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Week Ending 7th March, 2014

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New Initiative on Illegal and Dangerous Parking



Schools Representatives, Councillors, Police and the Council Highways Department met this week to discuss the formation of a Road Management School Safety Committee to tackle illegal and inconsiderate parking in Great Aycliffe.

The group, which met at Sugar Hill School, had the support of Police Commissioner Ron Hogg and was called by Town Councillor Paul Kjenstad, Vice Chairman of the Governors at Sugar Hill. The committee will meet regularly to monitor systems put in place to solve the road safety problems around schools. Incidents will be logged

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and reported with parents kept informed through newsletters designed to encourage their cooperation.

Kjenstafd was Paul elected Chairman. Katie Bain-Collins Vice Chairperson and Vane Road School agreed to provide a Secretary. A treasurer would be appointed at a later date when funding came into the equation.

Ron Hogg said it was a 'fabulous initiative' and by bringing all schools together could solve the problem as the Police cannot do it alone. He thought the idea could be a model for all schools in the County and he

would do all he could do back the methods used to improve the situation. He said he had just purchased 10 Laser Speed Guns to be issued to problem areas by the Police. His suggestion to organise a 'Week of Action' in the town to raise awareness was agreed.

Inspector Hall on behalf of the police said he was very pleased to see how everyone was getting involved and he would help address the concerns mentioned including taxi companies who completely ignored the no parking areas and were companies abusive when approached.

could be in danger of losing their licences.

Ron Hogg said a mobile phone app was being introduced where video illegal evidence of activity could be used in prosecutions and would act as a deterrent.

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NEW RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION MEETS AT SILVERDALE

The Lakes and Dales Residents' Association will be holding a meeting at Silverdale Community House on Wednesday 12th March at 6pm.

We would like to discuss: Cleaning up the area and making it a better place to live, Dog Fouling, Litter and on a more relaxed item Bus Trips activity plus funding for outings over the next year. Your views and input will be much appreciated. Ring 01325 308094 / 07967 901477. for further details.

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Saturday Nigh

Honest John Donates £1,000 to Town's Welfare Aid Partnership



Honest John's Cubby stall has donated £1,000 to Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership and he is shown with his volunteer here helper, Valerie, presenting the cheque to Pauline Chambers Chairperson of GACAP.

Pauline told Newton News how impressed she was with John's commitment supporting Aycliffe hisations. "The hard organisations. work he puts in for the community in running his stall is truly magnificent and I could not believe he pays out in excess of £20,000 a year" said Pauline.

John says he could not do

it without the support of generous Newtonians who bring goods to the Cubby for him to sell.

"I enjoy the work and meeting people - I get a buzz out of helping voluntary especially organisations, youth groups in Aycliffe'

The money donated to GACAP will help individuals and families in crisis. As the benefit cuts bite hard into

people's income the need voluntary for help from welfare groups will increase. If you wish to contribute please contact the Secretary of GACAP Joan Clark on 307522 - email: treasurer navc@live.co.uk

'DRAGONS DEN' **OFFERS £100k PRIZE**



Aspiring entrepreneurs region pitched their business ideas to a panel of judges in the hope of scooping a prize worth £100.000

Mimicking the hit BBC TV programme Dragons' Den, 'Achieve Your Dream in 2014' competition was organised by The HUB Partnership, based at Aycliffe Business Park.

It was open to any company of any kind - existing or start-up – with the winner bagging a package of services including office space, marketing and social media including strategies, training, PR and mentoring support to develop a strategic growth plan.

Ten entries were shortlisted to three, who 'pitched' their idea to the judges and faced a grilling in the final part of the competition.

The HUB Partnership consists of Growth Capital Ventures director Craig Peterson, Au Fait Business and Marketing director Rachel Townsend Green, Harlands Accountants MD Glyn Davison, Echo Graphics creative director Johnny Woods and Mantis Media director Martin Walker.

The 'Dragons' listened to presentations from three existing businesses including Bryce Wilcock, from Ryhope,

with a clothing company called SX Clothing; John Armstrong, from Gateshead, with Operation Fitness; and Owen and Phillip Pringle from Durham-based Lostbox Ltd.

"We were blown by the quality of all three presentations and it's pretty clear we have a very difficult decision to make," said Craig.
"All businesses involved in the project want to give something back and help an aspiring entrepreneur on the road to achieving something spectacular, and all three business models have the potential to do that. We look forward to working with one of them but it's going to be a tough call.'

Line Dance

New Friends New Places welcomes non members to their LINE DANCING with Angela on the first Tuesday of every month from 2pm until 4pm. Cost £3. including a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit.

We also welcome you to our Armchair Aerobics with Dianne on the third Tuesday of every month at the Navy Club, cost £3, from 2pm until 4pm.

Ring 308094 / 07967 901477.

Restart of Garden Waste Collections

County Durham are due to resume from Tuesday 18th

Residents who are part of the scheme will receive a leaflet detailing their specific collection dates, which can also be checked using the My Durham facility on the council's website at www.durham. gov.uk Residents are advised to put

by 7am on their collection day.

Small branches, flowers, leaves, grass cuttings, weeds, prunings and hedge leaves, clippings can all be placed in garden waste collection bins.

People are asked to put garden waste straight into the bin without using plastic bags to avoid contamination.



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Saturday 8th March - "Sticky Fingers" 1st set blasted off with Judas Priest's 'Metal Gods'; UFO classic 'Lights Out' followed and by now the Stickies are going full steam, rocking out good and hard. There is only one word for Phil's guitar playing on this track - awesome! Drop in Van Halen's 'Lets Talk About Love' followed by a huge guitar solo spot that led into Satriani's 'Surfing With The Alien' and 'Breaking The Law' for a bit more Priest and you have the makings of a great first set. Second set opened with a Zeppelin medley of 'Communication Breakdown', 'Rock n Roll' and 'Whole Lotta Love' and it was here that the sheer volume and thump of Keith Moore's bass drum really made it's impact. Blending nicely with Phil Finley's bass, this is a good rhythm section for Phil Martin to build upon. Fronting a band like Sticky Fingers is no easy job, especially considering the length of time they have been around and the following they have built up but Mark Evans looks so relaxed on stage, moving bassman Phil to take centre stage to sing 'Teenage Kicks' really worked and when Mark returned to close out the set with 'Enter Sandman' and a bouncy 'Anarchy In The UK' the audience took their voices through the roof. took their voices through the roof.

Saturday 15th March - "Tommy & The Oddballs"

Massive on the bike rally circuit, always first band booked for the "Heart n Soul"

Recent reviews from Toon Rock Pages: "AWESOME BAND, as ever they played absolutely brilliantly, Tommy as fantastic as ever (THE best frontman in the North East), Jeff playing goosebump solos on Hey Joe. I can't believe how good they were. It was like walking into a pub, full of your best mates with the best goddam juke box you could hope for. Every member of the band is a really good and talented player. The timing was great, the entertainment value was great too. The audience loved it from the off. They are a superb band, probably THE BEST in the North East, period!"

Tracks covered by: The Who, Bryan Adams, Thin Lizzy, Free, Hendrix, Stones, Bad Company, Kings of Leon and many many more. Should be one of THE GIGS OF THE YEAR, DON'T MISS IT!! www.tommyandtheoddballs.website.orange.co.uk

Saturday 22nd March - "Thyn Lizzy"

For more information on bands go to

www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034

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TOWN'S ANNUAL CIVIC DINNER FUNDS LOCAL CHARITIES

The Annual Mayor's Charity Civic Dinner was hosted by the Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Barbara Clare, on Friday, 21st February 2014 at The Aston Hotel, Newton Aycliffe. Entertainment was provided by Samantha



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Mac with dancing to Boogie Box.

The fund raising at the event was in aid of the Mayor's nominated Charities during her Year in Office

and this year the Mayor has chosen the St. Clare's Bank (Durham Food Christian Partnership) and the Cardiothoracic Unit at James Cook Hospital.

A special thanks must go to Barclays Bank who match funded the evening's fund raising when a total amount of £1.408 was made for the charities.

Geoff Batchelor, President of the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe gave an excellent response to the Mayor on behalf of the guests.

Councillor Mrs. Clare would like to take this opportunity to thank The Aston Hotel, Heineken Breweries, Nedco, White-house Funeral Services and fellow Councillors friends who have supported her during the year by donating gifts for the nominated charities.

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lm Show

The next "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church. WEDNESDAY 12th MARCH, features "AMISH GRACE". The true and very moving story of a tragedy, and the journey towards forgiveness for both sides. It is an inspirational story, bring tissues!

We will also benefit from our BRAND NEW SUPER DUPER SOUND SYSTEM. Tea and coffee at 1pm, included in the £2, and the film starts at 1.15pm. Everyone is most welcome to join us. Bring a spot of lunch with you, tables are set out, and enjoy a friendly social occasion.

Further details from Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

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ACORN RESIDENTS'

The highly successful community organisation ACORN will be holding their 13th March meeting at 6pm in the Royal British Legion Club.

