

# Newton News

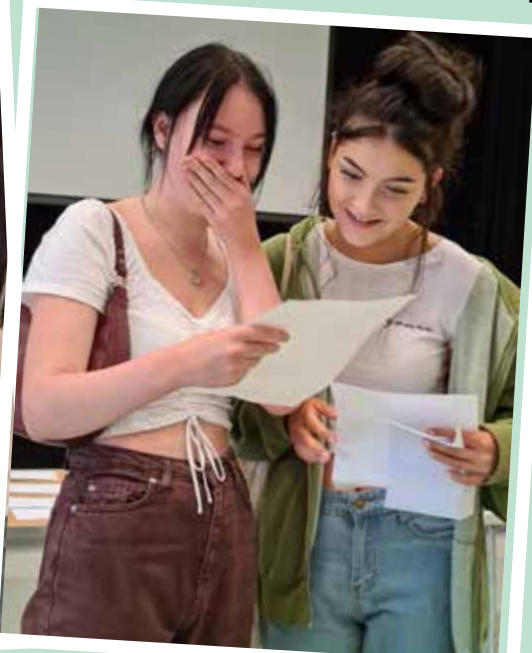
Incorporating The Newtonian - Newton Aycliffe's Free Community Magazine

Editorial and Advertising contact: paul@newtonnews.co.uk - Telephone: 01325 300212 - www.newtonnews.co.uk



## Celebrating Exam Results

See page 2 for full story



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MP for Sedgefield



Supporting Women with Mental Health



Our next meeting takes place:  
Tuesday 24th August 7pm-9pm  
St. Clare's Church Vestry

## Greenfingered Grandson



My two year old Grandson, Rupert West, from Middleton St. George, Darlington was really proud of his sunflower that he planted from seed when he was visiting us in Newton Aycliffe! It is now eight foot tall and he made sure it was watered every time he came, he certainly has green fingers.  
Elle West

## Greenfield Celebrate Brilliant Results

One in every four GCSEs awarded to Greenfield students last week were achieved in Grades 7-9! This is excellent news for the amazing students who have demonstrated outstanding resilience in overcoming the challenges they have faced in the recent academic year.

The results are incredibly positive with a high proportion of students achieving 100% at least of their target grades. There is a significant increase from 2020 results with an improvement of 8.7% as 49.7% of students achieved grades 9 – 5 in English and Maths. There are some outstanding individual performances with a 'Magnificent Seven' top achieving students receiving 31 Grade 9s and 23 Grade 8s between them. In total 761 of the 987 GCSE grades awarded were at Grade 4 or above with almost a quarter of the grades being 7-9.

Executive Headteacher, David Priestley, acknowledged the hard work of both students and staff and the extended Greenfield community.

"Well done to all of our students who have worked so hard to achieve their results. Our highly committed expert staff have gone the extra mile to meet the needs of our students and support their studies. Thank you also to all the parents and carers who have supported our young people in their journey, we wish all of our students huge success in their next steps."

To find out more about Greenfield Community College please visit our website [www.greenfieldschool.net](http://www.greenfieldschool.net) or contact us for more information by emailing: [contact@greenfieldschool.net](mailto:contact@greenfieldschool.net)

**NEVER MIND THE COVID**  
HERE'S THE  
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**The Turbinia** Sid Chaplin Dr, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7PA  
**Sunday 29th August 2021**  
from 1.00pm till 11.30pm (doors open 12 noon)

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Every Saturday is  
**'ROCK NIGHT'**  
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**Saturday 21st August - 'Whole Hog'**  
Gig Pit Review: The Comrades welcomed The Whole Hog back with their eclectic mix of rock that, although you're familiar with, you don't often hear played by local bands. Musicians having a good time whilst playing always carry the crowd with them - we look forward to seeing The Whole Hog again later in the year.  
**Saturday 28th August - 'Krakatoa'**  
**Sunday 29th August - All Day Punk Festival**  
For more information on bands go to  
[www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk) or 313034

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Sunday 22nd August  
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**REME Association, South West Durham Branch monthly meeting will be held at 8.00pm on Wednesday 25th August 2021 at the Scout Centre, Bluebell Way, Newton Aycliffe. All serving, ex-serving and any members with an association to REME welcome. "Arte et Marte".**

# Not Sitting on the Fence . . .

Dear Sir,  
A few weeks ago I spent a couple of hours in the company of Town and County Councillor Neville Jones as we took the time to walk our ward litter picking and taking photographs of any repairs that needed documenting before reporting to the appropriate officers for their attention.

The litter pick was both satisfying and productive as we were able to fill two sacks with miscellaneous rubbish, that some, less than considerate people of the community, decided it looked better dumped on the pavement and grass verges rather than the bins where it belongs.

On our amble through various streets and alley ways we were able to record a number of low roadside fences that were damaged or in some cases missing altogether, however after our latest tour of the ward we can report that most, if not all, of the damage has been rectified and the necessary repairs carried out.

Residents are the eyes and ears of our community and with all the best will in the world we won't be able to see first hand every problem or issue that needs our attention, but both Cllr Jones and I will do everything we can to respond to those brought to our attention. We may not be able to personally rectify the problem, but we will



do everything in our power to ensure the appropriate departments are made aware of the situation, and do our best to keep everyone informed of any progress being made.

Cllrs Hawkins & Jones

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## Nominate Your Local Hero

Earlier on in the summer the Howarth family launched the Syd Howarth Community Service Award in memory of Syd Howarth, MBE for 2021.

This years nominations prove that Newton Aycliffe is not only a great place to live, but shows the commitment to the town and it's residents that the volunteers of the various charities and organisations, who were nominated give, without looking for praise or thanks.

Syd's three Sons and Daughters-in-Law will go through the nominations to choose a winner for this year, which will be awarded on Syds birthday, 21st October 2021, the winner will receive £250 for their chosen charity and a trophy.

