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Great Night Out for £5

Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club are holding another Charity Night in co-operation with the British Legion on Tuesday 4th November from 7.30pm. The cost is only £5 and includes Pie & Peas Supper, Bingo, Raffle, Tombola, Dancing and live entertainment provided by top cabaret artists who are giving their services free. Tickets are available now from the Bar at the Legion, Walkers Butchers and Newton Press offices, but hurry they are limited.

CUBBY GETS NOTICE TO QUIT

Council Need Land for Shops



On Saturday 11th October 2014 the Trustees of Great Aycliffe Old People's Welfare Committee were served with a formal notice of twelve months to vacate the site on which the portable building known as "The Cubby" stands. Notice was given under section 25 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 to end the tenancy on the 10th October 2015. The Cubby has legally occupied the site for 37 years and the notice to quit came without any formal prior warning. The Council has not made any offer of an alternative site at this stage. Before making any response to Durham County Council the Trustees are seeking legal advice. When that is received and the Trustees have had the opportunity to consider its position a formal reply will be made to the Council. This notice to quit also affects "Honest John" who currently operates from The Cubby raising thousands of pounds for worthy causes in Newton Aycliffe. In the meantime The Cubby remains open as usual and Honest John's fund raising activities continue. The Trustees.

Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire STILL TIME TO HAVE YOUR SAY

Angela Comer still wants to hear your views on the future development of the town. She said "Although the deadline has passed for the prize draw, we are still accepting and analysing questionnaires. I urge anyone who would like to help influence planning policies for our town, to complete and return the questionnaire using the pre-paid envelope or drop it into one of the collection points".

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£1500 Raised in Memory of Johnny Jones



Left to right Johnny's grandchildren: Olivia, Charlie, Charlotte, Tom and Emily. The Jones' family are overwhelmed by the generosity of friends and family and have handed over the cheque to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Year 11 Celebrate at Woodham



Woodham Academy hosted its annual Year 11 Celebration/Information Evening recently. The event marked the beginning of the final year for all the year 11 students.

The evening began with a celebration of the excellent GCSE results achieved in the summer in English Literature, Biology and Science. All students were then recognised for the progress that they have made in their studies up to the end of Year 10. Certificates of Achievement were given to students in the following categories: 5 or more A*C including English and Mathematics, English Baccalaureate and 3+ A*/A grades.

There were also tutor group award winners rewarding students with high effort grades and those with 100% attendance. The night was a mixture of celebrating what the students have achieved so far, but also acknowledging they need to give maximum effort in the build up to their final examinations. Deputy Headteacher, Jonathan Lumb, said "It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the students' achievements so far, with parents/carers, and also build in key information about the importance of revision and exam preparation. We wish all of our students success in their final year at Woodham Academy".

Hand-Made Poppy Sale

The Co-operative Funeralcare are selling hand made poppies for Remembrance Day at each of the local branch offices again this year to support the Royal British Legion. Last year we raised £335 for the RBL and would like to thank everyone who contributed to that wonderful amount. The poppies have been kindly made for us by members of the community and are available for a donation to RBL at Newton Aycliffe branch in Macmillan Road. For more information please call 01325 300510.

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Going, Going, Gone!

An Auction Sale will be held at St Elizabeth's Church, Woodham on Saturday 18th October. Viewing at 9.00am and the sale starts at 10 a.m. Refreshments available. Lots for the Auction gratefully accepted. Please contact Nora on 01325 789344 office hours.

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Saturday 18th October - "The Unsound"

The Unsound are a hard rock band from the North East of England, playing a collaboration of hard hitting rock covers ranging from Chuck Berry to Guns N Roses to The Foo Fighters with a few originals thrown in here and there. After a successful first year in the local scene playing various different pubs, clubs and festivals across the North East they are back with a vengeance.

Saturday 25th October - "Mugshot"
Sunday 26th October - "Thatchers Bush"

For more information on bands go to www.turbiniapub.co.uk or 313034
Free Function Room - Free Disco/Karaoke

ACORN October Meeting

Residents group ACORN will hold their October meeting in the British Legion Club on Monday 20th October at 6pm. Discussion on future events such as the annual Halloween Party Spooktacular on 31st October in the Leisure Centre. Tickets are available from there at £2 - entertainment and disco provided by Prof Nincompoop and nibbles on tables. Under 16s need to be accompanied and supervised by an adult. The ACORN Blackpool and Keswick trip is fully booked and we are looking forward to seeing the illuminations. With the festive season fast approaching plans are progressing for the great ACORN Pantomime trip to Durham Gala theatre in January. It has been a hectic year for the residents group happily culminating with the return of the Newton Aycliffe firework display and I would like to thank all involved with the

Save our Fireworks Display campaign which allowed us to explore facebook as a tool for mass marketing and campaigning. Special thanks to Mrs Eleanor West for tutoring and setting up the page and everyone involved for your support. ACORN is an open inclusive organisation, family friendly and seeks to provide events which brings our wonderful community together. We welcome everyone to come along and get involved and would like anyone with specialist skills such as administration and fundraising to come forward and offer help. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings. Don't forget we have a thriving Little ACORNS group who meet just before the main meeting at 5.30pm to discuss issues related to them including planning future events. Ken Robson (Chairman) Tel 01325 321471

HITACHI TO BUILD NEW TRAINS FOR SCOTLAND

Abellio has confirmed that Hitachi Rail Europe is its preferred supplier of new rolling stock for the Edinburgh Glasgow Improvement Programme, subject to successful conclusion of negotiations. Andy Barr, Hitachi Rail Europe's Chief Operating Officer, said: "This is great news, as it is the first contract for our recently launched AT200 commuter train. These trains will be built at Hitachi's new manufacturing facility in Newton Aycliffe, complementing the delivery of the Class 800 and 801 trains for the Intercity Express Programme, boosting jobs and growth in the North East." Hitachi will build a fleet of AT200 commuter trains. A life-size mock-up of this new development was recently presented to the UK and international rail industry. It has been designed to transform the regional commuter travel experience. With a top speed of 100 miles per hour, each unit is 23 metres in length, and features cab-end and inter-vehicle gangways to facilitate the best use of passenger space. The train has a 35-year design life and is made to complement the requirements as set out by Transport Scotland. In particular, they place a heavy emphasis on energy efficiency and weight reduction to

minimise the impact on the infrastructure. Passengers will have a pleasant travelling environment with adequate table and toilet facilities, LED lighting and air conditioning as standard. Power sockets and wifi are available throughout the trains, bringing modern comforts to the travelling public. In addition to this, the space underneath cantilever seats provides room for luggage, which is supplemented by further luggage storage for commuter travel. This is the latest contract for Hitachi Rail Europe in the UK. To date, the train manufacturer has delivered the preview service for the Class 395 Javelin™ trains, Britain's fastest commuter service, to

Southeastern six months early. They remain the most reliable train fleet on Southeastern's network. The new trains for Scotland further Hitachi's AT200 range of trains, a custom-designed train for their passengers' requirements. Furthermore, Hitachi Rail has implemented new methods of vehicle construction and manufacturing based on its A Train product platform. These methods will be employed in the construction of the AT200 trains. In addition to the Class 800/801 trains commissioned for the government's Intercity Express Programme. The trains will be built at Hitachi Rail's flagship unit in Newton Aycliffe bringing 730 jobs. The trains, run by Abellio, will be in operation from 2017.

What's new on our website this week?
www.newtonnews.co.uk

This week on the Newton News website there are submissions to our "Readers' Photographs" section; new job vacancies and accommodation available in the area. We have added 1997 to our archive section of the Newton News, 1998 will be added next week. Great Aycliffe Town Council drew the winners from the Neighbourhood Plan draw, which can be viewed in our Video Archive section (more details about the draw in this week's issue on page 9).

