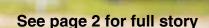
# Newton News

Incorporating The Newtonian - Newton Aycliffe's Free Community Magazine Editorial and Advertising contact: paul@newtonnews.co.uk - Telephone: 01325 300212 - www.newtonnews.co.uk

# Successful First Drive In at ROF59





Special thank you to your Newton News Sponsors:

SHAKE 'N' CAKE PAUL HOWELL MP for Sedgefield















Page 2 Newton News

# Local Artist Work to be Displayed in London

Dear Sir.

I am a local Artist, an Aycliffe resident and Head of Art at Sedgefield Community College. During lockdown, Turner prize winner, Grayson Perry, produced a programme on Channel 4, 'Grayson's Art Club', as part of this he put a call out for other artists and members of the public to submit their work for an exhibition based on the thoughts, feelings and emotions lockdown and COVID-19 had created. I'm delighted to say my mixed media collage piece "I don't really know now, what I thought I knew then" was one of six pieces selected as part of the 'Fantasy' theme. My work will be exhibited as part of Grayson Perry's exhibition, in a London gallery, once we return to normality.

Aside from being an Art Teacher, I'm also part of an Artist group, Gilkes Street Artists, based on Teesside and I exhibit my work regularly with them. I also have a solo exhibition coming up at Crown StreetGgallery (Darlington Library) in early 2021, but being a massive fan of Grayson Perry (even naming my dog after him!), I am most excited about this opportunity. Never did I think a pandemic would lead to my work being in a London gallery! Leanne Jackson





PLEASE support us through these unprecedented times.

We are following all government guidelines
and allowing for social distancing to take place.

# Successful Drive In Event at ROF59



ROF59 Activity Centre opened their gates to Aycliffe Radio's first 'Drive In' event, also believed to be the first in the North East, on Friday 3rd July. Over 50 cars attended, with the occupants enjoying a fantastic night of 90s and 00s dance anthems played by DJs Nathan Abbott and Kev Spencer, with singers Amy Stevens and Jess Wilko performing a few classic dance tracks.

All cars were socially distanced, with on site sanitiser station, toilet facilities and refreshments provided by ROF59. Aycliffe Radio are planning more 'Drive In' events at ROF59, including a Punk Rock Drive In on Saturday 18th July (5-10pm £20 a car) and a Drive In Ibiza House Party on Saturday 25th July (7-10pm £10 a car), see page 7 for more information.

Tickets for all events are available via www.skiddle.com - more information is available on the Aycliffe Radio website events page www.ayclifferadio.co.uk

Aycliffe Radio would like to record their thanks to all those who volunteered to help on the evening, including presenters and singers, who all gave their time free of charge, as the 'Drive In' events are all in aid of local charities.

Photography by Pink Fairy Captures





· Background music, no live entertainment (yet)

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# **Arthur Invites Queen** to his Birthday Party

Arthur saw on the news that the queen could not have her 'birthday' properly because of the 'Konono' Virus (Arthur's terminology) and that she could not have the cannons fired in her honour.

Without any comments from his parents or me, he went upstairs for an hour or so and came down with a pretty good drawing showing a guardsman at attention next to a cannon and a cannonball being fired, together with flames etc., and, of course, a loud 'BANG', with a castle in the background. Wishing a 'happy birthday' to the Queen on the top, with a lot of different colours. He then presented the drawing and asked for the Queens' house address? The picture was duly posted to Buckingham Palace, together with a covering letter to the Queen from Arthur expressing his sadness that she could

Also in the letter, Arthur invited the Queen to his birthday party, which will be in November, to meet his friends and play games, and that she would have a good time and not be sad.

not have a birthday party.



So who knows she may just turn up! Last week a letter of thanks from Windsor Castle was received, expressing the Queen's thanks and gratitude for such a 'grand'



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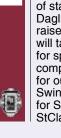
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## **Brave the Shave**



On Tuesday 14th July at 2.30pm a member of staff from St Clare's Care Home, Sharon Daglish, will be having her head shaved to raise money for our residents funds. This will take place in our garden, we are looking for sponsors and donations for Sharon to complete the task and help with the funds for our residents. Please contact Denise Swinburne, the Well Being Coordinator for St Clare's, 01325 315671 or email StClaresCourt.Wellbeing@hc-one.co.uk





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Page 4 Newton News

# **READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS**



My 11 year old daughter, Faith Grant, took the above photo in our garden. Thank you, John Grant. Send your photos to paul@newtonnews.co.uk



Crafter's Companion Welcomes New TV Presenter

Crafter's Companion is welcoming a second presenter to its Crafter's TV digital network. Derek Marks will join Joe Remblance as a lead presenter to oversee the craft company's schedule of shows on Crafter's TV.

Derek's new role will involve familiarising himself with Crafter's Companion's catalogue of craft products, guiding his craft expert co-stars and viewers through each programme, driving the social conversation and interacting with the audience live on air.

Prior to his role at Crafter's Companion, Derek has more than 15 years' experience in the TV shopping industry and has presented products across a multitude of industries including cruise holidays, cut diamonds, household products, fashion and more. He has worked for channels including Ideal World, JML, Hochanda, Sewing Quarter and Jewellery Maker. Currently, Crafter's TV produces 13 regular shows, in addition to one-off specials, with its eleven craft presenters and presenter Joe Remblance. The shows present product launches, inspirational projects, demonstrations, giveaways and special live offers.

Sara Davies, founder and creative director, said: "I think that people have found the ability to tune in, engage in conversation, get inspired and craft along with other crafters to be really useful and comforting, and as a result, Crafter's TV has grown significantly. We've just increased our programming to a seven-day schedule, so Derek is joining at a perfect time where he can help to support us with that transition.

"Derek has a wealth of experience in broadcast media and we are really lucky that he has chosen to join our team at this exciting time. I'm really looking forward to working with him and seeing him in action!"

Derek currently lives in North Yorkshire with his partner and two Tonkinese cats. He enjoys water-colouring and also has a passion for gardening, and exploring his North Yorkshire surroundings through long walks.

