

Newton News

Incorporating The Newtonian - Newton Aycliffe's Free Community Newspaper

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Lucky for Some Ride 13 Completes the Challenge

A final push of 54.5km on ride 13 saw Lee complete the challenge of covering 500km in a month.

Lee said "The challenge was to raise funds and awareness for Combat Stress. Like many families in the area, I have family members with military service, who have been involved in active conflict and I would like to think that the help and support would be there for them if they needed it."

Combat Stress is the UK's leading charity for Veterans mental health, and provides life changing treatment and support for veterans for all military services and conflict, focusing on those with complex mental health issues. Their specialist treatment doesn't just change lives, it saves them too.

It is estimated that last year alone, 12,500 veterans benefited from their help, but the charity needs your help to continue to meet the rising demand for its specialist treatment. Lee added "I would like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement throughout this challenge. With the generosity of others, I smashed my original goal of £360, and fundraising to date has raised over £500, with some cash payments still to be added to the total."

The fundraising portal for donations: events.combatstress.org.uk/fundraisers/leewilliams/cycleseptember will remain open for a couple of more weeks to receive further donations.



Roman's Green Advances



The UK and Europe's leading shower designer and manufacturer, Roman, has furthered their commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. Roman has long embraced the Circular Economy as all Roman products have very high levels of recycled content - and as a British manufacturer their carbon footprint is unrivalled.

Roman is now proud to announce another breakthrough with the installation of four state-of-the-art renewable energy furnaces, which revolutionise the way Roman handle waste whilst also contributing to a greener and more sustainable future. These have been installed across Roman's 400,000sq ft manufacturing site in Newton Aycliffe. Roman's new furnace technology is designed to remove waste wood efficiently, converting what would otherwise be discarded material into a valuable energy source - therefore not only reducing an environmental impact, but also cutting down reliance on non-renewable energy sources and dramatically reducing Roman's carbon footprint. This marks a significant step forward in Roman's journey toward a zero-waste future. The wood comes from nearly 300 tons of waste wood which is generated annually from supplier packaging. The hot air is ducted throughout Roman's complex to essentially eliminate traditional heating.

This further investment in renewable energy is just one part of Roman's broader sustainability initiative. In addition to the four furnaces, Roman have upgraded their entire facility with energy-efficient LED lighting. LED lights consume significantly less energy than traditional lighting systems, offering an eco-friendly alternative that reduces electricity consumption.

Roman is a very active member of the United Nations Global Compact which is the global leader in sustainability, ethics and human rights. These advancements are closely aligned with Roman's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which guide businesses to continually strive for economic growth that is inclusive, environmentally responsible, and beneficial to society. As proud members of the UN SDG initiative, Roman are committed to advancing several key goals, including affordable and clean energy (SDG 7); responsible consumption and production (SDG 12); and climate action (SDG 13).

Roman are delighted to announce that their CEO, David Osborne, was invited to speak at the United Nations GC Annual Summit at London's Guildhall on Monday 1st October.

David commented that; "it is great honour to be involved with the United Nations GC Summit and we are there to share our achievements and ambitions within our supply chain."

Air Cadet Recruitment Evening Success

1407 (Newton Aycliffe) Squadron Air Cadets held a successful recruitment evening at Squadron HQ on Greenwell Road when parents and interested young people came along to find out what the Air Cadets had to offer.

Flying Officer Addison welcomed the visitors and then cadets ran a series of stations offering a range of activities that air cadets undertake. First Aid with resuscitation dummies were available and some very realistic walking wounded to treat. The radio communications team offered a chance to use some of the communications equipment available on site. The archery station also proved to be extremely popular with most people trying their hand at emulating Robin Hood.

At the end of the evening, information packs were handed out and the squadron is looking forward to welcoming the new recruits as they embark on a wide range of activities including Duke of Edinburgh Awards and a chance to fly an aircraft at RAF Leeming as part of the cadet development programme.

Anyone who was not able to come along to the evening can still join the squadron provided they are at least 12 years old and in Year 8. Further information about air cadets is available at <https://www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets/who-we-are/about-us/>



Floral Displays Go For Gold



Businesses and community and residents groups are celebrating after Darlington was announced as a gold winner at the 2024 Northumbria in Bloom awards.