Don't forget to claim your FREE page on our website to promote your group, club or organisation. Added this week are details from SSAFA, North East Wurlitzer Group, Aristocat Rescue, Boys Brigade, Greenfield Tennis, Newton Aycliffe Rotary Club and others. We are constantly adding events to our calendar so if you have a local event, let us know and we will promote it for you FREE - send details for any of the above to paul@newtonnews.co.uk

The Royal British Legion

Saturday, 18th October, 2014

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A Few £'s a Month to Help Aycliffe Families in Need

The "Helping Hands" Challenge

Life Church has set out to raise essential funds for Helping Hands the Aycliffe charity which helps families in need. Recently they announced they have delivered goods to the value of £750,000.00 into homes in our community that need them most and they want to continue the work.

Helping Hands Manager Alwyn White says "we are well aware we need sustainable income to keep up this level of support. "We know there are many more families desperate for help, so it's crucial we raise more funds to provide more support. The only way for Helping Hands to survive is to move toward a method of funding that is efficient, reliable and sustainable. To help do that we are looking for 100 regular givers to come forward in the next two months. We desperately need generous people to keep this essential service running".

The Life Church congregation are asking their friends and family - Some have made the decision to ask friends and family to give small amounts of money every month instead of buying them a Christmas present and



Linzi, Derek, and Kerry – Team Leaders for the 'Transforming Lives' Challenge

it seems to be working. One supporter said 'It just felt right that I give up the gift I usually get don't really need with the knowledge that it can help change someone's life in our community. Don't waste money on ANOTHER box of chocolates or ANOTHER pair of socks! Think of families with little children who are going without! Alwyn said its not a new idea really Kate Middleton and Prince William made the decision to "Pay it Forward" with their wedding gifts,

asking that money to be used for gifts be given to charities and good causes. They didn't need all the extra gifts and neither do a lot of Newton News readers and we are giving you the opportunity to follow their example. See what difference your donation could make to the families we support and remember, 100% of your gift goes to our projects. £3.00 per month will restore colour and life back a pensioner's garden with the gift of plants. Your gift will

create new opportunities for plants to grow and brighten up a pensioner's garden ensuring it is bright and blooming in the future as our volunteers do a makeover. £5.00 per month will provide a family holiday, as we are able to get bursary places. £10 per month could pay for crisis household packs for a family that lasts six months On average we can multiply every £1 given x 10, so your monthly contribution will really make a big difference to all the lives touched by your generosity.

Can you, your organisation or business help us plan for the future so we can reach our £million target by giving what you can each month or even a one off donation, by phoning or texting 07936 431262 to find out more? You can e-mail lifeline.action@googlemail.com and we will get back in touch with you.

Newton News will follow the progress of this challenge and feature some of the ways on how you have been able to contribute to this amazing cause. Whatever you can give, your donation makes a real difference. Thank you.



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AND TO LOOK AROUND THE SCHOOL. THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER, 6.00 - 7.00PM**

PINK DAY RAISED £316

The residents and staff at Woodham Grange off Burn Lane organised a Pink Day in aid of Breast Cancer on Saturday 4th October. Staff contributed towards a bouncy castle for the children and the residents had fun watching them play in between the rain showers.

Everyone was encouraged to wear something pink, including family and friends who attended with residents and staff who purchased Tickled Pink T-shirts.

There was a raffle and tombola and lots of pink cakes, and £316.58 was raised. The residents enjoyed having people in their home, particularly the children and helping them devour the pink cakes.



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'Mum-preneurs' Launch Speed Friending Events

Have you heard of 'Speed Friending'? If you haven't, chances are you soon will. It's a new craze creating a buzz around our region and works on a similar principle to Speed Dating. The idea arose after busy working mums and budding entrepreneurs Caroline Warren and Nikki Atkinson quickly discovered that socialising as a mother is a whole new ball game compared to socialising before having children.

The duo decided to do something about it and Pop-Up Mums Events was born. Their aim is to help parents enjoy some much-needed me-time without compromising other commitments, but to also help re-establish a support network with like-minded people right on their doorstep.

From weekend breakfast and cinema clubs to entertain the kids while mums indulge in grown-up conversation or enjoy a beauty treatment with a technician on hand next door, to their innovative Mums Wear Heels event which sees local fashion stylists, make-up artists, hair consultants and



even fitness and nutritional experts come together under one roof and give guests one to one advice. 'Pop-Up Mums' is about encouraging mums to put time aside and remember that we are women who have interests outside of raising children and play dates at the park. Keen to understand women's mental wellbeing more clearly, co-founders Caroline and Nikki also sought advice mental health charity Mind. As

the duo explain, 'hormones, sleep deprivation and the intensity of caring for a child 24/7 can quickly become overwhelming for mums, not to mention the challenges of having children at different times in life to others, or moving away from established

friends.' Understanding the importance of social inclusion and recognising that social isolation can contribute to stress, anxiety and lower self-esteem helped ensure Pop-Up Mums is a safe and nurturing environment for mums of any age who might be feeling out of the loop and in need of a support network.

Pop-Up Mums' debut 'Speed Friending' events will take place at The Library Bar, Durham City, Tuesday October 21st from 7.30pm-9.30pm. Simply sign up for an event at popupmumsevents.com where

you will be matched with potential friends by Pop-Up Mums after registration and a welcome talk on the day. After four minute rounds of lively chat with paired mums 'Speed Dating style', guests are invited to continue their conversations over refreshments and nibbles before getting a goodie bag to take home.

If you're in need of a coffee, slice of cake and some proper conversation, or looking for a perfect excuse to get dressed up and enjoy a glass of wine with new friends, why not give Pop-Up Mums Events a try?

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Dear Newton News, I am writing in praise of two local companies, who, in my opinion, give excellent service and good value for money.

Firstly, Ramseys Ltd, who my wife and I have been going to for most of its operating life in Newton Aycliffe for car sales and repairs. The attention given to customers is first rate and I believe that Ian and Elliot Ramsey and the rest of their team deserve hearty congratulations.

Secondly, I would not hesitate in recommending The Window Guy, for giving another brilliant service to its customers. We had doors, windows and a conservatory installed and would not consider using anyone else - well done Antoine.

I consider Newton Aycliffe very fortunate to have these two companies on their doorstep.
N. R. Holland

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Pumpkins at the PCP



Free Family Pumpkin Carving and a 'Beat the Winter Blues' course are just two of the many activities planned to help people enjoy this time of year. As the dark nights approach and colder weather sets in, you'll get a warm welcome at the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe.

Colour your Life creative and learning courses for adults and families are now underway at the Centre. PCP use professional, experienced tutors who deliver artistic and informal learning activities whilst providing opportunities for friendship in a safe, welcoming and enjoyable environment.

Families are invited to celebrate Halloween by carving a Jack-o-lantern to take home! Colour your Life are running this special half term session on Monday 27th October 1-3pm.

Let them do the dirty work by removing the seeds and innards and show you the tricks and treats on how to make your pumpkin really spook! Weekly family fun sessions run every Thursday from 4 - 5.30pm, booking is essential at both the workshop and weekly sessions.

Beat the Winter Blues is a specially designed 10 week

course for people aged 16+ starting on Wednesday 12 November, 10am-12noon. The first 5 weeks will help people plan and prepare for a stress free Christmas and will include simple changes that could make a significant difference. The course will cover money management, avoiding family arguments and sharing the workload.

