

Friday 23rd July 2021

Established 1948

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



Local Author Visits for Natural World Day at St. Joseph's

See page 2 for full story

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SHAKE 'N' CAKE



PAUL HOWELL
MP for Sedgefield



Local Author Visits for Natural World Day at St Joseph's



St Joseph's Catholic School, a member of The Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust, had an outside learning day before the end of term. They were visited by local author Adam Bushnell, who came to help the children develop their story-telling skills. The theme for 'Natural World Day' was the book called 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson.

Throughout the day the children carried out lots of activities such as making a stick man with the natural materials that they could find around school. They also painted a new story scene, incorporating mud, grass, leaves and water, and thought of ways to make different noises to add sound effects.

Towards the end of the day Lyndsey Wilson, from SC.OUT.ED, (a Science and Outdoor Education Specialist), assisted the children to toast apples with cinnamon over a camp fire.

The day was a huge success and the stories that the children created were incredible. Adam Bushnell commented "The children were exceptionally well behaved and very enthusiastic to learn and participate."

Fiona Brown, Head Teacher, said: "We regularly have outdoor learning days as we feel the children benefit from the natural learning environment, gaining life skills and boosting their creative problem solving techniques. The children loved Natural World Day and thoroughly enjoyed the activities from Adam and Lyndsey. We are looking forward to planning the next one".

Photos: Adam Bushnell story-telling session and the children using natural materials for their story telling scenes.

Future of DLI Collection to be Discussed

Councillors and stakeholders are to be given the opportunity to contribute to a review of the future of a treasured regimental collection. Durham County Council is holding a meeting next week at which its members and invited interested parties will be given the chance to feed into the review of options for the display and storage of the Durham Light Infantry (DLI) Collection and Archive, and the former museum building and grounds.

The meeting of the council's Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board will be broadcast live on the authority's YouTube channel to provide Covid-safe viewing of the meeting for the public. For social distancing reasons, there will be extremely limited availability for members of the public wishing to attend, with anyone seeking to do so required to register in advance.

The council's Cabinet agreed at a meeting last month that officers undertake a review of all options for the display and storage of the collection and archive, which comprise more than 200,000 historic documents and 15,000 objects, as well as the museum building and grounds.

Cabinet agreed to ask for a report to be prepared and brought back to councillors by September. As part of the review, a special meeting of the board has been organised to give members of the board and invited stakeholders the chance to contribute.

Invites to the meeting on Wednesday 28 July have gone to the following key stakeholders: the DLI Trustees, the Army Museums Ogilby Trust, the Faithful Durhams, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the National Army Museum, the National Archives, Arts Council England and the Veterans Group.

A presentation will be given to the meeting on the scope of the review. Stakeholders will be also given the chance to present their views, or to put them in writing.

There will be an opportunity for members of the board to comment and to ask questions on all information presented; following which they will identify and agree key issues for inclusion in a report which will go to the council's Cabinet in September for a decision.

The council's Cabinet members are also being invited to the meeting to give them the opportunity to hear the views of board members and stakeholders.

A summary of the key issues identified at the board meeting will also be reported to the September Cabinet meeting to ensure members of that are fully informed in any decision-making.

Cllr Craig Martin, Chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, said: "We recognise the importance of the Durham Light Infantry to our county and the great regard in which its history is held. We also fully understand the desire for the DLI Collection and Archive to be as accessible to as many people as possible. We are pleased to be in a position to invite key stakeholders to come along and present their views as part of the review process. They can be assured myself and colleagues on the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board will be taking on board everything they are saying when considering and formulating our response to Cabinet."

The meeting takes place in the council chamber at County Hall at 1.30pm. It will be broadcast live at <https://www.youtube.com/user/DurhamCouncil> and members of the public who want to watch the meeting are encouraged to do so online.

In order to ensure social distancing within the chamber, spaces for members of the public are very limited and anyone interested in attending in person must register in advance by emailing Democraticservices@durham.gov.uk

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Gig-Pit Review: "Cracking band, really good players and four singers all taking lead vocals. Excellent harmonies, good sound. Loved the set list. Definitely a band I would go to see again and again - Highly Recommended".

Saturday 31st July - 'Sneaky Blinders'

Saturday 7th August - '1 0 1'

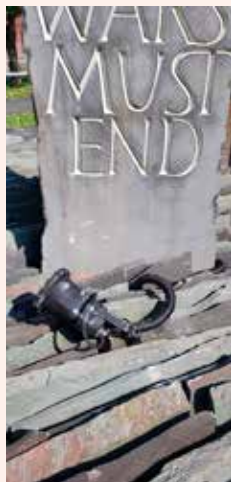
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War Memorial Vandalised



On Saturday 17th July the recently installed uplights at the town's War Memorial were smashed and vandalised. The damage has meant that the lights are now turned off until funds are raised to be able complete the repair.

The project was completed in October last year, when local tradesmen donated their time and expertise to illuminate the memorial stones situated outside St. Clare's Church, in time for Remembrance Sunday.

The original concept for the war memorial was pulled together by the late Syd Howarth, through the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe, and was first erected for the Annual Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service, which took place on 9th November 2008, which also marked the 60th anniversary of the founding of Newton Aycliffe.

The project was completed by electrician, Andy Shields (EJS Electrical) and Landscapers TB Tarn. The electrical components were donated by Gary Monk from UPEX Electrical Distributors.

Christian Aid Collection

This year's Christian Aid collection was looking very unsure, due to the beginning of Covid in 2020 where no collection was held, until The Churches Together In Great Aycliffe decided we must try and do something, however small. We contacted Shirley, the Tesco Champion organiser, and she agreed that we could put a bucket in the store for a weekend in June. Then I phoned our CTGA members to ask for their agreement in placing a bucket in their churches on our town. Thanks go to St. Mary's, St. Andrew's (Aycliffe Village) St. Clare's, The Neville Methodist Church and The New Generation Church, for their agreement. Also most of our Care Homes in the town agreed to have a collection box within their entrance hall, which was also greatly appreciated.

This took more time than our usual couple of days in Tesco to organise, but eventually it happened.

One day in June, Margaret Lee, Gwen Morrison and myself, from CTGA, counted the amounts raised, there were a couple of collections buckets still out, due to some churches not meeting as often as they usually did with the Covid situation.

It is with immense pleasure that we announce that just over £400 was raised during this time. This was a fantastic achievement, and our grateful thanks go to all who helped raise this amount for many countries overseas who are in such need, not just for weeks or months, but whose needs go on endlessly.

THANK YOU so much for your continued generosity in thinking of others in desperate need. This money will certainly help out, maybe in small ways, but in ways that mean so much for those who really need it so badly.

God bless you all.
Pam Lovelass

Sisters, Doing it for Themselves

Sisters of Support are doing it for themselves, steadily growing in numbers, with twelve members and many activities planned for the future. Saturdays open day event in the town centre provided the opportunity for a lot of people to show a real interest in what we do, the support we provide and engage with other organisations in the community.

To keep pace with the interest and demand we are looking to introduce a daytime group session in September, once the schools have returned after their summer break.

Our next group meeting is on Tuesday 27th July, 7.00 till 9.00pm at Neville Community Centre, but our support is available by simply emailing sosna2021@hotmail.com or leaving a message on our Sisters of Support Facebook page.