**The Howarth family would like remind residents that the closing date for nominations is 31st August 2021.**  
Please send your award suggestions to [paul@newtonpress.net](mailto:paul@newtonpress.net)

## Sketch Walks

**Do you fancy going on a Sketch Walk?**  
I am planning walks to scenic locations once a week, date and venue to be arranged. Last year's walks included historical and industrial subjects as well as the Norman Cornish Trail.  
If you are interested in joining me, please call 01325 311225.  
Bill Lowery

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# Aycliffe Running Club Weekly Round Up

We start this week with the Quayside 5K, which took place on Wednesday, 11th August 2021, on the banks of the River Tyne. The race is an out and back along the quayside, with the last few metres taking runners across Millennium Bridge to the finishing line in Baltic Square. First home for the Club was John Surtees in a time of 17:39. Trevor Needham was next to cross the line in 21:34, which was good enough for Trevor to claim third place in his age category (VM65) on the night. Shaun Dodds completed the race in 23:58, and Carley Cooper started what was to be a busy race week for her with a time of 26:13. Jan McLuckie was the last of the Aycliffe finishers in a time of 35:24.

Most parkrun events are up and running again and 39 Members started their Saturday with a parkrun this week. The most popular parkrun for our Members was at Hackworth Park in Shildon, which was celebrating its 350th event this weekend, however the Club was also represented at parkruns at Darlington South Park, Sedgefield, Fountains Abbey, York, Penrith and Edinburgh.

At Hackworth parkrun, Dez Fielden completed his 50th 'official' parkrun, a significant milestone, and Robert Young set a new Personal Best (PB) for that particular parkrun event (21:08). Meanwhile, over at Sedgefield parkrun, Eve Doe continued her recent improvement, setting herself a new PB for that event (31:37).

Later on Saturday morning, several Members turned out at the Gateshead Trail 10K, which started at Blaydon Rugby

Club, and took in the undulating paths and woodland trails alongside the River Derwent, and through the Derwenthaugh Country Park. First home for the Club was Paul Dalton in 38:58. Richard Holland crossed the line in 46:43, and he was followed in by Carley Cooper (57:59), who was completing her second race of the week. Nicola Ingman was the final runner home in a time of 66:40. On Sunday, 15th August 2021, Carley Cooper took on her third race of the week, participating in the Trail Outlaws' Branches and Bays 10K, which seemed to offer runners a little more than the stipulated distance. Starting in the local village of Hawthorn, the route takes you through the Durham Wildlife Trust and National Trust managed woodland of Hawthorn Dene, followed by the bays of Hawthorn Hive and the Blast Beach. Carley completed her run in 1:33:19.

At the same time on Sunday, David Stothard was taking on the North-East Project Run 10 Miler, which took place in Thornaby. Unfortunately, the results had not been released at the time of publishing, so we hope to bring David's result to you at a future date.

Finally, on Monday, 16th August 2021, two members headed to Monkon Stadium in Jarrow to take on the 800m, which was being run as part of the latest North-East Masters Athletics Association (NEMAA) Track and Field League Match (Match 6). In Heat 2, Alan Wilks crossed the line in 3:10.0, placing him first in his age category (VM70) on the evening. In Heat 8, John Surtees completed the race in 2:12.0, which

was good enough to place him first in his age category (VM35) on the night and also set a new club record in the same age category.

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

## NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

By PCSO Steven Kipling



Hi everyone, PCSO Steven Kipling here, this week with your weekly Newton News update.

It's been a busy week over at the Neighbourhood Policing Team, where we have executed a warrant and have also assisted in the arrest of a prolific shoplifter who was remanded in custody.

Further to that, the team have also assisted and located a young missing person in the area, a great result!

Further to PC Booth's appeal last week, can I please ask parents of young people to make sure you know where your children are, as we have had reports of youths causing problems into the early hours of the morning.

I have also awarded an ACE Award to a young gentleman who had taken it upon himself to buy a litter picker and pick up a large amount of rubbish from the town centre and other areas to keep our town tidy – many thanks to McDonalds & ROF 59 for supporting this fantastic initiative and a massive well done to this youngster, brilliant work!

PCSO Button and myself will also be in attendance at a Family Fun Day at Junction 7 on Friday 27th August, we look forward to seeing you there!

Lastly, if you have a spare minute, please consider signing up to "Keep in the Know", which is our online messaging service where we send out local alerts to keep you up to date of what is happening in the area. It's a completely free service, and you can receive regular crime updates, road closure updates and you can see what the Newton Aycliffe Neighbourhood Team is up to. To register yourself please visit [www.keepintheknow.co.uk](http://www.keepintheknow.co.uk) for a simple sign up.

## Covid Passport Fraud

Action Fraud has received over 700 reports from members of the public about fake emails purporting to be from the NHS. The emails claim to be able to provide people with a "digital passport" that "proves you have been vaccinated against COVID-19". These emails are fake, and the links within them lead to genuine-looking websites that steal your personal and financial information.

### How to protect yourself:

In the UK, coronavirus vaccines will only be available via the National Health Services of England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland. You can be contacted by the NHS, your employer, a GP surgery or pharmacy local to you, to receive your vaccine. Remember, the vaccine is free of charge. At no point will you be asked to pay.

- The NHS will never ask you for your bank account or card details.
- The NHS will never ask you for your PIN or banking passwords.
- The NHS will never arrive unannounced

at your home to administer the vaccine.

- The NHS will never ask you to prove your identity by sending copies of personal documents such as your passport, driving licence, bills or pay slips.
- Your vaccination status can be obtained for free through the official NHS app, NHS website, or by calling the NHS on 119.

### How to report scams:

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you are suspicious about an email you have received, you can report it by forwarding the email to: [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). Suspicious text messages can also be reported by forwarding them to the number: 7726 (it's free of charge). If you believe you are the victim of a fraud, please report this to Action Fraud as soon as possible by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

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# NHS Staff Take on Skydiving Challenge for Charity

NHS staff have been flying high to raise funds for charity thanks to local adventure business Sky-High Skydiving, in Shotton Colliery near Peterlee.

Sky-High Skydiving recognised that the last 18 months has been difficult for many people, hitting charities particularly hard. The company kindly gifted 50 tandem skydives to help out, thank our NHS heroes, and give the community something to look forward to. County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust were kindly gifted 10 tandem skydives which will see colleagues from across the organisation taking on the jump for the NHS.

