

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

Remembrance Sunday Commemoration

See page 2 for more



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PAUL HOWELL
MP for Sedgefield



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY COMMEMORATION

The Annual Remembrance Day Parade and Service had to be cancelled this year due to Covid-19 regulations, with everyone being asked to 'Remember at Home'.

The Revd. Jeff Anderson presided over a small wreath laying ceremony and observance of the Two Minutes Silence outside of St. Clare's Church and War Memorial. A representative from Aycliffe & Brancepeth Band carried out the Bugling of the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille'.

Wreaths were laid by representatives of the Lord Lieutenant's Office, Dame Dela Smith DBE DL, our Member of Parliament, Paul Howell, the Deputy Mayor of Great Aycliffe Councillor Wendy Hillary and a representative of Durham County Council, Councillor Jim Atkinson.

Organisations and members of the public, who usually lay a wreath at the War Memorial, were asked to lay their wreath at leisure on the afternoon, in order to keep to social distancing regulations.

St. Clare's Church live streamed the event on their 'Parish of Great Aycliffe' site.



Supporting Families

Dear Sir,

The Supporting Families team would like to say a huge thank you to MAD Choir for their kind donation of £200.

This has enabled us to purchase baby wipes, baby bath and baby shampoo to help families who are struggling during Covid-19. Sheena, Yvonne, Liz, Rachel & Bob Supporting Families team.

About Supporting Families

Supporting Families is a community project who help struggling families by providing what they need for their babies and children. We provide baby equipment such as travel systems, car seats, cot beds, Moses baskets, baby baths, bath seats, bouncy chairs, toys, as well as baby wipes, baby shampoo and nappies. Any families struggling during Covid-19 please contact Sheena on 07725 369915 or email at: sheena.stephenson@btinternet.com



SMALL GRANTS FUND

Great Aycliffe Town Council is launching a small grants fund aimed at helping organisations within the Great Aycliffe area under two key themes:

- Those organisations that are experiencing funding problems, affecting their organisation in delivering their support services as a consequence of the Coronavirus pandemic and restrictions.
- Organisations that are looking to support vulnerable residents that are struggling to cope during the Christmas period.

A total of £15,000 has been allocated for small grants, each grant being up to a maximum of £1,000.

Closing date for applications is Monday, 23rd November 2020, following which applications will be considered by the Council's Policy and Resources Committee on the 2nd December 2020.

Application forms are available from the Council Offices, by telephoning 01325 300700 or are available to download from the Council's Website: great-aycliffe.gov.uk

REME Remembers



Dear Sir,
REME Association South West Durham Branch are still holding their monthly meetings on the last Wednesday of the month, but due to Covid-19 restrictions, have moved to Zoom for the time being. Branch members met via Zoom as part of the stay at home Remembrance. On Wednesday 4th November 2020, prior to the national lockdown and in accordance with social distancing rules, a party representing the branch laid a wreath at St Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe, at 11.00am to honour the nation's war dead.

Kind Regards and Stay Safe
John Moore
Branch Secretary
REME Association, SWD Branch



George & Dragon

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Groundwork Provide Holiday Enrichment Support

Thanks to funding secured through Great Aycliffe and Middlesbrough Partnership, Groundwork North East successfully delivered their Holiday Enrichment Project across Newton Aycliffe, supporting families during the October half term holiday. Groundwork were successful in applying for and securing funding through the GAMP Holiday Activities with Healthy Food fund, to help them provide much-needed food and essentials to families across Newton Aycliffe. Activity and food packs were created to provide support to families who were struggling over the half term break. Each family received a booklet detailing what was in the pack and full instructions and pictures on how to do the activities. The packs were designed with a Halloween theme in mind and included items such as;

- Pumpkins
- Pumpkin Soup ingredients
- Hot dog scary fingers
- Physical activity packs and outdoor scavenger hunts
- Halloween family tree
- Pizza ghost muffins & healthy pizza wraps
- Paper ghosts
- Bat hats

Thanks to Groundwork staff and volunteers



227 individuals were supported through the project and 39 packs were delivered and enjoyed by local residents.

Groundwork were inundated with messages of thanks from families and individuals who had received packs.

A message of thanks from a local grandmother, who is currently taking care of her grandchildren full-time as well as her own children, commented, "Thank you so much flower, we really appreciate everything, having two extra children now to feed we are finding it really difficult. Thank you for everything."

Another grateful recipient of a pack

commented; "I honestly do not know what I would have done without your help and support, I'm in tears, thank you so much." Natalie Whitworth, Groundwork Community Project Manager, said, "The families we supported over half term struggle more during the holidays but through this project we supported them to have a fun Halloween with their children and help relieve some of the stresses they are facing." Brian Riley, Great Aycliffe & Middlesbrough Partnership Coordinator, said, "Groundwork have provided an invaluable service to local Newton Aycliffe residents during the half term holiday, their efforts are greatly appreciated by the Great Aycliffe & Middlesbrough Partnership Board." For further information on support available in the area please check www.durhamlocate.org.uk or call 03000 260 260

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Python Star Gets Behind Campaign

The campaign to keep Locomotion No. 1 in Darlington has been boosted by the support of Michael Palin.

Built by pioneering railway engineers George and Robert Stephenson, Locomotion No. 1 was the first steam locomotive to haul a passenger-carrying train on a public railway, making its inaugural journey in 1825 between Stockton and Darlington.

For more than 160 years, the locomotive has been looked after by the people of Darlington, and since 1975, it has been on permanent display at the Head of Steam, Darlington's railway museum. As a national asset, Locomotion No. 1 is part of the National Collection and is therefore under the control of the National Railway Museum (NRM), part of the Science Museum Group. Now, the NRM has revealed plans to move it out of town.