Derek said: "I'm joining Crafter's TV after a few years of TV, learning from inspiring guests and experts, and I've surprised myself at how many techniques I have picked up throughout the years, whether it's been jewellery making or knowing what to look for in fabrics. After experiencing how much of an impact and sense of wellbeing creating and crafting can have, I'm so excited to immerse myself into the world of craft and the challenge that that might bring.

"I wanted to join Crafter's Companion because I love the energy and already feel connected to the team. I love down to earth people with genuine passion and these things ooze from every pore at this company. I can't wait to work alongside the Crafter's TV gang and I am excited to meet all of the creative viewers at home."





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# Got Symptoms? Get Tested

Do not leave home if you or anyone in your household has symptoms

Together we can keep our communities safe





Page 6 **Newton News** 



A successful musical theatre group has produced a compilation of lockdown classics to help support the National Health Service. Darlington Operatic Society has released a CD called "Strictly Lockdown" - comprising 18 musical theatre songs - with 50 per cent of the profits being donated to the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust's Charity.

All of the songs have been created by members singing in isolation from their spare bedrooms, under-stair cupboards, bathrooms and conservatories during the period of lockdown due to the Covid 19

The result is around 80 minutes of "virtual musical theatre magic", with the CD on sale now.

DarlingtonOS spokesman, Julian Cound, said: "I'm so happy to be able to say the CD is on sale now as it has been such a challenging project over the past three months.

"The idea of creating a compilation CD came fairly soon after the lockdown happened. It has taken many weeks of planning and organisation to get the CD on sale."

The process involved choosing the right mix of songs, arranging backing tracks, as well as making sure the project meets all legal requirements.

"Over 40 members have submitted individual vocal tracks to be used on the CD which contains a mix of duets, small groups and full company numbers. This would be challenging enough in a recording studio but to create a CD of this quality in isolation has required a fantastic effort from everyone involved."

"The CD is full of songs from the best loved musicals including Wicked, Les Miserables, Miss Saigon, Sister Act, Hairspray and many more."

Commenting, Pat Chambers, charity manager at County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, said, "We're enormously grateful to Darlington Operatic Society for sharing the profits from sales with us. The volunteers who run our hospital radio are also looking forward to playing the CD. Donations are used to fund a variety of projects to enhance the experience of both patients and staff and are much appreciated."

As well as supporting the NHS, sales of Strictly Lockdown will also help DOS through a difficult period until it can resume staging its high quality shows at the Hippodrome.

The CD is priced at just £10 plus p&p and is available to buy now through the DarlingtonOS website www.darlingtonos.org.uk

# **Government Launches** Second Phase of the **Independent Review into Misuse of Drugs**

The second part of a major review by Professor Dame Carol Black into the misuse of illegal drugs in England has been launched, the Government has announced.

Building on an initial phase commissioned by the Home Office, the next stage of the review will focus on treatment, recovery and prevention, with an overarching aim of ensuring vulnerable people with substance misuse problems get the support they need to recover and turn their lives around in the community and in prison.

The review will consider how treatment services can enable people with a drug dependency to achieve and sustain their recovery spanning a wide range of services they may interact with across mental health, housing, employment, and the criminal justice system. Professor Dame Carol Black has been appointed to lead the review following her initial report commissioned by the Home Office, which looked at the challenges around drug supply and demand. It found drug deaths are at an all-time high, the market has become much more violent and drugs are costing society billions of pounds every

As part of the next phase of the review Dame Carol has launched a call for evidence and will engage with a wide range of stakeholders, including hearing from service users and people with lived experience of drug addiction to build a detailed picture of treatment, recovery and prevention.

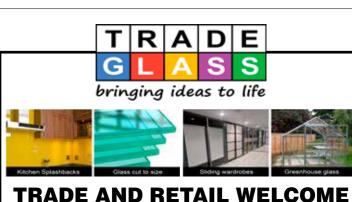
Dame Carol will be provided with expert support from Dr. Ed Day, an NHS substance misuse consultant and Government drug recovery champion, and Dr. Keith Humphreys, a US academic and former drug policy advisor to President Obama with substantial expertise in this field and an international perspective.

Dame Carol is expected to submit initial recommendations in September and her final report in December this year.

The terms of reference for the review and call for evidence will be live on gov.uk in due course. The call for evidence will close on Thursday 30 July.

The Government is already responding to Dame Carol's findings with further investment to significantly increase the law enforcement response to county lines and the recruitment of 20,000 extra police officers over the next three years.

The Government has pledged to address the complex challenges caused by drug misuse, with a cross-government addiction strategy due to be published in early 2021.



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# PICK & COLLECT LIBRARY SERVICE

Bookworms in County Durham will be able to take advantage of a book collection service from next week.

Durham County Council is introducing the 'pick and collect' service to help library users access its book collection while its libraries remain closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Libraries across the country were forced to close in March in response to Government guidance on preventing the spread of coronavirus. During the past three months, library users in County Durham have been able to access online services, but from Monday, 6 July, they will also be able to borrow books for the first time since lockdown restrictions were introduced.

The pick and collect service will allow members of the public to order up to three titles online or over the phone. They will then be contacted by the library service, using their registered number, to arrange a collection slot when they will be able to pick up their chosen books from a participating library.

The Pick and Collect service will initially be available at libraries in Barnard Castle, Chester-le- Street, Consett, Crook, **Newton Aycliffe**, Peterlee and Seaham as well as Belmont, in Durham, and Woodhouse Close, in Bishop Auckland. Anyone can use the service, regardless of where in the county they live or which library they normally visit.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 10.00am to 4.00pm Saturday: 9.30am to 12.30pm

These libraries have been chosen as they are busy libraries, which also offer sufficient space to provide the essential elements of the pick and collect service. This includes space for visitors to queue safely prior to entry and for a quarantine area to be created for returned books. This also allows scope for the service to be adapted before it is rolled out to some other sites.

The chosen sites also offer a good geographical spread of locations around the county. The libraries will not be open for browsing and all other library services, including access to public computers, will remain suspended for the time being.



The council will continue to provide its temporary Doorstep Book Delivery service, which was introduced during the lockdown period to provide books for isolated and vulnerable Books on Wheels library users.