Pat Chambers Charity Development Manager said: "We're hugely grateful to Sky-High Skydiving for giving 10 skydiving places for colleagues from the Trust and a fantastic opportunity to raise much-needed funds. "As the Trust's charity, we use donations and legacies to deliver a whole range of projects which make the world of difference to patient experience; as well as supporting our hardworking colleagues. Like many charities our demand for support has only increased during the pandemic so we are immensely grateful for any opportunity to raise funds. "Despite the main jump not being able to go ahead on Sunday 15 August due to adverse weather, it doesn't dampen enthusiasm from #TEAMCDDFT and those who couldn't participate will be doing so soon, with some of our colleagues already completing their jump."

Lauren Peacock from the Easington North District Nursing Team took part in the skydiving, she said: "Working as a community nurse I get to see first-hand how much raising money for equipment can change a person's life, housebound patients are unable to travel to facilities with equipment but are still as important as anyone else to be able to receive care, as a community nurse we bring equipment to patients homes to ensure the care they deserve and are entitled too is delivered."

Sky-High Skydiving was set up just three days before the pandemic started taking over the old business, Peterlee Parachute Centre. Rebecca Bell, Sky-High Charity Co-Ordinator said: "It has been absolutely wonderful to be able to offer something so amazing to the NHS charities and a true pleasure to work with some of the passionate people that are the backbone of our local hospitals." Chief Instructor Bryn Chaffe added: "We have done many charity skydives to raise funds for the NHS over the years but this is the first time we at Sky-High Skydiving have held an event to bring everyone together. There is an exciting atmosphere surrounding it and at a time when everyone needs something to look forward to. I hope that the funds raised will be as high as the spirit of all those involved."

The majority of colleagues from CDDFT were set to jump on Sunday 15 August but unfortunately the weather was not on their side. Instead, they will reschedule their jumps individually.



You can help support Your NHS Charity with a text donation simply text YOURNHS to 70480 to donate £5. Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message, or by organising a fundraiser, please contact the team on 01325 743781 or email cddft.charity@nhs.net

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## Weekly Programme Schedule

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

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

### SATURDAY

9-10am	Eurovision Show	Simon Harding
10-12am	Moderation	Jack & Garvey
12-2pm	Across the Decades	Richard Gladstone
2-4pm	Weekly Edition	Paul Baker
4-6pm	Sports Saturday	Sean Lawless

**"The Saturday Night Experience" Sponsored by Bengal Lounge Indian Restaurant & Takeaway**

6-8pm	Evening Session
8-9pm	Rock the House
9-10pm	Retro Trance Mix
10-12am	Drum 'n' Bass Show
12-1am	Night Club Session

Jimlams
Carl Booth
DZ-DJ
MC Supa
A DJ

### SUNDAY

9-10am	Church Service	Xcell 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	Soul Show	John Wooler (USA)
10-12am	Easy Sunday	Al Smart

### \* 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
7-8pm	Around Town with 24th August - David Sutton-Lloyd	Phil Hawkins
8-9.30pm	Jazz Time (R)	Mike Dixon
9.30-12am	Soul Selection with Paul Mooney and Kev 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	BeatRoute	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	27th August - Pauly Mac - Rare Vinyl Mix (Australia)	
12-1am	Night Club Session	A DJ

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

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## Crafter's Welcome New Presenter

Crafter's TV, the digital platform owned by Crafter's Companion, is welcoming a new presenter to its team.

George Akid will join Becky Redican, Ben Moseby and Joe Remblance as a presenter on the popular crafting platform. His new role will involve working alongside Crafter's TV's craft experts, helping to guide viewers through the variety of shows in the platform's busy schedule, as well as communicating with the engaged audience through social media.

The presenter, who is from Barnsley, South Yorkshire, began his career at Butlins working as a Redcoat, where he gained valuable experience presenting and interacting with the public. Since then, George has continued to work in the entertainment industry and has travelled to countries such as Dubai and Finland for different roles. Every December, George enjoys performing in pantomimes in theatres across the UK. Previously, George has enjoyed being involved in the creative elements of costume making in his pantomime roles. He was introduced to the crafting world by fellow Crafter's TV presenter, Ben Moseby.

George said: "I had no idea how huge the world of crafting is but now that I do, I'm keen to learn so much more! My first impressions of Crafter's Companion have been amazing - there's an instant sense of family as soon as you walk through the door."

"I have loved working with the team so far and I'm looking forward to getting to know our amazing family of viewers, while sharing their knowledge and stories throughout the different shows."

Jeni Santillo, head of broadcast operations, added: "George brings a fantastic amount of experience with him to Crafter's TV. His personality and energy really complement the existing dynamic among the team and we know he will be a hit with our audience, as well as our wider crafting community."



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# Proposed Incinerator Plant on Heighington Lane

## IT IS NOW UP TO YOU!

- The Town Council has received notification that the last day for objections or comments on the above proposed development will be 27th August 2021. This is very short notice, especially as the Town Council and County Council are in recess during August.
  - Since the Town Council received the notice of the proposed development in May, it has notified the Planning Department at the County Council over our concern and opposition to the development on the following grounds.
    - o That such a development should not be built and operated in an urban area and within such a large business park.
    - o That the proposed development will have adverse effects on the air quality.
    - o The adverse effect on the future health of people living within the proximity of the fallout of noxious particles.
    - o The adverse effects on the environment.
    - o The adverse effects on future developments within the business park.
  - I have written a number of articles in the Newton News, outlining my concerns over these issues and I can find no benefits to our community.
  - The Town Council has appointed a consultant to submit our formal position on this plan and to represent our position at the meeting of the County Planning Committee.
  - At this stage, the Town Council and myself can do no more.
  - I know that Darlington Borough Council is opposing the proposed development and that a number of petitions opposing the development have also been submitted.
  - I personally have sent my opposition to the proposal to Durham County Council's Planning Department.
  - The Town Council, Darlington Borough Council and each petition will only be counted as one opposition to the proposal and will only be given the same weight as my objection.
  - Therefore, if you feel strongly against the development, you should respond personally by email to: [planning@durham.gov.uk](mailto:planning@durham.gov.uk)
  - Great Aycliffe and Middridge elected 7 County Councillors just four months ago, who were elected to represent your views and concerns at the County Council. These County Councillors will be able to speak at the meeting which will decide on the proposed development.
- Cllr Bob Fleming  
Chairman – Great Aycliffe Town Council Planning Sub-Committee

# Men Talking Together

If you are sat alone at home, please come and join us. We are a group of older men with many different interests. We meet every Monday 12 noon until 2pm. Every Friday we either go on a bus trip or for a meal. We have been to Vindolanda, York, Whitby, Carlisle to Settle Railway and many more places. We meet at Unit 14A I.E.S. Centre (behind Newton Press office and Screw Fix) on the Business Park. All the men are friendly, there is plenty of car parking space and the buses stop at the Blue Bridge which is 5 minutes walk. For further details ring 01325 308094 / 07967 901477.



