

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



Mindless Vandalism at Horndale Park

See page 3 for full story

Special thank you to your Newton News Sponsors:



Heighington AFC Update

U7s RFYL

Heighington 15 - Crook Town Juniors 0

The boys were on fire from the 1st minute against a decent Crook team. The lads performed to an excellent standard moving the ball about really well and most importantly didn't do it all on their own. They made sure all the boys got in on the action and it was pleasing to see a very good performance.

Managers MOM: I know I said all the kids but I thought on top of the goals he scored he did really well with his passing and assists today. He is learning every single day and, if he keeps going, will do really well in football. This week it goes to Isaac Turnbull.

Parents MOM: 4 votes for Oliver Savage. Great running and dribbling skills today. Worked very hard to get himself in dangerous positions and is learning his shape really well.

Move of the Match: A corner taken from Isaac played short to Oskar who managed to sneak away from his defender. A 1-2 back to Isaac and a cross into the box with an excellent first time finish by Reuben. Goals: Isaac x 6, Oskar x 3, Jackson x 1, Reuben x 3, Oliver x 1.

Heighington AFC U12s RFYL

Washington Gold 0 v Heighington AFC 0

The Mighty Red and Blacks played with no subs after injury and sickness ravaged the squad. The 9 players available however fought extremely hard throughout the match and deserved to get the winner.

Our keeper Harry didn't have a single save to make after being brilliantly protected by our defence of Watson and Freddie. We had 4 midfielders who all finished the match exhausted after covering the entire pitch and not stopping. Playing in a CDM Handley broke up Washington's attacks and set our midfielders away. Two wingers in Yaley and Chappers, were tasked with helping the defence and the attack and their work rate was immense. Luca and Tom controlled the middle of the pitch and stopped their midfield being able to have any time with the ball. Finally our lone striker, Jack, he worked hard and had a few attempts at goal but was left frustrated at not breaking the deadlock. He worked extremely hard.

MOM went to Tom, only his 2nd match for us, his vision and control in the middle of midfield was outstanding and he never stopped trying to start our attacks and always wanted the ball and offered the whole team an option to pass throughout. Massive well done lads, brilliant effort.

Junction 7 Need Your Help

For the last few weeks Junction 7 have been working with some guys from the Light and Life Church in Darlington to feed the homeless and people with a need in Middlesbrough.

We have also been visiting a homeless hostel with some other like minded people who believe everyone should be treated with dignity. There are so many people that society has forgotten about, people living in horrendous situations daily. We would love to make Christmas special for these people, some have never received a Christmas gift in years.

As well as the outreach that we do in Aycliffe with our Christmas projects, we would also like to take gifts and a Christmas dinner to people in a homeless situation.

Would you like to make a difference?

If you would like to donate a gift please contact us:

Email: junc7tion@gmail.com

The ARK, Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe DL5 7DZ

Poppy Display

In 2018 Syd Howarth of Newton Press asked the sewing/knitting group from St. Mary's to co-ordinate a display for the towns War Memorial commemorating the end of WW1, this, with the help of many from the town, we did. Since then we have taken responsibility for removing them having them dried and stored for the next year and displaying them again. Four years later we are not sure if people still wish to see a display of poppies each year, but now need another group to take on the task. We will display them this year to remember, in particular, the British Service personnel who died in Afghanistan. I approached one of our local councillors to see if the town council would take it on, but did not get a positive response. Anyone with comments or ideas could reply through the Newton News. Margaret Lee St. Mary's Sewing Group



Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe

Live Artistes

SHERATON BAR

Friday 15th Oct: 'Lee Paul'

Sunday 17th Oct: 'Kev Finnegan'

Friday 22nd: 'Jess Wilks'

Sunday 24th Oct: 'Angie'

CONCERT HALL

Saturday 16th Oct: Soul Night

Saturday 23rd Oct: Uncle Gilbert

UPSTAIRS

Saturday 16th Oct: 'Marty Scott'

Saturday 23rd Oct: 'Chris Marko'

Forthcoming Attractions

Friday 19th Oct: Fiona Scott Experience

Saturday 30th Oct: Abba Girls

Saturday 6th Nov: Whole Hog

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Saturday 27th Nov: Kick

Saturday 4th December: 3 Steps 2 Venga

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Vandalism at Horndale Park

The Council had commenced work in creating a community orchard on the edge of Horndale Park for the benefit of the local community and the environment. Trees planted included a variety of apples, pears, plums, hazel, sweet chestnut, walnuts and for something a little different, mulberry and medlar trees, with a view that local families could benefit from the fruit in the years to come.

The work has been funded by Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership - GAMP and the trees planted by the Council Works Section and volunteers from the local community and other departments of the Council.

Unfortunately, less than 24 hours after planting, half of the trees planted have been snapped, uprooted or damaged. The estimated cost of the damage is in the region of £3,000.

With the support of GAMP the project at Horndale Park has now been cancelled and the surviving trees are going to be removed and replanted in alternative sites in the parish, where their chances of survival will be greatly improved.



Local Police have been informed and the Council's Works and Environment Manager will be contacting local schools with a view of educating and identifying the culprits. Anyone who may have any information regarding the vandalism should contact Newton Aycliffe Police on the non-emergency 101 service.

Also, one of the much loved kiddies spinners has been burnt and melted and will need to be removed, for safety, at Horndale Play area.

This is the latest incident within the park over recent days following the £3000 worth of damage done to the new community orchard. If anyone has any further information regarding either of these incidents please contact the police on 101.

Photos: Front page, the damaged orchard and the burnt out kiddies spinner. Above, the orchard before destruction.

Petition Against Anti-Social Behaviour

Dear Sir,
I am sure there are many residents who are sickened and annoyed with the rising Anti-Social Behaviour and increased crime rates in Newton Aycliffe, in particular in the West Ward. I have started an online petition, as I have been directly targeted in the past by the youths and feel things are getting more dangerous and out of hand. If you are as distraught as I am about the local vandalism, crime and anti-social behaviour in your area, please go online and sign the petition for more police involvement for Anti-Social Behaviour in Newton Aycliffe West at: <https://bit.ly/3v6jiny>
Thank you.
Name and address supplied

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Sketch Walks

Last week's walk was in Bishop Auckland, as requested by the group. We met in the main car park on a sunny morning and proceeded to the market place. We then viewed the archaeological dig outside the palace. The group then split up to do their sketches. When it got chilly the girls went for a coffee. The group are looking forward to the next walk. If you are interested in joining us please contact Bill Lowery on 01325 311225. Beginners welcome.