Northumbria in Bloom has been running for the past 60 years with the aim to 'recognise, encourage and reward community groups who work together to transform their village, town or city through gardening, environmental awareness and community support'.

Judges visited in April and July and had tours of the town centre, surrounding villages and local parks and met with our hardworking horticulture team, dedicated volunteers and community groups.

Darlington has been recognised in the following categories:

City centre: Darlington – Gold

Park: South Park – Gold

Residential communities award: Paul Adams at Quaker Lane – Gold

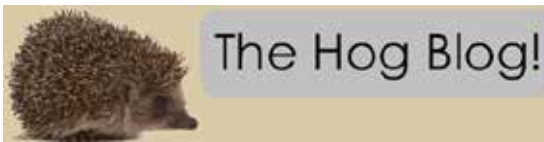
Religious establishment: Atisha Buddhist Centre – Silver Gilt

Pubs: Tapas Bar – Silver Gilt

It's Your Neighbourhood: Firthmoor Community Centre – Thriving

Small town: Middleton St George – Silver

Best entry in Spring: Darlington.



Eventful week again in rescue, some very small and poorly hedgehogs here, most of them are on the mend now, thankfully. Some poor souls have been victims of bird attacks and have not survived and this is heartbreaking to say the least, one such sad case was poor Conker. I collected him from Olwen last Saturday morning, I popped him in a nice warm bed to discover he had a single puncture wound to the right hand side of his throat, whilst he was breathing in the air was leaving the hole and not getting to his lungs, I took him to the vets at Darlington and it was kinder to end his suffering, myself, Giorgio and Elaine were really upset, he wasn't very old, he was this years baby, that's all.

On Friday, I was called to Stephenson Way School, a little girl out in the day 350g. On Sunday, I admitted two, Karen brought Hattie, a big girl at 575g and, to the naked eye, she looks fine. However later that day it became obvious to me that she had come out during the day because she has an upset tummy, treatment started, she will be fine, hopefully, and, finally, a very poorly boy came in, bless him he is very small, but covered in fly eggs, because of everyone's donations I was able to purchase a suction machine, this has proved a lifesaver, he was the first little one to try it, well worth the money, he is very unwell, but I am doing everything I can for him.

Thank you to everyone who has made donations, Karen, Olwen, Joan and also John and June Berry, the list is endless, thank you all for making it possible for me to keep these beauties out of harms way and in the warm. All of these are too small to be released now and the bigger ones still have health issues and by the time they are well enough it will be too cold and damp to release them.

Can I also thank our Tesco Community Champion Shirley for allowing me to come into the store on Saturday 12th October to raise awareness and some much needed funds too, so please come and see me.

If you see a hedgehog out during the day please contact The British Hedgehog Preservation Society on 01584 890801. My Facebook Page is Prickly Haven Hedgehog Hotel, email: pricklyhaven@yahoo.com - not to be used in emergencies please.

Chapters Counselling

Chapters Counselling and training has been on the business park in Newton Aycliffe for the last sixteen years and recently moved to the Blue Bridge Centre to streamline their services to focus on counselling adults and young people. Sharon is a military veteran as well as having over 20 years experience counselling and training counsellors with the support of Jane and other therapists.

Sharon recently decided to offer two trainee counsellors a placement at Chapters to enable them to gain experience of working in an organisation where clients are at the heart of all their work. This way they can receive lots of support and encouragement whilst they continue to learn. Both students are highly skilled and developed before undertaking client work.

The trainees can offer up twenty sessions each, for free, to a limited number of people who maybe have been on a waiting list for quite a while or those who are unable to afford to pay for therapy privately.

If you are interested in accessing free counselling, and are over 18, or would like to discuss this further please contact Sharon by text or phone on 07389 065887 or Email: sharon@chapterscounselling.org www.chapterscounselling.org



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Macmillan Coffee Afternoon



On Friday 27th September, St. Joseph's Primary School held a coffee afternoon in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The school's wellbeing leaders (a team of Year 5 and 6 pupils) ran the event which was very well attended. The pupils raised £150. Mrs Evans (Headteacher) said, "The children were a credit to the school with their manners and politeness." Elise, one of the wellbeing leaders, stated, "It's great to do these events because it's helping charities and people in need."

