

# 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

## ION Team Members Take on C2C

See page 2 for full story



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PAUL HOWELL  
MP for Sedgefield





# ION Team Members Take on the C2C for a Local Hospice

## The Cycle...

Three brave members of the ION team have volunteered themselves and chosen to take part in the Coast to Coast this September in order to raise money for a local charity, known by many, St Teresa's Hospice.

The Coast to Coast cycle is a classic sea-to-sea journey spanning the width of the United Kingdom. Over two days, they will cycle over 100 miles through the challenging, yet scenic, countryside of Northern England.

Alex, Nathan and Connor (pictured on front cover) will be setting off on 25th September from Whitehaven, travelling approx. 130 miles. They aim to be landing in Sunderland just 1 day after departure. The three have been training hard over the last few months to ensure they have the strength to complete the challenge with ease.

## The Reason...

ION Precision have decided to donate all sponsorships to local charity, St Teresa's Hospice. They help the local community by providing palliative and end of life care and support to residents of South Durham and North Yorkshire, and their carers.

## In case you aren't aware, here are some quick facts on St Teresa's Hospice:

- Provides Community Hospice (Rapid Response & Hospice at Home)
- Provides 10 Specialist Palliative Care Beds
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- Provides Counselling, Social Work & Bereavement Support
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- Multi-Disciplinary Team
- Founded in 1986

Free to all people in their catchment area: i.e., South Durham & North Yorkshire

## Support ION Precision...

If you would like to support our team members and donate to an amazing charity, please visit our Just Giving page here: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ionprecision>  
We will be sharing some of their training and full progress throughout the event on our social media so make sure you follow us on Instagram and LinkedIn to ensure you don't miss out!

# K9 Pursuits Big Paw Ball Semi Final

Today's semi final between Boneingham City and Newkennel United resulted in a 3-1 score to Newkennel United. There was foul play which resulted in bonified penalties to ensure a fair game.

Some great paw work and dribbling skills by both teams meant the game was fast and furious. Referee Andrea Rogers said at one point several dogs were sent off for woof tackles and barking insults aimed at the opposite team.

Newkennel United will now play Tottenham Hotpaws in next weeks final to compete for the prestigious Pawsome Fido trophy.



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Saturday 24th July - ‘Fossil’

Saturday 31st July - ‘Sneaky Blindlers’

For more information on bands go to  
[www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk) or 313034

# Kynren and 11 Arches Park

Get ready to experience a completely new attraction launching this summer at 11Arches Park, Bishop Auckland. Following the success of the evening spectacular Kynren – An Epic Tale of England, ranked in Trip Advisor's 'Top Five Shows to See in the UK' you can now visit 11Arches Park by day and enjoy incredible shows, interactive and immersive attractions to suit families of all ages. A day ticket to 11Arches Park brings family-friendly entertainment including; immersive walk-through The Maze of Fame, the Kids' Viking Lair, the Dancing Waters show, alongside family favourites including the Animal Croft and the Viking Village. Finally, take your seat at 4pm for the afternoon's crowning glory, the latest original show 'Fina and the Golden Cape' on the panoramic outdoor stage. In the evening, Kynren - An Epic Tale of England, brings history to life with a blockbuster open-air performance. Great for teens and older families. Two thousand years of history, myth and legend rush by in 90 minutes as we join young Arthur on his epic quest. Separately ticketed events, 11Arches Park and Kynren take place in Bishop Auckland, a town steeped in history spanning the Romans, generations of powerful Prince Bishops of Durham, a horse-racing tradition and the Industrial Revolution, located just 25 minutes from Durham City and Darlington. 11Arches Park will be open every Saturday from 7-28 August, 12-6pm and from 11.30am-5.30pm on the 4 and 11 September 2021. Kynren shows are every Saturday 6-10pm, 7-28 August and 5.30-10.30pm on the 4 and 11 September 2021.

# You Were Warned Rotary Newton Aycliffe Handover

Dear Sir,  
Residents who voted Conservative or LibDem in the local elections because they were promised frozen/cut council tax and an end to double taxation may be interested to know that, at Durham County Council's joint administration Cabinet meeting held last week on Wednesday 7 July, Cllr Richard Bell, Deputy Leader and Cabinet portfolio for Finance announced:

- there will be £45 million of cuts over the next four years;
  - the Council plans to continue raising council tax by 1.99% (plus a 2% increase on social care precept) over the next four years, i.e. by the "maximum permissible" allowed by the government;
  - the Council's Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (which exempts people on benefits from Council Tax) will be maintained next year but reviewed next year;
  - and, regarding double taxation: "it must be apparent from the foregoing that the County Council is not in a position to significantly increase the support given to town or parish councils given the financial circumstances that we find ourselves in".
- Name & address supplied

The club recently held its Handover meeting on Zoom with Trish Pemberton standing down as President and that honour going to Gary Blenkinsopp. David Hogg stepped up as Senior Vice President. As the pictures show, the handover of the chains of office had already happened a few nights earlier when a small group of us got together for a photo shoot and a few words of support for each other.

Trish commented, "Many of the things I had expected to do, such as visits to other clubs, have been impossible to carry out. Nevertheless, thanks to the hard work of members, we have still managed to achieve a great deal to assist our local community in ways I never expected would be possible. I have been thrilled to see the support we have received from the community, showing the confidence they have in us which was reflected in the local authority grants awarded to the club, and not forgetting Stephen Creaney who, via Newton Press, handed us the profits from his recently completed book on the history of Newton Aycliffe. Some events have not been able to take place, such as our Christmas fundraising. However, thanks go to Tesco and their customers for contributions to the collecting box in store and we managed to hold the Railway Exhibition online. What a year! Wonderful in so many ways but, like everyone, I am so looking forward to returning to something like normality".

President Gary went on to say, "The Covid Pandemic is still not behind us but with the fantastic rollout of the vaccination programme we can look forward and start to plan fundraising activities and get out into the community we serve. The need for Rotary is greater than ever with many residents suffering real hardship during lockdown. Rotary Newton Aycliffe will soon restart face to face meetings and our first event will be at the Family Fun Day in the Town Centre on Saturday 17th July where we will have a stand. Please come for a chat and find out about Rotary and hear what we have planned. This year one of our priorities will be raising money for defibrillators in Newton Aycliffe and surrounding areas, and we are looking forward to working in



partnership with the defibrillator community group and David Sutton-Lloyd". David Hogg said, "I am pleased and proud to be appointed Senior Vice President. To support President Gary will be an honour and a pleasure. I just hope when I become President in 2022, I can do as good a job as my predecessors". The Zoom meeting ended with the outgoing President presenting Brian Winwood with the Syd Howarth Award for services to the club and Rotary International. Trish then bowed out with a big thank you to all our supporters across Newton Aycliffe and beyond.

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## Weekly Programme Schedule

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**\*\* 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	A DJ
<b>"The Saturday Night Experience" Sponsored by Bengal Lounge Indian Restaurant &amp; Takeaway</b>		
6-8pm	Evening Session	JimJams
8-9pm	Rock the House	Carl Booth
9-10pm	Retro Trance Mix	OZ-DJ
10-12am	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
<b>'Blues Show' Sponsored by Whitehouse Funeral Service</b>		
2-4pm	Bear Blues Show	Colin & Monica
4-6pm	Folk/Celtic/Rock Show	Steve & Col
6-8pm	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	Dave Graham
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

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
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	23rd July - <b>Pauly Mac</b> Electric Soup (Australia)	
12-1am	Night Club Session	A DJ

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

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## Incinerator Q & As

Dear Sir,

*The views that I express in this letter are my own personal views and not necessarily those of Great Aycliffe Town Council or any of its members.*

I refer to last week's letter to the Newton News from Eileen Brewis on the proposed incinerator to be built on Aycliffe Business Park. This was an exceptionally well-written and informative letter. I agree with every point that Eileen makes on this issue. So far, all of the meetings and the letter from Fornax have been, in my opinion, nothing more than platforms promoting the development.

• What benefits can the population of Great Aycliffe expect from the proposed development of the high temperature incinerator on Aycliffe Business Park?

### 1. The quality of air

In the plan, there is a stack (chimney) 100ft high. Chimneys are usually used to remove noxious substances and gasses from the site and disperse them into the atmosphere. What are these substances? It appears to me that we will only know when the site is operational. How will this contamination of air quality improve and be of benefit to the people of Great Aycliffe?

### 2. The most important and worrying question – how will this be of benefit to our health?

This is a quote from 'Air Quality Assessment Hazardous Waste Incinerator, Heighington Lane Environmental Report, April 2021'.

'The emissions from the proposed facility during the modelled operation scenario would contain a number of substances that cannot be evaluated in terms of their effects on health simply by reference to the ambient air quality standard. Health effects could occur through exposure results other than by purely inhalation. As such, an assessment needs to be made of the overall human exposures to the substances by the local population and the risk that this exposure causes.'

### 3. Will the development improve our environment?

There are concerns over this issue, especially the effects of contaminated liquids entering protection zone on the magnesian limestone principle aquifer.

### 4. Will the development have any benefits in attracting new jobs to the area, apart from the two dozen or so at this site?

I recently spoke at length to the director of a large firm operating on the business park (it is no longer an industrial park, but a business park with a large number of non-industrial outlets). He believed that this proposed development could well deter future development and extension of current businesses, not only on the Merchant Place site, but also on other sites on the business park. Needless to say, he was totally opposed to the proposed development. Other businesses are also concerned and opposed to the development. In my view, the only people who will gain from this development are the shareholders of Fornax. This is not a municipal waste disposal site but is purely there for the profit of the shareholders of Fornax. I can see no benefit to the people living in Great Aycliffe and indeed we can only expect negative effects to our future wellbeing.

Bob Fleming

## Caution Over Covid

So Covid rules will be relaxed.

No masks if you choose, and that's a fact.

You can go back to work,

Will staying at home make you feel a shirk?

No need to stick to protective bubbles,

No social distance, but be sensible, don't huddle.

Going to a nightclub to have some fun,

But won't that be a risk for the young?

Holidays abroad will still confuse,

Will it stay green if that country you choose?

