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Friday 13th December 2019

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# newtonnews

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Newton News, Blue Bridge Centre, St. Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham DL5 6DS - Tel: 01325 300212  
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## WOODHAM ACADEMY CHOIR MAKE THE FINAL



Woodham Academy are delighted to have made it to the final of this year's Durham Schools' Choir Competition. Both 'Woodham Sound' and 'Advanced Vocals' will take part in a vocal workshop, followed by a performance of their chosen songs. A panel of judges will decide which choir will represent Durham at the North East Secondary School Competition and will perform at Durham Cathedral.

Continued on page 3

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## Newton News Expands

Newton News would like to welcome our new readers. As from this weekend we are delivering to Beaumont Hill, Harrogate Village and Harrogate Farm an added total of another 560 homes. This takes the total of Newton News weekly deliveries to 17,940. Covering Newton Aycliffe, School Aycliffe, Aycliffe Village, Heighington, Redworth, Middridge, Brafferton, Coatham, Mundeville, Woodham Village as well as the Aycliffe Business Park and various pick up points around town. We hope that the residents in our new coverage area enjoy receiving their weekly edition of the Newton News and savour the 'local good news' which we report on. Newton News encourage readers to get involved in your local community newspaper - send us your letters, sports reports, organisation events etc.

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AND THE  
WINNER  
IS.....

The latest winner of the Vue Cinema family ticket is Rachael Clarke from Lisle Road, Newton Aycliffe. Rachael wins a family ticket to a showing of her choice.

Watch out for more competitions from Vue Cinema and Warner Bros.

# Employer Referral Scheme Raises £1000 for Charity

Baltic Apprenticeships' new employer referral scheme was set up to give something back to their advocates, and to support the local communities they work within. Since launching the scheme in July, four apprentices have started their careers as a direct result,

raising £1000 for charity. The scheme works in collaboration with clients who recommend the apprenticeship training provider to others within their network. When an employer submits a business referral, they can select a charity that they would like to support. Upon the successful placement of an apprentice, Baltic then donates £250 to the chosen charity. So far, funds have been donated to Cancer Research, Tiny Lives, St Oswald's Hospice and the RSPCA.

As well as raising money for these fantastic causes, referrals are helping to create apprenticeship opportunities that change the lives of young people across the country. David Brooke, Head of IT at The Consortium Trust, explains this impact:

"It's a great scheme on the back of the apprenticeship placements. Not only are we supporting the individual person to gain the skills and qualifications required within their chosen profession, the referral scheme goes the extra mile to help provide support to charity organisations who require financial support to be able to provide the key services they offer."

Another employer who has made a successful referral is Gateshead based ITPS. Their Commercial Director, George Galloway, had this



to say about their part in the referral scheme:

"Our experience with Baltic Apprenticeships has been excellent and we have recruited some loyal employees based on this approach. I feel this is a great way of rewarding charities on the back of our company's continued successful

growth."

Apprentices add value to the businesses they work at, so it's an effective way for employers to support the success and growth of other organisations in their network. Andrew Renton from Aspire Technology Solutions, also based in Gateshead, shared his thoughts on the referral scheme:

"We currently employ 5 apprentices, all of which are on track to complete their qualifications and become great engineers. The referral scheme is great; it's refreshing to see the reward go somewhere useful."

After a promising start to the referral scheme, Baltic Apprenticeships are looking forward to forming new partnerships with companies across the North East, North West and Midlands. Visit their website to find out more: <https://www.balticapprenticeships.com/refer-baltic>

## Community Calendar

With this week's edition of the Newton News you should receive your complimentary 2020 community calendar. 16,000 calendars have been published and printed by Newton Press supported by local businesses advertising their services.

We hope you find the calendar useful over the next twelve months.

If you did not receive a copy, there will be a few available at Newton Press reception, Blue Bridge Centre. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our readers.

## Huge Success

CSI Aycliffe would like to thank everyone who attended our event at the Scout HQ on Monday 2nd December, it was a huge success.

We raised £123.50 through donations and sales. A total of 980 items went to help local families and with what stock was left we will be doing another one in the new year.

A very big thank you to the staff at the Scout HQ for all their help and we will see you again.

Feedback forms show that there is a big need for this sort of thing on the town so watch this space for more events.

Tom, Brian & Nev  
C.S.I. Aycliffe



## Festive Period Events

# THE BIG CLUB

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

Upstairs Lounge - 6pm  
Ticket Event £2.00

**'Micky Glamz Christmas Party'**

Complimentary drink for all guests on arrival

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Open from 11am until 10pm

**HEADLINE EVENTS**

December 21st

**HOWAYSIS** fantastic Oasis tribute  
Tickets £5 - Doors open 7pm

December 22nd - **Cinderella Panto** Tickets £4 plus selection box for every child - 2pm

December 28th - **FREDDIE MERCURY TRIBUTE**  
Doors open 7pm Tickets £4

**BOXING DAY FAMILY CELEBRATION**

**'Taking the Mick'**

Cabaret Duo plus Sensational Vocalist **KRIS ATKINS** AND **STARLIGHT**

Entertainment from **STARLIGHT**  
Disco Tickets Adults £5, Children £2.50 - Doors open 3pm

**NEW YEARS EVE PARTY NIGHT**

Upstairs Lounge - Superb Vocalist **'MIKE WILD'**

plus music from **STARLIGHT DISCO**

Tickets £2 - Doors open 6pm  
Complimentary drink for all guests on arrival

**Concert Hall - Aycliffe Soul Club**  
Doors open 6.30pm - Tickets £5

**MIDNIGHT COUNTDOWN** at both events!

**NEW YEARS DAY**

**BIG CLUB LEGACY DAY**

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## New year's eve

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# THE TURBINIA

## \* Saturday Night Live \*

The Very Best of Rock - NO Cover Charge (unless stated)

**Saturday 14th December - "This Machine"**

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

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

**Saturday 21st December - "Fire Lady Luck"**

Quote: "Alternative-rock band Fire Lady Luck are, without a shadow of a doubt, one of the most talented bands in the North East with nothing to prove, just establishes that fact even more. Ever since they appeared on our radar a couple of months back, this has been the album we've been itching to listen to" - Bottleneck Reviews.

Previous gigs include 02 Academy, Newcastle, main stage at Willowman 2017, Hamsterley Forest Festival and one of the best acts at Ronnington Festival.

**Saturday 28th December - "Uncle Gilbert"**

Riffs online review: "An excellent night with some classic rock covers by a mainstay of our rock fraternity both Bill and Gary gave the thumbs up to the performance, as did all the other punters in the venue tonight. For a band to stay together for that long you just know they're doing something right. This band have just earned themselves a promotion into the premiere league".

**Tuesday 31st December (New Year's Eve)**

**"1 0 1 aka OasisJam"**

**Wednesday 1st January - "SureShots"** £5cc

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# Acorn Visit to Hall Hill Farm Winter Wonderland

Newton Aycliffe Community charity Acorn visited Hall Hill Farm at the weekend to see Santa, Rudolph and a wide variety of Santas furry friends.

Excited children and adults piled off the coach to be greeted by Elves and helpers, first call was, of course, to Santa who was curious to find out what he would be delivering on Christmas Eve and there was no shortage of suggestions from young children or just the young at heart.

Whilst waiting in the queue Dasher was on hand to have a jolly conversation with the children in his own unique voice.

Rabbits and guinea pigs were next on the list, with children getting an opportunity to cuddle and hug these lovable animals who displayed great patience and seemed resigned to being stroked and made facebook media stars.

A swift stop at the café for refreshments then on to the new born chicks only 9 days old yet already developing characters of their own. It always amazes me how gentle children are when holding these adorable little chicks.

Onward to see some larger

animals. The highland cattle looked fierce but were really only interested in the titbits which visitors rolled down a length of guttering to feed them. Llamas were the next attraction who flashed their doe eyes pleadingly for pellets from the children and then of course donkeys, those most docile of creatures, happy to listen with raised ears to chit chat from all who visited.

In the elves workshop we were shown how to make reindeer and sheep from pine cones, cotton wool and pipe cleaners. All great fun for all of the family. Next door were free reindeer treats to take home and sprinkle on the ground on Xmas eve.

A covered enclosure was next with sheep, goats and a pony all looking for pellets also a pig feeding her piglets, how cute.

Outside donkeys were waiting to take children for a short ride around the paddock after which it was time for another mug of tea while the kids played in the soft play area giving parents some well-earned rest.

When we finally got the children away from the soft play area it was time to explore some of the other



attractions such as the new dry tobogganing track which brought squeals of delight from children, the climbing wall and of course, not forgetting, the Peacocks and Turkeys.

Having built up an appetite it was now time to revisit the café for a helping of home-made soup and a

chunk of crusty bread for lunch. This trip has become an annual event and gets better every year. Thanks to all who came along, to the staff at Hall Hill, and greatest thanks of all to the Big Lottery Community Fund who have supported our group since its inception in

2012.

Merry Xmas to all of those who live in our wonderful town and support us in our little endeavours.

Ken Robson  
Chair, ACORN  
Community Association

## Christmas Activities at Greenfield

Greenfield Arts are looking forward to the festive season and have family focused activities available to book free of charge.

This year our crafty wreath making gives families the opportunity to get creative, spend some quality time together and produce beautiful festive wreaths out of recycled materials.

The activities will be held on Monday 23 December at Foundations Building, Shildon, DL4 1DX and on Tuesday 24 December at Greenfield Arts, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7LF, both sessions will run from 10:30 – 12:30 and will be led by artist Dawn Belshaw.

To find out more about our full programme or to book a place via our website just visit [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) and use the simple online form to reserve your place. For further details email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk) or call our friendly team on 01325 379048.

## WOODHAM ACADEMY CHOIR MAKE THE FINAL

Vocalists at Woodham Academy rehearse at least once a week, with most students participating in three or four musical activities as part of the 'Performing Arts Academy'. More recently Aimee Ballantyne, a member of both ensembles and the Performing Arts Academy, performed and won Aycliffe's Got Talent. Mrs Taylor, who leads the two vocal groups, commented: "I am proud to work with such a dedicated and talented group of students. The standard that they have achieved, especially performing in

three and four part harmony, is a testament to their dedication and enjoyment to Music performance".

The variety of Performing Arts offered at Woodham, include instrumental and vocal work, drama, dance, as well as stage set and design. Students develop a range of musical skills and work towards an annual production, together with two seasonal concerts. Our next school performance is our Christmas Concert which is taking place on Thursday 19th December at 7pm. Tickets are available from the school.

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**NEW YEAR'S EVE 2019/20**

**ROF 59 ACTIVITY CENTRE**

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**MENU**

ADULTS - ROAST SIRLOIN OF BEEF, DAUPHINOISE POTATO, BUTTERED GREENS, RED WINE REDUCTION. (GLUTEN FREE) HOMEMADE MARS BAR CHEESECAKE WITH SALTED CARAMEL ICE CREAM.

