

# 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

## A Brighter Future for Town's War Memorial

See page 2 for more



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PAUL HOWELL  
MP for Sedgefield



# A Brighter Future for Town's War Memorial

A new project initiated by Newton News took fruition this week when local tradesmen donated their time and expertise to illuminate the memorial stones situated outside St. Clare's Church in time for Remembrance Sunday.

The original concept for the war memorial was pulled together by the late Syd Howarth, through the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe, and was erected for the Annual Remembrance Sunday Parade

and Service, which took place on 9th November 2008, this also marked the 60th anniversary of the founding of Newton Aycliffe. Renowned northern artist, Peter Furlonger from Gateshead, whose vision, design and skill is on permanent display for all to view, was instrumental in pulling together the stones and the carvings.

Newton News editor, Paul Howarth, recently spoke with the clergy at St Clare's, as well as several trades, to put in place an addition to the epitaph to give the memorial a brighter future.

First to offer their services was electrician, Andy Shields from EJS Electrical. Andrew visited the site, worked out how and what was required for the project including a landscaper to lift and relay the paving slabs, this service, was again, provided free of charge by TB Tarn Landscapers.

The next stage was donated by Gary Monk from UPEX Electrical Distributors, who provided all the supplies required for Andrew to complete the project.

The ground work took place on Thursday 29th October and will be lit on Sunday 1st November with a red glow to remember those who gave their lives in service to their country.

**UPEX Electrical Distributors - 01325 315315**  
(Electrical Supplies)

**EJS Electrical (Andrew Shields) - 07969 165388**  
(Electrician)

**TB Tarn Landscapers - 07970 186738**  
(Landscaper)

Without the above companies help and advice this project would not have come together and we take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank them for their donation, time and service. Rev Jeff Anderson commented "At this difficult time, when we cannot come together as a community to remember those who have given so much so that we may have the life we have today. To have these people willing to give their time, talents and energy to make this imaginative addition to a wonderful memorial, is a brilliant example of a community at work. Thank you to all who have helped."



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## Why Not Become a Pensioner Pen Pal?

Dear Sir,

As you all know, this Covid-19 virus has been going on for some time now, with no one knowing when it will end.

I am sending a plea out on behalf of all residents (and staff) in all our Care and Nursing Homes on the town. My local church has been in close contact for many months, and has brought a little light into their lives. I am now asking if there is any person reading this, if you would like to form a Friendship Group. This would entail keeping in touch with those who have no family at all, in our care homes.

You can either write a letter, send a card, just to say you are thinking of someone. The home will make sure they are given out. You can put your address on if you would like an answer, or just to keep in touch with the person who has been "chosen" for you.

This helps those feeling lonely and vulnerable in many ways by helping with their mental health, making them feel they are thought about, and generally letting them know how much our town cares for them. If you would like to put some general snippets of information in about yourself and your family, this too will be appreciated.

**Our Nursing Homes addresses are as follows:**

Rose Lodge Nursing Home, Cobbler's Hall, Newton Aycliffe

Defoe Court, Defoe Crescent, Newton Aycliffe

St. Clare's Court, Central Avenue, Newton Aycliffe

Woodham Grange, Special Needs, Burn Lane, Newton Aycliffe

Aycliffe Home, Burnhope, Newton Aycliffe

Lindisfarne Nursing Home, Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe

Bethany Nursing Home, Village Close, Newton Aycliffe.

Many thanks for even thinking about this effort for all our town's residents in Care and Nursing Homes, and please remember all the staff for the amazing effort they have all put in.

Pam Lovelass

Great Aycliffe Team Ministry



# Recognition for Aycliffe Boxing Club Coach, Les Gibson, BEM

Newton Aycliffe Boxing coach, Les Gibson, was named in this year's Honours List for the Queen's Birthday in June. He will be formally presented with his British Empire Medal in the spring of 2021 by the Lord Lieutenant of County Durham, Sue Snowden.

Les became a boxing coach in 1976 and a judge in 1979 whilst serving in the 15/19th King's Royal Hussars Army. After leaving the army, with full qualifications to coach boxing, he opened a club. Times were tough and the club equipment consisted of a skipping rope, a pair of gloves and an army kit bag and lessons were held in Greenfield School gym.

The club moved to the Youth Centre in 1988 and then to Acorn House on the business park in 2012, where they still meet today. The club is open to anyone and everyone, no matter what your race, religion or physical and mental condition and the club has boasted a raft of champions every year since opening.

Aycliffe Boxing Club hold very popular classes for kid gloves group, for children up to the age of ten; junior classes for children up to the age of 15 and youths plus an over 50s circuit training and boxercise class. All the coaches, led by Mr Gibson, are qualified through England Boxing Ltd and are DBS checked, first aid qualified and hold safeguarding children certificates. All staff are also unpaid volunteers.

The club are also able to offer personal training and extra lessons for those who cannot attend at the normal opening times. For more information please ring 01325 313855 or find more details on the Facebook page (Aycliffe Boxing Club). Newton News would like to record and congratulate Mr Les Gibson on his well deserved award.



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## Free Debt & Money Advice Service

Dear Sir,

We are pleased to announce that our free, impartial and confidential, debt and money advice service is now available through video links at Foodbank centres (details below) across County Durham.

We have been helping people with debt issues for the past ten years through face to face consultations, telephone, text, email and post. Clients can speak directly through a video link with one of our fully trained debt advisers, or simply collect information at the Foodbank centres and ask for a same-day call back.

For further information please contact the office at:

Community Money Advice County Durham  
MILE House

Bridge End

Chester le Street

County Durham, DH3 3RA

office@moneyadvisedurham.org.uk

or leave a message on 0191 303 7514 and we will call you back.

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Community Money Advice County Durham is a project run by the local charity Durham Christian Partnership and it operates as part of Advice in County Durham. Authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority and affiliated to the national charity Community Money Advice

www.communitymoneyadvice.com

## Defibrillator Project at Stage 4



### Despite delays because of Covid-19 restrictions we have now reached a major milestone!

From a point, just over three years ago, of having no 24-hour defibrillators available to the public, as can be seen from the latest map, the three new units will now link up the circle of potential lifesaving equipment. Available 24 hours a day via a 999 call they could dramatically increase chances of survival from less than 5% to 70% in the event of a cardiac arrest - IT'S A NO BRAINER!

I would like to thank all those who have contributed especially:

Philip Clark (Horndale Residents), Ken Robson (Acorn Residents), Les Gibson BEM (Boxing Club), Bernard Hume (Rugby Club), together with Roger Pounder and Valerie Wright, who have all donated with legacy money left to them by the late Honest John. Livin Housing group have installed a completely new unit which is now fitted outside 7 Silverdale Place in the western area of the town, this is being run in connection with Junction7 by Jane and Simon.

Working with Malcolm Gray of Livin Housing group they also agreed to move, and part support installation outdoors, of an existing defibrillator currently inside Simpasture Court, this unit had been donated by Honest John.

This unit will then be available to the wider Simpasture Area community and has been welcomed by Barbara Turner, who has been maintaining the existing unit as something she and many of Simpasture Courts residents wanted to do. "As an ex-nurse I know the difference this could mean to a family if it helps to save a life", said Barbara. Shelly and her staff at McColls are working with other shop owners, including Walkers Butchers, Simpasture Fisheries and the public, raising funds towards the balance of installation costs. Make sure you get a raffle ticket at McColls, there are some great prizes, and any surplus funds will be passed on to help fund the Town Centre unit.

The unit in the Town Centre will be in the centre of the shopping precinct opposite the British Heart Foundation shop. As well as the funding from the Honest John Legacy and any surplus from the Simpasture funds we have received substantial donations from: Town Centre Landlords Freshwater, Paul Howell MP, GATC Youth Committee, the Taylor Family, in memory of Daughter



Seonaid, and Sonia Scott from the MAD Choir.

In recognition of the Honest John Legacy donations, both the units at the Simpasture area and the Town Centre will carry a memorial plaque recognising his contribution.

We will, with GATC support, be carrying out Covid-19 safe public demonstrations of Basic CPR and Defibrillator use. We intend to use various locations, such as a unit in the shopping area, so watch out for dates and locations coming soon. The current situation has placed extra strain on our emergency services, by providing more defibrillators and public awareness of the basics of life saving CPR, we can help them.

This link up of outdoor units is not yet giving every area a close local connection (within a 500 yards radius) to a 24-hour unit, but we are working on the few remaining gaps. We thank Middridge Parish Council, for their forward-thinking decision taken at their last Parish meeting, to my suggestion for a unit at the two new estates Acorn Gardens and Elder Gardens. When the two estates are completed (probably late 2021 or early 2022) a unit here will provide potential lifesaving cover for many families. They have been involved since this campaign started and the unit they installed on The Bay Horse was the third in this project.