We're all playing a game of Russian Roulette,

Which some find exciting yet makes the vulnerable fret.

Don't just think of yourself,

Please proceed cautiously for the sake of all health.

We're not out of the woods yet,

The NHS still needs you to not forget,

The hard work and sacrifice that was given by so many,

For Covid's stealth is like a Creeping Jenny!

MMK July 2021

# Betrayed

Dear Sir,  
Last week LibDem Cllr Mark Wilkes appeared in this paper for submitting a good motion to the County Council, asking the government to keep the £20 uplift in Universal Credit. It was a sensible motion because removing the uplift will take £50 million a year out of our local economy ... out of the pockets of the very people most likely to spend it in local shops.  
At the DCC Full Council meeting on Wednesday, however, he withdrew the motion; instead of a public debate and declaration by the whole Council, a letter will now be sent from the leaders of the Joint Administration. This, of course, had the effect of silencing all those Councillors who might have wished to say at the meeting what they thought of the government's actions.  
Anyone who knows the LibDems will recognise the tactic, make the big promise, get the positive publicity, take the credit ... then quietly fail to deliver.  
And everyone who remembers the LibDem/Tory coalition of 2010 will recognise the pattern – that the LibDems simply, supinely, prop up the Tories as they ravage our community.  
Name and address supplied

# Have Your Say on Proposed Boundary Changes

There is still time for residents in County Durham to have their say on proposals to change Parliamentary constituency boundaries before recommendations are made to Parliament.  
The 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies was formally launched in January by the Boundary Commission for England. The commission, which is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body, is required to ensure that the number of electors in each constituency across the UK is more equal; in doing so, the number of constituencies in England will increase from 533 to 543.  
The commission is now undertaking an independent review of all constituency boundaries in England and will present final recommendations to Parliament by July 2023. The rules that the commission work to are such, that wide scale change is inevitable. Under the proposals announced, just under 10 per cent of the existing 533 English constituencies remain unchanged. Local knowledge is needed to help reshape the map of constituencies, so as part of a consultation, members of the public are encouraged to visit [www.bcereviews.org.uk](http://www.bcereviews.org.uk) to view maps showing the proposed new boundaries and also provide feedback before the consultation closes on Monday 2 August 2021.  
Any changes will not affect local council services, with the boundary changes relating only to Parliamentary constituencies, which is the area an MP is elected to represent in Parliament.  
People can comment on aspects of the proposals such as where the proposed new boundary lines are and also suggest alternative solutions. There will be a further two rounds of consultation in 2022 based upon representations received as part of this consultation. Following the conclusion of all three consultation periods, the commission will look at all the evidence received and form its final recommendations.  
For further information and to provide feedback on the proposals go to [www.bcereviews.org.uk/](http://www.bcereviews.org.uk/)  
A copy of the documents is available for viewing at Claypath Library in Durham City.

# Bishop Auckland Music Society

The second in BAMS 2021 concert series will take place on Friday, 16th July at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church, Bishop Auckland (opposite Bishop Auckland Hospital) when Tim Posner (cello) and Joseph Havlat (piano) will perform works by Beethoven, Schumann, Tchaikovsky and Mendelssohn. Tickets priced £14 are available from Brotherton's Music or from Brian Varley on (01388) 606075. Tickets priced £16 are also available on the door.

# Chinese Cuisine



On Thursday 17th June, the year 10 Hospitality & Catering students at Woodham Academy had a virtual visit from the FUN: Healthy Chinese Cuisine Ambassadors. The morning consisted of an online talk on Chinese food and culture. Following the presentation, students then ventured into the brand-new food room where they had a fun practical session making Hoisin Chicken. The sauces and marinades were generously supplied by Lee Kum Kee sauces; students were also provided with a cooking sauce to take home. The Hoisin Chicken recipe was a hit with students, who thoroughly enjoyed the morning and commented on how much they liked the dish and how they would make it again at home.

## ROYAL MAIL NEW OPENING HOURS



**Monday:** 8-10am  
**Tuesday:** 8-10am & 12-2pm & 4-7pm  
**Wednesday:** 8-10am & 12-2pm & 4-7pm  
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**Friday:** 8-10am & 12-2pm & 4-7pm  
**Saturday:** 8am-2pm  
**Sunday:** CLOSED



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**OFSTED quote:** "Playday Nursery offers an outstanding provision with high quality teaching provided by highly qualified staff."

# Clean It Up

Dear Sir,  
With regards to a letter in Newton News dated 9th July entitled 'Disgusting Habit', I am in complete agreement, as I also have just picked up some dogs 'deposit' from my front lawn and also do not own a dog. While not all owners are irresponsible, it seems a great majority feel it is fine to leave the 'mess' for someone else to pick up. Apart from being unsightly, there is also the health risk to children.  
There is also a large amount of general rubbish and litter just dropped and dumped by lazy people who once again, expect someone else to deal with it.  
So please, people of Newton Aycliffe, it is time to step up and take responsibility, respect your town and clean up after yourselves and your dogs.  
BB, Pinewood Close



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# Fun Activities During Summer Holidays

A fun-filled summer awaits County Durham youngsters with more than 100 free activities with healthy food lined up for the school holidays.

Following on from successful schemes over Easter and spring half-term, the Fun and Food programme will return this summer to offer a variety of activities and healthy food during the school holidays. The project is being delivered by Durham County Council with support from the local authority's 14 Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) and a £2.3 million grant from the Department for Education. It is in response to the fact some families can struggle to keep children fed and entertained while they are off school. Family centres, schools, charities, and private and voluntary sector organisations have been encouraged to apply for funding to stage

activities in their areas. Grants have also been allocated through AAPs.

The full programme is still being finalised, but families can look forward to a host of events and activities across the county - from crafts sessions and performing arts, to team sports and swimming. Activities will all include healthy food and will be delivered in line with the latest Government coronavirus guidelines.

Cllr Ted Henderson, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for children and young people's services, said: "We know the school holidays can cause additional financial pressure for families, especially this year when the pandemic has sadly resulted in people losing their jobs or seeing their working hours reduced. It can also be difficult to keep youngsters entertained for such a long stretch of time.

"Our Fun and Food programme aims to relieve some of that pressure by providing free activities and nutritious food to help keep youngsters happy and healthy this summer. I would encourage families to find out about what is on offer in their area."

To find out more, visit [www.durham.gov.uk/FunAndFood](http://www.durham.gov.uk/FunAndFood) or call the Families Information Service on 03000 269995.

The website will be updated with more activities throughout the summer.



## Temporary Support Worker

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We are currently recruiting for a Support Worker at our North East service which supports people with Learning Disabilities, some of whom may also have physical disabilities and/or challenging behaviour.

The main duties included in this role are to support the person to learn skills to manage daily living tasks, to support with cooking, domestic chores, budgeting, financial management, maximising benefits, accessing health care needs, accessing education, social inclusion and leisure activities. All candidates must be able to drive as clients have mobility vehicles. NVQ 3 or Care Certificate required for this post or to be completed once in post.

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**Closing Date: 6th July 2021**

**Interview Date: 12th July 2021**

## Air Ambulance Raffle

The Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS) is looking for residents to help sell raffle tickets to help it meet the rise in demand, after responding to 45 incidents over the past two weekends alone. The same two weekends last year - when Covid restrictions remained heightened - saw the charity's teams respond to 17 incidents.

Andy Mawson, director of operations at GNAAS, said: "Demand is much higher than last year, and at times has been higher than ever before. The problem is that, although demand is now back to normal levels, our fundraising remains lower than where we need it to be."

The 45 incidents were spread across the charity's entire area, with 15 in Cumbria, 27 in the North East and three in North Yorkshire. Road traffic incidents made up the bulk, with 12 related call-outs. There were eight call-outs to falls and a further eight to suspected assaults.

Mr Mawson said: "As ever, we never know what we are facing from one day to the next, but with the support of the public, we can be ready when needed."

Through cancelled fundraising events and activity, the charity estimates it is losing more than £100,000 a month.

"It's great to see that our teams have been there to respond to so many critical incidents," added Mr Mawson. "But the more we are called-out, the greater our costs."

Last year the charity raised £180,000 through its annual raffle. It is hoping to beat that this year and is asking residents who can help them sell tickets to get in touch.

Volunteers can receive tickets through the post or be given a digital code to share among friends and family.

Mr Mawson said: "The population of the North of England have shown us true devotion and it's our duty to be there for those that need us and to make those that support us proud. GNAAS is a service for everybody and every single ticket we sell helps us to be there when someone needs us most."

Tickets will be £1 each, with all the money coming to GNAAS. A £10,000 top prize is on offer for the winner of the raffle, which will launch next month. To sign up to receive your tickets ahead of launch, please visit [www.gnaas.com/raffle](http://www.gnaas.com/raffle) or call 01325 487 263 to register your interest.

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# RUNNING CLUB NEWS

We start this week's report at the Lakeland Trails 55K Ultra race, which took place on Saturday, 10 July 2021. The race, which doubled as the British Athletics Championships, takes runners through some of the most dramatic mountain scenery in the Lake District, and includes three mountain passes and 7000ft of ascent (and, more importantly, five well-stocked feed stations!).

Richard Holland and Simon Turner both took on the challenge and running together they completed the race in 10 hours and 41 minutes.

Whilst Richard and Simon were enjoying the sights of the Lake District, David Stothard was taking on the Alnwick Castle 10K Trail Run, hosted by Wild Deer Events. The race started and finished outside the Castle by the River Aln, and took in a lap around Hulne Park, the private estate of the Duke of Northumberland. David completed his run in 59:27.

Later that day, John Surtees took on the 5000m at the North East Project's Festival of Athletics in Middlesbrough. In a well-paced effort, John crossed the line in 16:22:10.

On Sunday, 11 July 2021, just before the 'Big Match' (stick with us on this one), our adopted Macclesfield Harriers and AC runner, Paul Rands, took on the Wilmslow Summer 10K. Paul came home in a pleasing time of 44:28.

The European Final wasn't the only 'Big Match' of the weekend though, as Club stalwarts Dave Blewitt and Yvonne Williams tied the knot on Saturday. Everyone at the Club would like to take the opportunity to wish Dave and Yvonne the very best for a loving and fun-filled future together.