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## 'World-Class' Visitor Welcome from Durham Businesses

12 individuals from the county's tourism industry have been recognised as ambassadors after successfully completing the 'Welcome to Durham' training programme, an initiative led by Visit County Durham.

The course was introduced by Visit County Durham in 2013 to provide businesses

with the skills and resources to offer the highest standard of welcome for visitors. Michelle Gorman, managing director of Visit County Durham, said: "We're delighted that another 12 individuals have committed to offering the very best customer service through the Welcome to Durham programme."



The best way to build customer loyalty in the tourism and hospitality industry is to provide good customer service. Visitors who are treated efficiently and with respect are made to feel important and will return. People who have a positive experience at a hotel, restaurant, attraction, or even just speaking with a taxi driver, will tell other people about that and make it far more likely that they will visit Durham too. Welcome to Durham gives people practical and immediately usable skills that can make the difference between a visitor being satisfied, and a visitor being made to feel special".

The latest course was delivered at The Witham in Barnard Castle, a Visit County Durham Visitor Information Network Partner committed to providing excellent customer service and visitor welcome. Sandra Moorhouse, Project Leader at Making Barney Brighter Together, said: "The completion of the Welcome to Durham course by myself and a number of local visitor-facing staff and volunteers has assisted our aim in improving the overall visitor welcome in Barnard Castle. The number of those involved shows the commitment to providing the best possible service we can to visitors and residents alike".

In addition to the Welcome to Durham course, Barnard Castle is also the location of the latest Visitor Information Network Partner, the Teesdale Mercury Shop, supported by Visit County Durham, which takes the total to 43 information points across the county. Since its launch, over 159 individuals have successfully completed the course and are qualified Welcome to Durham ambassadors. For more information on the Welcome to Durham training programme, visit [www.visitcountydurham.org/business-resources/welcome-to-durham](http://www.visitcountydurham.org/business-resources/welcome-to-durham)

## New Bridgegate Tyres Ltd Expands with Odyssey Support



A tyre and autocentre company which provides 24-hour breakdown cover has expanded its business with the support of Odyssey Systems.

New Bridgegate Tyres Ltd, which is based in Barnard Castle and Newton Aycliffe, recently opened a new depot on Tyneside to maintain its fast response times throughout the North East. To assist its aim, Odyssey, the Tees Valley-based telecommunications and technology company, installed a fully hosted telephone system at its Gateshead facility.

This delivered all the key features the company required – including an ability to divert calls quickly and efficiently to its technicians' mobile phones and an automatic GDPR-compliant call recording facility – without the need to invest in a major telephony system. In addition, the company is also benefitting from high availability internet access which guarantees connectivity through multiple links.

New Bridgegate Tyres Ltd operates a fleet of 24/7 response vehicles specialising in truck, bus, car and agricultural tyres. Owned by Philip Wilks, it also provides vehicle servicing, in-house mechanical repairs and MoT tests.

Corporate clients of the 24-hour breakdown service includes the Ministry of Defence, Durham Constabulary and a range of commercial customers. The business, which was founded in Barnard Castle five years ago, expanded

in 2017 when a second base was established in Newton Aycliffe. The latest Gateshead depot allows it to respond to emergency call outs in the north of the region more quickly to maintain its average 49-minute attendance time. James Bowman, Bridgegate's General Manager, said: "We are delighted with this new telephony system and are considering extending it to our other two depots."

"This company has built its reputation on a quality service and fast response times, so a flexible, efficient and above all reliable telephony system is key to our success and future growth."

"Odyssey Systems installed an excellent product which meets all our requirements. Furthermore, their technical support gives us the added reassurance that our customers can always reach us any time of the day or night."

Christine Gilbert, Director of Odyssey Systems, said: "We have worked closely with New Bridgegate Tyres for many years supporting its growth with technological solutions. This new system supports their flexible and responsive way of working, which in turn allows them to provide a more efficient and responsive service for their customers."

Odyssey Systems currently supplies telecom solutions to 30 per cent of the UK's largest tyre distributors. Established in 1987, it is a leading supplier of hosted telephony, cloud services and high-speed connectivity solutions to more than 2,500 customers in the UK.



Compiled by  
County Councillor John Clare

As things quieten down after the election and towards Christmas: a number of meetings, some useful advice on energy, and good news on the local economy ... which is the subject of Sunday's POLITICAL. There are internet links to find out more about all the following on my blog at: [bit.ly/CNB143](http://bit.ly/CNB143)

### COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

- DCC Cabinet meeting, Wednesday 11 December.
- Durham County Council's Adult Learning and Skills Service's new Learning Guide is published.
- GATC Full Council meeting, Wednesday 11 December.
- Friends of the S&DR meeting, Thursday 5 December.
- Brilliant Brightwater Christmas event, Thursday 5 December.
- Aycliffe Anti-Social Behaviour Group meeting, Friday 6 December.
- Good energy advice from Citizens Advice if you are struggling with fuel poverty.

- Well done Hitachi and well done Tekmar.

### THINGS TO DO NEXT WEEKEND

- Muddy Wellies Wildlife Walk (under 5s), Low Barns Nature Reserve, 10am Monday 16 December, £1.
- Christmas around the World (5-11s), Durham Oriental Museum, drop-in 1-3pm Saturday 21 December, FREE.
- Festive Fun, Locomotion Museum Shildon, 10am-4pm every day until 5 January, FREE.

### AYCLIFFE RADIO

- On POLITICAL / Aycliffe Radio, live on Sunday 15 December, the 'Big Story' will be the County Durham economy and my guests will be DCC Economy & Regeneration portfolio-holder Carl Marshall, CLP Vice-Chair Christine Varty, and local businessman Ian Proctor: [bit.ly/ARLIVE](http://bit.ly/ARLIVE)

### MERRY CHRISTMAS

- This will be the last 'County Newsbits' column until after the holidays – may I wish everybody a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.



## Playday Nursery

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## NOW TAKING ORDERS FOR CHRISTMAS

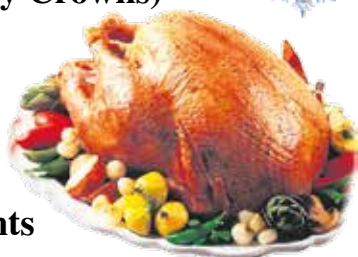
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**Fresh Chickens**

**Goose/Duck (to order)**

**Local Beef, Pork & Lamb**

**All cut to your requirements**



## CHRISTMAS FAIR

A Christmas Fair will take place on Sunday 15th December 2019 from 1.00pm until 4.00pm at the Agnew Community Centre. All are welcome, please come and visit Santa and look around our stalls, raffle, tombola, cakes, various crafts, toys, tuck shop, refreshments. We have a few tables still available for £7 per table, call or text 07410 758847 or office number 01325 321504 for more info.

## TASTE OF SYRIA

Come and Join us in a  
**Taste of Syria**  
Meet the Syrian community in Newton Aycliffe, share with us our amazing food, singing and dancing.

**27th December**  
**St. Clare's Church**  
**5.30pm to 8.30pm**

£15 for adults  
Under 12 Free

*To book a ticket and for more information call: 07564661537*

## MEMORY GARDEN

**Mondays and Wednesday 2-4pm**

*A relaxing, social group for those with memory problems and their carers.*

*Enjoy the benefits of being outdoors and meeting new people.*

Please contact Alison Nicholson for more details 07885 4639090 or email: [a\\_nicholson@pcp.uk.net](mailto:a_nicholson@pcp.uk.net)

\*Mondays alternate between Memory Garden & Memory Cafe



# Shanaya Smashes it with Christmas Soulful Sounds



Despite there being a day and night full of planned events in Newton Aycliffe on Saturday 30th November I went ahead with my gig at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club with the aim of raising funds to provide a Christmas Party at Joey's Waffle House, St. Helens Auckland for Young Carers. The last census in 2011 found there were 166,000 Young Carers in the UK aged between 5 and 17 years. Recent research highlights how great the need is to support these young people. Since 2011 it is estimated that the number of Young Carers in the UK has grown to almost 800,000. It is so important, with services stretched to their limits, that Young Carers are identified and supported. Frequently Young Carers are helping to care for other family members, parents,

grandparents and siblings, due to illness, disability, physical or mental health difficulties or substance misuse.

Young Carers need to enjoy a break from their caring responsibilities, socialising with their peers, ensuring they are happy, healthy, safe, aspiring and achieving. With help from my mum (Belinda), local schools, staff and portage workers based at the EDC Spennymoor, we approached local families and Mum and I planned the Christmas Party. Kirsty, Steph and the staff from Joeys Waffle House were awesome, kind, caring and very generous with the much appreciated time and donations. The children had a fun afternoon with singing from myself and young ones from "Shanaya's Summer School", party games and an awful lot of delicious

E numbers! Due to some horrible bugs invading our space presently there were nine children who sadly could not attend, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and apologise to those of you who are not in the photograph.

My journey since X Factor continues to present some amazing opportunities, and I am always learning. Having raised just over £5,000 for a variety of charities in the last two years I truly have come about some heartbreaking realisations. With the help and guidance from my amazing mum, I am aiming for the £10,000 mark. May I take this opportunity to thank each and every person who has supported me, including the Newton News, in my quest to make the world a better, happier, safer, brighter, more fun loving, music filled place. "So here it is Merry Christmas", in this season of goodwill spare a thought for those who may not be "having fun". Remember a smile and a listening ear can mean so much. Seasons Greetings, Shanaya

## CHILDREN'S SILENT SANTA APPEAL



Dear Sir,  
As you may know I organise a 'Silent Santa Appeal' where volunteers donate a shoebox for local children who may not receive a Christmas present. This is the third year for this venture and it seems to be going from strength to strength. Sharing Together Crafts have been an enormous help and provided untold presents for children they will never meet - a real Christmas gesture of true generosity. Today I have picked up lots and lots of goodies, as can be seen in the photograph above, all these will put a smile on the face of a child this Christmas. If you can find room to publish the photograph as all members of Sharing Together Crafts deserve my thanks for the time they have taken to make, buy and paint all of the wonderful gifts for so many wonderful children.  
Photo: Dot, Gwen and Joan.  
Anonymous organiser.

## Christmas Spirit Boosts Fundraising Total

Paul McGeary's tireless campaign to raise money and awareness for blood charity Bloodwise took a huge step towards breaking through the £40,000 mark with a recent hamper raffle organised by his mother, Mary Warke.

Paul was 33 when he was diagnosed with Leukaemia five years ago, and despite being in remission for 15 initial months, he sadly relapsed and had to undergo a second period of intense chemotherapy in July 2016. Thankfully Paul has now been in remission for two years as his fundraising has grown speed.

