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Council Pledges Support to Hitachi and Staff

News of potential job losses at Hitachi's Newton Aycliffe factory has been met with sadness at a North East council.

Hitachi confirmed it was starting a 45-day consultation, which could result in up to 250 members of its 850-strong workforce being made redundant. The announcement comes despite the Japanese train builder securing two major contracts in recent months. Cllr Carl Marshall, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for economic regeneration, has expressed his disappointment at the news and stressed that the local authority will do



everything in its power to support Hitachi and the staff affected.

He said: "This is incredibly sad news and our employability team will be working with colleagues at Business Durham and the Government's Rapid Response Team to assist staff at risk of redundancy."

"Hitachi's decision to open a plant in Newton Aycliffe was a major coup for County Durham and the firm is hugely important to our economy."

"We are pleased to hear Hitachi remains committed to its UK operations. Indeed, we should not lose sight of the major contracts the company has won and its plans for new multi-million-pound welding and painting facilities at Newton Aycliffe."

"As a council, we have encouraged and supported Hitachi to invest in our county from the outset. We will continue to do so in the interests of its employees and the wider prosperity of County Durham and the North East, while lobbying the Government for more sustained longer-term investment in the rail industry."

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Film Show

"CLOSING THE RING"

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St. Clare's Church on Tuesday 21st January features the romantic drama "Closing The Ring" starring Shirley MacLaine, Christopher Plummer, Pete Postlethwaite, Brenda Fricker and Mischa Barton. A moving love story spread across 50 years and both sides of the Atlantic. Everyone is welcome.

Tea and coffee are served at 1.00pm, included in the £2.00 admission. The film starts at 1.15pm and a variety of chairs are provided for your comfort, and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a great film in friendly company.

For further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.

Police Identify Three Speeding Drivers Every Hour

Police are identifying three speeding drivers every hour across Cleveland and Durham, according to police figures.

Speeding is a major factor in fatal and serious collisions, and police figures saw 60,358 speed detections across the two Force areas between January 2018 and December 2019.

As part of an upcoming national campaign, senior roads policing officers are again warning of the dangers of excess speed and hope that speeding drivers take heed of their warnings and stop putting lives in danger by taking more care and responsibility for their speed. Inspector Darren Breslin, from Cleveland and Durham Specialist Operations Unit, said: "Speeding is one of the four main causes of fatal and serious collisions, and we have seen a high number



of collisions recently where people have been tragically killed or seriously injured.

"Time and time again we issue warnings about the dangers of speeding, however, as our figures show there are still thousands of

speeding offences being detected across Cleveland and Durham.

"In 2019 there were 416 collisions resulting in fatalities or serious injuries across Cleveland and Durham. I'm sure that if these collisions involved a loved one of a speeding driver, they would think twice about their speed.

"Lives are being put on the line every single day and we need people to take more care and stick to speeds within the limit which are suitable for the driving conditions. Higher speeds mean that drivers have less time to react to what is happening around them, and it takes longer for the vehicle to stop.

"Our campaigns are primarily about education; raising awareness by highlighting the risks of speeding and encouraging people to obey the limits and to drive at safe speeds for the road environment. We will continue to carry out these national campaigns to try to keep people as safe as we possibly can on our roads."

Cleveland and Durham Specialist Operations Unit carries out speeding education and enforcement initiatives all year round, however, during the two-week campaign beginning today, Monday 13th January, there will be a particular focus on speeding."

PCP Taste Test Dry January Mocktails



Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) staff and volunteers will be taste testing 'Mocktails' throughout January. The Mocktails will be rated and favourite recipes shared as part of the campaign for Dry January.

As a health and wellbeing charity PCP encourages our staff to get involved in activities that raise awareness and supports improvements in both physical and mental health. Dry January is an annual health campaign, run by Alcohol Change UK and this month-long challenge is designed to help reset your relationship with alcohol.

Taking part in Dry January can have a range of benefits, Alcohol Change UK's website, <https://alcoholchange.org.uk/> states that 88% of people who take part save money, 71% sleep better, 67% have more energy and 58% lose weight. Carol Gaskarth, PCP's Chief Executive said, "December can be a month of over indulgence and January can be a good time to make positive changes to improve your health. Dry January is a great way to kick start a positive change. Every year we encourage staff and volunteers to think about their own health and wellbeing, this is achieved through both information and practical sessions to encourage people to try new things. This year we will be sharing our thoughts with the community through social media – so please follow us if you want to see what we're up to and get some hints, tips and recipes!"

PCP Health Advocates are leading this campaign and Facebook or Twitter. Just regular updates will be search for Pioneering Care provided through Instagram, Partnership to find us.

CHILTON COMMUNITY SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

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FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS:

Saturday 1st February

"Beyond Madness" & "Karen Kennedy"
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Saturday 7th March

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*** Saturday Night Live ***

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

Saturday 18th January - "Straight Shot"

Formed in 2009, the current line-up consists of Kev and Ged both on lead and rhythm guitar and background vocals, Mick on bass guitar and finally Richie who is doing the extraordinary job of doubling up as the band's lead vocalist and drummer, - doing both jobs admirably! This has to be seen to be believed!

All band members have at least 20 years experience of playing live in various local bands and clubs around the North East, some of which bands have included; Kneejerk Reaction, Alexander's Palace, Chase and Flashpoint.

The band are a primarily a classic rock covers band, covering music ranging from AC/DC, Black Sabbath, Deep Purple, Thin Lizzy and Queen, through to newer artists such as Billy Idol, Stereophonics, but played with a much harder edge.

Saturday 25th January - "The Force"

Gary's 20th Anniversary Party

'The Force' are the North East's finest rock band, stars of the main stage at 'Stormin The Castle' and every major festival and music event in the north, recent gigs include O2 Academy.

Musically, 'The Force', are an awesome powerhouse of intense guitar-fuelled rock. Both guitarists are highly rated teachers as well as seasoned live and studio players. Their contrasting and aggressive styles mate perfectly. A 'Kerrang' national poll previously voted 'The Force' one of the countries top ten unsigned bands.

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

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Agnew Youth Club

There is a Youth Club running every Friday evening from 6.30pm till 8.00pm at Agnew Community Centre. It costs £1.50 entry per child, there is also Hot Dogs and a Tuck Shop available. Call 07410 758847 or 01325 321504 for more details.



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Super Sainsbury's Support Options



Cobblers Hall Sainsbury's Local have proudly supported PCP's Options project throughout 2019. Fundraising activities ranged from supporting events, hosting till collections and even a charity head shave!

The Options members have loved working with Sainsbury's and really appreciated being chosen as the Charity of the Year. Staff from Sainsbury's

have provided marvellous support getting involved in events such as attending the Options Charity Ball and even dressing up and getting in the spirit of things at the Halloween Disco.

A total of £1,347 was raised by Cobblers Hall Sainsbury's local, along with almost £200 from the charity head shave. PCP's Carol Gaskarth said, "Options members really enjoy popping to the local Sainsbury's just round the corner from the Pioneering Care Centre, so we were delighted when they were chosen to be Charity of the Year. By working together we aim to raise awareness of disability, and importantly promote ability and independence. Partnerships with local businesses really help to promote the work we do. The teams have worked closely together and the end result is great. Thank you Sainsbury's Local and a special thanks to Cath who has been the driving force behind most of the campaigns."

If you would like to support Options in 2020 please contact Linda West for a chat or to arrange a visit. Linda can be contacted on 01325 321234 or email linda.west@pcp.uk.net

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North East Autism Society Xmas Party

Children from the North East Autism Society's Short Breaks, After-school club and trampolining, based in Newton Aycliffe, held their annual Christmas Party on the 22nd December at Woodham Community Centre.

The young people and their families enjoyed dancing to disco music, having their face painted and tucking into

the buffet food.

As well as the disco, Woody and Buzz from Toy Story came along to join in with the party goers!

There was also a surprise visit from Santa who brought presents for the young people. Everyone in attendance fully enjoyed their day, with the party deemed a massive success.

North East Autism Society



would like to give special thanks to David Wilkinson at Black Knight Disco for the music that got everyone up dancing. DFY Party Supplies for arranging for Woody and Buzz to attend. David Sutton-Lloyd for access to the community centre. Phillip Clark for donning the red suit.

Finally, a massive thank you must go to Honest John who donated a fantastic sum to enable the young people and their families to have a brilliant day together. For further information about the North East Autism Society and the services we offer please contact Theresa. arrowsmith@ne-as.org.uk

Exhibition Preview at Greenfield Arts



A wonderful exhibition at Greenfield Arts is now on display, members of the community enjoyed a lovely preview evening which launched an exhibition not to be missed. Stories from the Hive by Julie Cockburn explores the connections

and interconnections we all have. It brings together a collection of exceptional artworks created by Julie inspiring us to consider the memories and connections in our lives.

Julie is also running creative workshops in both rag rug making and 3D Rigid ink drawing this month and there are still a few places available. Workshops will be held later in January and cost just £15 for each workshop.

Greenfield Arts have a full programme of events, course and activities, to find out more and to enrol for activities please visit www.greenfield-arts.co.uk email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk or call our friendly team on 01325 379048.

The Gin Company

A brand new venture is starting up at the heart of Aycliffe. A brand that intends to make an impact across the UK and beyond.

A recently retired GP at Pease Way Surgery has his sights set on following his passion for gin making. Having left Pease Way Surgery in December, Colin, aka Dr Scott, has been working hard to find premises and (carefully) researching the flavours of gin.

The Gin brand will bring together Dr Scott and business partner Wayne Richardson's fascination with herbal remedies and they will use this to fuel their passion and vision to create a series of beautiful and uniquely flavoured gins.

Our Gins will focus on original combinations of botanicals and herbs, some of which have been attributed with medicinal properties in days gone by, along with some botanicals from across the globe which have never been used in Gins before. Hence the name of the brand and company - "The Herbal Gin Company".

This exciting new distillery will be set up within Aycliffe Business Park, delivering its wares by means of a unique "Aviation themed" gin bar. The venue will eventually provide a "gin experience" for enthusiasts, allowing individuals and groups throughout the UK to enjoy creating their own gin blends which they can take home to enjoy later. Even now, there have been expressions of interest from as far afield as Scotland and Ireland, established local businesses and a client as far afield as Dorset.