POLICE UPDATE

And the winner is... Durham Constabulary. On Saturday afternoon (14th September) neighbourhood PCs Adam Crawford and Josh Roberts were patrolling Newton Aycliffe town centre when staff at



Heron reported a shoplifting incident. Workers mentioned that they'd seen the suspected stolen goods posted on Facebook as part of a 'bonus ball'. The caption read '1 to 50, £1 a number, Meats all in good date back in my fridge, 36 bars of Milky Bar Gold. After a bit of detective work, PC's Crawford and Roberts tracked down the address where the items were being raffled from and seized a large quantity of rump steak and Milky Bar Gold. A man was interviewed under caution and is being dealt with. To the delight of the staff, the items were returned to the store within the hour.

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A spectacular Christmas light trail from 22nd November until 31st December.

Tickets are now on sale for AGLOW, Auckland Palace's dazzling new light trail which will illuminate the skies of Bishop Auckland, once again this Christmas.



With 22 incredible displays, including some of the largest light installations in the country and new illuminations for 2024, AGLOW is one of the most spectacular Christmas light trails in the North East. A must-see experience for all the family! AGLOW will be open daily from 22nd November - 31st December* (closed Christmas Day), with tickets available every half hour from 4.30pm - 8pm. We recommend allowing one and a half hours to complete the trail.

You'll find everything you need to plan your visit on the AGLOW website, including information about getting here, parking, food and drink, accessibility information and much more. Begin your journey at Auckland Palace and embark on a glittering 1.5-mile trail through Auckland Palace's gardens and grounds, with surprises around every corner.

- Son et Lumière** - Enjoy a captivating light show projected onto Auckland Palace.
- Tunnel of Light** - Walk through the longest outdoor light tunnel in the country, measuring over 100 metres long.
- O Christmas Tree** - Marvel at the largest Christmas tree in the North of England, over 30m tall.
- Santa's Village** - See Santa and his mischievous Elves in Santa's village as they prepare for Christmas.
- Sound and Light** - Immerse yourself in a world of light and sound with dancing fountains, real fire, star-burst trees, bubbles, spheres of light, musical trees and much more...
- Food and Drink** - Indulge in festive delights, with mulled wine, toasted marshmallows and street food vendors offering tasty treats.
- Free Parking** - Car parking, in North Bondgate car park, will be free after 4.30pm on event days.

*Closed Mondays and Tuesdays until 16th December.


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Charity Night

A Charity Night is being organised by the family of the late Angela Teasdale. **Saturday 16th November 2024 at Elm Road Social Club at 7pm.**

Entertainment from Millie Bradley, plus Comedian Vocalist Brenda Collins and the North East Indie Rock band The Casbahs.

Tickets are £5 and are available from Aycliffe Cancer Shop in the town centre or from Elm Road Club. Proceeds raised will go to Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group. Call Marianne (Secretary) on 07442 991859 for more details.



Aycliffe Women & Senior News



NAYFC Women 1 v Birtley Women 6

From the very first whistle, our girls showed true grit. With sixteen available, we faced a tough Birtley side. They came out strong, pressing from the kick off, but Newton Aycliffe stood firm, showcasing a defensive masterclass that left Birtley frustrated in the first half. Courtney Wilson in goal was nothing short of spectacular! She pulled off save after save, reading the game superbly. A stunning save late in the first half, tipping the ball onto the post - it rolled agonisingly across the goal line, hit the other post, but, unfortunately, we were slow to react and Birtley tapped it in to make it 0-1 just before half time.

Second half, Aycliffe continued to defend bravely, but Birtley upped the pressure, and the game shifted. A controversial moment saw a shot blocked by Bethany, hitting her knee, but to everyone's surprise, a penalty was awarded, which was converted, making it 0-2. Then came a bit of bad luck, when a shot rebounded off the post, hit Courtney's back and rolled into the net, 0-3. Despite the setback, our heads never dropped. Even after conceding a second soft penalty and another long-range goal, which brought it to 0-5, we kept pushing forward. And then came our moment of magic! Jordan Saunders played a brilliant through ball to Bethany Mulhearn, who found herself out wide. Birtley thought they had her covered, but with the keeper off her line, she delivered a beautiful, floated shot that dipped perfectly over the keeper and nestled into the back of the net. As we pushed forward to reduce the deficit, we left ourselves a little exposed, and Birtley managed to sneak in a final goal in the 90th minute. **Player of the Match: Amber Dobson.**

Amber was sensational today, both defensively and offensively, she was all over the pitch. A massive thank you to our incredible supporters who cheered us on from start to finish.