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



## Family Fun Days in Aycliffe Town Centre

Aycliffe Radio, in conjunction with Aycliffe Town Centre, are planning a series of Family Fun Days in Aycliffe Town Centre over the next three weekends. The events are free to attend and, hopefully, informative and entertaining with good weather!

All events will take place in the central mall of Aycliffe Town Centre between 11.00am and 2.00pm with Aycliffe Radio in attendance to play music while you shop and talk to the stall holders.

### Saturday 17th July - Local Help Organisations

On Saturday 17th July, Residents Associations will be setting up stalls to talk to residents about the service that they offer in their area. Also in attendance will be local help organisations with information and advice to help you. To make this day special there will be a Bouncy Castle, face painting, glitter tattoos, mascots, characters, tombola, dog agility displays and a Mr Whippy ice cream van.

### Saturday 24th July - Emergency Services Day

To celebrate our local 'Blue Light' services, come along between 11am and 2pm, talk to the local Police Beat team, the town Fire Brigade, North East Ambulance Service and St John's Ambulance. To brighten up the day are Kiddies Fairground Rides, Vintage Fire Engine, Glitter Bar and Mr Whippy ice cream van.

*(The emergency services could be on call during this event, so may have to leave early, arrive late or not turn up depending on the situations they are called on to attend).*

### Saturday 31st July - Sports Day

Do you want to learn a new sport or join a local sports organisation? Why not come along to the 'Sports Day' to be held between 11.00am and 2.00pm?

Over 20 local sport organisations will be in attendance such as Football, Rugby, Cricket, Archery, Axe Throwing, Water Polo, Karate, Crossfit Kids, Scouts, Swimming and more.

Providing energetic displays during the three hour session will be local dance troupes, cheer leaders and gymnasts.

**Aycliffe TOWN CENTRE** Music provided by **aycliffe radio**

# FAMILY FUN DAY

Neville Community Assoc.  
Acorn Community Assoc.  
Aycliffe Village Residents Assoc.  
Woodham Community Assoc.  
Junction 7 Play Cafe  
Rotary Newton Aycliffe  
Women's Institute  
Sisters of Support  
Lifeline Community Action  
St. Clare's Food Bank  
All Disabilities Matter  
Five Acres Community Garden

**SATURDAY 17th JULY**  
11am to 2pm

**Aycliffe Town Centre**

**Come and meet your local help organisations**  
**EVERYONE WELCOME**  
Bouncy Castle and Slide - Face Painting  
Glitter Tattoos - Mascots and Characters  
Cakes / Tea - Tombola - Dog Displays

**Come along Celebrate our Emergency Services with a**  
**FREE FAMILY FUN DAY**

\*Emergency Services could be on call - may have to leave or not attend this event.

**LOCAL POLICE BEAT TEAM\***  
**FIRE BRIGADE\***  
**VINTAGE FIRE ENGINES**  
**NORTH EAST AMBULANCE SERVICE\***  
**ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE SERVICE\***  
**AIR AMBULANCE\***  
**KIDDIES FAIRGROUND RIDES and GLITTER BAR**

**NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE**  
**SATURDAY, 24th JULY, 2021**  
**11.00am to 2.00pm**

Music provided by **aycliffe radio**



# Greenfield Day of Pride

Greenfield students united the whole school as they showed their support for the LGBT+ community both within the school and in the wider community. The day raised valuable funds but most importantly ensured that students were given a voice to raise awareness.



The day involved the whole school with musical performances, stalls and fundraisers popping up around the school. Supported by Assistant Headteacher Ms Davis, a student-led group organised and prepared for the occasion by finding fun ways to highlight issues, the student message was that 'love is love, no matter what gender or sexuality'.

Last minute hitches meant a change to the entertainment and students were amazed to see the staff led group on the stage. Students and staff raised the roof as the group performed popular favourites.

"It was a day to remember with fantastic support from all of the Greenfield Community, our students should be very proud of themselves" said Assistant Headteacher, Ms Davis.

Greenfield Community College is committed to equality and diversity and supports each and every student to realise their potential and enjoy an outstanding learning experience. If you would like further information please visit [www.greenfieldschool.net](http://www.greenfieldschool.net) or contact the school by emailing [contact@greenfieldschool.net](mailto:contact@greenfieldschool.net) or by calling 01325 300378.

## Aycliffe Cricket Club Scoreboard Report



Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store, came away from their NYSD division two game away at Norton 1st XI with a frustrating draw after falling just six runs short of victory in a thrilling run chase. The homeside were asked to bat first and scored an impressive 205 for 9 in their allotted 50 overs with the wickets shared equally between Jack Slatcher (2 for 23), Michael Howe (2 for 33), George Slatcher (2 for 39) and Patrick Howe (2 for 46).

In reply, opener Luke Telford scored 14 and in the process passed the notable 4,000 career runs milestone for Aycliffe. The visitors then lost three cheap wickets and were in trouble at 57 for 3, but Ryan Patrick (sponsored by A Star Bathrooms) and Jack Slatcher both batted brilliantly, putting on 82 runs for the fourth wicket partnership to put Aycliffe right back in the game. Ryan Patrick top scored with 51 off 67 balls and his maiden first team half century contained three boundaries and a six and Jack Slatcher scored 46 off 87 balls. With quick runs needed and overs running out, Chris Palmer immediately put bat to ball hitting 19 runs off 21 balls and acting captain Michael Howe smashed an unbeaten 29 off just 18 balls but Aycliffe fell agonisingly just short of victory as the innings closed on 200 for 6 after 50 overs.

The 2nd team game at home to Stockton 2nd XI was cancelled as was the u15's game away at Wolviston, as eight players in the club were self isolating due to Covid.

Newton Aycliffe's fledgling senior ladies team won their first ever game when they came out on top by four wickets away at Sunderland in the Durham Womens Cricket League. The home side elected to bat first and were restricted to just 86 for 5 from their allotted 20 overs. Ashley Kell was in superb form for Aycliffe taking three wickets for just 11 runs and she was supported well by both Georgia Leeming (1 for 13) and captain Natasha Grainger (1 for 21). Opening bat Tina Masterman got the Aycliffe innings off to a very good start when she top scored with 17 runs off 18 balls, including three boundaries. Ashley Kell then continued the good work with an unbeaten 14 from 23 balls to help Aycliffe reach their target of 87 for a memorable first win after 16.4 overs and with four wickets in hand. Special mention must go to Emma Moffatt in her very first game, after only one training session, and she marked her debut with a well hit boundary during the Aycliffe innings.

*Photo: The victorious Aycliffe senior ladies team after their victory away at Sunderland.*

**SATURDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER**  
**4PM - 10PM**  
**GATES OPEN 3PM**

**RO59 ARENA**  
**DURHAM WAY SOUTH**  
**NEWTON AYCLIFFE**  
**DL5 6XN**

**Early Bird Ticket sales close on 31st July 2021. Ticket price will then be £20.00.**

**ANDY WHITBY**

**JOY FAZAK** **NATHAN ABBOTT**  
**JOHN BANKS** **AUDACITY**

**aycliffe radio** **aycliffe**

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Big enough to matter  
Small enough to care

# Great Aycliffe Town Council NEWSLETTER

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July 2021



## New Infant Play Area for Woodham Park



Great Aycliffe Town Council is pleased to announce that Woodham Park will have an upgraded infant play area in time for the start of the school summer holidays.

The current play area is to be replaced as part of the Council's Asset Management Plan which includes planned investment in Town Council

managed parks and play areas within the parish.

The play area will be developed within the current footprint and will include a range of play equipment aimed at engaging and challenging children up to the age of 7 years with a focus on inclusive play for all.

## Message from New Mayor, Councillor Sandra Haigh

Independent Councillor Sandra Haigh has been elected as the new Mayor of Great Aycliffe Town Council.

Councillor Haigh commented: "I was honoured to have been elected at the Annual Council Meeting on the 19th May 2021 to serve as the Mayor of Great Aycliffe for the coming year. I will endeavour to promote our great town to the best of my ability, and respect and follow the wishes of the people who have voted for me to represent them on the Town

Council.

I hope that this year sees a gradual lifting of the Coronavirus restrictions and a return to relative normality which will hopefully allow me to get out and meet some of the wonderful people of the town. I have chosen to raise funds for the local charity 'Children's Blessings' during my year in Office".

If you would like the Mayor to attend any special events or occasions, please contact Sharna Stretch at the Town Council Offices on 01325 300700.





## Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings of the Council and its Committees - 2021/2022

14th July 2021	Environment	7.15 p.m.
14th July 2021	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
21st July 2021	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
28th July 2021	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
1st Sept. 2021	Environment	7.15 p.m.
1st Sept. 2021	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
8th Sept. 2021	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
15th Sept. 2021	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
13th Oct. 2021	Environment	7.15 p.m.
13th Oct. 2021	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
20th Oct. 2021	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
27th Oct. 2021	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
24th Nov. 2021	Environment	7.15 p.m.
24th Nov. 2021	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
1st Dec. 2021	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
8th Dec. 2021	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
12th Jan. 2022	Environment	7.15 p.m.
12th Jan. 2022	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
19th Jan. 2022	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
26th Jan. 2022	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
23rd Feb. 2022	Environment	7.15 p.m.
23rd Feb. 2022	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
2nd Mar. 2022	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
9th Mar. 2022	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
13th Apr. 2022	Environment	7.15 p.m.
13th Apr. 2022	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
20th Apr. 2022	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
27th Apr. 2022	Full Council	7.15 p.m.

\* The Recreation Committee will commence immediately after the Environment Committee Meeting.