## PARTY IN THE PARK

**Saturday 21st August 2021**  
**10.00am - 4.00pm**

**ROF 59 Arena**  
DL5 6XN




• **STALLS** •

Body Shop - Bishop Auckland Art Nostalgia  
Face Painting - Balloon Modelling - SSAFA  
Little Lilly Bugs Creations - The Candy Queen  
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Bits and Things UK - AW Luxury Wax Melts  
Carlene's Scrabble Frames - Baby Clothes - Cakes  
All Disabilities Matter - Citizen Advice Stall  
Bath time Treats - Supporting Families  
Axe House - Avon - K9 Pursuits - Scope - Five Acres  
Molly's Closet - Sensory Tent - ROF59

• **FOOD TRUCKS** •

Cassies Kitchen - Barista Sisters - Jack - ACE Paella  
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Axe House - Infinity Dance Group  
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McAdam Dance School  
Diane Plews Dance troop  
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RS Bouncy Castles - Art Nostalgia  
K9 Pursuits - Nonbows





## No Admission Charge

## Your County Councillors are:

### Aycliffe North & Middridge

Cllr. Michael Stead: [Michael.Stead@durham.gov.uk](mailto:Michael.Stead@durham.gov.uk)

Cllr. Tony Stubbs: [tony.stubbs@durham.gov.uk](mailto:tony.stubbs@durham.gov.uk)

Cllr. David Sutton-Lloyd: [david.sutton-lloyd@durham.gov.uk](mailto:david.sutton-lloyd@durham.gov.uk)

### Aycliffe East

Cllr. Neville Jones: [neville.jones@durham.gov.uk](mailto:neville.jones@durham.gov.uk)

Cllr. Jim Atkinson: [jim.atkinson@durham.gov.uk](mailto:jim.atkinson@durham.gov.uk)

### Aycliffe West

Cllr. Eddy Adam: [eddy.adam@durham.gov.uk](mailto:eddy.adam@durham.gov.uk)

Cllr. Ken Robson: [ken.robson@durham.gov.uk](mailto:ken.robson@durham.gov.uk)

**Councillors Stead, Atkinson and Adam are members of the relevant County Planning Committee.**

**The ball is now in your court.**

If you believe you should oppose or agree with the development, please spend a few minutes to register your views.

**IT IS NOW UP TO YOU!**

# Whisky Galore . . .

At the Aviator Bar much has been made of our gins and beers. However, one of our unsung heroes behind the bar is our whisky.

Many people have suspected that we only sell gin. However, we cater for all tastes. Our wines will be showcased soon, but our whisky numbers have been increasing slowly but surely, to the point that we now have 29 different malts (along with our three Bourbons). Scotland is our main supplier, but we are proud to showcase Japanese, Welsh and Indian whisky too. The latter may come as a surprise to many, but the Indian whisky market is becoming increasingly apparent and provides many elite options of the highest quality. Add to this, the well established Japanese whisky market and you can see that we are trying to create as wide an experience as possible for the malt lover.

The stalwarts of Scottish whisky will be pleased to see that we are able to offer malts from all recognised areas: Speyside (fruity and nutty), Islay (peaty and smoky), Highland (cereal and honey tones), Lowland (soft and smooth), Island (wide ranging - citrusy to peaty) and Campbeltown (a small area known for vanilla, toffee and occasionally peaty undertones).

Whether with or without ice, with or without water, come to enjoy our wide range of world-wide offerings and our warm hospitality.



# Mayor at Home

The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Mrs. Sandra Haigh, will be 'at home' in the Town Park as part of Great Aycliffe Town Council's Fun in the Park event on Wednesday 25th August from 11.00am.

This will be the first public event since Spring 2020 and the Mayor is looking forward to getting out and about meeting the residents of Great Aycliffe.

Great Aycliffe Town Councillors and members of the Town Council staff team will be on site and all residents of the parish are welcome to come along and meet them.

## Aycliffe Cricket Club Scoreboard Report



Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store, lost by 70 runs away at promotion chasing Barnard Castle 2nd XI in the NYSD 2nd division. Aycliffe won the toss and asked the home side to bat first and they romped to an impregnable total of 273 for 9 declared after 48.5 overs. George Slatcher bowled well for Aycliffe taking 3 for 47 as did James Layfield-Carroll (3 for 61) and Sean Morgan (2 for 37). In reply, Aycliffe captain Adam Randall (sponsored by DTS Joinery) lead from the front with an eye catching innings of 69 from only 57 balls faced, including eleven boundaries and three sixes. Special mention must go to club stalwart Chris Palmer who scored a typically robust 41 off 39 balls, including two boundaries and four sixes and in the process became the first person in the club's history to pass the incredible milestone of 10,000 senior runs for Newton Aycliffe CC. The other notable contributions came from opener Joe Haines with 19 runs off 82 balls faced and Matty Greaves with a quickfire 18 off 19 balls. Aycliffe were eventually dismissed for 203 after 45 overs, which despite being their highest ever score against their bogey team, was still well short of their winning target.

The 2nd team lost by 57 runs at home to Maltby 2nd XI in the fourth division of the NYSD. The visitors were asking to bat first and they scored 210 all out from the final ball of their allotted 40 overs despite some good bowling from 16 year old Leo Mercy (2 for 28), 14 year old Tom Dearden (2 for 41) and Ryan Patrick (1 for 9). In reply, all rounder Tom Dearden (sponsored by Kevin Burton) batted superbly to reach his first senior half century and was eventually dismissed for exactly 50 from 46 balls faced and his innings contained nine boundaries. Fellow young all rounder Leo Mercy also scored his career best score finishing unbeaten on 44 from 51 balls including seven boundaries. Aycliffe put up a good fight and were eventually bowled out for 153 after 37.5 overs, missing out on a draw by just 13 balls.

