Friday 26th November 2021

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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

Police Visit Sugar Hill

See page 2 for full story

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Police Carousel Training Event at Sugar Hill

It's been a long time, due to the pandemic, since staff and children at Sugar Hill Primary have been able to open our classroom doors for our local police to come in and work with us. With Covid19 Risk Assessments in place we were delighted to once again have Sergeant Boyd and three PCSOs in school to work with staff, Year 5 and Year 6 children for the full day on Tuesday 23rd November. Mrs Legge, Deputy Head and Safeguarding Lead, attended a meeting with Sergeant Boyd discussing workshops that the police could come in and deliver to share key safety messages with everyone.

It was decided that sessions would cover Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Consequences of Crime, Anti-bullying and Online/Internet Safety.

Staff and children participated in a full day of workshops culminating in a reward session at the end of the school day. Jet and Ben arrived at the end of the day as all the children were presented with certificates for their engagement in all the workshops.

At the end of the day the children were asked to reflect on their learning. Here are just a few of their reflections.

Jamie - "I enjoyed doing true or false with Alfie because it was about anti-social behaviour. I was taught about smashed windows and vandalism in that session. I also found out a lot about cyber-bullying and a new type of online bullying called online grooming. It's where someone bribes you to tell them your personal details".

Ava - "I found out that behind the Newcastle Football Stadium there is a wall of graffiti. I thought the sessions were a fun way to learn something important like cyber-bullying and online grooming". Carter - "I enjoyed writing what we want to be when we are older. It was great to hear everyone's amazing aspirations!"

Noah - "I found out to not give our personal information to strangers".

Over the next few weeks staff will reinforce these key messages to the children. The value of strong links with our local police can never be underestimated. Not only were the children engaged in the sessions and learning first hand from the police key safety messages, they also spent social time talking at breaktimes and having lunch together.

We look forward to future engagement activities with our local police officers and developing stronger links with the police. Plans to work



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with other year groups are at the discussion stage. Watch out for future stories!

Year 5 pupils who are Mini Police Officers, are meeting regularly with PCSO Sarah Button during their After School Club on a Thursday evening. A huge thank you to Sergeant Boyd and his team. In uncertain times and with ever increasing anti-social behaviour in our local community links such as these are so appreciated.



Sergeant Boyd commented "Loved the engagement with the children. It is sometimes difficult to pitch the content of presentation right but the children interacted so well and understood the intended messages. It is so important to deliver these sessions to amazing young minds".

PCSO Middleton said "I have really enjoyed my day at Sugar Hill. The students were great and a credit to the school. Hopefully they have taken something from our presentations and act upon it". PCSO Kipling remarked "It's been great to be back in the schools to deliver these presentations and I really think the children have enjoyed it. It was brilliant to play some football and basketball at lunch time too, thank you for having us!"

PCSO Button summed up her day, "The day has been so good. It's great to be able to get back into schools and talking about some really important topics. It's amazing we get to have the lesson time for the conversations and the break and dinner times just to engage and have fun!"

Another great day in our Sugar Hill calendar of events for this academic year.

Christmas Fair

St. John's Church, Shildon, our ever popular Christmas Fair is back on Saturday 27th November from 10am-1pm.

Santa will be in his Grotto and there will be lots of stalls, including gifts, toys, cakes and much more. Admission is £1, free for children and includes tea/coffee.

Carol Concert

Bishop Auckland Choral Society invite you to join them for a Christmas Carol concert at St. Mary's Church on Vart Road, Bishop Auckland, DL14 6PQ on Wednesday 15th December at 7.00pm. Interval refreshments will be on offer, as well as a Christmas raffle.

Tickets are £8.00; Concessions £7.00; Under 14 free and are available from Mrs. Hassall 01388 834359 or Jane Smith on 01325 360514, and from choir members or on the door.



Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe

Live Entertainment

SHERATON BAR Live Entertainment Friday and Saturday evenings

CONCERT HALL

Saturday 27th Nov: Brilliant 'Kick' £5 c/c Saturday 4th Dec: '3 Steps 2 Venga' £5 c/c (non members welcome, tickets behind the bar)

UPSTAIRS Saturday 20th Nov: 'Mark Thomas'

Kidz Flicks

Our festive film for 4th December at Kidz Flicks is the family friendly, Arthur Christmas.

When Santa's gawky son, Arthur, learns that owing to a technical glitch a little girl's Christmas gift has been misplaced, he sets out on a mission to deliver the present before it is too late.

There will be a free 'Elf on the Shelf' lucky ticket give away, admission is only £1 and all are welcome.

Parents may stay, or collect children at 3.45pm, when the film club ends. Hot chocolate, sweets, crisps, popcorn and ice cream - what's not to love? So pop along for a lovely afternoon. St. Clare's Movie Hall, doors open at 1.30pm for the best seats, movie starts 2.00pm - See you there.



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Supporting Rotary Fundraising



Heighington Football Club and Manager, David Brassell, was delighted to accept when asked by Rotary Newton Aycliffe if he and any of his team members would be willing to help with the Rotary Santa Street Tours and Collections. Some of the players will be joining us from 6th December and they will be a welcome addition to our ranks. After a photo call last week, with Santa and some of the team at the football ground in Heighington, Rotary members then headed for Tesco where Community Champion, Shirley, was there to meet us. After missing out last year, management are kindly allowing us to collect in the store this year. Also assisting with our street collections will be Acle Scouts led by Margaret Lenahan. This is partnership working at its best and Rotary thanks you all for your support with our work in the community.

Supporting Families to Close

Dear Sir,

It is with a heavy heart that I am writing this, but I am having to close down 'Supporting Families' due to ill health. Thanks so much to my dedicated volunteers - Yvonne Beynon, Liz Joy, Rachel Stephenson and Bob Munn, without them it wouldn't have been possible because TEAM means Together Everyone Achieves More.

I would also like to thank the Rotary club for their continued support, the Grandmas and Knit & Natter at St. Elizabeth's Church, who knitted for us, Shirley Tesco Community Champion, Play Cafe, John and Sian for storing some equipment in their unit, Clear & Care in the Community for donating clothes to us, Melissa from Aldi, for getting our toiletries quickly when we needed them, my brother in Edinburgh for getting donations for us and especially the families in and around Newton Aycliffe who supported us by giving us donations of clothes and baby equipment. Thank you all so much again everyone for your help and support, it really was appreciated. Best wishes Sheena Stephenson



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Raises £4000



The Thai Boxing show, in memory of Nathan Cuthbertson, was an amazing success. The event was sold out, with 40 tables sold and another 200 standing.

'Snowy Snowdon' (Royal Navy) took on Mark Holder (Cuthy 200 Thai Boxing) and fought for the Nathan Cuthbertson Thai Boxing Memorial Championship trophy. Snowy took the decision, winning the bout on points.

A presentation was given to Nathan's parents of a canvas image as well as a presentation from the emotional Michael Day, who served in Afghanistan with Nathan. An original photograph taken in Afghanistan, which was then sketched by an artist and presented to Nathan's parents.

The event was amazing, raising £4000 for Cuthy200 charity and to support our paras (official charity for Parachute Regiment). The belt was sponsored by JCM & Trevor Arnell of the Teesside Parachute Regiment Association.

FESTIVE ISSUES OF NEWTON NEWS

Christmas Edition: - Friday, 17th December Deadline: Wednesday 15th December, 12noon

Thai Boxing Event | Putting Wellbeing First

Charity thanks staff with celebration event.

Staff from the Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) were given the royal treatment for an afternoon to say thank you and celebrate fantastic work taking place across the North East.

Following a year of resilience from staff, the Celebration Event hosted by PCP took place at its Head Quarters, the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe, where many staff got the opportunity to meet face to face for the first time and enjoy festivities.

Carol Gaskarth, Chief Executive of PCP, said: "We have staff working on health and wellbeing projects throughout County Durham, Tees Valley and Sunderland, so we took the opportunity to bring everyone together in a safe environment to say thank you for all they do.

