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All of the children and staff would like to thank the Turbinia Pub for their fantastic generosity. During the week prior to Christmas, Walworth staff collected an amazing selection of toys from the Turbinia. This was as a result of the collections made by Gary Soakell and his friends in their Annual Toy Run. The Toy Run has been in existence for 12 years and has provided a huge array of toys for children around the area. The run itself takes in many areas of County Durham and is supported by the Blazing Squad who also receive and collect donations to give to worthy causes. Head Teacher, Mr Peter Wallbanks, said, "This was a huge act of kindness to support our children. The customers and staff of the Turbinia work tirelessly to support good causes with all their efforts and it was really kind of them to consider Walworth for their support. The children at Walworth called the toys 'mint' and their faces showed their overall delight. Many thanks to the Turbinia".

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HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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Tel: Paul
01325 300212
or paul@newtonnews.co.uk

READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Mr Darran Weston found a visitor in his bathroom recently, a gorgeous Tortoiseshell Butterfly. It likes mixing with its own kind, or so it thought!

His picture is entitled 'If I don't move, they won't see me'. Send your photo to paul@newtonnews.co.uk



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STUDENTS AND BUSINESSES
UNITE TO SAVE THE PLANET

Over 120 students from 17 secondary schools, including Greenfield College, Newton Aycliffe are embarking on a challenge to come up with business ideas that will protect the planet. Future Business Magnates, now running for its 15th year, will see school teams of year 8 pupils working closely with local businesses to develop, create and present business ideas.

With many countries and local authorities, including Durham County Council, declaring a Climate Emergency and committing to reducing emissions, this year students are being asked to come up with a business idea that will help to save the planet or will tackle one of the problems caused by climate change. At the launch students heard from the Environment Agency (EA), who are a partner in this year's competition. EA representatives gave an interesting introduction to the concept of the circular economy, to get the teams' creativity flowing.

The students representing schools from across County Durham will undergo six individual challenges over the coming months,



supported by dedicated business partners from successful Durham based organisations like Zumtobel Group, Honcho Markets, Wates Construction and Waterstones.

The programme will culminate in an awards ceremony in June 2020 hosted by BBC Radio Newcastle presenter Charlie Charlton.

This year's competition was launched in November by Councillor Ossie Johnson, Vice Chairman of Durham County Council, and Business Durham at the Xcel Centre in Newton Aycliffe. Business Durham is the economic development arm of Durham County Council and runs the Future Business

Magnates programme.

Sarah Slaven, Operations Director at Business Durham, said: "This exciting competition aims to inspire young people and help develop the skills needed to start and develop a business."

"Year after year it's great to see so many positive outcomes for the students, the schools and the business partners. Students are introduced to possible career pathways and develop key communications skills, and businesses are given the opportunity to inspire young people whilst learning more about the world of education."

CLLr Carl Marshall, Cabinet member for economic regeneration at Durham County Council, said: "In February, we declared a climate emergency and set the ambitious target of making all of County Durham carbon neutral by 2050."

"Developing clean industries and promoting a green economy are key to achieving this target and I am really looking forward to seeing what innovative business ideas the students come up with to tackle climate change. We all have a responsibility to protect our planet, and the Future Business Magnates Challenge aims to draw upon the passion so many young people across the world have already demonstrated towards this

vital cause."

Sarah Darling, Customer and Engagement Advisor for the Environment Agency, said: "It has been fantastic to contribute towards this year's Future Business Magnates challenge, especially as the theme is 'building a business to protect the planet', with the opportunity to introduce information about the circular economy concept."

"We hope that we've encouraged the teams to look at ways to better use our planet's vital resources by putting reduction, reuse and recycling of resources at the heart of their business concepts. This change in thinking, not only helps us to better protect our environment but it supports local growth to our economy for future generations."

Chris Hind, head of business studies at St Leonard's Catholic School, said: "It's a great competition, I love

it. We see the confidence of the pupils develop over the course of the programme. They gain many skills including communications, team work and presentation skills as well as all round business knowledge. Importantly they also enjoy the programme and it keeps them interested over the year."

Christmas
Collection

Dear Sir,
The total amount collected on Christmas Eve, when I was positioned opposite Argos, was the fantastic sum of £503.50p. Once again, the generosity of the people of Newton Aycliffe, was amazing. Thank you so much.
Honest John.

Pupils Get Interactive
Thanks to Donation From
Local Housebuilder

Children at a primary school in Heighington are celebrating after receiving a boost towards their learning equipment from a local housebuilder.

Heighington Church of England Primary School has received a donation of £300 from Bellway, which is building new homes at Meadow Rise, off Walworth Lane in the village.

Bellway's donation has helped the school to purchase an iPad, which the students have been using to learn interactively.

The school's headteacher, Carly Spence, said: "We are very grateful to Bellway for their kind donation."

"Our children are delighted with their new iPad, and this week they have been using it to create some fantastic stories with photos and sounds."

Darren Pelusi, Sales

Manager for Bellway Durham, said: "We are very pleased to be able to contribute to Heighington Primary School's learning facilities, and believe that interactive learning is a wonderful way for the pupils to get involved in the curriculum."

"At Bellway we do our best to give back to the communities that we build new homes in, and we really hope this donation will benefit the children."

Bellway is building a selection of three and four-bedroom homes at Meadow Rise with prices starting from £236,995.

More information on the new homes available can be found at bellway.co.uk.

Photo: Bellway's Michelle Atkinson with headteacher Carly Spence of Heighington CE Primary School and Year 1 pupils

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Saturday 4th January - "Little Devil"
One of the biggest bands currently on the circuit.
Straight up high energy rock from the big hitters such as: Foo Fighters, Buckcherry, The Cult, Black Stone Cherry, RHCP, Him, Reef, Faith No More, INXS and many more.
This weeks gigs have included a sell-out at the 02 Newcastle, previously played main stages of 'Stormin The Castle', 'CrookFest' and many more festivals.

Saturday 11th January - "Alcatraz House Band"
"Happy 40th Birthday Turbinia"
Join us for the pubs celebration with one of the best bands ever to grace the north-east stages. Hard-working, hard-playing rock covers band, gracing pubs and stages throughout the north east for the past eight years. Always up for a drink/laugh; always about playing to the crowd and making sure everyone has a good time, including ourselves! High-energy performances with plenty of passion and rawness, never disappoint! Stars of the main stage at both 'Stormin The Castle', 'Farmyard Party' and many festivals.
Covering tracks by: Led Zeppelin, AC/DC, Queens Of The Stone Age, Guns n Roses, Queen, Foo Fighters, Cult, ZZ Top, Police and many more.

Every Friday is Open-Mic/Buskers featuring some great local talent, players welcome
For more information on bands go to
www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034
Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

Dale Sugden Wins Options 'Member of the Year'



Member of the Year even more special.

Linda West, Options Coordinator said: "Dale is a very popular member of the group, everyone believes he is a very deserving winner having grown in confidence and independence. Dale has been coming to Options for 10 years and it is great to see Dale take on new tasks that he couldn't before, and he always offers to help others. Dale enjoys welcoming members by making hot drinks on a morning and is very supportive and friendly. He loves to make others laugh and ensures all members are happy - his energy lights up the room! He will thrive by representing Options for the next year, we're all very excited for the New Year. Well done Dale".

Dale proudly received his award and said, "I am so happy and excited to win Member of the Year. It means a lot and I can't wait to represent Options at events next year. I love coming to Options and seeing my friends every day, thank you for voting for me!"

The night was filled with special awards and accolades and our congratulations go to all of the winners:

Member who's gained the most confidence:

Thomas Oakley

Options most cheerful

Member: **Shaun New**

Options most adventurous

Member: **Lesley Bowman**

Options most sporty

Member: **Brian Heels**

Options best chef:

Gillian Clark

Options member with the

best sense of humour:

Alison Hurworth

Options kindest member:

Chris Hinks

Options most creative

member: **Phil Thompson**

Options most musical

member:

Samantha Grimes

This awards night was partly funded by kind donations from Sainsbury's Cobblers Hall and Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership.

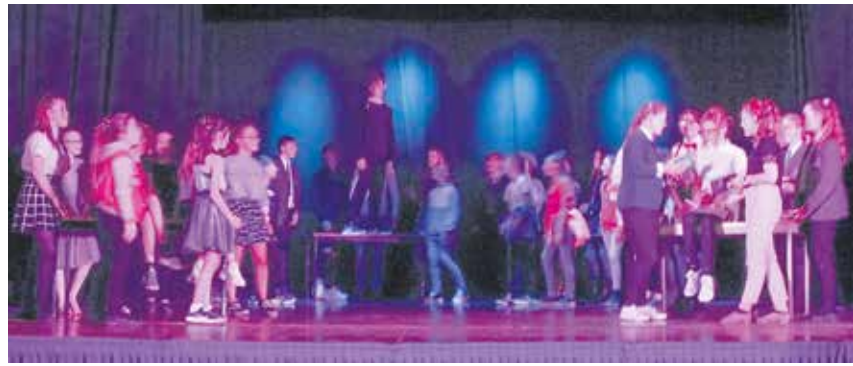
If you would be interested in supporting this project please contact Linda West on 01325 321234. To find out more about Options please visit their facebook page @optionspcp or visit our website <https://www.pcp.uk.net/options-social-group>

MRI SCANNER APPEAL

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

- Visit the 'justgiving' website at www.justgiving.com/cddft
- 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

Ending the Year With a Bang!