Newtonian Mary has held a series of successful events this year, the latest being a wine and spirits hamper raffle which raised £1000, with the assistance of her friends Marie and Dave Nicholson.

Paul said, "Once again the efforts of my mother and her friends has exceeded my expectations. To raise £1000 at this time of year is a remarkable effort, and testament to the hard work

of all involved."

Collections at the recent funeral of John Cross - grandfather of Paul's partner Emma Cross - took the total to the brink of surpassing the milestone with Paul now appealing once more in the tradition which started the whole campaign five years ago.

"I had a vision of raising £1500 while I was bed-bound in James Cook hospital over Christmas in 2014," said Paul. "I asked people to save themselves from buying and writing Christmas cards, and donate to Bloodwise instead. Little did I know back then how far things would snowball."

"So I ask once more, for anyone who would rather donate to a charity in lieu of sending Christmas cards, that they do so to Bloodwise via our #NotOneInch link at [www.JustGiving.com/Paul-McGeary2](http://www.JustGiving.com/Paul-McGeary2)

"And once we go through the £40,000 barrier, then it'd be remiss of us to not start our crusade towards £50,000 in 2020. Together we will beat Blood Cancer."



## 'THE KALMA HUB' NOW OPEN

Would you be interested in helping your baby/child to enjoy a variety of experiences in a brand new setting right on your doorstep? The Kalma Hub opened recently on Durham Way South, Aycliffe Business Park. Children and babies are already enjoying the variety of activities on offer in this welcoming and stimulating environment. The Kalma Hub is home to a range of exciting experiences:

- Baby massage
- Baby, toddler and junior yoga
- Twinkle Time sensory sessions; stimulating the senses through lights, colours, textures, sounds and music
- Musical Toddlers; singing, instruments and movement
- Playgroups for 0-4 years; a chance to play with others

whilst learning social skills. All sessions are run by a qualified primary school teacher with a passion for early learning through play and stimulating experiences. The massage and yoga sessions are delivered under the award winning Kalma Baby Brand offering the reassurance of a quality experience.

The Centre - known as the 'Kalma Hub' - is conveniently situated in a Flexspace Unit (close to Honest John and Lox of Love hair salon).

The benefits you can expect your children to gain through such activities are huge, why not pop along and experience a session with your child?

To find out more and see the sessions in action visit the Kalma Hub Facebook page @ [kalmahubnewtonaycliffe](https://www.facebook.com/kalmahubnewtonaycliffe) or call Lucy on 07738 853198.

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The total amount you will pay is £400



### Shafto Way Service Centre

Merry Christmas to all our customers

**01325 316839**

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



## Rotary Newton Aycliffe

Rotary Newton Aycliffe is delighted to announce the routes and dates for the Santa Sleigh tours. Each evening will start at 5.30pm and finish by 7.30pm, subject to weather conditions.

#### MONDAY 16th DECEMBER

Simpasture, Watson Road, Cumby Road, Lowery Road.

#### TUESDAY 17th DECEMBER

School Aycliffe including Chestnuts and Oaklands.

#### WEDNESDAY 18th DECEMBER

Starting from Navy Club, Bluebell Way and streets off Westmorland Way and streets off.

#### THURSDAY 19th DECEMBER

Silkin Way and streets off. Westmorland Way and streets off.

Streets off means as many as time permits.

## SANTA ROUTES 2019





## Have a Wild and Merry Christmas!

Christmas is here for RSPB Saltholme, the popular nature reserve between Stockton-on-Tees and Hartlepool, with just days until the arrival of Father Christmas and his elves on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 December.

The team of dedicated staff and volunteers are busy making sure that everything is in tip-top condition for when the man in the big red suit arrives.

Craig McNeil, Visitor Experience Officer at RSPB Saltholme, said: "Saltholme is such an amazing place with so much magical winter wildlife to see; it's the perfect place for Father Christmas to spend a couple of days spreading Christmas cheer and of course gifts."

At this time of year, the nature reserve is home to thousands of geese and ducks that, just like Father Christmas, have come from the Arctic Circle to spend the winter on Saltholme's wetlands.

Craig added: "To avoid disappointment, we've made sure that there is plenty of space available to see Father Christmas on our Christmas weekend. So even if you haven't yet bought a ticket in advance, you'll still be able to see him by turning up and booking your time slot on the day."

As well as a gift from Father Christmas, there'll be Christmas tree decoration making in the craft room, a fun trail learning more about the amazing wildlife to be found at Saltholme and a lovely warming cup of hot chocolate to keep away those winter chills.

A Saltholme Christmas is on 14 & 15 December 9.30-4.00, tickets are available from Eventbrite.com or from the reserve team on 01642 546625. RSPB Saltholme is open every day from 9.30am over the festive period, except Christmas Day.

## 2000 YEARS OF FOOD and FESTIVE FUN



Left to right: Hilary Bevan and Maria Perek, Darlington South Park Foundation, Paul Black, Discover Brightwater Programme Manager

Unfortunately we weren't given a catchy name like 'The Dales' or 'The Lakes' so we've had to make one up. The Skerne was originally named by our Viking ancestors; the word 'skirr' means bright and shining - Discover Brightwater our new catchy name.

For our new readers if you're sat there asking where is Brightwater and why haven't I heard of it? Well it's probably been beneath your wellies without you realising it! Brightwater refers to the River Skerne which starts at the Trimdons via Hurworth Burn Reservoir and flows south near the towns and villages of Fishburn, Bishop Middleham, Sedgfield, Newton Aycliffe and North from Darlington.

Discover Brightwater is a landscape project which has been funded by all of the nice people that play the lottery. The National Lottery Heritage funds together with local councils, Environmental Agencies and others have funded a programme of events, projects and activities over the next few years which

will allow us to restore, reveal and celebrate life around the River Skerne.

On 5th December we invited guests to Discover Brightwater's Festive Heritage as we celebrate 2000 year's of food and festive fun with our friends at the Locomotion Railway Museum. During the midwinter Yule celebrations our Viking ancestors would have anxiously awaited the gift-bringer Odin 'The Master of Yule' as he soared through the skies on his flying eight-legged white horse Sleipnir. Christmas celebrations were made illegal by the party-pooper-Puritans who punished offenders with a hefty five shilling fine. This was our chance to discover the "reason for the season" and find out about our ancestors festive traditions. The afternoon was filled with winter activities! Guests upcycled Yule Logs from our Fishburn Woods clear-up, created Roman Goddess Figurines with Ancient Pottery Specialist Graham Taylor. Our friends from Dig Ventures were also there with a display of artefacts from our digs in Bishop Middleham and Sedgfield.

Our special guests included '2000 years of winter-gift-bringers'. Brightwater residents mingled with St Nicholas and The Lord of Saturnalia, others shared a mulled wine with our contemporary Mrs Claus. (Our decadence green Father Christmas and King Winter could be found on the dance floor boogying to the Medieval Trio.)

During the launch local groups were also awarded our first community grants which included Darlington Friends of the South Park who received £2000 to help with leaflets and recruiting new members. Friends of the Denes in Cockerton who also received £2000 for improvements to the Cocker Beck. £2000 each was also awarded to The Cockerton Silver Brass Band and Drinkfield Marsh who will use the funds towards bench restoration.

The event was very colourful, very festive, very musical, very Brightwater.

## Drama and More in 2020 at Darlington Hippodrome

There's a packed programme of new theatre in the Darlington Hippodrome Spring 2020 season which went sale at 10am on Monday 2 December.

With a mix of new writing and all-time classics, Darlington Hippodrome will be the place to visit for passionate, powerful and thought provoking drama, laugh-out-loud comedy, spectacular dance and amazing music in the new Spring 2020 season.

Drama lovers are in for a real treat.

Kay Mellor's classic ITV drama Band of Gold (Mon 27 Jan - Sat 1 Feb) has been adapted for the stage. The ground-breaking crime drama that captivated over 15 million viewers each week revolves around a group of women drawn into the notorious red-light district. With a killer on the loose it's a battle to survive. A bold and haunting new play, The Croft (Tue 11 - Sat 15 Feb) interweaves the present with the past as ancient tales surface and the terrifying truth lurking in the Scottish Highlands is revealed.

The Classic Thriller Theatre Company returns with a new adaptation of The Cat and The Canary (Tue 17 - Sat 21 Mar) starring Hollywood superstar Britt Ekland, Marti Webb and Mark Jordan. Following their recent visit to Darlington with the visually stunning The Picture of Dorian Gray, Tilted Wig Productions present a brand new adaptation of the D H Lawrence classic Lady Chatterley's Lover (Tue 25 - Sat 28 Mar). Tender, thoughtful and impassioned, Lady Chatterley's Lover is the book that changed Britain.

Helen Forester's million-selling book By The Waters of Liverpool (Thu 9 - Sat 11 April) is brought to life on the stage in an exciting new adaptation starring Mark Moraghan, Sian Reeves and Eric Potts - who will be known to Darlington audiences for playing the 'Dame' in two recent Hippodrome pantomimes.

Rounding off the spring drama season is The Kite Runner (Tue 12 - Sat 16 May). This outstanding and unforgettable theatrical tour de force is based on Khaled Hosseini's international bestselling novel. A haunting tale of friendship and redemption.

There are surprises in store for musical theatre fans too. Local performers will raise the roof as DarlingtonOS presents Strictly Musicals 3 (Wed 22 April - Sat 2 May). Over two hours of non-stop hit song after hit song from some of the best loved musicals of all time. Thriller Live (Mon 29 June - Sat 4 July) explodes onto the stage whilst celebrating its record breaking 11th year in London's West End and seen by over five million

people in over 30 countries. For one night only, Darlington Hippodrome will play host to a number of tribute acts celebrating the lives and music of some of the greatest acts such as Elvis, The Electric Light Orchestra, Johnny Cash, Bruce Springsteen, George Michael, The Everley Brothers and Fleetwood Mac.

If you prefer the 'real thing' the Hippodrome will be welcoming some big names including Sir Michael Parkinson, Joe Brown, Alistair McGowan, Jools Holland, and Alan Titchmarsh - not forgetting Strictly Come Dancing head judge Shirley Ballas who is starring in Jack and the Beanstalk from Friday 6 December to Sunday 5 January.

For younger visitors and families there is a whole host of goodies.

The Tiger Who Came to Tea is the purrrfect family treat (Fri 29 - Sun 21 May). A musical play adapted and directed by David Wood. In The Night Garden Live (Sat 18 & Sun 19 July) returns to Darlington with a delightful show that is sure to be a hit with the little ones.

Opera and Dance fans have a selection of productions which will appeal to all tastes and ages.