"We promote and support communities to improve their health and wellbeing through our projects and services, but we also encourage our staff to focus on their health and wellbeing, and this includes taking time for them.

"We give our staff two hours of 'wellbeing time' a week, or pro rata for part time staff, where they can leave work to focus on their wellbeing and what makes them happy. "The Celebration Event was offered in addition to this, as we couldn't thank our staff

enough for all that they do."

Health and wellbeing charity, PCP, went all out to ensure the event was one to remember, with individual afternoon teas, wellbeing themed goody bags, refreshments on arrival, all presented in a PCP dressed marquee in the Pioneering Care Centre's Community Garden.

PCP staff, from projects including the

Carol Singing for All

On Friday December 10th at 7pm, St. Cuthbert's Church, Crook are hosting an informal event to give everyone the opportunity to sing together all their favourite Christmas Carols, led by the Andreas Ensemble, Bishop Auckland's chamber choir.

All are invited to come along and help fill this beautiful church with their singing. Similar events, held for the past seven or eight years at a number of different venues, have proved very popular and greatly enjoyed by everyone.

The event is free-of-charge, though donations are invited with the proceeds contributed to Marie Curie Care. Seasonal refreshments are served in the interval, adding to a good night out and a pleasant chat with friends.



Stockton on Tees COVID Community Champions, Stockton on Tees Community Social Prescribing Service, Step Forward Tees Valley, Healthwatch South Tees, Healthwatch Stockton on Tees, Healthwatch County Durham, Healthwatch Sunderland, County Durham COVID Resilience Service, Wellbeing for Life, Joining the Dots, Workplace Health, Cancer Awareness, Safe Haven, Options, Together 21 and PCP centre services, were in attendance, making the afternoon a true celebration of North East community work.

Visit the PCP's social media channels: PCP's Facebook page - www.facebook.com/ PCPandCentre, Twitter @PioneeringCare 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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The Management

of Newton Press and

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to wish all Newtonians a

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No Editions: Friday, 24th December, 2021 or Friday 31st December 2021 **BACK TO NORMAL ON** Friday, 7th January, 2022 Deadline: Wednesday 5th January, 12noon

Advertisements are accepted at our reception or via email to paul@newtonnews.co.uk

Office Opening Times

Closing 4.00pm on Thursday 23rd December. Skeleton Staff in attendance until re-opening on Tuesday 4th January 2022 at 9.00am

Christmas Fair

St Elizabeth's Church in Woodham Village are holding a Christmas Fair which will take place on Saturday 4th December at 10.00am.

Christmas bakes, preserves and treats, Christmas Goodies, Gifts and Knitted Crafts, Festive Tombola and Raffle along with seasonal refreshments.

All welcome, we look forward to seeing you again.

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 1st December - 6.00pm Personnel Sub Committee

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

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 1st December 2021 - 7.15pm Policy & Resources

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Careers Fair at Woodham

Woodham Academy had the pleasure of hosting their careers fair last week, the first they have been able to do in the last 2 years. A number of educators and businesses were invited back into the building and gave the KS4 students an opportunity to learn about the endless opportunities available to them. During the event year 9, 10 and 11 were given the chance to speak to educators about post 16 progression in A levels, Apprenticeships and much more. Students were encouraged to ask lots of questions, gather information about courses and wider life in colleges such as Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College, Durham Sixth Form Centre, Bishop Auckland College, Catch 22, Darlington College, New College Durham, East Durham College, UTC, ASK, the Northern School of Art and the Academy of Sound and Music.

Each of the further education providers put on a great stall for the students where they were able to give out information booklets about courses, travel and extra-curricular activities. There really was something for everyone.

As well as this they had a number of businesses in attendance such as Hitachi Rail, 3M, Engie Construction, McDonalds, ITEC North East, Livin and the Royal Air Force. The students particularly enjoyed gaining an insight into these businesses and having the chance to try out some of the technology as well as discovering how



many exciting opportunities there are, right on their doorstep. Overall, the afternoon was a huge success and the students left the fair feeling like they were more confident in their choices, whether that be choices in the summer or in the coming years.

Christmas Cabaret

Cabaret Divine are proud to present a Christmas Cabaret on Friday 3rd December at The Big Club, Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe.

Introducing the north east's burlesque sensation 'Trixie Blue' with cabaret, burlesque, comedy, singing and dancing showdolls, glitz, glam, glitter and grin. Tickets are priced at £10.00 and are available from www.dukescabaret.com

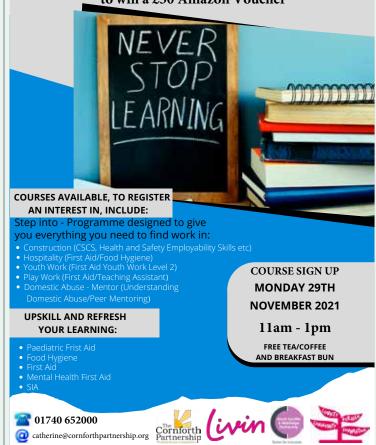
Pavement Parking

Dear Sir,

I have come to the conclusion that most drivers who park with 2 or more wheels on the pavement, do it out of habit, not necessity. These drivers believe that they are helping with the flow of traffic, when they are not. They are not helping at all but end up causing an obstruction to pedestrians which is what the pavement is intended for and cause an observation obstruction to road users. Not only that, it can cause unnecessary damage to their vehicles suspension, steering, wheels and tvres. Please think before parking on the pavement and stop doing it out of habit. Name and address

THE ARK SILVERDALE PLACE

Signing up for a course gets you put into a prize draw ______to win a £50 Amazon Voucher



Poet Visits Byerley Park

Page 6



The children and staff at Byerley Park Primary school welcomed poet Paul Cookson into school last week as part of the Northern Children's Book Festival.

Appearing via YouTube for a virtual visit, Paul performed a range of different poetry from his many poetry anthologies. The children and staff joined in with 'The Toilet Seat has Teeth', 'The King of all the Dinosaurs', 'Football 4 Every1' and 'Let No-One Steal Your Dreams'. Pupils had the opportunity to ask Paul questions about his work and journey to becoming a poet as well as questions about where he likes to write his poems and where his inspiration comes from. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed working with Paul and his visit has inspired many of them to read his poetry and the work of other poets.

New Drawing Workshop at Greenfield Arts



The Autumn programme at Greenfield Arts is well underway and we are delighted to announce and welcome you to a new drawing workshop later this month.

Mixed media artist Sharron Bates will be offering guidance in this relaxed session where you can explore the skill of free form drawing. This creative workshop allows you to use drawing to work through feelings and design amazing images. Free Form Drawing will be held on Tuesday 30 November from 18:15 - 20:45 and costs just £20 for the full session.

The workshop forms part of a full programme including our current exhibition 'Emerging' by Creative Forum. The exhibition showcases the creativity of the collective group who relish working alongside each other and learning from fellow creatives. 'Emerging' includes many beautiful pieces including batik, monoprint, collage and textile art including work completed during their isolation during lockdown. Just visit our website to find out more or contact our friendly team on 01325 379048 or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk - Greenfield Arts are committed to offering high quality arts activity that helps stimulate creativity, questioning and enquiry.



We start with our usual round up from parkrun events on Saturday morning, and there was a healthy turnout from the Club, and we saw Members running at the Darlington South Park, Hamsterley Forest, Hackworth, Jubilee, Sedgefield, The Cinder Track (Whitby) and Town Moor (Newcastle) events.

Notable runs included Peter Tennick's run at Darlington South Park parkrun, where Peter broke the 20-minute barrier for a 5K for the first time, posting a new best of 19:51. Martin Turnbull also bagged himself a Personal Best (PB) at the Sedgefield event, finishing in 22:09.