Students from all year groups took to the stage for their annual Christmas Concert on Thursday 19th December to a sell-out crowd. The concert featured performances from Woodham Sound, Advanced Choir, Snare Academy and Dance Academy, as well as a variety of solo and other ensemble performances. Students in tutor group 7GH returned to the stage to perform 'Eye of the Tiger', having won their Year 7 tutor group competition earlier in the year. There was also a standout performance from the newly formed Year 7 Rock Band who performed '7 Nation Army'.

This rock band was also accompanied by Year 10 BTEC students Bradley Lewis, Matthew Wimbury and Daniel Watson, who have been rehearsing in Rockademy sessions, as

part of the Performing Arts Academy, in order to create a house band to keep as much of the performances live and student led.

The cast of High School Musical also took to the stage to perform the song 'Stick to the Status Quo' as a sneak preview of next year's performance which will be taking place in February.

Head of Music and leader of the Performing Arts Academy, Mr. Gales, commented, "the quality of performances this year was nothing short of exceptional. To have over 100 different students from within the school taking part in the concert shows the high level of engagement and dedication that our students possess. To see so many Year 7 students taking part is incredible. They have settled into the school so well and really are making the most of the opportunities that are available to them, either by joining the Dance or the Performing Arts Academies. For them to have the confidence to get on the stage, not just in ensembles, but also as soloists, is fantastic and is very exciting for their future performances over the coming years." To stay up-to-date with all future performances, follow the Woodham Performing Arts Academy' Facebook page.

Photographs by Rebecca Lowes Year 11 student

Open Day for New Kingdom Hall

Dear Sir,
Earlier in 2019 you ran an editorial piece on the waste ground between the fire station and the nursing home on Central Avenue, highlighting the local congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses had purchased this land for a new Kingdom Hall, as they move from the rear of Allington Road on the town, to this new plot. The new site will also accommodate the Ferryhill congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, as they will now share it with us.

That project is now complete thanks to over 400 volunteers from as far south as Wales and as far north as Glasgow, east Kilbride, who came to assist in its build, it was all accomplished by volunteers, who have worked tirelessly since we broke ground on 19th August and many more have given their time and energy, some as old as 80 assisted, some made tea in the canteen, many made cakes and pastries and provided other forms of nourishment for the workers, all at their own expense - what a marvellous display of giving in the local community as they demonstrated the love for our God Jehovah.

We are now pleased to share with you an Open Day on 4th January from 10.00am, with all the local community, to view this remarkable project which is now complete and we invite the public to come along, where we will be happy to show you around and answer any questions you may have.
Paul Foster
On behalf of Newton Aycliffe and Ferryhill congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses

APPEAL

Dear Sir,
Could you place an appeal in the Newton News?

We are looking for a female witness to a road traffic collision which took place at Rushyford roundabout at approx 8.15pm on 16th December 2019.

I believe the witness was driving a Vauxhall Mokka. Could I ask her to please ring me on 07908 860799 as I need to tie up some loose ends. Name and address supplied

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ROF 59 ACTIVITY CENTRE

WEEKLY DEALS

TUESDAY
BOUNCE AWARE
SUPPORT NIGHT

A dedicated session on the trampolines to help with a wide range of sensory, developmental and physical disabilities, offering therapeutic exercise to participants in a fun environment with trained marshals. For members of recognised disabled groups and families and siblings.
£5 per hour (One Carer Free) | £1 Socks

WACKY WEDNESDAY
With every adult having a main meal, one child can bounce for £1 between 5-7pm. Socks are an additional £1

THURSDAY
BOUNCE & BITE

Enjoy an hours activity and a kids meal between 5-7pm
£9.50 per person
Socks are included

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
MATE OR DATE NIGHT

We watch your kids whilst you get to relax and enjoy a meal with your partner or friends. With every adult main meal, three children get to bounce and climb for 3 hours between 5:30-8:30pm
£5 per child | £1 Socks

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Children under the age of 6 must be accompanied by an adult on the trampolines
Please arrive 15 minutes before your session time. All times include a briefing

For more information follow us on Facebook, email hello@rof59.co.uk or call 01325 728 222

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that Slimming World feeling!

MONDAY:

Ferryhill Sports & Education Centre

9.30am & 5.30pm

Tina: 07515 934815

Woodham Community Centre

St. Elizabeth's Close DL5 4UE

5.00pm & 7.00pm

Sam: 07970 451284

Neville Community Centre

5.30pm

Christine: 07970 666291

TUESDAY:

Sedgefield Methodist Church

9.30am - Nic: 07791 909376

3.30 & 5.30pm - Sam: 07970 451284

R.A.F.A. Club

3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm

Nic: 07791 909376

WEDNESDAY:

Navy Club

Bluebell Way DL5 7PW

9.30am - Nic: 07791 909376

5.00 & 7.00pm - Christine: 07970 666291

THURSDAY:

R.A.F.A. Club

Barrington Road DL5 5AL

9.30am & 11.30am - Sam: 07970 451284

5.00 & 7.00pm - Nic: 07791 909376

NEW VENUE - New Day / Times

Chilton Sports & Social Community Club, Main Hall

5.30pm & 7.30pm - Joni: 07716 484472

West Cornforth Community Centre

5.30 & 7.30pm - Christine: 07970 666291

SATURDAY:

Ferryhill Sports & Education Centre

8.30am & 10.30am


Tina: 07515 934815

Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre

8.30am & 10.30am

Gordon: 07572 240010

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Slimming
WORLD

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Local Slimming Consultants Ready to Welcome You in 2020



Slimming World Consultants in Newton Aycliffe area have successfully supported members to lose 2,640 stone during 2019.

One in four adults has an 'obese' BMI of 30 or more, which could put their health at risk. Obesity has increased from 15% of adults in 1993 to 27% now.

Through its powerful combination of group support, a generous flexible eating plan and an incremental activity programme, Slimming World motivates and supports members to lose and keep off 10% of their body weight, recognising their achievements through its Club 10 programme. The Club 10 programme recognises the significant health benefits of losing and maintaining a 10% weight loss. Members who lose 10% of their starting weight receive a Club 10 award. When they have sustained

their 10% weight loss for 10 weeks (or continued to lose weight) they are rewarded with a free week's attendance at Slimming World. The award provides members with an incentive to reach and maintain their 10% target and helps to cement the habits to maintain their weight loss in the long term.

Losing weight can help reduce your risk of developing many health conditions, such as Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, stroke, some cancers, breathlessness, fertility problems, asthma and reduce depression and anxiety.

With this in mind our local consultants are urging anyone who wants to lose weight and lead a healthier lifestyle to come along and find out more. Visit www.slimmingworld.co.uk to find your local consultant and group times.

Family Tribute After Boxing Day Crash

Tributes have been paid to a motorcyclist who died in a Boxing Day crash near Bishop Auckland. The family of Carl Pepper say they are heartbroken at their loss.

The 26-year-old, from Bishop Auckland, died after his red Suzuki 600cc motorcycle crashed on South Church Industrial Estate, close to the junction with the A688.

Emergency services were alerted at around 2.15am and despite the efforts of police and ambulance service crews, Mr Pepper was pronounced dead at the scene a short time later.

His family have released a statement paying tribute to their "beloved son".

They said: "Our beloved son Carl Pepper will be sadly missed by his parents Kevin and Trudy, stepparents Alex Berry and Richard Reid, his sisters Lisa Marie Prince and Melanie Hubbard and his friends.



"Carl was taken from us far too soon and our hearts are broken.

"Goodnight our son. We love you and we will miss you, until we meet again". Accident investigators are appealing for any witnesses to the crash to get in touch as soon as possible.

Anyone with information is asked to call Durham Constabulary on 101, quoting incident number 42 of December 26.

'Stories From The Hive' at Greenfield Arts

Greenfield Arts are delighted to announce their latest exhibition 'Stories from the Hive' by Julie Cockburn. The exhibition is a collection of work exploring the connections we all have.

Julie chooses materials which reflect elements of her childhood, combined with her 'flawed and imperfect memories' resulting in her creations of uneasy beauty. 'Stories from the Hive' brings together a collection of work inspiring us to consider the memories and connections in our lives.

The exhibition will run from Thursday 9th January to Wednesday 12th February 2020 with a preview evening on Wednesday 8th January from 18:00 – 20:00.

Running alongside the exhibition there is a range of activities and opportunities to explore your creativity and be inspired by Julie's artwork. Workshops include introductory sessions to rag rug making (Thursday 23rd January 18:00 – 20:00) and 3D rigid ink drawing (Thursday 30th January



18:00 – 20:00).

Julie will be leading the workshops which offer the chance to learn new creative skills in both drawing and textiles and each workshop costs just £15. The Greenfield Gallery is open Monday to Thursday 10:00 – 21:00 and Fridays 10:00 – 16:00.

The exhibition is an integral part of the new season at Greenfield Arts in 2020,

in our birthday year we want to celebrate with the community that we are connected with. If you would like to know a bit more about the forthcoming gallery programme or the projects, activities and events available at Greenfield Arts please check out our 'new look' website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk call 01325 379048 or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk

MAKE YOUR ORGAN DONATION DECISION

• 8 out of 10 people* in England say they would definitely donate or would consider donating their organs, but only a third have told their family they want to donate

• TV advert launches to raise awareness of the fact the law around organ donation is changing in England in spring 2020

• Family of an 18-year-old who died at Christmas in 2016 calls for others to have the conversation

As families gather to celebrate Christmas, NHS Blood and Transplant is

urging everyone to take the time to consider and take time to talk about their organ donation decision. The call comes as it launches a TV advertising campaign to highlight the upcoming changes to the law around organ donation in England. From spring 2020, all adults in England will be considered to have agreed to donate their own organs when they die unless they record a decision not to donate or are in one of the excluded groups.