Carrie and Amy

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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
"The Saturday Night Experience" Sponsored by Bengal Lounge Indian Restaurant & Takeaway		
6-8pm	Evening Session	JimJams
8-9pm	Rock the House	Carl Booth
9-10pm	Retro Trance Mix	OZ-DJ
10-12am	Drum 'n' Bass Show	MC Supa
12-1am	Night Club Session	A DJ

SUNDAY

9-10am	Church Service	Xcel Centre
10-11am	Yesterdays Music Today	Alan Brown
11-12pm	Random Reiki Master	Phil Hawkins
12-2pm	Dave's Sunday Brunch	David Ringer
'Blues Show' Sponsored by Whitehouse Funeral Service		
2-4pm	Bear Blues Show	Colin & Monica
4-6pm	Folk/Celtic/Rock Show	Steve & Col
6-30-8pm	Jazz Time	Mike Dixon
8-10pm	Paul's Down Time	Paul Kjenstad
10-12am	Sean's Sunday Set List	Sean Lawless

* MONDAY to FRIDAY DAILY

10-12am	Golden Years	Paul Baker
12-1pm	A to Z of Pop (Mon, Tues & Wed)	Richard Smith
12-1pm	Call Me No 1 (Tues & Thurs)	Richard Smith
1-2pm	Memory Lane	Colin McNeillie
2-4pm	Afternoon Aycliffe	Paul Baker

MONDAY

'Through the Decades' Sponsored by McDonalds Newton Park

6-7pm	60s Show	Karl Simons
7-8pm	70s Show	Peter Rush
8-9pm	80s Show	Gary Avery
9-10pm	90s Show	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	30 July - BeatRoote	
12-1am	Night Club Session	A DJ

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

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First Andrew Firth Memorial Tournament



On Saturday 17th July, the family and friends of Andrew Firth celebrated his life by the way of a football tournament held at The Beaumont Landscapes Football Stadium at Newton Aycliffe Sports Club, Moore Lane. The tournament consisted of 4 teams – Newton Aycliffe Sports Club FC (who Andrew played for), The Iron Horse, Cobblers Over 40s and a team made up of Andrews family and friends. As the sun beat down on Moore Lane, the tournament started with a minutes applause for Andrew with his dad Peter then kicking off the tournament for his sons Family and Friends team who went on to beat the Sports Club in a well fought out game. The 2nd game was slightly marred when one of the over 40s players sustained an injury causing the game to be halted, with The Iron Horse 2 goals up. With no way of continuing, it was decided to conclude the tournament with a penalty shootout, with Firth's Family and Friends winning the cup in what was a 'meant to be' result for the day.

The family and organisers would like to take the chance to thank the sponsors and all people who donated some wonderful raffle prizes and came along and supported the day. C Harrison Joinery sponsored the tournament, and the teams were sponsored by Mikes Fish Bar (Newton Aycliffe Sports Club), Andrew Turner Inventions (Iron Horse FC), Unity Groundworks (Cobblers over 40s) and Hair We Go (Firth's Family and Friends). AK Sports Therapy sponsored the Player of the Tournament (which was won by Stephen Richardson) and The Golden Boot for Top Goal Scorer was sponsored by Unity Groundworks and was won by Gavin Wilson.

A special thanks to referee Rob Chambers who stepped in to support at the last minute and also photographer Karen Harland, who spent the whole day with us, taking so many photographs that the family will cherish. A special thanks also to Newton Press for printing matchday programmes for us. There are far too many to thank for the donations, but special thanks to Darlington FC, The County, Redworth Hall, Spice Lounge (Bishop Auckland), Hammer and Pincers, Aviator Gin Bar, The Countryman, Newton Aycliffe FC, The Civic Hall (Shildon) and so many others who offered prizes for the raffle to help raise funds for the day.

The family have chosen 3 charities to support and will be looking to make the donations shortly and we will let everyone know the final amount raised and the charities chosen in coming weeks.

The day was a resounding success and saw the whole community come together and support each other for worthy causes and for a young man, taken too soon, who we promise will never be forgotten.

LET'S BE A COVID SAFE COUNTY

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Durham County Council

St Mary's / Shafto Ward Update

Dear friends and residents,
Following our success of 2 County Councillors and 6 Town Councillors in May, I am pleased to update you on my progress in St Mary's and Shafto Ward.
We have been working with Independent Councillors to redress the balance of power and create a 3 way democracy.
On my own ward I have had the vandalised and rotten wood at the back of McColls store rebuilt into a solid, waterproof unit, after 5 weeks liaising with their head office.
I have had potholes reported to Durham County 'Do it on-line' website. They have been successfully repaired.
I also got deep trench-like lorry damage to Central Avenue grass verge repaired, a broken branch hanging dangerously from a tree on Trevor Green removed. I sent nominations for the Aycliffe best garden competition for houses on Wolsey Close and Langley Road. I also helped an elderly resident get his garden waste removed after a 6 week delay.
I have several times supported the police by reporting off-road illegal motorbikes, when underage riders are going up footpaths in the dark with no helmet, no lights, no number plate and definitely, no tax, MOT, driving

license or insurance.
Councillor Fleming also kindly reported illegal camping, parties and alcohol in public places on Whitehead Walk. I have reported damaged and corroded walls at Escomb Close to LIVIN twice and, more recently, Windlestone Walk as well as reporting trees blocking out views and sunlight to a resident on Trevor Green.
What I have enjoyed most is getting out and walking my Ward and talking to residents. We have set up cross party for Aycliffe a Covid Recovery Fund of £100,000, which is being gifted to local people to help them recover and rebuild their businesses, lives and social events they have had to miss or postpone.
Liberal Democrats are preparing a Focus Newsletter to notify voters what we have been doing as a team and asking you, the people, how we can help you and get your views on things, such as the incinerator being forced upon us by Durham County planning officers.
The rapid expansion of housing towards Middridge in the North and Chilton in the East is a concern for some due to new building going onto greenbelt areas.
I have also written to the Durham Police Crime and Victims Commissioner, to ask for the reinstatement of neighbourhood PACT (Police and Communities Together) meetings.
I asked for the police to stop focusing upon 35mph fines in Aycliffe Village and instead to concentrate on the 80mph races on the dual carriageway past the Gretna pub.
I have also asked for new bins on Rufus Green, St Aidans Walk and Escomb Close and outside St. Oswald's Park because the 2 bins just inside the park gates are not accessible in the winter after 3pm
Let me know if you need to discuss issues on the estate via my email or phone number via the Great Aycliffe Council website.
Special thanks to the unsung heroes on my ward, litter picking as volunteers. I thank you all very much.
Councillor Tony Armstrong BA (Hons) HND PGCE
tony4aycliffe@gmail.com