The big race on Sunday was the Brampton to Carlisle 10 Mile Road Race, which attracts a high-quality field, and promises fast times. A contingent from the Club travelled to the North-West to take on the race, and first home was John Firby, with a new PB of 58:26. Tracking him every step of the way, and finishing just three seconds adrift, was Dez Fielden. Dez crossed the line in 58:29, which was good enough for a PB, and to claim the Club Record for the distance in the VM45-49 Age Category.

Also grabbing himself a PB for the 10 Mile distance was Stuart Joyce, who completed the race in 70:04. Trish Kay was the sole female runner from the Club, and Trish had a fantastic run, finishing in 1:21:49, and claimed third place in her Age Category (W60). Trish also set a new Club Record for the distance in the F60 Age Category.

Sunday afternoon saw the Croft Motor Racing Circuit play host to the latest fixture in the NYSD XC (Cross Country) calendar. The races took place in decent conditions, with the Ladies and Over 65 Men's races first off. In the Ladies Race, which took place over 6.2K, Carley Gibson was first home for the Club in 37:25, followed by Melanie Rowland in 39:12, Kelly Dickinson (41:01), Sandrine Hewitt (41:27) and Susan Clark (52:38).

In the Men's Over 65 Race, which also took place over 6.2K, Trevor Needham completed his run in 31:10, and in the Men's Over 70's race, Kevin Greenall finished the 6.2K distance in 38:49.

In the Senior and Veteran Men's Race, which took place over 8.2K, Richard Campbell was first home for the Club in 35:45. Gareth Kyle shadowed Richard for most of the race, just losing ground on the final lap, but finished with a decent time of 36:26. Peter Tennick was the next Aycliffe runner across the line, finishing in 39:17, and he was followed by Matthew Heron (40:14), Martin Sedgwick (42:54), Ryan Pearson (44:10) and David Stothard (49:12). 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

A Family Affair

On Saturday 20th November our youngest grandson, Dougie Molyneux, celebrated his 11th birthday when he was Mascot at the Hartlepool United v Forest Green Rovers game. It was a very proud moment for all our family to see Dougie walk out on to the pitch with his cousin Luke Molyneux and the rest of the Hartlepool team. Unfortunately, Hartlepool lost to Forest Green Rovers 1-3. But that didn't dampen our spirits as we were celebrating three family birthdays that weekend, my daughter Jane, my husband Peter and Dougie. Dougie is following in his cousin Luke's footsteps. He lives in Pocklington near York and plays in midfield for his local team, Wilberfoss Mavericks. Like Luke, Dougie is a skilful little player - he loves practising his 'keepie-uppies' and his current record is 375



Hartlepool's next home game is against Rochdale on 8th December. The Manager of Rochdale is Robbie Stockdale who Luke played under at Sunderland U23s. When Robbie was interim Manager for SAFC first team, he gave Luke his debut at the Stadium of Light against Wolverhampton Wanderers on 6th May 2018. Luke played for the full 90 minutes and had a great game. Sunderland won 3-0. Thanks to Robbie, that was the start of Luke's professional career long may it continue.

Anne Molyneux (Proud Grandma)

Page 7

The Venga Bus Is Coming

Saturday 4th December will be an exciting evening of superb entertainment from a Vengaboys and Steps tribute band, who will be performing live at The Big Club from 7pm.

Steps and The Vengaboys, both formed in 1997, and had huge success around the world with Steps selling more than 20 million records and The Vengaboys selling more than 25 million. In November 2017 The Vengaboys supported Steps on their 'Party on the Dancefloor' tour. '3 Steps To Venga' celebrate the many hits from both of these fantastic groups with replica costumes, original Steps and Vengaboys choreography routines and bucket loads of energy!

The evening also celebrates Aycliffe Radio's fourth birthday with free party hats, party poppers, streamers and balloons.

Why not make a night of it, tickets are priced at only £5 per person and are available from www.ayclifferadio.co.uk/ tickets or from behind the bar at The Big Club (you do not have to be a Big Club member to attend this event).

Glow Church Christmas Fayre



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas and here at Glow Church we are excited for the Christmas season and would love for you to join us.

The first of our Christmas events is a Christmas Fair, at which there will be a fantastic mix of stalls for you to get those special Christmas gifts.

Wednesday 1st December at Glow, Long Tens Way, DL5 6AP.

Doors open at 5.30pm, entry is free. Santa Claus will be with us too and the Trio Coffee shop will be open with lots of festive drinks and treats for all the family. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more details about Glow Church on a Sunday.

'Most Likely To Be Prime Minister'

Dear Sir,

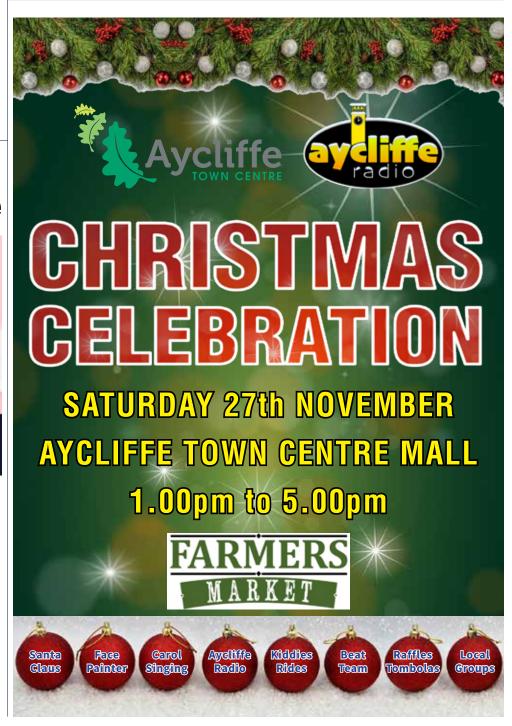
I am very happy to be standing for the Labour Party in the upcoming Town Council By Election in the Byerley Park, Horndale & Cobblers Hall Ward on Thursday 9th December.

I have lived on the town for all of my 25 years of existence and have come to appreciate the people and the town very much. I will not lie to you, I am inexperienced and I did not imagine myself running for Town Council, even a year ago, but would really appreciate the opportunity to give back to the residents of this great town.

If I should be fortunate enough to be elected to the council, I absolutely guarantee you that I will provide maximum effort when it comes to any issues and queries you may have and will work alongside other hard working Labour Councillors to ensure that this community remains as superb as always and if that is not enough to convince you, please note, that I won 'Most Likely To Be Prime Minister', at my end of school year awards! That must be worth something? I shall be out and about over the next



few weeks, but I am always available to contact on 07484 365872 and by email at kaneshaw597@yahoo.com Kane Shaw Labour Candidate



Moral Principles

Dear Sir,

Having no political affiliations, I simply vote for the party/individual who I believe are best for the region and nation as a whole. However, I am extremely disappointed to learn that our local MP (Paul Howell), having been given the opportunity to overturn the government's decision to suspend the 'Triple Lock Guarantee', voted against The Lords Amendment.

His reasoning is based on cost, which in my opinion is negligible, considering the £68.5 billion in handouts for the job retention scheme (furlough), along with the additional £20 a week for people on qualifying benefits (with the exception of pensioners). Once again, the older generation are considered dispensable and insignificant by the current Government - by breaking their manifesto promise, the Conservatives have confirmed what we all suspected, in that there are no ethics or moral principles in politics. Derreck Pinkney

Great Aycliffe



Oak Leaf Sports Complex

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Applications are invited for the above post which forms part of the team within the Oak Leaf Sports Complex.

Do you want to work in a small friendly environment? Are enthusiastic and full of ideas? We have a temporary, part-time vacancy for a Receptionist at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex. This post will involve a range of duties to assist in the provision of an effective and high-quality leisure service. You will be required to work on a rota basis including evenings and weekends.

The candidate must be literate and numerate, together with previous experience of working within a customer care environment.

Hours include evenings and weekends on a rota basis.