The 'Pass it on' campaign aims to motivate people across England to "Pass It On", whether that's by making the decision to pass on their organs to save lives; passing on their decision to family and friends or passing on information about the law change to other people.

The TV advert, which is due to air for the first time on 20th December, follows a woman holding a heart shaped balloon. We watch her quietly leave her home and sleeping family and travel by bus as she observes different scenes of life that continue to go on around her. In the final scene, we see her approach a building as the sun rises, silently releasing the balloon with a smile. A waiting patient reaches out from a window to receive it, symbolising the gift of passing on life through organ donation. The patient looks down and gestures as if to say thank you. The advert ends with a reminder that the law around organ donation is changing in England from spring 2020 and urging people to find out more and register a decision. The TV campaign is the next stage of the national organ donation law change awareness campaign, which launched in April

this year. The advert aims to reach people and boost conversations about organ donation at Christmas, while people are together with their families.

Once the new system is introduced across England, families will still be involved before any organ or tissue donation goes ahead and Specialist Nurses for Organ Donation will continue to speak with families about their loved one's decision.

In 2020, the law around organ donation will be changing in both England and Scotland. From spring 2020 in England and Autumn 2020 in Scotland, everyone will be considered as having agreed to donate their own organs when they die unless

they record a decision not to donate, what's known as 'opt out', or are in one of the excluded groups. This system was introduced in Wales in December 2015 and in Jersey in July this year.

To find out more about your choices, and to register your donation decision, visit: www.organdonation.nhs.uk or call the dedicated advice line on 0300 303 2094.

It's easy to share your decision with others using the digital messaging tools available at the end of the online registration process. You can also help pass onto other hat the law is changing by sharing content from @NHSOrganDonor on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Mrs Brown's Boys Needs Your Family!

Is your family full of characters who say the unsayable, have a unique talent and can't let a moment go by without a funny quip or outspoken word? If so, then we'd love to hear from you!

We're looking for fun and opinionated family groups to join us in the studio and become Agnes Brown's "Front Row Family" where you'll have the chance to chat with our celebrity guests, make cheeky remarks to Mammy and the family, and have a night to remember!

To nominate your family for this opportunity please email direct to mrsbrown@hungrybear.tv with your name and contact details, to receive an application form, or call 0141 406 1283.

We look forward to hearing from you - Closing date for applications is 31st January 2020.

Donations Make a Difference



Hospital donated the remaining £12,000."

Alan Charlton, chair of The Friends, said "Sadly, many of us, or a loved one, will be treated for cancer. We were delighted to work with John Austin to help fund the purchase of this portable scanner for the chemotherapy unit – it will clearly improve patient experience at an already difficult time."

Patients using the chemotherapy day unit at Darlington Memorial Hospital are benefiting from new equipment that's improving aspects of their care and reducing treatment times - thanks largely to the generosity of local people.

When John Austin became captain of Darlington Golf Club he decided to use the fundraising opportunities the role brings to raise money for the chemotherapy unit, having seen first-hand the care received by a colleague who was treated there for cancer. John, who works for S. G. Petch, in Darlington, says, "I contacted the unit sister, Karen, who said they would be grateful for our help in buying an ultrasound machine, known as a Sherlock."

Chemotherapy sister, Karen Miller, explains, "Our patients will often have what is known as a PICC line inserted through which they

can receive medication, including chemotherapy. These are inserted using an ultrasound scan to ensure the line is in exactly the right place. The Sherlock is a portable ultrasound machine which we keep on the unit, so PICC lines are inserted here, in surrounding patients are familiar with and at a time that's best for them. It's a kinder, more streamlined, experience and more efficient for our service overall. We're so grateful to John and everyone who donated as part of his fundraising – they have made such a difference."

John added, "I'd like to thank my wife, Lisa and our family, members of Darlington Golf Club, my employer and colleagues - who all got behind the fundraising - we raised an amazing £12,000. It was such a thrill telling Karen!"

The Sherlock cost £24,000 and The Friends of Darlington Memorial

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MINI POLICE IN CUSTODY SUITE



Members of St. Joseph's Mini Police had an engagement at Spennymoor custody suite. They arrived in the Mini Police Mini Bus and had a tour of the custody suite, interview room and cells. A very informative morning.

Greenfield Arts on Track for Shildon in Motion

Greenfield Arts are leading a project which will celebrate the rich heritage of Shildon and culminate in an installation which reflects the many stories and experiences of the people of Shildon and surrounding areas.

Project leaders Katy Milne, Director of Greenfield Arts and designer, Nic Golightly, have been organising drop-in sessions and finding out wonderful stories that will inspire a final piece of art to be installed at Shildon Railway station in Spring 2020.

They have been part of local events and experiences around Shildon, hearing from the amazing people who live in the area and have tales to tell about Shildon's significant heritage. Katy and Nic are now bringing together their research to inform the final Shildon Station designs. The images will be developed in the new year and the new artwork/design will be created in the spring.

The project is supported by Northern Heartlands which is one of 16 Great Place Schemes in England, funded by National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arts Council England and the Bishop Rail Community Partnership. The Bishop Line is the railway line which runs between Darlington and Bishop Auckland. The service is designated by the Department for Transport as Community Rail. Follow our blog to find out more <https://bit.ly/2OPiBjB> or contact Greenfield Arts for further information info@greenfield-arts.co.uk



CPI Partners with University of Leeds



CPI today announced a new project with multiple stakeholders to develop a low-cost, scalable manufacturing process for a new, non-infectious, stable vaccine against poliovirus. CPI is supporting the development of a manufacturing platform that aims to facilitate low-cost production and accessibility of this vaccine in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC), in some of which the disease is still prevalent. Poliovirus can infect the nervous system of children, with one in 200 infections leading to irreversible paralysis.

Although the oral vaccine has been very successful in dramatically reducing the number of cases, outbreaks of paralytic polio still occur. These are complicated by the presence of both wild type virus and virus that has been derived from the oral polio vaccine.

Although many countries are using an inactivated vaccine, this is still made from virus and consequently has biosafety concerns. We therefore need a new vaccine for the future which is both safe to make and to use.

This work supports development of a new virus-like particle (VLP) polio vaccine manufacturing platform which will create a cheap, scalable and robust vaccine production system. Developed by researchers at the University of Leeds (funded by WHO, in partnership with the Universities of Oxford, Reading and Florida, the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control, the Pirbright Institute and the John Innes Centre), VLPs are empty protein shells that are produced using a yeast strain, *Pichia pastoris*.

The VLPs mimic the poliovirus sufficiently to induce an immune response, but lack the genetic material needed for infectivity. As such, VLPs are considerably safer than conventional attenuated or inactivated vaccines.

To begin scaling up VLP production, CPI is leveraging its state-of-the-art facilities and manufacturing experience with *Pichia pastoris*. Through the use of ambr250, a multi-parallel bioreactor, CPI will enable the high-

throughput development of the fermentation process required to produce VLPs, allowing the parameters of multiple fermentation processes to be screened simultaneously. This rapid exploration of the design space will offer a fully scalable, robust system for VLP polio vaccine production.

This research is funded by the Department of Health and Social Care using UK Aid funding and is managed by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC, grant number: EP/R013764/1) and delivered by the Future Vaccine Manufacturing Research Hub (FVMRH) at Imperial College London. The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the Department of Health and Social Care.

The FVMRH is committed towards researching innovative and more cost-effective vaccines for populations in lower and middle-income countries (LMICs).

The hub's goal is to improve the way vaccines are manufactured, stabilised and stored in partnership with vaccine manufacturers from in Italy, India, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Uganda and China and translational research partners comprising of the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control (NIBSC), CPI and NHS Blood and Transplant.

VISITING THE ELDERLY AND LONELY AT XMAS



This is Dorothy Bowman visiting Lindisfarne Nursing home on Christmas Day with a small gift for each resident.

Dorothy also visited 14 people at their own home who were alone over Christmas and the happiness showed on their faces when they realised that they had not been forgotten.

If you have an elderly person living next door or near by, why not speak to them?

Dorothy is to try and organise a small group of people, who will need to be DBS checked, to visit the elderly once a month. If you are interested please contact Dorothy on 07967 901477 for details.

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Durham Gala Theatre Spectacular Spring Line-Up

Durham City's Gala Theatre will start the new year with a packed programme of fun and thrilling events for all ages. From sell-out stand-ups and big-name musicians to award winning theatre productions and exciting children's adventures, the spring season includes something for audiences of all tastes. Robin Byers, manager of the theatre, said: "Announcing a new season at Gala is always an exciting time. Gala is such a great venue for comedy, so we're pleased to be presenting one of our strongest ever comedy line-ups. But whatever your taste, there will be plenty to look forward to at Gala in 2020, and our audiences will always be assured of a warm welcome."

Strengthening its reputation as a first-class comedy venue, Gala has pulled out all the stops with a line-up littered with hilarious household names and Edinburgh Fringe favourites. Monthly Comedy Store and Funny Bones comedy clubs will showcase some of the touring circuit's best talent, whilst a host of headline shows includes smart but silly Phil Wang on Saturday 22 February, songwriter/funnyman Rich Hall on Friday 21 February, and comedy whirlwind Russell Kane, whose The Fast and the Curious tour, extended due to phenomenal demand, comes to Gala on Saturday 7 March.