The main meeting will be preceded by a meeting of the junior group Little ACORNS at 5.30pm who will be discussing the Basketball game last Sunday where they cheered on Durham Wildcats as guests of the popular team at the Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre.

Also to be discussed will be plans for the upcoming Petting Zoo to be held at the Leisure Centre in April and promises to eclipse last year's fantastic event.

Little ACORNS are inviting local animal charities and businesses to showcase their services and products at the event with stands and products.

and products. Special guest speaker for March will be Katy Milne from Greenfield Arts Centre who will be promoting some exciting ideas for volunteers this year. Previously Katy has successfully produced "Stepping Out", which enthralled crowds last summer in our lovely West Park with musical and magical entertainment. Another of Katy's successful projects was Greenfield's "helping hands" project which utilised men's spare time to build a feature built in front of the School.

With a packed schedule of events and trips to plan throughout the year ACORN are expecting to be kept busy the whole year. Latest news and announcements of plans for events will be featured at the meeting along with progress of outings and spin off groups such as "Save Our Fireworks Display".

ACORN are constantly looking for new speakers and partners to

ACORN are constantly looking for new speakers and partners to entertain and engage our members in the community so if you have a service to promote please come along or get in touch.

ACORN meetings are regularly attended by Town and County Councillors who are happy to answer queries in private if required. Police also attend meetings to discuss neighbourhood problems and give advice.

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Aycliffe Duo First in UK "Care Home Idol" Contest

A resident and staff duo from Rose Lodge care home in Newton Aycliffe have won first place in the UK's Care Home Idol 2013. The online competition, was designed to showcase the talent and fun that exists in care homes. Votes were gathered from friends, family and the public live on the website carehome. co.uk.

Link to carehome.co.uk Care Home Idol general page:http://www.carehome. co.uk/idol/index.cfm/show_ filter/carehome/sort_filter/ votes/

Link to Rose Lodge's Care Home Idol video entry: http:// www.carehome.co.uk/idol/ idol.cfm/id/63

Gladys Stephens, a resident at Rose Lodge and who turns 97 this year said: "I am really pleased to have won the competition, It has been really good fun."

Karen Frew-McGill, Care Manager said: "We are all delighted that Gladys and Bev have won the competition. I am so proud of both of them. It has been really touching to see the support and backing that their entry had from the whole community. Gladys and Bev are very good friends and I believe the reason the video was so popular is because it really came across that these are two people who genuinely care deeply for each other."

Davina Ludlow, Director of carehome.co.uk said: "I would like to offer my



Gladys and Bey - Care Home Duo

congratulations to Gladys & Bev and Rose Lodge care home. This video really showcases the excellent bond that can exist between care staff and a resident. I hope that the pair will continue to sing together regularly. It is clear from the video how much joy their friendship brings."

The Care Home Idol Initiative has the backing of Penny Mordaunt MP, co-chair of

the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Ageing and Older People she said:

"There is rightly much focus on the care system when things go wrong, but we should remember that there are also some wonderful homes out there where residents are supported to pursue their hobbies and alents, while being engaged and entertained."

Local Charity Benefits from Railway Event



One of the many Model Railway layouts to be exhibited

Following on from the recent fantastic experience of the gathering of "Mallard" and her 5 surviving sisters at Locomotion Shildon the next event for railway enthusiasts in Newton Aycliffe is the fifth annual Model Railway Exhibition organised by the town's Rotary Club on 5th April 2014, from 10am to 5pm at the Youth Centre, Burn Lane.

A wide range of over 15 working model railway layouts will be on display in scales from "N" to live steam "G" based on a variety of prototypes from European to narrow gauge and including Thomas and Friends along with one of the largest working LEGO layouts in the North of England. Some of the layouts will be travelling considerable distances to attend the event which is now firmly established as one of the most exciting on the model railway calendar.

There will be a variety of trade stands selling new and used products along with pictures and die-cast models.

A café will be open all day, serving hot and cold drinks, fantastic bacon butties, sandwiches, crisps etc. There will be a raffle, with a train set donated by Hornby as first prize, and a tombola. The Rotary Club are grateful for the support from local railway

The Rotary Club are grateful for the support from local railway engineering company SabreRail as well as Hornby Trains and Barclays Bank, Newton Aycliffe.

The proceeds from the event are to be donated to the Heel and Toe Charity caring for children with Cerebral Palsy and other disabilities throughout County Durham and Darlington. Entry is £4 for adults, £3 for concessions, £8 for families and 50p

Entry is £4 for adults, £3 for concessions, £8 for families and 50p for children. Wheelchair users are free.

Free parking will be available at St Mary and St Joseph RC

Free parking will be available at St Mary and St Joseph RC Church just 100 metres from the event and easy access is available for wheelchair users. For further details contact John Burrows on 07870-210269

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Praise for New Garage

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We recently had our car service and MOT done at a new business that has opened in Newton Aycliffe, S-Cars on Greenfield Way.

The whole expererience was a positive one. The staff are pleasant, helpful, knowledgeable and honest and the work was completed efficiently and in the time frame specified.

The bonus was the car returning looking spotless! We shall use them again of course and we wish their business every success.

John & Ann Gilling

Councillors Give £500 to Residents' Association

Linden Place Residents Association would like to thank Durham County Councillors Eddy Adams and Kate Hopper for their donation of £500 from their members initiative fund.

The money will be used to fund various events during the coming year.

The next meeting of the Residents' Association will be on Monday 17th March 6pm at Agnew Community Centre.

All residents welcome



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Fabulous Me" Day

As part of the "Through the Looking Glass" project, girls at Greenfield Community College Woodham Academy in Newton Aycliffe took part last week in a "Fabulous Me" day.
The project, funded by

GAMP AAP and managed by project, encouraging positive self-esteem in girls. The programme for the "Fabulous Me" day included speakers and activity designed to inspire and engage the girls. Each session, at Woodham

and Greenfield, started with a talk from ITV presenter Julia Barthram, followed by a range of "stalls" with demonstrations and chances for the girls to try hula hooping, nail art, printmaking, healthy eating and upcycling.

The sessions were attended by the Check 4 Life team and Youth Workers from Newton Aycliffe to support the work of the project.

involved in the activity agreed it was a great success. The girls enjoyed the opportunities to try new things and find out more and left feeling fabulous!

Chloe, a student at Greenfield said: "This is great, we feel so good and so chilled out. We should do more of this sort of thing!" Megan at Woodham said: "The hula hooping is great! A great fun way to exercise and something I've not tried before.

Katy Milne, Director of Arts and Creativity at Greenfield Arts said "Julia's talk was inspirational and really explored peer pressure and image through her media role at ITV. Our creative stall holders were fab and offered such a range of "feel good" activities. Thanks to everyone involved."

The project will continue now with more activity for the girls in school and a celebration event.



Aycliffe Village Students | Flipping Good Fun **Show Their Talent**



On Friday 14th February, Aycliffe Village Primary School held a Talent Show for all of the pupils who were brave enough to enter! There were many different and varied talents on display, such as dancing, singing, comedy, drama and musical instruments being played.

In the weeks leading up to the show, pupils had practised hard, getting their acts ready for the exciting event.

When the day came, all of the pupils gathered their props together and entered the hall, where the Talent





Show took place.

There were a variety of judges marking the pupils' acts. These included a School Governor, The Extended Services Co-ordinator, a Gymnastics Coach and Mr Gargan, the Head Teacher. Mr Underwood, Class 5's Teacher was the host of the show and introduced

everyone that took part. The acts were fabulous and the judges had a very hard time deciding which act won each category. After the show, the medal winners were presented their medals by Mrs Postma, the Extended Services Co-ordinator.

The winners in Category were: KS2 Dance

Bronze: Alana Rawe, Harriet Alliston, Isabelle Lear and Abigail Riney Smith Silver: Hannah Tarn and

Annie Self

Gold: Ellsa Self Drama/ Comedy and Singing Bronze: Alana Riddell, Leah Hughes, Ellsa Self and

Silver: Hannah tarn, Alana Riddell and Chloe Wilds

Hannah Tarn

Gold: Funny Five Group, Lucas Pilling, William Lucas Pilling, William Varley, Adam Dixon Dawson and Paul Blades

Key Stage One Dance Silver: Evie Wilds, Maia Haden and Kayla Sandford Gold: Dylan Hackett and Year 6.



William Lear At the end of the show, Leah Hughes said "This is the third Talent Show we've had. It has been the best so far!

Article by Hannah Tarn



Reception children at Sugar Hill Primary School enjoyed celebrating Shrove Tuesday with a variety of activities. The boys and girls helped to make pancakes and certainly enjoyed eating them! After reading the story 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes' they had fun going out into the sunshine and participating in a Pancake Race. The two classes raced against each other and flipped the pancake as they ran.