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HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature **good** news and interesting items on achievements & community service

Tel: Paul
01325 300212
or paul@newtonnews.co.uk

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Feel Good Film Show

The Feel Good Film Shows are finally back at St. Clare's Church, showing an eclectic mix of films from musicals, drama, comedy and Disney classics, old and new, but all picked to make us feel better, happy and upbeat.

Shows are each Tuesday in St. Clare's Fellowship Hall at 1pm, following Welcome Café which begins at 10am.

The film on Tuesday 19th Oct is the 2018 version of the musical love story "A Star is Born" which stars Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper.

A warning that the film does contain some strong language and drug misuse; but the good news is that the film show is free to all and all are most welcome. For further information please contact Ric Hargreaves on 07561 335445.

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NAFC Junior Section

U9's Blacks hosted Tibs Yellows, with a tense 1st half ending stalemate. Five minutes after the restart Aycliffe took a deserved league, Regan broke clear and produced a fine finish. Tibs soon drew level with a scrappy goal then took the lead with a fine free kick.

Aycliffe pressed for the equaliser but unfortunately couldn't get the equaliser they deserved. A fantastic performance from the team. MOTM: Regan H, excellent passing and work rate.

U10's Whites played league favourites Washington in a very scrappy game. Washington took advantage of Aycliffe's mistakes to take the lead, eventually Aycliffe got some momentum going in the game and grabbed a goal back, however it was too late in the game to recover. Aycliffe scorer was Jack & MOTM Max H for another strong performance in defence.

U10's Blacks travelled to an excellent Shincliffe side. The first half was tense with opportunities for both sides. The Blacks were organised, defended well and worked hard for each other, going in at the break level. The second half didn't start well and we fell 4-0 down. We kept going and grabbed one back from Oliver's great free kick. Benjamin got another late on but, unfortunately, we ran out of time. MOTM Oliver SL as he gave his all throughout the game.

U11's were away to Hurworth today and despite having no subs the lads put in a brilliant performance and came away with the spoils, all the goals were brilliantly worked. Scorers were Archie, Jack, & Seth.

U12's go into the next round of the challenge cup after a hard fought 3-1 win over South Park Rangers. We should have been out of sight by halftime as we had so many chances. They got back into it at 2-1 but we then made it 3-1 with Theo finishing off a great goal. FT Rangers 1-3, NAFC scorers were Oliver, Callum & Theo. MOTM - Theo.

U13's Blacks played Shincliffe away, for what was, from the start, a powerful performance. Straight from the off we scored 5 great goals first half and then second half grabbed 2 more, outstanding. Goals from, Danny R x3, Alex S x2, Keaton W x1 & Jayden H x1. Great assists and display from all the lads, denying the opposition any shooting opportunities, and all with the bare 11. FT 7-1

U13's Whites hosted Thirsk Falcons. A really close game to start with no goals for first 15 minutes until Thirsk finished a goal mouth scramble. A wonderful long, high shot from James drew us level but Thirsk went in 1-2 up at half time. Thirsk then had a dominant spell putting away 4 goals in quick succession. Oliver converted a penalty to make the final score 2-6 to Thirsk. MOTM was Oliver for the second week running.



U14's lost 2-1 in League Cup against Stockton Town. Brad scored the goal and MOTM was Tyler R!

U15's travelled to Saltburn today for our rearranged fixture after the first game there was abandoned. The lads burst into a 4 goal half time lead with goals from Trav 2, Ethan and Jake. Trav finished the scoring early in the second half to complete his hat trick, with the game finishing 5-0 to Aycliffe.

U16's hosted Washington Juniors at Moore Lane this weekend. With only 12 available at KO, Aycliffe took advantage of the larger pitch, testing the Washington keeper from distance. HT and it was 0-0 despite Aycliffe's pressure. Second half saw a flurry of activity from Washington, without creating any clear chances, as Aycliffe held firm. The game was deservedly won by Aycliffe towards the end, with a great ball from midfield allowing Archie to break through and finish well from the edge of the box. FT 1-0 Aycliffe. MOTM: Shae, Goal: Archie.

U18's were away at Middleton Rangers. It was a poor performance and we never really got started. Rangers deserved the 5-1 win. Goal for Aycliffe scored by Evan T. We go again next week.

Halloween Night

Dear Sir,
I would like to inform your readers that on Thursday 28th October at the Phoenix Club (ex Royal British Legion) the Line Dancers will be holding a Halloween Party and everyone is welcome.

Come dressed up as we will be giving prizes for best dressed, also available will be an open buffet.

The entertainment will be from a great duo 'Root n Toot' as well as our great teacher who will be on from 8.10-8.40pm to help teach you how to line dance before the act commences.

So, please come along, give it a try and have a great night, doors open at 7.00pm entry is £4.00.

John Sutton



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Newton Aycliffe Youth Football News

Aycliffe U12 Angels Blue 5 v Hetton Juniors Girls 1

We were patient in our build up to the first goal, which came 15-20 minutes into the first half. Hannah picked out Evie with a lovely pass. Evie took possession and continued her run of nice left foot finish. The next goal was brilliant team play. Evie took a corner which was cleared. Charli burst forward from defence to win possession and play a lovely pass to Evie who picked out a perfect cross to Faith. Faith finished first time to put us 2-0 at half time. Hetton scored first in the second half to bring the game back to 2-1. The girls didn't panic and instead controlled the last 15 minutes creating several chances. Our third goal came with Heidi winning the ball outside of the area and playing to Faith who scored well. Sophie then set up Evie for the 4th, who smashed it home giving the keeper no chance. Faith then finished her hat-trick, scoring from a loose ball, following a shot from Evie. A deserved win for the Blues in a game played in great spirit.

Star Player, Players Choice: Faith, Coaches Choice: Isobel

Aycliffe U18 Girls 5 v Kader 2

The girls got off to a quick start, a through ball from Ruby calmly put away from Hattie, several chances to increase the lead but from a Kader corner the ball somehow ended up over the line. They were now getting into the game but Hattie restored our lead, HT 2-1. Aycliffe needed to get a grip off the midfield but Kader equalised. This seemed to wake the girls up and from this point we controlled the game. Despite a shoulder injury for Macy, ending her game, the defence stood strong and the midfield took control. Cool finish from Morgan, quality strike from Kate and Hattie, wrapping up her hat trick, and the points were secured.

Leam Rangers 0 v Aycliffe U13 Girls 5

Aycliffe looked strong from the kick off and controlled the game with some outstanding team attacks but also our defending was top class. When Leam did manage to win the ball back the Aycliffe girls read the game really well and limited their chances throughout the game. Half time was 0-2 Aycliffe. Second half was much the same with Aycliffe working hard to win 50/50 balls and create chances. Full of energy and, crucial, in attack meant that Aycliffe came away with a well deserved 3 points and a clean sheet. Goals from Sophie, Tilly, Lana and Demi x2, POTM went to Demi

Lee.