**Wednesday, 18th May, 22 - Council Annual Meeting 7.15pm**

**Wednesday, 25th May, 22 - Parish Meeting - 7.15pm**

*The Public and Press are cordially invited to attend. The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings.*

**Council Sub-Committees meet as required**

**Please see our website for details**

**[www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)**

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**[facebook.com/great.aycliffe.gov.uk](https://facebook.com/great.aycliffe.gov.uk)**



**[twitter.com/greataycliffetc](https://twitter.com/greataycliffetc)**

## Message from Outgoing Mayor, Mary Dalton

"It has been an honour to serve the town as Mayor for the last two years, despite the challenges brought about by the Coronavirus pandemic since March 2020. I had the pleasure during the 2019/20 year, of attending 70 engagements including many formal civic duties. Meeting so many residents, some of whom were celebrating special occasions, is one of the things that I enjoyed the most about being the Mayor.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped me raise £1575.00 for my nominated charity S.S.A.F.A - The Armed Forces Charity.

Whilst the last year has been very difficult for the community of Great Aycliffe, I am hopeful that better times lie ahead as we emerge from the pandemic, and I wish the new mayor and Town Council the very best for the future".

## St. Oswald's Pre-School



All children are eligible to receive 15 hours free funding from the term after their third birthday, we also offer the 30 hours to parents who are eligible. Children can start at St Oswald's from two years old at our lovely 'Tots in the Park' facility, an hourly rate of £4.75 will apply with one session costing £13.50.

We have had lots of different activities going on in both the pre-school and in our Tots in the Park, two room.

The lovely things we have done this year include:

- Graduation
- Looking at growth and change to the environment around us.
- Working with Groundworks to promote healthy eating and fun activities to do at home.
- Lots of cooking and baking activities
- Sports week
- Fun day for school leavers
- Picnic day.

**We still have places available for September in our Pre school and a limited number of places in the 'Tots in the Park'.**

For further information call Louise Downton (Pre-School Manager on 07968 379009) or find us on Facebook.





# YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS

[www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

## WEST WARD



**Eddy Adam**  
Lab - 07900 701966



**Martin Ashcroft**  
Ind - 07811 403986



**Arun M. Chandran**  
Ind - 07711 573043



**George C. Gray**  
Ind - 07711 159763



**Kate Hopper**  
Lab - 01325 314697



**Ken Robson**  
Ind - 01325 321471

## WOODHAM WARD



**Barbara A. Clare**  
Lab - 07980 834977



**Neil Collinson**  
Lab - 07547 434096



**Sandra Haigh**  
Ind - 07867 788603



**John Moore**  
Ind - 07836 385487



**Maureen Shelton**  
Lib - 07732 011573



**Michael Stead**  
Lib - 07760 177326

## NEVILLE



**Phillip Hawkins**  
Ind - 07825 739765



**Neville Jones**  
Lib - 07966 898322

## SHAFTO/ST. MARY'S



**Tony Armstrong**  
Lib - 07920 118092



**Robert S. Fleming**  
Ind - 01325 310025



**Brian Haigh**  
Ind - 07932 562412



**Wendy Hillary**  
Lab - 07814 828317

## BYERLEY PARK, HORNDALE & COBBLERS HALL WARD



**Peter Bergg**  
Lab - 07432 070717



**Dorothy Bowman**  
Ind - 07967 901477



**John D. Clare**  
Lab - 07733 996303



**Ian Gray**  
Lab - 01325 313770



**Brian Hall**  
Lab - 01325 314105



**Andrea Miller - Lib**  
andreamiller.aycliffe@gmail.com

## A/VILLAGE



**Carl Robinson**  
Ind - 07928 336263



**John Clark**  
Lab - 07972 170190



**David Hardaker**  
Lab - 07981 238192

## SIMPASTURE WARD

## AYCLIFFE CENTRAL WARD



**Jim Atkinson**  
Lab - 07527 730142



**Jed Hilary**  
Lab - 07552 758148



**Joanne Jones**  
Lib - 07436 803533



# TOWN COUNCIL TARGETS FOR APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022

## AIM 1 - TO PROVIDE GOOD QUALITY GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL

No	Target	Target Date
1	Publish a Town Council Service Delivery Plan by the end of June each year.	June 21
2	Publish an Annual Report.	June 21
3	Provide an annual training programme for the Town Clerk from his annual appraisal and CPD requirements.	March 22
4	Develop and provide a training programme for Members which shows highly recommended and recommended courses with a reminder sent quarterly and records of attendance and non-attendance kept.	Annually
5	Develop and provide an annual training programme for the staff within each service area, informed by the annual appraisal process.	March 22
6	Undertake an annual review of the Council Constitution, Financial Regulations and ensure compliance with current legislation.	Annually in May
7	Ensure compliance with GDPR.	Ongoing
8	Improve advertising of Council facilities and services by targeting a service area in each publication making sure each area is targeted at least once.	Ongoing
9	Ensure that social media is used to advertise the Council's services and facilities.	Ongoing
10	Undertake research where appropriate for new policies and procedures.	Ongoing
11	Keep up to date with any changes in legislation and report to council as and when required.	Ongoing
12	Continue to monitor energy consumption, implement energy saving initiatives and reduce usage where possible.	Ongoing
13	Ensure all staff have an annual appraisal.	Sept 21
14	To undertake quarterly review of staff sickness and report to service managers.	Ongoing
15	Complete review of electronic filing system and implement improvements to enable upgrade of the Council's main server and transferring data to 'the cloud'.	Ongoing
16	Continue to implement any Government guidance and recommendations regarding Coronavirus to ensure the safety of staff, members, and the public.	Ongoing
17	All staff to undertake mental health and well-being training.	July 21
18	Undertake a review of Cyber Security arrangements.	Ongoing
19	Complete a programme of new Member Induction Training to cover all service areas, roles, and responsibilities.	End of July 2021
20	Continue to review and reduce the Council's use of single use plastic.	Ongoing
21	Continue to review the Council's efforts around carbon reduction and ensure that an 'environmental and climate change implications' item is added to all council reports.	Ongoing

## AIM 2 - TO MANAGE THE COUNCIL'S FINANCES AND ASSETS IN A RESPONSIBLE MANNER

No	Target	Target Date
22	Produce Annual Return by 30th June each year.	June 21
23	Achieve an unqualified audit opinion of the Annual Return by 30th September each year.	Sept 21
24	Ensure the Medium-Term Financial Plan is approved by 30th June each year.	June 21
25	Deliver the Internal Audit Plan Schedule of Work and report quarterly to Audit Sub Committee then to Council.	March 22
26	Manage the financial impact of any cuts to LCTSS funding.	Ongoing
27	Quarterly budget control reports are presented to P&R Committee.	Ongoing
28	Budgets/Precepts approved by 31st January 2022.	Jan 22
29	Ensure all relevant information is published in compliance with the Transparency Code/Openness of Local Government Regulations.	Ongoing
30	Deliver the work set out in the Asset Management Plan via the capital programme and ensure that a six-monthly review is undertaken with Officers and Member Asset Management Group.	Ongoing
31	Undertake an annual update of the Asset Register including the schedule of expected life and replacement costs for buildings, plant, and machinery.	Ongoing
32	To consider the Council's Business Risks every March and minute that the full review has taken place by Council.	Mar 22
33	Ensure that at least one Service Review is completed each year.	Ongoing

## AIM 3 - TO PROVIDE ACCESSIBLE, AFFORDABLE LEISURE FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

34	Deliver the Council's programme of special events:-	
	Fun in the Parks	Aug 22
	Senior Citizens Trips	July 22
	Firework Display	Nov 21
	Sk8t Fest	May 22
	Santa Letters	Dec 21



	Christmas Lights	Dec 21
	Santa Tours	Dec 21
35	Develop and provide an improved and enhanced yearly programme of events, including new events.	Ongoing
36	Continue to diversify, improve, enhance, and increase the number of events and activities offered within the Sports Complex.	Ongoing
37	Partner with outside bodies including the Sedgefield Sports Partnership.	Ongoing

*Please Note: Some events have already been postponed for 2021 and Covid restrictions will be under constant review.*

#### **AIM 4 - TO PROVIDE PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION AS APPROPRIATE IN GREAT AYCLIFFE**

No	Target	Target Date
38	Ensure the continuous improvement of the service and obtain at least a 'good' and aiming for 'excellent' Ofsted Inspection	Ongoing
39	Ensure that all staff undertake all relevant training and that any new staff receive Special Educational Needs training.	Ongoing

#### **AIM 5 - TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT OF AYCLIFFE BY MANAGING AND DEVELOPING PARKS, PLAY AREAS AND GREEN SPACES**

No	Target	Target Date
40	Works and Environment Manager to arrange to work with local schools and community groups to develop volunteer opportunities by helping to deliver 15 public countryside events	Ongoing
41	To continue to monitor the health and condition of the trees on Town Council land in line with the tree management policy and undertake a visual tree inspection of a specific area every 6 months to assess the health and condition of the trees	Ongoing
42	Continue to work with Northumbrian Water to establish flow rates to lakes at West Park	Ongoing
43	Complete at least 5 targeted Himalayan Balsam removing working parties along The Burn	Annually
44	Undertake maintenance and management of specific Durham County Council environmental areas as per the management agreement	Ongoing
45	Undertake a review of the current winter maintenance arrangements with Durham County Council	Dec 21
46	Complete the improvement of Woodham Park/Play area	Sept 21
47	Proactively monitor Ash Dieback Disease and remove diseased trees as necessary	Ongoing
48	To undertake maintenance and management of the former Elmfield School site, subject to a lease being agreed with Durham County Council.	Ongoing

#### **AIM 6 – HELP AND ENCOURAGE PARTNERSHIP WORKING TO IMPROVE THE SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF GREAT AYCLIFFE**

No	Target	Target Date
49	Support and encourage Aycliffe Youth Council (AYC) by: Organising the election process – Holding at least 8 meetings a year – Helping to organise at least 1 project a year	Ongoing
50	To continue partnership working with DCC and build on the existing initiatives	Ongoing
51	Work with the Youth Council, DCC Officers, Tidy Britain, schools, community, and voluntary groups to hold a Town Pride Environment Week, incorporating an anti-letter campaign.	July 21
52	The Works and Environment Manager and Park Patrol Officers to work with DCC Officers and Police in regard to anti-social behaviour issues	Ongoing
53	Work in partnership with residents and friends' groups to improve our parks, play areas and environment areas.	Ongoing

#### **AIM 7 – ENCOURAGE THE RESIDENTS OF GREAT AYCLIFFE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN LOCAL DEMOCRACY**

No	Target	Target Date
54	Undertake a budget setting and aims and targets consultation using social media, survey monkey or other suitable platform	Nov 21
55	To review the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan in 2022	2022
56	Hold a Parish Meeting	Annually In May
57	Hold an Allotment AGM	Annually In Nov
58	Hold a minimum of 4 allotment representative meetings	Ongoing
59	Hold or take part in at least 2 events to inform residents about Town Council services with an aim to establish priorities	Annually
60	Make better use of social media to engage with resident and undertake consultations	Annually

#### **AIM 8 - TO RESEARCH INFORMATION AND MAKE THE CASE FOR GREAT AYCLIFFE**

No	Target	Target Date
61	Produce timely responses to all major consultations carried out	Ongoing

# 2020/21 TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report provides a brief summary of some of the key achievements of the Town Council from the past year. It goes without saying that 2020/21 was a challenging and unprecedented year for the Town Council and the community that we serve.