Neville Community Centre

Neville Parade, Newton Aycliffe

COACH TRIPS

York - Monday 17th March

Skipton - Saturday 5th April

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Community Groups Benefit from Local NHS 'Dragons' Den' Funds



Local community and voluntary groups in the Sedgefield area benefited from over £20k in funding from the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), to support mental health

and wellbeing. NHS Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group the organisation responsible for planning and buying the majority of health services in the area set aside the pot of money for a Mental Health and Wellbeing Innovation Grant

The initiative was supported by the Health Networks in each area and using a similar format to the well-known television series Dragon's Den, the CCG asked the local voluntary and community sector to pitch their ideas to a panel of 'Dragons', which included local GP's.

Yesterday, projects were presented with a certificate to mark their award. They are: North East Autism Society, £6,461 – Working in the Newton Aycliffe area to support healthy eating and exercise for toddlers with autism and associated learning difficulties; Shildon Saint John's Church Community Garden - £8,500. Healthier lifestyle through gardening and healthy eating.
Cornforth Partnership £9,566
- First Steps to a healthier lifestyle.

Each applicant was asked to link their project to the CCG's strategic objectives, to put forward innovative proposals and embrace the project goal to 'Improve the mental health and wellbeing of individuals in

the localities of Durham Dales Easington and Sedgefield.'

Annie Dolphin, Lay Chairperson Sedgefield CCG said: "I would like to congratulate every one of our successful projects and look forward to seeing their work develop to improve the mental health and wellbeing of people in their areas.

were astounded to hear of the work carried out by our local community and voluntary groups, many of which are supported by people who give up their time to volunteer and make a difference in their local community.

"Our panel was truly humbled to hear about their plans and we are proud to be involved in supporting them to deliver their projects across the CCG area."

All Aboard for New **Bus Passes**

More than 10,000 people across County Durham are set to have their concessionary bus passes renewed in March,

County Durham travel scheme passes due to expire on March 31, 2014 will be replaced with a new pass valid until June 2019.

The new passes will be sent out automatically but you should call the bus pass renewal hotline on 03000 **268 667** or visit one of the Council's Customer Access Points if:

- You have moved house since your received your last pass
- You will need proof of new address such as a utility bill • You have not received your new pass by March 24,
- 2014 You have received a pass in error.

information available on www.durham. gov.uk/buspassrenewal

Exercise Class

The 'Fit Steps' exercise class started at Burnhill Way Church on Friday evening 7.00 - 7.45. Everyone is welcome for some light exercise.

More details on 01325

60th Anniversary Celebration

Mayor Barbara Clare called on Wilfred and Mary Bell of Meatlesburn, School Aycliffe on Thursday 27th February to congratulate them on their 60 years of marriage.

The couple originally came from Tyneside to Newton Ayclife in 1954 when Wilfred took a job with Toothills. As a qualified Joiner he was entitled as a key worker to a rented house and the couple first lived in Priestman Road and then Greathead Crescent.

Wilf met Mary when he returned from completing National Service in the Army, serving in Germany. He decided to learn to dance and his first partner at the dance school was Mary and they have been lifelong partners since.

"It did not take me long to fall in love with Mary and we were engaged a few months later and married a year after that" said Wilf. When they moved to the new town Mary gave up her job at the Co-op. Wilf later worked for Shepherd Construction who had various contracts in Newton Aycliffe, building new schools and the town centre shops. Wilf worked for them for 28 years and was promoted to Site Manager. Mary and Wilf have two

daughters who live locally and an Architect son in Skeeby. They have five grandchildren who they love dearly and the whole family came together at the



weekeend to celebrate this wonderful occasion.

Wilf enjoys woodworking and gardening and doing everything with his wife which he says is the secret to their long happy marriage. 'We have always worked

together in our home and gone everywhere as a couple, travelling Europe and as far as Hong Kong." said Wilf. Mary said they had enjoyed a wonderful life together, love each other and will never

130 Entries in Open Art Exhibition

over 130 artworks arriving for this year's Annual Open Art Exhibition! Artists have travelled from all over Teesside and County Durham to bring the artworks, which include paintings, drawings, embroidery, textiles, prints and more!

The "Open Art" exhibition is an annual event at The Greenfield Gallery, giving local and regional artists the opportunity to exhibit their work. Each year numbers for the exhibition grow and this year we are pleased to welcome a range of new artists to the exhibition.

The exhibition will open with a preview and Craft Fair, featuring local artists and crafters on Wednesday 12th March from 5pm - 8pm. This is a free event and a great opportunity to see the fantastic exhibition, supporting our local artists. For more information visit www.greenfield-arts.co.uk

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I would like, through the pages of your newspaper, to give my grateful thanks to the family who found my handbag in a trolley at Tesco and handed it in to the staff. I thought that I had lost it and was so grateful to have

Gwen Morrison

EVITA

Agnew Community Honest People | Centre Association AGM

I am to inform you that in accordance with the constitution and charity law the management committee/ trustees have called the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 10th April 2014 at 7.00 pm sharp.
Open to all, but only full

members, able to vote for items on the agenda. Please

community centre.

Nominations for committee members as per the constitution [forms from the secretary or from the centre], forms, proposals or any other business must be with the Secretary on or before March 28th 2014.

All members and attendees will receive a copy of the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting on arrival at the meeting or if you want a copy up to 2 week prior to the meeting then please contact the secretary. A copy of the agenda will be posted on the main notice board and our website no later than two weeks prior to the meeting.

Anyone requiring any additional and relevant information then please contact the secretary on any of the contact details below.

RG Mitchie 01325 321504 Office 07749 236853 email.

agnewcommunitycentre@



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Western Area Community House, Silverdale House. behind Lindisfarne Nursing Home. The 5 and 5a stops 2 minutes away. Everyone welcome. Ring 308094.

Busy Month for Air Cadets The Bishops



February has proved to be another exciting month for (Newton Aycliffe) Squadron Air Cadets. Sgts McCormack and Butterfield recently awarded BTec 1st Diploma in Public Services by the Lord Lieutenant of County Durham, Sue Snowdon.

1407

were

their

The ceremony took place at Aycliffe Armoury T.A. Centre. The certificate sees the culmination of two years of hard work completing leadership courses, sporting activities and an academic portfolio studying the RAF. Both cadets achieved the award with the highest level of Distinction.

Cpl Simon and Cdt Appleton competed for the squadron at the rock climbing competition. Both did really well, progressing to the later stages of the completion. Cdt Appleton finished 4th in his age group. Cpls Addison and Armstrong

recently represented Durham/ Northumberland Wing at the Cross-country Inter-wing Competition. The event was held at a windy and rain-sodden Witton Country Park, Blackburn. Both of Aycliffe's cadets put in strong efforts, with Cpl Armstrong

finishing 13th. They will each be awarded a Wing Blue; a badge they can wear with pride. Hopefully this will be the start of a big collection! Six cadets have also been flying in a Grob Tutor at RAF Leeming. On the squadron, cadets have been studying towards BTecs in Aviation, taking part in initiative exercises and competing in an inter-flight competition. As the weather improves we will be starting fieldcraft training: camouflage, concealment and troop movement. It is also the start of our Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition season. There are also day walks, shooting, 1st aid courses, sport and drill competitions coming up. We are currently actively

recruiting new cadets. If you are aged 13-17 with a spirit of adventure and are interested in joining then see our website www.1407aircadets. org for details.

of Durham

Village Avcliffe History Society will hold a talk in Aycliffe Village Hall at 7pm on Wednesday March 12 by Dr Ian Taylor entitled 'The Bishops of Durham'

All welcome, members £1 and non members £3 to include tea/coffee/biscuits. Details from 01325 301093.

Irish Night

Day with an Irish Night at Sedgefield Cricket Club. An Evening of music on the 14th March starting at 7.45pm with Broadband, John Wrightson Band, Ernie Gilchrist and Steel Strings. Tickets are £10 and include a buffet. For tickets please call 01740 627347.



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Our Four Legged Friends

For many years, each spring we have watched the new additions of pedigree puppies as they join the doggy walking routes around the Burn and other parks in the town.

There's always been selection of pedigree Spaniels. Labradors, Poodles, Alsatians and many more well known popular attractive breeds. Recently it's become more popular to have them in pairs as a fashion item, but a change has come about.

Have you noticed how the trend away from pedigrees to more expensive mongrels, with such varieties as Labra Doodle, Cocker Poo and every other combination imaginable?

Last week a new delightful cuddly little woolly back arrived on the scene, apparently it's a cross between Shitzu and a Poodle. What will they call this little fellow? Henry Ballantyne



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ROMAN LEAD THE V



Laura Knox (Marketing Executive), David Gray (Export Sales Executive), Ally Chesney (Digital Marketing Executive), Angela Arundel (Export Manager) and Steven Shepperson (Sustainable Travel Ranger)

Leading UK manufacturer and designer, Roman, are leading the way by getting involved in a local initiative called Local Motion which is supported by Darlington Borough Council and Durham County Council.

Local Motion are a team who are trying to get local businesses active by organising planned walks during their lunch breaks and promoting free sport activities.