Ferryhill Town 5 v Newton Aycliffe Youth Seniors 1

Aycliffe knew it was going to be a tough game, as we only travelled with a squad of 13.

For the first thirty minutes the lads worked hard closing down across the pitch, Ferryhill were finding it difficult and Aycliffe restricted them to efforts from range. Then Ferryhill got down the side of us and squared for a short range finish. Aycliffe had a couple of half chances to find a way back into the game, the best of these were from a free kick on the edge of the box followed by a corner with 90 seconds remaining of the first half which, on another day, would have given a penalty, Ferryhill scored their second right on half time. Into the second half, couple of chances for the lads, but they could not finish. Then a Ferryhill shot took two deflections to wrong foot Adam, 3-0. A decent Aycliffe move saw Niall receive the ball on the edge of the Ferryhill box, he went past one player and found the top corner. The next 10 minutes Aycliffe were the better team and again had chances to put Ferryhill under pressure, but the final ball/shot was lacking. Ferryhill added their 4th with the goal of the game with a great finish. In the final seconds, the home team added their fifth against the run of play. Although a tough scoreline, to be fair, it was a game Ferryhill deserved to win.

MOM, for the second game on the bounce, was Niall Douglas.

Bowls Club

Dear Sir,
I would like to express my great gratitude to the Great Aycliffe Indoor Bowls Club who have offered the Beginners Bowls activity. My husband and I joined two sections in August and September. If there is not such an activity I think we would never think that we can play this game.

We were blank totally, in the beginning, and now we have some idea of what it is. Although it looks like this sport is not demanding, huge amounts of physical activity, however, I sweat quite a lot during.

Thank you very much for your arrangement, Jacqui, Lynn and a special thank you to Bob who taught us, explained to us and answered our queries patiently. With his encouraging guidance, we could be able to get some luck in our bowls.

Thank you very much for giving us the chance to learn something new in our lives and hope to have more similar activities in the future. **Queen Lau**

Folk Night

The Candlelite Club, based at Moore Lane Sports Club, are pleased to present our next event on Wednesday 16th October at 8.00pm. Our guests are 'Pipe Dream' a local favourite band, playing folk and 60s music, also appearing will be 'Keith Morrison'.

Anybody wanting to reserve a ticket, please contact me on 01740 621347.

Thank you.

Joan Edmundson.

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Greenfield Academy has a proud tradition of excellence in sport and physical education. Our school offers a variety of recreational and competitive sports; facilities are top-notch, including a well-equipped sports hall that accommodates activities like badminton, netball and indoor football.

We utilise our excellent facilities including grass football pitches, 7 a-side 3G pitch, fitness suite, dance / drama studio and sports hall to the maximum.

We share our facilities with the community during school term time and school holidays. We work closely with local football clubs – Newton Aycliffe Youth and AJX – to host their winter training, fully committed to providing our children the opportunity to be fit and healthy outside of school as well as in.

Greenfield Academy offers a mixed range of extra-curricular opportunities, including Year 7 residential Outward Bounds experiences to Ullswater and our annual Ski Trip to Pila in Italy.

On a weekly basis our children can attend after school clubs in football or netball run by both staff in school and staff from Martin Gray Football Academy. We also invite our children to attend athletics and cricket in the warmer seasons.

The Greenfield Academy PE department have achieved the Association for Physical Education (afPE) Quality Mark with Distinction – 1 of only 7 schools in the Northeast to hold this award.

The afPE Quality Mark is a prestigious award that evidences the strength and quality of Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity (PESSPA) in schools. It raises the profile of the subject and the school, both locally and nationally, and promotes the outstanding work that is being undertaken daily.

Participating in PE and sports at Greenfield Academy offers numerous benefits, especially for ambitious students: physical health, mental wellbeing, social skills, academic performance and lifelong fitness habits.

Following our Open Evening, all of us at Greenfield Academy would like to remind all parents and carers of the opportunity for a personal tour of the Academy.

This will allow you to see further into our educational provision and get answers to any questions you may have about Greenfield Academy being your child's secondary school of choice.



