

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

Defoe Court Celebrate Highest Review Score



See page 3 for full story

Special thank you to your Newton News Sponsors:

SHAKE 'N' CAKE



PAUL HOWELL
MP for Sedgefield



It's Better to Surprise the People Than Disappoint Them

Dear Sir,

Much has been made about the drastic changing face of local politics but with great change comes great responsibility and nothing can create greater dissatisfaction than those who raise public expectation and then fail to deliver. Politics is about perception and character; the perceptions of the electorate as to what they think the problems are, and what should be done about them, and the character of the men and woman who seek to act in the best interest of the community as a whole.

Change, when it's needed, is all well and good but we must ensure our response to the politics of the past is both measured and appropriate. New brooms have their uses but a period of reflection is prudent and must come before promises of drastic sweeping changes. The first leg of this race was decided on the 6th May, but now we have to pace ourselves for the four year journey ahead. Democracy is a wonderful idea but high ideals must have their roots set firmly in grounded reality and nothing worthwhile comes to fruition without the commitment and dedication of those who believe in its value and are prepared to work to make it a reality. Quick fixes may gain us plaudits and even buy us some time, but quick fixes aren't always the same as lasting solutions and can lead to inevitable disappointments.

The politics of the past created both disappointment and disillusionment and indirectly presented us with the opportunity to capitalise on their shortcomings and do things differently. It's right we should take a moment to enjoy our success, but remind ourselves to learn from the past and remember it's always better to surprise people than disappoint them.

Cllr Phillip Hawkins

Workplace Health and Wellbeing Celebrated

A leading North East partnership is showcasing organisations with excellent workplace wellbeing.

The Better Health at Work Award (BHAWA) County Durham is proud to honour organisations for their dedication to improving workplace health through advanced training and awareness.

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) are one of many organisations leading the way to shape a future of better health and wellbeing practices in the workplace, as they currently hold a Maintaining Excellence Award and Ambassador Status. The BHAWA are appealing for businesses in County Durham that are ready to join CDDFRS and prioritise their workforce's health and wellbeing.

The award is free and available to all businesses in County Durham, who will be given access to a supportive workplace health team and training opportunities to understand stress and basic mental health. Through relevant training from the award, organisations across the region have seen a decrease in absenteeism and an increase in productivity and improved performance from their team.

Other areas employers can focus on to build on staff wellbeing include financial wellbeing, smoking and tobacco, disease prevention, physical activity, cancer awareness and dementia awareness.

If your business is interested in raising awareness and values health and wellbeing, contact workplacehealth@pcp.uk.net

Find out more about the Better Health at Work Award's at:

www.betterhealthatworkawarddurham.co.uk

Connect with CDDFRS at www.ddfire.gov.uk

Visit PCP's social media channels: PCP's Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/PCPandCentre

PCP's Twitter and Instagram @PioneeringCare

Covid Compliant Events by Aycliffe Radio

Over the last couple of months Aycliffe Radio have been working closely with Durham County Councils' Covid Compliance Team, who have been a tremendous help in ensuring that the Drive-In events to be held at ROF59 this weekend are following government guidelines.

Aycliffe Radio, the organisers of the Drive-In events, would like to thank the Covid Compliance Team for their advice, guidance and assistance in helping to pull these events together and keeping everyone who attends, as well as our volunteers, safe during the events.

The organisers are hoping that the current restrictions will be lifted on 21st June to enable concert like events to take place during the summer - watch Newton News and Aycliffe Radio website for more details of future events.

To follow the current guidelines all cars will be socially distanced, with a grassed area beside for the audience to enjoy the shows (bring your deck chairs). The on-site bar will be a table service to your vehicle, as will the barbecue.

The first event takes place on Saturday 29th May from 5-10pm and will feature local DJs playing hits from the 90s and 00s along with a couple of solo singers. On Bank Holiday Monday 31st May, between 2-5pm, tribute band The Beatles Unplugged and Jay Murray, Liverpool's Cavern Club resident singer, will entertain - for more information please visit www.ayclifferradio.co.uk/tickets. Profits from all the Aycliffe Radio events will be donated to local charities and organisations.

"I would like to give a special thank you to all those who volunteer to help with the set up and running of the events, our team are on site three hours before and give their time willingly to help the various causes the station supports" said Paul, Station Manager.

THE HUNTSMAN

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500 Miles Cycled in 50 Days

Dear Sir,
Local man, Paul Eales, has cycled over 500 miles in 50 days!
 On most of the days he dedicated his ride to a cancer story from one of his friends and raised awareness and money for Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group. Final figure donated to the Group was £2580. Paul lost his own father to cancer which was the starting point to raise funds for a local charity who help cancer patients and their families through the tough times. In our lifetime we will all know someone who will be affected by cancer. Paul had loved ones fight and lose the battle and we will unfortunately see more and more of our loved ones be affected by this. "I wanted to do my bit, so I was pleased to raise over £2500 by cycling 500 miles in 50 days before my sisters 50th Birthday. I was very encouraged by the support I received and the monetary donations which helped to keep me motivated and to succeed at the task in hand. I did this for those who have fought, still fighting, or those that will need to



fight in the future" said Paul. The JustGiving page is still open for any donations:
<https://tinyurl.com/45kwa9h3>

Defoe Court Celebrate Highest Review Score

HC-One's Defoe Court care home in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham is celebrating having achieved the highest possible average user rating on carehome.co.uk. Carehome.co.uk is the sectors leading reviews website, listing all registered UK care homes, helping people search for the right care home for themselves or their loved ones.

The team at Defoe Court were delighted to achieve the highest possible review rating on carehome.co.uk. Residents at the care home were also pleased to hear the good news, with John commenting that his home is worth more than 10/10.