The Russian State Ballet & Orchestra of Siberia present four spectacular ballets with Coppelia, Sleeping Beauty, Swan Lake and The Nutcracker (Thur 23 - Sun 26 Jan). BalletLorent presents Lost Happy Endings (Sat 22 Feb), a fantasy, family show that will delight both young and old. The spellbinding BalletBoyz return to Darlington with their new show Deluxe (Thur 5 March). The Russian State Opera present two classics with Carmen and Aida (Wed 1 & Thur 2 April) and the Vortice Dance Company, one of the most prestigious companies in Portugal, presents Dracula, giving a whole new perspective on the most famous character

## Thank You

On Friday 6th December I was proceeding along Woodham Way in my electric wheelchair, at approximately 9.45am I got stuck in a pile of leaves on the path. A wonderful, blonde haired lady, who was jogging, stopped and helped me to clear the leaves and get unstuck.

Later on in the day, at around 3.45pm, when returning home, I got stuck again in another pile of leaves. Three adolescents on their scooters immediately came to help, as did a dark haired lady.

I am so grateful to all of these people, and the parents of the teenagers involved should be so proud of the children they are raising.

I wanted to share this story and to demonstrate that we do have a WONDERFUL town, with some kind people in it.

Immense gratitude, Michelle from the Agnew.



### GREENLINKS

A programme of winter sessions for those living with dementia and their carers in and around Newton Aycliffe

**EVERY THURSDAY 2PM TILL 4PM**  
**AT THE PIONEERING CARE PARTNERSHIP BUILDING, NEWTON AYLCLIFFE**

Come along and join in with FREE activities in a friendly setting where people living with dementia and their carers can socialise and take part in a range of winter activities including wreath making, crafts, cooking and lots more!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
Contact Natalie or Laura on 01642 815663  
natalie.whitworth@groundwork.org.uk

www.groundwork.org.uk

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# PANTO TIME AT HIPPO

Oh yes it is . . .



Newton News were invited along to the Darlington Hippodrome this week to watch this year's pantomime which stars Shirley Ballas (Strictly Come Dancing) and George Sampson (Britain's Got Talent Winner). Jack and the Beanstalk was a thoroughly enjoyable family night out. The classic panto tale had a funny local twist with most town's in the area receiving a mention and the 'Darlo' song with local jibes. The newly refurbished theatre looks very impressive with



comfortable seats and an airy atmosphere.

The pantomime, which is just over two hours long, wound its way through the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, throwing in dance routines from both Shirley and George. Lots of laughter, jokes and comedic antics to keep the whole family engaged. Watch out for the 'tongue tie' scene between the Trot family and especially funny was the old Panto classic "If I were not in Panto", expertly performed. All in all it was a very entertaining night with an appreciative full audience. For more information or to book your seats visit the Darlington Hippodrome online or ring 01325 405405.

## Men Talking Together

The first meeting will be held on Monday 16th December at 11.00am at "THE BIG SHED", which is our new venue based at Unit 14A, IES CENTRE DL5 6DR behind Newton Press Offices. You are welcome to join us. If you have skills you want to share, if you are sat at home all day or if you want to just sit and have a cup of tea and a chat. Meet like minded people go on outings, play pool, snooker, chess or use exercise machines, come along. Ring 01325 308094 or 07967 901477 for further details.

## Greenfield Arts Respond to Centenary

Greenfield Arts have been a major part of the Cornish Centenary celebrations this year and have offered a programme of creative events and activities alongside their exhibition 'Norman Cornish: A Man of Destiny', engaging the community to be inspired by the artist's life and work. Norman Cornish MBE is a well-respected and much-loved artist from the north east and his work is held in public and private collections throughout the UK and abroad. The centenary exhibitions are a celebration of his life and work and have included six exhibitions throughout Durham. Greenfield Arts were delighted to welcome over 1500 visitors to the exhibition and 650 who participated in the programme. Greenfield Arts have provided opportunities for the community and wider public to understand more about his work and respond in various creative ways. Dorothy Cornish, daughter-in-law to the artist, has recently brought a unique insight to young people by leading creative workshops for primary schools in our region. It was wonderful to see young students write

creative prose inspired by his artwork, immediately recognising and responding to his sense of beauty in the everyday. Greenfield Arts are thrilled to be able to provide a creative response to the artist's work and are hosting a response exhibition entitled 'Inspired by Cornish'. The men's Cree group from Greenfield Arts and students from Greenfield Community College have been working exploring the social context of his work. Working alongside spoken word artist Tony Gadd and visual artist Richard Bliss, the groups have brought together a collection of inspirational artwork. There will be a celebration event, 'Inspired by Cornish', on Monday 16th December 2019 from 13:30 to 15:00 and the exhibition will run until Friday 20th December 2019. The Greenfield Gallery is open from 10:00 – 21:00 on Monday to Thursday and from 10:00 – 16:00 on Fridays. If you would like to know more about the gallery and our new spring programme please visit [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.



## READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Christine Young from Woodham took this photo of a fox visiting her garden. Send your photos to [paul@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:paul@newtonnews.co.uk)

## AYCLIFFE RADIO

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### Programme Schedule

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

#### SATURDAY

11-2pm	Moderation	Jack & Daz
4-6pm	Northern & Classic Soul (R)	Kevin Sowerby
<b>"The Saturday Night Experience" Sponsored by Bengal Lounge Indian Restaurant &amp; Takeaway</b>		
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

9-10am	Church Service	Xcel Centre
<b>Yesterdays Music Today Sponsored by MV Mobility</b>		
10-11am	Yesterdays Music Today	Alan Brown
11-12pm	Mystery Year	Paul Baker
12-130pm	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
• 15th Dec: Carl Marshall		
8-10pm	Sunday Set List	Sean Lawless
10-12am	Paul's Down Time	Paul Kjenstad

#### MONDAY

9-10am	Amy in the Morning	Amy Stevens
10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
<b>"Through the Decades" Sponsored By Woodham Golf &amp; Country Club</b>		
6-7pm	60s Show	Karl Simons
7-8pm	70s Show	Peter Rush
8-9pm	80s Show	CAD
9-10pm	90s Show	Paul Baker
10-11pm	00s Show	Producer Dan
11-12am	Teens Show	Andy Fittes

#### TUESDAY

9-10am	Carrie in the Morning	Carrie Howarth
10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
<b>Sports Show sponsored by Honest John</b>		
6-7.30pm	Sports Round UP	Darren & Lee
• 17th Dec - Reece McAllister (Thai Boxing)		
7.30-9.30pm	Northern & Classic Soul	Kevin Sowerby

#### WEDNESDAY

10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
<b>Community Connect sponsored by ROF59</b>		
5-6.30pm	Community Connect	Amy & Carrie
6.30-8pm	Independent Music Show	Joey Collins
8-10pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gary & Alby

#### THURSDAY

9-10am	Carrie in the Morning	Carrie Howarth
10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
6-7.30pm	POLITICAL (R)	John D. Clare
8-10pm	BeatRoots	Graeme Roote

#### FRIDAY

9-10am	Amy in the Morning	Amy Stevens
10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Paul Baker in the Afternoon	Paul Baker
6-8pm	Techno Trance Mix	PVR Studios
8-10pm	Guest Presenter Session	
• 20th Dec - Nathan Abbott - 90s Classix		

Check our website for full schedule  
**[www.ayclifferadio.co.uk](http://www.ayclifferadio.co.uk)**

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## ILLEGAL PARKING?



Dear Sir,  
I have seen this car twice parked on the pavement near a junction, both actions are illegal. It seems people just don't care about doing this, as long as they can get away with it. This person is picking up a little girl up from the Sugar Hill Nursery. This should be stopped.  
Name and address supplied.

# CQC RATES CARE IN COUNTY DURHAM & DARLINGTON 'GOOD'

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust has received a 'Good' rating from the Care Quality Commission following its latest inspection.

A team of inspectors visited the Trust's two main hospital sites, University Hospital of North Durham and Darlington Memorial Hospital between 2nd and 4th July and carried out an assessment of end of life care, urgent and emergency care and surgery.

The CQC report, which is published today (Tuesday 3 December) highlights that the Trust, which has over two million patient contacts a year, has successfully addressed areas for improvement raised two years ago. It has now moved from 'Requires Improvement' to 'Good' and the inspectors found many areas of excellent practice. Sue Jacques, Chief Executive of County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust said: "We are extremely pleased to receive a good rating from the CQC which really recognises the tremendous effort and commitment of our workforce in continually driving through improvements in services for our patients and local populations.

"This is a fantastic achievement for everyone working for the Trust, our partners and our local populations. We are on a journey to make sure we have great people delivering safe, compassionate and joined-up

care. We have a clear strategic direction and are taking forward plans to further transform our services. Our organisational values ensure that we place patients at the heart of all that we do and this is clearly visible in the report. In particular, the report praises our staff for treating patients with compassion and kindness, respecting their privacy and dignity, and taking account of their individual needs.

"We are particularly pleased that this inspection included end of life services, which had not been assessed since 2015, and that the services have been rated as outstanding. This is a testament to the work which has taken place over the last four years and the progress we have made." The report also included positive commentary on the leadership of the Trust through the well-led inspection. Highlighting the improving culture of the organisation and the delivery of high quality patient services, with a clear commitment to continuous improvement across the organisation. And, the Trust



was cited as engaging more proactively with patients, staff, the public and local organisations to plan and manage services in a collaborative way.

The CQC inspection rates care under five domains; Caring, Safe, Well-Led, Effective and Responsive. The Trust received a good rating overall, with 'good' in caring, effective and responsive, with a 'requires improvement' rating remaining for safe.

Sue Jacques, continued: "Of course, we recognise that we still have work to do to achieve the full extent of our

Right First Time, Every Time vision for the future and that there are areas which require further focus. Like the NHS nationally, we are seeing demand for our services continue to grow, particularly in our emergency and unscheduled care services and our challenge is to make sure that we can deliver safe, quality care while also

managing these challenges. "However, we believe that with our talented workforce and by working together with our partners and local populations we will meet these challenges and continue to go from strength to strength. I'm immensely proud of our dedicated staff and the care they provide to patients every day."

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## HARD HAT JOSEPH & MARY



Unusual contemporary models of Joseph and Mary were revealed over the weekend as part of Bishop Auckland's alterNATIVITY Advent Windows organised by the Town Team. Joseph (Joe) as a hard hat builder was unveiled at Scope Charity Shop by Ian Black, Project Manager of Meldrum Construction. David Pott, coordinator of Advent Windows, explains: "Joseph is described in the Bible as a carpenter, but the original word used implies a handy man who would have used stone as well as wood and was a house builder. It makes sense to portray a contemporary Joseph in this way, especially with all the great work Meldrum Construction are doing in building the new visitor attractions here."

A Mary with specs was unveiled by Father Dennis Tindall unsurprisingly at Specsavers. She is a regular Co Durham girl taking a photo of baby Jesus on her

mobile phone and about to post it on facebook!