We understand that people are unique and everyone we care for is one of a kind.

No one wants to think about the time when a loved one needs care, but we are here to help if that time comes.

Rose Lodge is a modern care home located in Newton Aycliffe.

We believe being part of our local community is important, so we offer a varied activities programme for all our residents to enjoy, this includes a gardening club, trips to the pub, pet therapy, school and library bus visits.

We'd love you to be part of our community.



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WEEKLY DEALS

TUESDAY

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

BOUNCE AWARE
SUPPORT NIGHT

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

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

MATE OR DATE
NIGHT

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



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



COUNTY NEWSBITS

Compiled by
County Councillor John Clare

As you know, I try to keep you up to date with developments in the Council and community ... and here is this week's update. As always – if you want to find out more about any of the following – please go to my blog at: bit.ly/CNB145

COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

• The Durham County Council 'Scrutiny' Committees are where the councillors hold the Cabinet and council officers to account for the way they are running the Council:

- Last week the Environment Scrutiny Committee (8 January) asked some searching questions about the plans to electrify the DCC fleet, and about the Council's performance on air quality management, and

- The Economy Scrutiny Committee (10 January) was similarly thorough about the County's Strategic Employment Sites, European funding, and the officers' Performance Management report.

• Residents are being urged to complete a survey on the county's Special Education Needs local offer.

• The news of Hitachi

lay-offs was a distressing blow to Aycliffe Business Park, and DCC's Business Durham will be working with the government's Rapid Response Team to support those staff who may be facing redundancy.

• In more positive news for the County, however:

- The County Council unveiled its plans for a new Durham Bus Station, and

- DCC's Low Carbon Team demonstrated its energy saving software to a (very impressed) delegation from Sweden.

• Finally, January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

You are cordially invited to the Holocaust Memorial Ceremony to be held in Queen Elizabeth 6th Form College, Vane Terrace, Darlington on Monday 27th January at 7.00pm.

The ceremony will be led by The Right Reverend Andrew Tremlett, Dean of Durham Cathedral, all are welcome.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 22nd January 2020 - 7.15pm

Policy & Resources Meeting

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

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The Green Doctors

Dear Sir,
I would like to make your readers aware of our free energy/money saving Green Doctor service.

The Green Doctors visit around 2000 homes each year across the Yorkshire and North East regions. We help households to save between £100 - £1000 per year on their energy bills through switching and increased energy efficiency, whilst also making homes warmer and healthier.

The Green Doctor service is completely free and provides valuable assistance to many vulnerable households. It may be an elderly person needing help switching, a young family applying for energy grants, or perhaps someone suffering from a health condition exacerbated by the cold and struggling to keep their home at a safe temperature.

The scheme is open to eligible people in all types of tenure including Housing Associations, local Councils, privately rented and privately owned residents are all offered the opportunity to participate in the Green Doctor scheme. The aim of the service is to provide 'assisted action' in order for people to maximise their income and to 'empower' consumers to make informed decisions.

How does the programme work?

Referral:

The local referral network provides referrals of vulnerable residents who are in (or at risk of falling into) fuel poverty.

Self-Referral:

A householder can apply directly or be referred by a professional / organisation.

Home Energy Visit:

A highly-trained Green Doctor Home Energy Advisor then carries out a home visit. This includes

both a thorough assessment of the home such as checking for adequate loft and cavity wall insulation, boiler and central heating systems functionality and immediate financial help. They can install a range of technical measures including: LED light bulbs (10 per household), reflective radiator panels, draught-proofing doors and windows and cylinder jackets. The Green Doctor assessor will provide tailored in - depth energy efficiency advice and help look for a better deal on energy bills and applying for grants such as the Warm Homes Discount. All the team are trained to assess and advise on issues relating to damp, mould & condensation such as behavioural changes to be made by the tenant to reduce the problem and impact upon the building fabric and decoration.

Post Visit:

Based on the findings of the home visit there are a range of onward referrals that can be made. These include: referral to an income maximisation service, assessment for larger energy efficiency measures (insulation and heating), referral to the local fire service Safe & Well scheme, and identification of serious hazards in the home. With over 12 years experience, the Green Doctor team are highly trained in dealing with the wide variety of issues that present themselves during the many home visits we make and we have built partnerships with many local support organisations. In order to increase awareness of this free service, the Green Doctors are delivering a series of presentations / group training sessions to both community groups and frontline workers.

Community group and Frontline worker sessions

Presentations may consist of a 30-60 minute talk, can be tailored to suit the venue and the audience and cover such topics as:

- Switching supplier
- Tariffs
- Payment options
- Smart Meters
- Energy efficiency
- Damp, Mould, Condensation advice
- Additional support
- Carbon Monoxide
- Green Doctor service

We have found from previous years' experience of delivering these energy/money saving presentations that they are both popular and vital in enabling consumers and frontline workers to better understand their energy options in order to take advantage of the best possible tariffs, grants and schemes available.

We can also come along to drop-in-sessions at children's centres, One Stop centres, Community centres and events.

Councillor Gerald G. Lee
Heighington & Coniscliffe Ward
Telephone 01325 314622

New Scheme to Benefit Low Income Families

Dear Sir,

As my children grew up I had three jobs; 2 nights a week as a Paediatric Cardiology nurse at Freeman Hospital in Newcastle, for 30 years, before and after school childminding and I cleaned the local church to keep the family going as I was a single parent.

For the last three years of my working life I was off sick 6 months of each year due to severe back pain. I was only 47 years old and I had to fight for an NHS pension for 8 months as someone in Preston, Lancashire decided my back condition wasn't permanent enough so then I had to pay £75 for x-rays before I was allowed to claim it.

Going from a nurse's wage to existing on benefits was awful and I have been on anti-depressants since then.

I eventually had a Spinal Fusion in 2009, leaving me with a plate and two screws at either side of my spine as well as different pain and mobility problems.

I had to go bankrupt due to my son's drug addiction in 2011 and moved to Newton Aycliffe in 2012 to be nearer my daughter. I was lucky enough to get a one bed bungalow, but there were no carpets, fridge, cooker or washing machine in it. I had to keep my milk in a bucket of cold water, changing it twice a day, to try to keep it fresh.



I lived on microwave meals and ended up going to bed at 3pm every day as I couldn't afford to heat the house and with no carpets the house was really cold, so this increased my back pain causing spasms, due to the cold. I moved in October so the weather was quite cold at that time of year.

My friend, Pat, from the Scottish Borders, knew about my situation and sent me a text message telling me about the Turn2us website, well I was amazed as there are 100,000s of funders on there waiting to help people in my situation.

I was able to find a funder who bought me a fridge, another bought me a cooker and carpets, another gave me a washing machine, another gave me a grant twice a year to pay my gas and electric bills, which enables me to keep the house warm so reducing my back spasms.

Another funder paid for my TV licence, telephone and broadband for a year, another gave me a grant four times a year and I needed a memory foam mattress to reduce my back pain and another funder got that for me.

I believe that councils and housing associations should adopt a scheme to leave carpets, blinds, washing machines, fridges and cookers, if they are in a decent condition, to help the new tenants moving in.

I will always be extremely grateful to Turn2us for the amazing help I received when I moved house, at a time when my financial situation was awful.

Since then my situation has greatly improved due to having the white goods I received and because of the help Turn2us gave me, I have been able to help families in Newton Aycliffe, who are struggling on low-incomes, or fleeing domestic violence, get furniture, white goods, carpets, blinds and curtains.

I will always help to promote Turn2us as the work they do is amazing. This white goods appeal to councils and housing associations is a very good idea and will help lots of low-income families in the future if the councils and housing associations adopt this policy.

Sheena Stephenson



*** FIRST PRIZE £100 CASH ***

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

**Under 16s competition will take place:
on Thursday 19th March, 6.30pm
at Greenfield College Main Hall**

Limited tickets for non-competitors are available priced at £1.00 each
Available from Newton Press or via Greenfield College ParentPay

**Winner will receive £100 cash and a spot on the
Aycliffe Radio Music Festival in 2020**

**To book your place email:
talent@ayclifferadio.co.uk**

We require your: name, address, contact number, email address, age and

brief description of the act you will perform.

Closing date for entries is Friday 5th March 2020

Entrants must be 16 years of age or under.

Competition run by Aycliffe Radio and Newton News





The Hog Blog!

Firstly I would like to thank Paul at Newton News for publishing this blog, it's very important to get our message across to members of the public about the significant distress our prickly pals are found in.

This week the telephone number for the British Hedgehog Preservation Society is mentioned first, it is 01584 890801. If you find a hedgehog and you think it's in danger or vulnerable ring the number, if it is out of hours, they still have instructions on how to deal with an emergency until a rescue intervenes. Cleveland Hedgehog Rescue are also on Facebook, please do not use e-mail, this is a very unreliable way of getting immediate help.

All rescue centres are volunteers, including this one, we do hedgehog rescue because we have a special affection for these beautiful mammals, we take them into our homes and provide warmth, food and more crucial urgent medical treatment where necessary, we are also responsible for financing and do a lot of fundraising. But what is of paramount importance is that we get them help quickly, as soon as they are discovered, that gives us a better chance

of keeping them alive. We lost too many hedgehogs from August to December of last year because of the really damp weather and that is a countrywide problem.

When they come to this rescue centre they are sometimes dehydrated so injections of warm saline are given, they are placed in a quiet room on a heat pad and allowed to recover from the shock of being removed from their natural habitat, the first 24 hours are crucial to whether they survive the trauma and also to identify any health issues. Whilst they are wild animals, they still feel unwell and can also be hypothermic, they never cry out unless they are really in pain.

We also have some that are just too little to survive these really harsh weather conditions, just like this little lady Holly, pictured, she is enjoying being warm, comfy and well fed, nearly 400 grams now, she will be released with Oliver, Jessica, Hagrid, Hermione, Hester and Hazel in the spring. If anyone needs any questions answering please post them on the 'Anything Aycliffe' Facebook site, I do check the site quite frequently.