Durham BRASS Postponed to Next Year

The organisers of a popular annual music festival have taken the decision to postpone this year's event.
Durham BRASS was due to take place across County Durham, with live performances running from Wednesday, 14th July to Sunday, 18th July.
However, due to uncertainty regarding national announcements on Covid restrictions and the publication of safety guidance on large scale events, Durham County Council has decided to postpone the event until 2022.
The festival had been planned with Covid-safety measures in mind, with a largely outdoor programme and social distancing arrangements. And, although it had been hoped that national restrictions would have been further eased on 21 June, the council's plans complied with current rules, meaning it had been felt that the festival could still go ahead despite the Government's decision to delay Stage 4 of its roadmap out of lockdown.
The council has been monitoring sector guidance and local conditions closely and, with the current lack of clarity around safety measures at large-scale events, it is no longer felt that it would be possible to host the festival in a safe and enjoyable way on the planned dates.
Cllr Elizabeth Scott, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for economy and partnerships, said: "Keeping people safe has to be our main priority during these challenging times. It is clearly very disappointing that we have had to postpone BRASS but with the ever-changing and unclear situation regarding the virus, national restrictions and additional safety measures at large-scale events, sadly we feel that this is the safest and most sensible decision for all involved.
"It is all the more upsetting that we had worked so hard to ensure the festival would be able to go ahead even if Stage 4 of the roadmap was delayed but, sadly, we no longer feel this is possible.
"We do appreciate that the situation may be very different by the time BRASS was due to take place, but feel it is necessary to make a final decision now so that everyone involved in the festival, from the audience to the bands, has sufficient notice."
The festival was due to include performances by Richard Hawley and the NASUWT Riverside Band, Field Music, The Trevor Horn Band, CBeebies Band Jam star Yolanda Brown and a host of street bands.
The council will continue to monitor Government guidance and local circumstances as planning continues for its other festivals and events.
Everyone who has a ticket for a BRASS event will be contacted over the course of the next week.

ROYAL MAIL NEW OPENING HOURS



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

(B6443 CENTRAL AVENUE AND C34 BURN LANE, NEWTON AYLCLIFFE)
(TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2021

The Council on 16/7/21 made the above Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 as amended, Section 14 (1) to prohibit all vehicular traffic from proceeding on the following lengths of road in Newton Aycliffe: **Phase 1** - 45m of Shafto Way between its junctions with Central Ave roundabout and Stanfield Way; **Phase 2** - 130m of Burn Ln between its junctions with Central Ave and Burn Ln roundabouts; **Phase 3** - The south eastern segment of Burn Ln roundabout between Burn Ln and Greenwell Rd; **Phase 4** - The western quadrant of Burn Ln roundabout between Greenwell Rd and Burn Ln to enable carriageway resurfacing works to be undertaken. Alt route from: 1. the south eastern side of the closure from Shafto Way southerly and continuing westerly on Greville Way, northerly on St Cuthbert's Way and north easterly on Central Ave to the north western side of the closure, and vice versa; 2. the south eastern side of the closure from Central Ave roundabout south westerly on Central Ave then north westerly and north easterly on Greenwell Rd to the north western side of the closure; and from the north western side of the closure north westerly on Burn Ln then south westerly on Westmorland Way and Silkin Way, easterly on Stephenson Way and north easterly on Central Ave to the south eastern side of the closure; 3. As 2. with an additional route to Burnhill Way roundabout as a turnaround; 4. Traffic will be managed under temporary traffic signals around Burn Ln roundabout. The maximum duration of the Order is 18 months. The proposed works are to commence from 7pm to 6.30am each night on 24/7/21 and are anticipated to be completed in 11 nights. On occasions, alternative dates for closure may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly.

DATED: 23rd July 2021



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

A.G.M.

New Friends, New Places will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 17th August 2021 at The Big Club, Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe at 2.30pm - light refreshments will be served after the meeting.
New Friends is a registered charity that was formed in 2008 for older people to encourage them out of isolation, especially after Covid.
They meet every Tuesday at 2pm in The Big Club. We will now be able to start our monthly coach trips and also enjoy line dancing, artistes singing, armchair aerobics, bingo and much more.
Our first Coach Trip will be to South Shields on Sunday 8th August, departing at 9.30am from Wilkinson's bus stop (opposite St. Clare's Church).
For further information contact Dorothy Bowman on 01325 308094 or 07967 901477.

Newton News 
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New Political Party?

Dear Sir,

The letters in last week's Newton News appear to herald the advent of a new political party that has sprung up from the wreckage of Labour/Momentum; 'The Name and Address Supplied Party'. It has broad aims; everything from opposing higher taxation (when imposed by others) to dog dirt! But, the main aim appears to be to dissociate Labour/Momentum from criticism of the new Joint Administration for continuing with Labour/ Momentum's, own, time honoured policy of high taxes!

The new Joint Administration needs, and deserve, time to rectify the effects of tens of years of local government maladministration under the political control of Labour, and latterly, Labour/ Momentum. For Example:

- £3.4M of taxpayer's money 'lost' to fund Durham Cricket Club.
- The scattering and archiving of the DLI Museum exhibits.
- Allowing an adequate and accessible DLI Museum to fall into disrepair.
- The 'White Elephant' new DCC Headquarters in the centre of Durham.

Of course, they also have to oppose Universal Credit (and the temporary Covid £20 p/w uplift).

It is an accepted fact that, if Universal Credit had not been in place when the Covid pandemic started, then the Government would not have been able to fund the poorest in society in time for lockdown. Also, Universal Credit has been instrumental in getting the long term unemployed into work. It may be much opposed, but it works! Why should local taxpayers give an extra £20.00 a week (to spend locally) when they could spend it locally themselves?

Could it be, 'The Name and Address Supplied' party is a radical, left-wing, tax-and-spend party, just like Labour/ Momentum? However, I can agree with their stance on dog dirt.

Yours Sincerely,
Alastair P.G. Welsh

North East Classic Car Shows

After so much uncertainty, Mark Woodward Classic Events are relieved to report that, with the latest easing of Covid restrictions, the last five events in the classic car show season are going ahead as planned. After a difficult start to the year, with some events cancelled and some at part capacity, the last five events should feel as 'normal' as they can be.

Starting at Carnforth's Leighton Hall on the 8th August, the popular vintage vehicle shows plot a course over the Pennines to venues in the North East for three back to back events at Tynedale Park, Ripon Racecourse and Ripley Castle They then return back to the west coast for a final prestigious show at Historic Hutton-In-The-Forest in the middle of September.

Well-known for bringing premier classic vehicle shows to spectacular locations, Mark's events all promise the very best of vintage vehicle and automotive nostalgia, displaying hundreds of classic cars, motorcycles, trucks, vans, commercials, Land Rovers, farm and army vehicles.

With arena shows, commentary, displays and trade stands plus plenty of Covid compliant facilities and refreshment stops, there's plenty for the whole family: outdoor enthusiasts and history lovers as well as motoring buffs. And no show would ever be complete without the ever popular autojumble. The perfect place to pick up a bargain.

The best news of all is that finally club stands can now book for these shows, something that wasn't able to happen before the restrictions were lifted.

But some restrictions are still in place and should your plans change due to self-isolation or other Covid reasons, tickets can be moved and used at any of the events this year. Mark wanted to say how grateful he is to all his regular visitors, exhibitors, traders and staff.

"It's been a roller coaster for all event organisers this year, with ever changing guidance and the worry of how to keep visitors safe at events. We are just thankful that we were able to run some of them earlier in the year and now that restrictions are lifted, and car clubs can come too, I'm hopeful for five cracking shows to finish the season on a high."