Defoe Court Home Manager, Sarah Todd, said: "Due to COVID-19 it was a challenge to receive reviews with restrictions not allowing visitors, which makes this achievement a real testament to the love, care and attention that our amazing staff can provide for our Residents and their loved ones."

Located on Defoe Crescent, Defoe Court care home offers short and long term care packages for older ladies and gentlemen in County Durham that require residential care and nursing care.

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Due to the unfortunate events of the pandemic, we haven't been able to provide our amazing, top quality indoor service, as we have only been able to cater for takeaways due to the restrictions.

We are offering 40% Discount on food while dining in our well refined restaurant (excluding drinks)

This offer will last between Monday 31st May to Sunday 6th June as we would like to give back to the community in anyway we can in appreciation of the overwhelming support for our business during the tough times we have endured during the pandemic.

The Elachi team can't thank you all enough.

To avoid disappointment, please book a table, to do so, please call 01325 316516



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Newton News
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AYCLIFFE RADIO

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Weekly Programme Schedule

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TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT

"Aycliffe Town Centre... Shopping for You"



Classic "Love Songs" Sun-Thurs 12 to 3am, Fri & Sat 1-3am

**** Updates from MP Paul Howell at 12noon weekdays ****

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	Motown, Northern & Classic Soul	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	Drum 'n' Bass Show	MC Supa
12-1am	Night Club Session	A DJ

SUNDAY

9-10am	Church Service	Xcel Centre
10-11am	Yesterdays Music Today	Alan Brown
11-12pm	Random Reiki Master	Phil Hawkins
12-2pm	Dave's Sunday Brunch	David Ringer
'Blues Show' Sponsored by Whitehouse Funeral Service		
2-4pm	Bear Blues Show	Colin & Monica
4-6pm	Folk/Celtic/Rock Show	Steve & Col
6:30-8pm	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	Colin McNeillie
2-4pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker

MONDAY

'Through the Decades' Sponsored by McDonalds Newton Park

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
7-10pm	Motown, Northern & Classic Soul	Kevin Sowerby

WEDNESDAY

5-7pm	Joey's Jukebox	Joey Collins
8-10pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gaz n Alby

THURSDAY

6-8pm	The List	Colin McNeillie
8-10pm	BeatRoote	Graeme Roote
10-12am	Rock Night	Jonny Goldsmith

FRIDAY

'Weekend Warmup' Sponsored by Shake n Cake

4-6pm	Weekend Warmup	Dan Calum
6-8pm	Techno Trance Mix	PVR Studios
8-10pm	4th June - Nathan Abbott Dance Classix	
10-12am	Alternative Aycliffe (R)	Gaz n Alby
12-1am	Night Club Session	A DJ

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

Newton Broadcasting Limited (t/a Aycliffe Radio) is a Private Company Limited by Guarantee, registered on 19th February 2018 in England and Wales. Registration number 11211835. Registered office: Aycliffe Radio, c/o Blue Bridge Centre, St. Cuthbert's Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6DS. Aycliffe Radio is CIC Registered (No. 11455404). Scheduled shows can be changed/cancelled at any time.

LISTENING OPTIONS:

Free App (all formats), TuneIn, Alexa, Radios Online, Internet Radio, Online Radio, RadioGarden, Radio Box, StreamFinder, Deezer, Radio Shaker



Onerous and Stressful Job

Dear Sir,

I was quite saddened to read John Clare's letter in last week's edition. Although I very often disagree with his views and political stance, I must say Councillor Clare, and also Councillor Bob Fleming, have been the most prominent and influential local politicians for many years, and I hold them both in high regard. These are tremendously diligent and knowledgeable councillors with vast experience, and I thought it was sad that neither were elected to the County council on this occasion.

Councillor Clare was absolutely right in saying that being a County Councillor is a very onerous and stressful job if you do it properly. I see it as massively more onerous than serving as a town councillor. The briefest review of the papers for Council meetings on the durham.gov.uk website is enough to appreciate just how much documentation a diligent County Councillor needs to read, understand and make decisions on.

I suspect John Clare is one of the few who did this, not just on the Council, but on major committees. He wrote informative reports for us in the local press. He always responded promptly and honestly whenever I contacted him (and I am not even in his ward). His work ethic is phenomenal, he is articulate, erudite, caring and principled (though his principles often aren't the same as my own!).

As I see it, if you build vast numbers of executive houses in the wealthiest ward in town, eventually it has to become a Conservative ward, especially when coupled with a disjointed Labour Party obsessed with political correctness and devoid of common sense. Even a distinguished individual like John Clare was bound to struggle for votes.

Although I unhesitatingly voted for Councillor Fleming, I suspect too many considered him too old to be a County Councillor, and perhaps the electorate has taken the view that the public has asked and taken enough pounds of flesh from him over the years and he doesn't deserve the stress which would be placed upon him in the role. Bob Fleming stood head and shoulders above all the other candidates in my ward, despite his age. I knew he was a smart guy and that he had encyclopaedic knowledge of local politics, having seen this first hand as a public rep on the neighbourhood plan, but I did not realise he had had such a distinguished military career before becoming a head teacher. Bob has achieved success in three separate fields. Very few people could do this.

Time will tell whether the new batch of Councillors prove as worthy of the trust placed in them.
John Snowball

Free Half Term Holiday Activity at Greenfield Arts

Greenfield Arts are delighted to offer a range of free activities for young people as part of their new summer programme. Our May half term free holiday activity will run on Wednesday 2 June from 10:30 – 12:00 and is suitable for young people aged 8+. This session is inspired by our Finders, Seekers project and will be led by artist Paul Theo Murray. Join Paul at Greenfield Arts, have fun, explore ideas and make something amazing to take home in this hands-on session.