The onset of the Coronavirus pandemic in March 2020 changed our lives in ways we could never have imagined little more than a year ago, and has made things like social distancing, face masks, hand sanitiser, support bubbles, quarantine, and vaccinations a normal part of our day to day lives.

The Town Council has strived to support the community throughout the pandemic, keeping the vast majority of our services, including the cemeteries, allotments, pre-school, parks, and golf course running as close to normal as possible under the various restrictions.

Unfortunately, the government restrictions left the Council with no choice but to cancel a number of our much-loved community events last year, including the Senior Citizens' Trips, Fun in the Parks and Fireworks Display, although not even Coronavirus could stop Santa undertaking his annual tour of the Parish!

The Council also set up a Covid-19 Small Grants Fund last year offering local community organisations and charities the opportunity to access funds to help them deal with the financial losses suffered as a result of the pandemic.

This fund helped support organisations including food banks, scout groups, residents' associations, the women's institute, the Rotary Club, the Youth Centre, the Beekeepers' Association, and a number of local charities.

A full list of grants and donations given out last year is included elsewhere in the newsletter.

The Council has also set-up a COVID-19 Recovery Fund for the new 2021/22 financial year, using some of the money saved as a result of the cancellation of the community events last year.

This fund will seek to pass these savings back to local taxpayers via one-off investments during the 2021/22 financial year, to help compensate for the services that have not taken place this year. Potential uses of this Covid-19 Recovery Fund include:-

- Setting up a Community Grants Fund to provide financial assistance to local organisations to help them recover from the pandemic;
- Investing more money in events taking place in 2021/22 or subsequent years to make up for the cancellation of the 2020 events;
- Investing in environmental improvements such as tree and bulb planting and creation of new wildflower meadows.

The coming year will no doubt continue to be challenging as the country recovers from the pandemic.

The Town Council will also face challenges over the coming years as it deals with likely funding cuts and budget pressures, and the Council will need to review what services it currently offers and how they are delivered to ensure that the services, events, and facilities being offered align with community needs and priorities.

The following sections of this Annual Report focus on the many services that the Town Council has planned and budgeted to provide to the community of Great Aycliffe during this 2021/22-year, subject, of course, to the lifting of Coronavirus related restrictions.

## ENVIRONMENT

The Town Council:

- Provides over 200 allotment sites located at:
  - o Clarence Chare;
  - o Finchale Road;
  - o St. Oswald's;
  - o Aycliffe Village; and
  - o Byerley Park
- Provides pigeons, poultry, and beekeeping plots at specific allotments sites.
- Provides and maintains two cemeteries at West Cemetery and Stephenson Way and a burial service for St. Andrews Church in Aycliffe Village.
- Provides grounds maintenance e.g. the provision of flower beds, grass cutting and tree planting and maintenance, on all Council owned land and facilities.
- Runs the Environment Centre at Moore Lane and a programme of environment events.
- Carries out environmental management of a number of nature and conservation areas including the Great Aycliffe Way and other green open space across the Parish.
- Provides public seating, bus shelters, litter, and dog bins on Town Council owned land.
- Delivers a comprehensive programme of activities for schools, community groups and public events during school holidays.
- Delivers an Environment Week, which involves visiting the primary schools in the town to give an interactive presentation on litter and then offering the opportunity for the children to take part in a litter pick in their local community.
- Assists and facilitates community groups such as local scout, guides, and Friends groups.
- Holds a licence agreement with Durham County Council to operate and maintain areas of land and woodland which form part of the Great Aycliffe Way.

## RECREATION

Leisure facilities and community events have formed a major part of the Council's provision over the years.

This includes the provision of:-

- Eight very different parks, all with their own character. These are found around the town at the following locations:



- o Moore Lane Park
- o Town Park
- o Simpasture Park
- o Byerley Park
- o St. Oswald's Park
- o Horndale Park
- o West Park
- o Woodham Park
- Modern and well-maintained play equipment is provided at all of these parks, as well as at the following specific sites:-
  - o Oakleaf Sports Complex
  - o Aycliffe Village
  - o Cobbler's Hall
  - o School Aycliffe
  - o Scott Place
- Five multi-use games areas at Moore Lane, Simpasture, Horndale, Woodham and Cobbler's Hall, as well as a skate park, scoot track and BMX track.
- The Park Patrol Service which provides an out of hours service to monitor and safeguard the Council's assets and its users.
- The Oakleaf Sports Complex, which provides an indoor bowls green, a multi-use sports hall, four squash courts, function room and bar and catering facilities. The sports complex is also home to an Indoor Bowls Club, Squash Club, Running Club and Archery Club, and provides a number of activity sessions for both adults and children, including an activity programme for children during school holidays. In recent years, a programme of events has been developed at the sports complex including Fantazmajoria (steam punk/sci-fi event), MMA events, Dog Shows and craft fairs.
- The Oakleaf Golf Complex, comprising an eighteen-hole golf course, golf shop, changing rooms, and driving range.
- Eight football pitches, including junior football and six a side pitches at three sites:
  - o Sports Complex
  - o Moore Lane
  - o Simpasture and
- A series of annual leisure events (subject to Coronavirus restrictions) such as:
  - o Senior Citizens' Excursions
  - o Fun in the Parks
  - o Fireworks Display
  - o Santa Tours and Letters
- Support to events run by local organisations:
  - o 10K Fun Run organised by Aycliffe Running Club
  - o Live Music Festival organised by Aycliffe Radio
- A number of new events which have been developed in recent years including:
  - o Skatefest Competition and Demonstrations
  - o Party in the Park - Part of the Durham Brass Festival

## **PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING CENTRE**

The Town Council provides a Pre-School Learning Centre located in St. Oswald's Park which is currently registered for 40 places for 3-year-olds. The Council also provides a setting for two-year olds called 'Tots in the Park', offering 12 places, morning and afternoon, 5 days per week. A programme of training and support for staff has been undertaken to ensure that the best service to children is provided.

## **CAPITAL INVESTMENT**

The Council has continued to develop its Asset Management Plan in order to plan investment in Council and community assets such as buildings, vehicles, machinery, play equipment and street equipment.

The Council's Capital Programme makes budget provision each year for an ongoing programme of investment in these assets and significant investment has been made in recent years in new community assets such as play equipment, multi-use games areas and skate parks.

An updated play area is planned for Woodham Park later this year – further details on this project are included elsewhere in the newsletter.

## **COUNCIL FINANCES**

Despite the challenges created by the Coronavirus pandemic over the last year, the Council ended the 2020/21 year in strong financial health, having delivered a substantial saving on its Revenue Budget and increased its balances and reserves to more than £1.5 million.

Whilst some of the savings last year were as a direct consequence of the pandemic, including the unfortunate cancellation of many community events, the Council has also continued to deliver efficiency savings across all services.

This healthy financial situation meant that the Council was able to set a 2021/22 Revenue and Capital Budget that will enable all current services, facilities, and events to be provided to the usual high standards next year, the set-up of a COVID-19 Recovery Fund, and continued investment in community assets, whilst freezing the Town Council proportion of the Council Tax bill.

Whilst further financial challenges lie ahead, including likely cuts to the Council Tax Support Grant funding, significant pressure on staffing budgets linked to increases in the National Living Wage, and potentially significant capital investment commitments, and the ensuing depletion in the Council's balances and reserves that this will cause, the Council is well placed to maintain a strong financial position and will seek to manage these challenges via the forthcoming update of its Medium-Term Financial Plan.

The Council also achieved another unqualified external audit report in relation to its Annual Governance and Accountability Return last year. This was a very pleasing outcome and provides independent assurance that the Council's accounting statements present fairly its financial position, and that its financial management, governance, and internal audit arrangements are all sound.



At the Oak Leaf Sports Complex we have four squash courts. Do you fancy a knock about with a mate or are you wanting to get fit playing this intense game? Courts are available from 10.30am until 10.00pm in 45-minute slots.

Our 4 badminton courts are available to book seven days a week from 11.00am until 9.00pm, so if you enjoy this high intensity game why not book a court, why not play doubles with the family?

You can also enjoy a game of table tennis, it's great fun to play and is a truly inclusive sport, if you want to try something new why not give it a go. The table is available to book from 11.00am until 9.00pm, 7 days a week.

We also have an indoor bowling hall, which has three rinks. Bowls is a very sociable game and is a great form of exercise, so if you fancy a roll up with friends or family the rinks are available 7 days a week, times are split into 2-hour slots, please see below:

- 9.45am until 11.45am
- 12 noon until 2.00pm
- 2.15pm until 4.15pm
- 4.30pm until 6.30pm
- 6.45pm until 8.45pm

At the Oak Leaf Sports Complex our Bar is perfect for a quiet drink with family or friends or a night out to watch the big match, the lounge bar offers comfortable seating, and our friendly staff are ready to welcome you. The Bar menu offers a good selection of snacks, sandwiches and main meals.

The beer garden is the perfect place to kick back and enjoy a refreshing cold drink, it's overlooked by a secure play area, so while you relax the kids can have some fun.

For more details go to:

[www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk/oakleafsportcomplex](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk/oakleafsportcomplex)

## Town Council Launches Covid-19 Recovery Fund

The Town Council made a substantial saving on its Revenue Budget during 2020/21 and a significant proportion of the surplus was made up of 'one-off' savings that came about directly as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.

