of the project is particularly poignant."

## Cobblers Hall Road an Eyesore

Dear Sir,  
In response to the article regarding the newly proposed housing in Eldon Whyns by Keepmoat,

It has been stated that the Woodlands project, off Cobblers Hall Road had now been completed.

While in fact building has been completed, we are still awaiting roads and footpaths to be completed and in some cases residents have lived in their homes nearly 5 years.

I would also like to point out that the green areas around the housing, especially on Cobblers Hall Road, are left with infrequent cutting of the grass and very deep holes have been left, where flag poles were erected and not filled afterwards.

Whilst sales were taking place everywhere was kept in pristine condition, but as soon as the building work was completed, and they had left the site, it has become an eyesore!!

Mrs Lynn Downes  
Resident

**A spokesperson for Keepmoat Homes said:**

"The build phase of our Woodlands development has been completed, however we are aware that the roads and paths around the development are still to be finalised, a process referred to as 'topping off'. This process takes place after an inspection by the local council which is conducted 12 months after the development build is complete. This is to allow for settlement to take place and ensures that we, the developer, repair any damaged paths or roads before we finally 'top off' and fully complete the site.

"We apologise for any inconvenience this process causes and are currently liaising with the council to conduct the final inspection, which we hope to have completed soon, enabling final repairs to roads and footpaths around the development to be made before we complete them.

"Finally we appreciate your readers comment with regards to the green areas around the housing and the deep holes which have been left by flag poles and we will be looking into this further and address any problems."

## WIN TICKETS FOR THE NORTH EAST'S VERY OWN TRUCKFEST



Todd Dewey – who is one of the stars of History Channel's Ice Road Truckers – will be flying over to the UK to host Truckfest North East!

The event will take place on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th of June at Wolsingham Showground.

Truckfest has long been looking for a suitable home to complete its series of 8 British locations. Truckfest is a fantastic day out for the whole family with Monster Trucks, American and Custom Trucks.

Stunning main arena action including motorcycle daredevils Broke FMX plus road rescue action. Expect hundreds of competing knights of the road, truck manufacturers and wall

to wall action. It's all at Truckfest! Bob Limming from Truckfest organisers Live Promotions Events said "After bringing Truckfest to hundreds of thousands of visitors over its 36 year history we are so excited to complete the series with a new event in the North East." You can find out more about Truckfest by visiting [www.truckfest.co.uk](http://www.truckfest.co.uk)

We have a prize of 3 x Single Day Family Tickets (2 adults, 2 children) for the Truckfest North East event at Wolsingham Showground on 15th and 16th June. To be in with a chance of winning simply send your name and email address to [paul@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:paul@newtonnews.co.uk) - closing date for entries is 5th June.



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## Apprenticeship and Training Opportunities at Employers' Fair



Blue chip engineering and manufacturing firms will join schools and talented students and graduates at an Employers' Fair taking place at South West Durham Training next week.

The free event is open to all Year 10 and Year 11 students and sixth formers, teachers, careers advisors, parents/carers and local employers. Graduate jobs, industry placements, apprenticeship vacancies, internships and volunteering opportunities will all be up for grabs, with SWDT's Business Development Team at hand to offer advice.

Major employers already confirmed include Nifco, GSK, 3M and Livin, along with Taylormade Timber and Mill Masters International. More than 20 schools in South West Durham and Tees Valley, including those who have specialist GCSE or BTEC engineering courses, have received invitations. Both employers interested

in training opportunities and potential learners, as well as school careers leads, will have the opportunity to tour SWDT's Aycliffe Business Park facility – its home for more than 50 years.

Prospective learners will also be able to speak to former apprentices who have gone on to enjoy successful careers in industry.

Stuart Johnson, CEO at SWDT, said: "This fair is a great opportunity for talented students and graduates to meet employers who are recruiting for a wide range of graduate jobs, industry placements, internships and volunteering opportunities. "It is free to attend and we can provide transport for school groups and sixth forms to collect and drop off."

"And for local employers attending there will be the opportunity to discuss HNC and HND courses with the Higher Education team, as well as to see the commercial training facilities available including our Forklift Training Centre."

The Employers' Fair takes place on Tuesday May 21st from 4.30pm to 7pm. To book a place visit [eventbrite.com/e/employers-fair-south-west-durham-training-tickets60189907634](http://eventbrite.com/e/employers-fair-south-west-durham-training-tickets60189907634)

## FAMILY FUN DAY

FREE ADMISSION

A Family Fun Day will be held at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club at Moore Lane on Saturday 18th May from 12-5pm – supporting Action4ME and The Hub of Wishes charities. There will be activities and stalls both indoors and outside, including Punch and Judy, Magic Man, treasure hunt, balloon modelling and face painting. Also hook-a-duck, tombola, raffles, competitions, cake stalls and hot dog van. Representatives from the local Police Force and Fire Brigade will also be in attendance on the day. We hope you can join us for a fun packed day!

If you would like more information or have any queries please contact: The Hub of Wishes on 01325 300121. We are open 10.00am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday with lunches and bingo on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Email – [thehubofwishes@gmail.com](mailto:thehubofwishes@gmail.com)

Please note our website is:

[www.hubofwishes.co.uk](http://www.hubofwishes.co.uk)

(no "the" before hub).

## NEVILLE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 21st May at 6.45pm in Neville Community Centre.

Due to Charity Commission rules, we are required to register as an Unincorporated Charitable Association.