The Keep the Loco in Darlo campaign has been boosted by a message of support from actor, TV presenter, Monty Python star and avid traveller Michael Palin.

The personal message from Palin stated "Darlington and Locomotion Number One are two of the great names in railway history, they should remain united."

To add your support to the campaign visit: www.darlington.gov.uk/keep-the-loco-in-darlo

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Informing Europe About Durham's Achievements

Dear Sir,
On Tuesday I was honoured to speak at the final REBUS international conference. REBUS is a four-year EU 'Interreg' project, in which Durham County Council has taken part, and which has sought to develop a model 'pathway' to help local authorities improve the energy and carbon efficiency of public buildings.

A PERSONAL REFLECTION

On a personal note, REBUS changed my life. In November 2018, as the Council's Cabinet Support for Economic Regeneration, I opened a conference in Durham about Electric Vehicles. There, I met the amazing DCC Low Carbon Team who asked me to speak at their forthcoming REBUS conference, and that was how I got involved in Climate Change.

Fast forward two years - through an

'Emergency Climate Declaration', drafting an Action Plan, and an extensive consultation - and Durham County Council is now implementing its two-year 'Climate Emergency Response Plan' promising:

- an 80% reduction in the Council's CO2 emissions by 2030;
- a 72% reduction in the wider County's CO2 emissions by 2025;
- 111 (and growing) discrete costed actions to bring this about.

AT THE CONFERENCE

Most of the conference was taken up with the eight partner authorities sharing what they had achieved.

Malmo (Sweden) and Borsod (Hungary) described their work on awareness and behavioural change. Crete and Malopolska (Poland) had explored engagement with partners. Buzau (Romania) and Tuscany have developed public-friendly policies. Interestingly, both Malmo and Malopolska referenced the County Council's 'EcoSchools' decarbonisation work as an influence.

DURHAM'S CONTRIBUTION

Durham had been asked to focus on the work we have been doing on renewable heat, and I was able to inform the partner delegates about:

- Seaham Garden Village (for which DCC is acting as enabler and support) - everything there will be heated by mine water, which will be 10% cheaper than existing heating and will save 55% on CO2 emissions.
- Our work to develop a Heat Network for public buildings in Durham city-centre, which will save 1,750 tCO2 per annum and which, although it will probably use the River Wear, is also investigating sewerage as a heat source.
- The work to install mine water heating in the Louisa Centre, Stanley - a local pioneer scheme for a public building which, it has turned out, is unearthing all the problems associated with developing that resource. (We are currently pursuing a funding bid to the government's public sector decarbonisation fund.)

AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION

The conference concluded with important presentations on the €1 trillion Green Deal which is being rolled out across the EU, and on future 'Interreg' projects. Although County Durham will of course have no part in the EU Green Deal, DCC - because of the highly-respected work of its Business Energy Efficiency Project - has been asked to participate in Interreg's 'SME Power' project, which is about how to help small businesses reduce their energy costs and carbon emissions.

It made me realise the high international esteem in which DCC's climate work - and its climate action team - are held.

Cllr John D Clare
DCC Climate Champion

Fireworks & Dogs

Dear Sir,

I wish people would think about the effect of fireworks on our doggy friends. I have had to comfort my poor nervous dog every night for weeks as the bangs go off that sound like bombs.

We used to have bonfire night on 5th November and that was the only night we set fireworks off. Why is it allowed every night for weeks and why is it necessary? Please think about the poor dogs in the area. I hate to see my dog upset like this, night after night.

Name and address supplied

Childrens' Badminton



Dear Sir,

As a keen Badminton player, it is good to see that Peter Walton is hoping to establish childrens' coaching at Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre. Peter is a coach of many years experience and many local players credit him with their introduction to the sport. I would like to wish him luck with his project especially in these troubled times. Badminton is a sport that can be played for many years at many levels. The younger players start, the better, and physical activity can be of great benefit at school teaching teamwork and discipline, as well as being great fun. I am sure Peter will be happy to add anyone interested to his mailing list at peterwalton1@aol.com

On another note it was good to see your tribute to retiring tennis coach, Ian Wilkinson, in a recent edition of Newton News. Ian was one of my teachers, many years ago, at The Avenue Comprehensive School, before it became Tesco. I'd like to wish him a long and happy retirement.

Incidentally, from your picture it looks like there could be a new opportunity there as a lookalike for former England cricketer David Gower!

Darren Clarke

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

The Council on 6/11/20 made the above 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 Hornedale 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: 13th November 2020



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

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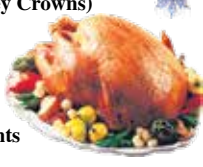
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. . . AND ANYTHING ELSE
PRINT RELATED

Town Council Allotment Awards 2020

Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions the Town Council will not be having an Allotments AGM this year, but we thought that the Allotment Awards should still happen, albeit socially distanced. Chairman of the Environment Committee, Martin Ashcroft and Vice-Chairman, Ian Gray were on hand to 'present' the awards to:

Mr. J. Hannan for Best Pat Aycliffe Village allotments, (Pic 857)

Mrs. V. Icton for Best Plot at Finchale Road allotments,

Mrs. D. Nattrass for Best Plot at Clarence Chare allotments,

Mr. D. Foster for Best Plot at Byerley Park allotments,

Mr. & Mrs Addison were awarded the Angela Flemming Memorial Trophy for Best Plot at St. Oswald's allotments.

Mr. J. Hannan was also awarded the Ken Woodhall Memorial Bowl for Best Overall Plot.