This was largely as a consequence of services that did not take place during the year, including the unfortunate cancellation of the vast proportion of the Council's community events programme.

The Town Council has therefore agreed to set aside £100,000 from the Revenue Budget saving in a 'COVID-19 Recovery Reserve'.

This fund will seek to pass these savings back to the local community via one-off investments during the 2021/22 financial year, to help compensate local taxpayers for the services that have not taken place this year.

It has been agreed that there will be four main strands to the COVID-19 Recovery Fund, as follows:-

1. A £25,000 Community Grants Fund to provide financial assistance to local organisations to help them recover from the pandemic. Applications are invited from local community groups for grants from this fund and applications forms are available on the Council website.
2. A Recreation Fund to make investment in recreational activities and events.
3. An Environment Fund to make investments in environmental improvements such as tree and bulb planting and creation of wildflower meadows.
4. Funds to undertake improvement of the former Elmfield School site, subject to a lease being agreed with Durham County Council.



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## Local Recycle Centres

Durham County Council has removed the traffic management systems that were set up in May last year to support the safe reopening of HWRCs during the coronavirus pandemic.

The measures have been removed from most of the county's HWRCs and are no longer in place at Coxhoe, Heighington, Hett Hills, Horden, Pity Me, Bishop Auckland, Seaham, Thornley Station and Tudhoe.

However, traffic management will continue to be in place at Annfield Plain to support the ongoing works to develop a low carbon site and large-scale solar farm at the Morrison Busty Depot.

In line with government guidance, vehicle access will continue to be monitored at each site and only one person is allowed onto a recycling platform at a time to ensure safe social distancing for visitors and staff. Residents are being encouraged to check how busy their local HWRC is before visiting by using the council's online map which shows the traffic levels for each site using a traffic light system.

To ensure queues are kept to a minimum, residents are also being asked to consider whether their journey to a recycling centre is essential and to visit another site if their local HWRC is busy.

Cllr Mark Wilkes, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and climate changes, said: "We have lifted the temporary measures on the majority of the county's HWRCs which will help to improve traffic flow at some of our sites, and remove the significant cost of these traffic systems. "However, we are still in a pandemic so it is important that residents visit our HWRCs safely by remaining socially distant from others while using the site, and visiting sites at quieter times where possible."

To see the traffic map for each HWRC, and for more information on each site, visit [www.durham.gov.uk/hwrc](http://www.durham.gov.uk/hwrc)

## MIND's Midsummer Young Mental Health Champions

Darlington MIND hosts free mental health workshops throughout the summer holidays for young people.

Over the summer holidays, Darlington MIND, the local mental health charity, will start their new online workshops aiming to help young people aged 11-18 years old, to explore some key topics which affect daily life. These free workshops (via MSTEams) are open to young people from all over the local area to help them better understand their own mental health and develop skills to deal with the common issues they face. Darlington MIND will be offering three or more sessions during every week of the summer holidays. Also as we all move out of Covid-19 restrictions it's an opportunity to discuss our experiences in a safe space to share how our mental health may have been affected by the pandemic and look forward to better times.

Darlington MIND will be delivering their successful, well developed workshop programme, which includes the following key topics:

- Mental Health Awareness
- Self-Esteem and Resilience
- Body Image
- Exam Anxiety
- Self-Harm Awareness
- Mindfulness
- Become a Peer Mentor - Training
- Informal Drop-in Chats

This project is funded by Children In Need and enables Darlington MIND's team to help young people from across south of County Durham, Darlington, Hambleton and Richmondshire. Darlington Mind knows from its experience that these topics are really important for young people to learn about, as it will educate and help them and their peers, moving forward, especially in these uncertain times to help understand and manage their own mental health. Darlington MIND also wants to help stimulate conversations and seeks to tackle stigma surrounding mental health which stops many people from reaching out for support which would make a real difference to maintaining health and wellbeing. The workshops may have formal subjects, but they are led by the Young People's Team who bring their unique, warm and positive approach to make the experience fun and interactive.

Darlington MIND's CEO, Simon Davidson, said "During the summer holidays, when they have more time on their hands, we want to help young people to come together online for some fun, informative and practical workshop sessions". He continued "Darlington MIND has helped thousands of young people to address the key issues affecting their lives such as body image, bullying, depression and self-esteem. Our workshops will help increase awareness of mental health and self-harm and improve emotional resilience. You can make new

friends in a safe, non-judgemental and positive space where you will be heard". Certificates of attendance are available for those who attend, meaning that it would be great in a record of achievement including on a UCAS application to universities.

Sign-up Form: <https://forms.gle/aNjwgMCPy8wGfAZHA> (also available via Darlington Mind)

For further information, images, interviews or to request anything else, please contact Matthew Hoss at Darlington MIND ([Matthew.hoss@darlingtonmind.com](mailto:Matthew.hoss@darlingtonmind.com))

### (GURNEY WAY, AYCLIFFE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, NEWTON AYCLIFFE) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2021

The Council on 23/7/21 made the above Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 as amended, Section 14 (1) to prohibit all vehicular traffic from proceeding on 425m of Gurney Way, Aycliffe Industrial Estate, Newton Aycliffe to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be undertaken. Alt route from the eastern side of the closure south on Hilton Rd, westerly on Coatham Ave and north on Whinbank Rd to the western side of the closure, and vice versa. The maximum duration of the Order is 18 months. The proposed works are to commence between 7pm and 6am per night on 1/8/21 and are anticipated to be completed in 5 nights. On occasions, alternative dates for closure may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly.

DATED: 16th July 2021



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

## SYD HOWARTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

### Nominate a community minded individual

The Howarth family, in memory of Syd Howarth, MBE, are offering the residents of Newton Aycliffe the opportunity to nominate an individual who has excelled over the last year. The nominees must be from Newton Aycliffe and the winner will receive a plaque and £250 to go towards their own or another local charity. Those nominating must give the name and address of the nominee along with reasons why this individual should win (up to 250 words). Closing date for nominations is 31st August 2021, at which time those that were nominated will be published in the Newton News and the Howarth family will choose the winner. The winner will be awarded their prize on Thursday 21st October 2021 (Syd's birthday).

Entries to be sent via email to:  
[paul@newtonpress.net](mailto:paul@newtonpress.net)  
or posted to:

Paul Howarth  
Newton Press  
Blue Bridge Centre  
St. Cuthberts Way  
Newton Aycliffe  
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# N.A.F.C. REPORT

Newton Aycliffe will host Thornaby in the Emirates FA Cup and will travel to take on Campion in the Buildbase FA Vase opening rounds. The Extra Preliminary Qualifying Round of the Emirates FA Cup will see Aycliffe



welcome fellow Ebac Northern League Division One side Thornaby to the Beaumont Landscapes Stadium on Saturday, August 7. The Newtonians recorded an impressive 6-0 win against The Blues the last time the two sides met in September 2020.

Colin Stromsoy's men will be hoping to improve on their recent FA Cup outings, having been knocked out of the competition at the first hurdle in the previous two seasons including a 1-0 defeat at the King George V Ground against Guisborough Town in September.

A win in the Extra Preliminary Qualifying Round will see Stromsoy's side travel to take on Tadcaster Albion in the Preliminary Round scheduled for Saturday, August 21.

The club's most successful performance in the competition came in the 2015-16 campaign where the Newtonians reached a Second Qualifying Round Replay with North Ferriby.

Meanwhile the First Qualifying Round of the FA Vase will see Aycliffe travel to West Yorkshire to take on Campion on Saturday, September 11.

Stromsoy guided the Newtonians to the First Round of the 2020-21 Vase with comfortable victories over Barnoldswick Town and Billingham Synthonia before a 3-2 defeat on Merseyside against Lower Breck brought the run to an end.

Should Aycliffe overcome Campion, they will receive a walkover into the First Round scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 23 due to Boro Rangers not being involved in the competition.

Aycliffe's best performance in the FA Vase also came in the 2015-16 campaign where the club reached the Fifth Round of the competition against Camberley Town.

Both ties are scheduled to kick off at 3pm and supporters will be notified of ticket details as soon as it is possible.

Stay tuned to [newtonaycliffefc.co.uk](http://newtonaycliffefc.co.uk) and the club's social media channels for further updates regarding both fixtures.

Emirates FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round

Newton Aycliffe v Thornaby

Buildbase FA Vase First Qualifying Round

Campion v Newton Aycliffe

Last week's trip to Manchester resulted in a disappointing 5-2 defeat to Abbey Hey. Aycliffe complete preseason with a home game against Tow Law on Saturday 24th July.

## School Uniform Scheme

Lifeline Community Action are in the process of setting up a School Uniform Scheme which will run from our LCA Community Hub in the Thames Centre, Newton Aycliffe. This new scheme will operate as a drop-in service for those who need support. Parents and/or carer's of school children will be able to call in and collect/donate the items of school uniform they need.

Therefore, LCA are asking for donations of any new or good quality used school uniform (with or without logo) and PE Kit to support the project and help those in need. We will also accept school shoes and coats in good condition. LCA staff and volunteers will ensure all clothing is washed before it is made available to others and we will comply with Covid-19 secure guidelines.

If you wish to donate, you can do so at our Newton Aycliffe Tesco donation points, there are two donation points available in Tesco, one at the top of the escalator and one on the ground floor near the check outs. This scheme will continue to run throughout the year and we thank you in advance for your donations.

Please contact [officelifelinecommunityaction@gmail.com](mailto:officelifelinecommunityaction@gmail.com) or phone 07936 431262 if you have any queries.

## Youth Champions



Newton Aycliffe Youth FC Under 16 Girls travelled to one of the largest, and most competitive, tournaments for girls from throughout the North of England. A tough group included Scarborough Ladies and local rivals Hartlepool Pools Youth, a draw and a win and the girls topped the group to head into the main cup competition.

Ponteland United, one of the top girls teams from Northumberland, were our opponents in the semi final, both sides had chances but defences were on top. With seconds to go a last ditch tackle from the Ponteland defender took the game to a best of 3 penalty shoot out.

