

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

Landmark Development on Business Park



See page 2 for full story

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Landmark Development on Business Park

A major County Durham industrial scheme has hit another key milestone with the development of its latest phase. The construction of ten industrial units at Station Place in Newton Aycliffe is well underway, with the groundwork complete and the steelwork of the buildings now being erected. Station Place is part of the wider £90m Merchant Park industrial scheme in Newton Aycliffe – a 65-acre development at Aycliffe Business Park, located off J59 of the A1(M) and home to Hitachi Rail Europe.

The new £4.8 million scheme on Site 2 at Merchant Park is set to provide 50,333 sq ft of new industrial space to support new and expanding businesses in Newton Aycliffe. It will create 130 jobs and is due to be complete in April 2022.

Durham County Council is supporting the development of the industrial units after agreeing to a 35-year-lease at Station Place in September 2019.

The units will be managed by Business Durham, the business support service of the council. The development is being delivered in partnership with Merchant Anglo and Rokeby Developments.

Station Place is part of Aycliffe Business Park, which is the largest industrial park in the North East, home to a wide range of well-established businesses and next to Hitachi Rail Europe.

Geoff Hunton, director at Merchant Anglo, said: "We are seeking to address the shortfall of modern fit for purpose units in Newton Aycliffe to support new and growing business in conjunction with our partners Business Durham. We are delighted that the buildings are now emerging out of the ground ready for occupation by early summer next year. Despite all the challenges of the last two years, we are now receiving real enquiries from local businesses and I am delighted that we will shortly be able to welcome them to Station Place".

For further information about Station Place visit www.stationplace.co.uk

N.A.F.C. REPORT

Newton Aycliffe hope to finally return to action this weekend with a trip to Thornaby in the Ebac Northern League. It's been a long layoff for Brian Atkinson's men who last played on 18th December. There were no games scheduled over the Christmas and New Year period with three postponements following the planned resumption.



The league game at Newcastle Benfield on 5th January was postponed due to Covid while last Saturday's match at home to Billingham Town fell victim to a frozen pitch. Meanwhile the Northern League have decided to delay their Cup competitions as the Brooks Miles League Cup tie against Horden was also called off.

Aycliffe will be aiming to complete a treble over Thornaby having beaten them in the FA Cup and League 4-3 and 3-1 respectively. They will be wary, however, of striker Adam Burnicle who moved from Moore Lane to Thornaby last month and will no doubt be keen to score against his old club.

As we start 2022, Newton Aycliffe sit 7th in the Ebac Northern League Division One on 40 points.

Their next game will be a Durham Challenge Cup game at Chester-le-Street on Tuesday 18th January before returning home to face League leaders Consett on Saturday 22nd January (KO 3pm). That game will be followed by a Race Night in the Sports Club (6pm start) with tickets available on the door at £3 each.

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Saturday 22nd January - 'Little Devil'

For more information on bands go to www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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Vulnerable Households to Benefit from Winter Support

A North East council will be providing support to vulnerable households to help with energy and food costs this winter. Durham County Council is set to receive £4.6 million from the government's Household Support Fund to help struggling households with their essential costs over the winter months.

The support will be given to residents in County Durham that are most in need through to March 2022, with a minimum of 50 per cent of the funding to be given to vulnerable families with children. The funding is intended to assist financially vulnerable residents with essential costs such as food, energy and water bills, clothing, and utilities.

The council and key partners will be issuing this support in a variety of forms, including food vouchers to households with free school meal eligible children, distributed periodically over the winter months from now until March, and hampers to vulnerable households identified by council support services.

There will also be various other schemes where social care and other professionals will be able to make referrals to target further support for vulnerable households. This can be used to help purchase essential household items, cover the cost of boiler services or repairs, provide vouchers for food or fuel, or support with other essentials. Support will be provided to households identified through the council's adult and children's services teams, Housing Solutions, the Discretionary Benefits team, and by working with schools and partners across the county.

Cllr Alan Shield, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for equality and inclusion, said: "We know the winter months can be especially difficult for many households. However, it is essential that families have enough food and energy, and we hope this provision of vouchers and support helps relieve that pressure."

"This funding builds on previous Covid winter and local support funds that have been in place to try to alleviate the pressure on vulnerable families and disadvantaged households."

"As with our previous approaches in supporting families, we are working with schools and all our voluntary sector partners to ensure this much-needed support is provided to those in most need."

AARMS to Close

Dear Sir,

It is with deep regret that I have to inform you that the Aycliffe Alcohol, Recovery and Mutual Support group (AARMS) is closing. With no new members coming forward and no room to meet up in, due to the Covid restrictions, we feel that closing the group is our only option. Any remaining funds are to be split between three local charities which are: Play Café, Junction 7 and Community Spirit.

We'd like to thank everyone who has allowed us to fundraise at their various events and also everyone who has donated to the group. Special thanks go to: Bewick Crescent Surgery, who carried our posters and leaflets, especially Dr. Ruth Lund who has supported our efforts right from day one; Tesco, who provided a room for us free of charge;

John Pattinson, International Medium and his colleagues, who did two excellent charity nights on our behalf;

Saffron Broad at Love Thy Cupcake for providing a meeting place when the room at Tesco was unavailable and for storing our fundraising items.

Also, Paul Howell, John O'Sullivan, Nicola Williamson and Phil Hawkins for their help.

Best regards

Val Fawcett

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Well Done To All

Dear Sir,

On a visit to see my Mum in her care home just before Christmas I was greeted by a group of children singing carols outside the building.

My mum had been brought from her room to listen in the lounge area. For some weeks Mum had not really engaged with my visit, her head always down and little conversation. How different it was that day. She sat up and sang every word to 'Silent Night', she smiled and sang along with 'Away in a Manger'. I don't know if the children realise what a difference they made. We were able to record some of the songs and we play them to mum when we visit - she asks for the children each time.

Can I please thank the adults who were there too, they were so enthusiastic and loving? We hear too often about kids in trouble and not enough about the good some do - so, WELL DONE TO ALL and please keep up your great singing, it brings so much happiness to many.