Mock the Week regular, Andy Parsons, has also extended his latest tour, Healing the Nation, which will hit the stage on Saturday 21 March and audiences can catch Hensch, by 8 out of 10 Cats writer, Jessica Fostekew on Friday 20 March. Following his last smash-hit UK tour Tom Stadel introduces a brand-new show, delivered with his irrepressible sense of mischief, on Thursday 27 February, whilst Mark Thomas discusses money, history, songs, gongs, wigs, unicorns and more in 50 Things About Us on Thursday 19 March. Rounding off a string of shows guaranteed to lift your spirits, Jen Brister will take an irreverent look at the often-controversial subject of 'privilege' on Friday 27 March. Music lovers will be spoilt too, with a stellar selection of live performances to choose from. Direct from the West End, The Chicago Blues Brothers and their 11-piece band present a brand new all singing, all dancing hit parade of the greatest movie anthems of all time on Sunday 26 January. Rock 'n' roll fans can relive a host of classic hits with the high energy Rolling Stones Story on Friday 7 February and the excitement continues with the world's busiest swing and jive band, Britain's Got Talent semi-finalists The Jive Aces and their Big Beat Revue, on Sunday 16 February. And the music offering doesn't end there. The internationally renowned

BBC Big Band host an evening of world-class big band music inspired by the likes of Duke Ellington, Artie Shaw and Tommy Dorsey on Wednesday 4 March, and award-winning jazz vocalist and Radio 2 presenter Clare Teal celebrates 100 years of pop music on Friday 14 February.

Gala welcomes extraordinary Irish singer Cara Dillon who sings a collection of beautiful and moving songs on Thursday 26 March and Britain's most popular soprano Lesley Garrett will entertain in an evening of song, reminiscences and chat on Saturday 4 April. As always, there's lots of fun in store for families, from Morgan and West's captivating chemistry, phenomenal physics, and bonkers biology science extravaganza Unbelievable Science! on Sunday 15 February, to a magical production of Julia Donaldson's Zog on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 March.

There's also a purrfect treat for families who are looking forward to the star-studded Christmas TV animation of The Tiger who Came to Tea. The smash hit stage adaptation, based on the bestselling book by Judith Kerr, springs into Gala on Saturday 29 February and Sunday 1 March.

Finally, theatre lovers will not be disappointed with shows such as the Teesside-based Miss Crispy 1988, which follows the journey of five north east ladies through the depths of love, compassion and adversity, on Friday 17 January, and comedy thriller Crimes, Camera, Action which will whisk audiences to the golden-era of Hollywood with a sensational cast of four taking on multiple roles on Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 April.

There's even a visit from a national treasure, with Su Pollard set to give a one-woman tour-de-force performance in razor-sharp and bittersweet dark drama Harpy on Wednesday 15 April. A wide variety of live screenings will also bring the best of the UK's theatre performances direct to Gala's cinema, from the Royal Shakespeare Company's King John on Wednesday 29 April, to the National Theatre's inventive new adaptation of Cyrano de Bergerac, starring James McAvoy, on 20 February. Kinky Boots The Musical, will also strut onto the big screen, from London's Adelphi Theatre, on Tuesday 4 and Sunday 9 February.

Tickets for all shows are available to book in person from the Gala's box office, by telephone by calling 03000 266 600 or online at www.galadurham.co.uk

Students Help Historians



Media students have been chronicling events as local historians find themselves on the brink of a discovery which could alter the annals of history.

Darlington College UAL Level 3 media students have created a movie trailer depicting a medieval melee in County Durham claimed to be bigger than the Battle of Hastings.

Up to 30,000 heavily armed troops are believed to have clashed in 937 at the Battle of Brunanburh as the Anglo-Saxon King Athelstan defeated Constantine of Scotland and the Vikings.

The encounter became the basis of a popular Icelandic tale, Elgin's Saga, and now two Icelandic historians Bjorn Vernhardsson and his son Stefan Bjornsson have discovered evidence that the battle took place in Hunwick, near Bishop Auckland.

Landlord of the Joiners' Arms Alistair Ruddick is seeking permission to dig around the village to prove the battle took place there. Four Darlington College students – Molly Clark, of Newton Aycliffe, Jack Cornish, of Chilton, James Curtis, of Northallerton, and Gabe Yates, of Frosterley – produced the trailer with the help of the early medieval re-enactment group Acle.

Darlington College Programme Leader for L3 UAL Award and Diploma in Creative Media Production and Technology Film and TV Stephen Wade said the film would be used to increase awareness of the historic event.

"Students spent their time in a very cold and muddy field, on what is believed to be the battle site, recreating the drama of what must have been an epic battle," he said. "The final edit captures the atmosphere, the tragedy and the horror of a pitched battle staged on foot by thousands of men.

"You simply cannot recreate what the students have experienced in the classroom and to be involved in what

could be such a monumental historical find is incredible." Molly said: "It was great working with Acle, especially as I used to be a member of the group when I was young. It was an added bonus that the Icelandic historians were there to help. We feel really proud of the final film."

James said: "It was so different from everyday life and it has inspired us to do more projects like this." Gabe added: "There was always something to film, even when they were just practising. It has really boosted our confidence." Jack said: "The actors hurled themselves into it – they were pure berserker. It really was like being in the middle of a civil war."

Acle's Stuart Findlay said the research so far had been compelling. "Around 30,000 men clashed in hand to hand combat and if we can find the evidence this is huge for the North-East," he said.

Fellow group member and local historian Patrick Townsend added: "This was the largest land battles of the medieval period – bigger than Hastings. This could be a key moment in this country becoming Great Britain." For more information on opportunities at Darlington College visit www.darlington.ac.uk

Anonymous Donor

Dear Sir,
Please can you publish a huge thank you in the Newton News to a lady, who wishes to remain anonymous?
She visited Tesco just before Christmas and filled a trolley with baby toiletries and donated it all to our project, Supporting Families.
Many Thanks.
Sheena, Yvonne, Liz & Bob. Supporting Families Team.



Programme Schedule

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



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

SATURDAY

10-12am	Moderation	Jack Hall
12-2pm	Kitchen Floorfillers	Carol Hall
2-4pm	Weekly Edition	Paul Baker
4-6pm	Northern & Classic Soul (R)	Kevin Sowerby
"The Saturday Night Experience" Sponsored by Bengal Lounge Indian Restaurant & Takeaway		
6-8pm	Evening Session	JimJams
8-9pm	Rock the House	Carl Booth
9-10pm	Retro Trance Mix	OZ-DJ
10-12am	Street 'n' Drum 'n' Bass	MC Supa

SUNDAY

9-10am	Church Service	Xcel Centre
Yesterdays Music Today Sponsored by MV Mobility		
10-11am	Yesterdays Music Today	Alan Brown
11-12pm	Conversations with Mary & John O'Sullivan	
12-130pm	Sports Round Up (R)	Darren & Lee
Blues Show Sponsored by Whitehouse Funeral Service		
2-4pm	Bear Blues Show	Colin & Monica
4-6pm	Folk/Celtic/Rock Show	Steve & Col
8-10pm	The Rock Show	CAD
10-12am	Paul's Down Time	Paul Kjenstad

MONDAY

10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
6-7pm	60s Show	Karl Simons
7-8pm	70s Show	Peter Rush
8-9pm	80s Show	Gary Avery
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	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
Sports Show sponsored by Honest John		
6-7.30pm	Sports Round UP	Darren & Lee
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	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
Community Connect sponsored by ROF59		
5-6.30pm	Community Connect	Amy & Carrie
6.30-8pm	Independent Music Show	Joey Collins
8-10pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gaz n 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	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
6-8pm	The List	Colin McNeillie
8-10pm	BeatRoote	Graeme Roote
10-12am	UK Number 1s	

FRIDAY

10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
6-8pm	Techno Trance Mix	PVR Studios
8-10pm	Guest Presenter Session	
10th Jan	Martin Norris - Movin' Melodies	
10-12am	Alternative Aycliffe (R)	Gaz n Alby

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

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Last Christmas - Black Christmas

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Vue have teamed up with Newton News to offer a lucky family, tickets to a showing of their choice. To be in with a chance to win simply email your name, address and telephone number to paul@newtonnews.co.uk

Closing date Sunday 12th January 2020

Christmas Giving at Bewick Surgery



Every year the staff at Bewick Crescent Surgery come together at Christmas to support local charities, and this year has been no different with the chosen charities being the Dogs' Trust and a local women's refuge. Instead of sending Christmas cards to one another, staff have donated lots of toys and goodies to our four legged friends at the Trust in Sadberge. We also raised £45 for our local women's refuge by wearing our Christmas jumpers on Christmas Jumper Day.

Pictured are two members of the Bewick Crescent Reception team handing over the Christmas hamper.

RACHEL SETS OUT TO INSPIRE



Durham Wildlife Trust has taken on a new member of staff to promote its recently-refurbished visitor centre at the Low Barns nature reserve.

Located near to the picturesque village of Witton-le-Wear, Low Barns sits on the banks of the River Wear. The old farm buildings that give the site its name are now a visitor centre and café.

Following extensive redevelopment work over the summer, Low Barns now appeals to a much broader range of people and is a great destination for wildlife enthusiasts, families and business looking to hold meetings somewhere a little bit different. The coffee shop, under new management, is open seven days a week.

Rachel Richards has been taken on as Wilderness Ranger, a new post based at Low Barns. Her focus is on engagement and education, developing and delivering the Trust's youth engagement activities at Low Barns and providing a range of new opportunities for young people from toddlers to teens to help them engage in nature conservation.