More models will be revealed each day until Christmas Eve when all the models will be collected and paraded through the streets during 'The Great alterNATIVITY Advent Windows Christmas Eve Parade'. The event starts at 10:30 at the Stan Laurel statue in Princes Street and ends at St Peter's Chapel in Auckland Castle where the alterNATIVITY scene will be assembled and the final model of Jesus and the crib will be unveiled by The Bishop of Durham. The alterNATIVITY scene will be on view over the holiday period until January 5th.

The project is funded by Northern Heartlands through County Durham Community Foundation and other generous donors and is also supported by The Auckland Project. For more information contact David Pott on 07932 790525 or email [badventwindows@gmail.com](mailto:badventwindows@gmail.com)

## Memory Cafe

7



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## FESTIVE ISSUES OF NEWTON NEWS

Christmas: - Friday, 20th December

Deadline: Wednesday 18th December, 2pm

No Edition - Friday, 27th December, 2019

Friday, 3rd January, 2020 (back to normal)

Deadline: Monday 31st December, 5pm

Advertisements are accepted at our offices

via email to [paul@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:paul@newtonnews.co.uk)

or online at [www.newtonnewsads.co.uk](http://www.newtonnewsads.co.uk)

## Office Opening Times

Closing 4.00pm on Friday 20th December

Skeleton Staff in attendance until re-opening

on Thursday 2nd January 2020 at 8.30am

The Management

and Staff of Newton Press

and Newton News would like

to wish all Newtonians a

Merry Christmas and

Happy, Prosperous New Year



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Can you sing, play an instrument, dance  
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Over 16s competition will take place:  
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Limited tickets for non-competitors are available priced at £1.00 each  
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Winner will receive **£100 cash** and a spot on the  
Aycliffe Radio Music Festival in 2020

To book your place email:  
[talent@ayclifferadio.co.uk](mailto:talent@ayclifferadio.co.uk)

We require your: name, address, contact number,  
email address, age and A brief description of the  
act you will perform + backing track if needed.

Closing date for entries is Friday 8th FEBRUARY 2020

Entrants must be over 16 years of age.

Competition run by Aycliffe Radio and Newton News

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# CPI Printed Sensors Rapid Growth For Excelpoint Project Aims to Reduce Costs



CPI, a UK-based technology innovation centre and a founding member of the High Value Manufacturing Catapult, is involved in a collaborative project which aims to develop novel printed sensors for electric vehicle (EV) battery current density imaging. This could increase battery life, reduce charging times and help to improve consumer safety, confidence and uptake of EVs.

In order to create next-generation vehicles that are cheaper and more efficient, it is crucial that research is focused on monitoring, diagnosing and responding to batteries in real-time. The new sensors developed as part of this project have the capability to provide live information on each of the thousands of cells in an EV. They will be incorporated into a battery management system (BMS) that can react to the changing state of batteries and improve operational efficiency. The 12-month project commenced in June 2019 and aims to produce sensors that are robust, sensitive and significantly cheaper than those commercially available. The goal is for these sensors to be deployed into battery modules and widely adopted by the industry, eventually becoming a requirement for new car certification.

CDO2, an SME based in Sussex and inventor of this technology, is the lead partner in the project and is partially funded through the Innovate UK Faraday Battery Challenge and the Advanced Propulsion Centre UK. Other members of the consortium include the University of Sussex, the University of Strathclyde and Peacock Technology. In order to verify the feasibility of the approach, Aceleron have manufactured a prototype battery pack into which the printed sensors will be integrated, with Brill Power contributing their innovative BMS hardware and software to the project. Development work for the project is taking place at CPI's National Printable Electronics Centre in County Durham. CPI are using their state-of-the-art electronics capability and

expertise in developing novel print techniques to develop a process for the production of printed induction coils on a large area substrate with integrated pick and place components. The process will be developed such that it is capable of scale up onto CPI's Roll-to-Roll printing equipment. Gary Kendall, Director at CDO2, said: 'We are delighted to be collaborating with CPI and a number of organisations to further our aim of improving the range, health and safety of electric vehicle batteries. It is fascinating to see how innovative manufacturing processes can bring our technology closer to being deployed on the road.' John Cocker, Director of Electronics at CPI, said: 'It is exciting to see how the electronics capability available at CPI will enable a reduction in the size, weight, power and cost of this technology. By providing a more accurate picture of battery dynamics at the individual cell level, this project will play a crucial role in increasing the uptake of electric vehicles and helping to improve consumer safety and confidence in the use of next-generation vehicles in general.'

## New Year's Eve Party

The New Year's Eve Party at School Aycliffe Community Hall will open at 8.00pm and Robson Field will be playing sounds from the 50's and 60's from 9.30pm till after midnight (check out his YouTube page). There will be a table/seating plan in place when you book your tickets for whatever time you decide to arrive. Please bring your own nibbles and drink. Tickets are £15 per person - please contact: Sharon & Tony on 07897 134942 or Elizabeth on 07813 523050 or Christine on 07981 992686. Merry Christmas, Best Wishes for 2020 and thank you for your continued support.

North East based software innovator Excelpoint is delighted to announce the appointment of two additional members of staff to be based at its head office at Aycliffe Business Park.

Curtis Brown has joined the marketing team as Marketing Executive. Curtis has spent his career in the manufacturing sector working for Nifco and Hitachi in manufacturing leadership roles. With a keen interest in classic cars, Curtis has gained a wealth of experience in social media and this interest was the driving factor for a career change into marketing. Curtis will play a key role in the development and implementation of Excelpoint's marketing strategy.

To support the increasing number of customers, James Smith has joined the business as Business Consultant responsible for the development of the Excelpoint platform into customer-specific automated business systems. James recently completed a three-year degree in computer game design at Teesside University, followed by a post-graduate degree in game development. He went on to lecture part-time at the University. As a Business Consultant, James will draw on his wealth of development and programming knowledge to configure and integrate the Excelpoint software into scalable solutions to meet customer requirements. He will deliver end-to-end business process solutions including CRM, planning and resourcing, manufacturing, compliance, health and safety and HR processes, amongst others, and will be committed



to providing customers with exceptional customer experience. Commenting on his appointment, Curtis said: 'I am excited to be joining such a fast-growing business, and one positioned within the digital sector. With a strong manufacturing process background and experience within the social media arena, I am looking forward to applying my skills to support the marketing strategy moving forward and to engage and support customers throughout their digital transformation journey.' James added: 'It is certainly an exciting time for businesses within the digital sector. I am looking forward to working with globally recognised and regional brands to support them to achieve automation across their business processes.' Excelpoint builds agile customer-specific business applications ten-times faster to achieve process efficiencies and realise cost savings. Its vision is to transform business systems into configurable, integrated

and scalable solutions that solve business problems and provide a real return on investment.

Whatever the size of your organisation or the sector you operate in, the team at Excelpoint is committed to providing an exceptional customer experience, and to develop its software with the customer in mind.

It offers a range of easy-to-use applications covering all key business processes and supports its customers with continuous innovation and service.

The software is currently utilised across numerous sectors including engineering, manufacturing, oil and gas, the NHS, local and central government, construction, utilities, nuclear, energy, mining and the service sector, and is used by organisations of all sizes. For more information about Excelpoint, please visit [www.excelpoint.co.uk](http://www.excelpoint.co.uk), follow Excelpoint on LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, telephone 01325 328839 or email [sales@excelpoint.co.uk](mailto:sales@excelpoint.co.uk)



As winter approaches the number of hedgehog sightings are starting to slow down but we are still concerned about the number of small autumn juveniles still out there because mum has decided to hibernate. These small ones need to be brought indoors! As I have mentioned before they won't have the weight in their favour to carry them through these cold weeks or months, leaving them out in extreme weather conditions is a death sentence, it you think a hedgehog is in trouble please ring The British Hedgehog Preservation Society on 01584 890801. They will provide you with a rehabs number who has the space to keep these little ones till April next year. We are dealing with difficult situations at the moment because the weather has been very unkind to our hedgehogs, too many small hedgehogs have been washed out of their nests and are also unable to find new ones, their health has suffered and too many don't get to rescue centres in time. Warmth, treatment and food is top on rehabs list of priorities when we admit them if they are to thrive.

Thank you everyone who reads this article and has helped this rescue centre.

Maxine, Aycliffe Rescue Centre

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## Churches Together in Great Aycliffe

### St Andrew's Church

December 24th at 3pm  
Carols by Candlelight  
December 24th at 11:30pm  
Midnight Mass  
**St Elizabeth's Church**  
December 22nd at 4pm  
Messy Christingle Service

### Xcel Church

December 22nd at 10:30am  
Christmas Family Service  
December 24th at 6pm  
Christmas Eve  
Family Carol Service

### Methodist Church

December 22nd at 6pm  
Carol Service  
December 25th at 10:30am  
Christmas Day Celebration

### St Clare's Church

December 21st at 4pm  
Messy Christmas  
December 24th at 4:30pm  
Christingle Service  
December 24th at 11:30pm  
Midnight Mass

### New Generation Church

December 15th at 6:30pm  
Christmas Special  
December 22nd at 5pm  
Christmas Carol Service

### St Mary's

December 24th at 5:30pm  
Family Mass  
December 24th at 8pm  
Christmas Eve Mass  
December 25th at 10am  
Christmas Morning Mass

### St Thomas'

December 24th at 4pm  
Christmas Eve Mass  
December 25th at 9am  
Christmas Day Mass

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT SERVICES & EVENTS, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH DIRECTLY USING THE RELEVANT CONTACT DETAILS:

**Methodist Church**  
Minister Andrew Beyer Tel: 01388 778207

**The Parish of Great Aycliffe**  
St. Clare's | St. Andrew's | St. Elizabeth's  
Rev. Ann Anderson Tel: 01325 345194  
[www.parishofgreataycliffe.co.uk](http://www.parishofgreataycliffe.co.uk)

**New Generation Church**  
Pastor Aaron Chaudhary Tel: 07572 242417  
[www.newgenerationchurch.co.uk](http://www.newgenerationchurch.co.uk)

**XCEL Church**  
Pastor John Greenow Tel: 01325 329500  
[www.xcelchurch.com](http://www.xcelchurch.com)  
**St Mary's | Great Aycliffe & St Thomas' | Shildon**  
Father Tony Cornforth Tel: 01325 313611  
[www.aycliffecatholic.org](http://www.aycliffecatholic.org)



# Juniors Football Report

Although we are getting closer and closer to Christmas Day, the football remained a priority for our Junior sides that managed to get a match played in trying conditions.

Our Under 7's played on Saturday morning in what was a frustrating game for the Aycliffe side. The lads' confidence levels continue to grow and their ability on the ball is also improving and with a goal from the man of the match Regan they are translating their performances from their training sessions to their match on a weekend.