John Watson

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20 is Plenty

Dear Sir,
I was interested to read the article in last weeks Newton News by John Snowball. The first point I would like to raise is the hatched markings down the centre of the Road on the A167, after the Duel carriageway up to Aycliffe Village. The hatched markings are there as a traffic separate and do not make it illegal to cross them to overtake slow moving vehicles, as they have a broken line border. Regarding the need to do 60mph is neither compulsory nor a target speed. Also there are a number of vehicles that are restricted to 50mph on a single carriageway and aren't allowed to go over 60mph on dual carriageways, such as LGVs, buses/coaches, vehicles towing a trailer and one that a lot of drivers don't realise, vans that are not derived from cars, such as transit size vans or larger. Mr. Snowball admitted himself that a lot of the time you can't travel at speeds of 50mph on the proposed section of road, so why does he object to it as it won't effect his overall travel time and if it does, it wouldn't be by much. Solution, start your journey earlier, just as you should in bad weather. One thing I would like to add, is that I would support 20mph, especially where there are schools, children's play areas, some housing estates/streets. I'd like to hear other peoples views on this.
Name and address supplied

Hot Chocolate

Neville Community Association (NCA) are holding a 'Hot Chocolate and Marshmallows' evening on Tuesday 18th January at 6.45pm in Neville Community Centre at Neville Parade. Doors open at 6.30pm. We are looking for ideas for trips and events for the next year . . . now is the time to put your ideas forward. Everyone is welcome to attend even if you do not live in the Neville area.

Major Recruitment Drive Launched by Durham Constabulary

A major drive to recruit new officers to one of the top-performing police forces in the country begins this week. Applications to join Durham Constabulary as a police constable opened on Monday 10th January with potential new recruits having until 5pm on Monday, January 24th to submit their application. The force is opening applications for those interested in joining the constabulary through the Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA) and the Degree Holder Entry Programme (DHEP) schemes, as part of the Government's pledge to recruit 20,000 new officers. Under the degree apprenticeship, student officers will study towards a degree in Professional Policing Practice through Northumbria University while working as a frontline officer, splitting their time between practical, on-the-job training and classroom-based learning. Students will be paid officers from day one, with a starting salary of £24,780, which eventually rises to £41,130, and university fees will be paid for by the force. The DHEP is for applicants who already have a degree in any subject area. Applicants will spend two years working as a frontline officer while working towards a graduate diploma in Professional Policing Practice. Applicants who have already passed a

SEARCH/online assessment centre taken within any Home Office force in the last 24 months will go straight to interviews, which will take place in March and April. Successful candidates will join the force from September.

Chief Constable Jo Farrell said: "We're looking for ambitious, motivated people who want to make a genuine difference to their communities and those in need. We're also wanting people who are hardworking, relish a challenge and can apply common sense. "As a police officer, you'll be expected to run towards danger when others are running away. It is a job that comes with immense responsibility but is also hugely rewarding.

"A career in policing is extremely varied and offers great opportunities for personal and professional development with many ways to progress throughout the force as you gain skills and experience.

"Could you be the difference? If you've got the ambition, passion, professionalism and courage to go the extra mile to provide the best possible service to the people of County Durham and Darlington, then we want to hear from you."

Joy Allen, Durham Police and Crime Commissioner, said: "This is part of my Police and Crime Plan to recruit more officers. It is what the public wants, and we need to recruit and retain the best people.

"If you or your family or friends are interested in helping communities and businesses thrive and feel that you can make a difference please apply."

For more information, visit durham.police.uk

Ludicrous Proposals

Dear Sir,
I reference the letter by John Snowball in the 7th January edition of the Newton News with regard to Aycliffe Village road restrictions. The consultation also references speed limits at Central Avenue, objections to proposed road closures and other restrictions and ludicrous proposals for closing access to Aycliffe Village and reduce the amenities. John also highlighted the fact that this was 'hidden' in a Christmas edition in small print, which most residents would skip past and lead to the objection deadline of 12th January being passed without time for residents to comment. This also shows the apathy and lack of publicity by our village councillors and our local MP. A PUBLIC ENQUIRY IS NEEDED. Mr Robinson
Durham Road, Aycliffe Village

The County Council of Durham (B6444 Heighington Lane, Aycliffe) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2022

The Council on 7/1/22 made the above Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984 as amended, Section 14 (1) to prohibit all vehicular traffic from proceeding on 75 metres of B6444 Heighington Lane, Aycliffe from the junction with Station Road westwards to the entrance to Heighington Station car park to enable essential rail track inspection works to be undertaken. Alternative route will be available from the eastern side of the closure from B6444 Heighington Lane south easterly on B6444 St Andrews Way to A167 then southerly to A1(M) Junction 59 (Aycliffe) Interchange, south westerly on A1(M) to Burtree Interchange (J58) then northerly along A68 and A6072 to the roundabout junction with B6444 leading to the western side of the closure, and vice versa. A local (non-HGV) diversion will be signed from the eastern side of the closure, northerly via Spring Road and Whinbank Road, left onto Horndale Avenue then south westerly along School Aycliffe Lane to the A6072 roundabout junction with B6444 to the western side of the closure and vice versa. The maximum duration of the Order is 18 months. The proposed works are to commence from 10pm on 20/1/22 and are anticipated to be completed by 6.30am on 21/1/22. On occasions, alternative dates for closure may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly.

Dated: 14th January 2022



Helen Lynch
Head of Legal & Democratic Services
County Hall, Durham DH1 1UL

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Dear Sir,
The new cycle path along the A167 has caused huge disruption to many thousands of road users over many weeks for a cycle route very few people are likely to use, many of whom would previously have ridden on the path or the road, as I would. Now the road surface is shot, probably exacerbated by the heavy plant used to build the cycle path, and it needs resurfacing. We have a super smooth cycle way very few people will use and a busted up road that vast numbers have to use!

The Council also plans two new junctions on the A167 to encourage a vast new housing development planned for the fields running from the Approved School to the Gretna. This, combined with the lights recently introduced at the Forest Park junction (the timing which will only get worse as more businesses arrive) and the planned speed limit reduction, will make it even slower for motorists to get to and from the A1 or Darlington and very significantly worsen the existing congestion on the A167. I guess they will resurface the road at the same

time. The disruption to traffic during the work will be hellish and very lengthy.

The old path, where they built the cycle way, was poorly maintained by the Council, sections being overgrown by hedging it failed to cut. Sure the path needed attention, but this 5M wide cycle route looks like a classic case of wasting taxpayers' money for political reasons. I would guess that the climate/environmental gain from this will never catch up with the huge environmental cost of building it and the loss of the grass verge it had covered.

The Council also appears to have a policy of digging up paving-slabbled paths, which have withstood all weathers since the town was built, apart from a few getting cracked or requiring evening out, and replacing them with tarmac, which cracks, wrinkles and becomes bumpy with the heat and cold.