An extended digital offer including more eBooks, eMagazines and eAudiobook titles and free access to research tool Ancestry, has proved popular with library users over the past couple of months, and will remain available alongside other online resources and digital storytelling.

More than 7,000 people have visited the Libraries Online web page since the start of April, while more than 3,000 people have viewed online storytelling sessions during the same period.

The council is planning to roll out the pick and collect to more sites in the coming weeks and it is also hoping to provide access to public computer facilities at a small number of sites in the near future. Pick and collect is available via Library Online service or by calling one of the participating libraries.

Library collection slots and telephone assistance times may differ at each library and will not be in line with their former opening hours. Anyone can become a member of the library service by visiting Library Online or calling one of the participating libraries. For more information, including contact details for participating libraries, visit www.durham.gov.uk/pickandcollect, or follow the library service's Facebook or Twitter accounts.





Toilets & Sanitiser Station on site

Page 8 Newton News

# CIIr. CLARE ON THE BALL

Dear Sir,

In the recent Woodham by-election, the LibDem candidate, Michael Stead, campaigned on a platform that Labour was 'neglecting' the ward.

Sedgefield Constituency Labour Party was distressed by this campaign because the only Labour county councillor in Aycliffe North – Cllr John D Clare – is an exceptionally hard-working councillor.

(1) IN MARCH, THEREFORE, the CLP put a Freedom of Information Request to Durham County Council which returned that, since the elections in 2017, Cllr Clare had submitted 463 service requests reporting issues in the ward ... compared to just 20 submitted by his two Conservative county councillor colleagues together.

(2) LOOKING FURTHER, AT THE

COUNCIL MEETINGS the three councillors had attended, we found that, in the period May-December 2019:

- Conservative Cllr Scott Durham attended 3 out of a possible 15 scheduled meetings (20%),
- Conservative Cllr Paul Howell attended 8 out 13 (61%),
- Cllr Clare attended all 17 of his scheduled meetings, and also 8 extra committee meetings (147%).

(3) FINALLY, CÓRONAVIRUS HAS CHANGED COUNCIL SERVICES, so last week we submitted another FoI request, asking how many service requests the councillors had submitted in the period March-June 2020 – i.e. during the lockdown. The figures returned were:

• Cllr Clare: 86

- Cllr Durham: 0
- Cllr Howell: 0
- Cllr Stead: 0

This shows that – whilst the other councillors stopped reporting problems – Cllr Clare's workrate increased during the lockdown. Sedgefield CLP believes that these figures prove that Labour and Cllr Clare have been working hard for Aycliffe North & Middridge ward.

Sedgefield CLP Campaigns Team



# Cash Boost for Proposed History Centre

A project to create a history centre for County Durham has been given a £150,000 boost.

Durham County Council submitted a planning application last month to restore and refurbish the Grade II-listed Mount Oswald Manor as a home for the county's archive, heritage and registration services. Now the authority has been told it has been successful in applying for a grant from the Wolfson Foundation to help create an exhibition space within the centre, should planning permission be approved. An inspiring and engaging exhibition programme is a key part of the proposed history centre development and the money will help make this possible.

In addition to the county's archives, which are currently accessed more than one million times a year, the centre would house historic registration records, historic environment and archaeology records and local studies collections.

The Durham Light Infantry (DLI) Collection would also be included, bringing together all items from the collection with DLI archives cared for by Durham County Record Office, for the first time since 1998.

The project would also see the relocation from Aykley Heads of Durham Register Office, offering enhanced facilities for weddings and civil ceremonies in the historic surroundings of the manor house.



The application for Durham History Centre has been submitted by Durham County Council and, if it is approved, the ownership of the Manor House and surrounding land will be transferred by owners, The Banks Group, to the county council for a nominal fee to secure its future use and benefit for the people of County Durham.

It is hoped that construction can begin in 2021, with the centre opening to the public in 2023.

Copies of the applications and plan(s) are available on the council's website at www. durham.gov.uk. Comments can be submitted online, submitted by e-mail to planning@durham.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Development, Room 4/86-102, County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UL during the public consultation period.



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# **Rotary Newton Aycliffe Handover Night on Zoom**



Night took place on Tuesday 7th July, on Zoom of course. Jean Thompson stepped down as President and passed the chain of office to Trish Pemberton. Thanks for a great year Jean, and good luck Trish for the year to come. Earlier in the day, Senior Vice President, Gary Blenkinsopp, delivered flowers to both Jean and Trish. Margaret Fenwick was honoured to receive from Jean, the annual President's tribute, the Syd Howarth Award, for services to our club and Rotary International, flowers and chocolates too. Margaret said that, "when Syd realised his health was failing, he began the mentoring process, so that I could take up the PR function for the club. His last piece of advice was to always maintain the image of the club in the public domain".

Rotary Handover





# **HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?**

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

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## Weekly Programme Schedule

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#### Classic "Love Songs" Sun-Thurs 12 to 3am, Fri & Sat 2-4am

#### Updates from MP Paul Howell at 12noon daily

#### SATURDAY

9-10am Eurovision Show Simon Harding 10-12am Moderation lack & Garvey Kitchen Floorfillers 12-2pm Caz Bolangles 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 Jim(Jams 8-9pm Rock the House Carl Booth 9-10pm Retro Trance Mix DZ-DJ 10-12am Street 'n' Drum 'n' Bass ME Supa 12-2am Night Club Session

#### SUNDAY

9-10am Church Service Xcel Centre Yesterdays Music Today Alan Brown 10-11am 11-12pm Random Reiki Master Phil Hawkins Country & Americana Show 12-2pm David Ringer

#### Blues Show Sponsored by Whitehouse Funeral Service

Colin & Monica 2-40m Bear Blues Show 4-6pm Folk/Celtic/Rock Show Steve & Cal 6-7.30pm Jazz Time Mike Dixon 9-10pm The Rock Show ГАП Paul Kjenstad 10-12am Paul's Down Time

#### MONDAY to FRIDAY DAILY

Paul Baker 10-12am Golden Years 12-1om Richard Smith A to Z of Pop 1-2pm Memory Lane Gary Avery 2-4pm Afternoon Aycliffe Paul Baker