From no 24-hour units to where we are now is simply down to what we already knew - Newton Aycliffe is a great place to live and it is full of people who care.

Further information or donations please contact:

David Sutton-Lloyd, Treasurer  
Woodham Village Community Association  
woodham.community@gmail.com  
Tel: 01325 316144

### (NORTHFIELD WAY, AYCLIFFE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2020

The Council proposes to make an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 as amended, Section 14 (1) to prohibit all vehicular traffic from proceeding on Northfield Way between its junctions with Horndale Ave, Aycliffe Industrial Estate to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be undertaken. Alt route will not be available during the closure but there will be limited access to the businesses at works supervisor discretion. The maximum duration of the Order is 18 months. The proposed works are to commence from 7pm to 6am nightly on 11/11/20 and are anticipated to be completed in 7 nights. On occasions, alternative dates for closure may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly.

Dated: 30th October 2020



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

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# THE END OF A TENNIS ERA

Ian Wilkinson, one of the leading tennis coaches regionally and nationally, has announced his retirement from coaching. Many readers will be aware of Ian's teaching career at Greenfield School in Newton Aycliffe, but he has always been modest about his achievements on the tennis court. Earlier this year a special presentation evening was planned to recognise Ian's outstanding tennis career of almost 50 years as a player, coach and organiser. The onset of the pandemic unfortunately curtailed the proposed celebration, in which he was going to share his memories and anecdotes with tennis club members, and be presented with a special letter from the Lawn Tennis Association, recognising his exceptional contribution to tennis.

Ian first picked up a racquet in Shildon, when he was 12 years old, and by 14 he was playing club tennis. After entering the Durham County Juniors Tournament at Ashbrooke, Sunderland, on grass, he quickly realised he had a lot to learn. He combined his love of tennis and teaching to progress through the coaching qualifications to eventually achieve the LTA's highest level after gaining considerable experience coaching junior and senior players.

Ian specialised in developing inclusive and comprehensive tennis programmes adopted by numerous clubs and local authorities in the North East and beyond.

In 1981 he became a full time coach at one of the first indoor tennis centres in Great Britain at Teesside Airport.

In 1983 Ian was a coach at the Bjorn Borg Tennis Centre in Marbella, Spain and in 1984 he was trainer and coach at the Harry Hopman International Tennis Academy in Bologna, Italy. Returning to the north east, Ian was appointed Durham County Coach for girls and boys.

In 2008 Ian was appointed Ambassador for the Tony Blair Sports Foundation after Greenfield Juniors assisted in the launch of the Foundation.

As a player, Ian won honours at Shildon Tennis Club, Durham Archery and Tennis World. He also represented, and was captain of, Durham and Cleveland Men's County Team. In 1990, he and his partner, John Willis, qualified for the finals of Lacoste Over 35s, at the All England Tennis Club, Wimbledon, after defeating Northumberland, Yorkshire and Lancashire pairs to qualify. It is a major challenge to establish, develop and sustain a new tennis club in an area where none existed previously. In 2001, Ian worked alongside former head teacher Mike Thornton to successfully obtain funding from the LTA and Government to build a modern three court floodlit facility which became Greenfield Tennis Club as part of a community hub. The Club was launched in the same year and teams have since competed successfully in the Darlington and District League and also the Durham and Cleveland League, and an organised programme of social tennis has welcomed players of all abilities.

Ian has been very proud of the success of the Club, key factors being partnership working with local schools and support from Great Aycliffe Town Council, Durham County



Council and the LTA. This enabled the development of a tennis culture, year round, offering quality experience in an inclusive programme of activity suitable for all ages and abilities, and a number of coaches were developed within the system. We would all like to wish an enjoyable and relaxing retirement for Ian and note that his enduring flame of passion for tennis remains undiminished.

## Remembrance Day Service

A Remembrance Day Service will be held at Neville Parade Methodist Church on Sunday 8th November at 10.30am. The service will be led by Margaret Nodding. We look forward to seeing you there.

## "Like Mad, Wild Animals"

Dear Sir,

I correspond with you today to express my disgust at some of the youth of this town. On Sunday 25th October I witnessed approximately 15 youths rampaging around the town destroying council/livin property. They destroyed a for rent sign which had been erected by livin.

They were like mad, wild animals - this is the only way I can describe their behaviour. The most prominent one was wearing a white, expensive, long sleeve shirt and black trousers and had dark hair, he would be about 5' to 6' tall and would be about 15 to 16 years old.

He may have damaged his trousers on the wooden sign. Has your son arrived home with damaged black trousers?

If you know this lad or anyone else in this group of mindless idiots, please report to the police and council. The parents of these vandals could have their home taken off them, if it is council owned, due to anti-social behaviour legislation.

Something needs to be done as next time he will go further. What else has he done? He needs to be stopped, and if you are reading this young man, it is not funny by any means, life will only get worse as you grow older. My advice would be to stop it now, before you get locked up.

A Very Concerned & Saddened Pensioner.  
Name and address supplied



## CORONAVIRUS

## Got Symptoms? Get Tested

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

Together we can keep our communities safe



[www.durham.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.durham.gov.uk/coronavirus)



# Let's Stamp Out Anti Social Behaviour

Dear Sir,

As a Councillor I am frequently asked to help residents in my ward with cases of Anti Social Behaviour. Many of the cases which I hear are quite heart rending, especially when they affect the elderly or involve children. Often with remarks such as 'the police and council don't seem to care', and 'I am at the end of my tether and feel hopeless'.

This can lead to mental stress and other disorders. I have heard of people who cause this distress as persons of an alternative lifestyle and may include drug abuse and alcoholism, however, in my humble opinion, they should not be interfering with the lives of neighbours. Anti Social and Criminal behaviour has been increasing over the four years I have been an elected councillor and I believe the time has come to take action.

First though we must distinguish between several different bodies who can be involved in helping with this behaviour and some of the powers various organisations have to help deal with these problems. Many people think of livin as the council, whereas livin is a social landlord. Our town council has very little authority to deal with ASB, tending to pass most matters onto other authorities as explained below.

1. In many cases your first port of call will be Durham Police who can be reached by ringing 101, this will take you to a call centre which will assess the seriousness of your problem and allocate police personnel accordingly. Please always ask for a case number so this may be logged and referred to later. You may be asked to record or set up a diary of incidents.

2. If you feel in imminent danger, or feel the incident is more serious, call 999 for urgent action.

3. Should the problem be fly tipping or nuisance from a private rental property, residents can request help from <https://doitonline.durham.gov.uk> which has a subsection headed ASB. Durham County Council has a department which deals with private landlords.

4. If the problem is coming from a livin property, contact livin on 0800 587 4538 or <https://www.livin.co.uk>

5. Finally, contact your local Town or County Councillor who may be able to signpost or help. Contact details are available from Great Aycliffe Town Council website or ring 01325 300700. I hope this proves useful to anyone suffering from this sort of behaviour and hope that ASB becomes a thing of the past very soon.

Councillor Ken Robson  
West Ward Independent

## Own Personal Opinion

Newton News received numerous telephone calls this week regarding Mrs Irene Hewitson and her interview on TV and her stance on the Covid-19 pandemic.

We contacted the Town Council to obtain a comment for our readers:

*"Mrs Irene Hewitson was expressing a personal opinion. She was speaking as a private individual and not in her role as a councillor and member of Great Aycliffe Town Council.*

*Great Aycliffe Town Council does not agree with Councillor Hewitson's views regarding Covid-19 and does not endorse her actions."*

**Complaints against Councillors:** Please be advised that any complaints regarding a Councillor who has breached the Code of Conduct are dealt with independently by the Monitoring Officer at Durham County Council. They can be contacted on 03000 260 000, for more details please visit the website at <http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2735/Complaints-about-councillors>

# Petition to Eradicate Anti Social Behaviour in the West Ward

Dear Sir,

I have been walking round my home area and the comments are appalling. People are knocking on my door complaining so I am going to do something about it.

**PLEASE SIGN THE PETITION FOR THE POLICE COMMISSIONER AND THE CHIEF CONSTABLE**

The petition can be accessed at the Silverdale shop, there will also be another available at 4 Eskdale Place front door on Wednesday 4th November from 10.00am until 2pm.

Help us to eradicate Off Road Bikes, Antisocial Behaviour and Fireworks in our area.

**ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR:** In this area it has been dominant for the past five years with the police telling residents they will sort it. At the moment in Newton Aycliffe, ASB is dominant across most areas but I do not think anywhere is as bad as the Williamfield area of the town. I am sure that this area will finish up by having a fatal accident caused by idiot young people doing wheelies on bikes in front of cars and buses.