Our new Creative Explorers sessions, led by artist Dawn Belshaw, will run from Thursday 10 June from 16:00 – 17:30. A chance to be curious, explore change and have a great time creating and making. The free sessions are suitable for ages 8+, and you can reserve your place via our website using our simple online form or contact our friendly team on 01325 379048 for further information.

The sessions form part of a new programme with exhibitions, creative events, projects, courses and activities, check out the website at www.greenfield-arts.co.uk to find our full range of events available over the summer season.

Greenfield Arts are committed to offering high quality arts activity that helps stimulate creativity, questioning and enquiry.

N.A.F.C. JUNIORS

U8s Blacks travelled to Billingham Synthonia on Sunday morning. Billingham looked up for the game as soon as the whistle blew and quickly took the lead. The great play continued from the home side throughout the game, with Aycliffe fighting hard to keep them at bay. A spirited last 10 mins saw Aycliffe finally produce the football they are capable of and Regan grabbed a consolation for us. Overall, a very tough match for the lads, with Billingham deservedly coming out on top. Aycliffe MOTM Jacob Caygill.

U8s Whites made the journey up the A1 to play Washington Utd Navy under 7s. The home team were a quality outfit from the start, mostly being made up of academy players, but the Aycliffe lads kept going till the end. MOTM for Aycliffe going to Josh

U9s Whites played Washington on Saturday morning in the RFYL premier division. In a well-balanced match, both sides created lots of chances and played some fine football. Aycliffe were trialling a new formation for this fixture, and it worked well! They took the lead several times but unfortunately decisions near the end of the game went against them and there was nothing between both teams at the final whistle. Some well taken goals from Jack x2 and James. Man of the match for Aycliffe going to James for a strong performance in a new position.

U9s Blacks took on Seaton Carew Lions. A tough game for the Blacks against very good opposition. Seaton Carew Lions played

extremely well with their overall passing and positional play getting the better of the Blacks. This didn't deter Aycliffe and they gave it everything right up until the final whistle. So today wasn't their day, but a great effort from the team. MOTM for Aycliffe awarded to Rhys, his passing and general control in the centre of defence was excellent.

U9s Juniors travelled to Darlington 21st All-stars. Aycliffe started brightly playing some brilliant football & goals from Ernie & Marley. A slight lapse in concentration on the stroke of half time allowing All-stars to pull one back. Second half saw chances for both teams but with both keepers on fire and no more goals were scored. MOTM went to the whole team for a fantastic team display.

U12s Whites stormed to victory with an emphatic 5-0 victory against Eaglescliffe Yellows. Ethan opened the scoring in the second minute with a volley to beat any keeper. Jake grabbed a hat trick to give us a 4-0 lead at half time. Jack added a 5th in the second half and was awarded Aycliffe's MOTM. Prior to the match, the lads held a minute's silence to show their respect for recent sad passing of Jordan Banks.

U14s played host to Carlton Miniotts on Sunday morning, and continued their awesome start to the season. It was top versus bottom which saw the home team come out comfortable 5-0 winners with goals from Josh x 2 Trav, Reece and Sam. The victory keeps us top of the league with 12 wins from 12.

Calling All Sunderland Fans

Founded in 1994, the idea of four Newtonians, two of whom are still current members, the Branch was formed to provide affordable travel for Sunderland supporters to all of Sunderland AFC home games and suitable away games.

Still going strong with the same aims, travelling around, supporting our team and having a good time while doing so. We are a Branch with an excellent reputation within the Sunderland Football Community and we work closely with Officials at Sunderland Football Club to ensure that our Members get exclusive insights, deals and opportunities.

The Branch usually meets every first Thursday of the month at The Phoenix Club, Newton Aycliffe at 8.00pm. However, due to the current situation, all meetings were suspended in March last year and kept under review. All current members and anyone else expressing an interest are always most welcome.

Membership is £6 for the Season, however, due to the current situation, that we all found ourselves in which will not hopefully last forever, the Membership Fee together with all Branch Activity including the AGM, was suspended but will recommence as soon as it is considered safe and viable to do so when all restrictions have been lifted.

Last season home bus fares were £10 for adults, £8 for under 18's and £5 for under 5's but are under review.

Members all enjoy discounted fares at the rate of £8 for adults, £6 for under 18's with senior citizens (Members who are over 65) receiving a double discounted fare down to £5 and £3 for under 5's. May we respectfully remind Members that your Current Membership will cease on 31/05/2021 and for those Members who have not re-joined you can still do so by completing this season's membership Forms and even if we do not have a proper full-season you will still be recorded as a Member of The Branch.

If you are interested in joining, but cannot attend the meetings, please email SAFCNAB@gmail.com or contact us on Facebook (SAFC Supporters – Newton Aycliffe).

As always, thanks for your support.

Useful mobile phone numbers are:

Transport: 07515 019047

Membership: 07714 785555

ONWARDS AND UPWARDS

Magic A Party.com

NUTTY NEWT IS IN TOWN!

Come along to Aycliffe Town Centre on
Saturday, 29th May
 between 11am and 3pm
 to meet Craig, alias Nutty Newt,
 from 'magicaparty.com'

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 the family plus balloon modelling for the children.

It would be nuts to miss him!!!

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Memorial Thai Boxing Match



A memorial Thai Boxing match, to honour fallen paratrooper Nathan Cuthbertson, will take place on Saturday 20th November 2021 at Rainton Arena at Houghton-le-Spring. Members of the Armed Forces, past and present, will take to the ring in an evening of Thai Boxing.

The show honours Pte Nathan Cuthbertson of 2nd Battalion, Parachute Regiment (2 Para), who was killed while on foot patrol in Helmand Province in June 2008.