Photo: 14 year old Thomas Dearden, who scored his first senior half century for the 2nd team v Maltby.

## THE VETERANS HUB GRAND OPENING DAY

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# Needlessly Papering Over the Cracks

Dear Sir,  
Cllr Ken Robson's letter last week exemplifies what is wrong with his new ruling coalition at the Town Council.

## THE FACTS OF THE SITUATION ARE:

- In 2019 Labour closed the reception door to members of the public during meetings.
- This caused problems; there are some 'members of the public' (e.g. invited speakers or authorised visitors) who must use the reception door.
- Cllr Barbara Clare and Cllr Bob Fleming therefore introduced an amendment giving officers and councillors (all councillors, mind, not just Labour), the discretion to guide such people through the reception door. Problem solved.
- Last month, in an act of revenge, Cllrs Chandran and Robson rescinded that amendment and restored the blanket ban.
- They ignored warnings that this would cause problems. Indeed, when LibDem Cllr Tony Armstrong tried to suggest that the Town Clerk might need discretion in certain cases, he was shouted down by his own side!

Now, when Cllr Barbara Clare points out the problems of a blanket ban, she is accused of 'cronyism' and we are informed out of the blue by Cllr Robson, in an open letter of an amendment to the blanket ban: "Any Council invited speaker or authorised visitor, would be guided by the Town Clerk or his staff" (i.e. fairly much what Cllr Clare's amendment had said in the first place).

**A DEVELOPING PATTERN** - Anybody who has been watching this new ruling group will spot the pattern:

- (1) The coalition makes an ill-considered proposal;
- (2) Councillors who point out problems are ridiculed and shouted down, and the proposal forced through;

(3) When the proposal then flounders, it is peremptorily changed; not through proper Council process, but by announcement from Cllrs Chandran or Robson in the media, without Council considering it.

**ARROGANCE OR INEXPERIENCE?** It can be argued, of course, that this is just an enthusiastic and ambitious new council finding its feet. Time will tell if it is a culture of arrogance, intransigence and carelessness.

Name and Address Supplied Party.



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# Fun in the Park 2021

**FREE Event provided by Great Aycliffe Town Council**

**On Wednesday 25th August at the Town Centre Park**

Entertainment includes magician, balloon modelling, giraffe Olympics, bubbleologist, fairground rides, inflatables, climbing wall, cave bus, face painters, farmyard flyer, visit from Peter Rabbit, Paw Patrol characters and Minions.

**Times - 11.00 am—4.00 pm**

**Family Fun Event**

Height and age restrictions apply to inflatables, fairground rides.

## Mayor's At Home

It's also your chance to meet the new Mayor, Councillors and Officers, you can ask questions and find out what we do. So why not come along to have a chat over a cuppa.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL 01325-300600 or for the full programme of events go to [www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk/oakleafsportscomplex](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk/oakleafsportscomplex)**



# N.A.F.C. REPORT

## Match Report by Joe Ramage Ebac Northern League Division One Saturday 14 August Consett 2 Newton Aycliffe 3

Newton Aycliffe's dramatic start to the Ebac Northern League season continued against Consett on Saturday with Colin Stromsoy's side coming out on top in yet another high scoring game.

Liam Jarvie gave Aycliffe the lead two minutes before the break and it was a lead the visitors would hold until five minutes from time when Colin Larkin's equaliser sparked the beginning of a remarkable finale at the Belle View Stadium.

With Stromsoy's men having to remain resilient Jake Petitjean earned a stoppage time penalty which Sonni Coleman was to miss before converting the rebound to re-establish the Newtonians lead.

Two minutes later and Consett fullback Darren Holden was dismissed for an apparent stamp on stand-in defender Shaun Ryder with referee Mark Ryan in no doubt as he brandished a straight red card.

The icing looked to have then been put on the cake as a combination of Ben Wood, Coleman and Ethan Wood put Consett goalkeeper Kyle Hayes under pressure forcing the number one into a mistake to give Coleman the simple task of rolling the ball into an empty net to extend the advantage in the fifth minute of added time.

But the hosts were still able to manage a consolation from the penalty spot in the 97th minute after Dale Pearson was brought down in the area with the frontman picking himself up to slot beyond Adam Pickford. Pearson's celebrations were cut short by the referees fulltime whistle as Aycliffe moved to the top of the Division One table with four wins from four.

Stromsoy made one change from the side who claimed all three points over Newcastle Benfield in midweek with Marc Costello replacing Joe Ferguson who struggled during the warm-up.

And the Newtonians were given a warning shot inside 20 seconds from the lively Luke Carr who fired over from range before Jake Orrell gave Pickford something to think about moments later.

Jarvie tried a snap shot from the edge of the area eight minutes in but was off target as the visitors began to settle into the cauldron of Belle View Stadium in front of over 500 spectators.

Stromsoy's side began to dictate proceedings for spells of the first half before Pearson dragged wide of Pickford's post on the half hour mark after good play from Carr and Callum Guy.

But just as it looked as though there'd be nothing between the sides going into the interval Lewis Walton floated a deep cross in from the left which was cleared into the path of Jarvie who made no mistake in volleying into the bottom corner for his fifth goal in a week to give Aycliffe the advantage.

And it was Jarvie with the first sight of goal in the second half too when he dragged wide of Hayes' post before Pickford was called into action with a stunning save to palm Carr's goalbound effort over the bar.

But Stromsoy's side reacted once more and it was Jarvie again who found a pocket of space in front of the defence curling narrowly wide of Hayes' post with the goalkeeper stranded.



Backed by a vocal home crowd Aycliffe were let off the hook in the 70th minute when substitute Daniel Marriott found Pearson on the edge of the area who cleverly backheeled a ball into the path of Carr from eight yards but he placed his effort beyond Pickford's right-hand post.

Seven minutes later though and it was Aycliffe's players with their hands on their heads after Ben Dibb-Fuller worked the ball to Petitjean on the edge of the area with the midfielder looking as though he was going to shoot instead freeing the onrushing Ryder down the right who drilled his effort just wide of the far post.

With the game on a knife edge the Newtonian's resistance was broken five minutes from time when Pearson cut in from the left to find Marriott and his strike was parried into the path of Larkin inside the six yard box who made no mistake in finding the equaliser for the Steelmen.