Maxine
Aycliffe Rescue Centre

Exhibition Tells Holocaust Survivors' Moving Stories



Two Holocaust survivors will mark Holocaust Memorial Day by sharing touching accounts of their escape from persecution. County Durham will host three free events, organised by Durham County Council in partnership with Durham Cathedral and the Holocaust Educational Trust, as part of Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations.

Holocaust Memorial Day takes place across the world every year on 27 January and is a date to remember the millions of people who were murdered and persecuted during the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

This year Holocaust Memorial Day marks 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and the 25th anniversary of the genocide in Bosnia. Between Monday 20 and Friday 31 January, Peterlee's East Durham College will host a free exhibition to honour the victims of genocide. The display will feature photographic images as well as archives from the Durham Light Infantry collection. Artwork from school, community and faith groups will be on display as well. Visitors will also have a chance to learn more about the Porrajmos, which translates to 'the Devouring', the term used to describe the Nazi genocide of Europe's Roma and Sinti population.

The exhibition will be open from 8.30am to 5pm on Monday, from 8.30am to 9pm Tuesday to Thursday and from 8.30am to 4.30pm on Friday. The college will also host

a poignant talk on Monday 27 January, when Gabriele Keenaghan will describe how her grandmother secured her a place on a Kindertransport train from Austria to the UK in 1939.

Gabriele, was recently awarded the British Empire Medal by the Queen for her services to Holocaust education and awareness, and will be joined by pupils from East Durham College and The Academy at Shotton Hall who will sing and perform poetry.

The event is free to attend but tickets are required. Places can be booked online at www.durham.gov.uk/hmd. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

Also on 27 January 2020, from 1pm to 3pm, Durham Cathedral will host an educational event for secondary school pupils from across the county.

Hungarian-born Tomi Komoly will speak at the event, giving a first-hand account of his experiences during World War II. Tomi will talk about how his family was torn apart when his father was called up to the forced labour unit of the Hungarian Army.

Tomi will also share stories about his time in a walled ghetto, his escape with his mother in 1944 and liberation by the Soviet army in January 1945. Members of the public are welcome to attend the talk but are advised that seating will be limited and available on a first come first served basis. Spaces cannot be pre-booked.

Cllr Angela Surtees, the council's Cabinet member for social inclusion, said: "Holocaust Memorial Day provides us with an opportunity to honour the survivors of genocide and to remember the victims of these tragic episodes.

"It is an honour to be able to listen to Gabriele and Tomi sharing their testimonies. Events like these offer a chance to reflect on what can happen as a result of discrimination and are massively important in educating people about the real-life effects of prejudice. "By promoting tolerance and equality we aim to eradicate hate crime and to create a cohesive and inclusive community across County Durham."

Further information about Holocaust Memorial Day in County Durham is available at www.durham.gov.uk/hmd

GREENFIELD'S GOT TALENT IS A BIG HIT



Students from Greenfield Community College took to the stage and wowed an enthusiastic audience as they proved once again that they really have got talent!

GGT is a brilliant opportunity for students and staff to entertain each other with their skills and talents and a time for the whole school to be part of a fun experience at the end of a busy academic term. The halls at Shildon and Newton Aycliffe were full to capacity with lots of applause and laughter filling the air as each act performed with passion. Staff and students performed a variety of acts including dancing, singing and comedy.

This year the judges were left with the difficult decision of deciding between Greenfield's finest but finally narrowed it down to the final 3 at each site who had shown their brilliance.

Third place went to the talented Ebony McCourt, who sang her own song accompanied by drumming and Alicia Burn and Holly Armstrong who sang a brilliant duet. 2nd place went to accomplished singer Lily Trimmer and Cayden Laffey brought fun and laughter to the stage with his comedy act. A very deserved 1st place to Michael Egan who mastered the talent of Mongolian throat singing, really making it his own! Judges could not choose between two singers so joint first went to Bobby Johnson and Tia Runham. Well done to all of the above and to everyone who took part in this important event in the

Greenfield Calendar. students and staff showing their appreciation in good spirit.

Seasoned Hardwood Logs For Sale

£60.00 per bag
(large dumpy bag - Free delivery, 15 mile Darlington)
Mix of Assorted Hardwoods

Contact Wes 07970 186738

(KIMBLESWORTH WALK, NEWTON AYLCLIFFE) (TEMPORARY FOOTPATH CLOSURE) ORDER 2020

The Council on 10/01/20 made the above 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: 17th January 2020



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

YEAR 11 AWARDS

WIN ONE OF THESE CATEGORIES:

Top Academic Student
Top Sport Student
Most Improved Student
Most Improved Art Student
Most Improved Music Student
Most Improved DT Student
Most Improved Sport Student
Most Improved Science Student
Most Improved Language Student
Plus: Contribution to the Community Award
& Achievement Through Adversity Award

All Year Eleven
Students will also
receive a pin badge

echo dot



PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED
AT THE SUMMER PROM

All winners are chosen by the teaching staff at your school,
and based on your performance during year 11 course work.

EVENT SPONSORS:

Honest John - Aycliffe Town Centre Management - Whitehouse Funeral Service
Rotary Newton Aycliffe - Aycliffe Radio - Newton Press - Newton News

Olive Garden Xmas Appeal

Dear Sir,
We are pleased to report that our customers helped us raise a total of £205.00 in the lead up to Christmas.

This amount paid for 41 meals at The Peoples Kitchen, a charity created to help homeless and disadvantaged people. We would like to thank all our customers for your tremendous and continued support.

All the staff at
The Olive Garden

FREE BIRD BOXES

A lady, called Emma, who works for Grass Roots, which is an organisation that works with people who have learning difficulties, and make a range of bird boxes (barn owl boxes, great tit boxes etc).

They are looking for groups/places where they can donate the boxes. If your group is interested in the boxes please ring Emma on 07545 153891.

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DARLINGTON PIANO SOCIETY

In February 2017, the audience at Darlington Piano Society's recital experienced an awe-inspiring and memorable recital of works by Liszt, Scriabin and Rachmaninov, played by Vadym

Kholodenko, the young Ukrainian winner of the 2013 Van Cliburn competition. This eponymously named competition is held every two years in memory of the young American pianist

who was the winner of the first Tchaikovsky Piano Competition in Moscow at the height of the Cold War in 1958. Such was the impression created by Vadym's performance that audience members urged that he be heard again at the earliest opportunity. This wish is fulfilled at 3pm on Sunday 26th January 2020 in Central Hall when he returns as part of his second UK and European tour. The first half of his programme includes sonatas from the classical period by Mozart and Schubert and ends with the Ballade by the prolific Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho, born in 1952. After the interval, Vadym performs masterpieces of the Russian repertoire in the shape of a selection of Preludes by Scriabin and Rachmaninov's second piano sonata. Greg Johnson, Chairman of

the Society, said "We make great effort to bring to the town, pianists from the UK and Europe and even further afield and, after the immediate clamour amongst members in 2017, it was self-evident that we had to secure a return visit. This is not straight-forward when the performer has a growing global reputation but when we heard that a second UK tour was being planned we had to take advantage of this opportunity. I'm sure that we will be as impressed as we were in 2017". The recital takes place in Central Hall, the Dolphin Centre, Darlington, at 3pm on Sunday, 26th January 2020. Tickets are available in advance via the society's website - www.dpiano.co.uk - from the reception desk at the Dolphin Centre and are always available at the door on the day of the recital, priced £14, U21 free.

Council Charity Donations Help Make Christmas for Those in Need

Employees and elected members from Durham County Council gave families in need a helping hand this Christmas. Councillors and staff donated new, unwrapped toys and gifts for children and young people who might not otherwise have received a Christmas present, as part of the annual Salvation Army toy appeal.

Toys and gifts were collected at the council's County Hall headquarters throughout December and were presented by Chairman of the council, Cllr Katie Corrigan, to the Salvation Army, whose volunteers distributed the presents to deprived youngsters in the region.

Cllr Corrigan, said: "Donating to the Salvation Army toy appeal has become an annual tradition for the council. Our generous staff and elected members bought hundreds of extra toys for children and gifts for teenagers when they completed their Christmas shopping this year. I visited the Salvation Army at their Consett headquarters to help sort the presents for distribution; it was fantastic to see how many toys were received and to think of the joy they brought to struggling families."

Joe Toner, toy appeal coordinator with the



Salvation Army, said: "I would like to thank all the staff and county councillors who donated toys this year. We helped over 500 children to have a happy Christmas and wake up to find presents under their tree."

"We greatly appreciate the help of individuals and organisations, such as Durham County Council, to provide these much-needed gifts." Staff and elected members

also continued another festive tradition by dressing up for the council's own Christmas Jumper Day. As they do every year, council workers swapped their suits for their best festive gear in support of the Chairman's official charity. The chairman chooses a different charity to support each year and a total of almost £1,000 was raised for Age UK County Durham from December's jumper day.

Reception / Administration

Due to restructure within our administration team an additional Receptionist/Administrator is required to complement our current staffing.

The post is for variable hours by agreement. The hours of work will be 8am to 6pm.

The work is varied and interesting, involving all aspects of office work, dealing with telephone calls and patients face to face on Reception.

Customer service experience and IT skills are essential. Previous Surgery experience would be a bonus, but full training will be given.

Rate of pay is negotiable

All the surgery information can be found on our website www.peaseway.com

If you would like to be considered for this vacancy please email: karen.stokoe@nhs.net with full CV.

Closing date is Friday 31st January 2020.



2 Pease Way
Newton Aycliffe DL5 5NH
Tel: 01325 529000
www.peasewayclinic.co.uk

OPERATORS NEED TO BE BETTER INFORMED

Dear Sir,

It is wonderful to see that our town has so many defibrillators available which could potentially save many lives if the emergency services operators were better informed.

An 80 year old relative of mine, who has several health issues, had a fall causing a head injury and loss of blood. His breathing was poor and the operator advised me to "run" to get the defibrillator from Woodham Community Centre as a precaution.