**OFF ROAD BIKES:** Off road bikes on footpaths? Some corrective steps will be taken to eliminate this continual idiotic behaviour. Allegedly, according to "Newton Aycliffe Police" report on Facebook, this has been greatly eradicated thanks to night time patrols and extra police being brought in and dispersal orders being issued. What a load of blarney.

There has been several reported incidents on Tuesday night 20th October at 8.50pm as I was coming home opposite Lindisfarne Nursing Home a young lad of about 11 years came out of the crowd of teenagers and did a wheelie in front of me, I was fortunately going slow but the car coming the opposite way had to swerve to miss him. Cllr. Dorothy Bowman

Tel: 01325 308094 or 07967 901477

## Greenfield Arts Offer Language Refreshers

Greenfield Arts are offering an opportunity to refresh your language skills. Tutor Daria Coates will be leading the sessions which will focus upon the language and culture of Spain.

Broaden your cultural horizons in a friendly and safe environment, our sessions will run

on Tuesday 3 November (Intermediate) and Tuesday 10 November (Beginners) from 17:45 – 19:15 and cost just £5 per session.

The sessions form part of a wider programme of exhibitions, projects and activities that explore new possibilities.

To find out more and book your place please visit [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk) or call 01325 379048 for further details.

Greenfield Arts are committed to offering activities that allow our community to explore a greater understanding of themselves, inspire curiosity and to offer opportunities to explore and learn new skills.





# N.A.F.C. REPORT



## Newton Aycliffe 1-1 Whickham

Newton Aycliffe came from behind but were held at home to Whickham on a frustrating afternoon at the Beaumont Landscapes Stadium.

Scott Robson gave the Lang Jacks the lead with a speculative strike from range early in the second half before Lewis Walton slid in at the back post to convert Nick Green's pinpoint cross just after the hour. Aycliffe had chances to win the game as the half went on and were denied what looked a clear cut penalty 12 minutes from time when Ben Reay was brought down by Regan Ward having gone around the goalkeeper but referee Derric Wade was unmoved.

There were two changes to Colin Stromsoy's line-up from the team who lost at Whitley Bay in midweek with Nick Green replacing Connor Phelan at fullback and Arran Wearmouth coming into the attack ahead of Ben Dibb-Fuller. New signing Shahban Mohammed was part of a strong looking substitutes bench.

Quick to put Tuesday night's defeat behind them, Aycliffe made a fast start when Adam Burnicle looked to capitalise on Charlie Exley's missed clearance in the fifth minute as the striker forced a smart stop from Ward at his near post.

Burnicle saw a goal disallowed midway through the first half, adjudged to be offside, from Liam Jarvie's cute ball after a slick passing move from the home side. Jake Petitjean got on the end of Walton's freekick from the right but his header wasn't troubling Ward. The best chance of the first half came to Jarvie on the half hour when he broke the offside trap from Wearmouth's pass and was able to cut inside of Liam Doyle but his low strike was blocked by the legs of Ward.

Conor Newton found himself in the sin-bin for the visitors just before the break for continuing his remonstrations with referee Wade before Jarvie dragged a cross-come-shot wide after a well worked corner. A 45 minutes low on quality was brought to an end with Aycliffe perhaps the better side as the scores remained goalless.

Wearmouth got on the end of an excellent Green cross two minutes after the restart and might have done better but his header went narrowly wide of the post. Two minutes later and some inside the Beaumont Landscapes Stadium thought Jarvie had given Aycliffe the lead after he latched onto Petitjean's through ball but the frontman lashed his effort into the side netting. Despite offering little up to that point in front of goal it was Whickham who found themselves in the lead in the 55th minute when Doyle forced Ethan Wood into a misplaced pass that fell at the feet of Robson just inside the Aycliffe half. Robson was allowed to advance to the edge of the Aycliffe penalty area where he took aim and arrowed a rasping strike into the top corner beyond the outstretched Adam Pickford.

Stromsoy brought on Dibb-Fuller for Wearmouth in response to going behind and the home side were level within eight minutes.

Aaron Brown and Marc Costello stretched the play out wide to find Green who sent a delightful cross over to his opposite fullback Walton who was able to force the ball in at Ward's near post. It was Aycliffe who looked the more likely to get a winner and in the 78th minute they thought they had the opportunity when Reay managed to poke the ball past Ward who spread himself and appeared to bring the forward down but the referee waved away the strong protests. Mohammed came off the bench to make his debut for the club five minutes from time in an effort to find a winner and it almost came when Reay found Burnicle inside the penalty area but his first time effort went the wrong side of the post as Whickham held on to claim a share of the spoils.

# HEIGHINGTON MATTERS

## SILENT SANTA APPEAL

A big THANK YOU to Whitehouse Funeral Service from Newton Aycliffe who, with their continued support, have help start this year's Silent Santa Appeal. This is the fourth year for the Appeal and every years brings in more presents. Last Christmas, with help from our Darlington fire-fighters and the generosity of so many people, we delivered over 500 shoe boxes to excited children, many of whom would receive little, to brighten up their faces on Christmas Day. This Christmas could be different.

Covid-19 will still be with us so money will be an issue in many households but we still intend going ahead because whatever is donated it will put a smile on the face of a child. Currently with donations from Whitehouse Funeral Services and Ruth we have 57 gifts all wrapped, ready to go and with kind permission from Lingfield Point Management Team the gifts will be stored in one of their very pleasant offices, similar to the one they kindly gave us last year.

So if you wish to support the Appeal simply fill a shoe box or a pretty bag, wrap it up and label it for a girl or boy and their age from 5 – 11 and call 314622 or email jruthless08@hotmail.com - If you cannot deliver to 1 Greenhill Road, Heighington, we will pick up from your home and because schools may break early for their Christmas holidays, it would be ideal if you could have them ready no later than 30th November. Thank you.

## 'CHRISTMAS IS A COMIN'

Roughly eight weeks to Christmas and children will be counting down the days or even hours, if your little ones were like mine. Given the difficult coronavirus circumstances that we are all sharing, the doom and gloom we read about in the press and watch on television and the likelihood that Yuletide family and friends get together will be given a miss this year, why not throw caution to the winter chill and light up the front of your house with Christmas lights? Over the last few months, and for the foreseeable future, social isolation is to be the norm and many are having difficulties coping. The elderly, who would normally be looking forward to be meeting up with their families, will be saddened by having to spend Christmas alone and excited children, who look forward to meeting the man with the rosy cheeks, long white beard and dressed in red, will probably be disappointed this year.

So let's forget about those Christmassy things that we will miss. Christmas is a time of joy so wherever you live help lift the spirits of your neighbours, brighten up the lives of your friends and put the sparkle back into the eyes of the little ones by lighting up your house in glorious coloured Christmas lights.

And a very early Happy Christmas to you ALL.

Councillor Gerald G. Lee

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# Full League Programme for Youthy Teams

Although we had a full fixture programme only three games were played at the OakLeaf over the weekend.

## **Boro Rangers 7 v 6 u16 Girls**

A windy day in Middlesbrough against unbeaten Boro Rangers. Kicking against the wind in the first half we needed to be in the game from the start. Boro opened the scoring but Hattie quickly equalised after beating the defence to a ball and calmly slotted. Boro scored a second but Katie picks up a diagonal ball and finds the corner, again Boro score but Hattie gets us back level, half time 3-3.

The message was, no mistakes and keep it tight, 30 seconds in we are behind again, then a ball half cleared out of the Boro defence finds Alex 30 yards out and smashes an unstoppable shot over the keeper 4-4. Some wayward tackles over a fifteen minute period and three girls see out the game on the sidelines. However, a sloppy goal kick gifts Boro the lead again, but a great ball over the top finds Hattie who slips the ball into the corner, 5-5. The goals still kept coming and two goals from our own mistakes and Boro think they are easily going to hold on for the win but Hattie beats the off side and slots for her 4th. We are now pushing forward and it's all Aycliffe forcing Boro to take the ball into the corner to run down the clock, full time 7-6. Lots of great play but silly mistakes cost us 3 points.

## **Whinny Banks 1 - 2 U10's Eagles**

The boys travelled away to play a side doing very well in the league this season and knowing this was going to be a tough match. The midfield were playing some excellent passes and it wasn't long before they were rewarded when Nathan made a fantastic solo run, taking it round the Whinny Banks defence and burying the ball in the back of the net, 0-1. Then Aycliffe were awarded a penalty. Nathan stepped up and smashed the ball past the keeper, half time 0-2. Whinny Banks found a way through and managed to get a goal. 1-2. Chances at both ends in the second half but the score remained full time 1-2. A fantastic win, no one person for MOM but a special mention to Charlie who made some key saves to keep Aycliffe in the game.