The new path opposite St Mary's school has already started cracking after a year or so. How was this best use of taxpayers' money? Meanwhile the badly damaged visibility bollards along Pease Way I reported several times dating back several years, to councillors and the council officer responsible, still haven't been repaired and are an eyesore.

John Snowball

Durham Constabulary in Top 50 UK Employers

Durham Constabulary has today been named as one of the UK's most inclusive employers for the second year in a row. The force has been named in the Inclusive Top 50 UK Employers List, in recognition of its continued dedication to workplace diversity, equality and inclusion. The annual list celebrates the UK's top 50 organisations that promote inclusion across all protected characteristics, throughout each level of employment within an organisation. The list was announced during a virtual ceremony on 1st December.

It also comes in the same year Chief Constable Jo Farrell launched her Inclusivity Charter for the force.

The six-point pledge includes commitments to ensure all officers and staff feel accepted in the workplace; everyone has a voice, that diversity and difference are respected and that all force policies and procedures are fair. Jo Farrell said: "Inclusion must lie at the very heart of our organisation which is why I launched the Inclusivity Charter earlier this year and am proud that we have been recognised for our work in supporting diversity and inclusion in the workplace."

"Every officer and member of staff has a voice and I believe that all our staff should be treated equally, fairly and with respect to ensure they have a sense of belonging to Durham Constabulary."

"We will continue to strive to be an employer of choice, recruiting, developing and retaining a workforce which is representative of the communities we serve."

The list recognises the promotion of all strands of diversity, including age, disability, gender, LGBT, race, faith and religion. It also honours the efforts of organisations that proactively recruit, retrain and retain a truly diverse and inclusive workforce.

To view the full list, visit <https://inclusivetop50.co.uk/>

Durham Constabulary will be recruiting Police Constables from January 10, 2022. To read about the role visit www.durham.police.uk/JoinUs

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Closing date 19th January 2022

GREAT AYCLIFFE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Wednesday 19th January 2022 - 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

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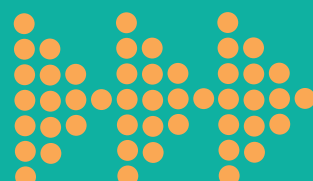
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Weekly Programme Schedule

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"Aycliffe Town Centre... Shopping for You"



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

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

SATURDAY

9-10am	Eurovision Show	Simon Harding
10-12am	Moderation	Jack & Garvey
'LA Connection' Sponsored by Dale Care Services		
12-2pm	LA Connection	Emperor Rosko (USA)
2-4pm	The Retro Years	Paul Baker
4-6pm	Sports Saturday	Sean Lawless
6-8pm	Evening Session	JimJams
8-9pm	Rock the House	Carl Booth
9-10pm	Retro Trance Mix	OZ-DJ
10-12am	Drum 'n' Bass Show	MC Supa
12-1am	Night Club Session	A DJ

SUNDAY

9-10am	Church Service	St Clare's Church
10-11am	Yesterdays Music Today	Alan Brown
11-12pm	Random Reiki Master	Phill Hawkins
12-2pm	Dave's Sunday Brunch	David Ringer

'Blues Show' Sponsored by Whitehouse Funeral Service

2-4pm	Bear Blues Show	Colin McNeillie
4-6pm	Folk/Celtic/Rock Show	Steve & Col
6.30-8pm	Jazz Time	Mike Dixon
8-10pm	Soul Show	John Wooler (USA)
10-12am	Easy Sunday	Al Smart

* MONDAY to FRIDAY DAILY

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

MONDAY

'Through the Decades' Sponsored by McDonalds, Newton Park

6-7pm	60s Show	Karl Simons
7-8pm	70s Show	Peter Rush
8-9pm	80s Show	Gary Avery
9-10pm	90s Show	Dave Graham
10-11pm	00s Show	Producer Dan
11-12am	Teens Show	Andy Fittes

TUESDAY

6-7pm	Mystery Year	Paul Baker
7-8pm	Around Town with Guests to be confirmed	Phill Hawkins
8-9.30pm	Jazz Time (R)	Mike Dixon
9.30-12am	Soul and Motown Selection	

WEDNESDAY

6-7pm	Joey's Jukebox	Joey Collins
8-10pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gaz n Alby

THURSDAY

6-8pm	The List	Colin McNeillie
8-10pm	Back to the 80s	Andy Little
10-12am	Rock Night	Jonny Goldsmith

FRIDAY

'Weekend Warm Up' Sponsored by Shake n Cake

4-6pm	Weekend Warm Up	Dan Calum
6-8pm	Techno Trance Mix	PVR Studios
8-10pm	21st January - Nathan Abbott - Dance Classix	
10-12pm	BeatRoote	Graeme Roote
12-1am	Night Club Session	A DJ

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

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Drink Drive Campaign

"What a waste of time and money, have you caught all the real criminals?"

Despite comments like this, people who drive under the influence of drink or drugs are committing a crime and putting lives at risk.

In amongst the 'real' criminals stopped as part of our drink and drug drive campaign so far this month was a drink driver who we discovered also had no licence or insurance. Further checks revealed he is also a registered sex offender who has been wanted by another force and Border Force officials for seven years. He is now in custody and being dealt with - all from one roadside stop.

He is one of 11 people arrested so far - another 733 lawful drivers across County Durham and Darlington have taken part and passed with flying colours.

Believe us, our officers don't carry out checks to waste your time. Their main aim is to keep you and other road users safe - whether that be from a driver under the influence or a wanted sex offender. Thank you to everyone who has helped us keep you safe so far, we appreciate you!

To all the other 'real criminals' - we won't stop.



Great Aycliffe



Town Council

Oak Leaf Sports Complex

Appointment of Part Time

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

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The candidate must be able to plan and prepare meals for large numbers, have a basic food hygiene certificate, together with previous experience of working within a catering 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: andrew.clark@great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Closing Date for Applications:

10am on Monday 24th January 2022

Interviews will be held on Thursday 27th January 2022

PLEASE NOTE CVs WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR THIS POST you must complete an application form and send it to info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk with Job Application in the subject line.

Application packs can be obtained by telephoning 01325 300700, email: info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk or apply online from the Council website: www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

Bewick Surgery Change Appointment Model

At Bewick Crescent Surgery we are revising the way you access NHS services for Doctors' appointments. We recognise our patients can be met with frustrating long telephone queues and experience difficulties acquiring an appointment. The new changes, commencing Monday 24 January 2022, will help to alleviate both challenges, improving your access.