Ponteland went first and the ball slid wide, this left it open for Hattie to score the first penalty followed by Gracie and then Katie to slot the deciding penalty. On to the final for a very close game against another local rival, Shincliffe Girls. Shincliffe created the best chances but couldn't beat Laila who was outstanding in goal for the full tournament. Once again Aycliffe had a chance to snatch the win in normal time. A free kick 10 yards inside the opposing half was taken by Hattie who launched a shot, as it dipped over the keeper, the ball hit the cross bar and the final whistle was blown. Penalties again, same three girls stepped up. Ponteland hit the post on their second penalty but all three Aycliffe penalties were calmly put away, giving these girls the Trophy and biggest tournament win the team has had since they got together at Under 9.

The girls will now prepare for the coming season as they step up to an Under 18's premier division in the Russel Foster Youth League. If you need any more information for any of our boys and girls teams as well as our under 23's and women, please visit [www.nayfc.com](http://www.nayfc.com) or contact Berni 07939 045242.



**Saturday 17th July**  
**Beaumont Landscapes Stadium**  
**Moore Lane Sports Club**  
 Turnstiles open 11.15am  
 Tournament kicks off 12 noon  
 £3 Adults, £1 U16s, Free U5s

The first annual Andrew Firth Memorial Cup takes place on Saturday 17th July at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club

Food kiosks will be open and a raffle will be held on the day

*All profits will be donated to selected chosen causes by the Firth family.*



Come along and support the day, everyone welcome



# Free Swimming Sessions

Young people are being encouraged to make a splash with free swimming sessions at County Durham's leisure centres.

Durham County Council has put together a host of summer pool activities for children and young people aged 18 and under living in County Durham.

From fun with inflatables, to general swimming, the free sessions are all part of a bid to encourage children and young people to have fun and be more active.

Starting from Monday 19 July, the free sessions will be available for children and young people to take part in throughout the summer holidays.

School holidays can be a difficult time for many families to keep their children fed and entertained. To provide extra support for families, some of the raft and inflatable sessions will include healthy food at the end of the session as part of the council's Fun and Food campaign.

Information on which sessions will include healthy food, and further details about all other swimming sessions, can be found online at [www.durham.gov.uk/freeswimming](http://www.durham.gov.uk/freeswimming).

Adults who qualify for a concessional rate can also swim for free if their child is unable to swim and needs some support in the pool. Cllr James Rowlandson, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for resources, investment and assets, said: "We are delighted to be able to offer these free swim sessions as something fun for children and young people to do over the summer holidays. Being active and exercising is very important, so these sessions are a great way for children to stay healthy in a fun and engaging way. It is also a great opportunity for families to have a trip out and spend quality time together."

Children and young people must be a resident in County Durham to be able to take part in the sessions.

Residents are encouraged to sign up for a free Thrive card in advance, which will allow children access to sessions throughout the summer.

Sign up is only needed once, and children who already have a Thrive card do not need to apply for a new one. Parents can get a Thrive card by visiting [www.durham.gov.uk/thrivecard](http://www.durham.gov.uk/thrivecard)



## Parliament Talk

Tel: 01325 790580 - Email: [paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk)

The Prime Ministers' announcement that restrictions are to be largely lifted from Monday is another major step back towards post Covid normality, whatever that may be. This next stage is about us all taking more personal responsibility rather than being told what we can and can't do. It takes us all doing the right thing for the best outcome to be found. We all need to have consideration for others and the environment we find ourselves in. An easy example from my world would be when I am travelling to London by train. If there are only a few people in a carriage I would not wear a mask, but, if it was crowded, then I would wear one, at least moving around.

The message from the scientists remains clear though, that the way out of this is via immunity and immunity can arise by having had exposure or by vaccination. The more of us that are vaccinated the less the risk of transmission and therefore the less risk of putting pressure on our NHS. Please, if you have not already been vaccinated, take the opportunity, and help your friends and family. It was a shame that England just missed winning the European Cup, but they still did better than they ever had in that tournament and let's hope they take a step further in the World Cup next year. A big benefit of the stage 4 release is that of sports and theatres opening up, allowing us all to enjoy events again.

BEIS this week saw us taking evidence from experts on the financial structure of Liberty Steel as part of our inquiry on the Steel industry. We also released our report on the 'Findings of the report of Climate Assembly UK'. Our short inquiry has focussed on how Government and stakeholders have engaged with the findings of CAUK and investigates how its recommendations have influenced the Government's work to date. The report is available online on the Government's website.

I had a catch up as regards the work being done on the feasibility report for reopening Ferryhill railway station. I am increasingly confident that the data will support us achieving this, which would be a great step in building back better infrastructure for our area. I took part in a meeting with a group looking at a new social covenant, this is about trusting communities more and enabling local people to take the actions that help their communities and links, quite heavily, with the APPG on Left Behind Neighbourhoods I chair.

Saturday saw me having the opportunity to help open a memorial garden in Fishburn. Sandra Dowson, a local resident, had led fundraising to build a beautiful feature area

in the cemetery where people can both sit and reflect but also have plaques installed to remember people they have lost. I had the privilege of saying a few words and then the pleasure of joining Sandra and others in Fishburn Club afterwards.

Unusually I was drawn to ask a number of questions to ministers this week, normally I average about one question every two weeks, but I have had three in five days. I started with a question in BEIS orals where I was wanting the Minister to show support for NETPark and its innovative businesses. This was followed by a question to the Cabinet Office about the opportunity to make better use of the new County Hall building in Durham by using it for a Government department. I proposed ARIA (Advanced Research and Innovation Agency) and suggested this could allow more Council roles to be dispersed to places like Aycliffe. Later in the day I was able to ask the Home Office about funding to support initiatives giving young people more to do and redirecting them away from anti-social behaviour. All of these questions can be viewed, along with the ministers' answers, on my website.

We continue our surgeries around the constituency, last week we were at Fishburn; this week we're at Sadberge and we are off to Hurworth next week. If you want an appointment at any of the future surgeries, please get in touch with us. There is, of course, always the opportunity to arrange one at our office on the Aycliffe Business Park as well.

As we pass stage 4 on Monday, please remember to be considerate to others and respect those that have concerns as we open up. Some will find it difficult to re-engage in an open society and we should all try to help them by being sympathetic and giving them the space and time they need. The mantra of Hands Face Space and Fresh Air still holds as a common-sense thing to continue. Please look after you and yours and stay safe.

Paul Howell  
Member of Parliament for Sedgefield

### GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

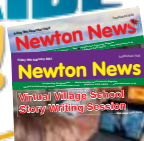
Wednesday 21st July 2021 - 7.15pm

#### Policy & Resources Committee

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

email:  
[paul@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:paul@newtonnews.co.uk)

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**Paul Howell**

Member of Parliament for Sedgefield

[paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk)

Telephone: 020 7219 6385

Aycliffe Office: 01325 790580

# Junction 7 on Tour



Junction 7 Community Cafe will be at Neville Community Centre every Wednesday between 10am-1pm. We will also have our surplus food for anyone to take, as part of our food rescue project.

We will be serving various sandwiches and refreshments. Pop in for a cuppa and a chat, meet new people, make friends and find out about Junction 7.

## Shopping Club

We still have spaces for the new Shopping Club for Newton Aycliffe with Shildon Community Bus.

After the successful demand for our Shildon shopping trips, which are now fully booked, we are running a fortnightly shopping club for Newton Aycliffe residents from Friday 23rd July 2021. Would you like transport to and from your home plus the services of someone to carry your shopping to the door? We are travelling every two weeks to go shopping at the bigger Supermarkets at Tindale, Bishop Auckland. If you would like to join us, please register your interest. Call the bus office on 01388 773666 and leave your name, address and contact number. Each trip will cost £3.00. Under the terms of our operator's license, you must join as a club member and the annual fee will be £5.00. We look forward to serving the community in 2021. You can of course message us via Facebook @ shildoncommunitybus. All are welcome. If you would like to discuss this further, call Clare on 07515 644194.

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# Max Coates Takes First Win in Mini Challenge

The MINI CHALLENGE headed to the Brands Hatch Indy Circuit in Kent for their second event of the season, with Yorkshireman Max Coates hoping to get back to form after a difficult opening round of the year. He did just that.

The Primex Plastics sponsored driver qualified in 4th place, just two-tenths off pole position and within half a tenth of a front-row start.

His start was the best of the front three rows, immediately moving up to 2nd on the run into turn one. He struggled to keep pace with the front running car and ultimately lost a spot after the first few laps to go down to 3rd. Despite a late-race charge from the erstwhile championship leader in the closing stages Max managed to make his Graves Motorsport MINI wide enough to keep him behind and take the team's first podium finish

in the series.

Race two started equally well, challenging the front two drivers but unable to get past on the first lap. As the race developed Coates found his JiC Transport backed car in a sizeable gap but was hunted down in the closing stages. Ultimately, he held onto the position which netted him the race win as the two ahead tangled on the final lap, one failing to finish and the other excluded for the contact. The final race of the weekend utilised a reverse grid format, the top 6 swapping places. From 6th Coates made a great start and was immediately onto the row ahead, but he had to avoid a sideways car at turn one which put him on the outside for the second corner hairpin. As the pack bunched inside Max again had to take avoiding action, dropping down to the lower end of the top 10. He started to climb through the pack and was embroiled in the battle for the final podium slot, but ultimately the gaps never opened and he crossed the line in 5th after an eventful race.

Following the weekend Coates said, "What a way to bounce back. I'm so happy to get the team's first podium and win this weekend. Graves Motorsport and my loyal sponsors have been so supportive since the opening round, so to repay them with that performance feels so good. As a team we are making improvements and learning all the time, so having such a positive weekend this early in the season is fantastic and I'm sure it will only get better as the year goes on." The third event of the 2021 MINI CHALLENGE UK season will be held at Oulton Park on 31st July – 1st August where it is hoped that fans will be allowed back to watch in full capacity. It will be the first time Max will have driven on the Oulton Park circuit in the MINI CHALLENGE car, but he'll be hoping to get back on the top step of the podium again.