Running 10am-4pm, all shows are easily accessed from main travel routes, with plentiful free parking and amenities. Adult tickets to all shows are £7.50, with accompanied children aged 15 and under FREE of charge. Exhibitor space, trade stands, club stands, autojumble plots and visitor tickets can be pre-booked, through www.markwoodwardclassicevents.com. For visitors who prefer to pay on the day, please use cash and the correct money only. Please check final event details before travelling to events.



Blister Pack Recycling

Co-op Funeralcare in Macmillan Road, Newton Aycliffe are now a donation point for the blister packs from prescribed medication. These can be recycled but if they are placed in the normal wheelie bin they are taken to landfill as the refuse department don't have the facility to recycle them.

If you could collect your blister packs up and drop them off with us when you are in the town that would be a great recycling effort for Newton Aycliffe.

We are located behind the TA Centre on Macmillan Road and are open 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

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
or posted to:

Paul Howarth
Newton Press
Blue Bridge Centre
St. Cuthberts Way
Newton Aycliffe
DL5 6DS

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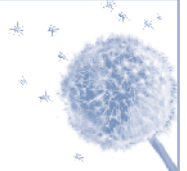


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Newton Aycliffe Dad with Brain Cancer Becomes an Ironman

A 34-year-old dad-of-two from Newton Aycliffe has completed the prestigious Ironman UK, just months after finishing treatment for a brain tumour.

Craig Johnston did the famed triathlon event in just over 16 hours. The estimator turned to fitness as a way of coping, following a devastating cancer diagnosis. He is also raising vital funds for the charity Brain Tumour Research.

Craig is married to Jilly and together they have two children, Alistair (10) and Millie (four). Their lives were turned upside-down three years ago, when Craig suffered a seizure in bed one night. He was taken to A&E, where an MRI scan revealed a brain tumour. Ten days later, he had a craniotomy at James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough, to debulk the tumour.



The results from the biopsy revealed the tumour was a high-grade astrocytoma, meaning he would need a gruelling course of radiotherapy and chemotherapy. In January 2020, Craig started to focus on healthy eating and fitness, setting himself the ambitious goal of making it to the start line of Ironman UK in Bolton, Greater Manchester on 4 July 2021. But his ability to get there was in jeopardy, when he received the news that his tumour had re-grown and he would need more surgery and cancer treatment.

In February 2020, Craig re-started chemotherapy while continuing to train for the Ironman. He said: "The chemo made me sicker the second time but I still managed to get out



running and cycling quite a bit. After I finished chemo, I had a couple of seizures while out training, which were scary and resulted in a knock to my confidence."

The Bolton Ironman is a notoriously hard triathlon, covering 140.6 miles. Starting at 6am on 4 July, Craig completed a 2.4-mile swim before cycling 110 hilly miles, finishing off with a 26.2-mile run. Craig, who had to learn to swim in order to qualify for the event, said: "The support on the day was fantastic and really helped to push me to the finish line. Even though I underestimated the enormity of the challenge, I'm proud to have done it and know how to tweak things next time, in order to achieve a better time." Not one to rest for long, Craig has already resumed training in preparation for his next challenge, the Outlaw Half Nottingham Triathlon in September. He has also raised an incredible £1,925 for Brain Tumour Research. He's hoping to push that total over the £2,740 mark – the equivalent amount it costs to fund a day of research at each of the charity's Centres of Excellence.

To donate, please go to: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/briangotmelted

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NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE

SATURDAY, 24th JULY, 2021

11.00am to 2.00pm

Music provided by **aycliffe**

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



SPORTS OPEN DAY

LOOKING FOR A NEW SPORT OR ACTIVITY?

Find out more on

Saturday 31st July 2021
Aycliffe Town Centre
11.00am to 2.00pm

Football • Rugby • Swimming • Archery
Axe Throwing • Water Polo • Karate
Archery • Swimming, plus many more . . .

Displays By:

Gymnastics, Dance Troupes, Cheer Leaders

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 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 there 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? Looking to get fit or lose a bit of weight?

Why not come along to the 'Sports Day' in Aycliffe Town Centre on Saturday 31st July 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, Scouts, Swimming and more.

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

What an Experience!

With the new opening of our Gin Experience – where members of the public can now make their own gin, here at The Herbal Gin Company, the team has been doing more research on the botanicals that we have available for making some fantastic gins.

We also want to share a few interesting facts about some of the botanicals that are household names.

Fact 1 - Gin and New York....?

Readers of an earlier blog on our website will remember about the fenugreek smell that shut down New York not too long ago (twice)... However, this isn't our only story about New York, so let's move from fenugreek to nutmeg.....

It turns out that 600 years ago, nutmeg was more precious than gold. Pound for pound it cost more, as it could only be found in the Moluccas archipelago of Indonesia. There was massive demand for this rare spice in Europe and competition raged to control its distribution. Inevitably this led to (sadly usually violent) colonisation of the area. Evidence is available to show that nutmeg was a vital constituent in the making of juniper rich spirit - i.e. gin.

Portugal were the first colonisers off the Moluccas and then it was the Dutch and then the English, after it seized two of the islands in question in 1603. [For any fellow Scots out there, please be aware that the Acts of Union led to the creation of the United Kingdom in 1707 - so England is the correct description here.]

The Dutch were pretty upset about the loss of such an important territory which meant they could not get their nutmeg fix for, amongst other things, their Genever or gin. So much so, that they decided to trade it for another territory (think Monopoly), that they valued less, in order to regain world nutmeg domination.

Turns out, the other territory that they traded for the Moluccas was a small place called New Amsterdam. Nowadays known as New York. 1 How things change...!

Fact 2 - Real or synthetic

Vanilla was first used well before nutmeg, in fact 1000 years ago, by the Toronac people in Mexico. They were pretty switched on by using vanilla in conjunction with cacao to make a flavoured drink (still going strong!). The Aztecs took them over, and it doesn't come as a surprise to then work out that Spain took vanilla back to their homeland after their brutal and devastating takeover of the Aztec people. (However let's not assume too readily that, previously, the Aztecs were too polite and kind to the Toronacs!)

The flavour success was short lived. Mexico kept the vanilla monopoly as it turned out that the vanilla pods would only pollinate by native Mexican bees. A while later a Belgian botanist worked out how to hand pollinate vanilla flowers (!) and less than 50 years later the Germans (who else) created a vanilla synthetic flavour that now flavours 97% of our 'vanilla' flavoured foods.

One of the best ways to create a vanilla-like flavour is to use Tonka beans in the recipe - rich and flavoursome, giving tones of vanilla and more.

Fact 3 - Numbness of the tongue

Fact three involves joint contributions by nutmeg (again), Grains of Selim and Galangal which all cause mild, but noticeable, tongue numbness. Galangal already features in some of our Herbal Gin recipes but Grains of Selim (more in blog posts to come) have yet to feature and nutmeg has started to appear in some of our 'Experience' trials.

This fact came to light after we started to taste all the botanicals as individual items. (It's a tough job!) During this, we noticed that Grains of Selim especially caused a strange feeling of tongue numbness. Turns out this is an effect of chemicals called neolignans which have recently been discovered in Nutmeg oil, Galangal and are manifest to our taste buds when we chew Grains of Selim. These chemicals act on the temperature sensing nerves on the tongue to give a numbing sense of coolness that strangely persists.