We are adopting a total triage appointment model which means every request for a GP appointment will be triaged by a GP the same day (if received before 5pm). During the day our GPs will review your medical issue, decide the next step in your care, through advice or arranging a further consultation (telephone or face-to-face appointment), which will be communicated back to you via one of our reception team.

You can request an appointment in two ways, electronically or by calling us. There are two ways of submitting electronic requests. You can go to our website homepage and click on the eConsult banner if the request is for you alone. Alternatively, you can use the NHS App to submit an electronic submission by clicking the 'Ask Your GP For Advice' option. When using the NHS App you can also submit a request for your child. Consultations take between five and ten minutes to complete and will be reviewed the same day by our triaging GP (if submitted before 5pm). You can submit an



electronic consultation during the following days and times: Monday to Friday, 7.30 to 11:59am, 1-5pm and 7-8pm (outside of this the service will not be available). There may be times when eConsult does not let you continue your consultation and may ask you to phone into the surgery normally to address a potential urgent requirement. Alternatively, you can continue to call our receptionists but this should be used as a last resort and on behalf of someone else. Our receptionists will ask you a series of questions and then submit your consultation to the triaging doctor to assess the next step in your care. If you do decide to use

the telephone method you increase the risk of continuing to experience long waits. Telephone enquiries will continue to be open from 8am - 6pm as it is now. Ultimately, the new model offers you the opportunity to access our services throughout the day, receive a response about your care the same day and avoid the 'bottleneck' at 8am. Waiting in a queue for appointments will now be a choice for most and we hope to eliminate legacy models that ask patients to try day after day to try and acquire an appointment. We look forward to 24th January 2022 whilst we continue to strive to make our surgery a better patient experience.



We're making access to our GP Services better for you by changing our appointment model

WHY IS IT CHANGING?

Demand for primary care services nationally is at an all-time high. We understand that waiting in telephone queues is frustrating, especially when no appointments remain after finally getting through. Waiting in a telephone queue will now be a choice for most as we aim to give you more opportunity to access our GP services throughout the whole day instead of having to compete for an appointment at 8am.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

- You submit an eConsult (via NHS App or our website).
- A doctor will triage your medical issue, decide on the next step in your care and communicate this back to you on the same day*.
- Please also be aware that our receptionists will no longer be able to book directly into appointments, unless a GP has completed an initial triage.
- *Any eConsults submitted / or telephone calls into the practice after 5pm pose a risk that it may not be triaged until the following day (this is subject to demand).**



WHAT IF I DON'T LIKE USING IT OR DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO PHONES OR TECHNOLOGY?

You can still call the surgery from 8am as a last resort where

our receptionist will ask more specific questions relating to your medical issue so when the GP comes to GP triage it they have all the necessary information to decide on your next step of care.

HOW DO I ACCESS THE ECONSULT SERVICES?

NHS App and Website	Telephone Us
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30am-11:59am, 1-5pm and 7-8pm. Will not be open on weekends & BHs. Currently cannot use this on behalf of a child or another person but this is due to change in the coming months. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open 8am-6pm Use this method as a last resort or if you are wanting an appointment for a child.

WHEN IS IT CHANGING?

The new model starts from 7:30am on Monday 24 January 2022. Please monitor our Practice News page for more information at www.bewickcrescentsurgery.nhs.uk - We do appreciate your patience with this new way of working as we strive to give you the best access possible to our services.



NAFC Junior Section

NAFC Junior Section Roundup Christmas Tournament:

Under 12's entered the MFC Christmas tournament during the break. In a competitive tournament, Aycliffe ended up eventual winners. Playing six games overall and winning four of these, including a 2-0 win in the final v Coulby Newham. Goals on the day scored by James (4), Keaton (2) and Callum. Well done to the Under 12's. Player of the tournament was Oliver who kept five clean sheets.

NAFC Junior Section Roundup 8th / 9th January:

We welcomed back grass roots football this weekend, following the Christmas break.

Under 9's Blacks travelled to Billingham Synthonia. A fantastic long range strike saw Billingham go ahead against the run of play. Aycliffe continued to work hard in the second half, Fin and Fletcher working tirelessly in midfield, but despite a few half chances we could not convert. Overall, a fantastic performance by all the lads. MOTM: Findlay who was outstanding in defence.

Under 10's Blacks played against Shincliffe in a tough game. We got off to a great start and took the lead thanks to a brilliant goal from Oliver. The boys gave their all but unfortunately it did not go our way in the second half. Well done boys, you all kept your heads up and battled on despite the freezing conditions. MOTM: Mathis for his determination and great all-round performance.

Under 10's Whites played Washington Lions in a very enjoyable game to watch. Aycliffe were put under pressure, with goalkeeper Jensen pulling off some great stops. Aycliffe started to progress the play up the field better and grabbed a goal through a beautiful header from Jack. Intense pressure saw Jack grab a headed goal before Oliver scored. MOTM: Jack R.

Under 10's Juniors travelled to Northallerton Town. Despite having a depleted squad, Aycliffe started well and broke the deadlock, from a corner taken by Maxi and far post volley from Ernie. Second half saw Aycliffe take control of the game, Maxi setting up goals for Tyler and Marley. Sammy then set up a goal for Jonah. Magnificent work from all the lads. MOTM: Maxi.

Under 11's travelled to TIBS Yellow, in a game that Aycliffe controlled throughout. Some great play saw goals from Archie, Layton, and Declan. Great defending ensured a clean sheet. MOTM: Harry.

Under 12's travelled to Billingham Juniors. Aycliffe created numerous first half chances but could not find the net. In the second half Billingham really grew in confidence and scored a late winner. MOTM: Faye.

Under 13's Blacks hosted Shincliffe in harsh weather conditions, the lads played some great football and ended up winning 3-0 with goals from Robbie and Danny (2). MOTM: Danny.

Under 13's Whites travelled to Linthorpe. Ethan opened the scoring, before new signing Thomas scored his first goal, Ethan scored two more for his hat trick giving us a 4-0 lead at half time. In the second half, Thomas grabbed a second, Sam scored his first ever league goal. Linthorpe pulled one back, before Thomas rounded off his hat trick and then Noah scored two good goals to give us a 9-1 win. MOTM: Noah, who was superb in midfield.

Under 18's travelled to Kader, a team we recently beat 6-1 a few weeks back. With only eleven players travelling due to Covid and work issues, we lost the game 3-0. All three goals were gifts from us, with Kader not creating themselves. We missed numerous chances and could not find a way back into the game.