Mr. D. Taylor was awarded the Edward Hubery Memorial Trophy for Best New or Most Improved Allotment.

Congratulations, and, well done for all your hard work.

Mr. & Mrs Addison



Mr. J. Hannan



Mrs. D. Nattrass



Ration Challenge Complete



Dear Sir,
I am happy to report that I did complete the Ration Challenge and it was much harder than I thought! The lack of fresh fruit and vegetables was the hardest (along with coffee)!

I managed to raise a total of £1483.12 which completely smashed my £1000 target. I would like to say a massive thank you for all the kind donations, including a very generous anonymous donation from a reader - the money will make a massive difference to those in need.

The link is still open if anyone would still like to donate at: www.rationchallenge.org.uk/kay-naylor - Above is an image of one of the meals I endured.

Kay Naylor

Another Boris Johnson U-turn

Dear Sir,
You have to have some sympathy for our current Conservative MP, Mr Paul Howell. Having followed his leader into the "nae" lobby to vote against the continuation of free school meals for disadvantaged children outside of term time, he wakes up on Sunday morning to find that the very person who shoe-horned him through that lobby, Boris Johnson, has changed his mind and said that the free meals will continue. How Mr. Howell must feel is anyone's guess but frustrated may be one description.

This does, however, offer another example of how weak this Prime Minister is. Not only in the fact that he cannot make a decision but also the fact that he cannot empathise with people who are less fortunate than he and understand that this change of heart should never have been necessary.

This is the man who, in September, announced that he was struggling to cope on his PM's salary of £150,403 plus benefits (lots of those), especially since he now has another mouth to feed.

The King of the U-turns has struck again. Executing so many U-turns by definition means that you're going around in circles. This exactly describes the direction this Government is taking our country. The best summary; up the creek without the proverbial paddle.

Stephen Braithwaite

N.A.F.C. REPORT

Due to Lockdown 2, Newton Aycliffe FC's season is currently suspended. The Ebac Northern League has stated its intention to recommence on Saturday 5th December, when Aycliffe are due to visit Penrith. The six games that were due to be played in November have now been rescheduled with the season now extended by three weeks. The last game of the season should now be Saturday 15th May 2021. However, this assumes that lockdown will end as planned, with no further disruptions. Fans can keep up to date with fixture news at the club website: www.newtonaycliffe.co.uk



Meanwhile Head Coach Colin Stromsoy gave his views on the effects of the season suspension:

Newton Aycliffe Head Coach Colin Stromsoy has challenged his players to continue their hard work during lockdown following the suspension of the Ebac Northern League. As of Thursday, 5th November, grassroots football fell victim to the latest Government guideline measures as the country continues to battle against the threats of the Coronavirus pandemic resulting in the Northern League being put on hold for the next month. Aycliffe were set to host neighbours Bishop Auckland at the Beaumont Landscapes Stadium last Saturday, looking to put an end to a recent run of indifferent form following a bright start to the campaign.

In the absence of being able to play competitive fixtures and participate in training, Stromsoy has insisted it is up to the players now to keep on top of their fitness ahead of play resuming.

"We're going to set up a workout group with them where they will be set a certain amount of work each week - similar to what we had in pre-season during the first lockdown," said Stromsoy. "But that's just a base," he added. "If they only do three 5k runs per week for example then we're in trouble when we get back. You've got to work much harder than that."

"On average we'd have a training session and a game and then maybe something else at the end of the week so they've got to make sure they're putting the work in. Whether they do or not, time will tell - but it is up to them now to take the initiative a little bit."

Like most involved with football at this level Stromsoy would have preferred the season to have been able to continue, but the break does allow Aycliffe to arrest a recent slump in form and offers the opportunity for injured players to re-establish their fitness. Obviously nobody wants to stop," he said. "In an ideal world we'd be able to continue and play on as normal without restrictions and with as many spectators as possible but sadly that isn't where we're at in this moment in time. It's out of our control. From a footballing perspective it's perhaps good for us to get a little break. We've had a bit of tough luck over the last few games, some of it down to misfortune and some down to our own individual errors."

"It gives us the chance to get one or two bodies back as well. We were down to the

bare bones a little bit on Saturday and Ethan [Wood] took a knock in that game too so we've got an opportunity for everybody to get back fit - but that goes for every squad in the division. We can also look at trying to get one or two more bodies in around the group and get any clearance sorted that may be required for certain players - so in reality it's going to work out better for us in that respect."

Aycliffe began the season in impressive style, remaining unbeaten in their opening nine Ebac Northern League Division One games before slipping to a narrow defeat at Whitley Bay in late October.

Since then they have gone three games without a win in all competitions following last week's 3-2 defeat on Merseyside in the Buildbase FA Vase against Lower Breck. Stromsoy has insisted however, his side have made a positive start to the new campaign but has highlighted areas for improvement.

Whenever the action returns, Aycliffe will resume fifth in the Division One table 11 points behind leaders Hebburn Town but, perhaps more crucially, just four points behind both second placed Stockton Town and third placed Consett in the two remaining promotion spots.

"It's been a good start all told, we've had some really positive performances and results. We've played some good teams and have matched them. But there's still work for us to do and areas to improve for all of us - and I include myself in that. We'd have liked to have progressed further in the cup competitions - Saturday in particular was frustrating."

"It's been a tough schedule for everyone with two games a week, we've not been able to spend much time on the training pitch so far this season with the schedule and it looks like that may continue with the amount of games everybody will have to reschedule now."