#### MONDAY

6-7pm 60s Show Karl Simons 7-8pm 70s Show Peter Rush 8-9pm 80s Show Gary Avery 9-10pm 90s Shaw Paul Baker 10-11pm 00s Show Producer Dan 11-12am Teens Show Andy Fittes

#### TUESDAY

6-7pm Mystery Year 7.30-9.30pm Northern & Classic Soul

#### WEDNESDAY

6-7.30pm Joey's Jukebax Alternative Aycliffe 8-10pm

#### THURSDAY 6-8pm

6-8pm

The List 8-10pm BeatRoote FRIDAY

#### Techno Trance Mix

17th July - Nathan Abbott '90s Classix' 8-10pm

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www.ayclifferadio.co.uk - Free App (all formats) Tunein - Radios Online - Internet Radio - Alexa UK Online Radio - Radio Garden - Online Radio Box Streema - StreamFinder - Deezer



Page 10 **Newton News** 

# **Writers Wanted**



If there is one thing the recent coronavirus pandemic has proved to us all it is this: life is precious. One day you can be fit and healthy, the next on a ventilator fighting for breath. It has a been a horrible, frightening lesson for us all.

Part of this lesson has been an increased awareness about protecting ourselves. This is what led to the lockdown, the social isolating, the constant handwashing. And understandably, that protection has also extended to an increase in people drawing

Here at Will Aid, the charity will-writing campaign, we encourage people to prepare this vital piece of paperwork to ensure their wishes are met and their loved ones are protected. Will Aid works by linking people who want wills with participating solicitors around the UK. Every November these solicitors give up a proportion of their time and instead of taking a fee, ask clients to make a voluntary donation to Will Aid instead - the money raised is then split between the nine Will Aid charities.

This year we are expecting an unprecedented interest in this service and hopefully, come November, we will all be back at work. However, to meet this demand we need more solicitors to sign up and take part, every year we have more demand that participating firms can meet.

I am therefore writing to you to ask for your help appealing for more solicitors to join us this year. It also benefits the solicitors involved who expand their business network, receive a PR boost and tick their pro bono boxes.

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WILD BIRD APPEAL
In order to help the wild bird population over the winter months, we are appealing for donations of fat balls, peanuts and bird seed.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} $CAT\ FOOD\ APPEAL$ \\ We are in need off wet cat food, kitten food and cat litter to support the animals currently in our care. \\ \end{tabular}$ 

#### DROP OFF POINTS

Any of the above items can be dropped off at Tesco's, Julie's Pet Shop or Grannies Choice - thank you for your support.

Please contact 01325 321855 or 01325 311215

**Climate Musts** 

Dear Sir, The other day, on Facebook, I noticed a photo of a man with a huge, terrifying-looking fish. This species, the caption told us, devastates all life in its surroundings, then moves on to destroy new habitats.



the photo was a fish with big teeth. The point was well-made. Whatever you think of 'climate change', it is hard to deny the evidence that we are destroying our environment to the point where shortly it will no longer be able to sustain us as a species. People scorn the idea that we can change our climate ... but the truth is that the bit of the atmosphere that matters - the troposphere 0 is 12 miles at its thickest (less than the drive to Durham) and only 4 miles at the poles. And in the last two centuries we have burned and pumped into it, in the form

you think ... and we are busily creating our own extinction level event. Are animals aware of their existence as a species? Are bees, polar bears and the 5,000 species on the critically endangered list worrying that before long they may be lost from the earth forever? Personally, I

of fossil fuels, 400 million years-worth of

carbon capture. Nature is more fragile than

Only humankind, I would suggest, has the mental capacity to contemplate the horror of the wiping out of humanity from the earth ... at its own hand.

suspect not.

And yet, still we blunder blindly onwards, with an international social and economic complex which is currently hurtling us towards our own, totally-avoidable, extinction.

We must not allow the ending of lockdown to become about getting back to where we were - 'the old normal'. It must not resolve simply into restoring homelessness, foodbanks, discrimination, lack of opportunity, incomprehensible inequalities of wealth and health ... and a return to the ravaging of our planet.

As we emerge from coronavirus, we must individually take steps to reduce our personal carbon footprint; we must encourage Durham County Council to stick to its Climate Action Plan; we must lobby our MPs to insist that the government continues to act on its promise to nudge our recovering national economy towards a greener, circular model: and we must set an example which challenges the world to follow suit. John D Clare

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# **RNIB Bookshare** Reaches Half a **Million Books** in Accessible **Formats**

An accessible book service from the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) is celebrating reaching half a million books. RNIB Bookshare, which supports printdisabled learners, has a vast UK education collection that provides textbooks and materials to support the UK curriculum from early years to adult education. The free service, which can be accessed by teachers, students and now parents in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, has a range of accessible formats so books can be read electronically or adapted to suit personal reading needs. Books for leisure reading are also available.

RNIB Bookshare has publications from 850 publishers including well-known names such as Taylor & Francis, Springer Nature, Harper Collins and Penguin. Some of these publishers have a direct feed, meaning they can upload new and existing material directly on to the system, so people are able to access what they need without any delay. RNIB Director of Services David Clarke said: "With the rise in home schooling as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, RNIB Bookshare has become even more essential. We are delighted that the service now has 500,000 books giving millions of people the opportunity to literally open up their education with access to materials that allow for an entirely independent learning experience."

Springer Nature is a key contributor to RNIB Bookshare with approximately 83,000 books on the platform. Publishing & Licensing Manager at Macmillan Education, Eleanor Ricketts, said: "At Springer Nature we want to make sure that everyone can make use of our content, so we work with the RNIB's Bookshare programme to provide materials in a variety of accessible formats, opening up learning to those with a print-disability. The RNIB Bookshare service was established in 2016 to help tackle the worldwide book famine, which sees less than 10 per cent of published works being made into accessible formats, such as braille, large print or audio. To sign up to RNIB Bookshare, or for more information on the service, please visit www.rnibbookshare.org **Fundraising appeal** 

RNIB has launched an urgent coronavirus appeal to support over two million blind and partially sighted people through the coronavirus crisis. Many are telling us that they face being cut off by lockdown, as the Government has not included people with sight loss on its list of those most vulnerable. If you'd like to find out more how you can help to provide vital advice and support through this difficult time, call RNIB's Helpline on 0303 123 9999 or email helpline@rnib.org.uk



Young people across County Durham have been recognised for their commitment to their communities.