Part of that registration process requires us to have a constitution that is agreed by the Community Association and Fit for Purpose as far as the Charity Commission is concerned.

We are therefore required to discuss the proposed constitution at this meeting. There will be a few copies available at the meeting and copies are available by emailing [neville.community.association@btinternet.com](mailto:neville.community.association@btinternet.com)

We will also have news of our next Community Association trip.

Refreshments will be available from 6.30pm.

Pop down for a cuppa and a chat.

## READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Mr Edwards from Brafferton snapped this photo of the new Azuma train built by Hitachi as it approached the bend at Brafferton on the East Coast main line. Fred believes they are currently "running in" and will be used in earnest from later in the month.

Send your pictures to [paul@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:paul@newtonnews.co.uk)



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Infinity Dance Academy - Dua Lipa Tribute  
Harris Tweed - Amy Stevens - Athena Sports  
Hollywood Boredom - Anthony Fish  
Call of the Wild - Darren Kent

**Sunday Headline: 'BLACK LACE'**

Aycliffe Dance Academy - Copper Beach  
Shania Twain Tribute - Whiskey Haze  
Four Letter Word - Becky Sawyer  
Kylie Minogue Tribute - Chris Mardula



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### NEWTON NEWS

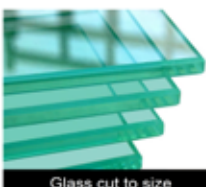
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## Billy Pearce Offers Good Old Variety

Legendary comedian, actor, panto star, TV and radio stalwart Billy Pearce has been described as the supreme entertainer and will star in *The Good Old Days of Variety* at Darlington Hippodrome on Thursday 6 June at 2pm.

Yorkshire born Billy Pearce emerged unscathed through the tough training grounds of the northern club circuit to become one of Britain's most talented comedians. Born in Leeds, he came to national prominence when he appeared on *New Faces* in 1986. He was quickly snapped up for stage and TV appearances. In total, Billy has performed in five children's Royal Variety shows and three Royal Variety shows. Multi award winning Billy loves singing acting and dancing! He's played 'Roddy O'Neil' in *Boogie Nights*, appeared in an episode of *Heartbeat* and the Bafta award winning 'Street.'

Billy has enjoyed playing the narrator in 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show' and being a 'Bosnian Host' in the fab musical 'Eurobeat' with the lovely Mel Giedroyc. Billy also appeared in the fab musical 'Stand-up' with Darren Day and Lionel Blair,



and was awarded 'Services to Arts and Entertainment' at the Yorkshire awards, previously won by the Kaiser Chiefs and Alan Ayckebourn.

Billy is proud to be back in Darlington to perform at the wonderful Hippodrome where he will be joined by a full supporting company of West End singers, live musicians and comedians to ensure audiences will have an afternoon of pure, nostalgic variety entertainment suitable for all ages.

*The Good Old Days of Variety* is at Darlington Hippodrome on Thursday 6 June at 2pm. To book call the Box Office on 01325 405405 or visit [www.darlingtonhippodrome.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonhippodrome.co.uk)

## Mountain Biking at Woodham on the Up



Students from Woodham Academy continue to visit Hamsterley Forest after school on a Friday evening. There are a wide variety of challenging red graded mountain bike trails that the students continue to enjoy. On average, students cover about 10 miles and the mix of challenging climbs followed by exhilarating descents bring a thoroughly enjoyable conclusion to their week at school. The sessions are in popular demand and since it began 2 summers ago, over 50 students have participated in mountain biking in one form or

another.

The trips are led by deputy headteacher and MIAS (Mountain Bike Instructors Award Scheme) level 2 leader Danny Morgans and are made possible as a result of funding from the Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership for a trailer to transport 14 bikes. Such trips reinforce Woodham's commitment to provide extensive opportunities for students beyond the formal curriculum where they can overcome different challenges and develop personal attributes that it's not possible to do in the classroom alone.

## Greenfield Students Rise to the Challenge in Ullswater



Year 7 students at Greenfield Community College have been sampling outdoor life at Ullswater as part of their wider learning experience. The 46 strong Year 7 group were thrilled with the range of activities on offer and rose to the challenge even though the weather was testing at times.

"It was an amazing opportunity," said student Courtney, "it made me feel really good about myself". The students showed resilience and independence as they took on the long hike to camp base where they spent the night outdoors. One of the most popular activities was gorge walking and the group enjoyed taking part in activities such as hiking,

rock climbing, tunnelling and jog and dip. "I loved the sense of adventure and how you could learn to be independent" said student Alexandra.

Greenfield Staff and Students have been visiting Howtown Centre for over ten years, an excellent outward-bound centre in a fabulous setting in the lake district. The students were keen to take up the offer and were rewarded with a valuable experience, they not only found it helpful for their academic studies but gained new expertise in team building, made new friends and gained confidence in the process.

"It was a fantastic out of classroom experience where

students showed real team building and leadership skills, they should be very proud of their achievements" said Subject Leader Mr Robson.

The impact of the trip is huge and a fantastic opportunity for the students. Just to spend time away from home in the Lake District is wonderful, but to be pushed and challenged and learn new skills is so valuable for furthering their education.