## **U11 Angels Blue v Easington Colliery**

As Easington only arrived with eight players, several of the Angels volunteered at points throughout the game to play for the opposition in a very sporting gesture which was appreciated by the Easington coaches. The goals were spread around with Sophie getting a hat trick, one of which was for Easington.

Coaches Star Player: Ella - always solid in defence, but relished her opportunity to play further up the pitch. Players Star Player: Evie - players always recognise someone who works for the team.

## **Durham United FC Leopards v U11 Angels Yellow**

We had 11 keen Angels, ready to take on another very experienced side. It was a tough game in the end and Durham's advantages told, however the girls are developing every week. The last few weeks will stand us in good stead for the rest of the season.

Players Star: April, Coaches Star: Pippa

## **Shincliffe Juniors Blue 2 - 1 U12's Eagles**

A windy day for the boys and Shincliffe had the advantage to start the game and managed to go ahead 1-0. A very physical game of football but Kian was pulling off some outstanding saves to keep the score unchanged till half time. The equaliser came as Harvey smashed the ball across the keeper into the bottom corner. A ball over the top found their striker who ran towards goal and took a shot. The ball went through the side netting and into the goal but the ref didn't see and gave the goal 2-1. A foul in the box, but the penalty appeal was waved away. The boys were so disappointed, having put in a tremendous effort for no reward. MOM Kian.

## **U7 Wildcats v Bishop Auckland Girls**

The girls were up against a good Bishop side and worked very hard to get the result they achieved. A hat trick from Brooke and a brace from Macy were rounded off with a goal from player of the game, Esme, who had also worked tirelessly in defence. A deserved win for the girls.

## **U12 Girls 3 - 1 Leam Rangers**

After last weeks draw away to the same team, Aycliffe welcomed back some players. Leam were first to find the net with the first clear chance of the game but the girls hit back from a free kick, half time 1-1. A shot from the outside of the box and the rebound was tucked away by Aycliffe. The final goal was another fabulous finish after a great bit of dribbling to finish off a great morning of football. POTM - Emily, had a great game, doing everything that was asked of her and more, fantastic effort. Goals - Faith, Emily and Freya.

## **ADULTS**

## **Newton Aycliffe Women 7 v 2 Chester-le Street Waldrige Park Ladies**

The women started the game with a high tempo and some crisp passing saw them race into a goal lead with a brace from Bethany. Two goals up and cruising, Aycliffe got a bit sloppy and the opposition pulled the game level with two poorly conceded goals, half time 2-2. Into the second half and Lauren curls one into the top corner followed by a 14 minute hat-trick from Annabelle. There was still time for Lauren get her second of the game, full time 7-2.



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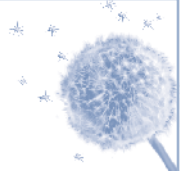


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# “Keep Your Faith in the Conservatives”

Dear Sir,

We read recently the tales of woe from Alan Jordan, now a Labour campaigner, he tells us he has changed from the Lib Dems to Labour - out of the frying pan into the fire!

He tells us Kier Starmer is providing a strong leadership, when he is actually sitting on the fence with no plans in place for the handling of the virus as it is now. The plans he came up with last week, ‘the fire break action’ was put out three weeks prior and at that time, along with others, rejected it. Everything he does seems to take him a couple of weeks to see how it goes before he brings it up.

If we work on this principle, had he been in charge, we would have been waiting a couple of weeks later than the Conservatives for action to be taken. I will leave it to him and the readers as to what this would relate to in extra deaths and numbers of extra people contracting the virus.

He has fallen foul of one of the big Labour unions and three Labour MP's have abandoned the sinking ship. He has no views at all on brexit, another thing going on at the moment, which most people in this area want, and that is why the complacent previous MP we had, and others, lost their seats in this area because they would not listen to people, but tried to tell us what they wanted to do, to not bring Brexit to the UK.

The Conservative Party has gone on the original, partly false, information, they were given to try and control the virus but give people a life in a very competent way, as in the measures they are tackling at the moment, with a strong leadership, but not helped by the negatives trying to score brownie points by a Labour Party, who, in this area, are on their last legs.

So the local people, who rightly voted to bring in a Tory, keep your faith in them, you made the right choice and let's see what happens at the end of the day and keep safe by following the rules as they are asked, at the time they are needed.

John Armstrong.

## RUNNING CLUB NEWS

It was another quiet week in terms of races over the last seven days, with the only event to capture Members' interest being the latest series of graded 5K races organised by North East Project Run, on Saturday, 24th October 2020.

The twelve graded races took place at Albert Park in Middlesbrough, and Aycliffe Running Club had six Members testing themselves against the five kilometre distance. Male Club Captain, Richard Campbell, led the way with the fastest time of the day for the Club, crossing the line in a time of 18:41.

Robert Young was not too far behind, breaking the twenty-minute barrier for a 5K for the first time, with a time of 19:45. Peter Smith also registered a solid run in a time of 22:09.

In her first outing for the Club, Melanie Donald had a great run, surpassing her own predicted time, and winning her race in an impressive 25:41.

Jayne Rudd posted her fastest ever time for the distance, coming home in 28:58, and she was followed across the line by sister-in-law, Marie Rudd, who also recorded her quickest time for a 5K, completing her run in 31:18.

If you have any queries about the activities of Aycliffe Running Club, please visit our website [www.ayclifferunningclub.org.uk](http://www.ayclifferunningclub.org.uk), or contact the Club's Secretary, Donna, at [ayclifferunningclub@gmail.com](mailto:ayclifferunningclub@gmail.com)



# AYCLIFFE RADIO

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## Weekly Programme Schedule

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT

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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	Jack & Garvey
12-2pm	Kitchen Floorfillers	Caz Bojangles
2-4pm	Weekly Edition	Paul Baker
4-6pm	Northern & Classic Soul (R)	Kevin Sowerby
<b>"The Saturday Night Experience" Sponsored by Bengal Lounge Indian Restaurant &amp; Takeaway</b>		
6-8pm	Evening Session	Jimjams
8-9pm	Rock the House	Carl Booth
9-10pm	Retro Trance Mix	OZ-DJ
10-12am	Street 'n' Drum 'n' Bass	MC Supa
12-2am	Night Club Session	A DJ

### SUNDAY

9-10am	Church Service	Xcel Centre
10-11am	Yesterdays Music Today	Alan Brown
11-12pm	Mystery Year	Paul Baker
12-2pm	Country & Americana Show	David Ringer
<b>Blues Show Sponsored by Whitehouse Funeral Service</b>		
2-4pm	Bear Blues Show	Colin & Monica
4-6pm	Folk/Celtic/Rock Show	Steve & Col
6-7.30pm	Jazz Time	Mike Dixon
8-10pm	Paul's Down Time	Paul Kjenstad
10-12am	Sean's Sunday Set List	Sean Lawless

### MONDAY TO FRIDAY DAILY

10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop (Mon, Tues & Wed)	Richard Smith
12-1pm	Call Me No 1 (Tues & Thurs)	Richard Smith
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 Show	Paul Baker
10-11pm	00s Show	Producer Dan
11-12am	Teens Show	Andy Fittes

### TUESDAY

6-7pm	Mystery Year	Paul Baker
7.30-9.30pm	Northern & Classic Soul	Kevin Sowerby

### WEDNESDAY

6-7.30pm	Joey's Jukebox	Joey Collins
8-10pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gaz n Alby

### THURSDAY

6-8pm	The List	Colin McNeillie
8-10pm	BeatRoote	Graeme Roote

### FRIDAY

6-8pm	Techno Trance Mix	PVR Studios
8-10pm	6th Nov. - Nathan Abbott Classix Dance Show	
10-12am	Alternative Aycliffe (R)	Gaz n Alby

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

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## Kids Free School Meals

Dear Sir

As people will be aware there has been a substantial amount of media regarding the vote to not extend free school meals into school holidays, we have not voted to stop all free school meals as some writers imply, and I have explained this vote in more detail in my column. The significant government support into the welfare system is better targeted than this specific emotive agenda. However, I have to register my disappointment at the way some local Labour politicians are using our children to score political points and in particular posting pictures of me supporting our local pubs in recent weeks as being apparently representative of me not supporting our children. It's like saying because I support trains I don't support coaches! I would just ask that anyone looking at any Labour Party output regarding this issue to consider all of the facts from independent sources, not just the emotive and misleading hype pushed out by some of them in the last few days.

Paul Howell MP

Member of Parliament for Sedgfield

## Whinlatter Place is not Beirut

Dear Sir,

I feel I need to respond to the reader wrote the article in edition 23rd October 2020, headed 'an accident waiting to happen' on page 10.