It's such an unusual experience but it's fascinating to get to know the reasons for such unusual effects.

Hopefully this gives a further set of insights into taste, flavour and how our Gin Experience will allow you to create a gin that will be unique and priceless.

Cheers

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Aycliffe Athletics Club Round Up

The Chapelfell Top Fell Race, which took place on Tuesday, 13th July 2021, is our first port of call in what has proved to be a busy week. The race, hosted by the Durham Fell Runners, is approximately 7km in length, but includes 400m of ascent. Initially on tracks, the race soon progresses onto open fell and rough terrain. Shaun Dodd was our sole representative at the race, completing his tough run in 58:53.

Wednesday, 14th July 2021, saw the next race in the Muddy Roads Summer Trail Series, with the running of the Lordstones 5K. On a glorious summer evening in North Yorkshire, John Firby was first home for the Club, completing the undulating course in 20:04. Not too far behind was Paul Dalton, who crossed the line in 20:51, and placed first in his Age Category (V40). David Stothard completed the trio of Aycliffe RC runners, coming home in 30:52.

Thursday and Friday saw the Durham City Run Festival return to the North-East, with Thursday evening seeing the running of both the 5K and 10K races. In the 5K, Alan Wilks had an excellent run after overcoming a recent injury setback, finishing in 24:59, which placed him second in his Age Category (MV70). Kathleen Tonge went one better by winning her Age Category (FV60), completing her run in 29:35.

In the 10K race, Trish Kay was the first finisher for the Club, crossing the line in 53:23, and she was followed home by Donna Japs (59:24) and Richard Tonge (1:02:43).

On a blisteringly hot Friday, several Members took part in the 'Run Like A Legend' One Mile Time Trial event, which took place on the flat footpath along the riverside. At the time of writing, the individual results of the Time Trial had not been published, and hopefully we can bring those to you at a future date, however the run was particularly notable for Marie and Jayne Rudd, who got to meet



Paula Radcliffe.

Sunday saw some Members head to the South Park in Darlington for the Darlington Trail 10K. The race started at the parkrun start line, took you under the Parkside Bridge where runners completed three laps of the field, before returning to the starting point. First home for the Club was Dez Fielden, in a time of 42:25. Taking part in his second race of the week, David Stothard was the next to finish (1:02:15), and he was followed in by Eve Doe (1:17:46). Elsewhere on Sunday, in hot and undulating conditions (not to mention swarms of flies!), Martyn Knox ran the Hamsterley Trail 10K race. Despite the tough conditions, Martyn had a good run, finishing in 56:25.

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



WOODHAM ACADEMY

Washington Crescent, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4AX
Telephone: 01325 300328

Email: info@woodham.org.uk Website: www.woodham.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr. A. Bell

School Cleaner

Grade 1, Scale Point 3. 16 Hours per week, £9.62 per hour

Term time – start/finish times to be agreed – approximately 2.30pm to 5.50pm (Mon-Thur), 2.40pm to 5.20pm (Fri)

School holiday hours – Full days worked on Wednesdays and Thursdays weekly 8.30am to 5.00pm.

Start Date – as soon as possible following pre-employment checks

Woodham is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to enhanced disclosure; the successful applicants will be subject to relevant vetting checks before an offer of appointment is made.

Woodham Academy is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We want to develop a more diverse workforce and we positively welcome applications from all sections of the community. Applicants with disabilities will be invited for interview if the essential job criteria are met.

An application form, job description and person specification can be obtained from the school by contacting the reception desk.

Closing Date 9.00 a.m. Monday 9 August 2021

Neighbourhood Policing

By PCSO Alfie Middleton



Hello to everyone reading the Newton News.

This week we have eventually had our first insight into summer. The weather has been lovely and it's the first week of the summer holidays for most schools.

Last week we handed out seven ACE awards to people we have recognised as doing amazing work in the community. One to Alex Brown, who shaved his head in order to raise £1052 for Alzheimer's and the British Heart Foundation. A group of 6 outstanding pupils from Byerley Park Primary School received ACE awards after being recognised for their amazing community spirit. Issac Clarke, Jay Woods, Seth Tomlinson, Matthew Pendleton, Maddison Proctor and Harry Turner all received ACE awards after helping a lost child to safety.

Thank you to McDonalds for helping with the initiative.

We have seized a yellow Suzuki pit bike from Arncliffe Place which was linked to anti-social activity in the area.

We would love for you all to come and join us at the Family Fun Day this Saturday (24th July) between 11am and 2pm. It will be great to see you and finally get back to engaging with you all.

Finally, for anyone interested, please sign up to Keep in the Know so that we can understand the issues that most affect you and provide regular updates. Registration is simple and can be done by following the link www.keepintheknow.co.uk and signing up.

Have a great week.

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The role of supply staff is important to us to ensure smooth running of our nursery.

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managerplayday@gmail.com or call 01325 312050.



WOODHAM ACADEMY

Washington Crescent, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4AX

Telephone: 01325 300328

Email: info@woodham.org.uk Website: www.woodham.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr. A. Bell

Covid-19 National Testing Programme

Test Assistant
Processor
Registration Assistant
Results Recorder

Support Staff Salary Spine NJC scale point – c£9.62 per hour

In September, rapid-results tests will be provided to secondary schools to conduct initial testing before reintroducing at-home tests – this will help to identify those who are carrying the virus without displaying symptoms. Woodham Academy wishes to appoint to the positions above to undertake initial testing of pupils on 2nd to 10th September.

The initial testing will take place over 6 days, 3-10 September within which hours may be flexible and part-time however a minimum number of hours will be agreed. The roles will suit those with a medical, first aid or administrative background but full training will be provided, and experience is not essential.

Woodham is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to enhanced disclosure; the successful applicants will be subject to relevant vetting checks before an offer of appointment is made

Woodham Academy is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We want to develop a more diverse workforce and we positively welcome applications from all sections of the community. Applicants with disabilities will be invited for interview if the essential job criteria are met.

An application form, role descriptor and person specification can be downloaded from the school website at <https://woodham.org.uk/> or for further information please contact athomerresults@woodham.org.uk.

Closing date 9.00am 27th August 2021

Baxter's Boost for Real-Life Paw Patrol



An air ambulance's four-legged mascot spent a day on base with the critical care team to mark the launch of the charity's raffle. Baxter, an 18-month-

old Labrador, paid a surprise visit to the doctors, pilots and paramedics at the Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS) as the guest of honour for the opening of one of its biggest fundraising activities. Baxter's owner, GNAAS paramedic Gordon Ingram, said: "It can be a tough job at times, especially in the summer months when we're at our busiest. It's a little thing but having Baxter around put a smile on everyone's face." GNAAS is predicting it will have its busiest ever summer after responding to 165 call-outs in June alone.

With fundraising income down more than £1m on previous levels, because of the pandemic, the charity is hoping its raffle will help meet the rising demand.

The raffle has a £10,000 top prize. Tickets cost £1 each and are available now at gna.as/raffle21.

After officially opening the 2021 raffle, Baxter was declared "a very good boy" by Mr Ingram and rewarded with a game of fetch and a pair of socks – his favourite toy.

Friendship Club

The Friendship Club is a new club held every Thursday from 1.30-4.00pm at the Phoenix Club, Newton Aycliffe.