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# CRICKET SCOREBOARD



Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store got their first league win of the season after a brilliant performance to beat Rockcliffe Park 1st XI by 8 wickets in the NYSD 2nd division. After being asked to bat first, the visitors were blown away by some terrific bowling from Aycliffe pair Jack Slatcher, (sponsored by Dean and Tina Greaves), who took 5 for 13 and Michael Howe (4 for 27) and were skittled for just 43 after 22 overs. In reply Sam Telford smashed an unbeaten 31 off just 23 balls, with three boundaries and a couple of sixes as Aycliffe hurried to their winning target from just 7.5 overs.

On the Friday evening, the first team registered their first win of the season defeating Sedgfield 1st XI at home by 13 runs in the Brunton Cup. Batting first Aycliffe posted 109 for 9 in their 20 overs thanks to a good innings of 37 by Adam Randal (sponsored by DTS Joinery) and James Layfield-Carroll who chipped in with 11 runs. In reply the visitors were held to 96 for 9 after 20 overs with Patrick Howe the pick of the bowlers taking 3 for 22 and a couple of wickets apiece from Luke Telford and James Layfield-Carroll. Special mention must go to club stalwart Chris Palmer who became the first player in the club's history to play 600 senior games for Newton Aycliffe CC. The club's 2nd team again battled well to earned a deserved draw away at Rockcliffe Park 2nd XI in the NYSD 4th division and

maintain their unbeaten start to the season. Aycliffe captain Joe Haines (sponsored by Pheonix Energy) had a match to remember as he became only the 5th second team player in the club's history to take five wickets and score a half century in the same game. Rockcliffe scored 236 for 7 in their 40 overs with Haines taking 5 for 52 and Matty Greaves chipping in with 2 for 49. In reply Aycliffe batted out their 40 overs finishing on 106 for 7 thanks to a diligent unbroken 8th wicket partnership of 36 from 15.1 overs by Haines (52 not out from 91 balls) and 13 year old Leo Mercy (12 not out from 47 balls) to help save the game. Our u15's were beaten by eight wickets away at Rockcliffe Park in the NYACC League. Batting first Aycliffe scored a respectable 96 for 5 thanks to good innings from Matthew Greaves (37 runs) and Harry Wright (23 runs). Rockcliffe reached their winning target after 18.4 overs with Harry Wright completing a good individual game by taking both wickets to fall. The u13's got their league campaign off to a good start when they defeated Blackhall u13's at home by eight wickets in the NYACC League. The visitors elected to bat first and were bowled out for 71 after 19.1 overs thanks to some terrific bowling from Aycliffe's Alfie Spensley (3 for 14), Thomas Dearden (2 for 6) and Dan Heaton (2 for 9). In reply, Aycliffe batted superbly in the drizzle and fading light and reached their winning target after 18.4 overs. Harrison Pearson top

scored for the homeside with an unbeaten 28 off 48 balls, including four boundaries and a big six and he was given good support from Harry Brumwell, who finished with an important 10 not out off 44 balls.

The club's new team, the u12's, played their inaugural game and got off to a great start comfortably defeating Norton at home by 40 runs in the NYACC League. There were good performances with the ball from Alfie Spensley and James Coupland, who each took two wickets and during the Aycliffe innings, captain Thomas Dearden top scored with ten runs.

The u11's got their first victory of the season when they beat Rockcliffe Park at home in an excellent game by just 12 runs in the NYACC League. Captain Will Dearden shone with the bat scoring 18 runs and James Evans was the pick of the bowlers taking a couple of wickets.

Photo: 2nd team record breaker Joe Haines

## Volunteer Needed

A charity that provides a fortnightly door-to-door social shopping club in Newton Aycliffe is appealing for a volunteer to help older people get on and off the bus. Age UK County Durham's 'Aycliffe Shoppers' fortnightly shopping club every other Friday morning is so important to the older people who use it to go shopping and to socialise.

The service uses Shildon Community Bus and a volunteer driver and helper ensure older people who live alone or would struggle to carry heavy shopping from the bus stop can enjoy shopping with good company. Andrea Goldie, Development Worker for Age UK County Durham said:

"For many older people poor mobility and a lack of transport means getting to the shops can be problematic. In addition, when you live alone, it can be a lonely activity. We really need a new friendly volunteer to provide support one morning a fortnight. Full support will be provided."

"The trips aren't just a ride to the shops. These regular trips to supermarkets are making a huge difference to older people who have difficulty shopping for food. Members get the added bonus of a door-to-door service, a wider variety of shops and supermarkets, time to chat, enjoy something to eat or drink, and help getting shopping on and off the bus. Here's what some members have to say:

"We enjoy the trips and appreciated the help from the volunteer helper and the driver. I would have struggled to get my shopping otherwise."

"I enjoy the trips. I had not been able to get to the supermarket in six weeks. I also enjoyed the company whilst in the store, which was much appreciated".

If you think you can help please contact Andrea on 0191 374 6577 or e-mail: cet@ageukcountydurham.org.uk.

# FA GRANTS FOR ADULT MALE TEAMS

## New-look scheme from The FA returns to support retention of adult male football teams

• Grants available for clubs to maintain existing adult male teams

• Application window open until Thursday 6 June 2019 The Football Association (The FA) is re-launching its adult male retention-focused funding scheme to support men's 11-a-side community football teams across the country.

The newly-titled Stay in the Game scheme will offer existing clubs the opportunity to apply for grants of £750 to help cover the various associated costs of running a football team.

Last year, under the name Retain the Game, the scheme helped to support the retention of 2,336 adult male teams across the country, supporting an estimated 55,000 community footballers.