Organiser, Dave Corrigan, also set up a Thai Boxing club in Birtley, called the 'Cuthy 200 Thai Boxing Academy' and he says it has long been a passion of his to create an annual boxing match in Nathan's name. Dave said: "It's amazing what Tom and Carla (Nathan's parents) have achieved out of tragedy and it's driven me to do what I can to help. We already have a number of fighters matched for the fight and, as you can imagine, it's very competitive."

Tickets for the event are priced at £25 (adults), £15 (U16s), Tables £300 (10 maximum), VIP Ringside Table £400.

The event will also be broadcast live on Fight Live TV and tickets for this prestigious event are available from paratrooper1960@sky.com or ring 07791 832266.

All Change at Town Council

Dear Sir,

At Great Aycliffe Town Council AGM, on Wednesday 19th May, a coalition of Independent and Liberal Democrat members ousted Labour from the main roles. This is the first time in forty years that the council have elected a non-Labour Mayor, Cllr. Sandra Haigh, and a non-Labour Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Ken Robson.

Thanks were expressed to Mary Dalton for her role as previous Mayor and the part she has played representing the council prior to her retirement.

Thanks must be given to Liberal Democrat Councillors who engaged with Independent Councillors to make this momentous change in direction of our council demonstrating that we can work together for the benefit of our wonderful town and its residents.

During the election process manifestos were distributed by all parties and individuals which it is our fervent hope that we can deliver whilst simultaneously keeping a stable fiscal position. For the next four years we shall be working together with all parties to deliver the best outcomes for our residents.

Residents of Great Aycliffe, thank you for placing your trust in us as a council, we shall repay that trust to the best of our ability.

Finally I would like to give my personal thanks to Town Clerk Dan Austin for skills and advice given, I am certain he will become the greatest town clerk this town has seen. Also my friend and mentor Cllr. Arun Chandran for his choreography of events which made the meeting run smoothly.

Cllr. Ken Robson

Your New Town Councillors

Following the publication of the results of the Town Council Elections held on Thursday 6th May 2021, we can confirm the new Town Councillors for the Great Aycliffe Parish.

Please see our website at:

www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

for links to the full election results.

The new political party split on the Town Council is as follows:-

13 x Labour Councillors

11 x Independent Councillors

6 x Liberal Democrat Councillors

A total of 30 Town Councillors - this

week's centre pages of the Newton

News show all your new councillors and contact details.

Rotary Donation



Sheena Stephenson, alongside a small group of volunteers and the charity 'Supporting Families', does some amazing work to help disadvantaged families in the Newton Aycliffe area. Rotary was pleased to help them recently with a donation, which then enabled them to purchase goods for both babies and children. This included 20 stair safety gates, bought from the Aldi UK (Newton Aycliffe, UK) store who kindly assisted with a competitive price, so our grateful thanks to them. The charity is looking for a storage unit, or at least, a storage area. If anyone out there might be able to help, please contact them on their Facebook page.

Pictured is Sheena collecting the safety gates and also receiving the donation from President Trish Pemberton.

Situations VACANT

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Main duties will include order processing, invoicing and booking transport as well as answering the phone, dealing with emails, filing and general office duties. Applicants should be experienced in Microsoft Office and Outlook. Knowledge of inputting basic data to Sage 50 Accounts desirable but not essential as training will be given.

To apply, please send a CV for the attention of Gillian Sayer to accounts@harvestfoods.co.uk or by post to Harvest Foods, Whinfield Drive, Aycliffe Business Park, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6AU. Previous applicants need not re-apply. No agencies.

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Ian Gray
Lab - 01325 313770



Brian Hall
Lab - 01325 314105



Andrea Miller
andreamiller.aycliffe@gmail.com

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Barbara A. Clare
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Sandra Haigh
Ind - 07867 788603



John Moore
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Lib - 07436 803533

TOWN MILLORS

ycliffe.gov.uk

AYCLIFFE VILLAGE



Carl Robinson
Ind - 07928 336263

WEST WARD



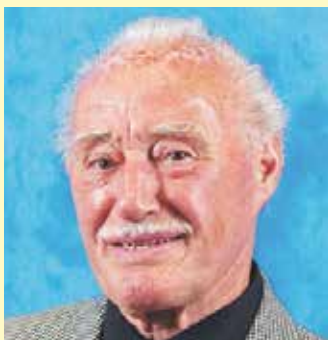
Eddy Adam
Lab - 07900 701966



Martin Ashcroft
Lab - 07811 403986



Arun M. Chandran
Ind - 07711 573043



George C. Gray
Ind - 07711 159763



Kate Hopper
Lab - 01325 314697



Ken Robson
Ind - 01325 321471

NEVILLE



Phillip Hawkins
Ind - 07825 739765



Neville Jones
Lib - 07966 898322

SIMPASTURE WARD



John Clark
Lab - 07972 170190



David Hardaker
Lab - 07981 238192

SHAFTO/ST. MARY'S



Tony Armstrong
Lib - 07920 118092



Robert S. Fleming
Lab - 01325 310025



Brian Haigh
Ind - 07932 562412



Wendy Hillary
Lab - 07814 828317

Sisters Are Doing It Bee Bombing

BEGINNERS RUNNING

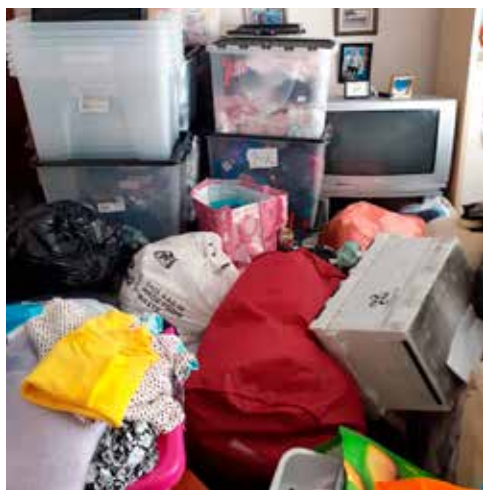
Have you always wanted to learn to run?
Improve your fitness?