The **Under 8 Juniors** faced up against Bishop St Mary's in a tough match. The Juniors didn't start with their usual quick quality pace and this cost them early in the first half. In the second half, a goal from Marley and a much better team performance wasn't enough to get Aycliffe the points. The Man of the Match went to goalkeeper Joel for some great saves.

It was a great result for our **Under 8 Blacks**. With a few players missing due to illness and at least half the team not 100% it was good to see the team band together to get a win. There were 3 goals from Man of the Match Charlie, 2 from Max and 1 for Benjamin. The team are looking to build on this victory next week and get more results like this on the board.

The **Under 9's** played Wynyard and despite going a goal down in the first half the lads were battling well and playing good football. Second half they came racing out the blocks and immediately equalised with a great finish from Alex. They then took the lead through some quick thinking and a great ball into Evan who didn't hesitate to get himself a goal. Some more fine play saw them score another 2 goals with Alex getting his second of the game and Sam grabbing one as well. The man of the match in this game was awarded to Archie.

The **Under 10's** were away to Primrose Hill. They started slowly on a very sticky pitch and only had 1 sub due to illness. They worked so hard and were lucky to come in at half time at 0-0, a tough



team talk and a swap around in formation saw a much improved second half from the Aycliffe side. The juniors took control of the match and with Theo coming on later it gave them a fresh set of legs. After they kept battling, a fantastic long pass from George, who was solid all day, found Callum in the box who slotted the ball past the keeper with just 4 minutes left. Aycliffe stayed firm and got the 3 points. The man of the match was awarded to George for an outstanding performance.

Our **Under 11 Clarets** hosted Marton Royals at home. Both teams have had a strong start to the season and this meant it was always going to be a close affair. Aycliffe started stronger scoring 3 goals in the first half but a couple of mistakes allowed their opponents back in, so the score was all level at half time. Second half Marton came out strong but the Juniors were equally matched in all of their attacks. It was a brilliant performance throughout from Aycliffe, with Alex getting a hat trick thus earning the man of the match award.

The **Under 11 Whites** made the early trip to Thirsk Falcons for a 9.30 kick off. The team was looking very bare after players had dropped out due to illness. Aycliffe didn't let this bother them and played some of the best football they

have done all season. Thirsk took the lead but a great strike from Jake brought us level and looking competitive. Thirsk grabbed another and it was 2-1 at half time. In the second half it was Aycliffe with their backs against the wall as 2 player advantage the opposition had really started to take their toll on the team. Aycliffe played great counter attacking football and Reiss brought them level at 2-2. Thirsk then went on to score 3 more cheap scrappy goals as the Juniors hit every part of the woodwork and had several attempts cleared off the line. Although the result wasn't the ideal one, it was a great performance from the Aycliffe side and one that saw all 7 attending players receive the man of the match award.

Our **Under 11 Blacks** played Birtley Town away after weeks of waterlogged pitches and horrible weather had resulted in a string of games having to be called off, the lads were quick off the mark in this game though, going 3-1 up in the first half. They went on to grab another 3 goals for themselves in the second half. Keaton got himself two goals with Alex, Jayden W, Leon and Lewis all grabbing themselves a single goal. The man of the match was awarded to Leon after he scored an incredible goal from the half

way line.

Our **Under 12 Blacks** were away to South Park Rangers in what was a very close game between two good teams. The first half concluded with the score at 0-0 thanks to goalkeeper Lucas saving a penalty. In the second half the Juniors went in front through Kenzie but South Park got back in the game to make the final score 1-1. The man of the match award from this one went to Lucas.

The **Under 12 Whites** faced North Ormsby. Throughout the game the Aycliffe side asserted their dominance and showed great determination to keep their foot on the gas and this paid dividends as there was no shortage of goals for the Juniors in this match. Niall scored an amazing 4 goals with Tyler and Jayden both grabbing themselves a brace. Brad, Archie & Dom also got themselves on the scoresheet. The man of the match was awarded to Niall for a great attacking performance.

The **Under 13's** played at home to Hartlepool Pools Youth Whites and came out as distinguished winners. It was a ruthless performance from the lads with Zak getting 4 goals, Dan H getting a hatrick, Will grabbing a brace and Charlie also netting. It was a great first half performance from a team who are definitely not struggling in front of goal this season.

The **Under 14's** faced Tynemouth United and after a bright start Aycliffe took the lead with a goal from Louis. However, from here the team struggled to put a cohesive display together, eventually losing the game. Goals from Louis, Charlie and Bo couldn't get Aycliffe any points on the day, however, the team are looking to bounce back next week. Bailey was awarded the man of the match award in this game.

Our **Under 15's** played Thornaby at home in the cup. Aycliffe's opposition are in the league above themselves however they showed no fear and after an incredible team performance and goals from Lewis and Leon, it was the Juniors that are advancing to the cups' next round.

## RUNNING CLUB NEWS

This past week saw the start of the festive racing.

This began on Saturday with two of our members combining a weekend away in York with racing. Jayne Rudd and Marie Rudd both completed the York Yuletide 5 mile race which is a two lap race across fields and through the woods alongside the River Ouse. Marie completed this in 1.03.25 and Jayne in 1.03.26.

On Sunday another member took part in Santa 5k trail organised by Muddy Roads. David Stothard completed this in 27.16.

Finally on Sunday we had a small turn out for the NYSD cross country fixture at Acklam which took place in difficult conditions due to mud and wind.

In the ladies race (approx. 3.5 miles) Michelle Jane was first home in 26.29, followed by Jane Burnside in 38.32, Susan Clark in 41.17 and Jan McLuckie in 45.30. Kevin Greenall also took place in this race as do Male over 65, completing this in 33.40.

In the men's race (approx. 10k) Mark Wade was first home in 44.00, followed by Richard Campbell 46.28, Peter Milburn 47.25 and Peter Smith in 53.07.

### Youth Section

This week saw only one of our members taking part in the Cross Country at Acklam with some having to miss it through illness. Felicity Lineton ran the 1.25 miles completing this in 8.58.

For anyone interested in joining the club, you can simply turn up at one of our sessions all of which start from the Oakleaf Complex in Newton Aycliffe.



## Santa Visits to Hardwick

Father Christmas will be welcoming visitors to his festive yurt for two weekends in the lead up to Christmas.

Hardwick Park is once again inviting children to meet Santa Claus as he makes his pre-Christmas visit to County Durham.

As well as receiving a gift from Santa, children will be able to explore the park as part of a Christmas themed park trail, get crafty with festive activities and settle into story time.

Louise Porter, parks and countryside education officer, said: "It is an exciting time of year for little ones and meeting Santa is a real treat. His cosy yurt in the park is the perfect place to feel festive and makes an extra special day out for the whole family."

Thirty-minute slots are available on the 14th, 15th, 21st and 22nd December and cost £10.50 per child. Book your session online at <https://www.durham.gov.uk/hardwickevents>

## CAROL CONCERT

Come and enjoy singing all your favourite Carols with the Andreas Ensemble on Saturday 21st December at St. Cuthbert's Church, High Etherley at 7.00pm.

Tickets are £5 which includes seasonal refreshments and are available from Brotherton's Music Shop or by calling Brian Varley (01388) 606075 or pay on the door. Proceeds shared between Marie Curie and Church Funds.

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[www.newtonpress.net](http://www.newtonpress.net)



# AYCLIFFE BEAT ARCH RIVALS AT MOORE LANE

Newton Aycliffe 1st XV found their winning mojo last Saturday when their arch-rivals Richmondshire came to Moore Lane with great expectations. However, the omens did not look good for the visitors

when they realised they forgot to bring their squad playing strip. The day was saved by a club member dashing up the A1 to allow the game to start 10 minutes late. The scene was set for



## GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

**Wednesday 15th January 2020 - 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)

what turned out to be a good game, with the ever-present Aycliffe barny army supporters turning out in numbers, the weather and temperature perfect, and the pitch firmer than recent weeks. The touchline commentary team of old-boys, Ellis, Dixon, Woodward and Clark Kent were fired up.

From kick off Aycliffe set their stall out with some good aggressive running. Ball handling was slick, and Richmond were very much on the back foot. The early Aycliffe pressure was soon quelled by a ruck being turned over by the bigger, more experienced Richmond forwards who launched a counterattack to score the first converted try 0-7 (4 minutes). This was the wake up call the home side needed when they suddenly realised where the visitor's strength came from. Possession was key in this game and from a penalty move 5 meters from the Richmondshire line the ball was launched out amongst the back line and Aiden Ryans helped himself to a try. The conversion by Euan Kitching was successful. 7-7 (11 minutes). Over the next 10 minutes the crowd witnessed the young guns of Aycliffe getting more confident as they gained more experience in their first ever season of senior rugby. Winger James Toase thrilled as he made some aggressive runs and made good yards. Second row forward Adam Winterburn found his form after recent suspension with a trademark run from 40 metres powering over to score a try. The conversion was missed. 12-7 (20 minutes). Richmond increased their tempo to slow the home team attacks with some good tackling and Aycliffe were guilty of some exuberant passing which spoilt the attacking flow at times. As time was ticking down for the first half, winger Euan Kitching punished an infringement by Richmond with a well taken penalty. 15-7 (37 minutes), this remained the score at HALF TIME. The second half team talk by Richmond coach must have inspired their team as they looked more like they wanted to turn this game around. Aycliffe

started to make unforced errors and gave away too many penalties. Richmond penalty scored 15-10 (45 minutes). This boosted the visitor's confidence and within minutes scored their second unconverted try. 15-15 (47 minutes). The danger signs were duly noticed by the supporters and the screams of encouragement paid off when Kitching sprinted up the wing to bag himself a try which he converted himself. 22-15 (49 minutes). This was followed by the try of the match the man of the match, Captain James Thacker who was lined up with his team to defend an attack by Richmondshire when he managed to rip the ball from his opposite number and ran from inside his own 22 metre to score. Kitchen converted and the supporters were elated. 29-15 (53 minutes). This spurred on Aycliffe in terms of rare aggressive rucking to win the ball once more against relentless Richmondshire attacks and Neil Anderson broke away darting up the blindside flank near touch. Supported by scrum half Ben Walton between them they gained 70 metres before Walton was bundled into touch by desperate defence. Richmondshire refused to capitulate and a dubious offload by Aycliffe was turned over and an easy try was claimed, the conversion was missed. 29-20 (64 minutes). To make matters worse for Aycliffe Prop James Hanlon was yellow carded for 10 minutes. Richmond took advantage of this and went over to score the final unconverted try of the match. 29-25 (79 minutes) FINAL SCORE. Aycliffe wish to thank club sponsors Bengal Lounge. Their continued support for the season is greatly appreciated. Next week is the final league game of 2019 away to Jarrovians KO 2.15pm. All travelling supporters are always welcomed. **KIDS RUGBY** continues to progress at Moore Lane for age groups 8 to 16. Bring your kids down to introduce them to the sport, the more the merrier. Coaching starts at 12pm and finishes at 1.30. For further queries please contact Director of Rugby Peter Ryans 0779 6172599.