Clubs who benefitted from the grants last year were

able to use the funding for matchday and training facility hire, first-aid training and new equipment, whilst also subsidising matchday fees for members of their respective squads. Paul Simpson, England Under-20s Head Coach, said: "It's no secret that we are seeing adult male players move from regular 11-a-side football into other more casual formats of the game."

"One of the main reasons is clubs lacking money for things like match fees, facilities hire, new kit and equipment, which can lead to their teams folding."

"Last year's roll-out of the scheme saw some really positive strides and I hope we'll see men's 11-a-side teams across the country receive a helping hand."

This year, the grants will once again be available to adult male teams in the Under-18 to Under-21 category, open-age adult sides and veterans' teams.

Grassroots clubs that meet the following criteria will be eligible to apply:

• Clubs that operate with two or more adult male teams – Under-18s, Under-19s, Under-21s, Under-23s, open age and vets.

• Clubs that hold the FA's Charter Standard Award (Adult, Youth, Development or Community).

• Adult clubs that commit to becoming FA Adult Charter Standard within season 2019/20.

• Clubs that have the support of their County Football Association.

The application window for Stay in the Game is now open and closes at 5pm on Thursday 6 June 2019. Clubs seeking more information on the programme should either contact their local County FA or visit <https://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/funding-schemes/stay-in-the-game/>.

Stay in the Game is inclusive of players from different ethnic backgrounds, faiths

and sexual orientations.

This push to reverse the decline in adult male teams follows the recent Grow the Game funding scheme for 2019, which made £1.5 million available for grassroots clubs looking to create new women and girls or disability football teams. As well as Grow the Game, the Football Foundation uses investment from the Premier League, The FA and the Government, through Sport England, to provide enhanced sporting facilities across the country. Since 2000, the Foundation has supported over 16,500 grassroots projects worth more than £1.5bn.



## AYCLIFFE RUNNING CLUB

Presents



## The HYDRAM 10K & Fun Run

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Sponsored by

HYDRAM Engineering Ltd, 3M UK PLC, Beaumont Grounds Maintenance and Great Aycliffe Town Council



10k Run ..... 10.00 am  
3k Run ..... 9.15 am

From Greenfield Community College,  
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(EA measured course with kilometres marked)

Organised by  
Aycliffe Running  
Club under  
England Athletics  
Rules Permit No.  
2019-37493  
Applied for

**10k Race**

- £100 to first male and female
- £100 to first male team and female team (of 4)
- £100 for the course record
- Veteran prizes
- Chip race timing
- Technical Running Shirt

**Fun Run**

- Technical Running Shirt

**Entry Fees:** 10k Run £13.00 Club Runners/£15.00 Non-England Athletics member  
£4.00 extra to enter on the day  
3k Run £4.00 All entries

Enter online at [www.entrycentral.com/Aycliffe10k2019](http://www.entrycentral.com/Aycliffe10k2019) or email: [Aycliffe10k@gmail.com](mailto:Aycliffe10k@gmail.com)

Race details: <http://ayclifferrunningclub.org.uk/about-aycliffe-10k-and-fun-run/>

Cheques to be made payable to 'Aycliffe Running Club' Entries to:

Michelle Scott, 11 West Auckland Road, Shildon, DL4 1PY

Closing Date for Entries midnight Friday 14<sup>th</sup>, June 2019

**NOTE!** - Collect your race number before 9:30 on the day.  
- Headphones are NOT to be worn, you will be disqualified.



If for any reason the race is cancelled at short notice (which in the 22 year history has never occurred) Aycliffe Running Club cannot return your entry fee as the club is committed to the organisation cost of the event regardless.

Surname; ..... Forename(s); .....

Address first line; ..... Post Code; .....

e-mail address; ..... Phone No. ....

Date of Birth; ..... Age on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019; ..... Club/Team; .....  
(10K runners must be 16-years or over on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019)

England Athletics membership No. .... Select from the following; 10k ☐ or Fun Run ☐ Male ☐ or Female ☐

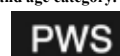
Emergency Contact - Name; ..... Phone No. ....

**Declaration:** I wish to enter the HYDRAM 10K or Fun Run and I declare that I am an amateur as defined by England Athletics Laws and certify that I am medically fit to run. Furthermore, I agree that the organisers will not be held responsible for any injury or illness as a result of my participation in the events.

Timing chips must be returned at the finish even if you pull out, if I do not return the timing chip, I accept that I must pay for a replacement which is £20.

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# New Art Gallery Brings Masterpieces to County

Bishop Trevor Gallery, Opening Saturday, 1st June 2019

World renowned masterpieces are coming to County Durham as a new art gallery prepares to open its doors.

Launching in Bishop Auckland on Saturday, 1st June the Bishop Trevor Gallery, part of The Auckland Project, will offer a programme of special temporary exhibitions, displaying fine art on loan from national institutions and private collections.

The first exhibition will feature works by masters such as Thomas Gainsborough and George Stubbs.

The new gallery is housed within 900-year-old Auckland Castle and has been named after Bishop Richard Trevor, Bishop of Durham from 1752 to 1771, who lived at the Castle and left a legacy of art in the town.

The Bishop was a serious art collector and gathered a large collection at Auckland Castle, including Jacob and His Twelve Sons by Spanish master, Francisco de Zurbarán, which he purchased in 1756.

The life-sized paintings have hung in the Castle's Long Dining Room for over 250 years, and during the Castle's conservation, have travelled to Dallas, Texas, New York and Jerusalem, putting Bishop Auckland on the map for art-lovers the world over.