Join a new group for ladies only?

Brand new beginners is kicking off on
Monday 14th June 2021 at 6.30pm. We run
from Town Centre Park for the following 10
weeks, 0-3 miles!

£25 for 10 weeks and you receive a medal
on week 10! Call or text Jules on 07966
968388 to secure your place!

Supporting Families Need Storage Help



Please can anyone help?

The Supporting Families team desperately need some premises, rent free or low rent, because for the last 15 months we have had to work from my 1-bedroom bungalow, as well as my garden shed, and have stock in 4 different places as well as a small storage unit.

Since Covid-19 hit, because the need was there, I had to take the project into my home and garden shed as we had to move out of the Youth Centre due to a rent increase. I couldn't let the project fold so the house is filled with boxes of clothes, from birth to adults, as teenagers are in adult clothes these days, baby milk, baby toiletries, toys and bouncy chairs.

We rely on donations of clothes, toys and baby equipment from the people of Newton Aycliffe and raise all our funds ourselves. We have had a lot of support from Rotary Newton Aycliffe and we are really grateful for their support; Shirley, Tesco Community Champion, has also given us a lot of support with baby milk that would have gone to landfill, she donates to us to help our families. People can contact us via Facebook or by text on 07725 369915 for help.



This Bank Holiday Monday, 31st May at 11:00-12:00, we will be holding a second Bee Bombing Event.

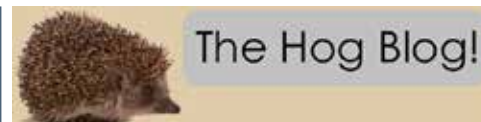
As you might remember we held the first one at the beginning of the month in Woodham Park. It was well attended, despite the weather, and the children and their parents seemed to have a good time learning about the need for 'food' for our pollinators whilst throwing their 'bombs'.

The Bee Bombs are made from a mixture of clay, compost and, of course, native wild flower seeds. This combination helps the seeds to germinate so hopefully we will then see a beautiful display of flowers that will feed our bees, birds and insects. They in turn will pollinate our own food plants. Like everything on the planet, production of food is reliant on all creatures working together. Please come along and have a little fun whilst doing your bit to help 'feed the world'.

The event will take place at the edge of the Burn, close to Humphrey Close, DL5 4EU. If you have the What3Words App, the address is 'stage.eggs.expand'. Please find photo of the area below.

The event has been made possible by the work of Stephanie Heselton who has grown and sold plants in an effort to fund this and other local projects.

As always, the event will follow government guidelines for social distancing and is FREE.



We would like our readers to be aware of the dangers our hedgehogs face out in the wild and a lot of them are caused by ourselves. If they are lucky and get picked up, they come to rescue centres where any health issues are addressed either here or with the help of our local vet, and get a second chance at life.



We have in Rescue a lovely hog called Marley. He came in last Friday night after a call from Alicia, it wasn't until Saturday I realised he had a severe parasite burden and a compound fracture. Also Freddie, who has had a very poorly paw for a month, it has been so badly swollen but now the swelling has settled it has revealed an exposed bone. Then on Sunday, little Barry who also has a front paw issue, quite a nasty paw too and he is only little still. They are all in need of the vets attention, whilst they are in a lot of pain they take their antibiotics and never cry out or bite, they are a very resilient species of mammal and a pleasure to help.

We have put out an appeal on our Facebook page for anyone who wants to help us with the vet costs, any amount, however small, will be much appreciated. Tara and I take nothing for granted so we will also be doing car boot sales over the next few weeks to make sure the finances can handle any unexpected emergencies, we all know by experience how vet bills can spiral out of control and you can't get insurance for wildlife! We also have regular supporters, if it weren't for them we wouldn't be able to afford Marley's amputation, firstly Alicia's donation, Bev, some beautiful items, that to be honest are too good for any car boot sale, Valerie and June for knitted items and lots of other help too, thank you and not forgetting our finders, they donate too.

Please be watchful when out, make sure your pet or your children don't hurt them, we get many through here that have some terrible dog bites and spines missing. Thank you, Tara, Tyra and Maxine.

Tip of the Week: It's mating season and nesting mums will be in your garden under hedgerows and bushes, please check before using any gardening equipment. If you need help, advice or a rehabber The British Hedgehog Preservation Society can be reached on 01584 890801, our email address is pricklyhaven@yahoo.com or our Facebook page is Prickly Haven Hedgehog Hotel.

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Helping Junior Football

Newton Aycliffe Youth Football Club continue to support teams in Africa by sending them old strips from our teams and football boots from our players. The latest donation is to a team in Kenya, following on from a strip we donated at the end of last year to the same club. We are an FA Charter Standard Community Club and now our footballing community extends to Kenya.



Sunderland AFC Keroche, began in the village of Karai, on the outskirts of the town of Naivasha, Kenya in 2012. Karai village is a very poor area, where only 1 in 28 of the adults have a full-time job. It all began as a way of trying to give the youth of the area a focus in life, to keep them away from life's darker temptations such as drugs, crime and alcohol etc.

It started quite simply as a group of football loving young men forming a football team, but they had no kit, no boots, and no pitch, but they give themselves the name of Sunderland AFC Keroche for 2 reasons: (1) The then manager elect was a Sunderland fan, (2) The village sits in the shadow of the huge KEROCHÉ BREWERY (Kenya's second largest brewery).