For further details or an informal discussion about the post, please contact the Centre Manager, Andy Clark, on 01325 300600 or by email at andrew.clark@great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Closing Date for Applications: 10am on Monday 6th December 2021

Interviews will be held on the morning of Thursday 9th December 2021.

PLEASE NOTE: CVs WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR THIS POST

You must complete an application pack which can be obtained by telephoning 01325 300700, e-mailing: info@great-aycliffe. gov.uk, or from the Council website: www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Aycliffe Youth Football News

Whitby v Aycliffe U8 Eagles

The Eagles travelled to top of the table side Whitby after the recent fine performances. Aycliffe took an early lead from Will before Whitby equalised. Aycliffe then restored the lead with a superb team goal put away by George D. Harry M then pulled off two fine saves before Will fired in from long range. Phoenix made some great tackles and dribbles before he laid off the ball to Floyd who found the bottom corner. A great battling performance in the second half ensured the lads got the well deserved victory. In the second match Louie made two fine saves before Whitby reacted first to the re-bound. Harry M then found the bottom corner before Adam ran onto a through ball and calmly found the back of the net. George H did some great tackles at the back and in the last min George D finished well to round off a fantastic day for Aycliffe Eagles. Players and parents would like to thank our three fantastic sponsors for our new kit and jackets: Autospray Darlington, Andrew Lovegreen Digger Hire and PH Sparks.

Beamish Lionesses 1 v Aycliffe U12 Angels Blue 2

A game of two halves in windy conditions. The first half was tough as Beamish were backed by the wind. The Blues acquitted themselves well and managed to get in 1-1 at half time after going a goal down. With the wind behind us in the second half, we dominated possession and territory, but only managed to score the one (an excellent corner and bullet header) to win 2-1.

Darlington Locomotives 2 v **Aycliffe U12 Angels Yellow 0** The match started very evenly, however, a goal in each half from the Locos and they took the points, although we had less possession than Locos, they didn't have many clear-cut chances in what was a scrappy game. It was a tough game today but we won't make excuses, we will take it on the chin, get back up, work hard and go again. Star players Eloisa and A'alayah.

Aycliffe U13 Eagles 6 v Farringdon Reds 0

An evenly matched game first half and the score line at half time was 0-0.

Second half however, the boys stepped up. The passing between the team was outstanding. Our defence did us proud keeping a clean sheet and winning all their battles. Goals from Will, Kaiden, Adam, Liam, Olly and Jake but MOTM went to Will.

Aycliffe U13 Girls 2 v Chester United 6

First half was very 50/50 until about 20 minutes in, when Chester broke the deadlock and took hold of the game, creating and scoring 4 goals in the final 15 minutes of the first half. Half time and the girls were asked to find their determination and passion and wow it was like watching a different team. Aycliffe dominated the second half and managed to score two great team efforts.

Goals from Demi and Freya, POTM went to Bailey.

Aycliffe U10 Eagles v Mount Pleasant

Tough match away at Mount Pleasant saw an even first 10 minutes with chances on both sides, but after weathering the storm a quick hat trick by Sam eased the pressure. Mount Pleasant hit back soon after before Tarek restored the 3-goal advantage! Mount Pleasant pulling another back in a hard-fought beginning to the second half before Lucas and Tarek scored again. The Eagles are now 6 games unbeaten.

Northallerton 7 v Aycliffe U18 Girls 6

Always plenty of goals when the girls play and they started very well with everyone sticking to their task. A poor clearance from the keeper drops to Morgan who fires from 30 yds into the empty net. The girls controlled the half and, with some brilliant saves from Laila, we reached half time 1-0 up. Northallerton grab an equaliser but then the changing point of the game as Kate collides with their striker and the injury to her knee ends her game. From the corner Northallerton take the lead. A further 2 goals and we are 1-4 down. Three goals from Aycliffe and it's level at 4-4. The game was there for either team. Twice Northallerton take the lead and twice Aycliffe draw level and it's 6-6 going into the final minute, only for a long ball to drop nicely for their striker to slot the winner. Disappointment all round. Goals: Katie 3, Hattie 2, Morgan.

Other results

Newton Aycliffe Women 1 v Darlington Spraire Ladies 5 Wearside 2 v Newton Aycliffe U23's 2



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Christmas Eve K. Letters to Santa Santa Tours



Please check the Newton News Christmas edition on Friday 17th December for updated times of Christmas Eve Santa tour around Newton Aycliffe.

Or visit Newton News, Great Aycliffe Town Council or Oak Leaf websites:

www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk www.newtonnews.co.uk www.facebook.com/OakLeafSportsComplex from mid-December.

Please remember, because Santa and his helpers don't know how many people will be out to see him, the times are only a guideline.



Each year Santa's Elves put special post boxes in Newton Aycliffe so that all of the children from Newton Aycliffe can post their letters to Santa.

When everything is quiet, and nobody is looking, the pixies empty the boxes and take the letters to Santa's palace in the North Pole. Santa replies to so many letters each year from the children of Aycliffe, and as he is very busy he has asked that you remember to put your full name and address on your letter.

We have been told that the post boxes will appear on Wednesday 1st December at the following locations:

- Post Office/Youngs Newsagents Beveridge Way
- John's Your Very Own Mini Market, Neville Parade
- Horndale Post Office, Silverdale Place
- Sainsbury's Cobbler's Hall
- McColls at Simpasture
- Reds Fish Bar, St Elizabeth Close

northpole@great-aycliffe.gov.uk.

Aycliffe Village Hall, North Terrace

today, right up to noon on 20th December.

Santa has a special e-mail address santa.



Mayor's Christmas Message

As we approach the festive season, it is a time to reflect on the year as it is closing and look forward to the new one. Over the past few months, the diary has become particularly busy. I was pleased to meet many of you at our Fun in the Parks event back in August. It was a lovely day with plenty of sunshine and hopefully you all made some happy family memories.

I have been proud to be a small part of many of our residents' achievements this year, including the young people of our town getting involved with community projects, an Aycliffe Angel celebrating her 100th birthday and another 100-year-old veteran who walked 100 miles for charity. They are all truly inspiring people.

We have again recognised and remembered the sacrifices made by our armed services in Acts of Remembrance in the town and Aycliffe Village, on both Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday. These were all very well attended. My chosen charity this year is Children's Blessing's, a project which is part of Lifeline Community Action based within St.

Clare's Church in Newton Aycliffe, and which delivers support to the poorest and most disadvantaged parents, babies, and children in Newton Aycliffe and across County Durham. I would like to express my thanks to the staff of Great Aycliffe Town Council who work so hard to deliver services and maintain the appearance of our town. The success of our town

events, including the fun in the parks, fireworks display and Santa tours, all depend on their knowledge, experience, and hard work. There have been so many challenges and changes that we have all had to adapt to over the past couple of years and I am conscious that this festive time may be difficult for many residents.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity to send all of you my best wishes and hope that 2022 will be a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.



2022/23 Town Council Budget Setting Consultation

The Town Council is in the process of developing its Revenue and Capital Budget for the 2022/23 financial year.

Clearly the budget that we set is important to our local community, both in terms of how our spending plans may impact on the provision of services and investment in assets for the benefit of the town, and in terms of the level of Council Tax that we need to raise from local taxpayers in order to fund these plans.

In overall terms, the Council is proposing a 2022/23 Budget that protects and maintains all of our current services next year.

The Council is also maintaining some surplus resources in the budget which will allow it to replenish its balances and reserves. This will help ensure that we can continue to make capital investment in community assets such as our cemeteries, allotments, parks and play areas, for the benefit of the community, in the coming years. In order to do so, the Council is proposing that it raises the Town Council proportion of the Council Tax bill by 1.99% next year.

This increase is well below the current rate of inflation, and to achieve this, savings have been made across all budgets to limit the increase in the Town Council Tax element of the Council Tax bill to our local residents.

This would increase the Town Council element of the Council Tax bill by £3.32 per year for the vast majority of local taxpayers i.e. those living in Band A properties.