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## Holiday Break



The Junior Badminton Club at NAYCC Burn Lane, will be having a Summer break after next Monday's session (19th) at 4:00pm, returning Monday 6th September.  
For more information contact [peterwalton1@aol.com](mailto:peterwalton1@aol.com)

## Sudoku

			1				
	5		2		4		
	1	4				9	
	6						
2			3		4	5	
			2	6			8
			4				3
5			6	9		1	
7		2		5			



# Flying Scotsman to Visit Locomotion this Summer

Families and steam enthusiasts across the region can see world famous engine Flying Scotsman this summer for free at Locomotion in Shildon.

The record-breaking A3 class Pacific locomotive, no. 60103, will go on public display at Locomotion from 28 July to 17 August.

Flying Scotsman will be positioned outside the main visitor hall and visitors will be able to get up close to the famous engine and take photos of the Flying Scotsman nameplate.

The visit was originally scheduled for 2020 but plans were postponed following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Visitors can see Flying Scotsman for free from 10.30 to 16.00 daily, although booking online is required to comply with Test and Trace measures and visitors must observe social distancing.

Sarah Price, Head of Locomotion, said: "It is really positive to see Flying Scotsman returning to Shildon for the first time since 2019 after what has been a really

difficult year for everyone. I look forward to welcoming people to the museum in what should be a great family day out and the only chance to see Flying Scotsman up close in the North East."

Built in Doncaster in 1923, to operate high speed passenger services on the east coast main line between London and Edinburgh, the engine quickly became a celebrity. The locomotive broke several records: in 1928 hauling the first regular service to travel non-stop between London and Edinburgh and in 1934 Flying Scotsman became the first locomotive in the world to achieve an authenticated speed of 100mph. Flying Scotsman has visited Australia and the USA and was even the subject of a feature film. Visitors to Locomotion will be able to learn more about the engine with a series of talks from experts including the free presentation 'Flying Scotsman: how good is it?'

As well as the chance to see the locomotive, visitors can take part in free, environmentally-themed family learning activities which take place daily throughout the school summer holidays (no booking required).

Visitors can also relive some of the glamour of steam's golden age by ordering afternoon tea from the museum's café.

Flying Scotsman is owned by the National Railway Museum in York and is operated and maintained by Riley & Son (E) Ltd. Locomotion is open from 10.30am to 4pm daily and parking and admission are free of charge. For more information about the Flying Scotsman event programme, please visit: [www.locomotion.org.uk/whats-on/flying-scotsmans-shildon-summer](http://www.locomotion.org.uk/whats-on/flying-scotsmans-shildon-summer). Steam rides behind Flying Scotsman will not be taking place during the visit.

## Meet the Artists at Greenfield Arts

Greenfield Arts are offering a lovely opportunity to come along and meet the artists as part of their forthcoming exhibition The World Through Our Eyes.

Come along and meet Phil and Eileen on Friday 23 July, watch Phil at work and find out more about this unique collection. The exhibition is a collection of paintings, portraits and photographs representing the countries Phil and Eileen have visited over the last few years.

The World Through Our Eyes runs from Thursday 22 July to Wednesday 1 September 2021. The exhibition will include a vibrant compilation of work completed during the recent lockdown and the chance to purchase original artwork, crafts and jewellery.

We are also offering a creative opportunity inspired by the exhibition. A sketching workshop will be led by illustrator and artist Graham Stead and is inspired by The World Through Our Eyes. Graham will help you explore the art of sketching, capturing images and shaping your own sketching style. The session will be held on Tuesday 10 August from 10:30 – 14:30 and the cost is just £15 (please bring your lunch if required). To find out more please visit our website where you can reserve your place for our activities.

The Greenfield Gallery is open from 10:00 – 21:00 Monday to Thursday and 10:00 to 16:00 each Friday. Greenfield Arts are committed to offering high quality arts activity that helps stimulate creativity, questioning and enquiry. Please visit the website to see our full summer programme and to sign up for our monthly newsletter. You can contact our friendly team by emailing [info@greenfield-arts.co.uk](mailto:info@greenfield-arts.co.uk) or by calling 01325 379048.

### Obituary

#### Dr. Ian Taylor

*Aycliffe Village*  
Peacefully in hospital on 5th July.

Dr. Ian Hammond Taylor, (retired GP of Chilton and Ferryhill). Beloved Husband of the late Sallie; much loved Father to Jenny Harris, Timothy Taylor and the late Simon Taylor.

Funeral on Monday 19th July. Service to be held in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 1.30pm.

### Congratulations

#### Mr & Mrs Howe



**Congratulations**  
Massive congratulations to the new Mr and Mrs Howe who got married on Wednesday 7th July 2021 at Gretna Green, Scotland.

### In Memoriam

#### Daughter Kirsty Sheila Hughes

22/9/1986-18/7/17  
Each day we look to Heaven, each day we call your name, each day just feels so different, it hasn't been the same. Each day we always question, we often wonder why, you had to go away from us, our angel in the sky. All our love forever Kirsty.  
Mam and Dad xxxxx

#### Audrey Pratt



19th July  
**Happy 84th Birthday**  
Lots of love from Husband Ken, Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren. Best wishes from everyone at Rose Lodge Care Home xxx

### Birthday Remembrance

#### Greta Cason

15/7/38 - 12/3/20

Sending birthday greetings to a very special lady, our MAM and NANA.

Loved and missed every minute of every day, hope you are enjoying the biggest cream cake and a cup of tea. Lots of love, Av, Lou, Val and Jim xxx



### Obituary

#### Margaret Cochrane (nee Moyes)

Of Newton Aycliffe. Peacefully at St. Clare's Court care home on 9th July, aged 92 years.

Dearly beloved Wife to the late Alexander (Alex), a dear Mum of Dale, Colin, Audrey and Sandra, a much loved Grandma and Great Grandma.

Will family and friends please meet for a Service at Neville Parade Methodist Church on Friday 23rd July at 10.45am. To be followed by Committal at Wear Valley Crematorium.

#### Laurence Brumwell

15th July 1987  
Always remembered and forever loved. God bless. Jeannette, Owen, Carl and family

#### Dick Hutson

19/4/28 - 18/7/13  
We know a smile we would love to see, a loving face so dear. We know a hand we would love to hold, a voice we long to hear. We know a heart so thoughtful and true. We know them all, because we loved you. Miss you Dad Your loving family xx

#### Roman Jones



**Happy 1st Birthday**  
17th July 2021

Lots of love Grandad and Grandma xxxxxx

## 'Lazy, Dirty Owners'

Dear Sir,  
Re: 'disgusting habit' in last week's Newton News, I live in Faulkner Road and see dozens of dog walkers use the green as a dog toilet. Most are good owners and pick up the waste and use the bins provided, but there are a number of lazy, dirty owners who don't clean up.

A number of owners drive to the green, let their dogs out to do their business then call them back and drive off.

Children play and sit on the green, running between the trees then step in the dirt left, I have challenged plenty of owners, but just get abuse back. I think this should be monitored and fines given out.

Name and address supplied

## Athletic Juniors Back in Action



Aycliffe Running Juniors were back in action at the Andy Billett Memorial – Festival of Athletics – CDAN Event at Shildon 2000 Stadium on Friday 2nd July. Up against local clubs - Crook Juniors; Derwentside A.C.; Durham City Harriers; Phoenix Flyers and Sedgefield Harriers, from the County Durham area. Competing in a quad athletic event. Out in force, with the largest number of participants for a single club in the competition, Aycliffe were well prepared and in high spirits for the night. As heavens opened up and rain began to fall heavy, the juniors rallied together to produce some stunning performances, with many PBs falling throughout the events.

**Under 9 Girls** – saw exceptional debut performances from Mila Parnaby and Amelia Scaife, finishing in 1st and 2nd place for their age category. A fantastic result.

**Under 9 Boys** – A solid all round performance from Elijah McLuckie. 4th overall, after impressive Long Jump and 400m.

**Under 11 Girls** – Charlotte Clay taking 1st overall in the Aycliffe Team – 5th in the competition and Hannah Brischuck in close pursuit with 6th place overall. With an amazing run, Trinity Donoghue took 1st place in 600m with a time of 2:10 followed closely by Hannah 2:11.

**Under 11 Boys** – Joseph Waites getting on the Winners podium in 3rd place aided by an outstanding howler throw.

**Under 13 Girls** – In a strong category, Courtney Bowes gave an all-round performance to get on the podium to take 3rd place overall. Winning the Long Jump in tough conditions. Lydia Mosher throwing furthest for Aycliffe in Howler. In the 100m, Elizabeth Clay running 14.7 was enough to set the fastest time overall.

**Under 13 Boys** – Keeping the Aycliffe throwing team going Conner Scaife produced a rocket of a throw to place 3rd, and finishing 4th overall, narrowly missing out on a podium by 12 points.

Well done the whole team taking part. On the night we had representing the club Mila Parnaby, Amelia Scaife, Elijah McLuckie, Millie Anderson, Trinity Donoghue, Persephone-May Risbey, Abbie Robinson, Charlotte Clay, Hannah Brischuck, Joseph Waites, Francesca Stapleton, Isabella Risbey, Nicole Anderson, Millie Waites, Courtney Bowes, Amy Tomlinson, Lydia Mosher, Elizabeth Clay, Megan Thom, Conner Scaife and Henry Mosher. You should all be proud of yourselves, it was a fantastic night.

Thank you for the support from all the parents who cheered us on during the rain. The event organisers Crook Juniors with Colin and Team for all their hard work to continue a fitting tribute to Andy Billett. GAMP for providing essential funds to aid the club with equipment and resources to allow us to continue to build and grow. There truly are 'No Limits'.

## Vote on Council Tax

Dear Sir,  
Durham County Council held a Cabinet Meeting on the Wednesday 7th July, the new council leadership have passed a motion to continue increasing Council Tax by 1.99% per year for the next four years, with a 2% rise for the Social Care Precept. DCC also foresee having to cut at least £45.2m from its budget due to a lack of government funding. I would like to ask why the Councillors who were elected recently, with their main issue being council tax, have not voted in line with their election promises?  
Name and address supplied

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