The following 5 weeks start on Wednesday 7th January and will include motivational and mood boosting tips and advice on how you can make real and meaningful changes to your life in the New Year.

Colour your Life is a 'social prescribing' service funded by the County Council Public Health. 'Social prescribing' is a health service term for the linking of people with non-medical sources of support from within the community.

The service is open to referrals from GP's, mental health services, health and care professions, third sector/community organisations, statutory agencies and self-referrals. Please get in touch to find out more.

To register an interest in the Colour your Life courses, get in touch with the team at PCP on 01325 321234 email: colouyourlife@pcp.uk

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Dead Dogs and Snakes Found in Recycling Bin

Dear Sir
I work for the company that receives the recycling Durham County Council collects from Aycliffe. I live in Newton Aycliffe myself and pay council tax. Over the last few months I have noticed a number of complaints about the council's service and the last one was the final straw.
All the recycling bins should have a sticker on them saying what is acceptable in the bins: paper, cardboard and cartons, plastic bottles, pots and trays, plus metal cans, tins and aerosols, with a separate box for glass bottles and jars and to "if in doubt leave it out".
Despite this we regularly receive used nappies, bags of dog poo, tins of paint, green waste, duvets, rabbit hutch sweepings, hypodermic needles, food contaminated packaging and food leftovers within recyclables from the County Durham area, which we have to

sort and remove.
We have even had dead birds, dogs and even snakes including a 6 ft long python. The recyclables are sorted at an automated facility but people still work there providing valuable jobs as some of the materials can only be sorted by hand - snakes and all!
The bin men make the best of a hard job and have a duty of care to check what is inside the "recycling" bin before they empty it, to try and help stop this contamination from happening, unfortunately they can't see through black plastic bags or have the time to open and sift through them. They are definitely not being "jobsworths" by refusing to empty recycling bins with black bag(s) inside.
There has been considerable publicity and effort, including extra surveillance staff that the council have used to try and educate householders as to what

can and can't be recycled via the recycling bin.
I presume the "no white clear plastic" written on other section of the correspondent's warning sticker on the bin refers to plastic film or bags, neither of which falls into any of the "acceptable" categories' described above.
The list of items that the council cannot recycle via the bins is not getting bigger by the the week and is still the same now as it was four years ago. Your correspondent should think themselves lucky, as the list is comprehensive. Other councils don't collect cartons, plastic pots and trays or even glass and expect householders to take those to recycling centres themselves.
I think most reasonable people wouldn't expect us to put up with some of the disgusting and even dangerous contamination I have described. We have invested considerable sums in providing the facility, which in these time of austerity the Council wouldn't be able to do, but we certainly aren't making excessive profits as suggested.
Yes the council provides a service to the council tax payer but this should only be up to a point and the tax payer has responsibilities too. The council are not being dictators and are simply asking residents to behave in a responsible way. It is a minority of residents that are lazy, or unaware, or anti social that are spoiling it for the majority that want to do the right thing.
I would gladly give the correspondent and a representative of Newton News a guided tour of our recycling facility to give an insight into what actually happens after recyclables are collected - the effort and technology that is required, what is actually technically, environmentally and economically possible and how they can help to reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste. If they would like to contact me through Newton News I can arrange this.
Name and address supplied

Greenfield Challenge 'Everyday Sexism'

A group of Year 11 students from Greenfield Community College were pleased to welcome UNTitled Theatre group to address the impact of everyday sexism on their lives. Inspired by the Guardian journalist, Laura Bates' blog of the same name, 'Everyday Sexism' attempts to help young people recognise the damage that can be done to their self-esteem and confidence by sexist attitudes and behaviour.
UNTitled Theatre are working with ARC Stockton during their research and development phase creating a live performance piece, touring in Spring 2015 reflecting the experiences of hundreds of young people from the U.K.
Katy Milne, Director of Arts and Creativity, said "As an Arts Centre we were really pleased to be able to organise this valuable opportunity to bring UNTitled Theatre in to work in collaboration with Greenfield Community College students and explore in detail, ideas and experiences of 'everyday sexism'. The girls involved were extremely generous in sharing their thoughts and opinions in a sensitive and mature manner, which made it possible for everyone to feel comfortable to speak. They really did themselves proud!"
UNTitled worked with a group of twenty Year 11 girl students, to challenge the ways in which they think about sexist language and attitudes. Ellie Stevens, really enjoyed the event and commented, "Workshops like this really make us think about issues which we might normally ignore."
Further plans are in the pipeline to explore this important theme with a group of Year 11 boys, after all sexism can affect us all!

Town Centre Owners Frustrate Shopkeepers

Dear Sir,
As a very concerned retailer in the Town Centre I was amazed to hear the landlords had entered Newton Aycliffe in a competition for the best developed shopping centre. Myself and other shopkeepers have grave

doubts on the mental attitude of the owners when they can enter such a contest and at the same time have such a bad track record of shop closures. If the town centre is so attractive why do we have 16 empty shops and why did we get rid of our

Tuesday market which increased the footfall? Could they not also have foreseen the delay in demolishing Churchill House and stopped the premature closure of the Beveridge Way shops?
Shopkeeper
Name & address supplied

Calling All Town Organisations, Groups and Clubs

CLAIM YOUR FREE WEB PAGE

Send your details for placement on the Newton News website

Newton News is asking all local organisations, groups and clubs to send your details. The website gives comprehensive information relating to Newton Aycliffe and the immediate area and we would like to make sure that the information we have is correct and up-to-date. This will help you to recruit more members and promote yourself to a wider audience. You may include as much information about your club, group or service FREE OF CHARGE.
Each club/group will be given their own dedicated page on the Newton News website, so send your details, attach photos, video footage, or any other information you would like, to promote your club.

(Please use BLOCK CAPITALS - Copy required by 31st October 2014)
email the following details to paul@newtonnews.co.uk

Name of Organisation

Contact Name

Contact Telephone

Contact Email

Website Address

Contact Address

Meeting Day

Meeting Time

Meeting Venue

Brief description of Activities

(Please use a separate sheet if required)

or hand your completed form in at our agents:
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Lindisfarne Care Home
Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe

Party in the Car Park
(Weather Permitting)

Saturday 18th October
11.00am to 2.00pm

Raffle - Tombola - Name the Teddy
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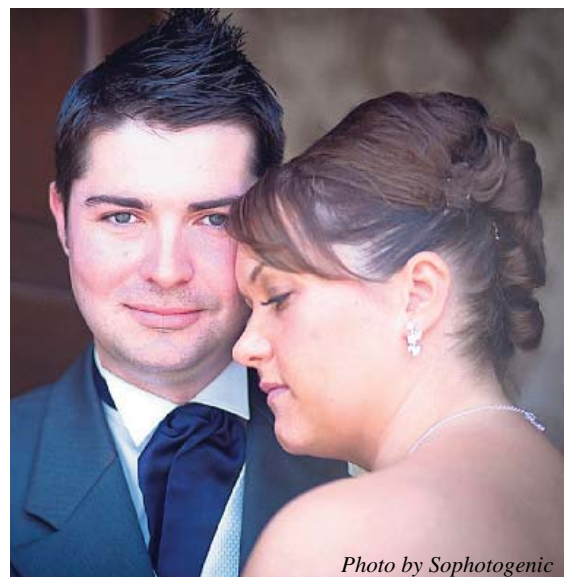


Photo by Sophotogenic

John Paul Howarth and Lisa Ballantyne of Newton Aycliffe were married on Saturday 11th October at Blackwell Grange, Darlington followed by a Reception and dancing. Best Man was Andrew Bush, the Maid of Honour was Laura Langsdale and the Chief Bridesmaid Sarah Travis. Bridesmaids were Loren and Aimee Ballantyne. Page Boys: Dylan and Kameron Howarth. The couple left on the following Tuesday for their honeymoon in Benidorm.