Created by The Auckland Project, which owns Auckland Castle, the Bishop Trevor Gallery honours Bishop Trevor's legacy, bringing famous masterpieces and original works to the town for all generations to enjoy.

The new gallery space sits within a suite of apartments in Auckland Castle, which were first built for Bishop Trevor in the 18th century and have never been open to the public before.

Originally designed by one of the most renowned architects of the time, John Carr of York, the apartments were specially arranged so that the picturesque views of the landscaped Deer Park



and surrounding County Durham scenery could be easily admired from the windows.

**The Origins of British Landscape: Saturday, 1 June – Sunday, 8 September 2019**

The first temporary exhibition in the Bishop Trevor Gallery has also taken inspiration from these views, exploring the rich history and beauty of British landscape painting.

The Origins of British Landscape will run from Saturday, 1 June to Sunday, 8 September 2019 and features paintings by some of the most influential artists of the 18th century, such as Thomas Gainsborough, George Stubbs and Claude Lorrain. The exhibition will take visitors through the origins of British landscape painting in the mid-1700s to its development into one of the most enduring and significant genres of British art.

The Origins of British Landscape will open at the Bishop Trevor Gallery, Auckland Castle on Saturday, 1st June 2019 and run until Sunday, 8 September 2019. The gallery is open Wednesday to Sunday from 10am – 4pm.

Visitors coming to Bishop Trevor Gallery will also be able to take a sneak peek inside Auckland Castle, which is currently closed to the public while a multi-million pound programme of conservation is taking place.

## PLAY CAFÉ

The PLAY CAFÉ project is hosting an information event on Friday 24th May 12.30 – 1.30pm in the Big Club, Newton Aycliffe. PLAY CAFÉ supports families with children of school age who struggle financially during the long school holidays. Without Breakfast Clubs and no access to Free School Meals, some families find it difficult to afford additional food. Working parents may have increased costs linked to child care arrangements. During the summer holidays there is the extra cost of finding new uniforms and shoes as the children grow.

If you want to know more about the support offered by the project, for yourself or for someone you know, come along to the event which is free of charge. PLAY CAFÉ is supported by GAMP Funding from our 7 County Councillors, Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club and County Durham Food Bank. Got a question? Text 07565 134194

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# Changes in Law Around Organ Donation



Dear Sir,  
The law around organ donation in England is changing. From spring 2020 all adults in England will be considered to have agreed to be an organ donor when they die, unless they had recorded a decision

not to donate or are in one of the excluded groups. We want everybody in County Durham to get ready for the change in the law by taking a moment to think about organ donation, making their organ donation decision and sharing

that decision with family and friends. During Dying Matters Awareness Week (May 13-19) we want to raise awareness of what's changing from spring 2020 and the choices available to everyone.

We're asking people to get ready for the change. Those covered by the new law will still have a choice about whether they want to be an organ donor - you can opt in or opt out. Your family will always be involved to ensure any recorded decision reflects your last known decision so please talk to them.

Organ donation is and will always be, a precious gift and one donor can save or transform the lives of up to nine people and help many more people if they also donate tissue.

Have you decided whether you want to be a lifesaving organ donor? Have you told your family? If you haven't already, please make your choice, register it on the NHS Organ Donor Register and tell your family.

To find out more, and to register your organ donation decision, visit [www.organdonation.nhs.uk](http://www.organdonation.nhs.uk). If you can't find the answer to any questions you may have on the website, please call our hotline on 0300 303 2094.

Yours sincerely  
Anthony Clarkson  
Director of Organ Donation and Transplantation  
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## ZOG FLIES IN TO DARLINGTON



Freckle Productions are delighted to announce the world premiere stage adaptation of Zog, based on the book by Julia Donaldson with illustrations by Axel Scheffler, will be flying into Darlington Hippodrome on Friday 17 May to Sunday 19 May on its first ever UK Tour.

Large in size, and keen in nature, Zog is so eager to win a golden star at Madam Dragon's school, where dragons learn all the things that dragons need

to know. Zog tries so very hard, perhaps too hard, and he bumps, burns and roars his way through school. Luckily, the plucky Princess Pearl patches him up ready to face his biggest challenge yet...a duel with a knight, Sir Gadabout the Great! Zog promises to be roaring fun for all ages.

Zog is adapted and directed by Mike Shepherd (founder and Artistic Director of Kneehigh) with an original folk score by Johnny Flynn and designs by Katie Sykes. Completing the creative team are movement director Tom Jackson-Greaves (Billionaire Boy, UK Tour), lighting designer Ric Mountjoy (The Play that Goes Wrong), sound designer Julian Starr (Violet, Charing Cross Theatre), puppet designer Lyndie Wright (Little Angel Theatre), puppet director Sarah Wright (Kneehigh's Brief Encounter) and aerial specialist Tina Koch.

The cast features Elliot McKenzie as Zog, Emily Benjamin (Bat Out Of Hell) as Princess Pearl, Robert Ginty (Salome and Coriolanus, Royal Shakespeare Company) as Sir Gadabout the Great and Euan Wilson (Stick Man, UK Tour) as Madame Dragon, with Dixie McDevitt (National Youth Theatre alumni) as Ensemble. The cast of actor-puppeteers will bring the world of Zog to life with handcrafted puppets designed and created by Little Angel Theatre co-founder Lyndie Wright.

Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler are the UK's number one picture book pair and are creators of many modern classics, including The Gruffalo which is in 75 languages. Zog was first published in 2010 and won the Galaxy National Children's Book of the Year Award. It has gone on to become a perennial bestseller. For Christmas 2018, Magic Light Pictures premiered an animated film of Zog on BBC One featuring an all-star cast. Suitable for children and families of all ages. Zog runs at Darlington Hippodrome from Friday 17 to Sunday 19 May. For more information or to book call 01325 405405 or visit www.darlingtonhippodrome.co.uk

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## Democracy – the Last Chance?

Dear Sir,

The European Elections that take place on Thursday 23rd May 2019 could be our last chance of getting our failing democracy to implement the will of the democratic majority; Brexit!

The two party system is broken. Democracy for a large majority of our politicians is to lie in their manifesto to get elected and then to change your mind when safely elected for 5 years. A plague on all your houses!

The only way to save our democracy is to set aside national politics and vote for UKIP. However, if you are gullible enough believe the Labour / Momentum name-calling and mud-slinging at UKIP, you can vote for Nigel Farage's new Brexit Party (it is so new that the political correct brigade have not had enough time to get their lies to stick!) These are the only alternatives for Leave supporters and, more importantly, former Remain supporters who wish to see democracy prevail.

The new 'Change Party' stands for 'more of the same'. It was founded by deserters from the two main parties who decided that they did not want to implement their Party's manifesto that got them elected. They have refused to resign their seats and try to get re-elected. They spurn democracy. They will disappear at the next election when democracy catches up with them.

The Green party's idea of democracy is to have the undemocratic E.U. pass laws to stop 'Climate Change'. These, our Parliament will have to squander billions of pounds on without a snowball-in-hell's chance of achieving anything!

That leaves the Liberal Democrats. Very few people have ever voted for them! Personally I cannot vote for a party which has supported policies which are at odds with the beliefs of most of the world's major religions. Also, they are the only party that is so misguided to believe that we are actually better-off remaining in the E.U. They have buried their head in the sand.

If our politicians get away with lying to the electorate again, then our Parliamentary Democracy is dead, and some unsavoury people will resort to undemocratic means to enforce Brexit.

Please vote for a Leave party and save our democracy.

Yours Sincerely,  
Alastair P. G. Welsh

## BOOK MARK



Book worms and budding writers can meet two multi award winning and bestselling authors at a special event this month.

On Friday 24 May Mark Billingham and Erin Kelly will be appearing at The Word, National Centre for the Written Word, South Shields as the final event of the third annual WRITE Festival, which is currently underway. And the two authors will not only be talking about their work and careers but also sharing their tips and advice on everything from story structure to character building.

Mark Billingham is one of the UK's most acclaimed and popular crime writers. Known mainly for his series of novels featuring Detective Inspector Tom Thorne, which have twice won him the Crime Novel of the Year Award, he also had a successful career in television and stand-up comedy.

Joining him will be Erin Kelly, a leading mystery writer, whose first book The Poison Tree became a major ITV drama. She also wrote the novelisation of the BAFTA award winning TV series Broadchurch.

"We at The Word are proud that the WRITE festival has taken off so well. Every year our audience is flourishing and attracting people of all ages," said Tania Robinson, Head of Culture, at The Word.

"With two of the leading authors joining us for the last night of the festival, it is sure to be a fascinating and an extremely captivating night," she said.

The event starts at 7pm, tickets are £5 per person and it is suitable for ages 16+. For further information about The WRITE festival, and to book tickets, visit [www.theworduk.org/write](http://www.theworduk.org/write)



## Fans Risk Losing Money Booking Illegal Package Holidays

UK Civil Aviation Authority launches campaign to warn football fans of the dangers of booking trips without financial protection

With the Champions League and Europa League finals fast approaching, football fans will be thrilled to see four English teams in the finals. On 1 June 2019, Tottenham and Liverpool will be going head to head in Madrid, Spain, meanwhile, Chelsea and Arsenal fans will be looking to travel to Baku in Azerbaijan for the Europa League final on 29 May 2019.

More than 40,000 tickets to the finals will be sold to English fans - 32,000 for the Champions League in Madrid and 12,000 for the Europa League in Baku. Flights to Madrid are highly sought-after and transport to Baku in time for the final may involve transfers, trains, different airlines and potential stop-overs in Moscow, Istanbul and Izmir in Turkey. Unfortunately, unlawful travel agents may use the urgency to pressure travellers into purchasing unlawful or fake package deals.

The UK Civil Aviation Authority today launches its campaign to ensure that fans' chances at witnessing an historic moment in sport are not ruined by the actions of companies falsely posing as legitimate travel agents. By booking their trip through a travel operator protected by ATOL, supporters will be able to pack peace of mind alongside their tickets to the finals.

Andy Cohen, Head of ATOL at the UK Civil Aviation Authority said: "The dedication and support of football fans is without question. As some of the most passionate fans in the world, seeing four English teams in the European finals make these matches a once in a lifetime opportunity for some. If fortunate enough to get a ticket, it is essential that travellers check for financial protection before booking their trips.