The first planned lunch break walk started from Aycliffe Business Park on Whitworth Avenue, which is outside the company Roman, a shower

manufacturer and designer. Roman staff were eager to join the organised walk and get active on their lunch break

The first organised lunchtime walk was close to being called off but despite the typical British weather the staff at Roman got their fleeces on and joined Steven Shepperson, Sustainable Travel Ranger on the one mile loop around Aycliffe Business Park. These lunch break walks are open to all businesses on the Aycliffe Business Park and Local Motion hope to carry out these lunchtime walks every two weeks, encouraging local

the one mile route. Team Local Motion is made

up of Travel Advisors, Travel Rangers and Travel Officers. They engage with individuals and the wider community to create opportunities to learn more about travel behaviour so that healthier, cheaper and more sustainable transport

options are identified for residents

David Osborne, Managing Director of Roman commented: "We are always pro-active in supporting local initiatives here at Roman and it's great to see that many of our staff are enthusiastic about getting involved and staying fit and active.'

THE CUBBY" RECEIVES FREE EBAC FREEZER

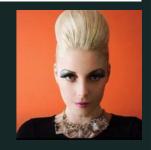


Everyone at The cubby wish to thank Ebac for their kind donation of a large chest freezer which will replace the old one on its last legs. This enables The Cubby to store a variety of homemade

produce. The Chairman. Billy Blenkinsopp, takes opportunity thank Helen Pakinson the Cubby Cook for her commitment to her work and customers. The photograph shows Chairman Billy w volunteer Sarah Allan.

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NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

We are looking to start a group of Nordic Walking during March 2014, date and time to be arranged, to be run by the NHS cost £2.

Nordic walking is the use of Poles to enhance the natural walking experience. Whole body exercise, improve joint mobility, release tension (neck and shoulders) burns 46% more fat than walking. If you can walk you can Nordic walk. To show an interest ring 313924. Date to be arranged.

New Age Kurling for **Beginners** every Monday commencing 10th March 10am-12noon. To show an interest ring 313924.

Day Trip to York on 17th March. Departs Byerley Park School Main Road 8.50am. Picking up at St Clares, Neville Community Aycliffe Village Centre, Heighington Heighington. Return by 6pm. To Book ring Peter on 313924

50/50 Dancing to Records. New Club, to show an interest ring 313924. To commence on Friday 21st March 1pm-3pm at a cost of £2.

Would you be interested in any of these new clubs? Tennis for Adults, Darts. Whist. Dominoes or Badminton? Ring the number



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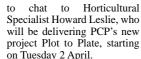


10am-1pm the PCP are opening its community garden gates and getting it ready for the new growing season.

PCP are encouraging people to get involved in the nation's biggest community gardening volunteering event, The Big Dig. If you're enthusiastic about gardening, or would like to join in and make a difference come along to this worthwhile event.
The Big Dig will be the launch

of PCP's vision to develop a socially inclusive community garden set in the grounds of the Pioneering Care Centre. The garden is a good size grassed areas, flower beds, water features, pleasant and an allotment. seating On the day volunteers will be helping to clear the site, getting it ready for people to enjoy the outdoor space spring and summer. Refreshments and tools will be provided and helpers can take away their very own seed

will be an opportunity



on Tuesday 2 April.
The 'Plot to Plate' project is an excellent opportunity for people living in Newton Aycliffe and Middridge to gain practical 'hands on' experience in growing a variety of vegetables, cultivating fruit/ herbs, meeting new people and much more.

The 16 week course is free thanks to GAMP's Community Grants Fund.

If you have as little as half an hour to spare and would like to get involved in the Big Dig Event, your help would be gratefully appreciated. Or find out more about the Plot to Plate project please come along on Friday 21 March between 10am-1pm to the Centre, on Carer's Way. Or contact PCP on 01325 321234 email enquiries@pcp. uk.net. Further information is also on PCP's website: pcp. uk.net and Facebook page: / **PCPandCentre**



Two pupils from Stephenson Way have been chosen as part of Newton Aycliffe Library's young librarian scheme.Millie and Kurtis showed in their applications that they possessed the dedication and enthusiasm required to earn a place on the programme, which led to them being selected and starting their roles during the half term holiday.

They are learning book referencing skills; enabling them to help keep the library in order. They have also looked at promoting reading, creating displays for some of their favourite books to try and inspire other people to read them.

This involves ordering extra reading materials from other libraries and incorporating posters into their displays to ensure they catch the eye of would-be readers.

Over a 4 week period the



that will help them as they grow up. They have shown commitment by fantastic taking on the role which requires an hour of their time outside of their school schedule and are developing their language and social skills by interacting with the community in an official capacity. "It is a good experience for the future" adds Millie.

the children are enjoying their extra responsibilities and getting learn about the role a library has in the community. Kurtis says "I like helping people, seeing all of the different personalities and which books people like to

PCP Big Dig Day Junior Librarians GATC Part of Council Tax to Increase by £3.39p a Year

Council held an extraordinary meeting to agree next year's budget and precept. The Town Council has a gross turnover of about £2.5 million a year. Nearly half of that is covered by income generated from fees e.g. from the Golf Course and Sports Complex. The rest (about £1.3) million) has to be raised by council tax – i.e. 'the precept' The big issue facing the Town Council - as with all councils

is, of course, government grant cuts. In the past, the government simply paid the council tax of people in receipt of council tax welfare benefit. Now, it has stopped doing so, and instead gives a grant to Councils (the 'LCTSS').

Last year, however, it only gave enough grant to cover 90% of the cost, this year only 80%, and next year less still. About a quarter of Great Aycliffe Town Council's council tax income comes from people in receipt of council tax welfare benefit. If and when this grant is ever lost altogether, it will leave a devastating hole in Town Council finances.

For the moment, adding in the loss of the 'Double Taxation Grant' from Durham County Council, the Town Council has had an income cut of more than £170,000 over the last two years, with further cuts in future years already confirmed.

Against this background, the Town Council had to set a budget which would continue to deliver quality services to our local community, whilst keeping the council out of financial difficulties in the coming year and in the future.

The Town Council is, therefore, saving possible. money wherever

There is an expected surplus on this year's budget of £145,000 - mostly from sayings made on running costs and higher than expected income levels across service areas, but also from limited use of the contingency budget and from the cancellation of the fireworks display.

Many of these savings have been removed from next year's budget, whilst further budget reductions have been made in a number of areas including the civic budget, the sports and golf complex, and special events.

In addition, the capital programme budget has been reduced from £200,000 this year to £170,000 next year. This budget provides for the replacement of works vehicles and machinery, and maintenance to council buildings, footpaths, and facilities such as play areas and the skateboard park. addition, the Town Council has halved the annual contribution to capital reserves to £25,000.

Town Council has had to allow

- including inflation on running changes in regarding automatic enrolment of pensions, the appointment of special needs pre-school posts, plus, of course, the £40,000 reduction in the LCTSS grant.

The Council is also reinstating a works apprentice post, whilst the work to try and ensure that the fireworks display goes ahead next year will also require additional budget resources. Two of the biggest expenditures incurred by the Town Council are the Oak Leaf Sports Complex (budgeted at £314,000) and maintaining the parks and play areas (£308,000) – together, these two items take almost half the precept. The golf course and driving range will cost £87,000 next year.

The final outcome of the meeting was that the Town Council was regrettably forced to make a small council tax increase next year. This will be the first increase since 2009 and follows four consecutive years when the Council was in a position to freeze the council tax.

It will raise the council tax bill next year for a house in Valuation Band A by around £3.39 a year or less than 7p per week.

The budget and precept were passed unanimously by the Council.

Ex Greenfield Students Share Career Advice



Last week two past pupils from Greenfield Community College returned to speak to current students about progressing towards a career in art. Rebecca and progressing Haymen Georgina both currently studying at Teesside University and were accompanied on their visit by Richard G Sober, a teaching fellow from the University's School of Arts and Media.

They shared examples of the work they are doing in Interior Design and Interior Architecture degrees at university. They discussed the qualities the University is looking for in a potential student, and how they could prepare for courses like theirs. This was a great opportunity for the Year 9 Ebac group to see some past Greenfield students succeeding in creative studies, which we are sure, will lead to successful creative careers!

another event This was focusing on higher education opportunities available at Greenfield, following visits to Newcastle and Northumbria recently. Greenfield aims to raise the aspirations of students and to help them continue in the career path of their choice, we hope that this most recent visit will inspire them.

It is great to see past students succeeding and willing to share their success current students!

DOG POO COMPLAINT

It was nice to hear of Ken Robson's lovely stroll around West Park, but did he notice the mounds of dog poo round the edges of the paths?

If you stroll around

Simpasture Park all you see is dog dirt - not just on the grass, but paths and outside houses!

I have reported this on a number of occasions, but nothing is done. These nothing irresponsible dog owners should be fined, named and shamed.

A very irate resident Name & address supplied

Polo Player Awards



Sedgefield Water Polo club presented their Player of the Year awards for 2013 later than usual due to the pool at Newton Avcliffe being closed for maintenance.

The Under 12 winner was Jessica Webb (10) for big improvements in her swimming and polo skills. Jessica has a bright future in the sport.