Aycliffe Hypnotherapist Expands Her Business



Tracy Pagiatis owner of Hypnotherapy for Health at Peaseway Clinic in the town is having a fantastic October. As well as celebrating her third anniversary this month her growing reputation for helping her clients achieve the changes they desire has seen her spread her wings further afield with the launch of a clinic at The Structure & Function Clinic in Duke Street, Darlington. "It's wonderful to be associated with two such well renowned and varied centres for health, beauty & wellbeing." To celebrate the launch Tracy is embracing the National Stoptober Campaign with

her own 'Be Free' program offering 20% off all her quit smoking therapy sessions this month. Appointments can be booked at either clinic on Aycliffe 01325 529000 or Darlington 01325 466002. "If you know someone who suffers from stress, anxiety or fear or needs help with confidence, motivation, will power and addictions then hypnotherapy is a simple, straightforward, rapid and incredibly effective route to change, I'd love to hear from you and welcome your calls and emails. You can find out more about me and what amazing things you can achieve at www.hypnotherapyforhealth.net

MAD Concert Raises £1750



Not even the poor weather stopped over 300 people turning out to support MAD Productions 6th Annual Charity Concert last Wednesday evening at the Xcel Centre. Once again the Management of the Xcel Centre showed their commitment to the concerts by offering the use of the centre free of charge for the event. Joan Clark Publicity and Marketing Officer for Mad Productions offered a big thank you to the management of the centre for their continued support. She said "I don't think there is anywhere else on the town big enough to host this event which is gaining popularity and getting bigger each year. The Mad Production Team recognised the work carried out locally and chose two charitable organisations "Xcel Local" and Great Aycliffe Community Aid Partnership. (GACAP). The £1750 raised was divided between the two charities. Rachael Mawston who heads up Xcel Local said the team work in the community, meeting families' needs with clothing, food, furniture, school uniforms, Christmas presents and so much more. Syd Howarth founder of



GACAP thanked MAD Productions for their generosity. He explained that GACAP was launched earlier in the year. Its focus was helping groups within the Community by providing a one stop shop for professionals and people in need to refer to. A directory was being designed for distribution shortly listing all of the partners who were signed up as partners. Sonia Scott President and Founder of MAD Productions said she was amazed at the way the 40 strong MAD Productions Community Choir had managed to present such a professional performance considering they had only been singing together for around 5 months. She thanked each one of them and Evelyn Lodge who had trained them. Evelyn said she was so proud as many of them had never sung in a choir before. Apart from thanking MAD Productions she also thanked Xcel singers and dancers and MAD Production dancers for all they had done to make the event so memorable. Sonia thanked the Mayor of Great Aycliffe Wendy Hilary for drawing the raffle plus all the people who had kindly donated the raffle prizes for the event. She also wanted to thank everyone who had contributed to the event including the technical team, the compere Duncan Sharpe, those meeting and greeting and of course the people of Aycliffe for continuing to support the event.

Town Bus Changes

Following concerns from School Aycliffe residents we contacted the County Council for details of bus changes. The following reply was received:

Andy Leadbeater, Durham County Council's sustainable transport manager, said: "We were recently informed by JSB Travel they were no longer able to provide a service through School Aycliffe. We have been working with other bus companies to seek an alternative provider and are pleased to confirm that Eden Bus Service will take over the service from Monday, 27th October. "The service, which will continue to be subsidised by the county council, will have a new timetable and revised routes. It will operate as the number 17 service, running hourly during the day from Monday to Friday." The service will operate on the following routes:

- Alston Crescent - town centre; equivalent to part of the current 116 service but re-routed to include Bluebell Way, where there are currently no services.

- Circular service from town centre to Washington Crescent, Mellanby Crescent, Neville Parade, Gilpin Road, Clarence Chare to town centre - equivalent to most of current 19 service.
- School Aycliffe - town centre via Cumby Road and Emerson Way, which are currently part of the 19 service. Services will run hourly between School Aycliffe and Newton Aycliffe from 9.31am to 2.31pm and from Newton Aycliffe town centre hourly from 9.18am to 2.18pm. Unfortunately, it is not possible to continue to provide all of the elements of the current service. Wellhouse Drive will no longer be included on the route, but Arriva's Sapphire service runs four times an hour nearby. Two lightly used stops on Westmorland Way will not be served by the new service. However, the county council's Link2 dial-a-ride service can be pre-booked.

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Includes: Festiva of Angels
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Grants for Groups Working with Children

Community groups in the Newton Aycliffe and Middridge are set to benefit from a new pot of funding dedicated to organisations working with children and young people.

Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership (GAMP) and the Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) will be launching the 'Small Grants Fund for Children & Young People' at the Celebrating 'GREAT' Aycliffe event.

The Small Grants Fund is aimed at providing Activities for Children & Young People – groups can apply for grants of up to £1,000 to fund projects and activities related to children and young people. Local groups are encouraged to attend the event and pick up an application pack.

The event is taking place on Saturday 8 November 2014, from 10.00am until 2.00pm at Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre.

In addition to the launch of the 'Small Grants Fund for Children & Young,' a wide range of local community

groups and service providers will also be attending to promote their activities and services.

So why not come along and find out more about all the great work that's going on in your local community – there will be free activity taster sessions and demonstrations taking place throughout the day.

A really vital part of the event is also to ask local people to vote for their most important priorities – the things that you think matter the most to you and your community – the results of your votes will give the GAMP Board members a steer when they look at deciding what priorities we should be working on for the area next year. GAMP has an Area Budget of £120,000 to spend on local projects to address the priorities each year – so it's really crucial that you take this opportunity to tell us what you feel is important.

For more info:
Email: gampaap@durham.gov.uk
Telephone: 01325 327 441

Weekend Bursary Places

LIFE Church in Newton Aycliffe have been awarded ten bursary places to a Spiritual Health Weekend in Preston from 30th January – 1st February 2015

Have you found yourself needing this kind of retreat but couldn't possibly afford it? If so you could be personally invited to this special and unique weekend where you will receive a fresh and wonderful oasis experience. It's a woman's events like no

other full of fun, joy, relaxation, and deep encounters with God. Come and experience a magnificent banquet meal with stunning 5 star entertainment, a creative and God perfumed prayer room, optional sessions such as aqua aerobics, Pilates, Strictly Fun dancing, Gospel choir workshops and so much more! If you'd like to be considered then please phone or text 07936 431262 or emailing lifeline.action@googlemail.com

Honest John Helps Roller Skating Club



Durham & District Roller Skating Club are again grateful to Honest John, for his recent generous donation of £600 to Club treasurer & coach, Joanne Higgins.

As with most locally based clubs, we are small, but with big success, having many British champions amongst our ranks over the last 10 - 15 years. All the coaches, including head coach Janet Lodge, give their time voluntarily, and try hard to keep costs as low as possible for all skaters. John's donation will help to buy further equipment and help maintain the low cost of skating. We really appreciate the help

from Honest John, and wish him all the best for his fund raising events for all the local clubs that he assists.

Our club trains at Sunnydale Leisure Centre, and our skaters range from absolute beginners to British Champions, with a current age range of 6 - 20, but all are welcome, no matter how young, the earlier you start the better!!

We train on a Saturday and newcomers are welcome to join us at Sunnydale starting at 9:30 am each week. For further information contact Janet Lodge on 01325 310399 or we can be found on Facebook: Durham and District Roller Skating Club.