The boys played friendly games against other local villages, but soon realised that they were quite a good team and wanted to join a league. The then manager, Paul Kimani, approached a Sunderland fan Gary Lamb, (via Facebook) to ask if there was a possibility of trying to donate kits and boots etc. After checking out the team, and satisfied everything was genuine, Gary put out an appeal for shirts, plus boots, shorts and socks etc. and was overwhelmed by the response, So SUNDERLAND AFC KEROCHÉ, the school and their village of Karai, became a whole new place. As well as the senior team the club has 4 junior sections providing football for all ages. If you want more information why don't you follow them on Facebook - [sunderlandafc_keroche](https://www.facebook.com/sunderlandafc_keroche)

Carers Week Webinar

Calling all employers.

Why not join our Carers Week Webinar and Costa to see why supporting staff, who have caring responsibilities, makes business sense.

In aid of Carers Week (7th - 13th June), Durham County Carers Support is hosting a webinar to highlight their Carer Friendly Employer Award which is being fully funded by Durham and Darlington Councils.

The webinar is a 20 minute taster session on how employers/managers can support their staff who are also juggling caring responsibilities. The webinar is free and, because we are unable to hold a face to face with coffee and biscuits, we are offering Costa vouchers to those who attend.

There is a choice of two webinar dates:

Tuesday 8th June or Thursday 10th June at 11am.

For Zoom link and Costa voucher contact: fiona.kaley@dccarers.org

Parliament Talk



Tel: 01325 790580 - Email: paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk

This week it was my pleasure to be able to thank and compliment the vaccination team at Cobblers Hall for their efforts and I was delighted that the Secretary of State for Health, Matt Hancock, was able to take time out of his busy schedule to record a video recognising their efforts. For my constituency I also have a surgery based in Spennymoor that vaccinates into Ferryhill and the Trimdons etc and I was pleased to be able to call and see them this week too. These teams have been outstanding in their commitment and we continue to see that vaccination of the population is the way out of this crisis. As we see increased confidence in the effectiveness of vaccines this makes it even more important that we all get vaccinated as soon as we get the chance. I was delighted to get the offer of my second jab accelerated last week and have now had both and I obviously encourage everyone to do the same.

Last week we had a meeting between Baroness Vere and the team from my APPG on 'left behind' communities to discuss the latest APPG report on connecting communities. This report identified the need to help local authorities respond to local transport needs; to provide clear commitments for future local bus funding and to ensure that rail services, operating at reduced capacity because of the pandemic, can be restored and examine how rail reopening and investment in new capacity and community rail lines can be expedited, particularly in those neighbourhoods 'left behind' as a result of the Beeching cuts. It also covered investment in social infrastructure (community groups, etc) at a neighbourhood level to give 'left behind' communities a voice to boost their capacity and confidence to advocate for local needs.

With the increased freedom we have I was able to visit the Neighbourhood Policing team based in Peterlee who cover the villages in the north of my constituency. This team complements the Aycliffe based team but have substantially more significant antisocial behaviour to deal with. I have also joined sessions with the Weddings APPG and Durham University APPG, both of which help me to better understand their issues and where I can engage and help.

BEIS select committees continued. In the session on levelling up we interviewed Paul Scully, Minister for Small Business, Luke Hall, Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government, and Kate O'Neill, who is the director of policy for the Cities and Local Growth Unit. We examined what can be done to improve the everyday life and life chances for people in underperforming places around the country. In the session on Industrial Decarbonisation we talked about ensuring we are pursuing the right technological strategies to get the correct infrastructure in place and find practical solutions to reduce carbon emissions.

On Monday, for the first time in a few weeks, I came out of the draw for an OQ (Oral Question) this time to Ben Wallace, the Secretary of State for Defence. I asked him to make sure innovative businesses like Kromek in Sedgefield were fully considered in the MOD procurement processes and I invited him to come for a visit to see them for himself.

I was able to join the team at Maguires Holiday Homes at Newbus Grange Country Park, between Neasham and Hurworth, to promote the start of English Tourism Week (22-31 May 2021). The Country Park is stunning and attracts a surprising number of local people who have a home there for weekend breaks.

The lockdown continues to ease and all indications are that it will continue to stay on course, but we all need to do our part. Please understand, as we move forward, it is all about increasing our own personal responsibility and using our common sense. The rules will become less prescriptive as we recover the personal freedoms we all crave which is why it's up to us all to be sensible and follow the Hands, Face, Space and Fresh Air guidance. Even though you can go back into pubs etc it just makes sense to be cautious and take your time getting back to normal - Stay Safe.

Paul Howell

Member of Parliament for Sedgefield



Paul Howell

Member of Parliament for Sedgefield

paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk

Telephone: 020 7219 6385

Aycliffe Office: 01325 790580

Creative Director's New Challenge

Greenfield Arts are incredibly sad to be losing Creative Director Katy Milne as she moves on to new adventures in a new arts and cultural role across South Tyneside.

Katy has been an exceptional leader at Greenfield Arts and an integral part of Greenfield Community College for over sixteen years, elevating the arts and creative learning through a range of valuable and innovative partnership projects and creative programmes.

Katy has been responsible for bringing initiatives to the school and wider community by working alongside a range of partners. She is a tireless advocate of self-led learning and worked with TED prize winner Professor Sugata to initiate and host one of seven labs worldwide at Greenfield Arts, enabling students and young people to develop skills, be curious and grow to be self-led learners. Katy has also led both the Men's Cree and Youth Cree for 10 years at Greenfield Arts with funding from Public Health, supporting creativity and well-being in the community that cascades to support others. She has been responsible for wider projects such as 'Cutting Loose' festival programme, numerous art installations that have toured across the community/region to over 50,000 people and has supported artists, school residencies, live performances and been integral to achieving many arts awards and the school's Artsmark status.