Taking the Under 14 winner was Kristopher Egginton (12) who showed his huge potential to play the sport at a higher level after a

star performance in the National Championships and playing for the District Under 16 team.

The Under 16 winner was John Pratt (15) who is a member of the GB Under 17 squad and is rated as the best player in his age group with huge potential for the future.

The Under 18 winner was James Pratt (16) who has showed a tremendous work ethic and is going for trials for the GB Junior team

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Above example: 20p per word

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Darlington Newton Avcliffe

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Sports Club Hit Nine Against British Legion FC

After bringing The Huntsmans 100% winning record to an end last week, another local derby was played at Moore Lane this weekend, this time against the

struggling British Legion.
The Legion started well with Sports Club struggling to get out of the traps and within 10 minutes it was the away side that broke the deadlock. A long ball was lofted forward to the Legion's lone striker who beat centre half Gareth Boyes in the air to flick the ball onto the right winger who slotted the ball home.

Five minutes later the Legion went two ahead after an initial shot was parried from Chris Palmer and fell to the oncoming centre forward who fired home. The Sports Club eventually woke up and started to play the game, not the occasion and on the 20 minute mark they turned on the style with Chris Jones netting his 21st league goal of the season.

Sports club really started to pile on pressure with some great interplay which won a corner and after a scramble in the goalmouth, the returning Jon Hughes scored to make it 2-2. It was now all Aycliffe Sports Club and seasoned eteran Craig Barrigan chipped to make it 3-2. This was in to make it 3-2. quickly followed by David

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Teder scoring with a sweet left foot shot that was buried in the bottom right hand corner of the goal which he celebrated in great style to make it 4-2. The Legion were still trying to hit the home side on the break and were awarded a penalty just before half time, only for Chris Palmer to easily save to his right.

The second half got under way and The Sports Club started how they finished, with some great passing and neat touch's, playing it around the Legion who were struggling to match the in form side. Anthony Campbell was next to score sheet when he went

on a wonder run starting from the left and weaving through into the Legion's box before slotting home a solo goal. The lively Chris Jones then

went on to score another 2 goals for his Hatrick, which now takes him up to 23 goals for the season in the League, 30 in all competitions.

Sports Club were now totally dominant and a shot from substitute Glen Hendrix was knocked in from a Legion defender and made it 8-2. The final nail in the coffin for Legion came when Glen Hendrix scored his first competition goal for the Sports Club to finish the game 9-2.

RUGBY CLUB'S HEROIC TRIUMPH

Club produced an inspired performance to beat place Seaham in Durham and Northumberland Division

Division 3. For a number of reasons, Avcliffe were only able to field the bare 15 players for a difficult away match, with Ben Stevens playing his first game of the season on the wing.

Aycliffe knew they were going to be up against it and started in ferocious style, throwing themselves into the tackles and rucks and achieving dominance in the scrum. Seaham were left in the scrum. Seanam were left to rely on scraps of possession; soon the Aycliffe forwards set up good field position and Andy Littlefair picked up the back from a ruck to dive over for the opening try.

Aycliffe continued in the same

vein and Luke Tinkler kicked two fine penalties to extend the lead to 11 - 0. As the first half drew to a close, James Thacker created space for Adam Gascoigne on the outside; he stepped inside before scoring in the corner. With the last play Stuart McIvor crossed the line. but the score was disallowed for a marginal forward pass. At the break, Aycliffe led 16 - 0. The question at the halftime was: could Aycliffe keep up the magnificent work rate they had managed in the first period? The answer was ves, as they continued to take the game to their opponents. Tinkler was gaining plenty of ground with his kicking, which allowed the forwards to play off the front foot. The third try came from a flowing move involving forwards and backs with Luke forwards and backs with Luke Crossen adding the five points. With 20 minutes to go, Aycliffe were reduced to 14 men through injury, but they still fought like tigers, even taking a scrum against the head with only 7 forwards. Warren Parsonage looked to have set

a fine break down the blindside but Littlefair was unable to hold the scoring pass.

Danny Prince completed a full 80 minutes for the first time and close to the end of the match, put in three tackles in less than 30 seconds. A yellow card meant that Aycliffe had to play the last 5 minutes with 13 men, and Seaham attacked desperately to avoid the whitewash, but superb defending held them out. The final score was 21 - 0to Aycliffe with loosehead prop Cymon Lee being awarded Man-of-the-Match for his display in the scrum and open

All involved were elated at the manner of this victory against the odds, and all 15 players put outstanding performances. This result puts Aycliffe into 3rd place in the league with a game in hand over those on either side of them, they host the improving Richmondshire on 8th March, with the kick-off at 3.00pm. Newton Aycliffe sponsored by Boola Clothing Aycliffe and Hayward Home Appliances, trading as serviceforce. www.pitchero. com/clubs/newtonaycliffe.

Football Skills for Kids 4-7yrs

Team Time Football is now available at the Agnew Centre Community Tuesday at 6-30pm to 7-30pm.

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a week to forget, with 2 heavy defeats plunging them right back into a relegation struggle with the final 10 games of the season approaching.

Possibly the only bright point to have emerged from the 2 losses has been the re-emergence of Jamie Owens, now over his broken ankle and able to take a seat on the bench for Saturday Allan Oliver will be dearly hoping that he regains his goal scoring from to shoot Aycliffe to safety.
But in truth, it will be the other

end of the field that is of more concern for Oliver, who has seen his side ship 4, 5, 3, 3 and 3 goals in the last five games. The goal difference that was once looking like being worth a point to his team has suddenly plummeted to -14.

Saturdays game at Consett's new look ground offered Aycliffe a chance to quickly forget Wednesday nights home defeat to Durham City. The Aycliffe line-up showed a number of changes as Oliver seeks the answers to his side's recent form. Goalkeeper Andrews Spence was injured during the Durham game, and so Owen Little, who only signed on Friday from Gateshead Rutherford replaced him between the stick.

And in an effort to offer a little more protection to the back 4, Oliver switched to a 4-2-3-1 formation, with Mitton and Owen designated to sit and protect the defence.

And early on, the signs were certainly promising. Mid way through the first half, Tom Atkinson continued his recent hot streak in front of goal as he again displayed his composed finishing skills to give Aycliffe

It was a lead the visitors were to hold until half-time. Oliver will have been delighted with the way his side performed in the opening period, and will have

their first win on 2014

Steelmen into the lead

But alas, the second half, as it was last week at Crook, was a different story. Although Aycliffe held out until the hour mark, once they were breached, it was a sorry story. After Mackay equalised for the hosts, Lakonga quickly put the

sent them out for the second half confident of picking up

From that point on there was only likely to be one winner, and so it proved. However boss Oliver will have been frustrated that once again, Aycliffe conceded two goals in close succession. Cuthbertson made the game 3-1 on 79 minutes, and before Aycliffe could regain their composure, Mackay had made it 4-1 just a minute later. Aycliffe will be hoping to turn this alarming slump in form around on Tuesday, when they make the short trip to Heritage Park to face Bishop Auckland, who will feature several Aycliffe old boys in their ranks. Off the field things are going better for Aycliffe! Ticket sales for the Evening with the 3 Legends in partnership with NA Juniors FC are going well. If you want to attend the event, on Friday 28th March at Newton Aycliffe WMC, contact Dan Lewis on djl@ thesoccerfactoryltd.co.uk. Tickets also available for the Darts evening on May 9th, with a chance to play a leg of darts against Terry Jenkins. Paul McGeary can be contacted on mcgearypaul@hotmail.co.uk

Cheltenham at Sedgefield

Sedgefield Racecourse, expect a good attendance at their Cheltenham Festival Raceday on Tuesday, March 11, when guests at the racecourse will have the chance to enjoy seven live races, teamed with televised action from Cheltenham via a large screen at the course. It is a great opportunity for people who unfortunately cannot attend Cheltenham this year to come racing locally and enjoy the atmosphere. The afternoon will be topped off with live music from The Emerald Thieves after racing.

Tickets are available now, for the Festival raceday packages starting from £19. For more information or to buy tickets, visit www.sedgefield-racecourse.co.uk or call 01740 621925.







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Heighington Village Association are holding their AGM at the Village Hall on Tuesday 11th March from 7.00pm for 7.30pm and are keen to welcome villagers who would like to hear about what has been done to improve the hall over the past year and about the activities of regular

Drinks and light refreshments will be served at 7pm prior to the commencement of the AGM at 7.30pm. There will also be elections of Officers and Members of the Management Committee. New Committee members are always welcome. The Village Hall is the hub of the Heighington community and a lot of hard work is put into the day to day running of the building so it can be there for ALL villagers to enjoy. Without the hard work the Committee, who are volunteers, the village hall would not be open - so every bit of support they can get is greatly appreciated.

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children have taken part in an innovative programme that challenges youngsters to run their own city. Enterprise City sees children take control of their own city, make rules and discover the consequences of individual and group decisions. Aycliffe – based Enterprise England, the company that brought Enterprise City to the UK, have now made it possible for the schools in Co Durham to be the first to access this fantastic cross - curricular programme.