"We'll have to see what happens when we come back, whether the fixtures will be reshuffled or whether we'll pick up from the date we return. The key for us now, during this time away, is to recover properly, refocus, continue to put the hard work in and make sure we come back with a mentality that we want to do better. They're a good, honest group of players here and a great bunch to work with and if we keep doing the right things we'll do OK. We're all just hoping to be back sooner rather than later."

Totally Incompetent Grounds Maintenance Company

Dear Sir,
I would just like to draw a matter to your attention regarding the unacceptable grounds maintenance in our area. For a few years now we have had to deal with unsatisfactory work on our green areas, I'm referring to the red estate but I can imagine it applies to all areas in Newton Aycliffe. The quality of the work done is shocking, bushes that need cutting



back are not cut back and the ones that are cut back are hacked down with no care or regard for the area. The grass cutting is a bit of a standing joke in the area, it's either not cut at all, cut very poorly or cut when the ground is sodden leaving our greens and house boundary's looking like mud pits. I have attached some pictures of DCC's attempt at grass cutting today, in the middle of November, after days of rain.

Residents in the area get a lot of flack from councillors and people in authority if they mount the grass in vehicles during the winter, damaging it, why do DCC and the grounds maintenance company, contracted by Livin, seem to be able to do it without question? As a private household we have to pay nearly £40 per year direct to Livin for maintenance of our green areas, for an estate with around 300 private homes this is an investment of £12,000, This, on top of our council tax contributions, should guarantee the residents a good standard of workmanship, a standard of workmanship we should not have to complain about every time something is done.

We work hard as an estate to keep it clean and tidy, we look out for one another and many families are settled here, the very least we can expect is Livin and DCC to maintain our green spaces to a decent standard, we pay for it after all.

Michael Murphy

Enter the Newton News Xmas Card Competition

If you are age 16 or under, why not design a Christmas card?

Two designs will win Lego and Newton Press will reproduce your design into Christmas cards for your use.

The Rules

There are two age categories:

- Aged up to 8 years old;
- Young people aged between 9-16 years old.

One design will be picked from each age group as our winners.

1. Design an amazing card, any way you like (draw, colour, paint, collage), making it as colourful and as unique as you can.
2. Be original - don't copy it from another design, please do not use an image downloaded from the internet or photos.
3. The design should fit onto an A4 sheet (210 x 297mm).
4. Make sure you have parental consent to enter.
5. Get your design to us before the closing date, Friday 4th December.

How to send:

Entries can be submitted via email to: paul@newtonnews.co.uk or post to: Christmas Card Competition, Newton News, Blue Bridge Centre, St. Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6DS, (can also be handed in at our reception, same address). Please ensure you enclose your name, address, age and contact details (email and phone).

The closing date for all entries is Friday 4th December 2020 at midnight.

Good luck



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Help and Support for County Residents and Businesses During the Lockdown 2

Durham County Council is seeking to reassure people that support is at hand for those who are impacted by the lockdown, particularly those who need support to access essential supplies, or need support about money, housing, health or employment due to coronavirus or those in need of business support.

People are advised to seek help from friends, family and neighbours where possible, but anyone in need of extra support can find a list of local support groups on the council's website at www.durhamlocate.org.uk

If anyone is unable to find the support needed from these sources, please complete an enquiry form at www.durham.gov.uk/covid19help.

These enquiries will be directed to County Durham Together, the virtual community hub. The hub can support people to access food supplies such as online shopping, or put people in touch with local organisations that can help. For anyone feeling lonely or isolated the hub can also support people to access groups or the Chat Together service. Alternatively, residents can contact the hub directly by emailing help@durham.gov.uk or calling 03000 260 260.

People may also be interested in helping to share key messages in their communities – if so they could become a Covid 19 community champion – those interested should email covidcommunitychampions@durham.gov.uk

Help is also at hand for those who have been told to self-isolate after contracting coronavirus through the test and trace payment scheme. Anyone who has been told by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate, on or after 28 September 2020 either because they have tested positive for coronavirus or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, and meets the eligibility criteria, may be entitled to a £500 support payment. To find out more and to apply for a payment, go to <https://www.durham.gov.uk/testandtracepayment>

Businesses in County Durham which have had to close due to the new restrictions will also be able to access financial support through the Local Restrictions Support Grant Scheme, which Durham County Council will launch next week. There are separate grants available for businesses that were affected by socialising restrictions during the Tier 2 local restrictions (between 18 September and 4 November) and for businesses that have been required to close as a result of the national lockdown (between 5 November and 2 December).

Further assistance available from the government includes the Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme; the Bounce Back Loan Scheme, which enables smaller businesses to access finance more quickly during the coronavirus outbreak; and the Future Fund, which provides government loans to UK-based companies, application deadlines have now been extended to January 31 2021. The government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme - also known as the Furlough scheme - will now remain open until the end of March 2021, with employees receiving 80 per cent of their current salary for hours not worked, up to a maximum of £2,500. Businesses will be able to bring furloughed employees back to work on a part time basis or furlough them full-time and will be asked to cover National Insurance and employer pension contributions.

Business Durham has produced a brochure outlining the support available. Find it at www.businessdurham.co.uk/covid-19-recovery/covid-recovery-for-businesses/business-support-brochure/ Cllr Simon Henig, leader of Durham County Council, said: "We appreciate that this a difficult and unsettling period but please be aware that there is support available for individuals, families, businesses and their employees.

"We would continue to encourage people, where possible, to use their trusted network of family and friends in the first instance of need. However, I would also like to assure everyone that the council and our partners are here to help and to get in touch if you or someone you know could benefit from the support on offer."