Can I say, point 1, as a grandparent and homeowner in Whinlatter Place with children who play in this area, this is NOT Beirut and I take strong offence to it being called such. The children here do not run wild and if the council took more pride in looking after the place, instead of trying to knock houses down, it would suit them better.

How dare this reader disrespect the residents of this estate and how dare he insinuate the parents of this area allow their children to run wild? Are they insinuating these children are not being looked after? The Beck has been an eyesore since I moved here and bought my home many years ago, do not blame the children, the buck lies at the council's door.

I wait patiently for an apology to all in Whinlatter Place.

Name and address supplied

## Buzz About Reading at Greenfield



**Year 7 students at Greenfield Community College were buzzing with excitement on Friday as their Bookbuzz choices arrived in school. Every Year 7 student received a book which they had selected from a list of 17 choices, and all were delighted with their copies, which are theirs to keep.**

**The most popular choice was Crater Lake, a comic horror story about the school trip from hell by Jennifer Killick. Student Albie had only read a few pages before he described it as 'brilliant' and 'really funny'. Another top selection, City of Ghosts by Victoria Schwab, is a mystery set in Edinburgh. Meanwhile, others chose non-fiction and immersed themselves in Real-Life Mysteries. The Bookbuzz scheme is run by Booktrust, which is the UK's largest reading charity. Assistant Headteacher, Kath Bennett, said "Reading is at the centre of everything we do at Greenfield, and we wanted to make this clear to Year 7 students with the gift of a book". The school is also pleased to be able to introduce a new online library system that will make choosing a book so much easier for students and staff. Librarians are busy preparing to launch the app which will make an exciting addition to complement the focus on reading at Greenfield.**

**Greenfield Community College is a Specialist Arts and Science School and is committed to providing opportunities to support students to reach their full potential. Greenfield Community College promotes an inclusive curriculum and a strong student voice, encouraging students to work together to realise an outstanding learning experience.**

## "Political Decision to Let Our Children go Hungry"

Dear Sir,

This month it was revealed that childhood poverty has dramatically increased in the North East, with over 34% of children in County Durham now living in poverty. Stagnating wages and high housing costs are to blame and most of these children live in households where the parents are working.

These figures were based on 2019, pre-covid, data gathering and so do not yet take into account that since March a million people have dropped off the national payroll, 32% of families have had a drop in income and food poverty has increased by a staggering 250% and rising.

1.4 million UK children experience food insecurity during school holidays and 6.3% report being worried about being hungry in the October half term holidays (Food Foundation) with this in mind, and the exceptional circumstance the country is currently in, the Labour Party brought forward a proposal to Parliament for England to follow the example of the Scottish and Welsh Parliaments so that our poorest children could continue to receive free school meals during the school holidays, as they did earlier in the year.

This would have cost less than 60 million across England, which sounds a lot, but is actually peanuts when it comes to government expenditure, and when the government is facing legal action having failed to account for THREE BILLION it has spent on private contracts since Lockdown. This bill was voted down by the Tories, including our own Tory MP and multi property landlord, Paul Howell, who, while actively voting for OUR kids to go hungry in a time of national crisis, posted pictures of HIS extravagant restaurant meals on his own Facebook page.

The decision to let our children go hungry was a political one, an ideological choice devoid of any ethics or compassion, made by this Tory government based on its total contempt for the working class people in this country, while they seek to line the pockets of the rich. We hope people remember this callous and wicked political choice when it comes to the next elections.

Sedgfield CLP Labour Woman's Forum.

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# Prophecy Doom & Gloom, Not a Good Idea

Dear Sir,

I was interested to read J D Clare's article on climate change from Friday 9th October. I would like to respond if I may?

I bow to his literary skills, learning and research. I am an old man with secondary modern education, what I lack in academia, I hope is compensated with common sense. Unlike he, I live by the motto nullius in verba (never take another's word for it, figure it out for yourself).

Climate change started around 13,000 years ago. No one is pointing the finger at Fred Flintstone being the cause of it. I believe our earth's ever changing climate is due to having periodic wobbles during our orbits of the sun. Nothing is constant! Hence the weather man does his best to predict if you need a brolly!

Climate change hysteria was concocted from minute temporary changes, blown out of all proportion and deemed it must be man's own doing, without one iota of proof.

Mr Clare quoted Genesis 2, "The Lord God made man and put him in the garden of Eden". Genesis 1 raises a question, God didn't just make man, to quote the bible, "Then God said and now we will make human beings, they will be like us and resemble us". Genesis 6, in those days there were giants on earth who were descendants of human women and heavenly beings.

Everything that God created when he built the earth is still here, he never claimed to make dinosaurs. My reckoning is God did his thing three to four thousand years ago. He had a mobile tabernacle that had beautiful cast bronze feet. God commented on having expert metalworks. The Hittite tribe also had iron chariots. God was a warrior with Joshua's help he sacked fifty one walled cities and slew every man, woman and child. Joshua won the battle of Jerico and the walls came tumbling down. With his crucifixion Jesus became the son the father and the holy ghost? Christianity was born, now God was all about love.

Most people in Britain hadn't heard of Christianity until around 500AD and quickly spread. I believe the world would be a better place if we were all 'believers', likewise, if we were all pollution conscious. Anyone pushing the extinction now theory is spreading hysteria with millions of youngsters worrying of no hope for the future.

Rising sea levels is probably caused by coastal erosion and rivers worldwide deposit silt in the sea. Bearing in mind the Dutch don't panic and much of their land is below sea level.

Planet earth will be around for millions of more years, long after man has plundered its resources and colonised other earths. There can only be one God. The Sun, should the sun fail, all Gods, all religions, all mankind would fail, the temperatures would plummet even if we were knee deep in carbon.

We are told the planet is in peril because there are less newts, etc., the clue is the human race is expanding, I am not a Christian or a sun worshipper, we are here and have to live together, telling people to prepare to meet doom can't be a good idea.

F. Farrell

# Hospital Chaplains Offer Special Service

Each year, the chaplains at County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust hold services of remembrance for parents living with a pregnancy loss or the death of a baby. This year is no exception with three of the Trust's chaplains delivering the service from the Chapel at Darlington Memorial Hospital.

The service will go live on the Trust's social media channels (Facebook, Twitter) at 3.00pm on Sunday 1 November and, following that, it will be available on the Trust's youtube channel.

Kevin Tromans, Senior Chaplain, said, "Our services of remembrance and thanksgiving are for anyone who has been affected by this very sad experience, including wider families and regardless of whether the loss was recent or in the more distant past. With social distancing restrictions in place we will continue doing all we can to remain accessible to those who need us."

# Badminton Club for Children

Dear Sir,

I have an ambition to start a new badminton club for children in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas and would like to inform residents of this new venture.

With the Covid-19 guidelines in control, activities are being restricted, I am working with Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre to set up for children an introduction into Badminton.

I am a Badminton Level 3 Coach with 47 years experience and the winner of several awards and believe that it is an ideal time to help children get into sport.

The new club will start on Monday 9th November at 4.00pm at the Youth Centre (next to Tesco). Booking is required, please email peterwalton1@aol.com

Thank you

Peter Walton

Great Aycliffe  
Town Council



*Lest We Forget*

*Remembrance Sunday  
8th November*

**PLEASE 'REMEMBER  
AT HOME'**

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we are unable to hold a Parade or Service at St. Clare's Church this year.

In order to observe social distancing rules, we would encourage you to **'Remember At Home'** by observing the two minutes silence at 11.00am.



**Remembrance Sunday – 8th November**

**Please 'REMEMBER AT HOME'**

As we are unable to hold the Parade and Church Service due to Covid-19 restrictions and social distancing, we are urging you to observe the two minutes silence at 11.00am from home.

A limited number of wreaths will be laid at St. Clare's War Memorial to mark the day and observe a two minutes silence. This small ceremony will be streamed on the 'Parish of Great Aycliffe' site from 10.45am on Sunday, 8th November.

Organisation and members of the public who usually lay a wreath are urged to do so at their leisure on the afternoon of the 8th, in order that social distancing can be observed.

The Royal British Legion has created a site for 'home tributes' on their website under "virtual field of remembrance".

# North East Labour on the Demise

Dear Sir,

I read with interest the letter from Vince Crosby regarding our previous MP, Phil Wilson. Let's get it right, the reason he was not re-elected was he could not be relied on to keep his word.

He at first said he would back his constituents who wanted to leave the EU, but after being advised by our ex MP and PM the UN official ambassador for the EU to change his mind as he thought it was no good for us.

He asked, through the Newton News, if anyone wanted to contact him on his new idea to please do so. I actually emailed him as many others did, but sadly received no reply, even a second letter was unsuccessful.