Pupils from St Mary's school in Aycliffe, some pictured receiving a plaque, got a glimpse of the custom made city which after successful pilot events, now has a permanent home at the premises of Newton Aycliffe manufacturing company Ebac.

The city, which includes shops, a bank and a restaurant, is run by a Mayor while the bank issues loans and the city trades as children try to make a profit

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taken part in one of the pilot events and had no hesitation in incorporating the programme into their school year.

Gail Mason, the Year 6 teacher at St Mary's, said: "We spent two weeks looking at what a city is and how it works and we looked at how business's run.

There's a lot of writing involved, a lot of maths and DT; it's related to work life experiences and is very relevant. This has ultimately given the children an understanding of why education is important and how it's used in later life. Hopefully it will improve their long term

performance in school."

St Mary's took part in the programme thanks to the social Livin sponsorship from housing provider Livin and national firm Bullock Construction , which has regional office on Aycliffe Business Park .

Bullock regional dir Duncan Williams said: director feel extremely privileged, along side our client partner Livin, to be able to support a project that will allow, children from a very young age to sample real life

future career paths .
"We cannot underestimate the long -term legacy that will be created through this project and I'm sure Newton Aycliffe and the surrounding communities will be full of budding professionals in 10 – 15 years time as a result of this scheme." Wayne Harris, executive director for Livin, added: "We are delighted to support the Enterprise City programme which plays a key role which plays a key role in helping young people understand the world of work and how they might play a role in society and making a local town operate.
"Working in partnership and

supporting people to deliver these innovative programmes is key to helping us improve the lives of people living in our communities

Enterprise City is designed to meet the requirements of the British education system and incorporates Citizenship, Numeracy, Literacy and Art and Design into the curriculum in an adaptable and kinaesthetic way. It is now being rolled out to schools across Newton Aycliffe and the North East. Feedback from participating schools has so far been extremely positive. For any schools or businesses who'd like to get involved with Enterprise City, call Dale Anderson on 07411 009487 or email dale@enterpriseengland.



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R.A.F.A. A.G.M. The A.G.M. of the Newton Aycliffe Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association will be held in the Canopus Club, Barrington Road on Wednesday 12th March 2014. Doors close at 8pm prompt. All members are cordially invited to attend.

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READING Reflexology. For personla treatments and parties contact www.footreading.net or call 01325 320409

Hairdressing



MOBILE HAIRDRESSER over 24 years experience. OAP reduced rates. Call Lynne on 01325 319497 or 07904 219997

Entertainment

FUN-n-BOUNCE Bouncy Castles for hire with and without slide, adult sizes available. All parties catered for, also available for indoor use. Tel 01325 307 445 or 07594 436 127

HARRY POTTY'S face painting, balloons and temporary glitter tattoos. Tel 01325 316 008 or 07756 034

INASPIN ROADSHOW Discos for all occasions. Weddings, birthdays, etc. a speciality. State of the Art Light Show. Tel 01325 310 646 or

07952 244 404 **PROF. NINCOMPOOP** Children's entertainer making birthday parties special. Balloons, magic and tomfoolery, midweek discounts. Tel Gary on 310 646 or 07952 244 404. Website: www.professor-nincompoop. com - FB Prof Nincompoop MAGICIAN for any events MAGICIAN for any Reasonable rates. Tel 01325 317045 or 07570 038952

CATS HAIRSPRAYED Free Family Cooking

you be able to stop your hands clapping if you come along to see the CATS (Youth Theatre Group) musical adaptation of "Hairspray" at the Civic Hall, Shildon this month.

The young people will be staging four shows on,

Catering

CRAFTY CAKES For any occasion, cakes made and iced or just iced. Tel 316 084

Tuition

ENJOY LEARNING Guitar. Bass or Drums at home. Roger 01325 321 444 Friendly, Experienced, Local.

C. EXLEY A.L.C.M. Piano/ Brass Teacher. Contact details 01388 773 588 or email colin. exley@btinternet.com

Property

HOUSE FOR SALE

Crosby Road, 3 bedroom end terrace, downstairs toilet, new walk-in shower, south facing garden with large conservatory Garage and car port. £130,000. No onward chain, view by appointment. Tel 01325 315138

Sits Vacant

BARGAIN BUYS sales/ delivery driver/installer to work in extremeley busy retail shop. Must be able to work at a high pace and be able to cope under pressure of tight deadlines. Experience essential, good DIY skills essential, positive 'can do' attitude essential and requirement for heavy lifting. May suit mature gentleman, 45-60. Tel: 01325 321678

and Saturday 15th March at 7.30pm with a final performance on Sunday 16th March at 2pm.

Madalyn Local thespians Patrick plays the jolly Edna Turblad whilst her sister Grace is the quiet Penny Pingleton. Bethany Elgey stars as Motormouth Maybelle, Willow Selby - Willis and Sophie - Tilley Alexander both play the part of the ever joking Wilbur Turnblad. joking Wilbur Turnblad. Sophie's sister Bobby Jay plays the Matron of the Big Dollhouse. The bouncy Cain Harrison plays the radio host Corny Collins and Emily Neal the not-so-nice Velma Von

Brown is the Georgia

also doubles as Motormouth Maybelle. Hannah Goddard is Thad one of the foreigners and Kodie-Leigh Wilson plays Seaweed . Poppy Burton is Motormouth's Daughter,

Amongst the Dance Troupe are Elizabeth Timmiss, Lucy Elgey, Charlie Grayson and Sadie Clausen. Dance Choreographer of most of the 16 dances is Cain's sister. Chloe Harrison whilst their cousin Jade Carney is the ever hard working Vocal Coach.

Tickets for the Thursday show only are all £3 each. Friday normal price of £4-50 Adults £2-5 Children/Concessions apply. To prebook ring 01325 313363 or 01388 774838

XCEL CONFERENCE



This weekend people from across the country are hosted by Xcel Church at their annual "Influence Conference". Guest speakers are Pastor Kirk Bowman from the Rock Church, Asheville, North Carolina and Pastor Paul Scanlon from Life

Attendees enjoyed a late night concert from Scottish Band, The Royal Foundlings. Youngsters have been enjoying the Influence Kids Conference, a circus themed event, fun-packed

and entertaining, while learning about Jesus. You can still be a part of Influence 2014 and join us on Sunday at 10.30am to hear Pastor Paul Scanlon and 6.00pm with Pastor Kirk Bowman. Sunday is FREE and everyone is welcome. We would love for you to be a part of this weekend. For more information check out www.influenceconference. co.uk or ring the Xcel Centre on 0845 4505871

Course at PCP



Thinking of something creative and healthy to do with the kids, that doesn't cost? Colour your Life are running a free 4 week family cooking course at the Pioneering Care Centre starting on Tuesday 18 March, after school at 3.30-

Classes are for adults and children to enjoy cooking and learn new skills together. If you're a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle you can bring along one or more children.

Children love cooking, getting 'hands on' with food and tasting the results, adults will love seeing their children's delight as they cook, learn and experience new flavours. The course will allow

youngsters to express themselves in a variety of ways, the kids get to do as much of the preparation and cooking as they like with adults and instructors helping

where necessary.

'Colour your Life' is an Arts on Prescription project through Durham funded through Durham County Council and delivered Pioneering through the Care Partnership (PCP) in Newton Aycliffe. It aims to provide access to the arts to promote positive mental health and wellbeing amongst participants.

participants.

Places are limited so booking essential, please contact the Colour your Life team at PCP on 01325 321234 or email colouryourlife@pcp.uk.net

Accommodation

Available To Rent

4 Bed, Fewston Close £600pcm 3 Bed, Guthrum Place £500 pcm 2 Bed, Grassholme Place

£460pcm Housing Benefit Welcome **Telephone**

07540 640591

For Rent

3 bedroom house in St Godrics Road. Integrated Kitchen, Conservatory, Good Area £115 per week

TELEPHONE 07972 098835

TO LET

2 Bed Terrace House in Dent Street. Tindale Crescent near new retail park New kitchen, bathroom and carpets, No pets, Bond required, £375pcm

07799 616072

3 BEDROOM terraced house in St Barbara's Walk, £475pcm Bond. Tel 07870 216801

3 BEDROOM with garage to let in Kestrel Court. Rent £500, Bond £500, Admin £100, Tel 07814 022301

2 BEDROOM family home loacted in a quiet street near to the town centre shops and local school. Front and rear garden, refurbished bathroom living room. Fitted kitchen, £450pcm, commencing March 2014. Tel 07860 657827

BEDROOM house to rent, just had new windows and carpets, quiet area. Call Heather on 07882 440377

2 BEDROOM privately built, 3 year old for rent in Shildon. £430pcm. Available 7-3-2014. Tel 07594 436127

BEDROOM house Woodham to let. Available April. £350pcm. Bond and References required, No DSS, Smokers or Pets. Tel 01325 317045 or 07803 349508

3 BEDROOM semi detached house to rent in Kestrel Court, Newton Aycliffe. Front and rear garden. Large 4 car drive way, garage and downstairs toilet. Private rent, £550pcm, Bond required, 07808 229176

2 BEDROOM house to rent in Woodham Lea, Newton Aycliffe. Excellent condition. Front and rear gardens. £460 pcm. No DSS. Tel 07873 741471 or 01325 314031

3 **BEDROOM** properties to let. For details call 07980



Pets

New Dog/Puppy Training Course starting soon

Reward based Training with Qualified Instructors

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BUBBLING AYCLIFFE BATTER BISHOPS

Newton Avcliffe bounced back from back-to-back defeats with an impressive derby win at Bishop Auckland on Tuesday night. Talk of another relegation dog-fight were temporarily dispelled with a fine display by Allan Oliver's men, who climbed back up to 10th in the Ebac Northern League first division.