"Using a reputable travel company is essential but, above and beyond this, it is vitally important that your travel company offers ATOL financial protection when booking a package. Always follow these top tips:

- Look out for the ATOL logo – this is usually found on your travel company's website, brochure or shop front.
- Research the travel company to ensure their ATOL protection is legitimate – go to [www.packpeaceofmind.co.uk](http://www.packpeaceofmind.co.uk) and check the company's name on our database.
- Watch out for hidden costs – luggage and transfer fees can very quickly add up.
- Check for financial protection if booking with a non-UK based company – there are some non-UK travel companies which offer travel to UK consumers, but these will often not be ATOL protected. Do your research and check what financial protection they provide and, if in doubt, book using a credit card, ensuring you are protected up to the value of £30,000 under UK law.
- If going to Baku, you will need a visa for the whole of your journey – this includes any stops-overs. Visit [www.packpeaceofmind.co.uk](http://www.packpeaceofmind.co.uk) for more information about ATOL protection.

## VOLUNTEERING GETS SOME POWER!

Volunteers are needed for a pilot project to help people living with Parkinson's in the north-east. Parkinson's UK, the national charity that supports people with Parkinson's is working with Sport England on the Parkinson's Power project, which is currently running across the north-east of England from Berwick to Darlington.

Being active and exercising can really help people to live well with Parkinson's, and the project will help people with Parkinson's to access more opportunities to become and stay physically active.

There are nearly 6000 people in the north-east living with Parkinson's, and the project is focusing on supporting people to become and stay more physically active by doing things they enjoy. Part of this work involves using volunteers to support people to take their first steps to lead a more active life.

Project Support Officer Anna Castiaux is running a brand-new volunteering scheme called Parkinson's Power Buddies, and she needs recruits to join up from across the region.

"We want volunteers from all walks of life who can spare us an hour or so a week and really want to make a difference to the life of someone who needs it," said Anna.

"Activities that Buddies will support will be very varied, it could be accompanying someone to an exercise class for the first time, doing a bit of gardening together, or just going for a walk. That's the beauty of our project, there is something for everyone!

"Full training will be given to all volunteers, Buddies don't need any specific knowledge about Parkinson's or being physically active, and everyone from age 18 upwards is welcome.

"Our Buddies will play a vital role in supporting people with Parkinson's" commented Anna, "As well as enjoying the benefits of being active and meeting new people themselves. The project really is a win win!"

Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological condition, meaning that it causes problems in the brain and gets worse over time. There is currently no known cure and symptoms include tremors, slow movement and stiff and inflexible muscles, although those with the condition can also experience a range of other symptoms such as problems with balance, insomnia and depression and apathy.

Remaining physically active and exercising is one way of helping people to live well with Parkinson's, and research shows that it can help with mobility and balance as well as improved physical and mental wellbeing.

For more details about becoming a Parkinson's Power Buddy, contact Anna on 07970 407 838 or email [parkinsonspower@parkinsons.org.uk](mailto:parkinsonspower@parkinsons.org.uk)

For more information about Parkinson's, visit [www.parkinsons.org.uk](http://www.parkinsons.org.uk) or call our free, confidential helpline on 0808 800 303

## Obituary

### BRIAN I ROBSON (Stan)

Died 6th May 2019, aged 67. Funeral Tuesday 21st May leaving Co-operative Funeralcare Chapel of Rest, Macmillan Road, Newton Aycliffe at 14:15 with a Service at Darlington Crematorium at 14:45 for a celebration of his life. Casual dress please.

### PAT VOY

Peacefully in hospital on May 10. Patricia Elaine (nee Griffiths) aged 87 years. Dearly loved Wife of the late Billy, much loved Mam of Alec and Simon. She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Friday May 24. Would friends kindly meet for service in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 12.30pm.

### ELIZABETH DUNN (Betty)

Sadly passed away peacefully on 3rd May 2019.

Funeral to be held at St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe at 1:45pm Tuesday 28th May, followed by cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium at 2:30pm

Following this the family would be privileged to meet the many friends & family at the Phoenix Club, Newton Aycliffe for a buffet (upstairs, lift available).

At the family's request, no flowers but donations to the Great North Air Ambulance Charity. Our Mam and Dad's favourite.

### SANDERSON

Margaret of Newton Aycliffe passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family in Defoe Court care home on April 29 aged 89 years. Beloved Wife of Isaac (Sandy) for over 67 years. A loving Mother to Robert, Ian and Jacqueline. Also a treasured Nana and Great Nana. Would family and friends please join us to celebrate her life at St Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe on Wednesday May 22 for 10.30am. Followed by interment at the West Cemetery School Aycliffe.

### Rescheduled Funeral Date

### EVA TINKLER (nee Dye)

Peacefully on 21st April, aged 93 years. Treasured Mam Tink of Barry, Teddy, Margaret, Joyce, Derek and David; beloved Gran of Sarah, Angela, Brenton and Kira and Great Gran of Henry. Funeral Service to be held at St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe on Thursday 23rd May at 1.00pm prior to interment in West Cemetery, School Aycliffe. Would family and friends please meet at the church. Donations in lieu of flowers, if so desired, for Alzheimer's Society.