More than 1,500 youngsters from across the county signed up to The Duke of Edinburgh's Award between April 2019 and 31 March this year.

Between them, they gave almost 15,000 hours of their time to the award – volunteering within their community, learning new skills and taking part in expeditions. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award has since contacted Durham County Council to recognise such an achievement, with young people in County Durham offering the largest

number of hours of any authority in the North Fast.

The social value of the time given to communities in the county amounts to more than £64,000.

Cllr Olwyn Gunn, Cabinet member for children and young people's services, said: "We were delighted to hear from the Duke of Edinburgh's Award about the commitment and success of our young people. They are a real credit to the county.

"Not only have they achieved so much personally in the last year, but their time and effort has made a huge difference to so many communities. The fact that they've also been so generous with how much time they're willing to commit reflects the potential our young people have too.

"While there is a lot of uncertainty at the minute as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, I'm sure that it won't be long before more communities are benefitting from this programme and the county's young people; and we all look forward to sharing more of their successes."

Ruth Collins, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award operations manager for the north of England, said: "We are delighted that so many people from County Durham are showing their determination and commitment to their communities. We're privileged to be able to help them in their journey to becoming the very best version of themselves they can be."





After reading the latest issue of the Newton News I thought I'd send you my own garden revamp project.

This project was my own handy work with the help of my wife, Heather and daughter, Hannah. I started it three weeks into lockdown and since completion we have had many BBQ's and garden drinks, social distancing with our lovely neighbours, we even cooked on separate BBQ's to be safe. We named it, "The Stay Inn" Martin Fenwick

ED: Send your lockdown project details to paul@newtonnews.co.uk









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Page 12 Newton News



Greenfield Arts are delighted to be able to start to re-connect with their Cree group. The group are planning to meet online with Creative Director, Katy, and the Greenfield Arts team, to share and explore ideas and keep in touch in creative ways.

This season, in a time of change, Greenfield Arts are looking at new perspectives and new possibilities. The group are looking forward to working with artists and creatives in the near future including Bethan Maddocks, who is artist in residence at Greenfield Arts, during our 20th birthday year.

Bethan is a visual artist who has created ephemeral installations that engage audiences and often works with paper and paper structures to explore ideas. Greenfield Arts are looking forward to working with Cree and with individuals and groups in the community to create an exciting end of year exhibition. The team are busy producing creative packs to be shared to all involved in the activities, also reaching those who are not able to participate online.

Cree are a group of male volunteers who work on a variety of projects that often benefit the wider community and are a creative contribution to their own wellbeing and we are looking forward to working with them in this creative project.

"It is lovely that we can keep in touch and continue our creative conversations", said the Greenfield Arts team.

If you would like to know more about Greenfield Arts, please visit our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk where you can find out more or sign up to our monthly newsletter. You can follow us @ GreenfieldArts or email our friendly team info@greenfield-arts.co.uk



# Lox of Love Ready to Welcome Customers to New-Look Salon

Hair salon Lox of Love is primed and ready to welcome 450 clients a month to their new-look, Covid-ready, salon in Newton Aycliffe. The hair extension specialists and stylists have been busy making their salon on Aycliffe Business Park fully safe and ready to welcome clients after a near four-month lay-off.

Lox of Love staff have undergone a series of online training sessions to understand safe working practises for hair stylists. And the management team at Lox of Love have drawn up a new working schedule, with their staff split into two teams of five working different shift patterns.

It means the salon will be open longer – 12 hours a day from 8am to 8pm Monday to Saturday and 12-4pm Sundays – with each member of the team limited to seeing four customers a day.

Managing Director, Victoria Mavin, says a lot of time has gone into planning a return to operations, with safety for staff and customers paramount. "It has been a challenging time for everyone, but we're all keen to get back to some sort of normality," said Victoria, who launched the firm eight years ago. Our team have been brilliant, they've all been keen to learn new safety measures and have all completed Covid-19 courses through the Virtual College, as well as learning more about the use of Barbicide, which is a widely-used safety product in the hair styling industry. We've also spent a lot of time preparing the salon, buying lots more equipment, so that each service begins with clean, sanitised equipment, and making sure it's a safe environment for everyone."

Hair salons have been one of the worst hit industries during the pandemic, along with bars and most restaurants. Victoria added, "Because what we do is so personal, we can't style people's hair without touching them, so we've had to wait patiently until government guidance has allowed us to reopen. But, ultimately, the safety of people is our priority, and we're delighted that we can now finally reopen and operate safely for everyone.

"We have 1200 clients on our books for our Aycliffe salon alone, so you can appreciate we have a lot of customers keen to come in to get their hair done. We're looking forward to seeing them all return in time, in what is a very different salon to what it was four months ago. And, of course, we really appreciate their patience as we try to accommodate everyone's requirements in unusual circumstances." Lox of Love's Aycliffe salon is fully booked throughout July and into the first week of August, with bookings being taken for August and September.

To book or make an enquiry with Lox of Love, call them on 01325 327362, or for more details go to www.loxoflove.co.uk

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# Q.E. VOLUNTEERING AWARDS 2020

**Team of the Year** – The Interact Club are named Team of the Year for their outstanding work in the community, particularly during lockdown.

#### Sport Volunteer of the Year

- This year's winner is Damian
Lawson, (featured photo), for his
contributions to sport, inside and
outside of College. At College,
Damian is the captain of the men's
second football team and is part
of the Higher Sports Leadership
Award. Outside of College, Damian
coaches and manages Newton
Aycliffe's Under 7's football team.

**Good Egg** – Nat Moxon-McEwan is awarded the Good Egg Award for his contribution to the Sport

Department (Open evenings, Higher

Sports Leadership Award etc.) and his many hours of volunteering. **Fundraising and Charities Award** – Abdullah Alazzawi wins the Fundraising and Charities Award for his volunteering work in the palliative care department at St. Teresa's Hospice.