After this he turned into the invisible MP, apart from a few letters in the Newton News. The Labour group held a day canvassing for him around the Tesco area, one group did not know who he was, but were just there to talk about unions getting more power. After then talking to a gentleman about Mr Wilson he then told me that he was not here, but at Whitby having fish and chips - so much for meeting his constituents.

With regard to Brexit, the complacent Labour party do not want to see us become a sovereign country again as they would rather, if they were in power, let the EU take control of our governance to make it easy for them. We now are near the date we leave and due to the hard stance Boris and the government have taken, the EU's stance of trying to blackmail us is failing and now they are coming to realise it's not working, eg: now the fishermen in France are telling Macron to back down as some fish is better than none, business experts in France, Germany and Netherlands tell us they stand to lose billions of pounds with a no deal. The people that backed the Tories in the areas where the dictating complacent Labour were in, did the right thing, as we will see in our future. As to handling the pandemic, the Tories have done a good job to keep peoples lives as best as they can, especially with the false information they were given in the first place.

The leader of the Labour Party, Mr Starmer, has no leadership qualities at all, he listens to things, agrees, then three weeks later says it was the wrong decision and sits on the fence. If this is his way of running the party, thank God they are not in power now. Don't take any notice of the negative views, but look to a positive future with the present government. The future of the Labour party in the north east, as it is now, could well be on the demise.

John Armstrong, Defoe Crescent

## N.A.F.C. JUNIORS



**Aycliffe U8s Whites** played United Whites, it was a competitive match and Harry, who was playing up front, had three great chances which, on another day, would have scored. Aycliffe then conceded two scrappy goals. The second half Aycliffe conceded two more goals in terrible conditions. The manager decided to change things and put Oscar up front and Harry at the back and it worked a treat with Harry putting some great passes up the field for Oscar to score two goals then Regan scored a penalty.

MOTM went to Oscar with his great energy and runs.

**Under 8s Blacks** travelled to Thornaby to play Tibs Yellows. It was not long before Aycliffe deservedly took the lead thanks to a great finish from Fin. Aycliffe then doubled their lead from Regan. Tibs got one back, going in at half time up. Second half Aycliffe conceded two early goals then retook the lead from a well worked corner. As the second half went on Tibs grew in confidence to come back into the match. Goals continued with Fin adding another two to his first half brace, but Tibs continued to capitalise on Aycliffe's mistakes. Goal scorers were Fin x 4, Jacob and Regan.

MOTM was awarded to Fin.

Another great result for **U9 Blacks** playing against a well drilled Chester-le-Street Lions team. Aycliffe started well and got a result for their determination. The first half was a close game with end to end football and plenty of goals with even more chances. Second half started the same with more goals but a switch of formation saw Aycliffe take advantage with a saved penalty and hitting the post three times. Aycliffe kept going and got their just rewards. Goal scorers were Benjamin x 2 and Max x 3. MOTM went to Jake.

**U9 Juniors** played at home to Boro Rangers United. Aycliffe went a goal down early on but they kept going and played some brilliant football. A spell either side of half time saw Aycliffe scoring four goals and it looked like they were on course for the second win of the season. Boro Rangers did not give up and were awarded a penalty which they converted and then scored twice again in quick succession. Both teams kept creating chances but with the

last kick of the game going to Boro Rangers. Goals came from Jack x 2, Jonah and Dom. MOTM went to Dom.

**Under 9 Whites** finally got their first victory in the RFYL Premier league. It was a well-balanced game against Crook with some great football being played by both sides. Aycliffe battled hard for a deserved result. Goal scorers were Jack, Dom and James.

MOTM awarded to Tyler and Jack for their battling performance.

The **Under 11s** had a morning not to remember away to Sedgefield. Aycliffe started really well but Sedgefield got the goals and they just could not bounce back despite working really hard. MOTM went to Liam.

**U12 Whites** played away to Eaglescliffe Elementis Blues. On the attack from the whistle, Aycliffe won a corner and Jake scored with his head at just two minutes in. Eaglescliffe were very well organised and closed Aycliffe down quickly. Aycliffe were unable to get any rhythm at all and Eaglescliffe were worthy winners 6-1.

MOTM was stand in keeper Ellis who, despite the score line, made some great saves.

**Under 12s Blacks** started strong at home to Farrington. Aycliffe had so many unselfish plays throughout this match and ended the first half on a high with a lovely chip shot from Stephen. In the second half Aycliffe had many chances but Farrington's keeper was brilliant, pulling off some cracking saves.

Aycliffe went a man down with no subs left but still managed to score a brilliant goal from some exquisite passes. Farrington managed to pull a consolation goal back. Goals scorers were Alex x 2, Stephen and Joe. Aycliffe 4 - 1 Farrington.

MOTM was awarded to Alex who was on fire again this week.

The **Under 14s** travelled to Coulby Newham, for what proved to be a hard fought win. An early goal from Reece gave Aycliffe the early impetus, but the hosts dug deep and kept Aycliffe out until Travis doubled the lead in the second half. A late consolation goal for Coulby Newham could not spoil Aycliffe's 100% start to the season. Full time Coulby Newham 1 Newton Aycliffe 2.



**Paul Howell**  
Member of Parliament  
for Sedgefield

paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk  
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Last week was yet another interesting one in Parliament in a job I absolutely love doing. The week started with a series of discussions with local MPs from both the Tees Valley and Co Durham with regard to Covid restrictions and a possible change of tier for our area. The consistent message across all calls was that we felt it was too early to consider changing to tier 3. We had another series of similar calls at the end of the week where the message was the same, indeed there seemed to be a possibility of some flattening of the curve although some spikes are still showing. The hope is that these early signs change into a more positive flat or even declining trend which would keep us away from the risk of increased restrictions. It was also pleasing to see that, as the week ended, the Chancellor announced further support for those in tier 2 which should help our area.

The most contentious vote in the house last week was the one associated to the opposition day debate on free school meals. The way Labour advertise their opposition debates is increasingly misleading and the debate on school meal vouchers was no different. Not a single MP in the chamber thought of child poverty as anything but of the upmost importance and the debate was on the method of tackling it but Labour framed it for political gain.

To be clear, I have not voted against feeding schoolchildren and I have not voted against reducing child poverty. I have voted against the extension of free meal vouchers as being the appropriate method of tackling inequality and child hunger. I disagree with Labour that the use of vouchers is the appropriate solution, indeed, for many years, that was Labour's position. You could also ask why they would choose to have this debate on the very last day possible before half term if it wasn't to make political points. If the motion had been passed then it would've left next to no time for our already hard pressed schools to administer the process.

The government is very active in terms of trying to create long-term preventative measures but in the short term is also recognising urgent needs and indeed Durham County Council has received an additional £694,000 for welfare support. These funds provided by the government are now being framed by some councils as them helping because the government didn't, even though the Government provided them with the funds! Whilst we may disagree on the opposition day debate, I can assure you I am clear in my desire to lift children and their families out of poverty.

Other discussions this week have included some with owners of care homes in Wingate; a discussion with the HS2 purchasing team reinforcing the need for local UK supply chains to be given priority; a discussion with Durham County Council officers around the selective licensing proposal and a discussion with fellow MPs around the Mineworkers Pension Fund.

I also had the opportunity to ask a question in the house on transport questions, where

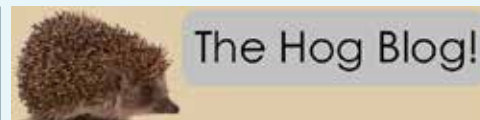
I again raised the need for support for the coach industry and also referenced the need to look at options around improving air travel restrictions. We also had another meeting of the BEIS select committee, where this time we had a number of the regional Metro members including Andy Burnham from Manchester and Jamie Driscoll from North of Tyne. The discussion with them was about their opportunity to engage in supporting regional growth and in particular how they, as Mayors, fit into the levelling up agenda. Given the discussions Andy Burnham has had with Boris Johnson this week, as you can imagine, this was an interesting session. My last duty of the week was a visit to meet the principal of the new South Campus at Durham University, this is a fantastic investment by the University and increases the opportunity for students to be accommodated in university buildings as opposed to the centre of Durham. Obviously they are also dealing with the problems of Covid 19 but so far this campus is relatively unscathed.

You may also have seen that I have supported a letter to the Prime Minister from the Northern Research Group. This is a group of Northern MP's formed to look specifically at issues affecting the North and to lobby as a group on the basis of facts and research. We will be doing our utmost to make sure that initiatives like "levelling up" and "build back better" deliver for all of us. Next week we are on recess which should give an opportunity to catch my breath before the home run to the end of the year, which will no doubt have some very interesting challenges, not least around the conclusion of the Brexit trade negotiations. As I said earlier, it is a critical time in the fight against Covid 19 so please remember HANDS-FACE-SPACE, wash your Hands regularly, wear a mask on your Face where required and give people Space. Stay safe and have a good week.