The Council appreciates that any increase in the monthly outgoings of our local taxpayers will not be popular in these difficult times.

However, we hope you will agree that a monthly increase of 28p is a small price to pay to ensure that all the existing services provided by the Town Council can be protected for another year.

Have Your Say

There is much more information on the Council's draft 2022/23 budget proposals, should you wish to read this, on the finance section of the Council's website.

If you wish to comment on the draft budget or provide your views on the services provided by the Town Council, we have recently issued our Annual Budget Survey.

The survey can be accessed electronically via the links on the Council website and social media channels and copies are also available at various community facilities around the town including the Town Council Offices, Oak Leaf Sports and Golf Complexes. The survey will close at 12 noon on Friday 31st December.

Allotment Award Winners 2021

Great Aycliffe Town Council's Annual Allotment Awards were won this year by the following:

Aycliffe Village Mr and Mrs Fox for plots 10 and 11 **Byerley Park** Mr R. Browning for plot 15 **1st Finchale Road** Mr B. Middleton for plot 8 **2nd Finchale Road** Ms. J Nisbett for plot 10 **1st Clarence Chare** Mrs M. Malcolm for plot 11 **2nd Clarence Chare** Mr A. Gaskarth for plot 17 **3rd Clarence Chare** Mr J. Marshall for plot 34 1st St Oswald's Mr and Mrs Addison for plots 12 and 13 and the 'Angela Fleming Memorial Trophy'

2nd St Oswald's
Mr D. Fountain for plot 55
3rd St Oswald's
Mrs Liversedge for plot 31

Best new/most improved allotment

• Mr P. Fox for plot 81 at St Oswald's & the 'Edward Huberry Memorial Trophy'. **Best Overall Allotment 2021**

• Mr R. Browning, Plot 15 Byerley Park, receives £75 and the 'Ken Woodhall Memorial Bowl'.



Christmas/New Year Office Closures

The Council Offices will be closed for the Christmas and New Year Holidays as listed below: Monday 27th December 2021 closed.

Tuesday 28th December 2021 closed.

Monday 3rd January 2022 closed.

Councillors and Staff of Great Aycliffe Town Council would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Christmas Lights Enhancement Awards



The Town Council wishes to receive nominations from local residents within the Great Aycliffe area for the awarding of Enhancement Awards for residential Christmas Lighting displays which portray the spirit of Christmas.

Please return this nomination form to Great Aycliffe Town Council, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6QF or e-mail the details of your nomination to: info@great-aycliffe. gov.uk.

Closing date for applications: - Monday, 13th December 2021.

I would like to nominate the address below for a

Christmas Lights Enhancement Award for its display of Christmas Lights during the 2021 festive season.

Address

Householder Name (if known)

Forthcoming Mayoral Events

Mayor's Civic Carol Service Sunday 12th December 2021

Councillor Mrs. Sandra Haigh will be holding her Civic Carol Service in St. Clare's Church on Sunday 12th December starting at 4pm. The Mayor would like to invite you to join her on this Festive occasion.





Refreshments will be available afterwards in the Church Hall.

Mayor's Charity Civic Dinner Saturday 12th March 2022

The Mayor's annual Charity Civic Dinner will be held at Woodham Golf and Country Club starting at 7pm. All are welcome to come along



and help raise some much-needed funds for the Mayor's nominated charity: Children's Blessing's. Tickets will be on sale from the Great Aycliffe Town Council Offices from January 2022.

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twitter.com/greataycliffetc



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chool Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 60Z Tel: 01325 310820

St. Oswald's Pre-School and Tots in the Park





All children are eligible to receive 15 hours free funding from the term after their third birthday, we also offer the 30hours to parents who are eligible.

Children can start at St Oswald's from two years old at our lovely 'Tots in the Park' facility, an hourly rate of $\pounds4.75$ will apply with one session costing $\pounds14.25$.

Two-year Funding is available for children who are in receipt of a golden ticket and parents can claim up to 15 hours.

Please phone:

Julie Gale (Pre-School Manager) On 07968 379009 for further information



Children's Christmas Party

On Saturday 18th December the fun starts at 3:00 pm

until 5:00 pm, for children aged 4 to 7 years old. There

will be loads of fun festive games and of course a magical

visit from Santa, who'll have gifts for all the children. To

book your place call 01325 300600, tickets are

£5.00 per child. Booking is essential and

payment required at the time of booking.

Christmas Eve Quiz

Stretch your mental muscles at our festive quiz, enjoy a

hot meat sandwich and great fun on this magical night.

Tickets cost £2.50 which includes the guiz and a hot meat

sandwich. Great prizes to be won. Sandwiches served at

8 pm, quiz starts at 8:30 pm.

15 6



Conncillors & Staff of Great Aycliffe Town Conncil would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Christmas at the Complex



Breakfast with Santa

On Saturday 18th December the OakLeaf Sports Complex will be receiving a visit from a very special guest, Santa. You will be able to enjoy a cooked breakfast with Santa and each child will receive a gift. This magical event takes place between 10:30 am and 11:30 am, enjoy a cooked breakfast, for only £6.00 for adults & £5.00 for children. To book your place call 01325 300600. Booking is essential & payment required at the time of booking.

New Years Eve Quiz

A great chance to meet up with friends and family and ring the New Year in together, enjoy a hot meat sandwich and test your quizzing skills. Tickets cost £2.50 which includes the quiz and a hot meat sandwich. Great prizes to be won. Sandwiches served at 8 pm, quiz starts at 8:30 pm.

Festive Food and Fun

Are you planning a Christmas Party, fancy something different this year? Why not have a look at the Sports Complex, we have a variety of sporting facilities to choose from, afterwards you can enjoy a buffet or hot meat sandwich in our function room. Check out our menu for more information.

Sergeant's Blog NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING By Sergeant Andy Boyd

Hi all, hope this blog finds you well and looking forward to the festive period. The last week in Newton Aycliffe has been a hectic one, but lots of positive activity has taken place. We are working very hard to improve confidence, in the hope that you trust us to deal with community issues effectively and robustly.

community issues effectively and robustly. As it stands, we have seen a 14% reduction (YTD) in reported Anti-Social Behaviour. We are very aware that a lot of incidents don't go reported and we can only encourage you to report such activity to us so we can improve the quality of life for everyone. However, we have made some huge inroads into those causing the community problems across the town. Working together with partners (and we'd like to thank County Councillors, DCC ASB Team, and Livin in particular for their support) we have targeted those individuals causing the most amount of harm in the area. A number of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, Community Protection Notices and arrests have been made in relation to ASB related offences. These contracts and notices are crucial in the escalation process to gain support from courts to issue injunctions and orders to those who wont work with us to reduce their offending. Ultimately, we have to prove to a court that we have tried everything with youths, in particular, to educate and divert them away from further offending. On Friday last week, we were in court with two youths who have committed a number of offences across the Western area.

A number of suspects have been arrested in relation to some burglaries that we had in late October. This involved a team of criminals operating across the North of England entering peoples houses to take their car keys and then their vehicles. These suspects have all been interviewed, one sent back to prison, and enquiries are ongoing to get these suspects to court.

There was some great work by our Response and Safeguarding colleagues this week in the arrest of Dwayne Grimes for domestic assault. He was remanded to court on Tuesday 23rd November where he received a suspended prison sentence and an injunction which prevents him from entering Kirkstone Place, Newton Aycliffe. On Tuesday this week, some of the team were in Sugar Hill Primary School delivering Carousel type training to year 5 and 6 students around ASB, Bullying, Online Safety, and Crime and Consequences. These sessions are crucial in getting important messages out to young children on how to stay safe and to prevent them from getting into trouble themselves. The kids were amazing, engaged really well and were rewarded with certificates and a visit from Jet and Ben. We are really looking forward to our Christmas Event in Newton Aycliffe Town Centre on both Saturday 27th November and 11th December (shop opposite Savers) from 10am to 4pm. This is a great event where we get to engage with the community and raise money for local charities. Please bring your kids along to this free event where they get to meet Santa and receive a small gift. We will also be attending the Ayclliffe Village Resident Meeting this Friday (26th Nov) at 6.30pm, and the Neville Community Coffee Morning between 10am to 12pm on Friday 3rd December as part of our PACT commitment, it would be lovely to see you there. If you haven't already, please sign up to Keep in the know at www. keepintheknow.co.uk. We update this regularly with news and information about what is going on in Newton Aycliffe. Take care of yourselves, and please continue to support us in helping you.