I had to leave him with my wonderful next door neighbour who had heard the crash and come to see if I needed help. On getting to

the unit with the code I tried to enter it. I had been given a code ending in X. There is no X on the unit. I tried the rest of the code without the X to no avail so had to return home without it.

Luckily we did not need the unit but had it been a cardiac arrest then I would not have been able to resuscitate. My relative continues his recovery in a community hospital. These units are wonderful but only if the emergency services operators have the right information to give to those needing to access them.

Thank you
Lyn Appleby

Response from Mr Sutton-Lloyd

Firstly anyone who has any problems like this with any 24 hour defibrillator unit please inform the unit location owners immediately, or if not sure who to contact, they could telephone or email me.

This illustrates what I said in last week's issue of trying to have a defib unit on hand as soon as possible.

When we install any new 24 hour public access unit we must register it with the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS). All details of the full location, equipment specification, contacts and the access code are sent in. Every month after this we have to complete and return to NEAS, a form confirming location, current access code, and that all equipment (box and unit) has been checked at least once a week (we check ours at Woodham nearly every day). Checking with NEAS, they have had some teething problems in the last few months with a new record system. For some reason a wrong code has been given. I have asked them to investigate. As a further double check I am checking with all the key holders of the 24 hour units in our area and will verify that these are all up to date on the NEAS system. Just before Christmas I had a preliminary meeting with the NEAS Executive Board and we agreed to talk further, in more detail, about some of the logistic problems that the current project is experiencing.

We appreciate that we have been informed about this incident so that we can look into it further. I will keep you advised on progress.

Reviewing this incident has also highlighted that although the individual units inside the defibrillator boxes have contact details attached, the outside of each box only shows basic details of connecting to the ambulance service. I will ask all unit owners if they would be prepared to attach some sort of contact information notice to the outside of their individual boxes.

Can I also point out that we have two more free CPR and Defibrillator Awareness sessions that have spaces available.

St. Mary's Church - Mon 27th Jan, 12.30pm to 2.30pm

St. Mary's Church - Sat 1st Feb, 10.30am to 12.30pm

David Sutton-Lloyd

01325 316144 - woodham.community@gmail.com



Greenfield Community College
A Specialist Arts & Science School

Teaching Assistant

(x2 posts)

Grade 3 SCP 4 - 6

Post A: 20 hours per week term time only,
8.45-12.45 Monday to Friday
(£8,571 - £8,926 pro rata)

Post B: 30 hours per week term time only,
8.45-15.15 Monday to Friday
(£12,870 - £13,391 pro rata)

Both posts are fixed term
subject to student specific funding.

Greenfield Community College wishes to appoint two Teaching Assistants to work with teachers to support teaching and learning.

The successful candidates will provide general and specific support to a student in the learning environment. You will work with teachers and non-teaching staff to support student learning and their accessibility needs.

Only applications submitted on the school's application forms and completed in full by the specified date will be considered. Completed forms should be returned to the school.

Please contact Chloe Taylor on 01325 300378 or email chloe.taylor@greenfieldschool.net for further information and an application pack.

Greenfield Community College is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications irrespective of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. As a disability confident employer, we are committed to employing disabled people and people with health conditions making reasonable adjustments to support disabled applicants when required.

The school is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people.

Closing Date: Monday 27th January, 12 noon.

Interviews will be held Wednesday 5th February.

All appointments are subject to appropriate pre-employment checks.



WOODHAM ACADEMY

Washington Crescent, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4AX

Telephone: 01325 300328

www.woodham.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr. A. Bell

Site Operative

Permanent, Full Time

Grade 2 (Points 3-4, NJC Scale - £18,065 - £18,426) *

Commencing as soon as possible subject to pre-employment checks

Consideration will also be given to an Apprenticeship position
*** (National Minimum wage for an Apprentice)**

The Governors seek to appoint a site operative to support the site manager in the day to day running of the school premises including portage, repairs, general maintenance, site preparation, cleaning and security. Work will include shift arrangements to cover evening lettings and occasional after school events.

The ideal candidate will be accommodating, reliable, hardworking and eager to support students, visitors and staff. Training will be provided where necessary for all aspects of the role.

Please complete an application form which demonstrates your suitability for the role as defined within the job description and person specification.

Woodham Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. The successful applicant will be subject to relevant vetting checks before an offer of appointment is made

Woodham Academy is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We want to develop a more diverse workforce and we positively welcome applications from all sections of the community. Applicants with disabilities will be invited for interview if the essential job criteria are met.

An application form, job description and person specification can be downloaded from the school website at www.woodham.org.uk or please contact the reception desk. If you require an informal discussion about the role, please contact Mr. D. Coates (Business Manager).

Closing date for applications, 9.00 a.m., Monday, 27th January 2020.

Save the Date

A new service for the organisers of events throughout Newton Aycliffe. Publicise your event with activity, date, time, venue and contact details. Send your information to paul@newtonnews.co.uk

Back to the Eighties

Saturday 29th February at The Big Club
Tickets £4 from the Club or Newton Press

St Patrick's Night Special

Saturday 14th March at The Big Club
Tickets £7 from the Club or Newton Press

Under 16s Talent Competition

Thursday 19th March at Greenfield College
Tickets £1 from College or Newton Press

90s Classix v 00s Clubland

Saturday 4th April at The Big Club
Tickets £6 from the Club or Newton Press

VE Day Celebrations

Friday 8th May at Aycliffe Town Centre
Free Event

Punk All Dayer 2

Friday 8th May at The Turbinia
Tickets £10 from Gaz Avery or The Turbinia

The Forge Festival

8-10th May at Hammers & Pincers
Tickets £7 day or £15 for weekend - www.thehammers.co

Aycliffe Radio Music Festival

Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th June at Aycliffe Town Centre
Free Event

5k/10k Fun Run

Sunday 21st June at West Park
Contact Aycliffe Running Club for details

Emergency Services Day

Wednesday 12th August at Aycliffe Town Centre
Free Event

Christmas Celebrations 2020

Saturday 28th November at Aycliffe Town Centre
Free Event

Aycliffe Radio Xmas Live 2020

Saturday 5th December - TBC

THANK YOU NEWTON AYCLIFFE

Rotary Newton Aycliffe would again like to thank all of those who donated money to their Christmas Santa Charity Appeal. Despite the weather conditions meaning that three of the evening Santa Tours had to be cancelled, they still managed to collect sufficient money to buy and distribute over 60 Christmas Hampers for the needy of this area and still have some money left over for further local needs. Rotary President, Jean Thompson, said "I am once again overwhelmed by the generosity of the people of Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding area and can't thank them enough. The difference that they made to Christmas for over 60 families is brilliant."

Neville Community Association at the Panto

On Friday 3rd January, Neville Community Association ran a trip to Durham Gala Theatre to see the Panto, Aladdin. The partially funded trip allowed family time at an affordable price, which included luxury travel with Enterprise Coaches and admission to the theatre. The Panto itself was a barrel of laughs for all ages with plenty for adults and children alike, with an excellent cast and lots of audience participation. It was the highlight of the festive period for many. Once back home, each child was given a selection box. The trip to the Panto was partially funded by the National Lottery. Thank you to all National Lottery players. Neville Community Association arrange low cost trips and activities to bring people together and help develop our communities to make them stronger. Many thanks to Maria for the above article.

More Success for Woodham Students



Year 11 students Blake Charlton and Sonny Fielding have recently been successful in auditioning for a place at Newcastle College to study Performing Arts, once they leave at the end of Year 11. They will now have the opportunity to refine and develop their skills at a college which boasts an impressive £21 million facility, including three different performance spaces, nine dancing and acting studios and a 280 seat theatre.

Both students have been heavily involved in the performing arts opportunities that have been available to them over the past few years. Blake has been a frequent performer in Woodham Sound and Advanced Choir, as well as the school's Dance Academy. Blake recently starred as Jonny Casino and Teen Angel in the school production of Grease. He will be performing as Ryan in next year's performance of High School Musical. Sonny starred as Dewey Finn in the school's performance of School of Rock, an

impressive role to take when he was only a Year 9 student. He then went to take the leading role as Danny in Grease and is playing his final leading role in the school when he performs as Troy Bolton in High School Musical. We would like to congratulate both students on their success and hope they return to Woodham in the coming years to tell us of their success in the world of performing arts.

Bishop Auckland Astronomical Society

Dear Sir,
We are a small group of friendly, enthusiastic Amateur Astronomers who meet at the new Bishop Auckland Community Fire Station (DL14 6RS) every month. Next meeting is 6th February from 7-9pm. Our speaker is Dr. Ryan Cooke, Durham University. He will be giving a talk on "The First Stars".

If you are interested in becoming a member, whether you are just starting out, or an experienced observer, you will find a warm welcome. We offer FREE annual membership, with a nominal fee on the door. We have high spec speakers most of the time, specialising in their own field of interest. Also, the Society holds regular Observing sessions at our dark site. Please come along and see for yourself. For details visit: www.baastro.co.uk



Newton News in conjunction with Vue Cinema Darlington recently ran a competition to win a family ticket to a screening of your choice at the Vue. The winner of the free to enter competition was Sophie Davison. Congratulations to you. Watch Newton News for more competitions coming shortly.



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 & Garvey
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	Mystery Year	Paul Baker
12-1:30pm	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
6-7pm	Jazz Time	Mike Dixon
8-10pm	The Rock Show	CAD
10-12am	Paul's Down Time	Paul Kjenstad

MONDAY

9-10am	Amy in the Morning	Amy Harrison
10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop	Richard Smith
1-3pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker
5-6pm	Teenage Tunes	Ellarae Bower
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 Talk	Sean Lawless
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

FRIDAY

9-10am	Amy in the Morning	Amy Harrison
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	
• 24th Jan	• Pauly Mac	• Rare Vinyl (from Australia)
10-12am	Alternative Aycliffe (R)	Gaz n Alby

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

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NOW SHOWING:

1917 - Star Wars, Rise of Skywalker
Jumanji, The Next Level - Frozen 2

The Gentlemen - JoJo Rabbit

Little Women - Spies in Disguise

Cats - Lucian Freud, Self Portrait

Black Christmas

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www.painttechnicsnortheast.co.uk

Unit 11, Gurney Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6UJ



COUNTY SHOWS OFF ENERGY SAVING WORK TO SWEDES

A Scandinavian delegation has visited County Durham to learn about pioneering energy efficiency techniques.