Other support includes:

- County Durham Jobs Fuse helps employers and jobseekers by promoting vacancies and providing tailored support to businesses. Individuals can also call the National Careers Service freephone number for advice on 0800 100 900 or access resources at www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk. Employers can ring

0808 1963596 or email to get tailored support at JobsFuse@educationdevelopmenttrust.com

- The government has introduced a Kickstart Scheme which provides funding to create new job placements for 16 to 24-year-olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long-term unemployment. Durham County Council is a Kickstart gateway with the potential for the creation of 200 to 260 new jobs as part of the scheme. For more information go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/kickstart-scheme>

- DurhamWorks is supporting unemployed young people aged 16 to 24 to secure employment by providing small businesses with a salary grant of up to £2,500. More details are at www.durhamworks.info/

- Employability Durham supports County Durham residents who are unemployed and over 25, to move into employment and training. For further information see www.durham.gov.uk/employability

- The Durham Savers Project, also run by the council, supports the financial well-being of people who live and work in County Durham. More details are available at www.durham.gov.uk/DurhamSavers

Greenfield Students are 'Creative Collaborators'

Students from Greenfield Community College have been working alongside Grace Dunne from the Anne Frank Trust and Greenfield Arts to collaborate on a valuable initiative. The project 'Creative Collaborators' aims to promote kindness and tolerance, drawing upon the legacy of Anne Frank and the lessons we can learn from such an inspiring young advocate.



Students are looking at ways in which they can use their resilience, skills and attributes to share important messages with their peers that reflect Anne's values that she held on to with a passion through such a difficult period of time and relayed through her writing.

The project will explore Anne's diary, the ways in which she used her writing to reflect and to share powerful learning. The young people will develop knowledge, skills and confidence to enable them to become mentors, and learn how best to challenge important issues such as prejudice and racism through creative activity.

It will give young people the opportunity to look at the world around them in the current climate and ask 'what else is possible?' and 'how can we all take better action?'

One student said "It's important that we look after each other and our family, but it's not enough, we need to look after each other. We need to be kind. It's important we understand other people's perspectives and this project will be a great opportunity to explore that."

Greenfield Community College are an Arts and Science specialist school that are committed to offer a range of learning opportunities that promote an inclusive curriculum encouraging students to work together to realise an outstanding learning experience.

For more information visit the website www.greenfieldschool.net

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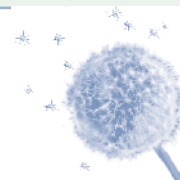


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Care Home Christmas Challenge

Hi to ALL staff and helpers in our seven Care and Nursing homes.

As this second lockdown moves along I would like to "CHALLENGE" you all during this time running up to Christmas. We all know how you take so much care in making your Home so special by decorating it before Christmas. Well now I want you to pull out ALL the stops.

Get that sparkle and sprinkle going,
Up with your trees and festive lights,
Get the halls all decked with Holly, tra-a-la-la-la,
Leave the drink (for the moment) or you might get jolly!
Blow up your snowmen and Santa too,
don't put poor Santa up the flue!
Light up the doorways, and the rooms will glow,
Not too much glitter now, or it will look like snow.
Let's hear some singing, carols galore,
The cooks mince pies will have us shouting MORE!
Get your cards written, the postman is ready,
Don't think it's Pat, he's none too steady (too much sherry).
Dashing around making everything nice,
The place looks lovely all sugar and spice.
Take lots of photos, you can't have too many,
Newton Press is waiting for them, with Paul and co at the ready.
There will be a winner, this we know,
But how on earth can we judge with so much to show.
Just do your best folks, this we know you will do,
A tin of chocolates awaits the lucky Home too.
Good luck everyone, you can do it, send your photos in as soon as you can.
Thank you all, God bless your decorating skills.
Love from Pam, your own little gnome.
If anyone out there would lie to donate a tin of chocolates, please
feel free, then they all can be winners . . . Sssshhhhh . . .

Juniors F.C. Weekly Update



U13s Whites away to Boro Rangers Blues Boro Rangers Blues 1-4 U13s Whites.

TJFA 1st Division 04/11/20

Newton Aycliffe Juniors U13s Whites were asked if they could fit one last match in before the leagues were all affected and grassroots football stopped by the lockdown. They duly obliged by playing a night match away to Boro Rangers Blues. Aycliffe were outstanding again, playing some fantastic football dominating a match against a good side.

Every player worked hard in each part of the field, battling for tackles, blocking, pressing high and playing quality football. Jack, the keeper, only had one save to make and that shows how much Aycliffe dominated the game. Tyler scored three goals with his third goal being an exquisite run from the half way line, with two opposing players frantically chasing him and, including the keeper who all failed to stop him, he then showed great composure to score a fantastic goal, Brad put away the fourth goal.

The coach said after the match "That is back to back league wins for the team on the back of two fantastic performances. I'm absolutely gutted we have lockdown again as the kids have been playing some brilliant football over the last two games".

Jayden was awarded the MOTM by tonight's referee, so well done.

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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
"The Saturday Night Experience" Sponsored by Bengal Lounge Indian Restaurant & Takeaway		
6-8pm	Evening Session	Jimjams
8-9pm	Rock the House	Carl Booth
9-10pm	Retro Trance Mix	OZ-DJ
10-12am	Street 'n' Drum 'n' Bass	MC Supa
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
Blues Show Sponsored by Whitehouse Funeral Service		
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	20th Nov. - Nathan Abbott Classix Dance Show	
10-12am	Alternative Aycliffe (R)	Gaz n Alby

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

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Damaged Sign Ignored

Dear Sir,

I am sure that a lot of residents and visitors to our town, here in Newton Aycliffe, will agree with me, that on the whole it is an attractive location and in the main well kept.