School Video

greenfieldacademy.org.uk

contact@greenfieldschool.net | 01325 300 378

Greenfield Academy, Greenfield Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham, DL5 7LF



Thousands Enrolled for Free School Meals

Nearly 2000 families in County Durham will save hundreds of pounds a year thanks to a pilot free school meals scheme.

Durham County Council ran a pilot project which saw nearly 2500 children automatically enrolled for free school meals following a data matching exercise on their family's eligibility.

This means that 1727 households eligible for free school meals were automatically signed up to the scheme, saving the families an average of £400 per child per year on food costs.

Schools in County Durham will also benefit from this initiative through eligibility for the government's pupil premium grant, where they will receive extra funding for every child that is registered for free school meals.

The council's auto enrolment project has meant schools across the county will be getting an additional £3 million of funding next year which can be used towards extra support in the classroom.

For more information about free school meals and other support offered to families, visit: www.durham.gov.uk/helpforfamilies



N.A.F.C. JUNIORS

Under 8's Blues travelled to Riverside Juniors Barca, in an energetic performance, Aycliffe played great, with Carter grabbing a hat-trick for the second successive week. Nate (2) and Alex scored further goals. MOTM was Nate for positivity and great midfield play.

Under 8's entertained Norton and Stockton, with a full squad, Aycliffe were raring to go. Aycliffe pressed forward and applied pressure, in a game full of goals. It was two OG's and a goal for Cooper for Aycliffe.

Under 9's Juniors travelled to Bishop St Marys Kings in a thrilling match, Bishop led early on, but Aycliffe continued to pass the ball, and the great play was rewarded with goals from Fletcher, Kian, Zeke, Felix and Lincoln. MOTM went to Kaeson for a brilliant defensive performance.

Under 10's hosted Prissick Rovers Milan, Aycliffe started very well, making it hard for Prissick. Eddie continued his fine form with two early goals, before excellent saves from Harvey kept the opposition at bay. MOTM went to Eddie for his constant energy and creativity in the final third.

Under 10's Whites travelled to Redcar Town Lions, the whole team played their part in an impressive performance, with MOTM Archie scoring the goal in a relentless performance.

Under 11's Blacks, who were supporting the play safe campaign, travelled to face Redcar Town Whites. Redcar started quickly, but Aycliffe eventually found their groove with the goals scored by Alfie S (2), JJ (2), Lucas P and Jack B, who converted a penalty. Goalkeeper Liam B made some extraordinary saves. POTM awarded by the opposition manager was JJ for passing accuracy, hold up play, positioning and great finishing.

Under 11's Reds played against Billingham Synthonia and had a day to remember. Andrew opened the scoring, before Koa lashed in the second. In the second half, Koa scored two more quick goals for his hat-trick. Jace then sent a lovely through ball to Louie, who slotted in his first goal for Aycliffe. Louie then turned assist maker, setting up two of Charlie's three goals.

Under 12's Whites had a day to forget against Washington Junior Swift Oranges in what was a tough assignment with only eight players available. MOTM Oscar scored Aycliffe's goal.

Under 13's Juniors welcomed Kader for a fiercely contested cup game. Aycliffe took their league form into the cup, leading comfortably 3-1 at the break thanks to a hat-trick from Jonah. It was not to be Aycliffe's day though, with Kader coming back to win 4-3.

Under 13's Whites travelled to Jarrow, with a patched-up team, Aycliffe started slowly, trailing 3-0 after five minutes. Aycliffe kept battling, eventually going down 5-3. The goals were scored by Maxi, Thomas and Albie, who was awarded MOTM for an impressive performance.

Under 13's Blacks played against Wear United Yellows, Aycliffe come away with a great 4-1 victory with goals from Connor, Alfie and Jack H (2). Mangers POTM was Charlie for his excellent defensive work and Parents



POTM was Jack H for a great second half performance.

Under 14's welcomed Marton FC Royals in the cup, facing a team from four divisions higher, Aycliffe were fired up and never give Marton a chance to settle. After conceding a penalty, Aycliffe dug deep and got their rewards late on when Layton W equalised. The match ended level and went to penalties with Aycliffe winning 4-2, Sam, Zak, Oscar J and Layton all converted. MOTM was shared between Layton W and Trent.