Patall,



Last week I referred to being back in the BEIS select committee where we discussed the Decarbonising of Heat in Homes. Our witnesses included Citizens Advice and the Carbon Change Committee, and we considered how the recent Heat and Buildings strategy had been received. It was broadly positive with some areas to work on.

Last Tuesday I had a teams meeting as regards the pressures on University Hospital North Durham with other MP's and interested parties to keep us all appraised of their status. Friday was a busy day in the constituency: after meeting Citizens Advice to catch up on local provisions and reassured that they are now back to faceto-face meetings with residents, I went to Ferryhill for the funeral of Cllr Brian Avery. Brian was a County Councillor for Ferryhill for many years and it was good to see the Church full to overflowing with the Leadership of Durham Council, elected members and officials, representatives of the Police and Fire Services and many others. A great send off for a truly committed Councillor and a good man. After this I had the pleasure of visiting the Bison farm at Bishop Middleham before holding a constituency surgery at Woodham, before another surgery at Trimdon on Saturday morning. These are always an experience as the variety of issues people look for support on never ceases to amaze me. These surgeries are not just about people needing help though, if you would like to share your views with me on an issue then you are welcome to make an appointment also.

Last week in Westminster saw two high profile events: the announcement of the Integrated Rail Plan (IRP), and the second reading of the Health and Social Care Bill (HSC). Both are significant improvements on where we are now but both have received some adverse press as they were hoped to go further.

The IRP has been criticised because of the curtailment of the eastern leg of HS2 but there are many positives in what is a £96b investment in our railways. For us, a train journey from Darlington to Manchester (currently 115 minutes) will reduce to 81 minutes. The speed of delivery means we will see immediate and substantial change in the next 10 years, rather than waiting until the 2040's. I am also pushing for as much of the expenditure as possible to be committed to British, and preferably North East, businesses. I remain very confident that a new station for Ferryhill will be delivered, and I will continue to push for the Leamside Line to be in future programmes.

The HSC Bill makes major changes, and whilst there has been a lot of commentary around how the asset cap of £86,000 helps those with larger asset values more, but the changes to a more generous means test helps those on lower incomes more and things need to be looked at in full.

We are seeing some concerning developments in central Europe regarding Covid with further lockdowns being implemented. Indeed the German Health Minister, Jens Spahn, said "By the end of this winter everyone in Germany will either be vaccinated, recovered or dead," From the data I have seen, we seem to be in a much better position in the UK, driven by the substantially better roll out of vaccines. Due to both a higher percentage of vaccinated population, and because of initial roll out speed, we are now able to have booster jabs sooner, to increase the efficacy of the vaccine. I have had my 3 jabs and I would strongly encourage you all to have whatever jabs are offered to you. This is the best way to protect ourselves, our friends, our families and our NHS and it is also the best way to reduce the remote possibilities of lockdowns for us over winter.

So please: stay safe, get jabbed and have a good week. Paul Howell

Member of Parliament for Sedgefield



Member of Parklament for Sedgefield

paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk Telephone: 020 7219 6385 Aycliffe Office: 01325 790580

A Busy Week at Village School Driver Wanted

What a busy week it has been at Aycliffe Village Primary School, from Odd Socks Dav on Monday to Pudsey and Children in Need on Friday. Odd Sock Day was part of Anti-Bullying Week with a theme of One Kind Word. As well as wearing odd socks to show that everyone is different, all of the children took part in activities which encouraged being kind with words. Lime Class took inspiration from the Story of Rosa Parks and Silver Birch Class created a graffiti wall covered in words of kindness. The children in Year 5 and Year 4 created their own dance



with cool moves that went with the Andy and the Odd Socks song, 'One Kind Word'.

On Friday the children celebrated Children in Need day. The day kicked off with an assembly. Then it was into the classrooms for Pudsey related activities. Some classes had Pudsey times tables to work on, while others wrote Pudsey stories.

The lunchtime staff got involved with a Pudsey lunch - the children loved the Pudsey cookies and cupcakes.

Friday afternoon involved the children in a whole school competition which was judged by the School Council.

A busy week, but lots of learning about being kind and helping others.

By Kayden, Ben, Kobe and Harrison.

The Hog Blog

It has been brought to my attention that there are people in the Shafto Way Fowler Road, Mellanby Crescent area of the town who are marking hedgehogs quite badly, I have also heard of somebody in the Woodham Village area doing the same thing, this is making these beautiful creatures visible to predators. There is nothing to be gained in marking these mammals in such



a way. I have rescued many hedgehogs, big and small, and it is very distressing to see them in pain and distress, on regular antibiotics and pain treatment to ease their suffering and help them recover. It's a difficult thing we do but we do this because we love these mammals and they deserve our help not hindrance.

I want to express thanks to Jenny, Marie, Amy, Mary, June, Marlene and Valerie for their help with some lovely gifts and help with the tombola, and Jackie for making a special trip here to donate some lovely items for our stall on Saturday, some lovely Christmas things for sale and a raffle, even Tesco's Shirley has donated to our raffle. Please come and say hello and support our little hogs.

Tip of the Week: If you see a hedgehog, whatever its size, out during the day, please pick him or her up, they need your help. Also little hogs, we call them September babies, may also be out there, they won't survive the winter, they need rescuing. If they hibernate they will certainly die, all rescues are full of babies at present and we are doing our best to get them indoors.

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society can be reached on 01584 890801 or Facebook Hedgehog Rescue.

Do you enjoy driving and getting out and about?

Shildon Community Bus is in need of more volunteer minibus drivers to support the increased demand from our local community groups. You can apply to become a volunteer driver if you are over 21 and have held a full licence for more than 2 years.

Your licence will normally show a category D1, but other categories are also be sufficient. Our Bus Manager will check your licence and ensure that you are competent to drive. He will familiarise you with our two vehicles, one of which has a tail lift for disabled access. If you would like to explore this opportunity, without any obligation, please contact our Bus Manager, Ian, on 07921 239603 or phone the office on 01388 773666 and leave a message, or email shildonbus@yahoo.com

We will invite you in to discuss the role in more detail.

NAFC Junior Section

Under 9's Blacks travelled to play Prissick Rovers. In a very tough game for the boys, they managed to score a wonderful free kick through Fin. The lads battled hard but ended up losing to a very good team. MOTM Luca with a fantastic penalty save.

Under 10's Blacks had an early kick off v Waldridge. The team showed great energy with goals from Lucas 2 and Rhys, giving the lads a great win. A competitive game ensued, with great football being played by both sides. MOTM Lucas with two goals and Ashton for his defensive work.

Under 10's Juniors travelled to Stockton Town Blues for a cup tie. A very flat first half saw the lads trailing at half time. A much improved second half saw a lovely goal scored by Jonah. The team continued to press for an equaliser but could not grab any further goals. MOTM Tyler.

Under 12's travelled to Kader FC and came away with a fine 6-0 win in James' first game as captain. In a great first half Callum gave the team a 2-0 lead, with assists from Oliver and Zeke. Oliver made it 3-0 before Callum completed his hat-trick. Further goals from James and Faye rounded up the scoring. MOTM Callum.