Consultations

Dear Sir,

There is an important ongoing consultation on draft master plans for settlements in County Durham, one being Newton Aycliffe. Details are on the durham.gov.uk website under consultations (responses to spatialpolicy@durham.gov.uk by 14 January).

The draft focuses on the town centre, but does not offer strategic solutions, only some potential projects. As with the recent town centre facelift project, none of these address the underlying issues.

The town centre was designed to fulfil the needs of its residents and was never intended to be a regional shopping or leisure hub, like Darlington or Bishop Auckland, both within easy travelling distance. It is essential to recognise this as a reality.

The draft identifies as a disadvantage that the town centre is 'inward facing'. Most buildings date back to the earliest days of the town and are functionally obsolete. Many businesses have failed, due mainly to new and bigger entrants, cost base (rent and rates) being too high, or generally falling high street demand due to retail parks and the internet. The big advantage of our town centre is easy access, which has been compromised by closure of the main car park. This enabled shoppers to park freely, close to the 'high street' shops and under cover in inclement weather.

Tesco and Aldi have adjacent free car parks allowing shopping to be easily transported by trolley to a car. They appear to be thriving and both are located in new purpose built buildings, not pigeon-holed into older units.

The draft talks about moving the Bewick Crescent doctors' surgery and having other unspecified development in place of the multi storey car park, the adjacent car park opposite the care home, and the block of shops and offices housing the former Nat West branch, and also developing the Bewick Crescent car park.

Where would people park to access the doctors' surgery and town centre? There are now dedicated car parks right outside the current surgeries, and there is a strong argument for keeping the surgeries out of the town centre, one essential requisite being the facility to drop off immobile people right outside the door, another to have an adjacent car park and proximity to a bus stop.

What is the coherence of demolishing one block and leaving the others? If there is a strong case for demolishing this block, there has to be a strong case for demolishing the others and having a phased rebuild of the entire town centre.

The draft refers to creating a leisure zone to improve the evening economy opposite Lyon Walk. This 'evening economy' was discussed in producing the neighbourhood plan, and was not welcomed by many people. Aiming to attract young revellers into the town centre next to an area predominantly of OAPs might not be a great idea. Revellers can go to Darlington or Bishop Auckland, where the infrastructure and police presence are more geared up and such businesses are already established.

The Government is pushing cycling and walking, but the vast majority of essential shopping is done from a car, and much of the rest involves a taxi. Very low volumes of shopping are done by walkers or cyclists.

The draft refers to improving links to the town centre by improving the network of cycling and walking routes. I see no prospects of such an approach making a significant difference to town centre trade, whereas reducing and distancing parking will almost certainly adversely affect it.

Newton Aycliffe is a new town designed in the age of the car and is too spaced out to expect significant numbers of people to use cycling or walking as their main means of getting around, especially when it involves carrying shopping. This is a reality which the authors have overlooked or ignored.

Another big issue, overlooked by the draft plan, is increasing congestion associated with unrelenting house building and population growth. The County declared a climate emergency, but continues to destroy green field areas by building yet more housing on it. I strongly believe that a line should be drawn on building on green field sites, including the proposed 1,400 dwellings at Copelaw, which will destroy prime farm land and reduce connectivity by further increasing congestion on the A167, by extra volume and by requiring another two junctions on it.

The NPPF points towards consideration of residential housing in town centres. If the space isn't demanded for other uses, and there is a demand from DCC to accommodate more people, why has this not been considered as an option? Much better to build on brown field than on green field.

John Snowball

This is a curtailed version of the contributor's letter, the full version can be found on the Newton News website - www.newtonnews.co.uk

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Night Parking

Dear Sir,
If you drive a large van, you need to think about where you intend to park it at night. For several months now, the junction at the top of Stag Lane and Woodham Way has been plagued by several large work vans, caravans and cars, all parking within a cars length of the junction making it unsafe when entering Stag Lane as it's not possible to see if anything is coming up the road and, having experienced several close calls, I am surprised nothing worse has happened yet.

The layby adjacent to Woodham Park has recently had parking restriction signs erected to prevent similar vehicles parking there all day and night. Can similar not be done on Stag Lane and if there are any such signs left, perhaps put some outside Bethany House Community Centre on Woodham Way, to prevent people parking all along there, again restricting drivers views of oncoming vehicles and parking opposite junctions?

A disgruntled Woodham resident

RUNNING CLUB NEWS

Icy conditions led to a large number of Saturday's local parkruns being cancelled, however the Club were still represented at the Albert, Stewart and York events. The conditions didn't hinder David Stothard or Gareth Kyle. David managed to run a Personal Best (PB) at Albert parkrun (27:38), and Gareth registered a new best of 20:46 for Stewart Park.

The weather rarely has such an impact on cross country (XC) and Saturday afternoon saw the first race of the weekend's XC 'double-header'. The fixture at Thornley Hall Farm, Peterlee, was the latest in the North-Eastern Harrier League. In the Women's race, which took place over 6.4K, Carley Cooper was the Club's sole representative. Carley completed the race in 45:04.

In the Men's race, which took place over 9.6K, John Firby was the first runner home for the Club, completing the race in a time of 43:36 (a net time of 41:06 after starting from the mid-pack). Dez Fielden was the next Member home, in a time of 47:19 (a net time of 44:49). Stuart Joyce, who is starting to relish XC, completed the race in 54:51, just ahead of Peter Tennick, who finished in 55:24. Shaun Dodd was the final Aycliffe runner home, in a time of 56:47.

On Sunday the second XC fixture of the weekend took place at Ormesby Hall in Middlesbrough. In the Women's race, which took place over 6.8K, Laurn Hellewell was the first lady home for the Club, in a time of 29:55. Melanie Rowland continued her strong showing over this XC season, finishing in 35:02, with Kelly Dickinson crossing the line in 39:21.

In the Over 65 Men's race, also held over 6.8K, Trevor Needham kept himself in medal contention, bagging himself a third placed finish in 29:03.

In the Senior and Veteran Men's race, which was held over a distance of 10.2K, John Firby was once again first home for the Club, in a time of 37:05, followed by Dez Fielden in 39:16, and Richard Campbell was not too far behind in 39:57. Richard Holland completed the race in 45:19, just ahead of Martin Turnbull (45:27) and Peter Tennick (46:23). Shaun Dodd completed his second run of the weekend in 49:17, just in front of



Peter Jarps, who finished in 49:39. Martin Knox crossed the line in exactly 52 minutes, with David Stothard completing the Aycliffe contingent in 1:03:17.