**Contributions to Art and Culture** – Meg McWilliam receives the Contributions to Art and Culture Award for her work with Darlington Operatic Society.

#### **Sharon Watterson Award for Contribution to the Community**

The final award is in memory of Sharon Watterson who worked tirelessly for her community. The winners are the Interact Club who have worked with countless organisations and charities over the last year and who have made a huge difference to the local community.
 I Helped Make it Happen – A look back at all of the volunteering carried out by QE students this past year.

# **Greenfield on Facebook**



Greenfield Community College have launched a brand new Facebook page to reach their community and provide valuable communications. The page, launched recently, has already attracted 14,000 hits as followers have enjoyed the infamous Year 11 leavers video. The video is an eagerly anticipated annual event that has laughter ringing out throughout the school. It is wonderful that this has been able to be shared online by so many followers bringing back many memories and experiences.

Facebook will be a valuable way to reach the community and share information about Greenfield Community College, adding to other platforms and publications such as the school website, twitter, the school gateway app and The Achiever newsletter publications. The class of 2020 will remember their leavers experience in many ways and will have further chances to share their experiences in the future. The video is a snapshot of the very important journey students have made so far and we wish them every luck for their future. If you would like to view the leavers video and the Facebook page in general please visit https://www.facebook.com/GreenfieldCommunityCollege



Page 14 Newton News



Last week started on Wednesday with a briefing on E scooters and their potential introduction. These are being trialled by the Tees Valley Combined Authority, initially in Middlesbrough and Darlington, and I listened to representations promoting the need for insurance cover. Later the same day I was present at the 1922 Committee where Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Transport, updated us on his latest plans. It is a tradition of the 1922 that these discussions are private. For those not aware, the 1922 is a Committee that consists of all of the Conservative back bench MPs.

On Thursday I attended the BEIS Select Committee where we started our discussions regarding the governments Net Zero policy and the Climate Change summits with representatives from the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) and the Climate Assembly. It was very interesting and insightful to see how the Climate Assembly and work could inform future iterations of work by the CCC.

After travelling home late on Thursday night I was happy to be Constituency based and more local from Friday through to Sunday where work included a visit to Trimdon Village regarding safety concerns at a junction, a discussion with the NFU, talks about 6th Form Education and discussions with MasterCard on their place and responsibilities in helping financial literacy. I also spent more time in my new Constituency office with my Constituency Staff, Rachel and David, who are very pleased to now have a base instead of working solidly from home. At the moment, due to work still to be carried out in the office and Covid restrictions, they are not yet there every day all day, but as restrictions lift they will be. They also had me pitch in rearranging and assembling furniture so kept me busy in many ways! Some of the more pleasurable events of my weekend included a call in to the new Aviator Gin Bar at Hanger 18 on Northfield Way on Saturday where they have just started trading. The bar looks fabulous and it is well worth a visit to support a unique new local start-up. I then had my Saturday wander around the town centre, I like to take the opportunity to talk to a few of our traders to see how they are faring, especially during this unexpected challenging time. On Sunday I caught up with some admin and family time and later went to Bishop Middleham, with my wife Lilian, to join their Parish Council in their tribute clap for the NHS's 72nd birthday. The village has come together and constructed a pebble NHS tribute as a solid reminder of their appreciation for our Health workers and it was an honour to join them beside it on the Green.

Monday saw me back to London, but this time I flew from Teesside supporting the inaugural flight to London City Airport. It is over a decade since there was a connection to the capital from Teesside International Airport and I commend all the hard work of our Tees Valley Mayor Ben Houchen's office have done to bring this back to our region. This connection is excellent for our local business leaders to be able to commute efficiently, on a daily basis if necessary, at a cost that is almost identical to my normal super saver return train fare. A major piece of legislation that passed early this week was the Domestic Abuse Bill which will take really important and significant steps to help and empower victims of domestic abuse and I was delighted to support this through the House.

As our bars and restaurants open, and we have more chance to enjoy ourselves, I would encourage you to support these businesses that have had a torrid time but please, can I remind you to stay safe and socially distance as much as possible. Remember, you should see the 1m plus guidelines as a minimum advisory and not necessarily the norm.

Have a great week and please remember our Key Workers, they have been the backbone of our Covid response and they continue to deserve our thanks and respect.

Stay safe and look after each other, Paul Howell MP

# Durham Prison Chaplain Featured in First Cofe National Prison Service



The Revd Sarah Parkinson, The Anglican Chaplain at HM Prison Low Newton in Durham, will feature in the first service to be recorded in prison and broadcast this weekend by the Church of England.

Recorded at three sites – Stocken prison in Rutland, Low Newton in Durham and Pentonville in London, the service, with the theme of hope, was broadcast on Sunday 5th July.

It included contributions from prison staff and chaplains, along with prayers, reflections and artwork written and created by prisoners. The service was led by Revd Helen Dearnley, Anglican chaplaincy adviser for HM Prison and Probation Service.

It was broadcast from 9 am on prison TV and radio as well as on the Church's website, Facebook page and on YouTube.

Revd Sarah Parkinson, chaplain at HM Prison Low Newton, a closed prison for female adults and young offenders, read prayers written by prisoners in a contribution recorded from the chapel of the prison. Sarah said: "It was a delight to be involved and to have the spotlight on prisons in this way. It's wonderful to hear the prayers of our residents included in the service. There is a thriving church community here at Low Newton and those who wrote the prayers took a lot of time and care over them. It's great that they can be part of the national service".

The Venerable Bob Cooper, Archdeacon of Sunderland, said: "The Church of England has chaplains within the whole of the prison service. All chaplains are valued by Her Majesty's Prison Service and by The Church, and we particularly thank all of them working within the Diocese of Durham for their important local work. "Our prayers are with chaplains, inmates and their families. A particular thank-you today goes to The Revd Sarah Parkinson and her colleagues at HM Prison Low Newton prison, may God's blessing be upon them as we share worship together."