A team from Sweden has visited sites owned and managed by Durham County Council to see first-hand the innovative software it employs to reduce energy use, and is now promising to roll out some of what it learnt back home.

The local authority uses energy management software to monitor, online, usage of utilities like water, electricity and gas across its sites.

This process has allowed the council to easily identify waste and save thousands of pounds in

energy bills.

The Energy Agency for Southeast Sweden learnt of County Durham's trailblazing use of the software after reading an online article in which it was hailed as an example of good practice.

The team was so impressed it arranged a visit to learn more.

The visit was arranged through the European Union's Interreg Europe LOCARBO project, in which the council is the UK's sole partner.

LOCARBO is a partnership programme which seeks to improve the energy efficiency of businesses in not just County Durham but Italy, Hungary, Lithuania, Romania and Portugal by



exchanging best practice and experience.

The visit saw the team from County Durham giving its Swedish visitors an overview of how it reduces energy use as well as talking through LOCARBO projects to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Lena

Eckerberg,

development manager at the agency, said: "We chose to visit Durham and look at the energy management software which has been highlighted as a very good example."

The agency is jointly owned by all municipalities and regions in the south east of Sweden.

Elias Kristmansson, from Borgholm Municipality, added: "It was interesting to find out how to communicate and visualise energy use. We will pick up a lot of the ideas introduced in Durham and introduce something similar in Borgholm."

Helen Grayshan, who manages the council's Business Energy Efficiency Project, said: "We're really pleased that our work in saving energy through careful monitoring has been recognised by partners in Europe and that we were able to share our knowledge with them. We look forward to hearing about them implementing similar systems in Sweden."

The online article which prompted the Swedish interest in County Durham's use of the software can be viewed at: <https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/1616/systemslink-energy-management-software-at-durham-county-council>

Climate Change, the Facts

Dear Sir,
CLIMATE CHANGE

I am aware that some people do not believe in Climate Change, or that it is man-made, or that we can do anything about it. I am also very aware of the fears of some residents that attempts to deal with the issue will endanger jobs or lifestyle. I will never disdain those concerns – my job as DCC Climate Change Champion is to reassure as well as to encourage.

IT'S ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

I start, however, from the fact that – WHATEVER is causing it – global temperature (particularly sea temperature) is rising, and that this is an environmental issue of the gravest importance. Last year's United Nations Global Assessment report found that around one million of the 9 million animal and plant species we know about are threatened with extinction. I have met 'Climate Change deniers', but I have never met anyone who is not concerned with what is happening to our environment.

One aspect of this crisis is that in the last two centuries we have burned millions of years' worth of carbon (stored as 'fossil fuels') and poured the resultant greenhouse gases out into the atmosphere. The biggest worry is what are called 'feedback loops'. A correspondent last week was correct to direct our attention to Australia, where a long hot dry summer has resulted in fires ... which have pumped even more CO2 into the atmosphere. Meanwhile, in the Arctic, melting ice and permafrost are releasing more greenhouse gases the faster they melt.

A NECESSARY RESPONSE

Nevertheless, greenhouse gases are just one element of a wider environmental, social and political crisis. Although Britain is one of the least affected countries, and one of the countries doing most to address climate change,

we too need to respond to the existential ecological crisis facing humanity. The World Bank has suggested that a global temperature rise of 2°C will cause environmental changes which will create 140 million refugees by 2050. Climatic events are already placing stresses upon our social and welfare infrastructure; it doesn't matter WHY these events are happening, what we need to consider is just how we are going to cope with the fallout from the increasing number of storms, floods, heatwaves etc.

THAT is why, last July, Durham County Councillors agreed nem con to engage in a consultation to ascertain what the people of County Durham want us to do as a Council to address these issues.

I have read EVERY reply, so it cannot be said that 'DCC never listens'. Only ONE person said 'do nothing', and in fact barely half-a-dozen have said they do not believe in climate change. By far the majority of respondents favoured decisive action, and many wanted the Council to achieve carbon neutrality well before our stated date of 2050.

INTO THE FUTURE

The proposed Climate Action Report – which will go to Cabinet in February – is already in draft form and, when you read it, I am hoping that you will agree that it is a suite of realistic projects which will enhance our environment as well as addressing the climate change issue. The measures it is proposing to cut emissions are also measures which will improve the environment, public health, housing, poverty, pollution, waste etc. ... as well as providing economic opportunities for local companies. They are ALL costed, and most

will pay themselves back in their lifetime; we are not just throwing money at vanities. We will involve the public and partners in the Report's application, and will be flexible to changing technology, opinions and ideas.

So where I stand on this is as follows:

- Britain has signed up to the Paris Agreement to meet certain Climate targets;
- therefore, the British government promised to be carbon neutral by 2050;
- consequently, Durham County Councillors have accepted an obligation to 'play their part'.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

We cannot change what's happening in China or Australia, but we can make County Durham as safe as possible, so I would appeal to all residents to see this as a joint task we all have to address, to seek common ground, and to support the County Council as it tries to "spend our taxes wisely on long term, proper, green energy projects and making our country climate change proof" ... to protect and enhance the living environment on which we all depend.

The earth's atmosphere is only 12 miles thick (the distance from Durham to Aycliffe). The deepest ocean is less than seven miles in depth (roughly the distance from Aycliffe to Darlington). All the world's life exists in that small sliver of habitable space. We need to realise just how tiny and fragile our climate is, and start to take action, because for the past 200 years we have been befouling it into a noxious junkyard.

Cllr John D Clare
(DCC Climate Change Champion).

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Fully refurbished offices now available to let in an eco-friendly building. Located at the entrance to Aycliffe Business Park on St. Cuthberts Way (old Newton Press building), easy access to A1M.

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Special Thank You from Darlington Rotary

Over 1700 used Christmas trees were collected by volunteers in Darlington and Newton Aycliffe last week, raising thousands of pounds for the region's St. Teresa's Hospice.

A team of 70 Darlington Rotarians borrowed 23 large vans to tour local streets taking away the trees for recycling into garden fertilizer.

"For just a small donation from homeowners, we saved significant mess in their cars and generated vital funds for the hospice," said Rotary organiser David Hayward.

"Thanks to the generosity of residents in Darlington and Newton Aycliffe we raised over £12,000 in just one day of collecting."

The vans were provided free by Drive Vauxhall, Darlington Council plus hire companies Enterprise and Charter.

The operation was run from

Drive's Darlington Vauxhall garage. Taylors the Butcher provided several hundred bacon butties to help boost the volunteers' energy and the trees were recycled by the Wade Group.

St. Teresa's Hospice chief executive, Jane Bradshaw, said: "Once again we have had an incredibly positive response to our tree recycling scheme."

"I would like to thank all volunteers for giving up their time to take part in the collection, and our corporate and community supporters, without whom none of this would be possible."

"And thank you everyone in Newton Aycliffe who asked us to collect their tree and help raise much needed funds for our hospice."

This is now the ninth year the Rotary Club has collected used trees raising in total over £59,000 for the hospice.



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Newton Aycliffe DL5 6DS
Mobile: 07738 066723

FACEBOOK

North East Ambulance Service Extends Frontline Capability



New response time targets for accident and emergency provision in the region prompted North East Ambulance Service to bolster its frontline fleet with another 44 Mercedes-Benz Sprinters.

Supplied by local Dealer Bell Truck & Van, all are 5.0-tonne 519 CDI models with muscular 3.0-litre V6 engines which transmit their 190 hp outputs to the road via optional, seven-speed 7G-TRONIC PLUS automatic gearboxes. The medium-length L2 chassis are fitted with fully equipped box bodies by German specialist WAS.

North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (NEAS) runs a Mercedes-Benz-dominated fleet which now extends to 158 emergency ambulances. It operates a rolling renewal programme, typically standing down 16-17 vehicles each year and replacing them with new ones.

However, a recent audit recommended an increase in ambulance numbers to meet tougher new response time targets. Bell Truck & Van won the tender for the 44 new chassis, on the basis of the Sprinter's proven dependability and low total costs of operation, and the back-up available from its sites across the North East. The new Sprinters are classified as DCA (double-crewed ambulance) vehicles.

Changing requirements meant NEAS also took a fresh look at the design of its ambulance bodies and the equipment they carry.

In addition to two crew members, the WAS 500 box bodies carry up to four patients and medics, allowing family members, helicopter emergency medical staff or police officers to be transported safely. To cope with 'bariatric' – particularly heavy – patients, the vehicle's stretcher supports people weighing up to 318 kg, and a tail lift with 500 kg capacity is fitted.

The ambulance interiors are also specially designed to be more accessible to patients and family members with dementia, learning disabilities, dyslexia and Alzheimer's disease. Onboard equipment includes defibrillators and spinal boards, while the ambulances are kitted out to serve as mini operating theatres so patients can be treated if necessary before they reach hospital.

North East Ambulance Service provides 999 and non-emergency patient transport services to a population of 2.7 million people living across Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, County Durham, Darlington and Teesside. Since 2013 NEAS has also delivered the NHS 111 telephone advice service – its staff handle more than 1.5 million calls per year.

Box Office Now Open for UK'S Biggest Outdoor Live Theatre Event



Tickets for the UK's biggest, outdoor, live theatre event are on sale now at 2019 prices. Book before 31 January, 2020 to get the best choice of seats for the best price!

Taking place every Saturday from 1 August – 12 September, 'Kynren – an epic tale of England' is making a spectacular return with a host of amazing new attractions as part of an incredible new development. Designed to take visitors from daylight to starlight The Park, a major new daytime attraction, will complement the multi-award winning Kynren evening performances offering visitors an action-packed afternoon of fun.

The new experiences include an electrifying Horse Stunt Show, immersive family attractions and all-new dining experiences. Under the expert eye of internationally renowned artistic director Charles Lamarche, Kynren's equine cast and their highly-skilled riders will perform never-before-seen stunts, daredevil chariot races and jousting



live on the panoramic outdoor stage ahead of the evening performance.