Aycliffe U8s Wildcats v Bishop Pinks

The girls started well and bossed the game in the first half, with Macy on the score sheet again. Bishop fought back well in the second half, it wasn't our day today but our girls didn't give up and kept the game competitive until the final whistle.

New Herrington St Aidens 2 v Aycliffe U13s Eagles 1

The Eagles went a goal up but Herrington then got themselves back into the game shortly afterwards. The Eagles were, however, playing the best football they have played so far this season. Within minutes Herrington were awarded a free kick just outside the box and managed to score. FT 2-1. MOTM went to Liam for his outstanding performance in defence yet again.

ADULTS

Consett U23's 1 v Aycliffe U23's 5

Consett took the lead and kept it till half time. A change in formation and we started the second half on the front foot, some neat football allowed Mitchell Simmons to turn and find the bottom corner from the edge of the box. Then Jordan Wintersgill turned to fire home from 20 yards out to take the lead. A corner found Jack Mortimer who nodded home his first for the club . We won a free kick 25 yards out, Jack stepped up and found the top corner 4-1 .

The 5th Aycliffe goal off the game gave Jack his hat trick when he chipped the keeper for 40 yards. This result moves us up to second in the league.

Newcastle I21 7 v Newton Aycliffe Women FC 1

Open Invitation to Celebrate 'Chrissy'

The family are having a night to celebrate Christine's life and would like to invite people to come along to The Big Club on Sunday 24th October from 7pm, to remember Christine and celebrate her life with many of her friends in the entertainment industry, who will be performing special songs, in remembrance of Christine, on the night. Christine was taken from us on 13th April 2020, after battling a long fight with ovarian cancer.



Due to the Covid pandemic the family were unable to have a proper send off for Christine and this night is an opportunity, for everyone who knew her, to come along and celebrate her life with them. Christine was a kind and beautiful soul, who had the kindest heart and was always so much fun to be around. She was a brilliant singer, with a beautiful voice, and some of you may know her from her stage name 'Chrissy'.

A wonderful mam to Jordan. A fantastic wife to Michael. A lovely daughter to Ken and Georgina. A gorgeous sister to Paul, Mary, Anita and Caroline and cousin to Anita (who was like a sister) and a brilliant aunty to Lewis, Sam, Annis, Zoe, Daniel and Charlotte. Christine had so many friends and she touched many lives in so many different ways with her loving, kind heart, nothing was ever too much trouble and she would go out of her way to help anyone. She was taken from us far too soon, but her beautiful spirit will always live on and she will be with us always. This will be a special night to celebrate and remember Christine's life and everyone who knew her is more than welcome to come along. From Caroline and all the family.

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Saturday 13th November
ROF59 Function Room
7.00pm to 11.00pm

Tickets: £6.00 - available from
www.ayclifferadio.co.uk/tickets
ROF59 and Newton Press Reception

RUNNING CLUB NEWS

We started another busy week on Saturday morning at the Beamish Hall Trail 10K, hosted by Wild Deer Events, where Jane Evans turned out for the Club, completing the tough off-road race in a time of 1:17:56.

Despite there being plenty of races on the calendar, twenty-three Members opted to start the weekend with a parkrun, with the Club represented at the Chevin Forest, Darlington South Park, Hackworth, Hartlepool, Rother Valley, Town Moor and Sedgefield events. Two Members came away from parkruns with a new Personal Best (PB) for their respective event, with Michelle Zamir setting herself a new fastest time at Chevin Forest parkrun (26:33), and Craig Robinson improving on his best time at Hackworth parkrun (25:05).

Elsewhere on Saturday, several Members headed to the Lake District to participate in the Coniston 14, reputed to be the most beautiful road race in Britain, taking in the perimeter of Coniston Water. First home for the Club and finishing second in his Age Category (M40) was Trevor Dixon, in a time of 1:33:33. Jayne Rudd was our first lady home, completing her run in 2:32:51. Sam Baronowski and Penny Johnson crossed the line in 3:05:50, having ran the distance together, and Jan McLuckie finished her race in 3:29:04.

Sunday saw Members scattered across the country. Two runners headed to the Silverstone Motor Racing Circuit for a unique opportunity to run on the iconic track. Taking on the Run Silverstone Half Marathon, Carley Cooper continued her impressive year by registering a new PB for the distance, completing her run in 2:00:18. Chasing his son around the track, but not quite catching him, Richard Tonge registered a very respectable time of 59:34 in the 10K race. Closer to home, David Stothard took part in the undulating Richmond Castle 10K, completing the tough course in 58:23.

The Redcar Running Festival provided several options on Sunday morning. Taking on the Beacon 5K race, Ian Stothard came home in 34:59.

Susan Clark, Paula Lambert and Kelley Williamson opted for the Zetland 10K race. Paula was the first of the trio over the line in a time of 1:11:47. Susan completed her run in 1:12:40, with Kelley not far behind her in 1:12:48.

Three Members plumped for the Half Marathon race, and Dez Fielden was the first of our runners across the line in a time of 1:24:17, which was good enough to claim the M45 prize. Following Dez home was Andy Talbot, in 1:30:13, and in doing so took second place in the M60 Age Category. Dave Blewitt completed the Club's representation in the race, finishing in 1:52:02.

Manchester was our next stop, where several Members were taking on the marathon in probably the biggest race of the weekend. Gareth Kyle had a fantastic run in his first marathon, completing the course in 3:21:40.

Nicola Ingman and Steph Colvin ran the race together from start to finish, and it was only fitting that they both crossed the line in exactly the same time (5:15:52).

Finally, the second fixture in this year's North-Eastern Harrier XC League took place at Druridge Bay on Sunday afternoon. Unfortunately, due to so many other race commitments, we were not able to field full strength teams on this occasion, however a few Members made the lengthy trip to represent the Club. In the Ladies race, Sandrine Hewitt completed the 6.4K course in 44:44, whilst in the Men's race, which was 9.6K, Stuart Joyce finished in 47:26, followed by Shaun Dodd in 51:31.

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



Podium Positions at Castle Games for Crossfit Kids

On Sunday 12th September The Castle Games held a free kids and teens individual CrossFit event alongside their same sex pairs event. Three of CrossFit All Out's younger members stepped out of their comfort zones and decided to participate in this event at the very last minute. It was their first CrossFit competition and they had a superb day from start to finish.

Aiden Anderson, aged 9, finished in second place, landing himself a spot on the podium in the U12 category.

His brother Ashton Anderson, aged 12, also bagged a podium spot finishing in 2nd place in the U15 category.