Just this month, as our world opens up, Katy is celebrating the culmination of community projects such as 'Shout About Shildon' celebrating the people and the place; a pop-up musical performance with input from the Cree; the 'Shildon in Motion' artistic gateway at Shildon Station, student recognition for their poetry through the Terry Kelly awards and the creation of a film promoting a culture for creative learning led by student leaders. Katy leaves a lasting legacy of creative learning and enquiry through the many partnerships and initiatives she has nurtured, including her work with professional artists and organisations such as the Anne Frank Trust, creating a strong voice led by the young leaders and securing funding to 'make things happen'. Her personal touch and attention to detail is inspiring.

Katy has told us how proud she is of the creativity we continue to see across the community and the spirit of enquiry, curiosity and connection that we value so deeply

at Greenfield Arts.

Katy expressed how honoured she feels to have worked with so many amazing people across the community for the last 16 years, people who have been open to creatively explore ideas, collaborate, enquire, reflect and create. Katy told us how much she will miss working at Greenfield Arts, and across such fantastic communities here, as she moves on to new opportunities this June.

Katy has been instrumental in planning the next eighteen months of programming and securing funding for this activity. The work will continue through the physical resources she has developed and inspired, such as the student journal, our creative arts centre spaces and the student creative platform. Her passion for the arts, curiosity and self-led learning will continue in the hearts and minds of those she has inspired. With planning and funding in place she has ensured a smooth transition for the Greenfield Arts team to take forward.

"We wish Katy the very best as she moves to a new challenge and look forward to seeing the creative impact in South Tyneside. We wish her well" said Executive Headteacher, David Priestley.



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28-05-2021

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Neighbourhood Policing

By PCSO Steven Kipling



Hi everyone, PCSO Steven Kipling here.

This week, on the Neighbourhood team at Newton Aycliffe, has been really busy and productive. We have had a meeting with all of the newly elected Councillors to discuss new initiatives to bring to the communities in Newton Aycliffe. Some really exciting ideas came from this and we hope that we're able to share these with you in the coming months.

Our new E-Bikes have been a big hit again this week with engaging with members of the community and speaking to a wider range of people about their issues and positive stories.

This week I have completed a Herbert Protocol with a family to assist them in the future, should they need it. If you have a family member who is at risk of going missing and has Dementia/ Alzheimer's, get in touch with me and I'll arrange to complete a Herbert Protocol form where we keep the details and can assist with getting them home safely and as quickly as possible.

An incentive has been agreed, which will be offered through Crimestoppers, for information leading to the seizure of off-road bikes and/or apprehension of the rider where criminal damage has been caused, they have been ridden whilst the rider was under the influence of alcohol or drugs or there has been driving offences. The appeal for information must be specific, relating to a certain bike in a certain area at a certain time and is not an appeal for general info regarding off road bikes. If this information proves to be beneficial to the police, and results in seizures, the public will receive a small monetary award.

We are working with partner agencies to secure funding and are always looking at new and innovative ways to tackle the problem. Have you heard of our online messaging service 'Keep in the Know'? By signing up to this service for free you can find out what's happening in your local area – receive regular crime updates, information on road closures and learn about what your local neighbourhood policing team is doing. You can decide what agencies you wish to receive messages off when you sign up to the service. Head over to www.keepintheknow.co.uk and click 'Sign up'. It doesn't take long and you can be kept up to date with many different things.

Thanks for reading and enjoy your Bank Holiday Weekend!
PCSO Steven Kipling

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Greenfield Creative Student Finalists

Students from Greenfield Community College have been shortlisted for an award and their work has been chosen to be published in a regional anthology. Six Year 11 students have been 'speaking up for writing' and have been recognised for their creativity through the prestigious Terry Kelly Award. The students are supported by teacher Nicola Best and had little experience in writing creatively. The piece was written as a response to an exhibition at Greenfield Arts and the initiative was led by Katy Milne, Director of Creativity. Greenfield Community College have a strong emphasis on the importance of reading and how that impacts upon writing, creativity and learning. Every young person is given the opportunity to read each day as part of their T4S (Time for Success) tutor group lesson which enables students to transfer valuable skills across the curriculum. The following students worked alongside professional poet Tony Gadd to produce creative work as a response to the 'Inspired by Cornish' exhibition: Kallum B, Leon D, Ellis H, Bradley L, Keiran W, Sophie W. The published work will be celebrated at an event in the near future at Customs House, South Shields where finalists will share their work and an overall winner will be announced. Greenfield Community College are committed to supporting students to reach their full potential with reading and writing being a major focus for development. The school promotes an inclusive curriculum encouraging students to work together to realise an outstanding learning experience. If you would like further information visit www.greenfieldschool.net or contact the school by emailing contact@greenfieldschool.net or by calling 01325 300378.

Was it The Carers?

Dear Sir,
I am writing in response to the article entitled 'Slow Down', I feel carers have a hard job as it is, to then be accused of not caring how they drive and driving carelessly. Where is the evidence of the large percentage that this article suggests? Also, how does the author of this letter notice a lot of carers who make home visits? How do they know they are carers? And how do they know that the carers don't care about how they drive? Did this person carry out a survey? I think, to criticise how carers drive, the writer needs to consider how other people drive in their chosen occupations, not just targeting carers. However, it is nice they have taken the time to consider the consequences of careless driving without thought for other road users, safety or speed. But come on, give carers a break! They worked all through Covid-19, out in all weathers, all hours - give them support. Mrs Helen Boyd.

READERS' PHOTOGRAPHS



The 'new' East Coast Open Access being built at Hitachi, there will only be five of them running between Edinburgh and Kings Cross.