Ann Adds up to a Perfect 10



Are you an average sized person - feeling slightly overweight, out of condition, clothes shrinking? That was how Ann felt and she was also facing major life changes both at work and in her personal life. She'd been fat at 40, flabby at 50, but determined to be slim at 60!

"My daughter already lost 5 stone with Slimming World and was telling me she could eat everything in my cupboards because it was free!" joked Ann. 'To prove that what she was saying was true she took me to group. I was amazed at how friendly, welcoming and accepting the

members were, but the most surprising thing was that I could set my own target and decide how quickly I would like to achieve it.'

Ann discovered that there was no limit to the range of foods on the plan – nothing is forbidden! Her favourite spicy foods, traditional family meals and even foods normally associated with takeaways can all be enjoyed by the whole family – no need for special 'diet' foods on this plan.

Small changes in the way the food is prepared add up to big differences in weight loss. Steak and chips, chicken curry, stews and full English breakfasts are not what you usually consider to be diet food, but Slimming World allows for all these.

These small changes meant a steady 1 – 2 lb a week weight loss resulting in Ann leaving the average size 16 behind (together with most of her behind!) to reveal a much slimmer and healthier size 10 figure. Feeling fitter has also led to a whole new enthusiasm for life including taking up rowing as a Body Magic element of her plan, becoming a Slimming World Consultant and, most importantly, having the energy to fully engage with her new grand-daughter.

Ann opens the doors of her new group at the Navy Club on 8th October and is looking forward to welcoming both new and returning members. Join her and discover for yourself why this plan works!

Neighbourhood Plan Prize Draw Winners



A draw took place on Monday 13th October 2014 to pick the three lucky winners who returned their Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire by 7th October 2014. There was a great response, 708 questionnaires were entered into the draw. The winners were chosen using a computer number generator, which was filmed by Newton News and Aycliffe Today.

1st prize £100 Wendy Church, Woodham
2nd prize £50 Mr C L Scott, Kemble Green
3rd prize £25 Ms L Knowles, Barton Close
Angela Corner, Community Neighbourhood Engagement Officer, would like to thank all who took part and congratulate the winners.

Mayor's Charity Night Raised £482

The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Wendy Hillary, held a Charity Cabaret Evening in the Royal British Legion Club on Thursday, 9th October 2014 to help raise funds for her nominated charities during her year in office.

Councillor Mrs. Hillary has jointly nominated Durham County School Benevolent Fund and Cruse Bereavement Care as her charities.

The evening was a huge success with an amount of £482 being raised from the raffle, bingo and donations.

Councillor Mrs. Hillary

would like to thank everyone who supported this event by attending or donating to the raffle. A special thanks must go to the Cabaret Artistes, 'Drew' and 'Samantha Mac' for their excellent performances.

Our thanks to the Royal British Legion for allowing us the use of their premises and to the Committee Members for helping with the event. As usual the pie and peas supplied by Amanda from the Legion kitchen were delicious. Once again, thank you to everyone who supported the event and made it such a huge success.

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- Tombola
- Face Painting
- Toffee Apples
- Pumpkin Carving Competition

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Celebrate Halloween in style and suspenders at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre

Saturday 1st November

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Cree Volunteers Start Community Project



Monday morning at Greenfield Arts took a very strange turn – as a bus from the Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society pulled up with a scary passenger!
The fantastic group of volunteers' achievements have included "Nalu" the large sculpture outside Greenfield Arts, Cutting Loose and most recently a part in "Quercus Live" at the Great Aycliffe Show. Their next project sees them working with the bus society to create artwork for their Halloween experience at Beamish. We look forward to seeing what they create over the next few weeks! If you would like to volunteer your time to help with these great men, please contact us on 01325 379048 for more information.

RESEARCH INTO FICTIONAL PERCEPTION OF VICARS



even graphic novels.
"There has been an interesting and significant movement away from the traditional stereotype of the vicar in fiction in recent years. If we are going to be effective vicars, we need to know about and respond to people's perceptions of us, regardless of their accuracy.
"To some extent the vicar represents the church: there are implications in the changing views on the vicar for members of the congregation too. We are there to listen, to affirm people as valuable, and to speak for the marginalised and vulnerable.
"We are meant to be Superman or Superwoman – available at all hours and keeping open house. Yes, this causes stress but it's what we're for – to be there for everyone, even if they never set foot in church. Her conclusions for her ministry and that of colleagues are: "Despite the pressures to be a business woman, good with fabric, finances, strategies and business planning, that is not what it's all about. I must never lose sight of the need to listen to and respect people – to love them.
"Vicars still have an important role within the community, even for non-churchgoers. The vicar's role is actually portrayed as more powerful and meaningful in the past 25 years than in previous generations.
"People often talk of the church being increasingly irrelevant in a secular society, but this doesn't seem to be reflected in contemporary fiction, which is quite encouraging."

The Revd Lissa Gibbons, Vicar of St Michael's Heighington, has completed six months research into the way the clergy are perceived in fiction, based on an analysis of 75 books published over the past 260 years and a large number of popular television programmes and series. Lissa said "The vicar remains a popular figure in fiction – both novels and television – even though we increasingly describe ourselves as a secular society. Broadchurch is a particularly poignant example of this, but it is also true of popular soaps such as Emmerdale and Doctors, and

Basketball Coaching at Stephenson Way



Year 6 children at Stephenson Way Community Primary School had a special treat on Monday when they took part in a basketball coaching session with a member of the Durham Wildcats Basketball Squad. Children took part in a range of games that developed their dribbling, throwing and catching skills—children were even challenged to dribble backwards with their less-dominant hand! All children enjoyed the session and tried really hard to complete every task that they were set to the best of their ability. There were some very skilful children in both year 6 classes. Who knows...maybe the next big Wildcats star could come from Stephenson Way Community Primary School!

Film Show

St Clare's Church FEEL GOOD FILM SHOWS will feature "FUNNY GIRL" on Tuesday 21st October. Barbra Streisand won an Oscar for her portrayal of Ziegfeld follies star Fanny Brice in this, her first film which co-stars Omar Sharif, Anne Francis and Walter Pidgeon. It also features songs such as "People" and "Don't Rain on my Parade". Tea and coffee served at 1pm, included in the £2. The film starts at 1-15pm. A variety of chairs are set out for your comfort, and tables too so you can bring a spot of lunch to eat. Everyone is most welcome to join us and watch this real feel good film in friendly company. Further details from Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755

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Dates and Times of Statutory Meetings of the Town Council and its Committees
Wednesday 29th October 2014
Council Meeting
QUESTION TIME
A period of up to 20 minutes has been also set aside for an elector to ask questions, give evidence or make representation on any item of business included on the agenda of the Council, and its Committees.
With the exception of the Annual and Extra-Ordinary Council Meetings members of the public can submit a written question for the Council Agenda as long as it is submitted 7 clear days before a meeting.
If members of the public have any questions it would be appreciated if they could make them known prior to the start of the meeting. Agendas/Reports are available on the Council's Website on the Friday afternoon preceding the meeting. (www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)
The Press and Public are cordially invited to attend.
"The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings".

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Woodham Karate Gradings Biking the Great Aycliffe Way



Zanshin-Kai Karate, based in Woodham Community centre, recently held its third club grading of 2014. The instructors were very pleased with the standard and enthusiasm shown by the students, all of whom successfully earned their new belts.