Proud parents of the two boys and owners of CrossFit All Out in Newton Aycliffe, Vikki and Terry Anderson, said "the boys were basically the guinea pigs for our other CrossFit Kids, to ensure the event was well run and safely organised. They both fully embraced the challenge and all their years of practice in the gym paid off on the competition floor. We are very excited to have a number of CFAO kids entered into the November competition held at Middlesbrough and then to host our own in-house kids competition next year. It brings a whole new dynamic to the sport of fitness". Eva Keeligan, aged 8, finished in 10th position, despite being the youngest competitor on the day in the U12 category. Mum, and member at CrossFit All Out, Gemma said, "little Eva competed in her first ever CrossFit competition at CrossFit Darlington on Sunday. WHAT AN EXPERIENCE! Eva put her heart and soul into every workout and even more into cheering on her fellow competitors (even those she did not know). She was a bundle of excitement and enthusiasm all day and this could be seen by her 100% effort and beaming smile. I'm so very proud of how she took it all in her stride and showed true CrossFit grit and contributed to its community spirit."

To find out more about CrossFit Kids, please contact Vikki on 07788 123321 or visit the gym at 8 Northfield Way, DL5 6EJ.



CAR PARK CLOSURE NOTICE

The car park at Bewick Crescent will be closed to public access from Sunday 24th October to Monday 1st November to accommodate our

Annual October Half Term Fair

We apologise for any inconvenience, please use any of the other Town Centre car parks which are all free of charge.

Town Centre Management, 01325 300605



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Once again, it is with a heavy heart that I announce, on behalf of the Aycliffe Branch Labour Party, that we are all shocked by the sudden passing of Dave Hardaker. I personally had not known Dave long but got to know, in that short space of time, exactly the kind of man he was, unassuming but a true embodiment of both the party he belonged to and what it means to be a public servant. A true trade unionist, an active town councillor and campaigner for people's rights, the exact principles of what we should all be aiming to represent.

From his tireless work as a volunteer for the Citizens Advice Bureau, endless hours of work as part of his love for the North Yorkshire Moors Railway including the Newton Aycliffe Ramblers to representing Great Aycliffe Town Council at Stockton and Darlington Railway to a story I've only just heard, that during his time at the DWP, where he was tasked with finding people who had been overpaid, he would often find people who had been underpaid and would take great pleasure in ensuring they got what they were owed. Always keeping true to what he believed and living a life anchored in caring for those around him.

It would also be doing Dave a disservice to not mention the group of friends and family he was surrounded by who have lost a true character, a true friend and a huge part of their lives. As more than just your fellow members but friends, we will do our best to carry your spirit of care, solidarity with those worse off and those in need for future generations. I think I can speak for everyone in the party when I say we'll have a pint in your memory when we are together again, something unique and we'll all take note of the percentage and strength in your honour. The funeral for Dave will be held at St Clare's Church on the 21st of October at 11am, friends have been asked to meet at the Church.

On behalf of fellow members of the Labour Party,
Simon Hocking
Aycliffe BLP Chair

ACORN Good News Week

In a week where dismal news of rising prices, fuel and food shortages have been prevalent I am delighted to report that popular Community Association ACORN have been awarded £9850 to continue their work in the community.

ACORN are well known for their annual Petting Zoo held in Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre which attracts up to 800 visitors, Easter Egg Hunt held in our beautiful West Park for local children, Pantomime visits to the Gala Theatre in Durham, which brings pleasure to all ages and of course our Halloween Spooktacular. Readers will of course recall that ACORN also facilitate coach day trips to destinations such as York, Leeds, Whitby, Scarborough, South Shields, Bamburgh and Seahouses.

ACORN is also involved in enhancing their local neighbourhood by planting trees and bulbs to brighten up roadsides and green spaces, Durham County Council have,

this week, awarded ACORN 2000 bulbs to be planted on Silkin Way and we would welcome volunteers to help plant them.

We still have a few seats vacant for our trip to York on Sunday 17th October leaving the Phoenix Club at 9am. Seats are priced at £8 and can be obtained from Ken on 07443 046804.

ACORN are now taking bookings for a trip to Leeds on 11th December. In addition, we are arranging a visit to Hall Hill Farm to see Santa and his furry friends, please note this trip is priced at £10 to include entrance and a soup and roll lunch.

ACORN is an open, friendly group, who welcome anyone to come along and join us in discussion of local issues and banter, we offer tea, coffee and biscuits. Come along and join us on Thursday 14th October at 6pm in the upstairs lounge of the Phoenix club to help us plan our year.

Ken Robson, ACORN Chair
01325 321471
07443 046804

Harvest Festival



Byerley Park Primary School was once again able to hold its Harvest Festival led by the children in EYFS and KS1 this week.

We were very excited to welcome parents back into school to see their children perform on stage for the first time in a long time. The children sang songs, read poems they had written and taught us all about the history of harvest time.

We would like to say an enormous thank you to our very generous parents for their contributions to our Newton Aycliffe Food Bank donation.

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NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 19th October

9.30am-11.30am & 7.00pm-9.00pm

St. Clare's Church Vestry

Sisters of Support is a peer led group geared to supporting women in our community who may be struggling with their mental health or just the everyday pressures of modern living.

We are dedicated to providing a safe environment where women can talk, be listened to, without being judged, and feel confident enough to share their thoughts, fears and concerns surrounding their mental, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Our core values are to provide people to talk to and activities to promote physical, mental and emotional wellness. We aim to work alongside businesses and supporting services to create a tailored experience for every woman who walks alongside us.





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Acute Lack of Knowledge

Dear Sir,

Re: Decision to stop Trailer Training B&E Tests & Implications

Further to Jack Braley's letter in 8th October Newton News, I wish to clarify some points regarding the decision by DVSA to stop the B&E Tests.

I have written to Grant Shapps MP expressing my concerns regarding future health and safety on the roads.

I am an experienced caravanner, over the last 30 plus years, and in the last 4 years I have been teaching people the correct method for caravan and trailer towing

through a number of driving schools.

During that time, I have carried out caravan training on behalf of the Caravan & Motor Home Club and experienced people who have the B&E licence under 'grandfather rights' ie passed their driving test prior to January 1997. Their lack of knowledge and understanding of health and safety issues in coupling and uncoupling and general driving with a caravan, were very worrying. It now appears that we are going backwards 25 years and releasing car drivers without any training whatsoever, onto extremely busy roads and motorways. This is a major disaster waiting to happen which could, and will, result in fatalities.