We are a club with a majority of mature people, but all are welcome. Come and join us for a chat and refreshments.



Greenfield Community College
A Specialist Arts & Science School

Cover Supervisor

32.5 hours per week, term time only
Grade 3 SCP 4 - 6 (£14,327 – 14,906)

Greenfield Community College is seeking to appoint an enthusiastic cover supervisor to supervise classes of students in the absence of a teacher to ensure continuity of education. Experience of working with 11 – 16 year olds is essential.

For further information and an application pack please contact HR on 01325 300378 or email hr@greenfieldschool.net. Visit our website greenfieldschool.net/vacancies

Completed applications should be sent to the above email address. Only applications submitted on the school's application forms and completed in full by the specified date will be considered.

Greenfield Community College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of sex, race, marital status or disability. The school is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and require all staff to share this commitment. All posts are subject to a satisfactory DBS clearance.

Closing Date: Wednesday 4th August, 12 noon.
Interviews 13th August, times to be confirmed.
All appointments are subject to appropriate pre-employment checks



Greenfield Community College
A Specialist Arts & Science School

Teaching Assistant

37 hours per week, term time plus 10 days
Grade 3 SCP 4-6 (£18,933 – £19,698 pro rata)

To work under the instruction/guidance of the site lead for SEND to support the delivery of quality learning and teaching for SEND students, specialising in those identified within the Physical and/or Sensory area of need.

To encourage the participation of students in the social and academic processes of the school and enable student(s) to become more independent learners.

To undertake work/care/support programmes to enable access to learning for student(s) and to assist the teacher in the management of student(s) in the classroom.

For further information and an application pack please contact HR on 01325 300378 or email hr@greenfieldschool.net.

Visit our website greenfieldschool.net/vacancies. Completed applications should be sent to the above email address. Only applications submitted on the school's application forms and completed in full by the specified date will be considered.

Greenfield Community College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of sex, race, marital status or disability. The school is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and require all staff to share this commitment. All posts are subject to a satisfactory DBS clearance.

Closing Date: Wednesday 4th August, 12 noon.
Interviews 13th August - times to be confirmed.
All appointments are subject to appropriate pre-employment checks.

Funding Available: The GAMP Project Callout is Open

The Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership (GAMP) Board has a budget of £244k available, and applications are invited for projects from community & voluntary or not-for-profit organisations and groups. Grant limits between £5,000 to £25,000 have been agreed, and projects must take place in the GAMP area.

Proposals are invited for projects which help to support positive outcomes for children, young people and families and/or older people in the GAMP AAP area to live a happier, healthier and safer life. Our focus this year will be on an overarching 'Community Recovery' priority theme, and projects should aim to address at least one of the following key issues:

- Employability initiatives
- Advice and Guidance
- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Organisational sustainability
- Food provision and support
- Social Isolation
- Support for the Voluntary and Community Sector
- Support to small businesses (through a third party, not-for-profit organisation to complement existing DCC and external opportunities)
- Emerging Community Issues

Groups are permitted to apply for more than one grant, so long as one funding allocation is not reliant on another. Applications can be submitted for either capital or revenue funding (or both), and projects which include a specific element of capital spend are encouraged. If you need advice on the specific definitions for capital/revenue, please get in touch. Project proposals must also include a minimum of 5% match funding (either cash or in-kind, or both).

The closing date for applications is 5:00pm on Monday 13th September 2021. All eligible applications will be assessed and ranked by a panel of GAMP Board Members, to determine which projects will be awarded funding. Prospective projects should have a planned start date no earlier than December 2021 to allow time for the appraisal process.

Please contact us for an application pack, or if you'd like further information, email: gampaap@durham.gov.uk or telephone 07834 147211.



It was fabulous to see the announcements from the Department for Education about the latest schools to benefit from the second round of the Prime Minister's transformative school rebuilding programme. This latest announcement of the next 50 schools to benefit includes two in Newton Aycliffe, with both Sugar Hill and Woodham Academy benefiting.

This week is the last before Westminster goes into recess for the summer, this will give more opportunity for me in the constituency but will mean that there is less to say about things that are happening in Parliament. So, what I intend to do over the forthcoming weeks is to tell you a little more about the structure of Parliament and how it works, so if you have any particular questions you would like me to address just let me know.

First, let me update you on last week. I went to the virtual meeting of the APPG for weddings where we met with the Rt Hon Penny Mordaunt who is the Paymaster General and Paul Scully, the Minister for Small Business, to discuss the ongoing challenges for all of those in the wedding industry. I then went to the virtual joint meeting of the APPG for the Armed Forces Covenant and APPG for Veterans to hear Minister Leo Docherty talk to us. I also took the opportunity to call and introduce myself to the members of Middleton St George Parish Council before their meeting. I was a little early so also said hello to the Zumba class and was very nearly a participant, maybe another time!

Tuesday saw me at The Great Yorkshire Show to meet with the NFU. I have many, many farms in the constituency each with a variety of different challenges and it was a great opportunity to have time for them and their NFU representatives. There are so many changes going on that affect them through the Agriculture Bill and it is important I can give their regional perspective.

I caught up with the team who are working on the feasibility study for the reinstatement of a railway station at Ferryhill and was very encouraged by how the data is looking. This could be a game changer for Ferryhill and put another station in reach of people in Aycliffe.

I attended a briefing on the East Coast Cluster which is about the decarbonisation initiatives on Teesside and the Humber, there are many jobs and economic opportunities that will flow from these green projects as we work to reduce our carbon footprint.

I had a virtual tearoom surgery with Kit Malthouse the Minister for Policing where I raised a number of points around ASB and the need to improve the 101 phonenumber. He

had some good responses that I will raise with the PCC at my next meeting with her. I was scheduled to visit Sedgfield Primary School, but this had to be cancelled due to a pupil testing positive, but I was able to visit Ferryhill Community and Business College. Like so many schools they are ready for the respite that the school holidays will bring after an incredibly busy time for all our school staff. The work they have all done through the pandemic has been amazing and I hope they can get some relief before September. However, they are also delivering some summer schools to help transitioning pupils so I continue to applaud their efforts and look forward to visiting again in the new school year.

Another focus for me remains the potential for using the Governments Levelling Up Fund to reimagine Newton Aycliffe Town Centre. The Durham County Council team that are working on the project gave me an update on progress and I was pleased to see some good potential opportunities, I have fed into them the information from our recent survey. It was also good to see that Great Aycliffe Town Council have created a working group focused on this same agenda. It's imperative that we all work together to get the best from this opportunity.

Talking about the Town Centre it was great to see so many community organisations represented last Saturday, it was a credit to all who organised or participated. We have a great town with so many fabulous community groups. This Saturday it's a Blue Light event with all the emergency services there, please come along and join them and take the time to spend with our hard-pressed retailers who have had an incredibly difficult year. After this week's surgery in Hurworth, next will be Ferryhill and then one in Woodham Community Centre, appointments are available at the surgeries or at the constituency office and if you would like one just send an email to my office.