However, it does have the odd down side that no one seems to be bothered about, ie: the number of vehicles illegally parked on our streets both during daylight and darkness and the gangs of youths roaming about, which in itself is intimidating to both the elderly and the very young.

However, I have been taking notice of a traffic sign which has either been hit by a vehicle or vandalised. The sign in question is at the junction with Greenfield Way and Williamfield Way, it indicates a cycle path. This sign has been in its damaged state for about twelve months and no one in authority has took it upon themselves to report it to the correct department.

Police Officers, Councillors, livin staff and Durham County Council staff, all of whom must have passed this damaged sign on numerous occasions - but it seems not one of these has bothered themselves about it.

The point I am making is, are all of these people in authority only interested in certain aspects of Newton Aycliffe and not the Town as a whole?

Name and address supplied

The Dangers Behind Covid-19 Pandemic

Dear Sir,

We have read or seen on TV in recent weeks about the dangers of Covid-19 and not using a mask, this is a story I had to endure from a friend of mine.

This friend of mine had an appointment at hospital for a medical procedure, three days before she had to go to hospital and have a Covid-19 check. She was fit and well with no symptoms, but, when she had the test and it was checked it came back positive with the virus, yet she never developed any symptoms. However, she was told to isolate for two weeks. There could be other people out and about that can carry the virus and pass it on to others without knowing. This is why it is so important to wear a mask, keep your distance and keep your hands clean - to help others as well as yourself.

I am sure that most people know and understand the rules, but it is good to be reminded and for people to say that this virus does not exist is a travesty and wrong.

On another issue, whilst out shopping, we learn why it is important to wear a face mask. Last week I decided to do my shopping in Tesco, so went early between 7am and 8am when I thought it would be less busy, therefore more safe. As I am a person in my late 70's and living alone, I try to be very careful about Covid-19. The shop was not full, but there are a good number of people of all ages, everyone in all the aisles was wearing a mask and kept their distance.

When I went to pay there were only two tills open, next to each other, when I looked towards the till I was not about to use, I noticed a woman who does not agree with the wearing of face masks and obviously not wearing one, talking and laughing while the poor assistant had no choice but to serve her. There was the usual high screen around to protect her, but what about the rest of the shoppers who go to that till, what residue is being left on the screen for the next person after her?

The wearing of masks is to protect others not ourselves, remembering what some people are saying, "there is no virus, no need for masks". Tell that to the devastated mother whose daughters, both nurses in the NHS, were both diagnosed with Covid-19, one died the first day of diagnosis and the second the next day. Please think of others and not yourself, I would ask people to follow the government guidance and think of others, wear a mask, you might save a life.

Norma Wise

Crafter's Companion Launch New Christmas Decoration

The charity decoration, which is a first for Crafter's Companion, is a purple stocking filled with crafty tools and essentials. For every decoration sold, £1.75 of the £5.99 retail price will be donated to the children's charity, The Bradley Lowery Foundation.

Since it was founded, the Bradley Lowery Foundation has raised more than £3million for dozens of poorly children; established a dedicated support line for the families of children with cancer; donated over £200,000 to researching childhood cancers; campaigned for new drugs to be introduced in the UK and has plans to build a holiday home in Scarborough. Sara Davies, who is the patron of the Bradley Lowery Foundation, said: "Earlier this year we named the Bradley Lowery Foundation our charity of the year and our CSR team planned a range of fundraising activities to support the organisation. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, none of these events have been able to go ahead. So many charities have been affected by the challenges of this year, and we wanted to do something special to show our support of the foundation. We thought a Crafter's Companion-inspired Christmas decoration would be the perfect way to raise some much-needed funds for the charity and hope that people love the stocking as much as we do."

Gemma Lowery, founder of the Bradley Lowery Foundation and Bradley's mum, said: "Christmas is always a difficult time for our family since Bradley went with the angels, so it's more important than ever that we help as many families as we can, to preserve Brad's legacy. We're so grateful to our patron, Sara Davies, and the team at Crafter's Companion for creating this lovely decoration which will help us to deliver more support for poorly children and their families around the UK."



"Living in a False Truth"

Dear Sir,

I would like to respond to the letter submitted by Vince Crosby in last week's edition of the Newton News.

I do apologise . . .

I apologise for the 1000s of people that will commit suicide during this second lockdown, as well as the last;

I apologise to our elderly, who, if they had the choice, and free, I know they would rather risk any illness and be with their family in the last years of their life, rather than sit in a home without love or touch from family members. Or their favourite sweets being brought in from their grandchildren.

I apologise to the students barricaded in their accommodation like animals (I am so proud that they knocked them down).

I apologise to the people forcing masks over their children's faces in fear, when top medical professionals are telling us it is unhealthy and can cause illness.

I apologise to all the people who won't receive medical treatment for other illnesses, including cancer. People who can't get dental treatment, men who can't be with their partners while they give birth. I apologise for what is going on in the world right now, but I will never apologise for the truth and what I believe in.

And, if you don't like it, carry on living in a false truth, but I will not. Irene Hewitson



Paul Howell

Member of Parliament
for Sedgefield

paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk
Telephone: 020 7219 6385
Mobile: 07464 898442
Aycliffe Office: 01325 790580



Aycliffe Village Speed Watch

Dear Sir,
Aycliffe Village Residents Association (AVRA) have been operating a Community Speed Watch since September. Speeds have been monitored along Durham Road and also on the A167 into the Village from the bypass. The results have shown a general reduction of speeds on Durham Road in the mornings at school times, and, considering that the monitoring point is a significant distance from the 30 restriction sign is a positive result. The average number of speeders was 10% of the total recorded on Durham Road of 118 vehicles. On the A167 there were 66 speeders out of 850 vehicles.