The role was developed to inspire and foster future stewardship for the natural world by reaching out to

the nature enthusiasts of the future.

Rachel, with more than 20 years' experience in conservation, including protected species work and environmental education, is perfectly placed to deliver the Trust's vision. She is also a familiar face to regular visitors to the reserve, having previously led the local monthly Wildlife Watch Group at Low Barns, an activity which sees about 15 children and parents regularly enjoying hands-on learning at the nature reserve and other locations. She said: "Since I joined as Wilderness Ranger earlier in the year, I have introduced a range of new initiatives to encourage people to visit this hidden gem, including toddler Muddy Welly walks for local families and winter bird watching sessions for our members.

"The building provides a space for education, enjoyment and refreshments with food and hot drinks served all day. The paths and bird hides around the site

FORMER STUDENT RETURNS TO WOODHAM



Woodham Performing Arts Academy were delighted to welcome former student, Ryan Metcalfe, back to the school to deliver a session to current students.

As a student at Woodham, Ryan was involved in the different performing arts opportunities that the school offered and has gone to have a very successful career in the world of theatre. Having attended Drama school, Ryan has developed a company called Preevue. Preevue is a virtual reality company that

creates visualizations of different theatres around the world to allow directors and producers of touring theatre shows to plan and design their stage sets without actually having to step foot in the theatre.

Ryan was able to talk to the students about his work on Bat Out of Hell, Harry Potter and the Cursed Child and Moulin Rouge and gave the students a real insight into what it is like to be successful in a very competitive career.

Has Democracy Been Restored?

Dear Sir,
I have to congratulate Councillor Arun M. Chandran on his forecasting results of the recent Election. His predictions were 'conservative' and only outshone by the results exceeding his expectations. Congratulations are also due to Mr Paul Howell for his decisive win. I am pleased that this change of our 'Representative' promises that the wishes of his constituents will be better presented in future. I wish him luck and every success.

Not trying to cast a cloud over the euphoria of this change, I would caution that democracy is not yet restored. This is just the first move towards it. The wishes of the people were thwarted by a disastrous, a deceitful Parliament paying lip service to democracy whilst doing everything possible to thwart it. That Parliament truly deserved its fate and is likely to go down in history as the worst ever. But - and this is a big but - it is not yet possible to tell if true democracy has returned. The Referendum called for the UK to leave the EU. To leave means not to be tied to the present agreement, does not fulfil that requirement so any assumption that the outcome will honestly reflect 'Democracy Restored' is premature. My wish was for an effectively hung Parliament with some dozen or so seats to the Brexit Party. A situation which would focus all minds on the goal because the Brexit Party is without doubt the only Party totally focussed on the one aim of "Leave".

I have no quibble with a Conservative Government provided it delivers 'Leave' and not simply 'Leave in name only'.

So far, at the starting grid, all seems to be heading

in the right direction, but these are early days and it is the finish that counts. Already there are additional obstacles being created by an EU determined to make the path as difficult as possible. Boris will need all his Churchillian inspiration and steel. Our PM and all newly elected and re-elected

MP's have a formidable task ahead.

So I await the outcome.

When we leave without ties, without any subjugation, then will be the time to assess, decide and confirm if indeed "Democracy has been Restored".

Yours faithfully

Douglas Whittaker



*** FIRST PRIZE £100 CASH ***

Can you sing, play an instrument, dance or have a talent you would like to share?

**Over 16s competition will take place:
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**We require your: name, address, contact number,
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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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ACORN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

We hope everyone has had a wonderful Festive season and wish you all the best for a happy and healthy 2020.

Our first meeting this year will be on Thursday 9th January at 6.00pm in the Phoenix Club (upstairs). Little Acorns meet at 5.30pm.

Our guest speaker for the evening will be from Junction 7, who will tell us about the work they are doing for numerous people in the town and also about Modern Day Slavery.

They will be grateful for any suggestions you can give them in their endeavours to help out in any way.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served during the evening. A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to come along.

Our programme of events for 2020 will also be discussed.



**(KIMBLESWORTH WALK, NEWTON AYCLIFFE)
(TEMPORARY FOOTPATH CLOSURE) ORDER 2020**

The Council proposes to make an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 as amended, Section 14 (1) to prohibit all pedestrian traffic from proceeding on 134 m of footpath on Kimblesworth Walk, Newton Aycliffe that runs from number 208 in a southerly direction to gable of number 194, and from gable of number 192 in a westerly and southerly direction to the rear of number 193 to enable overlay of LV mains cable works to be undertaken. Throughout the period of closure, alternative footpath routes will be available. The maximum duration of the Order is 6 months. The proposed works are to commence on 20/01/20 and are anticipated to be completed in 30 days. On occasions, alternative dates for closure may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly.

Dated: 3rd January 2020



Helen Lynch
Head of Legal & Democratic Services
County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL

Memory Cafe



Come and join us for free, every Tuesday

1:30pm - 3pm (starting from 19th November 2019)

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Socialise and make new friends
Memory games, activities and quizzes
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Everyone is welcome, whether you have a memory problem such as dementia, are a carer, or simply want to socialise

We look forward to seeing you there!

Contact Emma: 9779526084 or Jane: 9710091303 for more information

Durham Greenpeace Group Collecting Plastic Pollution



Greenpeace volunteers from around County Durham picked up more than 100 pieces of plastic packaging waste, as part of World Clean-up Day.

Volunteers logged the different types of plastic they found, and the brands that produced the plastic. Overall, Tesco topped the list with over 30 of pieces of packaging. Volunteers also found Coca-Cola bottles, Nestle wrappers and single use packaging from brands owned by Unilever.

These brands are under fire yet again, after being found to be among the worst polluters in last year's clean up.

Diana Simpson, a volunteer with the group, said: "I'm absolutely horrified about the amount of plastic we found on the riverbank in just an hour. This plastic - often carrying the logos of huge global brands - is choking the River Wear, polluting

the sea and spoiling our beautiful river banks."

The community clean follows on from Greenpeace's release of the largest ever survey of plastic pollution in our rivers. Scientists and campaigners collected water samples in February and March at separate points along the River Wear and the 12 other rivers, which were analysed by Greenpeace scientists at the University of Exeter.

Diana continued "Our community clean up provides yet more evidence that big companies need to step up and dramatically cut their use of throwaway plastic packaging. It's simply not fair to leave residents and local councils to pay to clean-up their rubbish. We call on our city's MP Roberta Blackman-Woods to sign Greenpeace's plastic free rivers pledge and show their support for our natural heritage."

Wellbeing & Relaxation for Children



The Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) has teamed up with Made of Star's Children's wellbeing coach Anita Dunseith to deliver 'Growing Gurus' weekly from Tuesday 14 January 2020, 5.15-6.15pm for £4.00 per session. Aimed at supporting children aged 5-11 years old this course supports children to learn tools to enable them to self-soothe, relax and overcome stress and anxiety. Giving children lifelong skills that will support their wellbeing and help them maintain a positive outlook in times of difficulty throughout their life.

This new course will run every week, enabling families to attend around their busy schedules and to 'dip in and out' at any time.

A parent said, "My six year old attended the Growing Gurus course, he struggled with his attention and focus and Anita was so completely patient with him. Her teaching has really stuck with him and he has learned so many coping and calming techniques now that he is using them at home and school. The content was really inspiring and I loved the positive attitude that clung to him after each session; having a way of teaching children this kind of confidence and affirmation is invaluable"

The course tutor Anita said "Teaching the importance of wellbeing to children at an early can improve mental healthiness in later life. It can also lead to greater engagement and improvement in concentration as well as building a resilience to enable children to cope with the challenges that they may face. The activities we coach can be done at home and school, the Growing Gurus wellbeing toolkit includes breathing techniques, finger holds, positive statements, gentle exercise and visualisations which require no equipment or cost. The best bit about the tool kit is that we carry it with us all the time, without even realising it!" To find out more or book a place you and your child on this course please get in touch on 01325 321234 email: enquiries@pcp.uk.net website: www.pcp.uk.net

Greenfield Students Make Valuable Contribution to Community



Greenfield students have been supporting the community in a number of ways recently. Students and their families have been raising funds for charity, providing food for local appeals and contributing to national initiatives to make a difference in Newton Aycliffe and Shildon.

Staff and students invited elderly members of the community to take part in a festive afternoon at the school. The event was a great success with over 25 people coming along to enjoy entertainment and Christmas Fair, with refreshments served by the students.

Staff and students have also encouraged generous donations of food to support a local foodbank as part of the Trussell Trust initiative. The response from the Greenfield community has



been exceptional, a big thank you to all involved in helping to make the community a brighter place.

MEN'S CLUB VISIT TO MIGHTY WURLITZER



Men Talking Together group held a meeting at The Big Shed every Monday from 11.00am. The Big Shed is located at Unit 14A I.E.S. Centre behind Newton Press offices, this week the group visited Howden-le-Wear, near Crook, to hear the sound of the Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre

Pipe Organ. A fantastic time was enjoyed by all, especially when we tucked into coffee and mince pies. If you are lonely, or bored, or feeling down please come and join us. We offer many different activities and some meetings will be just sitting and talking together. Ring 07967 901477 for more details.

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Trust Look Forward to an Exciting Year

Work done by Durham Wildlife Trust and other organisations in the North East in 2019 has highlighted the importance of marine conservation and there are hopes that 2020 will see additional support with the launch of a major new project.