The governments' intention to change the Law to abolish B&E Tests and further reduce Rigid (Cat C) to enable drivers to immediately go for Artic Test (C&E) without any experience of HGV driving. Grant Shapps MP, said on Question Time that it takes 3 weeks training before carrying out a C&E Test, this is ludicrous. In fact, it takes much longer as the driver needs to pass other Tests before getting the C&E. The net result of the decision, made by the government, has effectively given the DVSA examiners hours and hours of non-productive work as it is impossible for the driving schools to provide both the vehicle and instructor in the quantities that are required for C&E Tests.

As a result of the governments decision, I am now redundant! Along with many other driving instructors. We are deeply concerned about releasing people, with an acute lack of knowledge for health and safety, on the roads when towing.

Dave Eason

Driving Instruction/Trailer & Caravan Trainer

Donating Hair is Easy & Satisfying



Following the article from a young girl getting her hair cut and donating it to The Princess Trust, I wanted to add more information! During lockdown my hair grew immensely; I have just turned 60 and decided it was about time I got it cut, but, wanting to make it memorable, I contacted Cancer UK to ask how I donate hair for wigs and they gave me contact details for The Princess Trust. What I really wanted to do was advertise the fact that anyone who is thinking of getting long hair cut, after lockdown, it is so easy to donate it for making wigs for cancer patients. I went to Joy Marie Hairdressers in Aycliffe Village. I didn't intend asking for sponsors, I was just going to send a donation myself; but Joy Marie made a donation as did some of my friends and family. The Princess Trust give clear information on how to send the hair in the post, it only cost £4.20 to post; and The Princess Trust send you a certificate and a nice thank you letter! You don't have to get sponsors or send a cash donation, just your hair if you want to! I got a great feeling donating my 13" of hair, thinking it is going to go to some use. Did you know it costs over £500 to make a wig? Denise Ashcroft

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GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Friday 5th November 2021

Those wishing to attend the above event must apply for a wristband.

To be eligible for a wristband you must reside in the Parish of Great Aycliffe and supply proof of your address with a recent utility bill or driving licence.

Wristbands are available from the OakLeaf Sports Complex from 1.00pm on Wednesday 20th October 2021.

THERE IS A LIMITED SUPPLY OF WRISTBANDS

For more information go to:

www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk/fireworks-display

School Aycliffe Tree Work

Following recent tree inspections, several ash trees have been adversely effected by ash die back on Town Council land at School Aycliffe; Great Aycliffe Town Council are therefore required to complete various tree works within the forthcoming weeks in various locations to the rear of Smythson Close, Jenison Close and Sheppards Croft. Ten trees in question will be made safe by either reduction of weight within the crown, retaining a standing stem or felling the tree, depending on the risk to site users and residential properties.

Where trees need felling, replacement trees will be planted after the tree work is completed in appropriate locations. More information is available by contacting the Council on 01325 300700.

Rights for Residents

I cannot help but reflect that this time last year, after months of the care home blanket visiting ban / restricted visiting, my younger sister disabled by stroke and dementia, with no voice of her own, gave up on life / stopped accepting nutrition. Through Oct / Nov my only contact was a 20 minute weekly 'visit' - watching her slowly die through her care home window, only allowed inside in her final days. Despite having an exceptional Social Worker on side, pleas for 'exceptional circumstance' access, to encourage my sister to accept nutrition, were denied.

Regardless that the country was given their Freedom Day in July - and despite the introduction of updated Government guidance - many care home residents still endure a restricted visiting regime - timed visits / not in the privacy of their own room - in pods like prisoners, residents still often isolated in their rooms. Every care home resident is now entitled to an ECG - Essential Caregiver - a key visitor who can come and go at will - tested as staff. Sadly this is guidance, not law, therefore at the discretion of individual home managers / care providers many of whom continue to operate their own rules.

I am a member of the campaign group Rights For Residents - much of the updated visiting 'guidance' is down to the determination of this group submitting evidence to the JHRC, presented to Parliament in May of this year. A petition containing over 269,000 signatures was recently handed into Downing Street calling on Government to mandate ECG status in law. We await the outcome, the elderly and vulnerable in society not being a priority with Government!

RFR recently shared a document prepared by Leeds Healthcare Trust in conjunction with Healthwatch and Leeds Care Association, Essential Care Giver (key visitor) Myth-Buster.

I am forwarding this document to County Durham Healthwatch in the hope that they / DCC Public Health Dept., will be persuaded to produce something similar. Meanwhile, I hope any relatives still struggling with restrictive visiting will be encouraged to approach their provider / request the ECG status their loved one is entitled to. Many remain unaware of ECG status, some homes are not making the information freely available to relatives or maybe not interpreting the guidance correctly. If anyone requires further help, there is also information available on RFR Facebook page or website:

www.rightsforresidents.co.uk
Margaret Davison
Woodham

Sugar Hill Mental Health Day



It was fantastic to see so many children and staff wearing yellow for Mental Health Day last Friday.

Throughout the school, children and staff dressed in yellow or non school uniform and raised funds to support children and young people with mental health challenges.

At Sugar Hill emotional well-being is high on our agenda. How we think, feel and behave in a range of scenarios and situations is as unique as we are! Being able to identify a range of feelings, even from a very young age, is very important and central to our school ethos.

Classes across school completed a wide range of activities.

At lunchtime Mrs Legge Deputy Head Teacher and Emotional Well-being Lead, listened to the children as they shared the work they had been covering in class.

The children are taught that it is important to be able to express their emotions in a safe way. This is key to being able to identify when children (and staff) need to welcome additional support when times are tricky or tough. This extends to our wider school community too.

By talking about how we feel on the inside, and how that impacts on how we behave on the outside, really helps our whole school community to work together and achieve the best possible outcomes.

Special days in school promote talking and listening about a range of topics. Oracy is very high on our school agenda and when we are discussing mental health and well-being with the children the very clear message is, 'It's good to talk' and maybe even more important, 'It's good to listen'. Vital life lessons that none of us are ever too young to learn.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 20th October 2021 - 7.15pm

Policy & Resources

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

COMMUNITY SPIRIT NEWTON AYCLIFFE

Spooky Family Disco

at The Big Club

Friday 22nd October

5.30-7.30pm

£1 entry per family

Fancy Dress - Glitter Bar
Hot Dogs - Sweets - Cakes

FOLLOWED BY



Halloween Disco

at The Big Club

Friday 22nd October

8.30-10.30pm

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Opportunity to Gain Qualifications

As furlough ends, residents in the Great Aycliffe and Midridge Area, who are low paid and unemployed, have the opportunity to gain qualifications

Introduction

Due to the success of previous projects, Bishop Auckland College has secured additional funding through the Great Aycliffe and Midridge Partnership (GAMP) and Livin to help residents, aged 16+, in the GAMP area to progress/move closer to or into employment, further training or volunteering.