Goals by Ebiac Pamie Owens and hometown winger Stuart Owen

bagged maximum points for the visitors with a 2-0 triumph at Heritage Park. And the timing of the performance couldn't have been better after

Aycliffe lost 5-1 at home to Durham last week and 4-1 at Consett on Saturday. Oliver gave a debut to new signing Gary Wood, a left-footed

midfielder drafted in from Guisborough Town. But there was little action in the first half until Tom Atkinson was tripped inside the box four minutes before half-time, and Stuart Owen sent former Aycliffe 'keeper Scott Pocklington the wrong way from the spot.

Atkinson beat the offside trap on the hour but Pocklington produced a great save to deny him at his rear post.

And Pocklington was called into action again seven minutes later

when he saved with his legs from Atkinson.

But he was beaten after 74 minutes when Owens scored his first goal since returning from injury. The forward beat a defender before firing low past Pocklington from 20 yards. Aycliffe 'keeper Owen Little produced a great save to claw John Butler's deflected cross round the post in the 84th minute.

Then substitute Dan Mellanby was presented with a great chance a minute later, but rolled his effort wide of the post when faced

with just the 'keeper. Bishop were gifted a way back in the game with four minutes to

go when Gary Wood upended Butler in the box. When Butler blazed his spot-kick over, the ref ordered a re-take when he spotted ex-Bishop midfielder Dion Raitt encroaching, only for Butler to blaze his second penalty even higher over the

And Aycliffe held on to claim their fifth away win of the season with nine games of the campaign remaining. Aycliffe: Little, M Wood, Clough, Mitton, Close, G Wood, Young,

Raitt, Atkinson (Mellanby), Owens, Owen. Unused: Hedley, Butterworth, Green, Gibson.

Thank You

HARRY HEATON would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to his World Challenge Quiz Fundraising Night on 1st March at the Oak Leaf Complex. The night was a huge success, especially becuase of the efforts of Stephen, Georgette and Jordan - special thanks go to them. An amazing £745 was raised, we could not have done it without everyone's generosity. THANK YOU.

MICHELLE & CAMPBELL would like to thank family and freiends for all the cards and

lovely gifts received on the birth of Zach

MANY THANKS to the Sacred Heart for prayers answered, MC

Births .

MICHELLE & CAMPBELL congratulations on the safe arrival of Baby Zach, we are so proud of you. Lots of love from Mam. Dad and all the

WELCOME to Lilly Mae, who arrived on 5th March to Beth and Samuel. Congratulations from Grandparents Cheryl and Stephen, Great Grandparents Hild and Vernon. Loads of love from all the family xxxx

Rachel TYNDALL (nee Mitchie) and Dan, congratulations on the birth of your Son Fletcher Albie on 21st February, weighing 7lb 8oz. He is adorable. Love from Mam, Ernie and Jordan xxx

TYNDALL Congratulations Rachel and Daniel on the birth of your beautiful Son Fletcher Albie. Loads of love, Rebecca, Glvn, Ethan, Erin and Iona

For Sale

BARGAIN BUYS Bosch washing machine to rent, £3.99 a week! No deposit, no more unwanted repair bills. Tel 321

AVONDALE Argente 640/6, Reg 2005. 6 berth twin axle. Fridge, cooker, fixed bunks, large end bathroom, toilet and shower, excellent condition. OIRO £6000. Contact John 07739 232 066

ELLDIS Buccaneer Carribean 2005. Mint condition, £6000, 4 berth, single axle, end bathroom, serviced June 2013. Ready to use, little used. Ring for full specifications 01325 319556 or 07715 002701 or 07855 053604 "ALL SORTS" selling anything and everything for Charity. Every Tuesday. Thursday and Saturday, 10am to 1pm at St Clare's Church

"RELYON" single beds, 1 storing under the other, VG condition, £80. Tel 07746

62 COMBINATION dinner dinner, tea and coffee set, TTC white, blue and yellow. £30. Tel 07746 123785

LARGE Carpenters Box containing various Vintage Carpentry Tools. Ring for more details/price. Newton Avcliffe. 07593 641788 Evenings/

Weekends. HEADBOARD Shabby Chic, cream/gold, wrought iron, double, £15. Tel 07534 408623 **BRAND NEW** double divan with quilted Damask mattress, can deliver, £120. Tel 07789

BRAND NEW double divan with memory foam mattress, can deliver, £170. Tel 07789

A NEW SOCIALIST ALLIANCE FOR NEWTON AYCLIFFE

Dear Editor,

I write to inform you of a new organisation in Newton Aycliffe. Many Newtonians have suffered at the hands of the Tory led government's brutal policies which have plunged many people into destitution.

Labour Our Party representatives speak in platitudes about what's to be done. I hear from young people who cannot get a job, coerced onto useless courses, threatened with benefits sanctions if they protest. Older workers find themselves on the scrapheap. or working for poverty wages with no job security through recruitment agencies.

workforce local moves through a cycle unemployment and temporary jobs with no hope of building a stable future and social mobility for them and their families. I've sought assurances from our M.P Phil Wilson that, the coming Hitachi jobs will offer a living wage and job security; only to be met with contempt by the Labour Party for embarrassing our M.P with a question he cannot answer. Local families resort to food banks, worry about their winter gas bill and cannot find the cost of a prescription charge and for many people dental treatment has become an unaffordable luxury.

We return Labour Councillors to County Hall who watch plight of ordinary people, from the safety and comfort of their middle class

Beginner's **Line Dance Classes Start**

Starting Monday March at Aycliffe W.M.C. and then every Monday and Wednesday night from 6.30 till 8.00pm dancing to all types of music. All ages welcome - cover charge

For more details contact Paul Christian: christian_288@ msn.com Tel: 07800 940143

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David 07542 126630 Guaranteed Workmanship

lifestyles. In my ward, I am represented by a Labour county councillor, who owns two private homes, while a local worker cannot even access one of the ex-council houses sold off to private enterprise.

The Labour controlled council, who have enjoyed social mobility, are not prepared to fight or speak out against the Party line to ensure that the next generation benefit from the same opportunities they had

Newton Avcliffe was founded on socialist principles, decent jobs, decent housing and a good standard of living for all. The vision for our town at its inception was a vision of ordinary people holding the power to change and direct their lives.

I've had enough of the Tory assault on ordinary people, and the patronising rhetoric of a complacent Labour Party

Greenfield Supporting

Fair Trade

who have moved further and What we need to return to the further away from the people the Party was formed to represent

I want to see ordinary people who suffer the effects of political decisions, become the people who make political decisions themselves. It's time we gave power people who understand the struggle to access housing, employment, community services, education and healthcare.

I am inaugurating a socialist alliance in Newton Aycliffe, where people can meet to express the issues they face: and through the aims of socialism exchange ideas and find solutions that will serve our area and our communities well.

The aim of the alliance will be to identify and support ordinary people who wish to stand as independent socialist candidates at the next round of town and county elections.

Enquiry 4

Fotoohi and Lucy Roberts

George **Smith** 5th March 2009

vision of Newton Avcliffe's

foundational aim, is to return

the working class to power,

ordinary people who will serve no other master except

their community and their

In due course I shall speak

to people on the doorstep.

Anyone who wishes to

contact me to express their interest would be most

welcome, and can do so by

In Memoriam

warrensaunders@

conscience.

email:

mail.com

Warren Saunders

This day we shall remember with tears, heartache and regrets. The day you were taken from us, how could we ever forget.

You never complained, you never gave in, you fought a battle you couldn't win.

There comes a time we must all part, you left too soon and broke our hearts. We love you loads and always will, we wish we could tell you still.