Paul Howell MP  
Member of Parliament for Sedgfield

## Organisers Should Be Ashamed

Dear Sir,  
How can it be possible for a Fun Fair to go ahead, yet a socially distanced Remembrance Parade is not possible? It seems to me that this whole country has a very warped perspective of which social activities are prioritised over the health and well-being of its citizens. Quite frankly, whoever authorised this years Fun Fair in the Bewick Crescent Car Park, directly opposite a GP Surgery and Pharmacy, where many vulnerable people must visit, should be ashamed of themselves . . . it beggars belief!  
Name and address supplied



Very busy, still admitting more hedgehogs, and what's worrying is the amount of babies and very small ones coming in to rescue because they are too small for hibernation. Myself, Viv and our new hoggie mum, Tara, will keep them indoors till the spring. As you can probably guess the more we get the less we can take in, we have about 16 babies that can't be released, please if you see a hedgehog that you think is too small to be out, get advice from either a vet, BHPS or the hedgehog street app. These lovely mammals are seriously up against various threats all year round but the winter months are very harsh, whatever you can do to help them would be appreciated.

Thank you to June and Will again for donations from the sale of Covid-19 masks and doggy bandanas; Lorraine Elliott for kindly donating a cage, all finders for keeping these little chaps safe till we can intervene and our wonderful supportive vets close by for their continued support. Can I remind people that bonfire night and fireworks are killers for hedgehogs and other wildlife, parliament will meet and decide whether to ban fireworks on Monday 2nd November.

Hopefully, we will be out and about fundraising very soon, we will still need to feed, care and medicate our little hogs for the coming months, Facebook will have all the key dates and places.

**Weekly Tip:** Please ring the British Hedgehog Preservation Society for help and advice on 01584 890801, they can also reach me if you specifically need our hedgehog rescue.





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## Strange Media

*Humorous stories reproduced from newspapers from around the world*

### Dog Attack

Lower Duck Pond, Lithia Park, Ashland. Police responded to a report of two dogs running loose and attacking ducks at about 11.20am on Sunday. The officer cited a resident for the loose dogs. The duck refused medical treatment and left the area, according to police records.

## 'People and Places' at Greenfield Arts



Greenfield Arts are delighted to welcome back artist Bill Hindmarsh to the Greenfield Gallery. People and Places is an exhibition of previously unseen and current work which includes a unique collection of mining artwork on slates.

Bill is a renowned artist who lives and works in the north east of England. His work is described as an 'eclectic mix of subject and media' with a strand of work that draws upon his time working in the coalfields.

The exhibition runs from Monday 9 November to Wednesday 16 December 2020 and not to be missed.

To compliment the exhibition Greenfield Arts are offering an opportunity to take part in sketching workshops. The sessions, which include a supported visit to the gallery, will be led by artist Graham Stead who will help you explore the art of capturing people and the benefits of sketching. The sessions will be held on Wednesday 25 November and 2 December from 17:45 – 19:15 costing £12 for both sessions. Please visit our website to book your place.

At present the gallery is open from 10:00 to 19:30, Monday to Wednesday and 10:00 – 16:00, Thursday to Friday. It may be advisable to avoid the busy school exit time between 15:15 and 15:40 as Greenfield Arts share the site with Greenfield Community College. To find out more visit our website [www.greenfield-arts.co.uk](http://www.greenfield-arts.co.uk) or contact our friendly team by email [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk) or call 01325 379048.

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Never force a dog outside





# COUNCIL MAKES ENERGY EFFICIENCY SWITCH TO REDUCE CARBON FOOTPRINT

A North East council has been rolling out energy efficient measures across buildings in its area as part of a commitment to improving the environment. Durham County Council's in-house teams have been replacing lights in buildings and public places across the county with more energy efficient LED lighting.

The LED retrofit project is part of the council's Climate Emergency Response Plan, which has been helping to reduce carbon emissions, save energy and lower costs. The council has also committed to achieve an 80 per cent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030.

On top of existing street lighting retrofits, the new lighting continues on from previous LED work that has been carried out by the council and is being installed in over 400 bus shelters, newly renovated subways, and some schools across the county.

Over 12 of the council's main buildings have so far been retrofitted with new lighting, from business centres to leisure centres and, more recently, floodlights at Teesdale Leisure Centre. The project is expected to save 20 per cent of the carbon emissions by reducing buildings' electricity usage while generating over £60,000 in annual cost savings.

Durham Town Hall and Bishop Auckland Town Hall, have also been retrofitted with LEDs.

In a further step, as schools account for almost half of the carbon emissions from buildings, the council is committed to providing advice and guidance on reducing energy consumption through its Enlighten schools project which, in addition, secures funding for the works.

Crook Primary school was the first school to participate in the project, with carbon savings of 15,700kg of CO2.

The benefits of installing LED lighting in schools include:

- An improved learning environment compared to fluorescent or incandescent lighting.



- Enhanced light for reading and concentration compared to non-LED, yellow lighting.
- Improved light direction.
- Better potential sleep for pupils as full spectrum light provided by LEDs triggers 24-hour hormonal response cycle.
- Better working environment.

Cllr John Clare, Durham County Council's climate change champion, said: "Climate Action is not just about big things like greening the grid – it's about decarbonising every aspect of our lifestyle. Changing a light to LED might seem a minor improvement, but changing the lights in town halls, leisure centres, schools, and more than 400 bus shelters makes a big difference.

"And, of course, now, every time anyone stands in a lit bus shelter, it will remind them that we are working towards our target of becoming carbon neutral as quickly as possible. It is perhaps also a reminder that we too can contribute towards that target by making even small changes in our own lives; it all adds up."

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Dear Sir,

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the type of person who does not give a damn  
about the elderly and infirm?

Not everyone has good health, or is afraid to  
step out with certainty, there are quite a few  
drivers who do not look out for pedestrians,  
cyclists take up footpaths too, barging their  
way through with no regard for anyone. I can  
understand why they use the footpaths as  
they are also afraid to go onto the roads due  
to bad driving habits.

It is an offence to drive less than one metre  
from a cyclist (it should be made 1.5m in my  
opinion, as it is on continental roads). I have  
witnessed cars hitting the cyclist with their  
mirrors on scores of occasions. However, to  
put this into perspective, what are footpaths  
for? Simply put, they are for pedestrians,  
pushchairs and the disabled - not bikes or  
cars, be more considerate please - you will  
be old some day!

Also, please do not block private driveways  
or garage entrances, they have a legal right  
to remove your vehicle if it is not possible to  
get in or out of the their property.  
Name and address supplied

Conservatives  
“The Nasty Party”

Dear Sir,

The Newton News rightly offers our new  
MP, Paul Howell, an opportunity to explain  
what he is doing to support the Sedgfield  
constituency. However, what his column  
usually fails to mention is the way his votes  
in Parliament support the Government as it  
enacts typical Conservative policies to the  
detriment of many of his poorer constituents.  
The latest example was his support in  
defeating the Labour motion calling for an  
extension of Marcus Rashford's scheme  
to feed children, on free school meals,  
over the school holidays. The Government  
were, very reluctantly, forced to concede  
this in the summer, by the weight of public  
opinion. However, they have now decided  
they can no longer afford to help poor  
families who are struggling to cope with the  
financial consequences of the coronavirus  
crisis, while they continue to waste billions  
of pounds of taxpayer's money on their  
ineffective 'Test and Trace' system.  
Theresa May once talked of people calling  
the Conservatives "the nasty Party"; this  
meanness shows that she was right!

Alan Jordan

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Online Meetings Offer  
Opportunity to Influence  
Council's Work

People across County Durham are being invited to have their say on the future of the area at a series of virtual events where residents will also be thanked for their good work during the pandemic. Durham County Council is hosting the Better for Everyone sessions through its 14 Area Action Partnerships (AAP) to gather views on a wide range of issues and also thank the public for its efforts during the pandemic.

Residents, businesses and community organisations will hear an update on the authority's work from Cllr Simon Henig, leader of the council, who will also talk about the new Vision for the county. The Vision has been developed by the council and the County Durham Partnership following a major consultation exercise last year and highlights as key priorities, more and better jobs, connected communities and supporting people to live long and independent lives.

Those taking part in the online events will have the opportunity to influence future projects and activities including £20 million of work to make towns and villages around the county more vibrant – one of the key priorities of the Vision.

There will also be an update on the coronavirus pandemic from Amanda Healy, County Durham's Director of Public Health, and details on how residents can play their part in reducing the spread of the virus by becoming community champions.