Project Description

There are three funds designated to supporting those over the age of 16+ residing in the Great Aycliffe and Midridge area.

These three funds are:

- Upskilling Fund aimed at those in low paid jobs, to support them in acquiring new skills/qualifications, enabling them to move up the career ladder, change direction or gain additional work in a new sector. This opportunity is available where there is no mainstream funding available and where opportunities cannot be provided through employers' Continuous Personal Development Fund (CPD).
- Employability Skills Fund aimed at responding to specific training needs, where there is no mainstream funding available.
- Discretionary Fund aimed at removing barriers, for example, travel, childcare, resources that prevent clients from accessing training and employment.

To-date the Project has successfully supported 310 Great Aycliffe and Midridge residents into employment. For further information contact Denise Hopps, Project Officer, 01388 443078 or email denise.hopps@bacoll.ac.uk

The following site highlights the positive impact that the Upskilling, Employability & Discretionary Project can have on people's lives. <https://bacoll.ac.uk/training-opportunities>



Parliament Talk

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

Last week at the Conservative party conference in Manchester I was able to take time to not only listen to several of the keynote speeches you may have seen on TV, but I was also able to engage in a number of fringe events. The options for these are many and varied and the following are just a few that I joined. As I said last week, I first went to one on 'Trusting the People' about devolution of powers to local people, this included Michael Gove and Guy Opperman on the panel, and I was pleased how supportive they were of the leaflet I co-authored. After joining an NFU reception and speaking with Danny Kruger MP over dinner I went to the Northern reception where it was good to meet MPs and party members from across the north. After quite a late night I went to a breakfast meeting about HS2 and Northern Powerhouse Rail where I was on the panel discussing the importance of investment in rail infrastructure for the north. I stressed the importance of local projects like Ferryhill Station and east west links across the Pennines where connectivity is critical. Delivery of HS2 in full is also important, but it's more about overall rail capacity than saving a few minutes from London to the midlands. I also joined colleagues including Jesse Norman MP, Former Financial Secretary to the Treasury, to discuss the UK's energy infrastructure and the route to net zero. This was not only about the sources of energy but the need to ensure we have skilled people trained to support them. I joined a Northern Powerhouse leaders lunch, hosted by Ben Houchen, the Tees Valley mayor, where it was great to see so many political and business leaders from across the north, including from Kromek in Sedgfield who where a joint sponsor of the event and we had speeches from the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, and the Business Secretary, Kwasi Kwarteng. I attended a Levelling Up reception and Peter Gibson, MP for Darlington, and I hosted a meal for our local members that had joined us in Manchester. Wednesday, I listened to a forum on Levelling Up attended by Ben Houchen, Simon Clarke and Neil O'Brien. Simon is Chief Secretary to the Treasury and a Middlesbrough MP and Neil was the Levelling Up policy adviser to No 10 before now being appointed as a minister to support Michael Gove in delivering Levelling Up. The discussion was all about the importance of levelling up and it's impact on the regions. I then went to listen to the PM's speech before heading home.

After returning from conference, I joined a call open to all north east MPs where we discussed the local needs of all transport modes. These included not only rail, but bus, car, cycle and pedestrians, as we need all of these to be integrated. That night I met with Nexus rail and Northumbrian Water along with other colleagues. Northumbrian Water asked us to remind all our contacts of the significant waste of water if you leave taps running and the propensity for wet wipes to block drains if you flush them down toilets. So please don't be guilty of either of these offences.

Once back in the patch, I spent time with my team looking at casework and planning our next round of surgeries before heading out to NETPark to meet yet another amazing science led business, Graphene Composites. They are developing products that make us, and our military, stay safe. I am beginning to wonder whether Q from the James Bond films is hidden away in NETPark, there is so much exciting technology being developed!

I then went to Ferryhill Station to take photos etc for the press release surrounding our submission of the bid to reopen Ferryhill Station to passengers. This has been submitted to the Department for Transport and, for me, the numbers are a compelling argument to proceed.

After joining the MPs and peers transport briefing I mentioned earlier I am now taking a few days off before we return to Westminster on the 18th. Should you need anything my team will still be working and available to help on the usual contact details.

As we enter Autumn and Winter the risk of infections always increases so whether it be flu or Covid if you need to be jabbed please sort it and help to stop any spread as well as looking after yourselves.

Paul Howell
Member of Parliament for Sedgfield

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Join PCP's 'This Girl Can' Final Fitness Course

All about girl power, a North East charity has launched its final course of a women empowerment group. Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP), launched its first six week course of 'This

Girl Can' during the national COVID-19 lockdown. The group empowers women through fitness and motivation, and the final course is set to begin the week commencing 8th November 2021 via a group Zoom call with group leader, Donna McDermott. The group has been a major success, with a total of 57 ladies joining, through four courses, since the launch. This Girl Can has had a great response from all attendees, with one service user commenting: "I really enjoyed the sessions and being able to do them at a time which suited me has been the biggest benefit. The sessions are great with a wide variety of very easy to follow classes which Donna presents beautifully." This Girl Can is a nationwide campaign which launched in 2015 to celebrate active women doing their thing, no matter how they do it. The website reads "Women come in all shapes and sizes with all abilities and from all backgrounds. Some of us are expert sportswomen, some of us are a bit rubbish. It doesn't matter. We're just happy that you're getting active. And if you're still not sure that you can, we're here to help you to figure out the way of getting active that's right for you." Research shows that many women are put off taking part in physical activity due to a fear of judgement – this might be about the way they look when they exercise, that they're not good enough to join in or they should be spending more time on their families, studies, or other priorities. If you would like to take part in PCP's final six week course of This Girl Can, starting

in November, get in touch by calling 01325 329324. For future updates, visit www.facebook.com/PCPandCentre and PCP's Twitter and Instagram @PioneeringCare. If you would like to find out more about PCP generally, or to support our work, please contact: Jenny Lee, Senior Marketing & Media Officer jenny.lee@pcp.uk.net

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N.A.F.C. REPORT

Saturday 9 October - Ebac Northern League Division One
Penrith 2 v Newton Aycliffe 5

Report by Joe Ramage

It was raining goals in Penrith as Newton Aycliffe came from behind to score five at the Frenchfield Stadium. Liam Jarvie scored his seventh goal of the season to cancel out Max Brown's early opener before midfielder Shaun Ryder gave Colin Stromsoy's side the lead. Jack Naylor added a third before the break to give the Newtonians, what seemed, a comfortable lead before Jamie Armstrong gave the Bonny Blues a lifeline on the hour firing in from close range. But the home sides renewed optimism lasted less than a minute as Adam Burnicle restored Aycliffe's two goal lead when he punched in Ethan Wood's deep cross.