Congratulations to: 6th Kyu – Darlene Greaves, Jack Dobie; 5th Kyu – Darcy Greaves, Aaron Busby, Matthew Butterworth, Kris Wall & Gavin Tones; 2nd Kyu – Jessica Butterworth.

For more information call into Woodham Community Centre any Sunday between 4.00 – 6.00 or call Instructor 07887 851950 or email zanshin-kai-karate@hotmail.co.uk.

You can also find us on face book. (zanshin kai karate newton aycliffe). Beginners always welcome and your first four classes are free!

Aycliffe Fighter up Against the U.K.'s Best



Aycliffe fighter Dave Cunliffe has a great opportunity to fight in the MMA Europe against Cage Warriors at the Arena on 1st November. After destroying his last 6 opponents in the first round, Dave is getting a name as a fast finisher in his featherweight division. Dave was set back with injuries at the start of the year but once healed took a fight with a very dangerous Scottish fighter. He overwheled his opponent early with striking before sinking a guillotine

choke to finish the fight. Dave had now been training hard for his fight which will feature some of the UK's best MMA fighters including Curt Warburton who is fighting for a world title. Dave is also booked to defend his British title on the 13th December against an unbeaten southern fighter. Supporters can contact Dave through his facebook page and he would also appreciate any local business sponsorship. Tel: 07854684712.



On Wednesday 1st October pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 of Aycliffe Village Primary School went on a bike ride around Great Aycliffe Way, with teachers from the school and Rio Floreza.

Rio Floreza works on behalf of Sustrans, a charity that promotes using bikes as a sustainable means of transport. Rio Floreza has been working with the school for the past two years. He is trying to get more people on their bikes and to get children more active. He has done several bike rides with the children from the school and all of them have been successful.

After the ride Spencer Davies, one of the participants, said, "It was extremely fun, exhausting, but worth while doing."

The children of Aycliffe Village Primary School really enjoyed it, and even though it was tiring, would recommend cycling to friends and family.

"I am really glad we got our children outside being active for an afternoon," says Mr Gargan, Head Teacher of the school.

The ride took the children from their school and around Aycliffe Way – a total of 7 miles. It took the children almost 2 hours to complete their journey. They said, "It was amazing, very exhausting, but we feel very proud of ourselves that we did it." The Year 5 and 6 children of Aycliffe Village School also said that when the younger pupils get to do it, they will probably think the same and enjoy it.

Rio Floreza said that he was amazingly proud of the children for completing the ride.

By Maisie Wilson and Spencer Davies Y5.

Aycliffe Fighters Bring Medals from Bradford



Four competitors from Aycliffe's GKR Karate Club travelled to Bradford for a warm up competition and pit their skills in Kata and Kumite. It was a long day but spirits were high and they all did very well. Jada Holden in 3rd kyu and above took bronze in Kata, Asa Fletcher took bronze Kata and silver in Kumite 3rd kyu and above. Annalise Tinkler in the junior black belt took gold in Kata, silver in Kumite and gold in Team Kata. Dez Tinkler in senior black belt took gold in Kumite. All four will be competing again in a few weeks in the national qualifiers.

LOCAL SPORT

Seven New Signings for Aycliffe AFC

Peter Dixon showed no sign of ending his recruitment drive as he signed three more players ahead of Newton Aycliffe's game with Durham City, bringing his total of new faces to seven in his first week in charge.

With offers currently lodged at two more Northern League clubs concerning defensive reinforcement, Aycliffe could take to the field next week against Dunston with a starting



XI barely resembling the one which finished Allan Oliver's final game in charge just seven days ago. With Paul Garthwaite, Ashley Coffey and Stuart Banks having already joined from West Auckland at the start of the week, Dixon returned to Darlington Road to secure the signature of midfielder Liam Henderson. The 22-year-old spent last season with West, having previously played for South Shields and Newcastle Benfield after being released by Newcastle United as a trainee.

Another former West player, more recently with Shildon, Mark Stephenson became the sixth player to join the Royal Blues, as the commanding centre half put pen to paper on Friday evening.

Former Durham City striker Conor Winter has also signed for the club, having been transfer listed at Bedlington Terriers. Winter, who once scored for the Citizens against his new club has also played for Sunderland RCA, Hebburn Town and Seaham Red Star.

£319 Raised for Charities

The "bucket collection" at our recent Village Hall and Town Centre shop exhibitions raised £319.24. This amount has been split between Help for Heroes and The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Our thanks to everyone who contributed. David Lewis, Treasurer Aycliffe Village Local History Society.

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Sewing Lady Returns



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CREE PROJECT MEN ENJOY MONDAYS

Dear Sir,
 For the last few months I have enjoyed working with the men at the Cree Project each Monday at Greenfield Art College, which welcomes men of all ages and abilities to work together and produce work to benefit the community. Two weeks ago was something different; the college had a group of Argentinean pupils, visiting the UK. They worked with Greenfield pupils on various topics with great enthusiasm and were so at ease at times I forgot they were from another country. They sang and performed traditional songs and dances ending with everyone dancing together. I learnt a lot from being there and felt proud of our young people from home and abroad. If they are our future we needn't worry too much. Praise to Katie Milne and her staff at the College for such a successful day and I hope it can be repeated. Back to normal this Monday with cups of tea, working together, planning our next project. Come along at 10.30 and enjoy a chat and a laugh. Philip Clark

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industry leaders. "Tech Industry Gold programmes are a great addition to our offering," says Tony Hobbs, Managing Director of Baltic Training Services. "The fact the course standards are set by the industry means that prospective apprentices can be confident that what they are learning is really relevant to the workplace, and their employers can be sure that their new team members will

become productive fast. The additional support, like networking and resources, is an important bonus: it means that apprentices in smaller organisations will have an experience similar to that to big corporates, and will develop the kind of industry awareness that will stand them in good stead in their careers." For further information please visit www.e-skills.com/apprenticeships

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standards have been set by employers through the Tech Partnership, a growing collaboration of employers working to create skills for the digital economy, with the support of e-skills UK. They have been created to ensure that participants develop the blend of technical, business and interpersonal skills that are much in demand in the workplace.

Organisations across the tech sector have laid down the programmes, facilitated by e-skills UK, the employer body for technology skills. Tech Industry Gold programmes also include access to online services for employers, including advice and guidance on delivering the programmes, plus networking and up-to-date learning resources from

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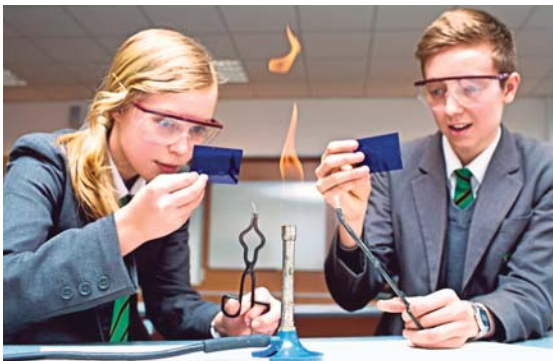
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Sparkies Science Club at Woodham



Dramatic explosions and chemical reactions opened up the world of science to primary school children. Woodham Academy launched Sparkies Science Club to give younger children the chance to visit a laboratory and see how exciting science can be. The first session on Wednesday October 8th saw children from Woodham Burn, Sugar

Hill, Vane Road and Aycliffe Village Primary Schools learn about atoms, patterns and combustion reactions. The club will meet every half term – each school will be awarded points for the projects they complete with a prize for the winner at the end of the year. Topics covered will include volcanoes, astronomy, rockets, the human body and animal adaption

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Proggy & Hooky Making Open Day