Under 13's Whites made the short trip to Ferryhill, looking to continue their recent good form. An impressive performance saw Aycliffe lead 5-0 at half-time with goals coming from a Ferryhill OG, a direct corner from Ethan, Noah 2 and Oliver. A scrappy second half ended 5-2 to Aycliffe. MOTM Noah

Under 13's Blacks had a tough game against Durham Tigers. The team started sluggish but found their feet with two goals from Danny. Durham pulled a goal back, but it was not enough with Aycliffe winning 2-1. MOTM Keaton.

Under 15's entertained Stockton Town at Woodham Academy. In a tough first half, Jordan gave the lads a lead before Stockton equalised before the break. A second goal for the visitors was cancelled out when Travis equalised. Recent new signing Matty grabbed the winner late on, 3-2 to Aycliffe. Under 16's travelled to Waldridge and were disappointed to find themselves 1-0 down, against the run of play. The lads created numerous chances, with Anthony, Taylor, Lewis and Liam going close, but could not find the equaliser with the lads losing 1-0. MOTM Ted.









Town Centre on the Up





With the recent good news regarding new shop units opening in the town centre, and more to come in the near future, the town centre management are always keen to get involved with the local community and community activities.

Recently, with the help of Newton News, they have obtained artwork from the towns school children to display in an a couple of empty units. The schools and staff were keen to get involved and artwork has been collected from: Woodham Academy, Stephenson Way, St. Francis, St. Mary's, Byerley Park, Vane Road, Aycliffe Village and Walworth schools.

The pieces of artwork will be displayed until mid January in the unit which used to house BonMarche and the empty premises next to Savers.

Why not join us this weekend (Saturday 27th November) for a Christmas Celebration from 1pm to 5pm?

Kiddies rides, snow globe, farmers market, local organisations, Aycliffe Radio, Carol singing, face painter and, of course, Santa and Mrs Claus will be in the Grotto.

Good Luck

Dear Sir,

We were delighted to read in last week's Newton News that fellow Community Spirit volunteers have decided to stand in the upcoming By Elections for Horndale & Byerley Park.

John Woodward has worked his whole life as a Joiner, a skill that has been invaluable to Community Spirit as he has been involved yearly in the building of Santa's sleigh, the fencing in the towns Grotto and more recently working on the Community Coach donated by J&C Coaches.

Lindsey Aston is a founder member of Community Spirit and over the years has worked hard to help raise thousands of pounds for charity, distributing hampers and food to those in need and providing community events such as discos and craft fairs.

Both want to continue working hard for our community by becoming town councillors.

They believe that everyone should be working together to make Aycliffe a great place for us all to live. We feel they would make a substantial contribution to Great Aycliffe Town Council and we would like to wish them both the very best of luck. Community Spirit, Newton Aycliffe



All The Greatest Hits and Iconic Dance Moves from a memorable era ... High Energy, Full Costume Show with Classic Songs from Steps & Vengaboys

The Big Club Sat., 4th December

7.00pm till 11.00pm (doors open 6.30pm)

Tickets £5.00 available behind the bar or www.ayclifferadio.co.uk/tickets



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Pest Control

Page 16





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special Pudsey lunch. They raised £60.00 through voluntary donations.

Shifting Focus

Children in Need

R

St Francis' celebrated Children in Need Day 2021 by wearing PJs to school and having a

Dear Sir It's election time for some here in Newton Aycliffe with leaflets landing thick and fast on our doorsteps, one in particular grabbed my attention and that was the Lib/Dems. This seemed to be edited by Cllr. Michael Stead which was all about his self - praise. The main headline being £20 million school boost. It's always great to see our town receiving investment. One thing that is important to note though, about the portacabin hire, is that it was the Lib/Dems and Tory's in 2010 who withdrew the funding to rebuild Sunnydale School when they came to power, which has put the unnecessary strain on our schools. A classic Con/Dem policy, give with one hand and take with the other!

On the electric bin wagons, you'd think with the business acumen professed by some of the Lib/Dems they'd understand how capital expenditure works. Those wagons were long planned and by the previous administration, but much like the rest of the leaflet, the glory is only for them.

The HQ, now this was a contentious issue during the election. What is missing here is they are also considering building a third one! And, if you read between the lines, they are looking at moving in themselves after officers told cabinet the new HQ made financial sense all along and thirdly, a third party may be interested in buying the building. But, as we are reminded, it's supposed to be on a floodplain. Why would a third party be so keen if the building's going to flood all the time? Why would you move in if it's going to flood? Is that because it won't flood? One big omission this time in the leaflet though is council tax, I'm old enough to remember when we were all going to get up to £400 off our bill. Given the cost-ofliving chaos brought on by the government, you'd think this would be their main priority for residents with Christmas just round the corner. Strange how there's no mention of that flagship policy from the election promise of just 5 months ago. This is just some of the failed policies of this Lib/Dem coalition. Kind regards, Vince Crosby

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Happy Feet

JW Footcare has one mission; to give its clients happy feet. This Newton Aycliffe based business serves County Durham and Cleveland providing top class Footcare.

Their uniformed foot health practitioner is highly vetted, friendly and passionate about the local area and people.

Foot health affects everybody and all ages. The average person will walk around 100,000 miles in a lifetime. The business looks after the feet of sportsmen and women, busy public service staff, diabetics, care home residents and more.

The owner of the business, and family, are lifelong residents of Newton Aycliffe and state, "We owe a great deal to Newton Aycliffe and JW Footcare is genuinely committed to helping our local clients overcome foot problems or maintain their foot health. We would love to see more Newtonians and make their feet happy!"

The professional mobile service offers: nail trim and file, verruca reduction, hard skin removal, ingrown nail management, diabetic care, fungal nail management, foot soaks, pampers, medical pedicures and more....check out their website www.jwfootcare.co.uk or call 07540 848272 or click onto social media to book today.

Baubles and Burgers Event

The Cornforth Partnership, a Local Charity in County Durham, are hosting, in conjunction with the staff of the local McDonalds, a Bauble and Burger day at the Newton Aycliffe McDonalds just off the A167 on Saturday 11th December 2021 between 10am and 2pm. The Cornforth Partnership have been working tirelessly to support the local community and have continued to work through the covid pandemic offering activities for youths, families and the elderly. They have also continued to support and educate victims of domestic abuse, providing wrap around emotional and financial support for those affected by domestic abuse with Domestic Abuse Training in the Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre near Tesco. To celebrate the fantastic achievements, and inject some Christmas spirit into the local area, they have chosen to host a bauble and burger day where local families can pop in, decorate and take home a free bauble and also receive a free burger and drink courtesy of both the partnership, match funded by McDonalds! Paula, the Project Lead for Cornforth and Christie the Manager of McDonalds, commented "This is a fantastic opportunity to bring both the suffering commercial sector and charitable sector together to support our local community. We are all exhausted having worked all of the way through this pandemic and felt like we also want to have some fun in the lead up to Christmas this year. It's all about helping bring people together to re-connect with one another and what better way than through food and crafts!"

This is a great opportunity, whilst decorating a bauble, that those taking part in the activities will also be given a free burger and drink. It will also give people a chance to chat and get to know what other activities are going on around the area that they may not know about!

So if you have 15 minutes to spare then get yourself along to Newton Aycliffe McDonalds on Saturday 11th December between 10am and 2pm and you will not be disappointed. Let the Christmas Festivities begin!

Public Notice

NEWTON AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE

Please note that the car park behind the town clock will be closed for our Christmas Lights event on Saturday 27th November.

Town Centre Management Telephone: 01325 300 605

Christmas Came Early

Over £2,100 Raised at Community Festive Fair

Decking the halls for the first time since 2019, the Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) would like to thank everyone for showing support.

PCP's Christmas Fair took place on Saturday 20th November, with donations and funds raising a whopping £2,123.32p! The Pioneering Care Centre (PCC) welcomed over 30 craft stalls to the event, with PCP projects, Options for adults with learning and physical disabilities, Together 21 for children and young people with Down syndrome and the Community Garden volunteers, all in attendance to fundraise to support their transformative work. Carol Gaskarth, Chief Executive of PCP. said: "It was a pleasure to welcome familiar faces, and new, to the PCC in Newton Aycliffe to support and discover some of the fantastic work our projects do whilst enjoying the festivities.