There are more than 20 miles of coastline from the Tyne to the Tees and those waters play host to a vast array of wildlife. This coastline has an unusual geology, unique in the UK, with Permian Magnesian Limestone exposed under the sea. It also acts as a nursery ground for juvenile cod and supports a wide range of sponges, soft corals, hydroids, bryozoans and dahlia anemones.

Durham Wildlife Trust is a Partner organisation in the National Lottery Heritage Fund-supported SeaScapes project, led by Durham Heritage Coast, which, amongst other initiatives, hopes to highlight the marine wildlife of this coastline. Development work has been completed and the final project bid has been submitted for a funding decision. If granted, Summer 2020 will see the start of the £3 million project.

SeaScapes focuses on the often-overlooked Magnesian Limestone coast between the Rivers Tyne and Tees,

including its coastal cliffs, beaches and inshore waters. The project is not the only one to target rare marine wildlife in the area and one success story in 2019 involved Durham Wildlife Trust and concerns the little tern. Arriving from West Africa in late April, the little tern is the UK's second rarest seabird. Durham Wildlife Trust wardens watched the birds arrive but then disappear from the beach at Crimdon where they have nested for many years. Thankfully, the colony had only moved a short way down the coast to Seaton Carew and after two years of low fledgling success at Crimdon, round-the-clock wardening by Trust staff and local volunteers saw more than 40 young birds fledge in 2019.

Nationally, the Wildlife Trusts today publishes its annual review of marine habitats for 2019. Almost 298,000 people have backed a seven-year campaign by The Wildlife Trusts to protect UK waters; 41 new Marine Conservation Zones were announced in 2019, bringing the total to 91. They will mean greater marine protection for underwater places including cold water corals, forests of sea fans, rocky canyons and sandbanks.

Thousands with Hidden Disabilities Benefit from Extended Blue Badge Scheme

- New figures show 12,299 people awarded Blue Badge under new criteria

- Since August 2019, people with non-visible conditions such as dementia, epilepsy or Parkinson's are eligible

- Changes to Blue Badge scheme continue the UK's world-leading plans to make the transport network more accessible

Thousands of people with Parkinson's, dementia, epilepsy and other "invisible" disabilities have gained access to the benefits from Blue Badges under new rules introduced last summer.

In the first three months, new figures show, 12,299 new badges – around 130 a day – were granted to people who cannot walk as part of a journey without considerable psychological distress or the risk of serious harm, as well as to people with a non-visible disability.

The new rules, introduced by the Transport Secretary, Grant Shapps, in August, widened the eligibility criteria to ensure that people with "invisible" disabilities are not disadvantaged. The badges help people access shops and services, by enabling them to park closer to their destinations.

Ahead of the change, the DfT issued new guidance

to councils in England on Blue Badge parking permit eligibility, and launched in August a new online eligibility checker to make the scheme clearer for people before they apply.

While the new criteria gives clear and consistent guidelines on Blue Badge eligibility for the whole of England, not everyone with non-visible disabilities will qualify for a badge.

Local authorities decide if an applicant meets the eligibility criteria, as is currently the case.

The Blue Badge scheme had already meant that people with physical disabilities can park closer to their destination than other drivers, as they are less able to take public transport or walk longer distances.

Abuse of the scheme on-street is something that local authorities have been cracking down on and the Department has given them the powers to seize badges on-street when they are being misused.

To help councils with the expected increase in applications, the department has agreed with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to provide £1.7 million to local authorities in England in the first year of the programme.

Strictly Ballroom Musical Coming to Hippodrome

Baz Luhrmann's smash hit musical Strictly Ballroom is set to sweep audiences off their feet with the announcement of the new 2020/2021 tour which will stop off at Darlington Hippodrome from Monday 8 to Saturday 13 February 2021.

Directed by dancer, choreographer and Britain's favourite TV judge; the fab-u-lous Craig Revel Horwood, Strictly Ballroom will be foxtrotting around the UK and Ireland from September 2020. The show is based on the award-winning, global film phenomenon, 'Strictly Ballroom' that inspired the world to dance.

Featuring a show-stopping book by Baz Luhrmann & Craig Pearce, and bringing together a sublime cast of over 20 world class performers, Strictly Ballroom brings to life iconic songs, including Love is in the Air, Perhaps Perhaps Perhaps and Time After Time with dynamic and joyous verve. This tour will also feature some amazing new songs by internationally acclaimed artists including Sia, David Foster and Eddie Perfect.

The show's scintillating singing, dazzling dancing and eye-popping costumes will combine together to



one another, this unlikely pair gather the courage to defy both convention and their families – and discover that, to be winners, the steps don't need to be strictly ballroom...

This uplifting and courageous musical originated as a stage play that Baz Luhrmann devised with a group of classmates at Sydney's National Institute of Dramatic Art in 1984. Eight years later he made his screen directorial debut with 'Strictly Ballroom', the first instalment in Luhrmann's acclaimed Red Curtain Trilogy. The vibrant film enjoyed staggering success, winning three awards at the 1993 BAFTA awards and a 1994 Golden Globe nomination for Best Picture, going on to become one of the most successful Australian films of all time, earning more than \$80 million at the box office. In April 2014 Strictly Ballroom The Musical had its world premiere at the Sydney Lyric Theatre.

Strictly Ballroom runs at Darlington Hippodrome from Monday 8 to Saturday 13 February 2021. Tickets are on sale now.

For more information or to book call 01325 405405 or visit www.darlingtonhippodrome.co.uk

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COUNTY ENTREPRENEURS ON TRACK FOR SUCCESS

Entrepreneurs are set to boost their businesses by taking part in a six-month accelerator programme designed to help new County Durham companies flourish in the region and beyond.

Durham City Incubator (DCI), was set up in 2018 as a joint venture between Durham University, New College Durham and Business Durham, to support ambitious businesses based in the county who have been trading for under 12 months achieve their goals, as well as to support local entrepreneurs launch start-ups with high growth potential.

Following the success of its inaugural programme, DCI is now working with eight exciting new businesses covering a wide range of sectors including e-commerce, health and safety, education and training, tourist accommodation and technology.

Each business will benefit from a £2,500 grant as well as six months of intensive support to ensure they are ready for the next stage of growth, with training and advice ranging from financing and marketing to legal issues and business strategy and much more.

The six-month programme is delivered through boot camps, one-to-one support, mentoring sessions, workshops, seminars, and networking events.

The eight Durham based companies included in the new cohort are: training and mentoring enterprise for young people Heartwood Skills C.I.C, video insights platform WOTJOB, virtual racing e-commerce specialist Up Shift Store,

sustainable accommodation manufacturer Unbox, IOSH health and safety training provider Mobius Training and Consultancy Limited, artisan fair trade coffee supplier Coffee Coal taxi comparison app TaxiGOAT, and INtuitV3 Limited, which is developing an AI-based street lighting solution that helps save energy.

Sarah Slaven, operations director at Business Durham, said: "We're delighted to be working with another cohort of innovative new businesses. We're really looking forward to working closely with our partners to empower the entrepreneurs and see how their companies develop throughout the programme. "It is inspiring to see the Incubator continuing to attract ambitious businesses which can help bring investment not just into the county, but as the region as a whole. With our support these new companies can make a real impact on our local economy and inspire other future business leaders."

In addition, each of the businesses on the programme has the option to access a £7,500 loan due to DCI's partnership with Northstar Ventures. Funding has come from the North East Innovation Fund supported by the European Regional Development Fund, and managed by Northstar Ventures.

Dr Tim Hammond, Director of Commercialisation and Economic Development at Durham University, said: "As a partner of the Durham City Incubator, it is fantastic to see the scheme supporting the next cohort of new businesses to turn their start-up ideas into

reality.

"We've already seen some promising start-ups being supported by the DCI, including Plastech, a company developed by our talented PhD students to process plastic waste into aggregate for concrete.

"Supporting start-ups in County Durham is central to the area's economic growth and helps us to make sure the University's research has a positive impact on the region and further afield."

Dawn Fairlamb, Vice Principal at New College Durham added: "We are delighted at the success of the first programme, and now excited for the start of the second accelerator programme. Durham City Incubator is fantastic venture providing support for new local businesses to help them achieve their goals; and it's a brilliant opportunity for our students and graduates who can be part of this programme to develop ideas and set up a new business."

The Incubator was developed as part of a wider drive to grow the Durham City economy and to offer Durham University graduates and New College Durham students high quality facilities and business support to grow their ventures in Durham City.

Durham City Incubator is part of Durham Internships and Collaborative Enterprise (DICE), which is part funded by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) as part of the 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Fund Programme.

DCI runs in cohorts that each last six months. For more information on the Durham City Incubator and to apply for the next cohort, visit dcincubator.co.uk

Passengers Able to Plan Journeys as Big Data Revitalises Bus Use

Government brings buses into the digital age with open data project to improve passenger journeys across England.

Information on routes, timetables, location and fares will be easier to access to make bus travel more convenient.

The Bus Open Data Service will be launched in early 2020.

Bus passengers across England will soon be able to plan their journeys down to the minute thanks to a pioneering project to collate and share bus location data. Buses Minister Baroness Vere has announced a ground breaking project to standardise and publish information from operators, which will enable bus users to plan routes, estimate journey times and understand costs in advance. It will also provide real-time bus location data so that passengers can travel with confidence.

Information on routes and timetables will be available from early 2020, followed by location and fares data by 2021, encouraging more people to choose buses by making them easier to use than ever.

Developers will be able to add the information into existing apps or develop new products to improve connectivity for communities and encourage more people turn to public transport. Only half of bus users think that it is easy to stay up to date with timetables and fares, impacting the number of journeys taken and the user experience, according to Transport Focus.