Durham Rug Makers are a local traditional craft group keeping alive the tradition of proggy and hooky mat making and bringing it into 21st Century. Meetings are held weekly on Mondays in Durham Library, but spaces are limited. Others meet at the newly refurbished Bowburn Community Centre on a Wednesday from 10-2pm. DRM are holding an Open Day at Bowburn on Saturday 25th October to exhibit their latest creations, demonstrate a variety of wool / textile

based skills and give hands on guidance on how to "prog" or "hook". ENTRY IS FREE, there are stalls and a raffle to win a mat made by the group. Stalls include:- raffle for a small hooked rug, fibre-crafts, tombola, bric a brac, jewellery, cakes, refreshments and Rug Aid. I am a Newtonian and an active member of the above group, we attend schools and are all volunteers at Beamish Museum. Come along and enjoy a FREE DAY with a taster session. Ann Sprout

FUTURE CHEFS' CONTEST AT GREENFIELD COLLEGE

Three aspiring chefs from Greenfield College took part in the school heat of the Future Chefs competition. Connor Thompson, Lauren Evans and Owen Robinson were challenged by the competition (run nationally by Springboard) to create a hot main meal dish for under £5. The three students rose to the challenge, creating tasty dishes to a high standard. The judges of this round felt there was a real "buzz" of excitement and they found it hard to choose a winner! The three final meals

were judged on workmanship, creativity and presentation, composition and flavour and menu balance. Lauren Evans won this heat with her fantastic chicken and chorizo paella, she will now go on to the Durham regional final to compete against winners

from other schools. As the competition progresses she will be challenged more as the tasks become more difficult. This is a great achievement for one of our talented Greenfield students and the Food technology team here at Greenfield. We all wish Lauren the best of luck!

OC "TURB"ER FEST

From Friday 24th till Sunday 26th, The Turbinia will be running its first Beer Festival with 15 Craft Ales and 2 Craft Ciders sourced from all over the country.

Three ales are making their debut at the Turbinia and there are milds, stouts, pale ales, ruby's, porters, blondes - something for everyone. FREE live entertainment every night - Friday is Open-Mic, featuring some fantastic local talent Saturday is the awesome rock band MUGSHOT, one of the pub's favourite bands, playing

songs by U2, Whitesnake, Killers, Kings of Leon, Tom Petty, Nirvana, Guns n Roses, The Cult, Radiohead.

On Sunday, we have managed to pull off a great coup with the fantastic THATCHERS BUSH playing. This band has twice starred at the huge 'WILLOWMAN FESTIVAL' earning great reviews, and voted one of the best. They are looking forward to bringing their own brand of Ska / Reggae / Punk to Aycliffe "VIVA DA BUSH! "BEER AND BANDS" its gonna be a great weekend!

Jack's Trike Has Arrived

Last month an event was held at the Newton Aycliffe Working Men's Club to raise funds to purchase a "Terrier Trike" for Jack Mason. Initially the family was refused funding to provide the specially adapted trike, so



family member Jean Miller with friends Leanne Nevison and Jenny Gray organised the special fund raising night with Claire Wingfield, a local singer with a fantastic voice, and Paul Gittins, the best DJ in the North East, as well as donations for raffle prizes and publicity through Newton News, the target was surpassed. Thank you to everyone who attended the evening and made donations. Special thanks to Claire Wingfield, Paul Gittins and Newton News for providing their services free of charge.

Birthday Remembrance

BETTY ROBINSON 13th October 1933. Happy birthday Mam for 13th October. Hope you are partying with the angels. Have a Brandy and Babycham on me. Love and miss you always and forever Mam. Till we meet again. Love and hugs, Julie and Andy XXXXXXX

In Memoriam

MEL CLEMENT, 18th October 2013. Always remembered today and everyday. From Kevin (Parker) **MEL CLEMENT**, 18th October 2013. Always in our thoughts. Forever in our hearts. From John, Ann and Philip **MEL CLEMENT**, 18th October 2013. His presence I miss, His memory I treasure, Loving him always, Forgetting him never. From his loving wife Griff xx

MEL CLEMENT A gentle wind blew across the land, reaching out to take your hand. For on the winds the angels came, calling out my dear brother's name. One year on we still have tears, reviving the memories of the years of fun and laughter, a life well spent of you, my brother, a friend a gent. Missing you Bro. Love, Winston and Margaret xxx

MEL CLEMENT Miss you and your pranks Uncle Mel. Love from your God-Daughter, Angela xxx

GRACE HEDLEY 16th October 2013. This day comes with much regret, it brings back memories we shall never forget. You fell asleep without goodbye, memories of you will never die. We share many happy days together, and some sad ones too. But the saddest day of all to us, was the day that we lost you. Forever in our hearts Mam. Lots of love, Anne, Grace, Keith, John and Ruth xxx

MARK BULMAN 16th October 2010. Special Grandson, sadly missed. Nana **DORIS ICETON** 20th October 2012. The tears in my eyes I can wipe away, the ache in my heart will always stay. Love and miss you always Mam. From Sharon xxx

DORIS ICETON 20th October 2012. Loving memories of my dear Nana. Always, Stephen xxx

TOM SMITH Died 15th October 2009. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. All our love, Wife Norah, Carol, Cornel, Sue and all the family

HARRIET BRUMWELL Died 18th October 1993. Always remembered and forever loved. God bless. Jeannette, Owen and Carl

Congratulations

Matthew Howarth



Happy 19th Birthday
15th October 2014
happy birthday Matthew. Love from Mam, Dad, Carrie and all the family

Jack Elliott



Happy 18th Birthday
22nd October 2014
Congratulations on your 18th birthday. With all our love, Dad and Sophie xxx

JACK ELLIOTT Happy 18th birthday on 22nd October 2014. Love always, Grandma, Keith and Marion xx

NOAH RAY SCOTT Happy 8th birthday to our gorgeous Grandson Noah Ray. We are so proud of everything you do little man. Love you ten tons and a bit more, all the way to the moon and back again. Have a fantastic day. Love, Hugs and Kisses from Grandma and Grandad xxxxxx

JANE'S STORY - A LIFE REVIVED

A couple of years ago the bottom fell out of my world. Some stuff happened when I was younger and it had a massive impact on my life as the years went by. I couldn't cope and depression spiralled out of control. I was lonely and it was a very dark place to be. I would move from house-to-house as I never really settled. I'd stay in the new house for a few months and then try and find a new place to live, it was chaos! I started to drink on a casual basis but it soon lead into deeper things with drugs and self-harming. I had to pay for these things and subsequently the debt letters started mounting up, I felt worthless and useless and could do anything right. I lost everything I held dearly in my heart, I was in a pit and tried desperately to get out, but on my own it all seemed impossible. I was advised to phone the 'Helping Hands' team for support. I didn't really think that they could make a big difference in my life, however through my recovery, I now know that it was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I've heard the quote "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." Well, they taught me to fish! They didn't offer me a quick fix, although I was



offered food and household packs. They sat me down and offered long-term solutions. I was able to get help when I needed it and I'm forever grateful for that. Of course there were consequences to my actions, which I have to work through, but with the help of other supportive people I'm sure that I will come out stronger. I'm delighted to say that my old lifestyle has completely gone. Recently I have been on learning and development courses and a money education course. It has really helped me review my finances and budget on a week-to-week basis. Due to this I have been able to save and go on holiday. If I can give something back to help others in similar situations then I'm more than happy to do that. I now work with the Helping Hands team as a volunteer. If I could give a bit of advice to readers right now its please do not suffer in silence as there is plenty of help out there and it will get you through the trials you are facing. If 'Helping Hands' can't help you they will signpost you to the right support. One thing they try to do is to make sure nobody is left alone to feel the way I did. If you need help, please phone the helpline 07936 431262. I am really enthusiastic about the future and I am so excited about the new projects that we doing within the charity. Jane