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



Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe

Forthcoming Events

CONCERT HALL

Saturday 29th January

The brilliant 'Stormchaser' - £5 c/c

Saturday 26th March

Not to be missed 'M-Town' £5 c/c

UPSTAIRS

Saturday 22nd Jan: 'Michelle B'

Saturday 29th Jan: 'Pete Peverley'

SHERATON BAR

Sunday 23rd Jan: 'Joe Black'

Sunday 30th Jan: TBC

Strictly Movers Dance Class

Do you have a child aged between 9 and 16 years old? Have they been struggling with socialising after Covid lockdowns and restrictions?

If so, we are offering free dance classes to help encourage them to meet new people, learn a new skill and, most importantly, have fun!

Classes are held on a Thursday from 6-7pm at St. Clare's Church in Newton Aycliffe. The classes are run by a fully qualified dance teacher and will include a drink and a snack. This will be a mix of dance styles, but will initially be Ballroom & Latin.

Booking is essential, so to book them a place please either message us on our Facebook page, email us at: officellifelinecommunityaction@gmail.com or contact us on 07936 431262.



GET THERE FROM HERE



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Volunteers Needed to Join Council's Committees

Residents can play a part in helping to shape council services in County Durham.

Durham County Council is looking for volunteers to serve on its overview and scrutiny committees as non-statutory, non-voting co-optees.

Two volunteers are needed for each of the council's five overview and scrutiny committees: adults, wellbeing and health; safer and stronger communities; economy and enterprise; children and young people's; and environment and sustainable communities.

Co-optees serve for two years and have the opportunity to help develop new ways of working, review existing policies and challenge the performance of the authority and its key partners.

They will also have the opportunity to participate in focused reviews, with previous review topics including cybercrime, suicide rates, mental health and wellbeing in County Durham, support provided to the retail sector by the council, GP service provision, free school meals and holiday hunger, the authority's proposed allotment policy and road safety.

There are six scheduled meetings each year, starting at 9.30am and usually finishing around 11.30am.

Successful applicants would need to have access to IT and the internet to be able to participate in any meetings that may be held virtually.

Tom Bolton, who currently serves as a non-voting co-optee on the environment and sustainable communities overview and scrutiny committee, said: "I've always had an interest in environmental issues, so being able to attend meetings and take part in projects has allowed me to contribute to the process of improving the services of the council and its partners.

"For me, being involved in overview and scrutiny is about making a positive difference. I have also gained a lot of knowledge during my time as a co-opted member because of my involvement in several in-depth projects.

"The last project involved a review of allotment provision and was fascinating, with site visits and presentations from a wide range

of providers and users. I was able to ask questions and, I hope, contribute positively to the recommendations of the working group to the council. I have always found that being involved in this work and helping to improve council services has been rewarding."

For more information, or to apply for a position as a non-voting co-optee email scrutiny@durham.gov.uk
Application forms should be submitted by 11 March with successful applicants invited for interview in May.

Students Launch Memory Café at New College Durham



On January 10, 2022, health and social care students at New College Durham are launching a memory café for members of the local community.

After completing the Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Friends training, several of the Year 1 Level 3 Health and Social Care students decided they would like to put what they had learnt into practice so came up with the idea of hosting a memory café.

The café will provide a relaxed setting for people who are experiencing mild cognitive impairment or dementia to socialise, learn from other people in similar situations and enjoy a range of activities. Caregivers are welcome to come along too and share the experience. The café will take place on the second Monday of every month from 3pm and 5pm. Students will meet and greet visitors at the main entrance of New College Durham and escort them to the college's onsite restaurant, Bistro 1891. Attendance is free and refreshments are provided.

Students Jessica Rayner, Brooke Dawson and Jodie Shelley were instrumental in setting up the café.

Jessica said: "We came up with the idea of the memory café as we wanted to bring people together and try and help make a difference to their lives. We have been working hard to organise the café and plan a range of activities."

Brooke added: "As well as helping people, running the café will give us experience of communicating with different people."

Jodie agreed. She said: "I want to be a Social Worker so working with people with mild cognitive impairment or dementia will help me in my future career."

Denise Winter, Health & Social Care Lecturer at New College Durham, is facilitating the students in the running of the café. She said: "I was delighted when the students said they wanted to set up the café. The Alzheimer's Society training had a big impact on them, and they wanted to use their new skills to help make a difference. As a college we strive to be a part of the wider community, so we look forward to welcoming local residents and hope we can provide a service that they will benefit from and enjoy."

Anyone who would like to attend the café can drop into New College Durham, Framwellgate Moor on the second Monday of the month between 3pm and 5pm. For further information contact Denise Winter at denise.winter@newdur.ac.uk

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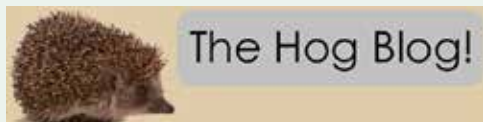
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Firstly, I want to mention the kind, understanding person who took the time to write A Moment of Magic on page 7 last week, whoever this was you have my heartfelt thanks, it was very nice to know that there are people out there who also watch out for our poor wildlife. Can I also add that, despite it being January, there are rehabs who are still receiving very small hedgehogs, as little as 180-200 grams, these hogs aren't even big enough to be without mum, these need rescuing, in fact any hog out during the day, whatever size, is in trouble health wise, rescues need them inside to assess, treat and keep warm till spring.

Thank you to again June, she does a lot for this rescue, she visited her hog today with Joyce, thank you Joyce for your donation and June has also has made a very generous donation, also Nancy and Jeanette. We have also received a donation from the Olive Garden for the next raffle we do, which won't be long! The lucky winner can have a lovely pizza, thank you all, makes a big difference to the quality of life these little ones get in our care.

We also have some very talented ladies making some lovely items for us, Bethany Stacy is doing embroidered hedgehogs for our raffle and these embroideries are hogs that were released last year, also Karen for drawing a beautiful hedgehog for us.

Tip of the week: If you see a hedgehog, and you aren't sure if he or she needs help, the British Hedgehog Preservation Society are there, office hours, on 01584 890801 for advice and if necessary a list of rehabs or email me on pricklyhaven@yahoo.com

Last week I mentioned our smallest hog Mitzi, she was brought in last November after firework night, too small to be out alone, she was also quite unwell. These days she has regained some of her fur and her spines are growing back, her treatment has been a huge success thanks to Grange Vets, she is starting to look a bit more like a regular hog, so she has got company in her new home which is a pink zoo zone hamster house. Cherub is company for Mitzi and they are friends, they can go to a new release site together when the time comes.