And Larkin almost flipped the game on its head moments later when Marriott's cross from the left escaped everybody and fell to him as he brought another excellent save out of Pickford to keep the scores level.

But as the game entered stoppage time Aycliffe worked the ball down the right from a throw-in with Ryder's cross searching for Petitjean who was sent tumbling by Jermaine Metz.

Coleman stepped up looking to convert his third spot kick of the season but was thwarted by Hayes momentarily as the rebound fell kindly back for Coleman to prod home and hand Aycliffe a priceless lead.

Two minutes later and Consett were reduced to 10 men when Holden came down heavy with both feet on Ryder with referee Ryan deeming the incident a straight red card.

Instead of sitting back Stromsoy's men continued to press the Consett back line and forced an unlikely error out of goalkeeper Hayes in the fifth minute of stoppage time after he had dribbled the ball out of the area. Wood was able to get a toe on it to release Coleman who stroked the ball into the empty net and all but seal the win.

The final attack of the game saw Pearson retrieve a loose ball in the box before being brought down and despite him converting from 12-yards Aycliffe were able to hang on to seal a remarkable three points.

After a midweek trip to Seaham Aycliffe return to Emirates FA Cup action on Saturday 21 August. They visit Tadcaster Albion who play one league higher than the Newtonians and at home on Tuesday 24 August when Crook Town will be the visitors (KO 7:45pm)

*Photo by Yvonne Wood: Sonni Coleman scores from the rebound after his penalty is saved.*

## Line Dancing

Dear Sir,

I would like to start by thanking everyone who supported us on a Thursday evening and to welcome anyone who would enjoy a great night out.

Our Country and Line Dancing session will be restarting on Thursday 9th September at the Phoenix Club, Newton Aycliffe from 7.00pm.

Brian Gibson, a superb artiste, will perform two sets, before the artiste takes to the stage, our fully qualified teacher will be on hand to show you the steps.

Experienced line dancers are welcome as well as amateurs and new comers, why not come on down, the cover charge is only £4. John Sutton

## Local Litter Picking



A group of volunteers led by Ian Gray continue to meet for an hour each Wednesday morning to concentrate on one area of the town. This week's pick was in and around the Nature Park (towards the Business Park) and the haul included paint tins, metal and a burned out bike among the 'usual' tins, glass, discarded wrappers and plastic. Information on future litter picks can be had by contacting Ian by email at: [ian.gray38@btinternet.com](mailto:ian.gray38@btinternet.com)

# Time To Grow Up

Dear Sir,  
Cllr John D. Clare's letter last week has only a nodding acquaintance with the truth. Labour can't bear to no longer be in absolute control of County or Town Council. He states "the ruling group had to call a meeting of Chairmen and Vice Chairmen because the officers were overloaded with work".

**Fact:** The meeting was called not by the ruling group Independents and Liberal Democrats but by the Town Clerk with our complete support - Labour refused to attend.

The Town Clerk stated that there had been some ill feeling and poor conduct from some Councillors at meetings. He quoted Officers and Councillors to describe some of the recent behaviour in meetings. "intimidating", "disrespectful", "unprofessional", "bullying", "selfish", "immature", "aggressive", "nasty".

Officers were concerned at the length of some meetings ie: Environment & Recreation Committees till 11pm at night; Policy & Resources till 10pm. There had been a significant increase in the volume of questions and comments raised by [Labour] Councillors and the fact that a lot of the questions directed at Officers are not being raised in advance or outside of Council meetings. [Labour] Councillors challenging the integrity of officers over the accuracy of minutes.

Far from being constructive, Labour have been brutally aggressive, adversarial and intrusive. They have alienated staff and fellow Councillors alike. Indeed, as Chairman of Policy & Resources, things got so bad at one point, I had to state I would, if necessary, adjourn the meeting and ask the police to attend, to remove a Labour Councillor who was ignoring the chair, the committee members, staff and standing orders. Thankfully, the other Labour Councillors refused to back their disruptive colleague so things calmed down.

The Independents and Liberal Democrats have sought to be open, inclusive, consensus politics, no embarrassing U-turns, open to reasoning and debate.

One has to ask just who exactly is leading Labour on the Town Council. Cllr Clare's rewriting of history would make George Orwell proud. I record Council meetings as a matter of routine, in accordance with 'The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014', there is no dispute as to who said what and when. Incidentally, Cllr Clare's complaint against me on the Waste Incinerator Planning Application was totally rejected by the Monitoring Officer. More valuable Council staff time wasted?  
Cllr Arun M Chandran  
Independent



I had not anticipated writing a column this week, as I was having a few days break, but as we all know Parliament was recalled to discuss the crisis in Afghanistan.

I therefore travelled to Westminster on Tuesday evening ready for the debate on Wednesday. The house sat at 9.30 and started with prayers including for those in Afghanistan and the appalling events in Plymouth. The Prime Minister then opened the debate outlining the efforts being made to get as many as possible of both our nationals and our friends out of Afghanistan as quickly as possible. Many members intervened and received assurances of the efforts and commitments being made in extraordinarily difficult circumstances.

The debate was originally scheduled to end at 2.30 but this was amended to later to enable as many contributions as possible. The debate continues past the deadline for submitting this column and I can assure anyone that has contacted me about the events that their messages have been communicated to the relevant Ministers. The House sat in the manner it would have pre Covid which was strange in itself. There was no virtual participation and there was robust and challenging interventions by a house fully engaged in the matter in hand. This is in stark contrast to the superficial engagement offered via TV screens that we have seen over the last year and a half.

This is a completely different place to what I have experienced for most of my time in Westminster and while the circumstances of the recall are not what anyone would want it was pleasing to see another step to a post covid world.

Let's all try and do what we can to continue this journey and continue to promote vaccinations and safe practices.

Paul Howell, Member of Parliament for Sedgefield

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Member of Parliament for Sedgefield

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# Firearms Training



Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS) medics have welcomed officers from Northumbria Police's firearms unit to learn skills that will allow them to administer initial medical care to casualties on scene. The training which took place at GNAAS' headquarters in Eaglescliffe was aimed at equipping firearms officers with medical knowledge that could mean the difference between life and death for critically injured patients.

GNAAS paramedic and training manager, Jamie Walsh, said: "The purpose of the day is to help the officers deal with some of the incidents they may come across before we arrive on scene.