And Aycliffe added a fifth, 10 minutes later, when substitute Sonni Coleman emphatically finished Jarvie's defence splitting pass. The home side tried to force an unlikely turnaround in the closing stages to no avail as Aycliffe moved up to second in the Ebac Northern League Division One table.

Head coach Stromsoy kept faith in the XI who claimed a 3-1 win over Redcar Athletic seven days ago with Burnicle, Jarvie and Andrei Ardelean leading the line at the Frenchfield.

But it was a sluggish start from the visitors who were almost behind inside four minutes when Kingsley Grandison latched onto Richard Faustino's throw and was able to roll Callum Munro in the area before firing against Adam Pickford's cross bar.

And Stromsoy's side failed to take note of the warning as they did fall behind a minute later when Grandison capitalised on a loose clearance from Aycliffe before finding Brown whose strike deflected off Munro to wrong-foot Pickford and give the hosts the lead.

The home side came close to a second when Grandison teed up Luke Brown but this time Munro was able to divert over as Grandison nodded wide from the resulting corner.

At last Aycliffe seemed to come into the game and they were level with their first meaningful attack of the game as Jarvie got on the end of Burnicle's cross to bundle home.

The goal appeared to invigorate Aycliffe who came close to taking the lead through Burnicle but his first time effort was saved by Aaran Taylor.

But the visitors did grab the lead 10 minutes before the break when Nick Green's cross was headed clear as far as Ryder who shifted the ball onto his left before coolly finding the bottom corner.

Green was provider again three minutes later when he found Naylor through a crowded penalty area and the defender's strike at goal skipped off Matthew Moynan to beat Taylor in the Penrith goal.

But Aycliffe were slow out the traps again in the second half as Brown latched onto a long ball forward and was able to go around Pickford before Aycliffe captain Aaron Brown cleared the danger.

Jarvie was denied his second of the game by a smart save from Taylor to keep Penrith in the game before the hosts reduced the deficit on the hour.

Brown escaped Ryder down left to find Luke Hunter who was denied by a stunning save from Pickford but the loose ball was hammered home by Armstrong despite Munro's best efforts on the line.

But Aycliffe showed their resolve by regaining their two goal lead within a minute of the restart.

Green's quick throw found Wood who exchanged a neat one-two with Jarvie before standing a cross up to the back post where Burnicle was on hand to prod home.

Armstrong might have grabbed a third for Penrith moments later when played in on goal but the striker opted against pulling the trigger. Stromsoy's side scored their fifth 15 minutes from time when substitute Coleman, who started the move inside his own half, finished an excellent counter-attack by powering in Jarvie's through ball.

It was enough to take the sting out of the home side as Aycliffe recorded their fifth straight win in the league to move up to second in the table.

Aycliffe now have three home games in a row. Third place Thornaby visit on Tuesday 12 October with Sunderland RCA following on Saturday 16 October.

The Newtonians then turn their attention to cup action with Darlington visiting the Beaumont Landscapes Stadium on Tuesday 19 October in the Durham Challenge Cup.

Aycliffe play the next round of the Buildbase FA Vase on Sunday 24 October with an away trip to AFC Liverpool. The home side groundshare with Marine who have a home game on the Saturday, therefore the Vase match will be played on the Sunday with a 2pm kick off.

Sudoku

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



Brays Netball Club are hosting a charity netball tournament at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre from 10.00am to 3.00pm on Sunday 21st November 2021.

Join us for a fun packed day of netball in aid of 'Deliverance Animal Rescue' and the founder Christine Kipling.

There will be a tombola, raffle and bake sale on the day. As well as a creation station for the children - all welcome.

ADM Disco

All Disabilities Matter private Facebook group are so excited to announce the very first All Disabilities Matters disco. The main purpose of this event is for people who may not feel comfortable with mainstream discos, pubs or clubs, for whatever reason. All disabilities want a place where people, carers and family are free to feel at ease and comfortable, surrounded by people in similar situations such as physical, non-visual, mental health issues or anxiety.

A place to party, free from judgement or bullying, the entrance fee will be a £1 per person, this is to cover costs, whatever funds are left over we will donate to a different charity every month, our disco will follow straight on after the family disco in The Big Club at 8.30pm on Friday 22nd October (once the room is clear, both will continue to be subsidised by Community Spirit).

Our first disco will be Halloween themed, people who would like to dress up are very welcome but don't feel you have to.

Look forward to seeing everyone.

Jackie, Anne and all the admin, All Disabilities Matter.

Acknowledgement

Rosemary Mooney

The family of the late Rosemary Mooney (6 July 1933 – 19 September 2021) wish to extend sincere thanks to the Reverend Ann Anderson, St. Clare's Church, Whitehouse Funeral Services and all friends, neighbours and well-wishers for their kindness and support.

Special thanks to Dr. Stephenson and the staff of Bewick Crescent Surgery and to everyone in the community who ever gave friendship, support or care to Rosemary, especially in recent years as she fought against Dementia.

Because of your kindness, Rosemary was able to retain some independence in her own home for a longer period of time.

Birthday Remembrance

Doreen Cross

18th October

For my lovely Wife from the Dales, on your 90th birthday.

I loved you from the second I met you and still do.

You will always be in my heart my darling.

Rest in peace my love, until we meet again.

Love from Ron xxxx

Wishing our lovely Mam a happy 90th birthday.

We just wish you could still be here to celebrate it with us.

Miss you so much, every single day.

Love from Marjorie, Brian, David and Joy xxxxxx

Happy 90th birthday Nana. Miss you.

Lots of love from Mark and Julie xxxxx

Barbara Woolley

21st October

Life goes on without you here, but the memories of you will never fade.

Today and always I remember the difference you made.

Happy birthday Babs.

Lots of love from Ron and the Kids

Matthew Howarth



Happy Birthday

15th October 2020

Lots of love from Mam, Dad and all the family

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Obituary

Pamela Ann Forde (nee Stuart)

Of Newton Aycliffe, died peacefully in hospital on 27th September, after a long illness, aged 68 years.

Pamela, the loving Daughter of the late Fred and Dorothy and a much loved Sister of Fred, Jimmy and the late Elizabeth.

Pamela will be sadly missed by all of her family and friends.

Funeral Service to take place at St. Clare's Church on Thursday 21st October 2021 at 1.00pm. To be followed by interment at York Hill Cemetery.

Noreen Bell

Aged 82 years, passed away peacefully in hospital on 1st October, after a short illness.

Dearly beloved Wife of the late Taylor Bell, Noreen will be missed by family and friends worldwide.