Parliament Talk

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

After a short week in Westminster last week, it's back to normal timings now with a Monday morning trip to London on an Azuma made by Hitachi. It always makes me feel good that such an amazing product is made on our industrial estate and services one of the best connection routes to London in the country.

There are some particularly interesting debates this week starting with the final stages of the Nuclear Energy (Financing) Bill which changes the financing protocols for Nuclear Energy projects and should facilitate increased investment opportunities in this key strand of future energy demand. On Tuesday I need to be in 3 places at once! I am scheduled to be on the Finance Bill Committee at the same time as sitting on the BEIS Select Committee (looking at the outcomes of the Post Office Horizon scandal which is very important to all those caught up in it). I would also really like to contribute to the Westminster Hall debate on eye health and macular disease. I managed to secure a slip from the Finance Bill and will attend part of each of the others. The eye disease debate is particularly interesting as I have recently met with a company on NETPark that has created a product that could make a huge difference to people who suffer with macular disease and save the NHS a small fortune

I will have several meetings with the BEIS team, apart from the Select committee session, to raise issues raised by a variety of businesses I have met over last week. In addition, I will be meeting the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust for a regular catch up and, similarly, I will have a meeting with Durham County Council and the other Durham MPs. These meetings are a two-way process, with MPs being given situation reports from local agencies and being able to raise issues arising in our constituencies. We normally take anything raised by constituents direct to these organisations as they arise, but this is a perfect opportunity to progress chase any that are not making enough progress. If there is anything you would like us to raise, please get in touch via the email address below.

I am particularly looking forward to Friday this week as it starts with meetings on the Aycliffe Business Park in the morning before similar meetings with businesses based on Teesside Airport in the afternoon and then meetings about anti-social behaviour.

It's always great to hear about community champions who take part in fundraising in the constituency and I recently heard about

Ian Palmer who has bravely tasked himself with the Land's End to John O'Groats Virtual Challenge so he can collect funds to build new changing rooms for Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club. At the time of writing, and on his first week, he's raised £110. You can find out more on Ian's Facebook page and the Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club page.

Talking of community champions, I must also give a shout out to Val Fawcett and thank her and her helpers for all they did through the Aycliffe Alcohol Recovery and Mutual Support Group, aka AARMS, sorry to hear you have decided to close the group Val, but many thanks for everything you and your team delivered.

Meeting people like Ian and Val is very definitely one of the best bits of my job! We continue with the ongoing level of Covid restrictions that are probably the least restrictive in Europe now, which is very largely facilitated by the level of vaccinations delivered. It goes without saying that if you have not been jabbed or need a booster you are doing everyone, including yourself, a huge favour if you do get one. Our local NHS staff have been creating the opportunity, but it is up to you to take it up and get jabbed. The biggest risk is over the next few weeks of winter so getting your jab now makes absolute sense.

My thanks once again to the NHS teams delivering the jabs but also to all our front-line workers, particularly to those in customer facing roles. I specifically think about our shop assistants and those working on buses and trains who are trying to enforce mask wearing, remember it's not their choice to require us to wear masks so please don't blame them. Let's all accept this minor inconvenience for a few more weeks and get through to Spring and Summer.

I would also give a shout out to our teachers and school staff for everything they are doing to try to keep our youngsters' education up and running. For now, let's all stay safe and look after each other.

If you need to get in touch with me and the constituency team, please send an email to paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk

Paul Howell, MP for Sedgefield

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

Email: paul@newtonnews.co.uk



Paul Howell

Member of Parliament for Sedgefield

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Sketch & Create at Greenfield Arts

Greenfield Arts are offering an exciting new opportunity to get hands on and develop your sketching skills. The workshops are a great way to start the new year by learning something new and developing your creativity in a lovely bespoke environment.

The workshops will be led by illustrator and artist Graham Stead and the activity is inspired by Emerging our current exhibition by Creative Forum. Graham will help you explore the art of sketching, capturing images and shaping your own sketching style and there will be a visit to The Greenfield Gallery.

Sketch and Create will offer the chance to learn more about sketching and enable you to create further artwork inspired by your sketch in a medium of your choice. The sessions will be held on Tuesday 18 and 25 January from 18:00 – 20:00 and the cost is just £25 for the two sessions. To find out more please visit our website where you can reserve your place and sign up to the mailing list. The sessions form part of a wider programme of creativity with projects, events and exhibitions for all ages throughout the spring.

Greenfield Arts are committed to providing high quality stimulating arts and creative activity and encouraging questioning and enquiry. To find out more about our programme and the many exhibitions, projects and activities on offer visit our website www.greenfield-arts.co.uk or email info@greenfield-arts.co.uk

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New £5.9m Collection Building go on Display at Locomotion



Visitors and the public are invited to have their say on plans for a new £5.9m collection building at Locomotion in Shildon at a free exhibition being displayed this month.

The exhibition will be on show at Locomotion between 19 and 23 January before the plans are submitted for planning approval later in the year. On 19 January (3pm to 7pm), there will also be a face-to-face open session at the museum with members of the project team on hand to answer questions and to explain the plans. A further drop-in session will be held at Shildon Library on 24 January (11am to 3pm).

The 2000m² collection building is expected to open in 2023, ahead of celebrations to mark the bicentenary of the Stockton & Darlington Railway in 2025.

The building is the centrepiece of a programme of improvements taking place at Locomotion as part of the National Railway Museum's 'Vision 2025' masterplan. These include repairs to the site's historic buildings, the display of the original Locomotion No.1 and the relocation of the historically-significant Gaunless Bridge.

The new building will house up to 45 rail vehicles, in addition to the 87 already on display in the existing collection building, to create one of the world's largest collections of rail vehicles. The development at Locomotion will also provide new opportunities to tell the story of Shildon as the world's first railway town. This will include examples of the exceptional importance of coal to the development of the area and the town's post-war railway history, with several vehicles built in the Shildon Works on display.

Locomotion opened in 2004 and is part of the Science Museum Group. Prior to the pandemic, the museum received up to 200,000 visitors a year. In December, the museum was awarded the 'Special Recognition Award' at the 2021 County Durham Together Awards for supporting the local community during the pandemic. The museum also received a share of £3.5m regional 'Levelling Up' funding following a successful bid by Durham County Council. This will see upgrades to the visitor car park, assistance with landscaping and further repairs to the historic coal drops. Designed by AOC Architects, the new building at Locomotion was originally due to open in 2022 but was delayed as a result of the pandemic.