The afternoon entertainment also features the Maze of Fame where visitors encounter a cast of colourful, iconic characters. Watch out for surprises around every corner.

Other new attractions include the enchanting mini explorers' themed Adventure Playground which sits alongside existing favourites including the walkthrough Viking Village, Animal Croft and Georgian Shop. Visitors can also relax and

listen to Live Music on the Lake before the show begins while enjoying tasty treats from the new food outlets.

The new dining experiences cater for all tastes. From the Hog Roast Meal Deal which will complement the existing street food options in the Food Village, and the new covered family dining in the Food Hall to the guaranteed covered seating and waiter service with the new two-course seated and exclusive VIP dining packages, there is something for all visitors to enjoy.

Ranked among the Top 5 Performances to see in the UK on TripAdvisor, and performed by a 1,000-strong cast and crew on a 7.5-acre outdoor stage, Kynren – An Epic Tale of England, takes audiences on a thrilling adventure through 2,000 years of history.

• Tickets for the new 2020 show, which includes entry to all the afternoon activities, are on sale now at 2019 prices until 31 January 2020, and offer visitors booking during this period the new Park for FREE. Prices increase from the 1 February 2020 and are available online at www.kynren.com.

• Visitors are urged to book early to avoid disappointment: The EARLIER you book the MORE YOU SAVE, the WIDER YOUR CHOICE OF SEAT, and the CLOSER TO THE ACTION you get.

• Performances take place every Saturday from 1 August – 12 September

• All attractions, excluding the dining options, close 90 minutes before the Kynren performance begins.

• The Travel Trade and Group Bookings office is open now.

Casting Announced for Musical Theatre Show

The cast has been announced for the latest musical theatre production by local theatre company DarlingtonOS.

Following the dark and sinister production of Jekyll & Hyde last October, the award-winning production company has its sights set on the third of their Strictly Musicals presentations. This promises to offer over 2 hours of non-stop musical theatre classics, old and new. The show will feature 54 amazingly talented performers, a live band, stunning costumes and spectacular choreography.

Joanne Hand will once again be at the helm as director / choreographer with Steven Hood as musical director.

Julian Cound from DarlingtonOS told us "There is always huge interest from the membership of DarlingtonOS to be in the cast of a Strictly Musicals show. The two previous productions have been a

massive hit with audiences and gives members an opportunity to present songs from shows that are not currently available for adult amateur theatre companies to produce. There is a great mix of songs from newer shows such as Dear Evan Hansen, Hamilton and The Greatest Showman as well as classics from shows such as The King and I, Chess and Cabaret." He continued "There are some familiar faces as well as new talent to the company. Audiences will be blown away with the level of talent on show in Strictly Musicals 3. If you love musical theatre then you simply will not want to miss this show."

Strictly Musicals 3 runs at Darlington Hippodrome from Wednesday 22 April to Saturday 2 May.

Tickets are on sale now - to book call the Ticket Hotline on 01325 244659 or book online at www.darlingtonos.org.uk

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SPONSOR - Sponsor a show, presenter or the station for a nominal fee.

ORGANISATIONS - You are invited to come along and record an interview about your club, organisation or charity.

ADVERTISE - Could your business benefit from advertising on Aycliffe Radio?

LOCAL BAND/CHOIR - Send us a pre-recorded session of your set or invite us along to record you perform.

SCHOOLS - We can attend and record your Concerts, Performances, Presentations to be played on air.

PUBS/CLUBS - Send us your upcoming events and our presenters will promote them during their shows (and via our website).

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Artists with Fresh Ideas Needed

An exciting commission is on offer for County Durham artists to create playful and interactive work for a revamped venue.

Bishop Auckland Town Hall will reopen this spring following a £1.5 million refurbishment by its owner Durham County Council. This includes the creation of a new ground floor gallery

space to continue the venue's tradition of showcasing modern and contemporary art by local, national and international artists.

To celebrate the reopening, the council's community arts team has launched a special visual arts commission, giving artists the opportunity to exhibit their work at the gallery from Saturday 18 July



to Saturday 5 September. The team is looking for a concept that is interactive, playful, complementary to the space and appealing to a wide audience.

A commission fee of up to £4,000 will be available for the winning proposal to cover all materials, installation costs and artist fees. The community arts team also plans to develop family engagement activities to run alongside the exhibition throughout the summer, which will be funded separately.

Cllr Joy Allen, the council's Cabinet member for transformation, culture and tourism, said: "Bishop Auckland Town Hall has a strong tradition of bringing playful, tactile, and large-scale exhibitions to the town every summer, creating a safe but fun environment for families to interact with art."

"Previous commissions have resulted in some wonderful creations and we cannot wait to see what artists come up with for the first exhibition in the new gallery space."

"The exhibition is part on a sensational line-up of activities and events taking place at the town hall in 2020. We are really looking forward to welcoming residents and visitors back into the building to see the many improvements

we have made."

Professional artists living, working or studying in County Durham can submit proposals, which must feature an element of new work but can also include existing creations or themes

Artists are encouraged to incorporate a variety of interactive elements within a range of media, including wall mounted and free-standing installations, still digital images, projections, sound, light, sculpture, textile, print, painting and drawing.

The gallery dimensions are 12.5 metres by 10 metres with a height of 3.3 metres.

Proposals should be submitted via email to deborah.connell@durham.gov.uk by Friday 31 January and successful candidates will be informed by Friday 28 February.

Other improvements being made at Bishop Auckland Town Hall include a new library, café and shop, and more comfortable seating and modern facilities in the theatre and cinema. Bookings for events can also now be made online.

To find out more about events and activities taking place at Bishop Auckland Town Hall this year and to make bookings, visit www.bishopaucklandtownhall.org.uk

Byerley Park Parents Beware

Dear Sir,

Are your children opening their car doors into the road and oncoming traffic when getting out of the car?

If you are taking your children to school by car PLEASE educate your little ones of the dangers of opening doors into the road. Better still ensure they are unable to open the door from the inside.

It's a hectic time for parents and those going to and coming from work. Staintondale is a very congested road from half past eight with school, work traffic, delivery vans (sadly from time to time ambulances) as well as at the end of the school day and special events.

I praise the headmistress, Mrs Gargan, and all those involved in highlighting road safety and dissuading illegal parking at the school entrance but ultimately it is YOU the parents who are responsible for the safe alighting of YOUR vehicle. Nobody wants to see a child seriously injured, maimed or worse as a result of an unwitting split second action.

Name address supplied

Holiday Snaps

Happy New Year from OZ



Valerie and Ellie wish family, friends, neighbours, girls at St. Elizabeth's Knitting Group and Sue, Jen, Ruby, Carolyn and Marilyn from the Tuesday Club - best wishes for 2020.

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Lobster Festival

A trio of American stars will perform in the region for one night only, when they entertain guests at a popular North East fundraiser.

On Friday 1 May, Hardwick Hall Hotel, at Sedgfield, County Durham, will once again play host to the Lobster Charity Ball, sponsored by the Great Annual Savings Group. And organisers have revealed that singers CeCe Peniston, Crystal Waters and Julie McKnight will take to the stage to entertain the crowd with their much-loved hits.

CeCe Peniston rose to fame with her debut single Finally and enjoyed huge chart success with the release of four studio albums, while award-winning singer and songwriter Crystal Waters is best known for her singles Gypsy Woman, 100% Pure Love and Destination Calabria.

Also joining them is LA-based singer Julie McKnight, who has performed around the world and collaborated with stars including Earth, Wind and Fire and The Emotions.

UK talent will also take centre stage, with the event welcoming the Paul Pashley band for the very first time to play a wide range of jazz, swing and modern covers, and the return of The Sally Army Band, featuring a full brass section.

Guests will be greeted with a welcome drink and canapés on arrival and enjoy a four

course gourmet lobster surf and turf menu created by the award-winning chefs at the Rib Room Steakhouse and Grill, with complimentary beer, lager and wine all night.

The event, which takes place from 7pm to 12:30am, raises money for Daisy Chain, which supports families affected by autism, and is compered by Steve Walls.

Hardwick Hall Hotel is part of the Ramside Estates portfolio and owner, John Adamson, believes the evening will be one to remember.

"The Lobster Charity Ball is one of the highlights of our calendar and this year's event is already shaping up to be a fantastic night out," said John.

"We are hoping to follow the success of previous years by raising a huge sum for Daisy Chain, which will help them continue the excellent work they carry out to support families in need."

"We're delighted to welcome three incredible singers to the stage, alongside two great bands, and their feel-good music is a perfect way to get our guests in the party spirit."

Tickets cost £150 per person plus VAT and can be booked by calling the hotel on 01749 620 253 or by emailing events@hardwickhallhotel.co.uk. For more information: www.hardwicklobsterfestival.co.uk

RUNNING CLUB NEWS



As always, we had many members supporting the local parkruns, despite the windy conditions, but there were no PB's to record this week. We also had plenty of members out training, with several groups undertaking different distances and routes.

The only race in which we had members participate was the popular Brass Monkey Half Marathon down in York. The route is flat and fast, looping southwards



from the York Racecourse and the conditions were quite tough with rain and wind dampening the day. First home (albeit running for Aycliffe Tri Club) was Trevor Dixon in 1.25.46, he was followed by Richard Holland in 1.36.53, Simon Mattahew Turner in 1.44.19, Kevin Wilson in 1.57.49, David Stothard in 2.08.16 and Ian Baronowski in 2.14.34.

Junior Section

On Tuesday 17th December, the Junior Section held their annual presentation evening which celebrates the achievements of our young athletes. The coaches are proud of each and every one of our athletes who train with us and it's great to present so many achievement trophies. Well done to our 'Runner's runner of the year' awarded to Elijah McLuckie, Connor Scaife and Megan Plews. Winners of the 'Most Improved' category were awarded to Mia Hynd, Charlotte Clay and Eva Ryan's. The 'Best Effort' trophies were awarded to Amelia Scaife, Millie Greatehead and Zoe Hodgson. The winners of the 'Attendance' trophies were Rose Taylor, Alex Bowerbank and James Hodgson. Well done everyone.