## N.A.F.C. REPORT

Newton Aycliffe made the long trip to North Shields. They lost 3-2, but had good chances to win the game. Aycliffe started brightly, despite playing into the wind. They took the lead on six minutes when Liam Jarvie sprung the offside trap and finished past Shields keeper Purvis. Shields started to get on top though, using the wind and their height advantage to good effect. McCarthy missed a good chance and then Cunningham's free kick forced a great save from Aycliffe keeper Adam Pickford.

On 22 minutes, a high ball to the back post was met with a powerful header by Carr for the equaliser. Mark Costello headed one off the line for Aycliffe on 31 minutes. Shields took the lead ten minutes before half time. Aycliffe were sloppy in defence and the ball came out to Carr, who slotted the ball low into the corner of the net.

Aycliffe had the wind behind them in the second half, and they dominated the play. They suffered a setback when Shaun Ryder was stretched off on the hour with a knee injury. He was replaced by Ryan Redford. They didn't let the long stoppage affect their play and they levelled after 67 minutes when Dean Thexton equalised. He received a lofted pass in the penalty



**Saturday 7th December**  
**Ebac Northern League Division One**  
**North Shields 3 v Newton Aycliffe 2**

area from man-of-the-match Jake Petitjean, trapped it, turned and put it away for 2-2. Shields went back in front with seven minutes to go. Shields caught Aycliffe on the break when Patton finished from a good cross into the box.

Aycliffe threw everything at Shields for the remainder of the match, which included a lot of injury time. They had good chances to equalise, but Jarvie and Connor Phelan both missed the target. North Shields held out for the win, and Aycliffe were left to rue their missed chances. Next match is away to Thornaby on Saturday 14th December at 3.00pm. Anyone looking for Christmas present ideas for an Aycliffe fan might like to

consider our new range of merchandise: calendars, hats and scarves on sale at home matches.

Photo: Liam Jarvie celebrates the first goal

## Christmas Lights

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Some readers are under the impression Newton News makes a charge for printing stories about events in the community involving businesses and town organisations.

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Remember, Newton News has a circulation of over 17,500 weekly, delivering to each household in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding villages. We also deliver to over 280 companies on Aycliffe Business Park and leave copies to be

picked up in public places.

We also have a very active website with over 15 million views in 4 years. The website hosts current and past issues of Newton News. Our popular website attracts local, national and international views each week from all around the world. Our Facebook page currently has over 10,000 likes and growing.

**Newton News website is the best source locally for all matters relating to Newton Aycliffe.**

Feel free also to send in any news and photos by email to paul@newtonnews.co.uk - We look forward to receiving your next piece of good news.

\*Items received are subject to space being available and the content acceptable. The editor retains the right to refuse items that are anonymous or unsuitable for publication.

# Local Care Company Urging Public to Help Combat Loneliness

Companionship is key to a healthy life but more needs to be done to reduce loneliness amongst the elderly in Durham, according to research carried out by an in-home care provider.

Home Instead Senior Care surveyed more than 2,000 over 65s with 9 in 10 stating that regular companionship would help them to stay mentally and physically healthy for longer.

Despite this, it was revealed that many older people felt

lonely with over a quarter of over 65s saying they spent 8 hours alone daily, with almost half (49%) of over 85s facing at least ten hours a day alone. Now the home care company is urging the public to take action to help older people in the community feel less lonely.

Trudi Jameson, owner of Home Instead Senior Care, said, "In many cases, it's simply having a friendly face pop by for a cup of tea and asking if they need assistance



with their shopping. So our message is this; visit your grandma, take your parents out for lunch as often as you can, befriend older neighbours and, if you are looking to turn your compassion into a rewarding career, consider becoming a caregiver."

The survey also revealed that 81% of older people in the local area want to live at home so as to not lose their independence and 72% also feel safe in the comfort of their own home.

Trudi continued: "It comes as no surprise to us to find that most people want to live at home for as long as possible. For most of us, our home is our sanctuary throughout our lives. When we get older, we've raised our families and earned our rest, we should get to enjoy the comfort of our own space. This is why our care works so well because our caregivers can provide companionship and support as well as encouraging older people to engage and be part of the community."

The home care company this month launched a television campaign to highlight how care at home works, as well as highlighting the rewarding role of working in care.

Home Instead's service is personal and tailored to the needs of each individual. It's a unique proposition that centres around visiting clients for a minimum of one hour at a time and matching them to caregivers who have common interests.

There is a shortage of caregivers in our society at the moment. Home Instead Senior Care recruits people of every age, regardless of employment background; basing hiring decisions on an applicant's passion for care rather than experience.

If you would like to make a difference in the lives of older people or to find out more about the work of Home Instead Senior Care, call 0191 374 4041 or visit <https://www.homeinstead.co.uk/durham>.

*Photo: Home Instead Senior Care client; Olive and caregiver; Pauline.*

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# COUNTY APPOINTS FIRST YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONER

An aspiring child physiologist with a passion for youth work has been appointed as County Durham's first young people's commissioner. Amy Waites will help ensure the voices of children and young people are heard and that their needs are met by professionals in the county. As part of Durham County Council's apprenticeship programme, earlier this year, the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership

(DSCP) interviewed young people from across the county for the new two-year apprenticeship position. The partnership is made up of agencies that are committed to keeping children safe, including Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary and NHS clinical commissioning groups. By appointing a young people's commissioner, the DSCP hopes to provide more opportunities for children and young people to share what is important to them. Amy, from Bowburn, was just what the partners were looking for.

For the past year, the 17-year-old has been studying for a level 3 qualification in early years and education (workforce) at New College

Durham, as well as gaining valuable experience at Bowburn Infants and Nursery School two days each week. She is now working towards a NOCN level 3 diploma in youth work practise and hopes to progress onto higher qualifications and a career in child physiology. Amy said: "I've always had a passion for working with children and love helping to teach at my local dance school, which I have been attending for the last ten years."

"I'm looking forward to engaging with young people and children in lots of different ways as part of my new role. Being a young person myself I understand some of the struggles, concerns and safeguarding issues that they face today. I'm hoping that being able to relate to young people will help me in my role."

As part of the role, Amy will develop her skills in engaging with children and young people and speak up for them to ensure their voices are heard. This will include facilitating discussions where young people can have their say on decisions that affect them in an adult-free environment. She will support the young people to participate in the discussions and identify how the DCSP can improve services to keep children safe.

She will also play a lead role on the DSCP's scrutiny panel, which will meet every six months and includes young people, families, community groups and those who work with children and young people. The panel scrutinises the partners' work over the previous six months and helps to set

priorities for the future. In addition to this, Amy will ask agencies the partnership works with how they capture the voices of young people and will contribute to local, national and international debate about children's rights and other priorities such as mental health, child exploitation and domestic abuse.

At the end of each year, she will co-ordinate an annual report bringing together a wealth of insight she has gained through a targeted and meaningful engagement programme. She will implore the DSCP to act on this feedback highlighting areas of good practice and priority areas for improvement and forward planning.

Cllr Olwyn Gunn, Cabinet member for children and young people's services at Durham County Council, said: "Finding out what young people think about

the services the DSCP provides and how they can be improved is incredibly important. That's why I am delighted we now have a young people's commissioner here in County Durham. I am really looking forward to hearing all of the ideas and insights she will bring to the partnership." Michael Banks, chair of the DSCP, said: "It's an absolute pleasure to appoint Amy as our first young people's commissioner. There were a number of strong applications for the post, but Amy's enthusiasm, approachability and understanding of why the work of the DSCP is so vital really set her apart. I know she will be a valuable member of the team and I am sure the experience will also be of great benefit to her in her future career."

For more information about the DSCP, visit: [www.durham-scp.org.uk](http://www.durham-scp.org.uk)

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# Annual Rotary Carol Concert



Continuing the long tradition, inaugurated by the Rotary Club and organised for many years by Syd Howarth, the Annual Community Christmas Concert took place on Tuesday 10th December at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.

Children, family and friends attended the main hall for a fantastic afternoon of entertainment and a community sing-a-long of traditional and not so traditional Christmas Carols.

The programme included sterling and varied performances from the schools of, Aycliffe Village, Vane Road, Woodham Academy, St. Mary's and St Josephs, Horndale, and Greenfield Community Arts College.

Special thanks to Woodham Academy choir who helped in all the singing and especially in the 'Shalom' Round.

Christmas Greetings were given by Trish Pemberton on behalf of Rotary Newton Aycliffe and Mayor Mary Dalton thanked all the

children, teachers and family for attending. Thanks also to John Melvin for audio, electrics etc. The Rev Mike Dixon attempted jokes, compered the afternoon and gave the blessing.

*More images can be viewed on the Newton News website*

## Cancer Care

County Durham & Darlington has some of the highest members of the newly diagnosed cancer cases in all of England, measured across the 4 main cancer groups (bowel, prostate, breast and lung).

The facilities at Darlington Memorial Hospital are no longer providing patients with the space and dignity they need and deserve during treatments. A planned new unit will be four times bigger. To donate to this appeal please donate via phone to: 01325 743781 or by BACS to: CDDFT Charity Sort Code: 60-70-80 Account: 10011056.

# Scanner Appeal

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

- Visit the 'justgiving' website at [www.justgiving.com/cddft](http://www.justgiving.com/cddft)
- Send a cheque to: Cashiers, Darlington Memorial Hospital, Hollyhurst Road, Darlington, DL3 6HX. Please make cheques payable to: Co Durham & Darlington NHS FT Charity.
- Pick up a donation envelope with more information, from one of our waiting areas or wards.
- Text **SCAN02 £10** to 70070 to donate £10 to CDDFT.
- To discuss fundraising or for more information, ring 01325 743786 or email: [cddft.charity@nhs.net](mailto:cddft.charity@nhs.net)
- Follow us on twitter: @CDDFTCharity
- Find the charity on Facebook

## For Sale

### Rocking Horse



Much loved Collinson Bros. Rocking Horse Circa early 80's. In good genuine condition, make a fabulous Christmas present from Santa. Height to ear tips 4'3", height to crest 4'6", stand length 4'2", stand width 1'6". Private sale. £550. Tel 07398 501624 (School Aycliffe)

**RENT** a washing machine only £4.99 per week, no deposit, fully maintained. Bargain Buys, Shafto Way, 01325 321 678

**"ALL SORTS"** Charity Shop next to St. Clare's Church Hall is open 10.00am to 1.00pm every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. New stock now in place, a huge selection of items, everything but the kitchen sink! It's worth a call to see what may be the best selection in town. Every penny made will continue to be donated to good causes. The shop is run and funded solely by Godfrey Bennett, who would like to thank all his many supporters. Light up decorations and Christmas presents for all ages from 50p. Bookings now being taken for the hire of my Santa costume.