The exhibition will also be displayed at Shildon Library on Monday 24 January (11am to 3pm) and will be available to view online at www.locomotion.org.uk/new-building-locomotion from 19 January to 31 January.

Exhibition dates may be affected by changing Coronavirus restrictions and visitors are advised to check online in advance. All comments on the plans must be received by 31 January. Locomotion is a partnership between the Science Museum Group and Durham County Council, which is a major funder of the museum.

Sudoku

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

Students Learn About Ethics & Culture

Students from Greenfield Community College were able to enjoy an enlightening visit to the Hindu Mandir as part of their RE studies recently. Yr 10 and 11 GCSE groups enjoyed a valuable opportunity as they visited ISKCON Hindu Temple in Newcastle. The students were able to find out more about the ethics and culture associated with the faith, listen to experiences from priest Kirtida, listening well and asking thoughtful questions about Hindu belief and practice. They enjoyed a delicious vegetarian curry, had the chance to play drums and even sample traditional dress! Thanks must go to all at ISKCON Temple for making this experience so worthwhile, supporting the students with their RE studies and learning more about different cultures. Thank you to all involved and to the students for their contribution to such a valuable visit which has become an important date in the Greenfield calendar. Greenfield Community College are committed to supporting students to reach their full potential. The school promotes an inclusive curriculum encouraging students to work together to realise an outstanding learning experience. If you

would like further information visit www.greenfieldschool.net or contact the school by emailing contact@greenfieldschool.net or by calling 01325 300378.

In Memoriam

Marjorie Local

Died 15th January 2005
Will never forget you pet.
Husband John.
love and kisses xxxx

Nicola Jane Birchall

Died 16th January 20
Two years ago today you left and went away. Safe in the arms of Jesus, he knew you had to stay. Good night precious angel, we love you so very, very much. Our hearts are breaking. Sweet dreams baby. Mam, Dad and a special Brother, family and friends

Thank You

Thank You

To Poppy and Phoebe for the wonderful Christmas certificate you sent us. We will always treasure it.

Congratulations

Gillian Spensley

Happy Birthday Rubes

Hope you have a fab day. Love from Mam, Dad, Emily and Abbie xxxxx

Gillian Spensley

Happy Birthday

To the 'Best Mam in the world'. Love from Emily, Abbie and Ruby xxxxx

Gillian Spensley

Happy Birthday

To my beautiful Wife. Love always, Vincent xxxxx

Ward - Alderson

Congratulations

to Nicola and Paul on your Engagement on Christmas Day. With love from Mam, Dad and all the family xxxxxx

Obituary

Mary Isabel Nestor

Passed away at home on 19th December 2021, aged 80 years old. Beloved Mother, Grandma and good friend to many. Funeral to be held at West Cemetery Chapel, Darlington on Monday 31st January 2022 at 12:00. All are welcome.

Kathleen Rebecca Burnell

Suddenly at home on 29th December 2021, aged 82 years. Much loved mother of Angela and the late Paul and Martin Ross. Much loved Nana of Liam, Danielle, Nikki, Lee, Richard and Gavin and Great Nana of Liam, Finley, Faye, Grace, Thomas, Robbie, Tegan, Joshua, Jude and Jax. A private service will take place at Durham Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, may be made to a charity of your choice.

William Charles (Billy) Wood

Of Newton Aycliffe. Passed away peacefully at Rose Lodge Care Home on 3rd January, aged 96 years. Beloved Husband of the late Margaret. Would family and friends please meet at Darlington Crematorium for a service and committal on Friday 28th January at 1:00pm.

Birthday Remembrance

John Redden

1941 - 2021 Heavenly 75th Birthday

No cards to write, no presents to give. Your memory we will treasure, for as long as we live. Love you loads from all the family xxxxx

Ann McLuckie

13th January

I will love you forever because right from the start you filled me with love and put a smile in my heart. Love and hugs Mam, Tony and family

Noah Harry Wharton Peart

12th January

Happy Birthday Love and miss you every day xxxxx Love from Nana Daph

Litter Picking



GATT (Great Aycliffe Tidy Team) strikes again! The footpaths and woods from Travellers Green to Moore Lane have been rooted about, with lots of weird and wonderful discarded things. A very large tractor tyre was a joy to shift - a good hours work. Thanks to Great Aycliffe Town Council for collecting it all.

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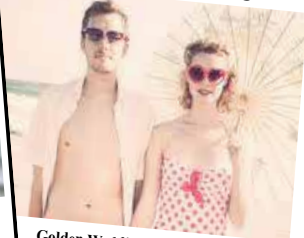
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Happy 21st Birthday 10-10-10

to our beautiful Daughter on your 21st birthday. Lots of love from Mam & Dad xxx

Bonny and Clyde Cunningham



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New Year New Swimmers



Sedgefield 75 swimming club took part in their first competition of 2022 last weekend when they went back to Billingham.

A total of six swimmers competed over two days including two swimmers attending their first open competition. Ruby Hancock was one of them, who posted two good times in 100m freestyle and 50m backstroke. Mikey Riseborough was the other, swimming three events, freestyle, butterfly and backstroke, all over 50m. The pair conducted themselves impeccably and supported their clubmates enthusiastically.

Charlotte Lee also swam three races, hitting her PB for 50m breaststroke and taking almost half a second from her 50m freestyle best.

Three girls took on a mammoth eight events each, Zoe Hodgson, Emma Price and Evie Weston. Evie picked up a bronze medal over 200m freestyle, also swimming all other strokes and an individual medley. Zoe also swam a bit of everything, the highlights being a new PB in 50m breaststroke and placing 5th in 50m freestyle. Emma took a medal in all eight events, two gold and six silver and also swam in four finals for swimmers up to 14 years old, taking an extra bronze from those.

The next competition for the club is another local gala at Durham, followed by the return of the Northumberland and Durham County Championships after a year out due to Covid at the Sunderland Aquatic Centre over two weekends in February.

The swimming club, supported by Great Aycliffe Town Council and based in Newton Aycliffe, offers a chance to learn competition swimming to a good standard, starting off with local competitions such as this and allowing progress to county, regional and national competition as well as access to Swim England's performance pathway training and events for higher achievers. To get involved, check out www.sedgefield75.com.

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