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

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TWENTY NEW LODGES FOR TEESDALE HOLIDAY PARK

A family-run holiday park in Teesdale is adding 20 new holiday lodges following a six-figure refinancing deal with HSBC UK. The new lodges will increase accommodation at the park by over 55 per cent. Hillcrest Park, situated on the border of North Yorkshire and County Durham, will use the bank's support to fund the groundwork and infrastructure required to house the new, bespoke holiday lodges that it plans to sell. The park has been owned

and run by wife and husband team Kate and Ed Nichols since 2011. Starting with just three cottages and a few touring pitches, it has grown in recent years and now currently hosts 35 units, consisting of five holiday cottages, 20 touring pitches, and 10 'glamping' pods. Kate Nichols, Owner, Hillcrest Park, said: "The logical next step to expansion was to add holiday lodges to our site, to compliment the cottages, pods and touring pitches we currently hold. HSBC UK

was incredibly supportive and enthusiastic in our plans for growth and its backing means we are able to put the required infrastructure in place. "We're big believers in giving back to the local community and we use local contractors and building suppliers wherever possible. Our hope is that the owners of the new lodges, who can visit all year round, will also spend money in the local community ensuring that Teesdale has a sustainable rural economy."

OFFICERS BEHIND BARS TO RAISE MONEY FOR GOOD CAUSES

Officers from Durham and Cleveland forces are coming together to spend the night at Birmingham's Steelhouse Lane Lock-up, a Victorian mini-prison that is steeped in history and home to paranormal activity. They are raising money for Care of Police Survivors (COPS) - a charity dedicated to helping the families of police officers who have lost their lives on duty rebuild their lives. They will also raise funds for the West Midlands Police Museum, which will use the money raised to help relocate the lock-up and deliver inputs to children on knife crime, drugs, online safety and child sexual exploitation. Durham officers, PC Caryn



Fairbairn, PC Lisa Hall and PC John Lamb will join Cleveland Police's PC Chris Green for the challenge on January 31. They are taking part in the event in their own time. It is part of a national fundraising campaign, which aims to raise £50,000 to be split between both charities.

PC Hall from Durham Constabulary, who completed the first challenge last year, said: "We had so much fun taking part in this event last year and we were all really proud to help raise funds for COPS which is such a vital charity. "The work being carried out to restore and make Steelhouse Lane prison an educational setting also preserves a valuable insight into the country's history, securing it for future generations to enjoy and learn from so we hope doing our bit can make this vision a reality. "We also have the benefit of contributing to a fantastic charity in UK COPS that provide invaluable support

to families of loved ones who have lost their lives in the line of duty." PC Chris Green from Cleveland Police, said: "I'm really looking forward to another fundraiser to do my bit for COPS and West Midlands Museum. "COPS does some amazing work in helping those left behind when officers sadly lose their lives on duty so it is an honour to join fellow officers in raising awareness and support for such an important cause." PCs Hall and Green in particular will also be remembering Liv Pontin, a mental health awareness campaigner who worked within the police service. Ms Pontin took part in the first charity event with them but sadly took her own life earlier this year. PC Hall added: "It was a privilege to meet Liv during our first lock-up and we spent a lot of time talking about her work with the emergency services to raise awareness of mental health. "She was a brilliant young woman who we will be remembering as we complete the challenge this year."

To donate, please visit <https://chuffed.org/fundraiser/lockup-lockin-2020-9444>

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Plans Unveiled for New & Improved Durham Bus Station

Residents are being encouraged to express their views on plans to replace a dated city centre bus station with a more modern and welcoming

facility.

Designs for the new and improved Durham Bus Station have been revealed as part of a public consultation which starts on Friday 17 January and runs until 10pm on Sunday 9 February.

Durham County Council is keen to hear what residents and commuters think of the plans, which will see the existing North Road station demolished and replaced with a modern and spacious transport hub.

Two drop-in sessions will be held in the Church Hall at North Road Methodist Church on Friday 17 January from 1pm to 6.30pm and Saturday 18 January from 10am to 2pm.

Attendees will have a chance to view the plans, which include a pedestrian concourse with lots of natural light and increased

seating and easy to access route information. Toilets and baby changing facilities would also be enhanced and a two-storey mezzanine area with office space introduced. Visibility would also be improved at the exit of the bus station for the safety of pedestrians and bus drivers leaving the site.

Many of the design features are in response to feedback received from a consultation in 2019, when the council asked the public what they felt should be done to improve the facility.

One of the main priorities identified during the consultation was improved safety and reduced fear of crime. To address this, CCTV would be installed to monitor the entire concourse, while the introduction of a two-storey mezzanine overlooking the passenger waiting area would increase natural surveillance.

Along with the drop-in sessions, questionnaires will be available online from Friday and council officers will be visiting the bus station to talk to

passengers about the plans and complete surveys during the consultation period.

Cllr Carl Marshall, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for economic regeneration at Durham County Council, said: "We have listened to what residents told in previous consultations and think the new plans will appeal to residents and commuters alike. However, we are keen to find out what the public think."

"Ultimately, our aim is to create a modern and welcoming transport hub that fits the historic nature of Durham City and shows we are very much open

for business. We want to provide residents with a safe and attractive space, while ensuring visitors to the city get the best first impression possible.

"High quality transport infrastructure is vital for a prosperous economy and a key factor for businesses considering investing in an area. Our plans for Durham Bus Station are part of a wider vision to improve transport links and enhance towns and villages across the county." Once the consultation closes, comments will be passed onto the designers and the design will be reviewed ahead of a final planning application being submitted.

If planning permission is approved, demolition of the existing bus station is expected to begin in late summer or early autumn before construction begins on the new facility in early 2021. During this period, all bus services will be moved on-street with stop locations and timetables advertised in advance.

It is anticipated the new bus station would be completed and open to the public in late 2021.

To take part in the consultation online, visit www.durham.gov.uk/consultation from Friday 17 January and comment by 10pm on Sunday 9 February.



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If you want to be a good and loving person you don't need Reiki, religion or anything else. What you need to do is stop looking for short cuts and easy options. Stop looking for some thing or some one to sort out the rubbish in your life for you.

To become a good, kind and loving person you start by taking personal responsibility for your thoughts, beliefs and actions. You begin by accepting responsibility for your own life and the chaos contained therein. Stop looking for an excuse for your behaviour or someone else to blame. Accept personal responsibility for the way you treat people and the way you have taught them to treat you in a less than loving way.

Any faith system, belief, skill or ability is nothing more than an expression of the person who practices them. They can become a true reflection of dedication and spiritual values or simply an extension of an ugly personality seeking power and control over others. Usually the only difference between a good and a "bad" person is the choices they make and the consequence of their actions. Since it's your life, you are the only one who can choose who and what you want to be.

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Dance & Enterprise to Transform Building



A vacant community building will be full of life once more when it reopens as an Irish dance studio and the headquarters of a family run business.

The former Spennymoor Day Centre in Dundas Street in the town centre has stood empty since 2012.

But now, thanks to enterprising local couple Paul and Katrina O'Hehir and Durham County Council's property management team, the building is set to welcome the public through its doors once again as the new base of the O'Hehir School of Irish Dance.

Katrina, who is from Durham and has Irish roots, rose to fame as Michael Flatley's lead dancer in the Lord of The Dance. She currently teaches 40 children aged three and over, as well as an adult class catering to all ages and abilities.

Paul, meanwhile, is partner in a chartered accountancy business with his father, which has operated from Clyde Terrace in Spennymoor for 30 years. The business will also relocate to the building, where renovation work is already underway and could be completed as early as March.

Cllr Kevin Shaw, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for strategic housing and assets, said: "We were delighted when Katrina and Paul presented their plan to us, as we had been keen to find a buyer who would bring the building back into community use. Our property management team supported the couple throughout the process, and

we would like to wish them the very best of luck with both of their enterprises in the future."

Paul said: "This is a great opportunity for us to get the office space we really need. I grew up 100 yards away and I've seen the building deteriorate over the years so it's great to see it being used again."

"It's great to be a part of its transformation and it's fantastic for the community too. We are extremely happy with the guidance and help we've received from the council throughout the process."



Durham Constabulary is dedicated to making your neighbourhood safer. If you have any issues affecting your quality of life and want to discuss it with your Neighbourhood Policing Team, then get involved in your local PACT meeting.

Next Meeting:
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The meeting will start at 6.00pm and will be attended by a representative from your Neighbourhood Policing Team. They will be specific to your area and individual neighbourhood priorities will be discussed. All members of the community are welcome. You can talk to us privately afterwards if you wish.

Tree Tops Children's Occupational Therapy Expands

Tree Tops Children's Occupational Therapy, Eldon Road, Aycliffe Business Park opened a new clinic on Durham Road, Stockton in December. We have a new state of the art feeding room which will enable us to continue to offer Sequential Oral Sensory (SOS) Food Therapy (Ref Dr K Toomey) for both individuals and groups of children. This specialised treatment from America is highly successful in addressing feeding difficulties from "picky to problem feeders". We are one of the few places in the UK to offer the SOS approach, which is family orientated and fun! Our SOS trained therapists have used this intervention with many

children during the last few years with highly successful outcomes.

Our new Sensory Integration room will extend this intervention further as parents/schools will be able to watch the sessions and take ideas and techniques back into the home/school for success. Parents will undergo training to understand how to integrate the approach into the home and support their child's intervention. More foods will be prepared on the premises and allocated treatment slots will now be given just to feeding therapy. The opening was a momentous and proud occasion with our very own George, who was one of Tree Tops' first clients, declaring

our clinic in Stockton-on-Tees, 'open'.

George said, "I think this is the start of a brilliant new venture for Tree Tops to expand their horizons. The new clinic is brilliant and just shows that the best is yet to come. Well done and I feel very privileged to be part of the opening."

Throughout the day we had the honour of meeting lots of professionals and parents, not forgetting BBC Radio Tees who popped in and interviewed both Dawn's and Mrs Know, one of our mums. Family and friends also enjoyed the day and we must not forget Mike from Southpaw UK who, with Dawn Dunn, designed our Sensory Integration room.