Funeral to take place at Durham Crematorium on Tuesday 19th October at 3.30pm.

Births

Jessica Roberts & Craig Wright

5th October 2021

Congratulations on the birth of Bailey born 5th October 2021.

Lots of love to you all, Mam and Fraser xxx

In Memoriam

Tim Leadbitter

14th October 1970-2019

Two years have slipped away, beautiful memories of you will always stay. Loved forever, Mam

David Hardaker

Suddenly, at home, on 29th September.

Dave, aged 68 years, (Town Councillor).

Beloved Uncle to Sarah, Rhiannon and Gail. Sadly missed by all his family friends and comrades.

Finally at peace and reunited with Vic, Joyce and little Ben.

Funeral Thursday 21st October, would friends kindly meet for Service in St. Clare's Church at 11.00am followed by Committal for family and close friends only at The West Cemetery Chapel, Darlington prior to Cremation.

No flowers please, donations in lieu, would be much appreciated, in aid of Citizens Advice, Newton Aycliffe.

Marion Foreman

Suddenly on 1st October 2021, Marion, aged 69 years.

Dearly loved Mam of Yvonne and Sarah; a treasured Nana and special Great Nana, also a much loved Sister.

Funeral Service to take place in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Thursday 21st October at 10.30am.

All are welcome.

Any enquiries to John Meynell Funeral Directors, Tel: 01325 301405.

Lawrence Fisher (Larry)

Of Newton Aycliffe, formally Chilton, passed away suddenly on 3rd October, aged 80 years.

Dearly loved Husband of Ann, cherished Father and Grandfather.

Family flowers only please, donations in lieu, if so desired, to the North East Ambulance Service.

All enquiries to John Meynell Funeral Service, Tel: 01325 301405

Margaret Birtle

Of Newton Aycliffe. Passed away peacefully on 30th September aged 90 years.

Loving Mother, Mother-in-Law and Grandmother.

Funeral Service at Durham Crematorium on Monday 18th October at 11.30am.

Family flowers only please, donations in lieu, if so desired, for the Great North Air Ambulance.

Richard Croft-Hill (Rick)

Passed away suddenly on 25th September 2021 in hospital, aged 78 years.

Dearly loved Dad to Wayne and Cameron; much loved Stepdad to Marie and Terry and a proud Grandad and Great-Grandad. He will be sadly missed by his family and his many friends.

Funeral to be held at St. Mary's Church, Central Avenue, Newton Aycliffe on Friday 22nd October 2021 at 10am, followed by burial at The West Cemetery, School Aycliffe.

Family flowers only please, donations, if so desired, may be made to REME Charity.

After the Service the family would like everyone to join them for refreshments at The Phoenix Club, Macmillan Road, Newton Aycliffe.

Harry Wynn

6th October Peacefully. Harry, aged 88 years.

Treasured Husband to Joyce; loving and much loved Dad to Tony, Dawn, Jan and Jude.

Funeral on Wednesday 20th October. Would friends kindly meet for Service in Durham Crematorium for 11.30am.

Family flowers only please.

Remember to tell the advertiser you found them in the Newton News

10 Year Old Seb, Micromax Champion

Heading into the final round of the Championship, 10 year old Seb was P2 in the Championship, 8 points behind the Championship leader. So, last weekend, it was all to play for. Last weekend he was coached by Jake Gresty, we had a great practice day on the Saturday so it felt good heading into race day on the Sunday. With the random grid positions generated: Seb started: Heat 1 in P9, Heat 2 in P2, Heat 3 in P12.

Heat 1: Seb had a fantastic start keeping level headed, making his way up through the grid of drivers, driving confidentiality. Finished in P2 and taking two points off the championship leader.

Heat 2: Seb starts on the front row with Olly. Over the start line he takes the lead into the first corner, he holds the lead for a good few laps before being overtaken on the last few laps coming home in P2. Taking the championship lead down to 4 points.

Heat 3: Seb has a lot to do in this heat, taking directions from his coach Jake, telling him to keep focused, drive like you do, you've got this. Seb makes his way through the grid, the lead pack having an advantage but that doesn't distract him, he keeps focused coming home in P4. However, the drivers in P1 and P3 were disqualified from that heat for failure of scrutineering, this promoted Seb to P2. With the two drivers disqualified from the heat

meant that Seb was in pole position for the final. What an emotional roller coaster we were on.

Jake, Seb's coach, took him aside, told him he believed in him, he could do this. We gave him his fist bump, as we always do, and left him in the pit lane with Jake. Into the first corner he maintained the lead followed by Olly. They both stayed P1 and P2 for a good few laps before Olly was overtaken by two drivers on lap 10/11. That has to be the longest two final laps of our lives, sheer drive and determination from Seb, he came round the final corner, hand aloft over the finish line in 1st place. I think you would have heard me from Hooton Park cheering, the Championship leader came home in P3, which meant, when we cleared scrutineering, we could work out the points to see if he had done it. What a wait that was to make sure everyone was cleared. So, calmly trying to work out the points, well another parent did as I couldn't, being overly excited of the outcome.

SEBASTIAN CORKING IS THE FIRST EVER MICROMAX UK CHAMPIONSHIP WINNER.

He did it, he won the Championship with a 3 point lead, we are beyond proud of Seb. To those of you who believed in him, thank you. Thanks to Heighington Primary for your support with Seb. Massive thanks to Nigel Horner at HRS Racing Engines, we couldn't have done it without your support, thank you. Neil Benson of Bensons Electrical in Sunderland for your sponsorship this year. Emma Lax and Ray Glasper of Westholme Fabrications in Heighington, you have supported Seb from day one and believed in him, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you. Craig, Callum and Scott at Be Inspired Gyms for your PT sessions with Seb. Jake Gresty - Thank you, what an amazing coach you are, so glad we found you. You believed in Seb, last weekend made all the difference, with your support and expertise we won. We look forward to working with you in 2022. Seb, you are an amazing talented kid, you did it, you are the No 1 Champion.



Seb has won an amazing package, full engine and a Micromax Championship race suit - total prize worth £2800, well done Seb, you are amazing. Can you help Seb for the rest of the year and into 2022?

Can you sponsor a local talented lad? Any help is greatly received, fuel, race equipment, spare parts, tyres. All our sponsors are thanked on every social media post we do, Seb's Instagram posts, the heats and finals are all recorded, drivers are interviewed and thanked here too. Your business logo will also be on Seb's kart. All of Seb's races are on TDI Media on YouTube, some fantastic races and publicity. Thanks again to everyone who has supported Seb. **SEBASTIAN CORKING IS THE FIRST EVER MICROMAX UK CHAMPIONSHIP WINNER.**

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