"We've provided this training with Northumbria Police for the last five years and it has improved our relationship with the teams on scene. Knowing each other and each other's capabilities can have a dramatic impact on the outcome of the patient." The training which was made up of lectures and real-life simulations was led by Mr Walsh, as well as GNAAS doctor Doogie Howes and paramedic Gordon Ingram. The GNAAS crew set up a range of scenarios for the firearms officers using manikins. These focused on different injuries that a critically injured patient may have, and how to treat them.

Among the injuries they dealt with were abdominal wounds, pelvic fractures, ballistic injuries and catastrophic bleeding. Mr Walsh said: "Dealing with traumatic injuries is something we do daily, but it makes up just a small fraction of a police officer's job.

"We've been at incidents in the past with officers we have trained, and they have made a significant difference to the patient's care."

Chief Inspector Mick Hall, of Northumbria Police, said: "This training has always been well-received by our officers who can often be faced with difficult and fast-moving scenarios during their course of duty.

"The feedback from these sessions has been excellent and I'd like to thank GNAAS for their continued support. By working closely with partners, we can continue to help ensure our region remains a safe place to live and work."

GNAAS is dependent on donations to survive and has launched a raffle with a top prize of £10,000 to help it meet rising demand for its services. Tickets cost £1 each and are available now at [gna.as/raffle21](http://gna.as/raffle21)

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detached garage,  
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cars, lounge with  
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overlooking back  
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with en-suite shower  
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This group was started in October 2008  
and its aims are to enable older people  
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different activities each week, such as  
line dancing, armchair aerobics, Bingo,  
live entertainment, coach trips and much  
more. Please come and join us. If you are  
nervous about meeting new people we  
will pick you up.

For further details ring 01325 308094 /  
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## Opticians

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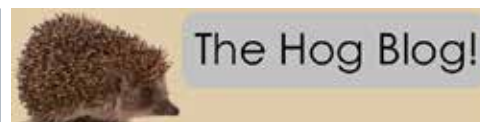
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It has become quieter this week, I have  
admitted hogs in trouble and they are all  
doing very nicely but have some way to  
go. They have to be free from medication,  
continue to gain weight and reach about  
500-600 grams to be freed again. Our  
release weights will have to go up soon  
because it's getting colder and they need  
more fat reserves for hibernation purposes.  
I am grateful to Sue and Pat for taking  
hoggies from me to help them get to their  
target weights, what I have in our home  
are all either small, on medication or both,  
picked up during the day too.

To be honest, could we cope living outside  
with a bad stomach, being an easy target  
for predators? I really don't envy these  
gorgeous animals, they are up against so  
much it's really unfair. If you see a hedgehog  
out during the day please seek advice,  
sometimes pregnant mums can be seen  
during the day looking very busy, this is  
because she is gathering nesting materials  
in readiness for her hoglets to be born.  
However, if you see a hedgehog looking  
lethargic, flies or other predators around,  
whatever size, needs help. Please get them  
out of danger, get the hog indoors, pop in  
a towel over the hedgehog, place in a high  
sided box and contact either a vet or rescue  
centre, I am full for the moment but help is  
out there.

Thanking everyone who helps this rescue  
survive, June, Joyce, Will and Tracy, I have  
been lucky enough to be in the position to  
purchase more effective medication for our  
poorly hedgehogs.

**Tip of The Week:** The British Hedgehog  
Preservation Society telephone number  
is 01584 890801 should you need help  
or advice, they have a list of rehabbers  
telephone numbers.

Also your local vet can help, they all have  
a duty of care to our wildlife and they have  
rescue centre telephone numbers.  
Maxine

## Sudoku

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

## "Google play Aycliffe Radio"





### Life is the ultimate pressure test

A pressure test is used to test the physical integrity of a sealed unit. The unit may appear to be structurally sound to the naked eye but have serious design faults covered over by external coatings designed to make it aesthetically pleasing. The pressure is steadily increased to enable flaws to be identified as they show up as inconsistencies and weaknesses. Perfectly sound at certain levels but become increasingly unstable as the pressure is increased to the point where the unit breaks down completely.

Life is the ultimate pressure test; and the pressures we face are defined and designed by the person's personality and life's challenges they have had to face. Unfortunately many people spend a large part of their lives avoiding challenges and settle for a life in the comfort zone of mediocrity. The safety of structure and routine with a place for everything and everything in its place gives purpose and meaning to their life, a life lived by the clock and the calendar. Normality is what makes us feel good; comfort food for the soul. If it's seven o'clock it must be the soaps, and if we are having fish and chips I know it must be a Friday.

When the comfort zone no longer fits and life intervenes to disrupt the fragile structure of life and impose restrictive and uncomfortable routines and disciplines you begin to realise just how little control we actually have in life. In our own little world safe from the harsh realities of life we can take comfort in the belief we can handle any hardship life cares to throw at us. A belief formed by either the lack of life experience or by a strength of character forged by the life experience found on the other side of hardship and adversity. Life is the ultimate pressure test and the person who has always sought refuge in mediocrity and an easy going life will always be suspect, and those with a flawed and fragile nature will have their faults and weaknesses revealed no matter how well they are hidden or covered over by the illusion of normality.

## Badminton Courses

**Looking to take up a new sport, get fit or improve your badminton skills this summer?**

Aycliffe Badminton Club have coaching sessions running on a Friday evening from 6-7.30pm at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. The courses are led by qualified coaches and cost only £3.00 per session with coaching tips and lots of games, why not give it a try?