These figures are combined from September and October monitoring and this monitoring will continue over coming months. The details of offenders are registered on the Durham Police Computer for future reference and action from Durham Police. The A167 has also had positive results whilst the monitoring is taking place but at other times speeds of some vehicles is far too high and AVRA are again taking this up with Durham County Council to investigate the possibility of further more permanent measures to address this problem. There have also been a number of complaints about the speed of some vehicles on the road that crosses the Green from the County towards the lower end. Many children are present on the Green especially when the weather is warm and many families are seated outside the County with numerous vehicles parked on the road reducing the width to single lane. 20 is plenty on the Green and most drivers are careful, just a few who are not.

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County Library Collection Scheme Reintroduced

A collection service that enabled County Durham residents to access library books during the initial coronavirus lockdown was reintroduced this week.

Durham County Council introduced its 'pick and collect' service in July to enable people to borrow books for the first time since lockdown restrictions were introduced in March. Between July and September, more than 15,000 titles were borrowed through the scheme, providing much-needed entertainment and escapism to people of all ages.

With a second national lockdown now in place until Wednesday 2nd December, the council has brought back the service.

It follows the closure of all of the council's libraries in line with Government requirements. Collection points will be reintroduced at twelve libraries: Barnard Castle, Chester-le-Street, Consett, Crook, **Newton Aycliffe**, Peterlee, Seaham, Shildon, Spennymoor, Stanley, Bishop Auckland Town Hall Library and Clayport Library in Durham.

All other libraries will remain closed during the lockdown period, but anyone can use the pick and collect service, regardless of where in the county they live or which library they normally visit.

Members of the public can order up to six books either online or over the phone. They will then be contacted by library staff, using their registered phone number, to arrange a collection day when they can pick up their chosen titles from a participating library. Cllr Joy Allen, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for transformation, culture and tourism, said: "Our pick and collect service operated from July until mid-September when we reintroduced in-library browsing and PC use. It was a great success, providing an easy way for people to access books while also protecting the safety of both staff and customers. We understand the important role books play in lifting people's spirits and by reintroducing our pick and collect service, we hope our libraries can continue to provide comfort and entertainment to residents during this difficult time."

The libraries where the service is being reintroduced have been chosen as they are located in town centres and in larger buildings

where there is space to queue. The chosen sites also offer a good geographical spread of locations around the county. Times when collections can be made may differ at each library and will not be in line with their former opening hours. Customers will be advised of this when making their booking.

None of these libraries will be open for browsing and all other library services, including access to public computers, will remain suspended for the time being.

County Durham library users can continue to access online services, however, with an extended digital offer including more eBooks, eMagazines and eAudiobook titles and free access to research tool Ancestry.

These services will continue alongside a temporary Doorstep Book Delivery service, which was introduced during the March lockdown period to provide reading material for isolated and vulnerable Books on Wheels library members.

Anyone can become a library member by visiting Library Online at www.durham.gov.uk/libraryonline or calling one of the participating libraries.

For more information about County Durham libraries and the pick and collect service, including contact details for participating libraries, visit www.durham.gov.uk/pickandcollect.

Residents can also follow the library service's Facebook or Twitter accounts at <https://twitter.com/DurhamLibraries> and <https://www.facebook.com/CountyDurhamLibraries>

Sacred Trust

Dear Sir,
I agree with much of what John Clare has had to say about Climate Change, and in particular that it is the greatest threat humanity faces, potentially far worse than the Covid-19 pandemic.

I admit that preventing Climate Change (if it is not already too late) will be costly, and disrupt the comfortable lifestyles that many of us (but by no means all) currently enjoy. However, if we fail to act effectively, then sea-levels will rise, and much existing agricultural land will also be rendered unproductive. This will lead to mass migrations of people across borders, desperately seeking new places to live and/or grow the food they need, which will inevitably be resisted by the current occupants, leading to wars, which could well eventually spread all over the Earth as the problem grows worse. This may be "Doom and Gloom", but the overwhelming majority of scientists agree that this is the harsh reality that we all face in future. Denying that there is a problem, or burying our heads in the sand, and hoping that it will go away if we simply refuse to think about it, is surely the height of folly.

The Tories frequently talk about our having a "sacred trust" not to hand on a mountain of Government debt to our children, and I agree with this in principle (although not with the way they have tried to tackle it). However, I would suggest that leaving our children a planet on which they can live safely in future is far more important, and I certainly don't trust the Tories to do that.

Alan Jordan, Middridge

Sudoku

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

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Greenfield Arts Call Out for Young Artists



Greenfield Arts are calling out for young artists to join their campaign and produce artwork that will inspire a 'climate of change'. The artwork will be showcased in a new exciting online exhibition led by young people.

The campaign, 'How Can We Help' was launched as part of the National Big Draw. It is designed to create a climate of change and began with a workshop for young people who worked alongside professional artist Paul Theo Murray to produce some amazing campaign artwork, decorating canvas bags and creating original slogans and motifs to support the campaign.

The exhibition and campaign has also been launched within Greenfield Community College through their assemblies and Time for Success tutor programme. We are excited and looking forward to sharing the artwork that is created, inspired by the ideas 'how can we help?'. The exhibition will run online from Friday 27th November to Monday 14th December and entries are open until Friday 20th November.

You could create a poem, design a banner, create an image or create a 3D item like a mask or a bag to get us all thinking about ways we can help. If you are 18 and under and would like to join our campaign please contact our friendly team on 01325 379048 or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk to register your interest and find out more or visit our website.