**Contact:** 

paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk Telephone: 020 7219 6385 Mobile: 07464 898442





Newton Aycliffe Rugby Club are pleased to announce that David Gibson has agreed to be part of the coaching team for the foreseeable future. He joins with head coach Bob Malvern and Chris Evans at a surreal period in the club's history. The current situation created by the covid-19 pandemic has no doubt caused uncertainty but, as the government begins the process of relaxing lockdown rules slowly, the club will adhere to the RFU guidelines in the coming weeks and months in terms of preparing for the 2020/21 season.

David has been a player at Aycliffe since he was 16. He has witnessed the club go through both good and bad patches. Over the years he has become an accomplished player. He has enjoyed many seasons, mainly in the back line, as centre and chiefly as fly half. During the last few years, he has enjoyed mixing it with the forwards playing in the back row several times. David has spread his wings over recent seasons and has played for other Durham clubs, mainly Bishop Auckland, Durham City and Medicals.

When asked what he hopes to bring to the club, David replied, "I am hoping the experiences and knowledge I have gained over the last 15 years will help the development and progression of individual players and the team. As a younger coach, who is coming to the end of my playing days, I'm hoping to add a new dimension to training and game days.'

When asked how he sees Aycliffe progressing this coming season, he replied, "This season is one we enter in uncertain times! Training has now begun, albeit under strict health and safety restrictions, we are preparing for a big season for the club. This season will be one of the toughest Aycliffe has faced in the last few years, the standard of opposition in the Durham and Northumberland division 3 is high, but I have set myself a target of finishing in the top 4. This is something I feel is achievable, it will take a lot of hard work and commitment, but we can do it!" Aycliffe Rugby Club wish David every success in his new venture. Aycliffe continue to seek new players whether experienced or not. They hope to revive the men's 2nd XV The Newtonians, to add strength and depth to the club profile. Anybody in Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding area who wants to join the club and become a player please contact head coach Bob Malvern mobile 07398 167461. The coaching team are currently restricted to pre- season training guidelines and are training in grids in multiple groups of 6. All measures of safety are put in place. Club house facilities are currently closed during the week. However, Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, the home of Aycliffe Rugby, are open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The bar staff operate a very safe environment where people can relax and drink with friends as well as watch live sports on the big screens. Check their Facebook site for current details.

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# Memories of Jobbing Journalist, Mike Amos

Veteran North-East journalist Mike Amos has published a 390-page autobiography, Unconsidered Trifles, embracing 55 years in the inky trade and with many stories of Newton Aycliffe and its environs.

They range from the great snowstorm of 1979 – over the first weekend of British Summer Time – to an eye-opening more recent visit to the Big Club and recall Great Aycliffe characters like local councillor Tony Moore, domino player Norman Kent, North Briton pub landlord Allan Edgar and Jim Whitton, his pies still savoured in the mind of many older residents.

Mike also remains friends with former Newton Aycliffe police inspector Gordon

Bacon, appointed OBE in 1998 for helping lead the relief effort in war-torn Bosnia. Gordon swore that he'd been sustained by canned English beer.

"I don't know who invented the widget, but if it was a woman I want to marry her," he said.

Norman Kent, who lived in Aycliffe Village, was reckoned Britain's best domino player – his membership of the Magic Circle wholly coincidental. On one occasion at the national finals in Bridlington, he'd so badly damaged his hands in an early morning fall that he had to stand his dominoes on their sides, as if playing in the kindergarten cup.

"He just overbalanced, all those double sixes in his trousers pocket," said a team mate, unsympathetically.

The great blizzard was on the weekend of March 16-18, much of the North-East cut off. After struggling to Shildon, Mike and a photographer found Middridge Bank impassable by road, begged a bed from Tony Moore – who lived in Grassholme Place – and arranged to meet him in the Southerne Club.

The press party arrived bedraggled and soaked through. Tony, as ever, was immaculate in three-piece suit with matching tie and never-blown handkerchief. Mike at once pinched it in order to wipe his spectacles. "It was the closest I ever saw," he writes, "to the admirable Councillor Moore losing his rag."

Mike Amos was born and brought up in Shildon and raised on Jones's pop and Jim's Pies. Appointed MBE in 2006 for services to journalism, he was seven times North-East Journalist of the Year between 1989-2006 and was an inaugural member of the Provincial Journalism Hall of Fame.

Unconsidered Trifles, richly anecdotal and comprehensively illustrated, costs £10 softback plus £3.20 postage and £22 hardback plus £3.80 postage. It's available via Amazon, by on-line banking – details on mikeamos81@aol.com or by sending a cheque to Mike at 8 Oakfields, Middleton Tyas, Richmond, North Yorkshire DL10 6SD.

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# Flexible Furlough | HAVE YOU | GOT NEWS | **Scheme Started**

Businesses will have the flexibility to bring furloughed employees back to work part time from 1st July as part of the government's plan to re-open the UK and kickstart our economy.

The government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) has so far helped protect more than 9.3 million jobs through the pandemic, with employers claiming more than £25.5bn to support wages.

The scheme will remain open until the end of October and will continue to support jobs and business in a measured way as people return to work, our economy reopens and the country moves to the next stage of its recovery. From 1st July, a month earlier than previously announced, employers will have the flexibility to bring furloughed employees back to work on a part time basis.

Individual firms will decide the hours and shift patterns their employees will work on their return, so that they can decide on the best approach for them - and will be responsible for paying their wages while in work.

From August, the level of government grant provided through the job retention scheme will be slowly tapered to reflect that people will be returning to work. Businesses will be asked to contribute a modest share, but crucially individuals will continue to receive that 80% of salary covering the time they are unable to work. The government has also announced that businesses who no longer need the CJRS grants they previously claimed have the option to voluntarily return them. This is in direct response to employers asking how they can return

grants voluntarily and businesses are under no obligation to do this, but should contact HMRC if they want to pay the grant back.

# FOR US?

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

Tel: Paul 01325 300212

or paul@newtonnews.co.uk

#### **Obituary**

#### Veronica (Von) Hudson

(Nee Coglan, also known as Bradley)

of Newton Aycliffe, peacefully at home with her loving family by her side on 27th June, aged 84 years. A much loved Wife of the late Robert (Bob), a dearly loved Mam to Angie, Phil and the late Paul; a treasured Gran and Granny and a dear Sister and Friend. Funeral Service to take place at St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe on Monday 13th July at 12.45pm. To be followed by Committal in Stephenson Way Cemetery.