Thinking of you and miss you lots. Love, Madge, Sue, Roly, Christopher, Fiona and Great Grandchildren, Charlie and George xxxx

HARBOTTLE In loving memory of dear friend Gladys, always in our thoughts. Sylvia and Vic
RICK MILLER Thinking

of you today Dad, but that is nothing new, I thought about you vesterday and the day before that too. I miss you. Love, Tiffany xx
GLADYS HARBOTTLE

GLADYS Died 7th March 2013. It's hard to believe it's been a year, as we look across at the empty chair. A dear Mother who is constantly in our thoughts and missed every day. Vera, Lavinia and Andy xxx

SOULSBY, Peter Elliot. 10th March 1999. The years go by but still you stay in my heart every day. Love, Valerie and

MARILYN BAKER We will always miss you and it hurts to be apart. But we never really lost you, you are still here Mam and Nana within our hearts. From all your Gang xxx VALENTINE Charles (Charlie) 14/2/1926 to 4/3/2013; His beloved Wife Joyce, 4/12/1928 to 2/7/1995; Their loving Son Michael, 14/2/1953 to 3/11/2008. Fondly remembered by all the Hubery family
RICHARD MILLER died

10th March 2011. Always missed and loved, from Sheila, Peter and Lisa xxx THOMPSON, Margaret Rose.

7/3/2014. It's lonely here without you, nothing is the same. All we have is memories and your picture in a frame. We can't get over losing you, no matter how we try. We'll keep you in our hearts until the day we die.. From your loving family xxxx

Congratulations



PARKIN Happy 21st birthday Aimee. Loads of love from Crazy Cuz, Beth, Auntie Julie, Uncle Kev, Nana, Grandad and all the family

CHARLOŤTE DOUGLAS Happy birthday to a very special Daughter. Lots of love from Mam and Gordon xxxx CHARLOTTE DOUGLAS

wishing our gorgeous Granddaughter a very happy 22nd birthday. Lots of love, Nan and Grandad xxx

CHARLOTTE DOUGLAS Hip Hip Hooray, my big Cousin is 22 today. Lots of love from Freya, AC and Will

JOHN MILLER 1965. Happy birthday to my wonderful Husband. Have a great day. You've been there for me through all the hard times we've shared. You are the best. Love you always, Andress xxx JOHN MILLER 5-3-1965.

Happy birthday to the best Dad in the world. You are there by my side always. Love you Dad, from your Princess, Chloe

XXXX
LIZ SARSFIELD Have a great 60th birthday and fantastic weekend. Not too many bubbles in the hot tub!! All my love as always, Keith **KAYLEIGH REED** Happy 13th birthday. Love from Ma Dad, Jessica, Chelsea and Eden KAYLEIGH REED Happy 13th birthday. Love from Corey, Sharna and Alexis

Obituary

MILLION Suddenly but peacefully on March 1st. Hilda, aged 85 years. Much loved Mum of Marilyn, Carol and Colleen: Mother-in-Law of Harold, John and Paul; loving Nana of Sean, Grant, Dawn, Karl, John-Paul, Harriett and Jonny, also a loving Great Nana. Will family and friends please meet for a Service in St. Clare's Church, Newton Avcliffe on Friday 14th March 11.45am. To be followed by cremation at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon.

Birthdav Remembrance

RENA LEADBITTER To my special Nanny who's a star up above, I'm blowing you kisses and sending lots of love. Miss and love you every day. Love, Lola xxxx

RENA LEADBITTER On this day I feel you're close, but then I always do. Not a day will pass when I don't think of you. So many happy memories of times we shared together. Cherished and remembered to be with me forever. Happy birthday Pet. From your loving Husband John xxxx

RENA LEADBITTER We think about you every day and miss you more than words can say. We think of all the happy times, but silent tears we often cry. Happy birthday to our special Mam, our first without vou. Love you so much, from

all the family xxxx

TREVOR SHAW 9/3/1947. Put your arms around him Lord, don't leave him on his own. For today it's our Dad's birthday, his first away from home. Lots of love, Abby and Luke xxx

TREVOR SHAW 9/3/1947. Thinking of you Trevor on your birthday. But this is nothing new, for no day dawns and no day ends without a thought of you. Love and miss you always, Angela xxx

Clarkson

From a Cutie, To a Beauty Sweet! Sixteen

Happy birthday Bethany. Lots and lots of love from Mam, Dad, Ebony and the boys, Nana and Grandad and all the family

Julie MacFarlane



Have a wonderful time on this special day. As you are a very special person to all of us and really deserve it. Hugs and kisses sent with all our love, Ali, Natalie, Matthew, Ben and all the family xxxxx

Elizabeth Sarsfield



Many Happy Returns on your 60th Birthday Enjoy your weekend. Love. Mam and Dad xxx

Happy 60th Birthday

Mam and Nana

Enjoy your weekend at the lodge. Love from all the gang xxxxxx

Heighington AFC Boys Under 9's, 11's and 13's teams are seeking to bolster their teams, and are looking for experienced players who want to become part of a friendly, and ever expanding village club with great facilities and

If you're interested in any of the age groups mentioned then contact Jim Barr for more details

Junior Players Wanted

prospects.

on 07899 862079.

During Fairtrade fortnight students at Greenfield Community College have Greenfield been supporting Foncho, a banana farmer, to raise awareness of bananas being sold at unfair prices this threatens farmers' futures. In Time4Success, tutor have been participating in a wide range of activities learning more about Fairtrade. Students are helping to raise awareness of unfair banana prices and considering the consequences of this

Fairtrade

Enquiry 4

Success

Pack

by designing campaign materials for Fairtrade's current focus to 'Stick with Students are participating in quizzes, as well as making their voice heard by signing Foncho's petition to make the trading of bananas fair. A competition has been running to guess how many Fairtrade Maltesers are in a jar. Saffron tutor group has been exploring

the Arts Centre. On Friday, a group of students from Jade tutor group, including event masterminds Mille Tezcan-

the importance of buying

Fairtrade products in the

newly opened Room 13 in

from Year 8, organised a "Fairtrade Coffee Morning." The event was brilliantly organised and promoted by the students, raising over £75 for Comic Relief selling Fair trade food and drinks and raffling some great Fairtrade prizes. The event was attended by staff, parents and students from Years 10 and 11 who showed their support for both Comic Relief and Fair trade. Shirley Douglas, Jade Tutor Group teacher said "I am immensely proud of the mature and independent way all students managed their individual responsibilities making the event such a success." This event, the activity over Fairtrade fortnight and the students' responses to the Fairtrade debate demonstrate Greenfield's commitment to global learning, creating students with a wide range of knowledge of the world around them and current issues.

Fair trade fortnight has continued this week at Greenfield with even more activity, supporting Foncho and Fair trade.



Announcing

The Acorns is pleased to announce the arrival of it's

Fostering Service

Caring for children and young people of all ages

Now recruiting carers in the Aycliffe area



Monday-Wednesday Special £7.50 visit our website for more information www.masalatandoori.co.uk Sun & Thur Special £8.95 Poppadom Any Starter* Any Main Course* • Any Rice and Plain Nan *Offer excludes King Prawn and Mix

FREE HOME DELIVERY ON ORDERS OVER £10.00

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HOTPOI

Could You See Yourself Fostering?



Acorn Care is an independent provider of children and young people's services in Darlington and the surrounding areas. They are currently recruiting foster carers to look after children and young people in their own homes as well as people who may be interested in residential support work in

children's homes or the new independent living project. They have had a big response from the Aycliffe area and there is still time for anyone interested in finding out more to contact The Acorns staff and arrange to come along to an information session or for a worker to call around for a

Children and young people can need foster placements for all kinds of reasons and The Acorns are committed to providing foster carers with the support, advice and financial resources they need to look after each individual

Many different people can apply to become foster carers.

Married, single or living with a partner; retired or of working age and people with or without their own children at home. There's no need for a big house, although having a spare room is a must. You don't have to have worked with children and young people before but relevant experience is a benefit and a driving licence and a sense of humour also help.
Foster placements can be

short or long term, and are needed for all age groups from babies to older teenagers – and from all sorts of circumstances. There is particular need for carers who could look after brothers and sisters so they can stay together, for people willing give teenagers a chance - especially some who may have got themselves into trouble, and for people who could care for children with disabilities- either full time or

for 'respite breaks'
If you've been thinking about fostering or are interested in other opportunities with The Acorns contact fostering@acorncare.org. uk - phone 01325 485143 or check our Facebook page TheAcornsFostering or www.

Sponsorship for Under 10's



Newton Aycliffe Under 10 Falcons are proud to announce that Rend-Tech North East Limited have sponsored the team. Rend-Tech who supply external render solutions for the construction industry, have donated some much needed training tops.

Manager, Martin Smails said he was delighted to have the Sedgefield based company on board, "It's great when local firms show an interest in youth football and the boys love their new tops which gives them an identity. On behalf of everyone involved with Newton Aycliffe Youth under 10 Falcons, Thank you!"

Planet Leisure Bowling Results

The Pinheads played the Shildon Strikers this week and beat them 6-2 to finish on 100 points.

Still in joint second place are the Clangers and the Strike Force as they played each other and ended in a 4-4 draw, both on 85 pts.

In fourth are the Wenwees just one point back on 84 pts as they won 6-2 over the The Optimists. The M & M's also drew 4-4 with the Late Starter. M & M's are on 68

The Bowl Movements won 8-0 over the Misfits and are on 66 pts with the Misfits on 64 pts.

Shildon Strikers on 53 pts followed by the Optimists on 53pts and in last place Late Starter on 52 pts.

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