Although our arts facility is closed at present Greenfield Arts are continuing with a busy autumn programme exploring creativity and new possibilities.

Greenfield Arts are committed to providing high quality stimulating arts and creative activity and encouraging questioning and enquiry. To find out more about our programme and the many exhibitions, projects and activities on offer visit our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

Cayden Jackman - Happy 6th Birthday

Happy birthday to our gorgeous grandson. Hope you have a fabulous birthday. Sadly, no party this year but I'm sure you'll enjoy your gifts and cake!

Lots of love, Nannie and Grandad xxx

Happy birthday Cayden. Hope you have a brilliant day and enjoy your gifts.

Lots of love, Mum and Martin xxx

Happy 6th birthday Cayden. Love & hugs from Uncle Macca, Great Granddad & Rachel, Great Nan & Davy, Auntie Rachael and all your family and friends xxxx



16th November 2020

Congratulations

Jack Kjenstad

18 on 19th November

Hope you enjoy your birthday with your family. A bit different this year but you'll still have a good time.

Lots of love from
Gran xx
Grandad Alan xx

Jackie Piggott

16th November 2019

A year has passed without you, my heart aches in sadness.

My silent tears flow, what it meant to lose you Jackie, no one will ever know.

Your loving Wife
Norah xxxx

Fred and Edna Mounsey

Time Passes,
Memories Stay,
Quietly Remembered
Every day.
Love from all the family

Beryl Richardson (nee Kelly)



25th February 1949 to
13th November 2015

Five years has passed. The bitter pain will never fade. Your memory will never escape me, your face will always be dear in my heart. Still very much in my thoughts. Much loved and I miss you very much, each precious moment you gave me shall never, ever part.
Love you,
Grumpy Old Joe

Obituary

Mark Temple



Peacefully on 9th November, aged 58. Beloved Husband of Vicky; Dad of Sam, Brandon, Kaylee, Elizabeth and Lucy; Son of Margaret and Michael; Grandad of Freddie, Joseph and Iris; Brother of Michael, Melvin and Martyn. Will forever be in our hearts and will be missed dearly xxx

Grant Edgar (Son)

16th November 1985

I want to hear your voice and see your beautiful smile.

I want to hold you tight and never let you go again, and tell you how much I love you.

So, my beautiful Son, until we meet again.
Love forever,
Mam, Paul, Lee, Andy
and all the family xxx

David Atkins (Ake)

19th November

It's three years since you left us Son. I love and miss you as much as ever.
Harry

David Atkins

Love and miss you
Daddy, always.
Jonathan Kraig

David Atkins (Brother)

Sadly missed.
Always remembered,
But always loved
Kidda.
Paul, Sharon, Brianna,
Brogan and Jade xxx

Evan Scott Morgan

**8th November 2004 -
3rd November 2020**

Much loved Son,
Brother, Grandson,
Cousin and Friend.

Evan will be leaving home at 10am and the funeral will be held at Coundon Crematorium on Friday 20th November 2020 at 10.30am for anyone who wishes to pay their respects.

Birthday Remembrance

Margaret Bradley

14th November
Always thinking
of you.
Jean

Catherine Raine (nee Hoar)



3/2/1977-18/11/2018

Thinking of our lovely Daughter Catherine, today and every day. We love you and miss you always.
Mam, Dad, Andrew
and all of the family

Local Business News

Newton Aycliffe Fabrication Firm Forges Growth Plans

One of the UK's leading steel fabrication firms has secured £805,000 from HSBC UK to purchase its premises in the North East of England.

Raisco, a specialist in structural steelwork, had been leasing its premises, originally 35,000 sq ft which increased to 45,000 sq. ft in 2019, at the Aycliffe Business Park, County Durham for the past nine years.

The funding has enabled Raisco to take ownership of the premises, securing the long-term future of the business. The purchase will allow Raisco to grow by accessing and developing additional space that was previously commercially unviable. The purchase will also allow Raisco to further

increase its floor space and reconfigure the premises, as well as secure outside space that will together fuel organic growth of the business. The additional space also means further employment opportunities are possible and enables Raisco to continue to improve its overall operational efficiency.

To support business growth, Raisco also secured £245,000 from The County Durham Growth Fund, managed by UMi on behalf of Durham County Council's economic development arm, Business Durham, and part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

Gary Raistrick, Managing Director at Raisco, explained: "We have been working with our hands tied behind our backs for many years by not being able to develop our premises and expand in a way that would help the business grow and improve. There are exciting times ahead for Raisco now we have this additional floor space and added significant outside space to cope with increased output levels. Thanks to HSBC UK's support, we can now move forward in re-developing the site to our requirements and the highest standards to support our future growth."

Ben Foster, Relationship Director at HSBC UK, added: "Purchasing its premises is an important step for Raisco to fulfil its potential and prepare the business for future growth. We're delighted to help them to do this and look forward to seeing the business prosper in the months and years to come."

Sarah Slaven, Interim Managing Director at Business Durham, said: "It is fantastic that the County Durham Growth Fund has been able to support Raisco to grow the business in County Durham. The fund was set up to support businesses to invest, expand their operation and create new jobs, which is even more important now as we enter the critical recovery phase from the coronavirus pandemic."

Cllr Carl Marshall, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for economic regeneration, said: "Supporting businesses to expand is key to safeguarding jobs and creating new opportunities for County Durham residents. It has long been a priority for the council and will also play a crucial role in the county's economic recovery from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. I am delighted we have been able to support Raisco through our County Durham Growth Fund and wish them great success in the future."



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