## Congratulations

### Flo is 80



**Happy 80th Birthday** to a very special Mam and Nana. All our love, Dawn, Les, Craig, Lauren, Anth and Julie xx

**TREVOR KELLY** 18/5/2019 Happy 60th birthday Dad. Have a wonderful day. Love, Louise & Gav x

**TREVOR KELLY** Happy 60th birthday to the best Grandad in the world. Luvs always, Harry and Jasmin x  
**TREVOR KELLY** The big 60 Dad, love James Shane K x  
**TREVOR KELLY** Happy 60th. Best Grandad ever, love Adam Kelly x

**DAD TREVOR KELLY** Happy 60th Have a great birthday, love Sharna and Corey x  
**GRANDAD GUPPY** Happy 60th birthday Trevor Kelly. Love, Lexi, Scarlett, Maggi & Baby Bump x

**TREVOR KELLY** 18/5/2019 Dear Grandad have a nice 60th birthday. Have lots of fun, we care and love you so. Much love from all your Grandchildren, Harry, Adam, Scarlett, Jasmin, Lexi, Maggi and Baby Bump x

**TREVOR KELLY** Happy 60th birthday to my Son-in-Law, love Jeany O

## Birthday Remembrance

**TREVOR PLASKITT**, May 23rd. Time cannot steal the treasures that we carry in our hearts. Remembering you on your birthday. God bless, love Valerie xx Shirley, Julia and Adam. Loving Grandchildren, Jonathan, Maxine, Louis, Mia and family xx

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## HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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Tel: Paul  
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## RUNNING CLUB NEWS



There was a full racing calendar last weekend with members taking part in several events over both days on the weekend. Events started as usual with the parkruns and this week saw two members achieving PBs at Darlington's South Park. Kathleen Tonge in a time of 27.30 and her husband Richard Tonge in 28.20.

Later that evening saw the start of the Sunderland Running Festival which was taking part over two days. Saturday night saw the inaugural 5k event take



place. Richard Holland entered and completed this in 19.56.

## GO-TRI WITH AYCLIFFE TRI CLUB

Aycliffe Tri Club proudly present their first GO TRI Aquathlon (swim/run) to be held on Wednesday 19th June at 6pm. This is an ideal introduction to multi-sports and aimed at novice participants. The event is a 200m pool swim followed by a 2km run on grass around the grounds of Woodham Academy.

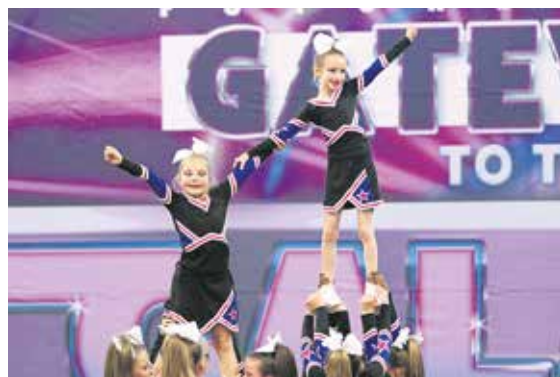
Aycliffe Tri Club are inviting local people age 15+ to 'dip their toe into triathlon' with GO TRI, the zero-pressure way for complete triathlon beginners to get involved with the sport. GO TRI, a programme designed by British Triathlon is a low-cost, fun and accessible way for people to get into triathlon and multisport events for the first time.

Triathlon is a great sport to get active and challenge yourself, and by taking on two elements of swimming and running you can keep training fun and varied too! At the event there'll be coaches and volunteers on hand to offer advice and support throughout, and cheer you on as you cross the finish line! Don't worry if you're new to multi-sport, you're not on your own, there'll be other people taking part for the first time too. The most important thing is to have fun and enjoy yourself. Everyone is welcome - give TRI a go! For more information check out the event at [www.gotri.org](http://www.gotri.org) or contact the club direct via email [aycliffetriclub@gmail.com](mailto:aycliffetriclub@gmail.com)

## SPORTY WEEKEND FOR AYCLIFFE'S FLYING GIRL



Scarlet and Mam Amanda - who was a racing driver and performance driving instructor herself - featured on Aycliffe Radio's live sports show on Tuesday 14th May at 6.00pm. The show is repeated on Sunday 19th at 12noon - visit [www.ayclifferradio.co.uk](http://www.ayclifferradio.co.uk) to listen. For more information on Scarlet visit [www.scarletdunnracing.com](http://www.scarletdunnracing.com) or the Scarlet Dunn Racing page on FaceBook.



Newton Aycliffe's fast racer Scarlet Dunn showed her sporting versatility last weekend by not only racing at Wombwell kart circuit's 'W plate' meeting, but also competing at the Institute of Sport in Sheffield as a 'Flyer' as part of Aycliffe Dance Academy's entry to the 'Gateway to the Galaxy' Cheerleading Competition! In the cheerleading competition on Saturday the 'Academy Starbursts' team racked up an impressive 89.74% placing them in the highly fought competition against many dedicated cheerleading troupes. Due to her competing in the cheerleading competition on the Saturday, Scarlet missed Free Practice at Wombwell but she produced another competitive display in the Bambino Comer karts at the Barnsley circuit. Although it was her first turn of the wheel there for a month - Scarlet put in a great effort to immediately put herself

in 5th position against a large field of 17 competitors, including some of the country's fastest racers. In the heats she took 5th, 8th and 7th places giving her 7th on the grid for the final. In the final she made a good overtake to jump up to 6th and then had a great race long battle nose-to-tail throughout. Although she could not find a way past, she set the 3rd fastest lap time and a personal best lap time by half a second. Scarlet was cheered on at both events by her family including younger brother Harrison - who is also practicing in karts to go racing. She would like to thank her team, Amaron racing, for running her, and also to sponsor Johnson Land allowing her to compete in the number of events she is this year. She races again at local track Teesside Autodrome in 2 weekends time.

## Youthy Round Up



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