The Bus Open Data Service will be underpinned by

new regulations which will mean bus operators are legally required to provide route and timetable data by the end of 2020 and fare, ticket and location data by 2021.

The new regulations will make it easier for people to use the bus to visit friends, commute to work or get out and about in their local community by providing live information on location, and helping to keep fares down by providing greater transparency across different operators.

The Government will work with technology companies, app developers and information providers to ensure a range of innovative products are designed to make the most of the data and help all bus users make informed choices.

Full data on fares and locations will be available from January 2021, by which point it is expected that a range of apps will be on the market, allowing passengers to manage their journeys from start to finish from their smartphones.

This follows the Government's recent announcement of new low-fare, high-frequency

Film Show

"EDIE"

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St. Clare's Church on Tuesday 7th January features the British drama "EDIE" Starring Sheila Hancock and Kevin Guthrie.

Recently widowed after 40 years of drudgery, 83 year old Edie decides to fulfil a dream, to climb a mountain and prove it's never too late. Set in the beautiful Scottish highlands.

Everyone is welcome. Tea and coffee are served at 1.00pm, included in the £2.00 admission fee.

The film starts at 1.15pm with a variety of chairs provided for your comfort, and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a great film in friendly company.

For further details ring Ric Hargreaves on 01325 316755.

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

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Hospital Improves Discharge Lounge Facilities for Patients



Patients at University Hospital of North Durham, who are ready to leave hospital, are now being directed to a newly enhanced discharge lounge, where they can wait for medication, transport and make other last-minute arrangements before going home.

The discharge lounge, located on the ground floor of the hospital, has been extended and improved, offering a much better experience for patients. Wendy Quinn, associate director of operations, integrated medical

specialities, said, "There is a lot of evidence nationally now that if people stay in hospital longer than they need to, then it can actually have a negative impact on their outcome. We know that people recover better and more quickly at home or in their usual place of residence. So, our vision for improving our discharge lounges is really to improve the experience of patients on the final part of their journey with us in one of our acute hospitals and be their next step towards home."

"We also know that over

the winter months we will become busier and the discharge lounges will play an important role in our planning to manage some of the challenges this will bring. By supporting those patients who are well enough to move out of a bed in a busy ward area more quickly, it allows us to use that bed appropriately to care for those patients in most need."

Improvement works have created a bigger area so more people can be accommodated and in a more comfortable space which enhances privacy

and dignity. There's also a TV if people would like to watch it and refreshments and meals are also available in the lounge.

Wendy added: "Our priority is providing safe, compassionate, joined up care including a seamless and comfortable transition between hospital and home. Nursing and support staff in the Discharge Lounge continue any care needs patients may have, such as supporting with hygiene, nutrition and administration of medications."

"The lounge provides a safe and comfortable area for patients and some may only spend a few hours in the area, whilst others might stay for the day. There are both bed and sitting room facilities which helps to ensure that patients continue to receive the care that they need whilst all the appropriate arrangements are put in place to ensure a safe and supported discharge. We also have a similar facility at Darlington Memorial Hospital."

Funding to create the new facility came from Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group and Sarah Burns, director of commissioning, said, "Our local hospitals provide great care, but we know that getting people home to recover in their own environment is so important. We're delighted to have been able to support improvements to be made to the discharge lounge at University Hospital of North Durham, knowing that the improved environment will benefit patients on their way home from hospital."

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Jonny Robb sent in the above photo of Sunday morning at the football with a bit of random bottle flipping. Send your photo to paul@newtonnews.co.uk
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Voters Denied Representation by Archaic Voting System

Dear Sir,
December 12th's General Election results show that the votes of many Newton News readers counted for nothing, thanks to continued use of our antiquated "First-past-the-post" voting system. Signing away your democratic rights with the mark of illiteracy in single member constituencies enables MPs to be elected on a small fraction of the vote. As a consequence, seats won by a party do not necessarily reflect the level of support nationwide for that party, nor are outcomes consistent or certain. On December 12th, Boris Johnson's so-called landslide was achieved on just 44% of the vote; 56% of those who voted did not support his party. Moreover, in Scotland, the Nationalists took 81% of the seats for just 45% of the vote while in Northern Ireland, Unionists were awarded fewer seats than the Nationalists, even though they had polled more votes.

As the Labour Party's Secretary of the time observed as long ago as 1936: "There is no greater gamble on earth than a British general election. You might as well throw dice". If your readers want to know more, www.knackered.org.uk sets out the deficiencies of our current voting system and advocates its replacement with the Single Transferable Vote, a British invention which is used for some elections in Northern Ireland and Scotland. STV increases the degree and accuracy of representation, it minimizes wasted votes, and it is the most powerful vote on the planet. It is high time it was introduced for all elections in the UK.
Yours faithfully,
David Green.

Kick Fad Diets & Make Weight Loss For Life

This New Year thousands of people in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas will embark on a bid to lose weight and get fit. Slimming word Consultants are urging dieters to ditch the fad diets and chose a weight-loss plan they can sustain.

Joni who runs groups in Chilton talks of how Slimming World is the most popular and easiest plan to stick to long term. Slimming Worlds Food Optimising eating plan encourages members to satisfy their appetite on hundreds of healthy 'Free Foods', including lean cuts of meat, fruit, vegetables, fish, rice, pasta, eggs, potatoes, pulses, fat-free dairy, freely without the need for weighing, measuring and counting. It means they can all enjoy their favourite family meals just by making small changes to the way they shop, cook and eat. Nicola who runs groups at the RAFA & Navy Club has lost an incredible 7.5 stone herself, says faddy diets aren't the answer. 'Lots of people start January with the best of intentions but by the end of the month so may of them have given up, defeated by hunger, boredom or the feeling of deprivation. I want people to know that losing

weight doesn't have to be that way, that not all Slimming attempts are doomed and not all 'diets' are the same. It's easy to be wooed by the plans that promise the fastest loss, but it's really important this New Year that Slimmers in Newton Aycliffe think sensibly about which plan they choose and look at which offers the most chance of long-term success. Diets based on deprivation can be very unhealthy and are almost impossible to keep up, meaning you're bound to throw in the towel and will probably be left feeling a failure by February.

Sam who runs groups at Woodham Community Centre and the RAFA Club says the beauty of Slimming World's plan is that it addresses the psychological needs of Slimmers "when people think about losing weight they expect to feel hungry and deprived, but since it began in 1969 Slimming World's plan has always been about helping people to lose weight without feeling like that. Human nature means that the minute something's forbidden you only want it more, so with Slimming World no foods, even high-fat snacks and alcohol are banned, they're just limited.

Because you can satisfy your appetite on 'Free Foods' you don't ever have to feel hungry and it's easier to reduce the amount of unhealthy foods you're eating, so over time with the right support, this new balanced way of eating becomes second nature."

Gordon who runs a group at the Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre believes getting support is as important as changing eating habits: "There is no denying that changing habits of a lifetime can be challenging and there will be times, perhaps when your weight loss slows down or a 'bad week' leads to a temporary gain, when it can be tempting to give up. That's where getting support, week in, week out during image therapy is an integral part of a Slimmers success. At Slimming World members develop the skills and tools to

overcome the psychological and emotional challenges that every slimmer faces at some point, including learning to be kind to yourself without Judgement or humiliation and get 'back on the horse' when you do have a blip."

Christine who runs the Navy Club evening group proudly shared that the members in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas lost a staggering 2,640 stone during 2019!!

Tina who runs groups in Ferryhill urges anyone who wants to lose weight to join one of the groups locally, what I hear from many members after they join and see for themselves how flexible and generous the plan is that their biggest regret was not joining sooner.

To find details of your local group times please visit www.slimmingworld.co.uk

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9		7	8			1	5	
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Newton Aycliffe Cheerleaders



Newton Aycliffe Cheerleaders Nemesis Allstars entered their first competition of the new cheer season and came home with 17 first place trophies and 5 division champs banners. The group of male and females from Newton Aycliffe travelled to Leicester Arena entering sections in Cheerleading (a routine made up of stunting, tumbling and dance), Group stunts, Lyrical Dance, Pom Dance, Duos and Solos in all different age sections against teams from all over the Country.

The group of young people train in Newton Aycliffe to enter competitions all over the Country and will have a couple of places available in our Youth, Junior and Senior cheer teams after their next competition in January.

If you would like to give cheer a go or try something new for the New Year please contact 07368 316667.

Competition results below:

Youth Cheer Prep Team:

1st place & Division Champs

Junior Allstar Cheer Team:

1st place & Division Champs

Senior Coed Cheer Team:

1st place & Division Champs

Junior Stunt Team:

1st place

Senior All Girl Stunt Team:

1st place

Senior Coed Stunt Team:

1st place

Senior Pom Dance Team:

1st place & Division Champs

Junior Lyrical Dance Team:

2nd Place

Senior Lyrical Dance Team:

1st place & Division Champs



Mini Lyrical Solo:

Ellie Roddam Carty

1st place

Mini Hip Hop Solo:

Laila Langham

2nd place

Youth Cheer/Tumble Solo:

Mary Jane

2nd Place

Youth Pom Duo:

Grace Gill & Ellie Mardula

1st place

Junior Lyrical Solo:

Jamie Shelton

1st place

Junior Pom Solo:

Jess Armstrong

1st place

Junior Cheer/Tumble Solo:

Savannah Dimmery

4th place

Junior Cheer/Tumble Solo:

Indie Sutton

5th place

Senior Lyrical Solo:

Emily Halford

1st place

Senior Hip Hop Solo:

Sophie Richardson

1st place

Senior Pom Solo:

Jess Hall

1st place

Senior Cheer/Tumble Solo:

Rebekah Lovejoy

1st place

Senior Pom Duo:

Abbie Kennedy & Katie

Leadbitter

1st place.