The ongoing and outstanding community response to the crisis will also be recognised at each session, which aims to provide an uplifting opportunity to give thanks to the many groups and individuals who have played their part over the past six months, as well as looking to the future.

Since the pandemic began, the AAPs have provided more than £1.1 million to almost 300 community groups and organisations working to support the county's most vulnerable residents. This is in addition to support provided to groups through partner organisations including Durham Community Action and the County Durham Community Foundation.

Everyone attending the events will have the opportunity to show their appreciation for this joint effort and raise awareness of all those who have given their time to help others.

Cllr Simon Henig, Leader of Durham County Council, said: "Getting together in the traditional way is much more difficult these days but it is still incredibly important that we are able to speak directly with residents and offer the opportunity to directly influence our work. "These online events will enable people to give their views on the future of our county, the vital work of our AAPs and our ongoing and important efforts to revitalise our towns and villages.

"But this is not just an opportunity for us to talk with residents about our work over the past six months and our plans for the future. It's also a chance to celebrate everything those in our communities have been doing to support each other during the pandemic.

"I look forward to meeting people, albeit virtually, over the coming weeks."

The events, which will each run from 6pm to 7.30pm, will take place on the following date:

**Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP)**  
**Thursday 12 November**

The events will be taking place on Microsoft Teams so attendees will need access to an internet enabled device.

Further information and places at the sessions can be booked via [www.durham.gov.uk/betterforeveryone](http://www.durham.gov.uk/betterforeveryone)

## Sudoku

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



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# Novel Idea for Woodham Academy Bookworms



One of the healthier side-effects of the recent lock-down and on-going social-distancing restrictions has been an increase in home reading; with a recent survey suggesting that 41% of adults reported spending more time reading than previously. Of these, half said they were reading more, simply because they had more time on their hands, whilst another sizeable proportion said they were reading more with their children. Not unsurprisingly, perhaps, many respondents reported re-reading books they already had in their possession – as venturing out for new ones wasn't always possible. It is with this in mind that Woodham Academy has introduced a 'mobile library' service for those students currently unable to attend school in person.

The novel idea, the brainchild of Woodham's Reading Team, has been some time in the making, because they first had to manually digitise their entire stock (3,000 books, and counting), before learners could search for their favourite titles, authors and genres, etc. and have them delivered safely to their doors. Miss Thomas, an English teacher who is in charge of literacy at Woodham Academy, says the delivery service is an extension of the school's established reading ethos, and will help ensure pre-teens and teenagers continue to enjoy reading throughout their secondary education. So, what are our younger-generation of book-worms reading, exactly? Well, whereas, booksellers in general have reported a sharp rise in sales of 'comfort reading' titles, such as crime fiction, school-students nationally are bucking the trend, and are continuing to devour 'dystopian' fiction in large quantities, with series like The Hunger Games, The Maze Runner and Divergent still topping the charts, alongside the usual cast of wizards, ghouls, vampires and zombies. The Reading Team, however, always remain hopeful their readers will turn over a new page, and so have large amounts of classics and modern classics in stock, which they are always eager to lend to their readership.

## 2021 CALENDAR

Newton Press have been providing a free community calendar to our residents for over 20 years. 15,000+ of the popular calendar are produced and distributed to households in the Newton News circulation area showcasing the best of local businesses. If you would like to promote your business on this calendar, please get in touch with Paul on 01325 300212 or email paul@newtonpress.net for more information.



### In Memoriam

**Linda Harrison**



(nee Moran)  
of Westport, Ireland, formerly Newton Aycliffe.  
We can't believe that a year has passed already. Always in our thoughts. Sending all our love to your family over in Ireland.  
Love from your family here xx

**Margaret Sedgwick**

Died 31st Oct., 1981  
Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day.  
Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear.  
Ever loving Husband Harry, Maureen and Chris

**Linda Griffiths**

31/5/54-2/11/2016  
Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day.  
Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and still very dear.  
God bless.  
Loving Husband, Ray xxxxxxxxxxxx

### Congratulations

**Doris Harrison**



**Happy 100th Birthday**  
3rd November 2020  
*Love from five generations:*

Margaret & Joe, Barbara & John, Paul & Val.  
Grandchildren: Beverley, Lisa, Tony, Kim, Luke.  
Great Grandchildren: Connor, Elissa, Jordan, Molly, Jacob  
Great Great Granddaughter Ruby xxxxxxxxxxxx

### Obituary

**Taylor Bell**

Peacefully at home on 22nd October.  
Dearly loved Husband of Noreen; Brother-in-Law to May; loving Uncle to all his Nieces and Nephews.  
Funeral to be held at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon, Bishop Auckland on Thursday 5th November at 1:30pm.  
Due to the current circumstances a celebration of Taylor's life will be held at a later date.  
Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, to the British Heart Foundation or the National Kidney Foundation.

### Acknowledgement

**Glen Kipling**

28/5/68-4/10/20  
We would like to thank family members and friends for all their help during this sad time.  
Also a big thank you to the vicar at St Clare's and the staff at the Co-op FuneralCare. They looked after us all on the day we said goodbye to Glen.  
Thank you to Nev for being a good friend and sharing his passion of buses with Glen. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.  
Rest in peace Glen

### Birthday Remembrance

**Patricia Ann Golithly**



**Happy 77th Birthday**  
1st November

Since your passing in February, leaving your loved ones broken hearted. Thousands of tears have turned into streams, holding cherished memories in our dreams. You have no pain now and you can rest, the Lord above knew what was best.  
Patricia, you touched so many hearts along the way, friends will have loving thoughts this day.  
I miss your love, your smile and your touch. Because my soul mate, I miss you so much.  
From Husband Brian and all your family.

## Pemberton Pickers

People and children we've met whilst out on our rounds were very keen to find out how to contact our group, either to join or to get advice, see below:  
Email: pembertonroadpickers@gmail.com  
Facebook: Pemberton Pickers Group  
Mobile: Richard 07766 084266 (Please leave a message, we will respond as soon as possible).



# Ground Deal Creates New Landscape for Football Club

Northern League first division club Newton Aycliffe FC have agreed a stadium naming rights deal with nearby sports turf experts Beaumont Landscapes.

Aycliffe-based Beaumont - which was originally formed in the same year as Aycliffe's football club, in 1965 - have agreed to take on the upkeep of the club's ground and playing surface as part of the sponsorship agreement. It means the club's ground, formerly known as Moore Lane Park, is now officially recognised as the Beaumont Landscapes Stadium.

Aycliffe chairman Allan Oliver explained: "Players want to play on the best surface they can, and we didn't have the best pitch in all honesty. We had massive drainage issues, we were spending money on it but by October and November the rain came, we couldn't get it off the pitch and we were back to square one.

"Now the drainage has improved, the water gets away a lot better, and that will enable Beaumont's team to vastly improve the surface. Our team is earning itself a good reputation for playing good football, getting it down and playing, and we're good to watch. To play that way you need a quality surface, so this is a massive step forward for us."

Alex Lineton, managing director of Beaumont Landscapes and a third generation of the family running the firm, said: "This partnership works really well for

us, because we can showcase our grounds maintenance and sports turf services in one package. We feel the football club is a real heart of the community that we want to be part of. Being an Aycliffe-based company we want to be here at the centre of it, showcasing our services but also supporting the local community."

Beaumont was established in 1965 by Steven Lineton, who ran the new business alongside his garden centre based on Beaumont Hill in Darlington. In 1991 Beaumont moved to larger premises on Aycliffe Business Park and has since pushed more into the commercial maintenance sector.

Beaumont now has a growing list of 150 contracted sites across the whole of the north east, down to the Yorkshire and Humber areas and across to the Cumbria region. These include a range of public and private sector contracts, various commercial premises including factories, hotels and premises run by national property management companies, as well more than 50 schools around the North-East region.



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## Cheese for Christmas - Yes Please!

County Durham artisan cheesemakers Parlourmade are offering a selection of ideas for Christmas for the foodie in your life. Finding something a little bit different this year may be a little more difficult, so this small local business has come up with some ideas to tempt you.

Husband and Wife team Neil and Carol Peacock have been producing their range of cheeses for almost 10 years using milk from the dairy herd on the family's farm near Sedgfield. They now have a range of award winning hard and soft cheeses. There's Mordon Blue, Durham Camembert and Farmhouse White to name a few - all made using traditional methods and worth looking out for. Cheese gift boxes, which include a selection of 5 cheeses plus chutney. Hampers or cheese platters can be made to order for delivery or collection from the farm.

Assuming you have a weakness for cheese (doesn't everyone?) click on their website, you won't be disappointed!

[www.parlourmade.co.uk](http://www.parlourmade.co.uk) - Tel 01740 622255

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