The sessions are open to anyone aged 11+ and equipment can be provided. For more information contact: aycliffebc@outlook.com

### Congratulations

#### Tom Robson



#### Happy 90th Birthday

Love from your Wife Rita. Thanks for being the best Dad, Father-in-Law, Grandad and Great Grandfather.  
Enjoy your family celebrations.  
Love from all your family xxx

#### Vincent & Louise

#### Congratulations

on your recent marriage and a very special welcome to our little 'gorgeous' granddaughter, Alice.  
Love from Jennie and Jim Maddock xx

### Birthday Remembrance

#### Sharon Atkins



#### 24th August

You were not only a Wife to me, but my best friend, my girlfriend and my everything. Miss you more than ever. Happy birthday in Heaven Shaznee. Husband Paul xx

#### Mamma Bear

Not a day goes by that we don't miss you and your gorgeous smile. Happy Heavenly birthday to our beautiful angel. We love you eternally. Brogan and Brianna xx

#### Beloved Sharon

I didn't give you the gift of life, life gave me the gift of you. Happy birthday in Heaven dear Step Daughter. Harry x

#### Happy Heavenly Birthday

We love and miss you more each day. Lots of love, Jade and Olivia xx

#### Patricia Hanson

#### 21st August 1955

You were taken away from us eight months ago by angels and there is not single day that we don't think of you or miss you. But today we miss you more. Happy Heavenly birthday. With love and hugs from all your family xxx

#### Peter Redden

#### (1971 - 2013)

#### Heavenly 50th Birthday

Deep in everyone's heart your memory will stay. You are loved and missed every day. Love you loads, from all the family

#### John Phillips



#### 21st August

#### Dad & Grandad

Today is your birthday Dad, in Heaven above. We are sending all our love on the wings of a dove.

Hoping you are enjoying now you have got Mam with you. We just wish we could share with you both too.

All our love, Lynn, Julie, Janice and families xxx

### Obituary

#### Andy Cooper

#### 14th August

Peacefully in hospital after a long illness bravely borne, Andy aged 65 years. Dearly loved Husband to Maggie; dear Brother to Tommy, Bobby, Val and the late Joan; a much loved Brother-in-Law and Uncle.

He will be sadly missed by all his family, many friends and Army mates.

Funeral on Thursday 26th August. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon at 10.30am. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu, would be much appreciated in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

#### Audrey Whittleton

#### 17th August

In loving memory of Audrey Whittleton. Three years have past and you are still very much in our hearts, we cherish the moments we've had with you and miss you dearly. All our love, Husband Rich and family xxx

#### Ronny Mayoh

Now it has been 9 years on the 25th August since you have been gone and you are missed more and more every day. Love from Rose, Maria, Christine, Ian, Anita and Granddaughter Kimberley.

## 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 need to 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.**

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 DL5 6DS**

### Missing

#### Neville Parade area



Ginger Jackawawa missing since Monday 16th August. She is called Heidi and is wearing a black collar.

**Contact Owner**  
**07572 894136**  
**or 07375 822181**

# Mini Trip to Scotland for Max

The MINI CHALLENGE UK championship headed North of the border to the Knockhill circuit in Scotland for their fourth round of the season at the weekend with North Yorkshire's Max Coates in action for the Graves Motorsport team. Looking to cement himself as a title contender he needed a strong set of points finishes to help him on his quest.

On the Monday of race week, a number of drivers tested at the track to aid in their preparations, the majority of the day saw wet running with Coates posting promising times and strong race runs. Testing continued on Friday in which the first session saw a number of red flags for issues on circuit and in the second Coates posted the 11th fastest time, yet he remained confident ahead of the weekend.

As the venue's gates opened to the thousands of excited race weekend fans, Coates in his Primex Plastics sponsored car lined up for qualifying. The session was tense with tenths of a second covering the top 15. With only a matter of minutes to go Coates was down in 14th position but he posted two faster times right at the end to place him 6th on the grid for the opening race later that day.

The JiC Transport sponsored driver got off to a good start battling with Callum Newsham ahead of him. Coates was passed early in the race dropping him to 7th but was in the battle to regain his lost position when Newsham, still just ahead braked too late into the third corner of the circuit. Coates followed suit and this left the door open for Sam Weller to get past. Max eventually crossed the line in 8th place.

The second race of the weekend came on



Sunday morning, this time in front of an even bigger crowd at the popular Scottish venue. The MINI CHALLENGE UK supports the British Touring Car Championship whose annual Scottish trip is always a popular affair. After a good start Coates made it passed Newsham in the first few laps with a late braking manoeuvre at the hairpin. Following that he was embroiled in a close race with former teammate Ethan Hammerton before the pair passed local driver, Joe Tanner, as he ran wide into the gravel on the exit of the chicane. With a 7th place finish Coates inherited pole position for the reverse grid race later that afternoon. Coates made a good start and lead away as ITV's TV cameras and capacity crowd looked on. By the end of the first lap the safety car was brought out, Coates managed a good restart though and again lead away. It wasn't until lap 10 when local driver Jack Davidson found a gap on the inside of Coates exiting the final hairpin corner. They ran wheel to wheel through the first few corners before Coates engine momentarily cut out behind the leader, losing him another place to 3rd. He was then out dragged to the first corner on what would be the penultimate lap of the race, falling to 4th and just one position of another podium finish.

Afterwards Coates said, "This weekend the whole field has been so close, every tenth of a second made a difference. I'd hoped the final race could have been a win with a strong starting position but that didn't work out. We seemed to lack some speed in a straight line in comparison to the others and that made things difficult but the team are already working hard to rectify that. It was good to race at Knockhill again and see a massive crowd for the second time this year, I'm hoping for more of the same at my home race at Croft."

The next round of the championship takes place at Croft on the 18th / 19th September, Coates home round and the first time the MINI CHALLENGE UK has visited the circuit. Coates will be hoping to claim another win in front of a large home crowd.

*Photo credit: (Jakob Ebrey Photography)*  
Max Coates leading the field on his way to a fourth-place finish at Knockhill in Scotland.

## Community Spirit Family Disco's

Dear Sir,

We would like to welcome back Community Spirit Family Disco's now that restrictions are finally lifted and the fun can begin again. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Gary Avery, AKA Professor Nincompoop, for all his hard work at our previous disco's. We wish him all the very best in his new venture.

Thank you to KD Disco's our new family entertainment. Entry will now be free as we will be putting our monthly GATC allowance back into the community to fund this and other events. This event is free to all families in Newton Aycliffe, no tickets are required. All under 18's must be accompanied by an adult.

Hot dogs will be available, the proceeds and any donations will be donated to a different charity every month. Please contact communityspiritaycliffe@gmail.com if you have any nominations. Also the gorgeous Cake & Bake will provide some delicious sweet treats to buy.

Finally, a big thank you to The Big Club for once again accommodating Community Spirit. We look forward to seeing you all again on 27th August, 5.30-7.30. Look out for all our future disco dates, and other future events.

Joanne & Neville Jones

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