"I'd like to thank our team of staff and volunteers for making this event possible, and a Merry Christmas to all of our supporters who attended."

Victims of Louts

Dear Sir,

I write to inform the residents of the town to be vigilant and carry a smart phone, if you have one. We are currently victims of louts roaming the town at all times of the night. We have been targeted by these yobs twice now, it has been reported to the police. There are several gangs coming into Aycliffe to make life hard for the towns people, including my wife and I.

I am 74 years old and not as fit as I once was. However, I am not stupid, I have installed cameras, some are covert and some are visible. So, be warned, you are being monitored.

Name and address supplied

Great Place to Live

Dear Sir,

My family became homeless, at the drop of a hat, with a three year old. To the councils credit they gave us temporary accommodation in a house in Newton Aycliffe. The people and the area are great, the area is great, it is safe and the place is so well kept.

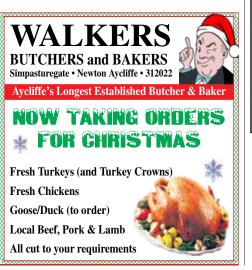
We recently had a problem with our car before work, did we have to wait for RAC to come out? No, a neighbour came along and helped. I could tell other stories, but this is an area where people take each others bins in for them, this is an area of dog walkers. Whilst rough around the edges, and the occasional spat over school parking, this is an area that people should aspire to live. I have lived in various locations around the country and locally in Durham, Peterlee, Wingate, Hartlepool, Crook and Ferryhill, and I can say is that Newton Aycliffe is the area I want to some day live in. Name and address supplied.



Funds raised will support PCP, projects and services to continue the charity's mission of 'Health, Wellbeing and Learning for All'. Visit the PCP's social media channels. PCP's Facebook page – www.facebook.com/ PCPandCentre, Twitter @PioneeringCare 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

Feel Good Film Show

The feel good film show is shown in St. Clare's Church Fellowship Hall each Tuesday at 1pm, following Welcome Café which begins at 10am with tea/coffee and toast, followed by lunch at noon. All this is free to all and all are most welcome. The film on Tuesday 30th November is the 2019 Disney classic 'Aladdin', starring Will Smith. An exciting and colourful, fantasy romantic adventure, to warm the cockles of your heart in the cold weather. For further info please ring Ric Hargreaves on 07561 335445.



Obituary

Jack Woodley McGill

Of Newton Aycliffe, passed away surrounded by family on 17th October at the RVI, aged 18 years. Much loved Son of Zoey and Chris, devoted Brother to Jayden 13 and Jenson 6. Also a dearly loved Grandson and Nephew. Family and friends meet please for Service at St. Andrew's Church, Aycliffe Village on Thursday 9th December at 10.15am, followed by interment at the West Cemetery, Newton Aycliffe. Please send floral tributes in white or baby blue colours only to Co-op Funeralcare, Newton Aycliffe. Donations, if **S**0 will desired. be gratefully received for G.N.A.A.S. and R.V.I.

In Memoriam

Terry Wood

23rd November 2016 Although we are not together, we are never far apart. Because you are always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts. Love forever, Wife Tricia and all your loving family xxx

Birthday Remembrance

Pauline Watson

Happy heavenly birthday Pauline You will forever be a part of me and live on in my heart. Heavens gain is our loss. All my love, your darling Husband Joe and Family xxx



Sylvia Graham

Passed away suddenly on 16th November 2021. Sylvia, aged 84 years.

Beloved Wife of the late John, a very close and special friend of Denise and Steve, also a wonderful and much loved Grandma. Funeral Service to take place in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Tuesday 7th December at 3.30pm.

Craig Alan Johnston

Passed away suddenly, but peacefully, on 10th November 2021. Craig, aged 34 years. loved much Husband, Dad, Son, Grandson and Brother, also a great friend and an inspiration to so many. Craig will be greatly missed. Funeral Service to take place III ... Centre, Long Tens on Monday take place in the Xcel 29th November at 12.15pm followed by Cremation in Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon. All welcome, are please meet at the Xcel Centre.

Arnold Slater

Avcliffe Village Peacefully on November 5th in Aycliffe Care Home, surrounded by his loving family. Arnold, aged 84 years, (ex Cummins) of Bickford Terrace. beloved Dearly Husband to Joan, devoted Dad to Neil, Joanne and Fiona. Sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral on Tuesday 14th December. Would friends kindly meet for Service in St. Andrew's Church, Aycliffe Village at 11.30am. Family flowers only Donations. please. in lieu in aid of Prostate Cancer UK will be accepted by Whitehouse Funeral Service.



Newton Aycliffe Rugby played their second game of the season so far against South Shields at home. Many thanks to Shields for making the journey which was difficult as they have had to take the same decision as NARUFC and withdraw from the leagues. Many thanks to the four players from Sedgefield Saxons who came along to help out. Once again the Rugby prevails. After some hasty rearranging of the squad, due to unavailability, this turned out to be a tougher outing than the final score suggested for all concerned, but once again both teams approached this game with great spirit. It was great to be able to have full scrummaging and lineout and both teams relished the competition and this made for a very frantic, lively and confrontational game which was awesome to watch.

Newton Aycliffe opened the scoring with a



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well boshed over try by Dale Patterson after only 3 minutes. Luke Tinkler converted, thanks to having the correctly coloured kicking tee this week. Minutes later and not to be outdone, Owain 'Ram Man' Jones followed Dale's lead and also bullied his way over the line. Unfortunately this was unconverted as Tinks pulled a fetlock and limped off the pitch.

The game settled down and there were further tries by Sam North (converted by Paul Richardson on loan from the Dallas Cowboys) and Phil Greenbank (unconverted) led us into a 24-0 half time lead. The second half was unfortunately a much more open affair in terms of the scoring and saw Aycliffe open the play up a little more and this resulted in 3 more unanswered tries for Newton Aycliffe. After a near 30 metre run through the opposition by Jordan 'Robocop' Saunders, he stepped and offloaded to Sam North who sprinted in to score and converted his own try to boot.

Chris Richards then came on to the pitch out of retirement and following the most ridiculous drop goal restart followed by a kick to touch (neither of which resembled what they were supposed to) made amends by falling over the line. For some reason Doug Wardle attempted a drop goal conversion nearly as awesome as Chris Richards attempt! Needless to say it missed. Feeling left out, Phill Sangster decided to join in the fun and trundled over after a mazy bullocking run over 5 metres to make the score 41-0 at this stage. Sam North followed by adding his third try of the day. South Shields started to put some well worked phases together and were rewarded by an uncoverted try. After a decidedly dodgy venture out of retirement Chris Richards confused the opposition, his team mates and probably even himself and eventually went over for a try which he converted himself! 'Scrapper' Richards was back.

Mikey Dunn launched himself into action at this point, well he jumped up in the air in front of an oncoming South Shield prop in a movement that can be headlined only as 'Flying Wombat stops locomotion'! Dusting himself off he then helped himself to a try which was converted by Gaz Parsonage. Uncoverted tries by 'Ugly' Luke Crossen, Owain 'Ram Man' Jones and Sam 'Pike McIvor in quick succession saw the game end in a 75-5 win for Newton Aycliffe. Thanks again, must go to South Shields for making the journey. And, once again, also to the continued support and links with Sedgefield Rugby Club who provided several players.

#itsasllabouttherugby

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Santa's Grotto

The local Police Beat Team and Community Spirit have spent their 'spare' time setting up Santa's Grotto ready for this weekends Christmas Celebration in Aycliffe Town Centre. Why not bring the children along on

Saturday 27th November between 1pm and 5pm to see Santa and Mrs Claus?





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