Photo by John Williamson

Congratulations

Cameron Whitehouse

Happy 18th Birthday

Lots of love
Mam and Dad xxx

Lisa Howarth



Happy 40th Birthday

2nd June 2021
Have a great day. All
my love, John-Paul

In Memoriam

Wayne Seal

29th May 2016



We think about you always, we talk about you still. You have never been forgotten and never will.

Love, Mam, Dad,
Tony, Julie, Garry,
Julie, Matthew &
Olivia xxxxxx

Obituary

David Robinson

14th May, aged 84 years of Bishop Auckland.

Beloved Husband of Margaret and the late Avril; adored and devoted Dad to Mandy, Jill, Andrew and Kevin; respected Father-in-Law to Ian, Peter, Debbie and Steph; much loved and loving Grandad and Great Grandad; a dear Uncle and good friend to many.

A funeral Service will take place at Wear Valley Crematorium at 1.30pm on Tuesday 1st June (Covid restrictions apply).

Family flowers only please, donations, in memory, may be given to the Great North Air Ambulance.

Jean Young

Woodham

16th May, peacefully in hospital. Jean, aged 88 years.

Dearly loved Wife to Norman; beloved Mam to Susan and Ian; dear Sister to the late John and Muriel. Sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Tuesday 1st June. Due to current restrictions a small gathering for family and friends will take place at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 12.30pm.

Lisa Howarth



Happy 40th Birthday Mam

2nd June 2021
Love you loads, Loren,
Aimee and Dylan

Maurice Gatiss

Peacefully in hospital on 16th May, of School Aycliffe, aged 89 years.

Beloved Father to Phillip and Mark; Uncle to Lesley; Grandfather to Ben, Andrew, Emily and Olivia and friend to so many.

The funeral took place at Heighington Parish Church on THURSDAY 27th MAY at 2pm.

Due to current circumstances, numbers were limited to family members and invited friends only. Donations to Cancer Research UK.

Suzanne Fox

(Sue)

Passed peacefully at home on 1st May, aged 71 years.

A dearly loved Sister, Aunt, Great Aunt and loyal friend.

Funeral Service at Wear Valley Crematorium, Wednesday 2nd June at 11.30am.

Family flowers only please. Donations in memory of Sue, are for the Dogs Trust.

All enquiries to Co-op Funeral Care Newton Aycliffe.

Lisa Howarth



Happy 40th Birthday

2nd June 2021
Have a fantastic day, love from Mam, Fraser and all the family

Lee Smith

3rd June



Another year gone Lee, another year of tears and memories and it still hurts just as much.

We will miss you forever and love you for all eternity. Mam and Dad

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Aycliffe Cricket Club Scoreboard Report

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store, beat the weather and then dominated the match, but had to ultimately settle for a frustrating draw away at Hartlepool 2nd XI in



the NYSD 2nd division.

Aycliffe won the toss and decided to bat first and proceeded to score a challenging 199 for 9 in their allotted 50 overs. Captain Adam Randall again led from the front, top scoring with his second consecutive half century, hitting 75 runs from 96 balls and his fine innings included nine boundaries and two sixes. Other notable contributions came from Luke Telford (30 runs off 43 balls), Michael Howe (23 runs off 23 balls) and an unbeaten 22 from 28 balls at the end of the innings from George Slatcher.

In reply Aycliffe opening bowler Michael Howe (sponsored by Bob and Yvonne Wood) was in brilliant form and had the homeside's batsmen in all sorts of trouble, taking a seasonal best of 5 for 28 and with good support from Jack Slatcher (2 for 13), the pair had Hartlepool teetering on the brink at 31 for 7. However, the Hartlepool tail was able to safely see off the next 24 overs and made it to stumps on 129 for 9, depriving Aycliffe of what earlier had looked like a certain victory.

The **Second** team's home game with Northallerton 2nd XI in the NYSD 4th division was a victim of the weather and was abandoned without a ball being bowled as the ground was waterlogged.

Aycliffe's U13's team got their season off to a terrific start with a comprehensive eight wicket victory at home to Stockton in the NYACC league. Electing to bowl first Aycliffe bowled and fielded superbly to restrict the visitors to just 64 for 4 from their allotted 20 overs. In reply Aycliffe coasted to their winning target after only 13.3 overs and for the loss of just two wickets thanks to an excellent unbeaten 33 off 30 balls by captain Will Dearden and he was supported well by fellow opener Ollie Paylor who scored 11 runs.

Photo: Aycliffe captain Adam Randall in action.

RUNNING CLUB NEWS

Just three members turned out for the club this week, though all in very different events, in what was another quiet week for racing. On Saturday 8th May 2021, Jez Ladbury took on the Hardmoors Wainstones 13.1 Trail Race. The Hardmoors Race Series, which usually includes a marathon, half marathon and 10K option on each race weekend, take place on and around the North Yorkshire Moors, and the races are usually longer than the advertised distance, the organisers being proud to give you more for your money! On this occasion the 13.1 Trail Race was actually 16.5 miles, and featured 3630ft of elevation, which Jez completed in 4:02:01.

The following day, Sunday 9th May 2021, Carley Cooper took part in the Durham Trail 10, hosted by the Trail Outlaws as part of their Urban Trail Series. The race started in Durham City, and provided runners with the opportunity to run on the trails and through the woodland surrounding the city itself. Carley completed the 10 Mile race in 2:10:13.

Later that afternoon, John Surtees donned his spikes for the 1500m race in the North East Counties Athletics Association Open Meeting at Middlesbrough. Running in Heat 6, John came home in 4:23.25, which was a new PB for John, and set a new Club Record in his Age Category (M35-39) for the distance.

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

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