Obituary

Vera Reed



The family of Veronica, with extreme sadness announce the peaceful passing of Vera on 14th October 2014. After a short illness in hospital borne with great dignity. Funeral at St Clare's Church on Friday at 12.00 noon, followed by cremation at Wear Valley. Family flowers only, donations in lieu if so desired, to Butterwick Children's Hospice

DEREK MOORING 11th October 2014. Beloved Husband of the late Mary; dearly loved Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Funeral at St Clare's Church on Friday 17th October at 9.30am

Lawrence Coles "Louie"

Loving Dad and Grandad. Forever in our hearts, always in our thoughts. Can't believe you have gone Dad, my life will never be the same without you here, I love and miss you so much. Rest in peace. Love from Gareth, Jo and Oliver. Xxxx

CONTACT NEWTON NEWS ON 01325 300212

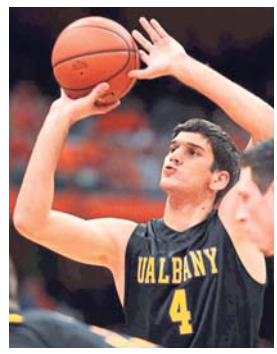
Durham Wildcats Sign Croatian Star Fran Urli

The Durham Wildcats announce the signing of power forward Fran Urli to the squad. The 6'8 native of Zagreb, Croatia will join the squad immediately and is expected to see action this weekend. He will bring needed size and skill to the Wildcats' front court play. Urli will reunite with former University of Albany teammate John Puk and Panola College teammate Chris Jones. "We are very happy to have Fran Urli here," said Head Coach Lee Davie. "He is going to give us that needed size and strength we have been missing these last few

games. We have been beaten around the basket recently and have not been able to get enough rebounds. Fran is a great rebounder, has a variety of offensive moves around the post and he has great shooting range."

Urli spent the 2013-14 season with the Glasgow Rocks of the BBL, where he averaged nearly 11 points and 6 rebounds per match. He scored in double-digits in 20 out of 33 matches with Glasgow, including a season-high of 20 points scored versus Manchester Giants in late February. Urli recorded a double-double of 17 points and 11 rebounds versus Esh Group Eagles Newcastle on 23rd March 2014. He was a 53 percent shooter from the field.

Durham Wildcats Chairman Quentin Sloper is excited to see what Urli can bring to the Wildcats and is hopeful



that his familiarity with Puk and Jones will create instant chemistry with the team: "We are delighted to have him on board. He has known Chris Jones and John Puk from his collegiate career so he already a step ahead in understanding our players and our team. We are excited to announce this signing to our fans as we have some very important league fixtures ahead of us." Urli graduated from Hawai'i-Pacific University in 2012. In his senior season with the Sharks he averaged 10 points per match. Prior to his time at Hawai'i-Pacific, Urli played with Puk at the University of Albany. Urli first had a stint with Panola College in Carthage, Texas, playing with Jones there.

The 25-year old has previously played professionally with El Arroyo and Eco Orebro before his year with Glasgow. Urli had signed with Spanish club Forca Lleida late last month before making the transfer to Durham.

The arrival of Urli comes after the Wildcats were defeated by Cheshire Phoenix on 12th October in a BBL Cup competition. Durham exits the BBL Cup with a first-round loss 88-65. Captain Ralph Bucci recorded a double-double with 10 points and a team-leading 11 rebounds. Panos Mayindombe and Odiba Attah each had 12 points followed by Joel Madourie's 11.

Urli and Wildcats (1-3 in the BBL) are on the road this weekend, first facing second-place Bristol Flyers on 18th October then Plymouth University Raiders on 19th October. The Wildcats will return home on 26th October to host Manchester Giants. Tickets are now available via www.godurhamwildcats.com.

Junior Ice Hockey Star Wins Sponsorship



A young Ice Hockey player has won a national competition to win a year's supply of ice hockey equipment from manufacturer Sher-Wood. Finley Bradon, aged 8, from School Aycliffe, won the sponsorship for this current season after an online vote run by leading Ice Hockey Equipment supplier, Nekoti.co.uk.

The competition was open to ice hockey players, adult and juniors alike. Nearly 200 players from across the United Kingdom entered and over 9,000 votes were cast. The competition saw Finley not only receive votes from family and friends locally but also from across the globe. Finley plays his Ice Hockey for the Billingham Stars for the Under 10 and Under 12 teams. He has been playing for three years and started at

the 'Learn to play Ice Hockey' sessions which are held every Sunday afternoon 4.15pm to 5.30pm at the Forum Ice Rink, Billingham. Tel 01642 551381. Ice Hockey equipment is available to hire for the session for a small charge. Finley becomes a 'Sher-wood Ambassador' for the 2014/15 will receive his sponsorship package later this month.

Aycliffe F.C. Show Promise in Defeat

Newton Aycliffe went down by the odd goal in five, but deserved something from the game as they outplayed hosts Durham City for the second period, having gone in 3-2 down at half time.

Boss Peter Dixon signed three, bringing a total of seven new faces to the club in his first week and defender Mark Stephenson made his debut alongside Dan Mitton at centre half. Former Durham forward Conor Winter started up front, while ex-West Auckland midfielder Liam Henderson was named amongst the substitutes.

It was Durham who took the lead with their first attack on seven minutes, Johnny Allen heading home a left wing cross as Aycliffe failed to deal with the forward's movement. Four minutes later the visitors were back level as Stuart Banks scored his second goal in as many games, terrorising the defence before slotting home right-footed.

Johnny Davis could have restored Durham's lead after a mix up between Mitton and 'keeper Will Jones, but it was Aycliffe who went ahead on 17 minutes as new skipper Paul Garthwaite smashed home having been sent through by Zak Boagey. A frantic opening quarter

came to an end with Durham's equaliser through former Sunderland and Darlington forward Ryan Noble, who again headed home unchallenged following a right-wing centre this time.

Both 'keepers made good saves before Durham stole the lead as Ryan Patton volleyed home from the right edge of the box following good work from Davis.

In the second period Banks twice went close as he looked to draw his side level and a Henderson free-kick was nodded just past the post by Winter. Stephenson again tested Durham's mettle in the dying minutes but his fine long-range effort was dealt with by the Durham custodian just as the ref drew proceedings to a close.

While Dixon appears to have got his new side back on the goal trail, his attention must now turn to plugging a leaky defence which has conceded seven times in his two games in charge. Durham City 3, Newton Aycliffe 2 Banks 13, Garthwaite 17.

Jones; Oliver (Langthorne), Clough, Mitton, Stephenson; Banks, Garthwaite(c), Archer, Young (Henderson); Winter, Boagey (Lowes). Not Used; Storey, Atkinson.

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Greenfield Rowers in County Durham Final

Well done to Greenfield Community College's Rowers who had great success at an Interscholar rowing event last week! At the event at Whitworth Park, run by Sedgfield School Sports Partnership, six of Greenfield rowers made it through to the County finals - a great

achievement! To achieve this, the rowers had to finish in the top two in their competitions. Well done to the group from Greenfield, who practise weekly as part of our extensive and popular after school sports provision: Adam Ord (Yr 7), Charlie Robinson (Yr 8), Will Kennington (Yr 7), Melissa Walls (Yr 7), Harrison Lynch (Yr 8) & Madalyn Pateman-Patrick (Yr 10). Good luck to all at the finals soon!

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