**BOWLING BAG** with 4 woods, Vitalite, size 4 7/8 plus 2 measures, £50 ono. Tel 01325 321750

**TOSHIBA** 40 inch Regaza TV on stand. No remote. Collection only. Excellent condition. £60 ovno 01325 787861.

**4 WHEELED** walking aid with seat and bag under, with brakes etc. £30 ono. Tel Woodham 07964 277265

**NEW** double divan with Damask mattress, delivery arranged, £125. Tel 07789 113343.

## Sudoku (Hard, difficulty rating 0.67)

		5	4			2	8
		9				7	
	8		3	7			
3		8	7	2		4	
9							6
		4		8	6	2	7
				4	3		5
	2					1	
4	5				2	7	



## AYCLIFFE VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

**Santa's Breakfast Club:** It's that time of year again! The Christmas Breakfast Club is on Saturday, December 14, at Aycliffe Village Hall, from 9am to 12.30pm. As well as the usual bacon butties and cups of tea or coffee, crafts, stalls, glitter tattoos and a raffle, Santa will be in his grotto ready to give children their presents.

**WI Meeting:** The Christmas meeting of Aycliffe Village WI is on Tuesday, December 17, at Aycliffe Village Hall at 7pm, when Eve Gamblin talks about A German Christmas. Visitors are welcome.

**Carols on the Green:** Come and enjoy the village's traditional carol singalong on Monday, December 23, at 7.30pm, outside The County. Then afterwards, warm up in the pub with friends and family and enjoy a mince pie and ginger wine.

**Christmas Services:** Start your Christmas with a Carols by Candlelight service on Christmas Eve at St Andrew's Church at 3pm. The Christmas Eve midnight service starts at 11.30pm. The Christmas Day service for the parish is at 10am at St Elizabeth's Church in Newton Aycliffe.

## Greenfield Arts Delegate Attends Engage Conference



Katy Milne, Director at Greenfield Arts with Lorraine Coghill, Science Outreach Coordinator at Durham University and Ogden regional representative, were invited to share work at

this year's conference held by the NCCPE (National Co-ordinating Centre for Public Engagement). The prestigious conference 'Engage 2019' provided a platform for discussion amongst academics and public engagement associates to explore the importance of engagement in education and the wider community.

The theme of the conference was disruption. The conference asked powerful questions about change and what type of change we want to see as public engagement professionals. The conference was a call to action and allowed for empowering and stimulating debate. Katy spoke about her vast experience as a creative practitioner who's key motivation and inspiration is collaborating with people to provide creative opportunities to explore, express and create.

Katy and Lorraine shared examples and case studies of their practice at the conference exploring approaches that encourage and enable a participant led approach. Katy was delighted to be invited and to work alongside Lorraine from Durham University. The conference was full of inspiring delegates who believe in the power of people. This NCCPE conference took place in Bristol and is NCCPE's annual conference exploring public engagement. Thank you to organisers, inspirational speakers and workshop leaders and for a stimulating conference event.

## Congratulations

**Jean Forbes**  
9th December 2019



**Happy 80th Birthday**  
To a wonderful Mam, Nanny, Wife, Auntie, Sister and Friend. With all our love on your special day xxxx

**Christopher Jones**  
12th December 2019



**Happy 30th Birthday Son**  
Hope you have a great day. Lots of love, Mam & Dad xxxxxxxx

**Chloe Miller**

15th December 2019  
To our special Daughter, Chloe, Happy 22nd Birthday. We are so proud of you. Hope you enjoy your special day. Love from Mam and Dad

### NEWTON NEWS

NEWTON NEWS is published and printed by Newton Press, which was first established in 1948 and incorporates "The Newtonian". Visit the on-line version at [www.newtonnews.co.uk](http://www.newtonnews.co.uk)  
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## In Memoriam

**Stephen Parker**  
12th December 2004

If tears could make a stairway and memories a lane, I'd walk right up to Heaven and bring you home again. From your loving Daughter Susan and Grandson Shaun xxxx

**Enid Parker**  
17th December 1996

Loving memories we have locked in our hearts, you shall not be forgotten because we are apart. From your loving Daughter Susan and Grandson Shaun xxxx

**John Cassidy**  
(Cass)  
12th December 1987

To remember you is easy we do it every day. It's just the thought of losing you that never goes away. You left a place no one can fill, we love you my darling and always will. Special memories silently kept of one I loved and will never forget. Love always, Doris, Family and Grandchildren xxxx

**Rita Thomson**  
11th December 2008

Precious memories of a much loved Sister and Auntie. Remembered always. Love, Doris and family xxx

**Dorothy Bowron**  
25/8/1941 - 13/12/1994



Mam, how 25 years have passed in the blink of an eye. You are missed every day, not only by your Children, but by the Grandchildren you never got to meet. How they would have loved you and how their lives would have been enriched having you care and nurture them as you did us. We will see you and Dad again one day and our wonderful family will be reunited. Love, Andrea, Julian and Simon xxx

## Obituary

**Kenneth Dodds**

30th November, suddenly but peacefully, Kenneth, aged 71 years of Newton Aycliffe, formerly Shildon. Loving Dad of Paul and good friend to many. Will friends please meet for Service at Durham City Crematorium on Tuesday 17th December at 10.00am. No flowers by request.

## Acknowledgement

**Jackie Piggott**

Norah and family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the kindness shown as well as sympathy cards, flowers and donations made at this sad time. Special thanks to Father Cornford of St. Mary's R.C. Church for his comforting Service and also the Co-op Funeral Services.

## Christmas Wishes

**Pam & Michael Lovelass**

would like to wish their family, friends and neighbours around the town, a Happy and Peaceful Christmas time, and a Happy and Healthy New Year. We will be donating to Alzheimer's as usual. God bless xxxx

## Zanshin-Kai Karate Gradings



Zanshin-Kai Karate, based at Woodham Community Centre, finished 2019 off with the final grading for our Cadets & Senior classes. Everybody worked hard & the Grading panel were very pleased with the standard and enthusiasm shown by everyone at these gradings.

Congratulations to all of those who successfully achieved their new belt:

### Black Belt Gradings

3rd Dan Black belt – Fiona Collin

### 2nd Dan Black Belt

Stephen Dunn, Mathew Emmerson & Aaron Busby

1st Dan Black belt – Tom Haden

### Coloured Belt Gradings

### 1st Kyu BrownB

Glen Cochrane, Asa Fletcher & Jodie Odubena

### 2nd Kyu Brown Belt

Josh Pinder

### 6th Kyu Green Belt

Jacob Dobie, Shaun James, Angel James, Summer James & Joshua Joice

### Red Dragon

### Cadets Grading

### 2nd Mon Brown Belt

Travis Alton

### 3rd Mon Brown Belt

Izzy Lambert & Max Holehouse

### 6th Mon Green Belt

Macey Mclean, Finley Cochrane & Posi Ashiru

### 9th Mon Red Belt

Sophie Flowers, Nathan Kiliman

We are now closed for the Christmas holidays but if you have always wanted to try karate, we would like to invite you to come and give it a try in the New Year, all newcomers get a four week Free Trial. Classes are Thursdays:

6.00pm-7.00pm

Red Dragons (Cadets)

7.15-8.15pm

Juniors & Adults

(over 10)

Sunday: 4.00pm-6.00pm

Juniors (over 10) & Adults

Contact: Zanshin-Kai Karate by telephone on either 07917 203421 or 07746 204064 or

email [zanshin-kai-karate@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:zanshin-kai-karate@hotmail.co.uk) Facebook

(zanshin kai karate newton aycliffe).

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**Alice Springs**



**Happy 21st Birthday**  
10-10-10

to our beautiful Daughter on your 21st birthday. Lots of love from Mam & Dad xxx

**Bonny and Clyde Cunningham**



**Golden**

ations Mar on 1st Jan ters, Gra

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## Youthy Football Round Up

**NAYFC U11 Eagles** beat Durham RTC. The Eagles travelled to Durham for a mid week match and what a goal fest it was. The boys played so well as a team, the passing was brilliant with the boys getting their heads up and looking for each other. Players were tracking back to help out in defence, pressing the ball really well and Kian in goal made some cracking saves. MOM went to Will tonight, not only for his goals but sheer determination and effort. Well done Will but everyone was fantastic.

**NAYFC U11 Eagles** drew against Crookhall Becks Blues. An exciting match on Saturday finished as a draw following a great effort by the Eagles against a decent side. MOM was Zac this week, playing out of his normal position he did so well at left back and had a fantastic game. Well done Zac and to all the boys today.

**NAYFC U8 Girls Wildcats** beat Felling Magpies. With only 6 available; Skye, Mia, Lucy, Nyah, Kaitlyn and Brooke, the girls worked hard! They pressed from the whistle and closed down quickly, creating some good opportunities early on. By half time it could have been 4-0 with Lucy having a shot narrowly wide then another powerful strike saved by the keeper. Nyah and Mia also



NAYFC U10 Angels Blue



NAYFC U11 Wildcats

good save from their forward, Mia then intercepted a pass and ran the full length of the pitch but then trod on her lace when lining up the shot which she pulled wide. Very unlucky. Lucy then took a pass from Nyah and closed in on goal but didn't quite get the contact to threaten the keeper. Nyah hit the post and Brooke was being busy to try and put the game safe. The second goal came when Felling went on the attack, Mia won a tackle at the back and passed to Lucy. Lucy then won a tackle herself and played the ball through to Brooke who took a touch then hit an early shot which caught out their keeper. The game played out with a good hard fought victory for Wildcats. Great effort from everyone.

**NAYFC U11 Girls Wildcats** beat Felling Magpies. Bright and early kick off and the first home game for a very long time. The girls were out in force. We had a full team of 14 girls available for this one so lots of changes giving everyone a good run out. First half started with Aycliffe piling on the pressure but it took a good 20 minutes to break the deadlock, after many chances going wide or hitting the post/crossbar. Aycliffe looked dangerous with every attack. The girls were leading at half time, following very little action in their own half due to a strong defence and alert keeper. Second half the girls were asked to continue the pressure but to get the ball out into the wide positions for the cross balls. Confidence was high and the goals kept coming. Great team play today. Referee awarded Lana with POM - great work in goal first half (alert when called upon but also giving out encouragement to her team mates) second half outfield with a strong positive performance.

**NAYFC U10 Boys** beat Stockton Town Royals to book their place in the last 16 of the Challenge Cup.

**NAYFC U13 Girls 4 - 1** Consett Titans.

**NAYFC Angels Blue** beat Norton & Stockton Ancients U10 Girls.

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