We, of course, have now seen the release of a lot of the mandatory restrictions re everything from mask wearing to the number of people gathering together and the way pubs and restaurants operate. Please remember it's incumbent on all of us to use common sense and the mantra of Hands, Face, Space and Fresh Air remains as relevant as ever. The difference now is it's about us deciding when it's necessary as opposed to being told. An example for me would be I am likely to continue wearing a mask in a busy train, but I have the choice not to if the carriage is not full.

Please stay safe and be considerate to others.

Paul Howell

Member of Parliament for Sedgfield



Paul Howell
Member of Parliament for Sedgfield

paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk

Telephone: 020 7219 6385

Aycliffe Office: 01325 790580

Aycliffe Cricket Club Scoreboard Report

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store, had their NYSD division two home game cancelled as the visitors, Northallerton 1st XI, had a big Covid-19 outbreak at their club and were therefore unable to field a team.

The **Second** team travelled to table toppers Richmond 4th XI in the NYSD 4th division and were defeated by 72 runs. The home side won the toss and unsurprisingly decided to bat first on the hottest day of the year and were then restricted to 140 for 8 from their allotted 40 overs. Full credit must go to the Aycliffe team for the effort that they all put in when fielding and bowling in the sweltering conditions. Captain Joe Teasdale lead from the front with the ball taking 3 for 33 and he was supported well by Leo Mercy (2 for 32), Matty Greaves (2 for 33) and Jack Slatcher (1 for 27). In reply, Aycliffe were dismissed for just 68, their lowest score of the season, after 27.4 overs. 16 year old Matthew Greaves (sponsored by Britannia Fire) was the only batsman to reach double figures when he top scored with a defiant 26 off 31 balls, hitting five boundaries in the process. The **U14's** team travelled to Lanchester CC in the Durham County Cup and were beaten by 32 runs. The homeside elected to bat first and scored a very challenging 139 for 8 in their allotted 20 overs. Leo Stout (2 for 16) was the pick of the bowlers and Will Dearden also did well in the field, running out two Lanchester batsmen. In reply, the Aycliffe opening batsmen, Thomas Dearden and Harrison Pearson, got their side off to a good start scoring 12 runs apiece. Daniel Heaton continued

the good work, top scoring with 25 runs from 26 balls faced and he hit a boundary and two sixes in his eye catching innings. Twenty runs off 23 balls by Will Dearden late in the innings proved in vain as Aycliffe were dismissed for a fighting 107 after 18.2 overs.

The club's **U11's** team had two very tough fixtures this week, firstly playing at home to NYACC league leaders Stockton and then travelling away to second in the table Blackhall. Our young team put in a spirited performance against Stockton, but were well beaten by 92 runs. However, there were good individual performances with the bat from Trent Telford (10 not out) and 6 year old Harvey Palmer (8 not out) and Charlie Malcomson and Will Moffatt both bowled well, each taking two wickets in the visitors innings. The U11's also lost away at Blackhall by 75 runs, but special mention must go to Trent Telford who top scored when Aycliffe batted with 18 not out off only 11 balls faced.

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Men Talking

Men Talking Together hold a meeting every Monday 12 noon until 2.30pm at Unit 14A I.E.S. Centre, which is behind Screwfix and Crafters Companion.

If you are nervous or worried about going out and meeting people, this would be the ideal place to start turning your life around, especially if you are an older gentleman. Most of our members are over 40 years. Please come and join us, we can also point you in the direction for any problems you may have.

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Keeping Healthcare Services Safe

Healthcare leaders across County Durham and Darlington are uniting to call on local communities to help keep patients and healthcare services safe as nationally Coronavirus restrictions are lifted in many social settings.

The legal constraints on mask wearing and social distancing in England have been removed from this week in many social settings however, this does not apply across healthcare settings.

Healthcare professionals are urging members of the public to continue wearing masks, to adhere to social distancing and to continue practicing good hand hygiene when in hospital, a GP practice or any healthcare setting to help protect patients and vital healthcare workers.

Executive director of nursing at County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, Noel Scanlon, explains why this is essential to keep patients safe. "It's just under 500 days since the first national restrictions were put in place and we're all desperate for society to return to how it was before Covid. Unfortunately, infection rates



continue to rise, with the latest statistics showing that both County Durham and Darlington have well over double the national average number of people with Covid-19, many of whom may not realise they're infected. The Delta variant of Covid, which is currently dominant in the UK, is more highly transmissible than any of the other variants, meaning that an infected person is likely to pass it on to many more people.

"So we need to do all we can to continue to protect our patients and our people by keeping these infection control and prevention measures in place and continuing with other restrictions such as limited visiting. This includes asking patients to attend appointments unaccompanied, other than in exceptional circumstances and with the consent of the medical team. If you bring someone to hospital, you are welcome to wait in the car park – please don't wait in corridors – you're putting yourself and others at risk.

"Covid is transmitted when we breathe out which is why we require anyone coming into our hospitals, including staff, to wear a hospital supplied face mask, which are available at the sanitiser stations at hospital entrances – other face coverings aren't acceptable. Our patients are, by the very fact they're unwell and in hospital, weaker and more vulnerable to Covid – which is why we continue to require masks. Wearing a mask protects others rather than ourselves and are a requirement for coming into our hospitals. "We understand that some people struggle to wear a mask but we ask that they make every effort to tolerate doing so for the short time they're with us for an appointment. "While the vast majority of our patients are incredibly supportive and understanding, sadly, when trying to enforce mask wearing and visitor restrictions, some of our staff are being verbally abused, shouted at, even reduced to tears and fearful for their safety. This won't be tolerated."

Dr Stewart Findlay, GP and Chief Officer for NHS County Durham CCG, said: "The continued high community rates across County Durham are something we all must take very seriously and we can all do our bit to help protect each other, our loved ones and those most vulnerable. We are still all in this together - we are asking our local populations to continue with all these important measures which will help reduce the risk of infection when in hospitals or GP practices and help protect those needing our help as well as our own staff. We ask you to respect our healthcare staff and comply with the safety requirements in hospitals and healthcare settings. Doing all you can to avoid either getting Covid or spreading it really is the best thing you can do to help ensure our services can continue caring for those most in need - after all, we never know when that might be us."

REME Meeting

Calling all ex-REME or any member with an association to REME.

The South West Durham Branch of the REME Association will be resuming our monthly meetings in the Scout Centre, Bluebell Way, Newton Aycliffe at 8pm on Wednesday 28th July 2021.

It will be a chance to welcome new faces and catch up with old friends.

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Nursery Graduates 'Party On'



Children swapped crayons and glue for caps and gowns as they 'graduated' from Bishop Auckland College Nursery. The 21 leavers enjoyed a special celebration evening as they move on to start school this September, with a party and graduation ceremony in the nursery garden. Nursery Manager Donna Blackmore said: "The evening was a huge success and emotional for all the staff and families involved. We are very proud of the children and their achievements over their time in nursery and we wish them all well at their new schools." The nursery, which has been operating for 30 years, has spaces this autumn for all ages – from three months to five years – and funded places for two and three-year-olds. Most staff have more than 20 years' service at the nursery, which has a baby room catering for three months to two years, a toddler room for two to three years and a pre-school room for children

aged three to five years – all led by a senior nursery nurse. Ofsted inspectors rated the nursery as 'Good' after an inspection in 2019, praising the quality of teaching and range of activities and experiences for children, and the relationships between the highly qualified staff and parents. For more information on the nursery visit bishopaucklandcollegenursery.co.uk or contact Nursery Manager Donna Blackmore on 01388 443123. Photo: The class of 2021, Bishop Auckland College Nursery leavers at the graduation ceremony.