THE LITTLE BUDDHA

"Made to measure progress"

If you look to other people to change your life for you, more often than not you will end up disappointed and disillusioned. Some would have you believe reading inspiring words or watching a moving film or DVD will transform your life, unfortunately neither is true. No matter how spiritual or inspiring they may be they are powerless to bring about change in your life without your willing participation.

These things may inspire and motivate you but unless you are willing to take action nothing will change. It's your life and you alone can live it; the change you desire is neither mystical nor magical, it's a process that requires steps to be taken in order to bring about a shift in your personal circumstances.

They may provide you with a different perspective, a different way of looking at things but unless you are prepared to take action, to do something different the result will always remain the same.

We may look to others to inspire but we must look to ourselves to empower the change we desire.

In Memoriam

David Barkley

5th January 2011

Deep are the memories, Precious they stay. No passing of time, Can take them away. Love and miss you always, Until we meet again. All my love, Pauline xxx

Birthday Remembrance

Lee Hoar

3rd January 1980

Not a day goes by when I don't think of you. Wish you were here to celebrate your 40th birthday. I'll raise a glass to you! Miss you. Love, Kate xxx

Thank You

Eddie Turner



The family of the late Eddie Turner would like to say a huge thank you to all that attended the Service. It gave comfort to see how well liked he was. A grand total of £673.00 was raised for Prostrate Cancer Research and the ICU at the James Cook Hospital.

Christmas Wishes

Seasonal Greetings to all our many Friends, old and new.

From Godfrey and Shirley Bennett

Cllr George Gray

would like to wish everyone in the West Ward and the surrounding areas of Newton Aycliffe, including my fellow Councillors and Officers, a Wonderful and Peaceful 2020. Best wishes to you all

Obituary

Kathleen Jeanette Savage

(nee Harrison)

Suddenly on 10th December, aged 70 years, of Bluebell Close, Newton Aycliffe.

Beloved Wife, Mam, Nanna and Great Nanna. Funeral on Tuesday 7th January. Would family and friends please meet at 2.30pm for a Service at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon.

No flowers please, donations in lieu if desired, may be made after the Service for The Dogs Trust.

Alec Young

of Newton Aycliffe, passed away on 19th December, aged 88 years.

Dearly loved Husband of Sybil; beloved Father of Kevin and Melvin; Father-in-Law of Heather and Cathy; much loved Grandad to Beth, Grace, William, Eve and Edward and Great Grandad to Oscar.

Would family and friends please meet for a Service at Darlington Crematorium on Thursday 9th January at 10.15 am.

Family flowers only please, donations in lieu to Alzheimer's Society.

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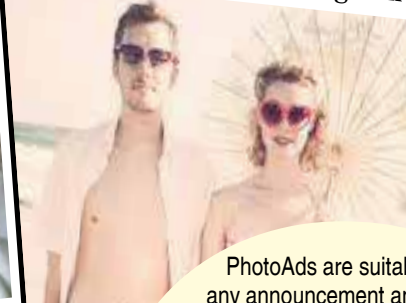
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We are currently working on an archive site which will bring you ALL the past issues of the Newton News as far back as 1948!

New Year, New You at PCP Centre



Health and wellbeing, charity Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) can help you get your New Year off to a great start, with our range of physical activities, learning and volunteering opportunities for 2020 in Newton Aycliffe.

Our timetables of activities for January is bursting at the seams, with great activities that will help you stick to those New Year's resolutions. To find out more and book a place please contact us on 01325 321234, unless otherwise stated.

Keep Learning: Mindfulness
Starting Tuesday 14th January with Rob Hawkes, starting Tuesday 14th January. Fed up, wound up and stressed out after Christmas? Want to find new ways to cope? This course will help you to calm the mind, relax and

improve your overall health and wellbeing. Cost £3 per session.

Introduction to Craft Techniques

Starting Wednesday 15th January for 6 weeks. Are you a budding crafter, but don't know where to start? Open to anyone aged 19 and over, you can learn new skills and practice crafts for your wellbeing and relaxation. This course is free, however you will need your National Insurance number and proof of residency.

Develop Health Coping Strategies

Starting Monday 13th January for 5 weeks. Gain awareness and understanding of problem and emotion based coping as well as the importance of resilience. Learn proactive coping skills that will help your emotional resilience. This course is free to anyone in receipt of a means tested benefit, if not the course is £32.50.

Get Active: Tai Chi

A positive activity for any age, experienced martial arts tutor Steve Wilkinson will take you through a graceful form of exercise that supports mindfulness and wellbeing. Improving flexibility, balance and strength, this activity can reduce the risk of falls. Cost £5 per session.

Salsa and Latin Dance

Starting Monday 13th January for 6 weeks. Meet new people while learning a new style of dance in this fun and informal class. This class is open to anyone aged 19 and over and is free. Call Clare Thompson, North East Dance on 0191 565 7270

Lets all Boogie

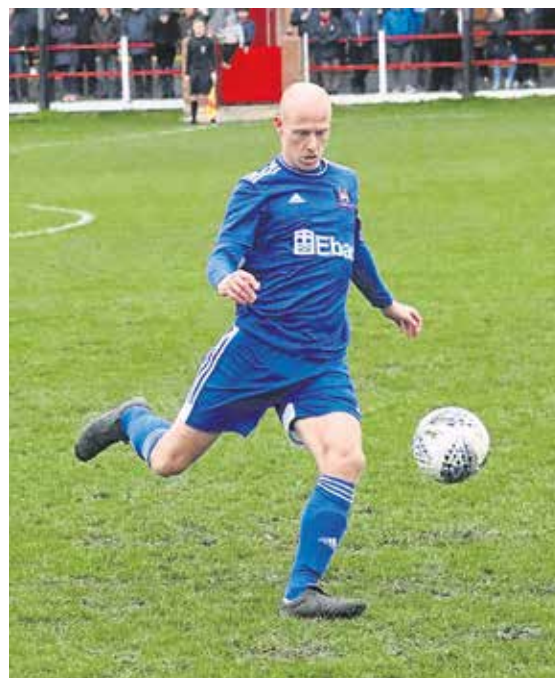
Starting Friday 10th January for 10 weeks. Get your little ones moving, with these free fun and informal singing and dance sessions, that will support development and confidence for children aged 18 months to 3 years old. Call Clare Thompson, North East Dance on 0191 565 7270. To find out what other activities are available in 2020 please follow us on Facebook, Instagram or Linked In or visit our website: www.pcp.uk.net/activities, or call 01325 321234.

SISTERS ARE DOING IT

BEGINNERS RUNNING

Have you always wanted to learn to run? Improve your fitness? Join a new group? Ladies only! Brand new beginners running group enrolment night kicks off again on Monday 6th January 2020, 6.30pm - We run from Tesco Park for the following 10 weeks, 0-3 miles! £25 for 10 weeks and you receive a medal on week 10! Call or text Emma on 07787 992675 or 01325 480429 to secure your place!

N.A.F.C. REPORT



Thursday 26th December
Ebac Northern League Division One
Shildon 2 v Newton Aycliffe 0

Newton Aycliffe lost 2-0 in the Boxing Day derby away at Shildon. They were without leading goal scorer Dean Thexton and his absence reduced their threat up front, as they failed to score for the first time in sixteen games.

Aycliffe started the brighter of the two sides, with Gez Richardson receiving a pass from Liam Jarvie and his chip over Shildon keeper Newbrook, landed on the top of the net. On 14 minutes, Jarvie went on a good run and hit a low shot just wide. Then Newbrook made a good save, tipping a shot from Ethan Wood onto the bar and out for a corner.

Shildon started to come into the game and Adam Pickford made a sharp save from an Atkinson effort. They took the lead on 32 minutes. A corner came out to ex-Aycliffe player Kurt Matthews, who placed his shot just inside the post. Aycliffe came close to an equaliser in first half injury time when captain Aaron Brown climbed highest from a corner and his header just missed the target.

Early in the second half, centre half Liam McNamara also went close with a header from a corner. Aycliffe Man-of-the-Match, Marc Costello, was impressive in midfield and prompted many attacks. Both sides traded shots for a period and it looked like either side could go on to win. But the game was changed in Shildon's favour due to a controversial penalty on 66 minutes. Liam Walton appeared to get the ball, when making a tackle in the six-yard box, but a penalty was the decision made. Greulich-Smith stepped up to make it 2-0.

Aycliffe were unlucky again ten minutes later when Matty Pennal broke through and hit a fine shot over Newbrook, only to see it strike the bar and go out. They had a further setback when Gez Richardson was sent off for a tackle in the Shildon penalty box ten minutes before the end. Shildon saw out time to

take the three points.

Next match is away to Whickham on Saturday 4th January at 3.00pm, followed by a home cup match against Stockton on the Tuesday 7th January at 7.45pm.

Photo: Man of the Match
Marc Costello

MIDDRIDGE HISTORY SOCIETY

Thursday 9th January
7.30pm in

Middridge Village Hall
Lee Brownson presents 'The Auckland Castle Project'. The presentation will include a brief history of Auckland Castle, home to the Prince Bishops for almost a thousand years. It will also provide details of the £150m development programme, which includes the restoration of Auckland Castle and the creation of several new art galleries. Everyone is most welcome and refreshments will be provided as usual.

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

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