We hope that we can continue 'working in partnership with families, schools and health professionals to make a difference to children's lives' but if you would like more information please check out our website www.treetopsoccupationaltherapy.co.uk or ring 01325 304411.



READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



Family "Gathering nuts in May" (January!)
by John Williamson.

Send your local photos to paul@newtonnews.co.uk

Obituary

Neil Stacey

formerly of Newton Aycliffe, passed away suddenly on 1st January, aged 62 years.

A much loved Husband, Son, Father and Brother. Would family and friends please meet for a Memorial Service at The Hall Garth Hotel, Coatham Mundeville to celebrate his life on Thursday 23rd January at 2.30 pm.

This follows a small Service of Committal at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be made for The Dystonia Society and Greenpeace. Casual clothing is welcome.

Joan Stayman

(nee Winter)

Sadly passed away on the 7th January, aged 85.

Doting Wife of the late Ivor; loving Mam to Hayley; cherished Grandma to Stephanie and loving Sister-in-Law to Enis.

Funeral to be held at Wear Valley Crematorium on Monday 27th January at 2.30pm.

Family flowers only, but any donations please give to Cancer Research.

Ken Herbert

on 10th January, peacefully in hospital aged 89 years.

Devoted Husband of the late Gladys; Dad of Brian, Claire, Andrew and Stephen; Grandad and Great Grandad.

Friends are kindly invited to meet at Stranton Crematorium, Hartlepool on Wednesday 29th January at 12noon.

Family flowers only, donations to the Alzheimers Society if so desired.

In Memoriam

Marjorie Local

27th June 1943

Died 15th January 2015

Will never forget you pet.
Husband John.
Love and kisses xxxxx

Hilda Everett

Died 11th January 2019

Beloved late Wife to Neil Everett; loving Mother to Lesley, David, Pam and Grandchildren. Missed so much and always in our thoughts. Love you Mam

Jean Bishop

Another year has passed and we still think of you. Always in our thoughts. Your friends, Mick and Marion xxx

David Pattinson

8th January

Newton Aycliffe Peacefully in Defoe Court Care Home. David aged 70 years.

Beloved partner to Beatrice; much loved Dad to Tony, David and the late Anne-Marie; loving Grandad, Great-Grandad and a dearly loved Brother. Sadly missed by family and friends.

Funeral on Thursday 23rd January. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 2.30pm.



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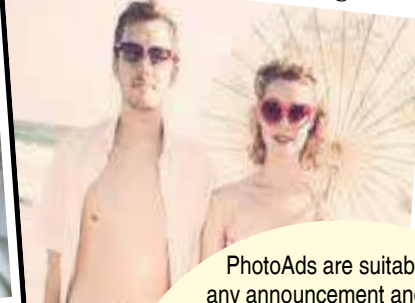
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to our beautiful Daughter on your 21st birthday. Lots of love from Mam & Dad xxx

Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



Golden

Anniversaries

on 1st Jan

Anters, Gra

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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!

N.A.F.C. REPORT



Saturday 11th January Ebac Northern League Division One Newton Aycliffe 2 v Billingham Town 3

Newton Aycliffe lost 3-2 to Billingham Town at the Beaumont Landscapes stadium. Centre forward and leading goalscorer Dean Thexton had moved to Shildon and so Adam Burnicle had been signed from West Auckland to replace him. His debut got off to a great start when he scored after only seven minutes. A corner was put in by Lewis Walton and Burnicle knocked it in from close range. Billingham matched Aycliffe in the play and levelled after 16 minutes. Ex-Aycliffe player Craig Hutchinson wriggled through the defence and found the corner of the net past Adam Pickford. Aycliffe's Jake Petitjean brought out a good save from Billingham keeper Young. Then on the half

hour Burnicle got his and Aycliffe's second goal when he smashed home a penalty. Billingham were still well in the game though and equalised in first half injury time when Hutchinson hit a great strike from distance. Aycliffe were unlucky on the hour when Liam Jarvie got round the side of Billingham's defence and crossed to Burnicle, who was denied a debut hat trick when his shot hit the bar and came out. Aycliffe had the better of the play but couldn't trouble Young in the Billingham goal. Billingham took the points three minutes from time when a low shot by Flounders found the corner of the net.

Photo: New signing Adam Burnicle scored two goals on debut

Cancer Care Centre of Excellence

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

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

Season Stalls Against Hartlepool TDSOB

Newton Aycliffe's first match of 2020 at home to Hartlepool TDSOB last Saturday was unfortunately cancelled by the visitors with not much more than an hour to go before kick-off. Unusually for TDSOB it transpired they were only able to find a squad of 9. This deemed the match unplayable under League rules.

The disappointment was rife through the Aycliffe camp as the squad have been training hard for this encounter as it has been 4 weeks since their victory in Jarrow. The news had not filtered quickly enough to some of the Aycliffe army of supporters who still turned up at Moore Lane to get their fix of watching rugby. The

loyalty of the fans is likened to an ecumenical movement. Rugby almost becomes religious to a lot of players and fans. It was great to see them stay at the club and watch the squad train for a while before migrating to the bar for the usual after match hospitality.

Newton Aycliffe RUFC welcomes any new supporters to attend matches home and away. It is free to come and watch. Anyone new to the town should know that the club is based at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, Moore Lane. Current kick off times are 2.15pm. Keep an eye on press reports or search on Facebook to keep up to date about up and coming fixtures.

RUGBY UPDATE

New players from the town or surrounding area will be made most welcome. Success in the current league structure is dependant on strength in depth. Aycliffe have yet to field the 2nd XV this season who have had successes in previous years under the name of Newtonians. It is hoped the steady growth of players will eventually see the team's revival before the end of this season.

One of the other major factors that builds success within a club is volunteers. The club committee have made great strides in improvement over the last few years but there is always room for willing volunteers to join and help. For example, the club will welcome qualified physios, first aiders, ground and equipment staff on matchdays and more coaches for the kid's development initiative who are willing to offer some free time to help with development in all areas. One topical discussion that is in the pipeline is that the club hope to create a Ladies team before the start of 2020/21 season. Ladies rugby is on the rise in most clubs in the region. The club would like to think that the ladies of the town would consider taking up the sport

in order to play games in the future or even volunteer to coach a potential squad of ladies from absolute scratch. The ladies will benefit from increased general fitness, learn a new sport and become part of the great friendly social aspect synonymous with the sport. There is a challenge for any potential members of public suitable for the task. Someone with experience in ladies' rugby would be an absolute benefit. If anyone feels they are interested in helping to develop a ladies' team out there, please contact Public Relations Officer Stuart Mclean by e-mail. stuiemadgiraffe@yahoo.co.uk or text 07812 372675.

Aycliffe's next match is away to Prudhoe & Stocksfield this Saturday, 18th Jan 2020, KO 2.15pm.

Kids Rugby continues to run on Saturday afternoons from 12.00pm to 1.30pm. All kids from the age of 8 to 16 will be made most welcome.

The club wish to thank all sponsors for their continued support this season. If you have any other queries relating to Senior or Kids rugby at Newton Aycliffe Rugby, please contact our Director of Rugby, Peter Ryans Tel: 07796 172599.

Juniors Football Report



It has been a cold and windy weekend for the most part however for the teams that still had matches to play it was an early start and a chance to get another three points on the board for our Aycliffe Junior sides.

Our **Under 8's** travelled to Washington to face Easington. The team sharply conceded and went 1-0 down, however a quick chat at half time seemed to get the Juniors fired up as they shot out of the blocks in the second half with Jack scoring 2 almost immediately, this gave them momentum to carry on before Jonah and Dom also got in on the act also scoring 2 goals apiece. It was also a great goalkeeping performance from Jensen who made some excellent stops in the second half to keep the Aycliffe side going. The man of the match was awarded to Jack for scoring two incredible goals.

It was another trip to Durham for our **Under 8 Blacks**. Despite playing into the wind in the first half the lads went ahead by following what they set out to do and keeping the ball on the floor. Second half the team dominated and as well as hitting the bar, both posts and some super saves from the opposition keeper, they hit another 5 goals without reply. There was a hat-trick for Rhys, both Max and Charlie with 2 and one for Alfie. It was a great all-round performance

with some excellent passing, Mathis won the man of the match from this one due to showing excellent work rate and determination for the team.

Our **Under 9's** faced off against Stranton attempting to get back to winning ways. After all the team dug deep to get into the game, their effort was rewarded thanks to two superb goals from Alex who was awarded man of the match.

The **Under 10's** travelled to play Leven in their first game of the new year. They had many players missing and with only 1 sub on the Aycliffe bench the team started to struggle with a slow start. Leven were up for the game and ended up going into the half time break in the lead. With a positional change at the start of the second half the Juniors pushed on and scored a great goal that unfortunately wasn't given. However, this didn't phase the Aycliffe side as they continued to pressure, and their effort came into fruition with Jack grabbing an equaliser. The man of the match was awarded to Oscar.

The **Under 11 Clarets** played against Nunthorpe Athletic at the weekend. A scrappy first half saw Aycliffe get drawn into Nunthorpe's style of play and they never really seemed to get going. This changed in the second half with Aycliffe dominating, creating lots of

space and playing to their strengths of fast attacking football. Goals from Alex & Kai and a man of the match performance from Ashton saw them finish the game strong, grabbing all 3 points in a currently unbeaten campaign for the team.

Our **Under 13's** reversed our fixture with Bedale Juniors. In an excellent game to watch, Will and Thomas both grabbed two goals apiece with their opposition getting just the one. The result keeps them at the top of the league table in what has been an excellent and dominating campaign for this Aycliffe team.

The **Under 14's** faced Whickham attempting to get another 3 points on the board. Goals from goalkeeper Josh, Kamil, Archie and Ashley helped to achieve this in a game where the team had to play quick football in testing conditions. The man of the match award was too close to call for the manager and was shared between Archie and Charlie.

U15's lost away to Billingham 3-2 in a top 3 game. The lads went a few goals down, however, showed excellent courage and team spirit to almost pull it back they just couldn't find the all important equaliser. Goals in this game came from Leon and Brandon and Ben was awarded the man of the match for some excellent effort.

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