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories and feature good news and interesting items on achievements and community service
Tel: 01325 300212
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In Memoriam

Margaret Eunice Parkin

Died 21st July 2015
Aged 76 years
We think of you in silence, we often speak your name. But all we have are memories and your picture in a frame. Your resting place we visit and put flowers there with care, but no one knows the heartache as we turn and leave you there. God bless.
Love from your loving Husband Stan and family.
Until we meet again
xxxx

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 28th July 2021 - 7.15pm
Full Council

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

Obituary

Phyllis Margaret Gordon

(Newton Aycliffe, formerly of Greathead Crescent).
Passed away peacefully at Springvale Court on 15th July 2021, aged 92 years.
Much loved Mam, Grandma and Great Grandma.

Kevin Maw

1963 - 2021
Kevin Maw, aged 57 of Orlando, Florida, passed away on Tuesday 6th July 2021. He was born in RAF Wroughton, England on 4th October 1963. He is survived by his Wife Sarah Maw; two Daughters Brooke Maw and Claudia Maw, Niall Maw and friend Georgina Morris.

Joseph Brazier

Of Newton Aycliffe
Suddenly at St Clare's Court Care Home on 16th July, aged 85 years.
Dearly beloved Husband of Myra; much loved Father to Kevin, Linda and the late Susan; devoted Grandad and Great Grandad.
Will family and friends please meet for Funeral Service at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Thursday 29th July at 1.30pm.
Wake at the Navy Club. Family flowers only, any donations to Parkinsons UK.
Any enquiries to John Meynell Funeral Directors.

William Hewitt (Bill)

Died peacefully at Darlington Memorial Hospital on 11th July 2021.
A much loved Husband, Dad, Grandad, Great Grandad, Brother and Uncle.
Funeral Service to take place in West Cemetery Chapel, Carmel Road, Darlington on Tuesday 27th July at 12 noon.
Donations, if so desired, will be gratefully accepted for Alzheimer's UK.

Fiona McKenzie Laycock

30th July 2019
Sadly missed along life's way, quietly remembered every day.
No longer in our life to share, but in our hearts you are always there.
Beloved Wife, Mam, Nan Nan, Sister and Auntie.
We love and miss you always and forever.

Congratulations

Kay Naylor



Happy 34th Birthday
Hope you have a brilliant day you epic human you. Lots of love Dan xxx



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August 2021

The Trust are seeking to appoint an Administrator who will run the busy school office starting 7th September 2021 at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Newton Aycliffe.

We are seeking to appoint a well-qualified and enthusiastic administrator who would relish the opportunity to work in our school office.

The successful candidate will join a school which is committed to supporting pupils to achieve the very best outcomes. You will be responsible for all school office duties including answering the telephone and greeting pupils, parents and visitors as well as a range of administrative tasks. A key quality will be working alone using your own initiative, supported by a team of Trust colleagues.

You will have high expectations and a commitment to the Catholic Mission of the school. Working hours will be 8.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday term time only.

Please contact Mrs Brown, Headteacher, or Mr Hunt, Deputy Headteacher to discuss the role.

Further details and application forms are available from :

<https://bhcet.org.uk/vacancies/>
Interviews will take place week commencing 9th August 2021. Completed application forms to be emailed to: recruitment@stjosephsna.bhcet.org.uk or by post to St Joseph's Garburn Place, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7DE

Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School works closely with other Academies in the Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust and we may ask you from time to time to be based at another Academy within the Trust.

10 Miles a Day

The challenge is on for local girl, Nicola Williamson, to walk 10 miles a day, for 31 consecutive days during July 2021 ... no days off ... no slacking. The aim, to raise awareness and funds for Mental Health, in particular Men's Mental Health via ManHealth. Nicola has experienced it personally, witnessed family members, friends and colleagues go through the suffering and more needs to be done. She has been studying since 2018, and is now just two tiny years away from a BA (Hons) in Integrative Counselling. Her passion is there, but there needs to be more awareness, less stigma and ears to listen to the pain that many go through and often end their life with. ManHealth are a local charity providing a service who do just that. They survive on donations and sponsorship. Nicola will do a minimum of 10 miles a day (whilst working near enough full time and studying) so it will be early mornings and late nights, please, if you can, a tiny donation would be phenomenal. To donate visit: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/nicwillhike95>



Micromax Championship

Round 4 Micromax Championship at Hooton Park Circuit

Full day of practice for Seb on the Friday - we found this really beneficial, trying different gearing and jetting.

Race day

This championship sees random grids so no qualifying.

Heat 1 - Seb starts 14th, had a lot of work to do from the back of the grid, up ahead there were incidents, kart going over the side of another causing damage, other drivers having to take avoiding action. Seb worked hard, keeping focus on his driving, having consideration for others, he finished 4th gaining 10 places - best lap time 39.174.

Heat 2 - Started 7th, this heat was a very interesting one as Seb was having to avoid being side swiped after another driver made a dangerous move, Seb had two wheels on the grass but managed to control his kart but losing position in the meantime. Not to be disheartened he got his head down and got back on it.

Due to an error by the clerk of the course he put the last lap board out one lap too early, which certainly confused these kids, he pushed on what he thought was the last lap getting up to 4th and thought the race was over, as did the others, and backed off - we were all shouting across, even though they couldn't hear us, "keep going, keep going", by the time Seb and a few others realised he had lost a place, came over the line in 5th. The clerk of the course said he didn't make a mistake even though this was caught and clearly shows on the footage. Unfortunately, no action was taken and the kids were told to race to the flag, he had this in his hand too!

Heat 3 - Seb started 2nd, there was a good battle for 2nd/3rd/4th place, this continued for the majority of the race, Seb made clean moves through to the end, finishing 4th.

The Final - Seb started 4th, pretty much the same as Heat 3 - battling for 2nd/3rd/4th place, again some really good moves from Seb and fairly incident free, until the last lap on the final corner where Seb again was forced onto the grass meaning he finished in 4th. Overall he finished 4th but 3rd in the under 10's.

Really proud of him. We packed up then headed home for a race at Warden Law the following day.

Warden Law Round 3

This is Sebs home track and he was dominant all through the day, qualified 1st in perfect conditions, finishing all the heats in first place.

Pre-Final and Final - Seb started these in

pole position, settling straight into the race with his head down he worked hard, bringing him over the line in 1st place with a mega lap record of 55.6.

The main thing that stood out for us here was in the final Seb parked his kart up got straight out of it and hugged Beau who finished in 2nd. This for me says a lot about Seb. He's a very thoughtful, compassionate child and we are so proud of him.

Thanks to Nigel Horner at HRS Engines for the power this weekend - what amazing engines we had. Thanks to Craig and Callum at Be Inspired Gyms for Sebs PT sessions. Thanks to all of you that support Seb and believe in him.

For the next race, his fuel has been paid for by Stuart Thompson, who has always supported Seb along his journey, really appreciate your support. The next race is at Rowrah on Saturday 31st July and Sunday 1st August - Good luck Seb.





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