#### **Marilyn Storey**

26th June

Marilyn (Nee Sheldon) aged 70 years, following a long illness bravely borne.

Much loved Wife of Laurance; loving Mam of Andrea, Gemma and the late Craig; Motherin-Law of Lee and Michael and treasured Nanna of Eve, James, Faye and Jack.

private family Funeral Service took place at Wear Valley Crematorium Monday 6th July.

#### DO YOU NEED A POP UP BANNER **TO PROMOTE YOUR CLUB OR ORGANISATION?**

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#### Pamela Burns 6/8/1934 - 6/7/2020

It is with great sadness we announce the loss of a wonderful Wife, Mother, Nanny, Great Nanny and friend to many.

God saw you getting tired, And a cure was not to be. So he put His arms around you, And whispered "Come to me.'

With tearful eyes we watched you, As you slowly slipped away. And though we loved you dearly, It was selfish to try and make you stay.

Your golden heart stopped beating, Your tired hands put to rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us. He only takes the best.

We will forever miss you with every passing day and the longing to see you will never go away.

Very many thanks to Dr Stephenson and all at Bewick Crescent Surgery and the district nurse team who treated Mam with the respect and dignity that she deserved.

Finally, thank you to AMU and Ward 43 DMH for all your wonderful skills, kindness, care consideration and during her stay with you. Thank you for your commitment and compassion.

Thank god for the NHS!

#### **Congratulations**



Happy 50th Birthday 12th July 2020 Love from June xx **Happy Birthday Dad** Gemma and Will Jack & Jess Kieran & Katie Grandchildren Lily, Harvey, Louie, Freddie and Tommy xxx Happy Birthday Bro From Janet & Gary xx Happy Birthday Rob Have a great weekend Paul, Bev & Family

**Denise Curtis-Haigh** 

(nee Wheadon)

#### **Rob Howarth**



**Golden Wedding Anniversary** 11th July 2020

Congratulations Mam and Dad, 50 years of wedded bliss, all our love Michelle and Chris xxx Happy 50th wedding anniversary, never a cross word or a fall out in all that time, haha, love Lee xx Congratulations Nan and Grandad, lots of love from Jack and Joe, Morgan, Callum, Georgia and Bobbi-Lea xxx

#### Sophie Bush





Happy 16th Birthday Sophster! Have a lovely day sweetheart! Love Kazlaa and Neil xx

Sweet 16. Happy Birthday Sophie! Love, Tony, Jane, Kane and Érin xx

Happy Birthday Sophie. All our love, Granny Grunt and Auntie Jane xx

Happy 16th Sophie. Enjoy your day. Much Love, Luke, Heather and Harvey xx

Happy 16th Sophie. Love from a very proud Nana and Grandad Cox xx

Sorry you're not dancing your way through your 16th Birthday Sophie! But we're sure you will have an incredible day nonetheless! Big loves your ADA family xx

Happy 16th Birthday. We are incredibly proud of the beautiful young lady you have grown up to be! 2020 hasn't gone quite how we planned but you have so much to look forward to, we can make up for it! Love you always, Dad and Laura xxx

#### THE BIG 50!! 15th July 2020

Happy birthday Denise. With all our love from Mam & Dad xxx Andrew & James xxx Andrea, Mally and Adam xxx

#### In Memoriam

#### **Margaret Eunice** Parkin

Died 21st July 2015

In secret I weep, in silence I cry, as each lonely hour and day passes by.

There's onlv thought that eases my pain, and it's knowing that we'll be together again.

God bless.

Your loving Husband Stan and family xxx

## **MRI SCANNER APPEAL**

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

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

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To discuss fundraising or for more information, ring 01325 743786 or email: cddft.charity@nhs.net
Follow us on twitter: @CDDFTCharity
Find the charity on Facebook

# Cricket Club Tribute to NHS and Key Workers



Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club have paid their own tribute to the NHS staff and key workers who have worked tirelessly to safeguard the public throughout the Coronavirus pandemic. With the Sports Club opening on 4th July, the Cricket Club have had signage mounted on the score-box expressing their gratitude. Club Chairman, Ian Palmer, said "we had an opportunity arise when the previous scorebox sponsor decided not to renew and I can think of nothing better to fill the space left. It cannot be underestimated the work that all key workers have carried out over the course of the pandemic, including some who have connections to our Club, and we felt that it was only right to recognise this".

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club would like to thank Vanila Design and Print Services, one of the Club's sponsors, who not only designed the sign but have paid all of the production and installation costs.

# £10,000 to Help Ineos Golf Club During COVID-19 Pandemic

Ineos Golf Club in Newton Aycliffe has been awarded £10,000 of National Lottery funding from Sport England's Community Emergency Fund towards to supporting the club to cover irrecoverable costs incurred by the organisation during the on-going Covid-19 pandemic.

The outbreak of the virus, and the consequent shut down of businesses as of 23rd March, has left the sport and physical activity sector facing a period of uncertainty. In response, on 31st March Sport England announced a £195M package to help the sport and physical activity sector through Covid-19. Within the package is a £20M Community Emergency Fund, of National

Lottery money to deliver immediate funding to those who have a role in supporting the nation to be active but experiencing shortterm financial hardship or the ceasing of operations due to the impact of coronavirus. The grant will allow Ineos Golf Club to cover the cost of essential work in maintaining the golf course through the lockdown period and in bringing it back up to a playing standard. Tom Hollingsworth, Sport England's Chief Executive, said: "As the body responsible for the growth of sport and physical activity participation, we want the vital grassroots organisations that make sport and physical activity happen in this county to not just come through this crisis, but be in a position to thrive again in the future. The £20M Community Emergency Fund, made possible by National Lottery players, is part of a multimillion pound package of support we are providing to ease the pressure on a huge number of organisations who are central to the nation's health and well-being". We are proud to be able to provide vital funding to Ineos Golf Club to help it through these extremely challenging times".



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