Under 16's Blacks travelled to Whickham FC. Aycliffe started well, creating chances, before conceding. Jayden's shot was saved, and Clayton scored the rebound to go in level at the break. In the second half, it was Clayton who scored the match winning goal. MOTM was shared between Tristan and Danny. Aycliffe currently sit proudly at the top of the league.

Under 16's Whites entertained Darlington United, despite a slow start, Aycliffe led 3-1 at the break, with goals from Ethan, Adam and Clayton. Formation changes saw Aycliffe control of the second half with Lewis, Clayton and Jayden scoring further goals and two more goals apiece saw Ethan and Adam complete their hat-tricks. MOTM, in a great 10-1 win, was Ethan who scored three and assisted three.

Under 23's won 3-2 away to Sacriston. Leading 1-0 through Sam and dominating much of the game, Aycliffe were dragged into a battle after Sacriston scored two goals to lead 2-1. There were great scenes in the 90th minute though, when Dom scored two goals to give Aycliffe the victory.

History Society

Aycliffe Village Local History Society's next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th October at 7.30pm in Aycliffe Village Hall when Charlotte Roberts FBA, Emeritus Professor of Archaeology at Durham University, will be giving a talk entitled 'Skeletons I have known'. Members are £2.00, non-members £3.50. All are welcome.

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Aycliffe Youth Football News

A busy weekend of football, here are just a few reports from our twenty two teams.

Bishop Auckland Saints v Aycliffe U11 Falcons

Outstanding performance away to Bishop St Mary's. Every player gave everything on the pitch. First half goals from Evan Banks and Jaxon saw us 2-0 up at half time. Second half, the goals kept coming from Leo (3), Jaxon, Zach and Harry Myers. POM Harry Myers and Evan Bowman. FT 1-8

Aycliffe U9 Wildcats v CLS Town

Fantastic performance from the girls. It's great to see the girls taking their learning in training into games. Good defensive positioning from Layla. Matilda showed great composure bringing the ball out from the back. Lots of energy in the middle from Emily, Ella and Millie. Bonnie was clinical and used her speed to score four goals. Two long range goals from Emelia, Willow 1 and an OG.

Aycliffe U10 Wildcats v Wrekenton Nou Camp

After no games for two weeks, the girls were raring to go, with an early start at Downhill Hub. Aycliffe created numerous chances, but somehow found themselves 2-0 down at the break. Isla was moved up front and scored twice to level the match with fifteen minutes to go. However, a Wrekenton corner found an unmarked striker to tap over the line. The girls still created chances, but just couldn't grab a deserved equaliser.

Aycliffe U12 Eagles 3 v Whiteleas Lions 2

Another good performance from all the lads, saw us get a well deserved win. A throw in from Jacob to Noah in the box, who was able to find the finish to put us 1-0 up. Then a driving run from Teni found Noah, who calmly took his time in the box to, in-turn, find Alfie who was able to neatly finish, 2-0. Oliver then opened his account to make it 3-1. A hectic last five minutes saw the game finish 3-2.

Consett Pumas 0 v Aycliffe U15 Angels 6

First round of the league cup was the best performance of the season and one of the best ever. Aycliffe passed the ball around superbly and maintained control throughout the game. Three goals in the first half (Faith and two for Erin) and three in the second half (Charli, Poppy and Heidi). Good shifts from all thirteen players with Amy & Faith getting the star player awards.

Foundation of Light 1 v Aycliffe U15 Girls 3

Aycliffe opened the scoring when a tremendous cross from Ava landed at Amy's feet to slot home. However, FoL equalised before half time. Twenty minutes to go and Ebony put a cross through to Amy who smashed it past the keeper. Amy completed the scoring, and her hat trick, to take the three points. POTM: Ava Cant, Captain and birthday girl, Casey White.

Shotton Colts 2 v Aycliffe U16 Eagles 3

Two goals down early on, however, that aside, the Eagles were the better team. Adam managed to score to get one back before half time. In the second half,



Hamza crossed to Albie who scored. Soon afterwards we went ahead when a fantastic corner, taken by Hamza, found Albie who, on the volley shot, scored. Kian made a world class save right down to his right post to keep Shotton from equalising. MOM Will.

Prissick Rovers v Aycliffe U10 Eagles

A tough game was expected, and so it proved, the first half saw the boys put under real pressure and Prissick kept us panned back in our own half. The boys had chances, but couldn't find the right passes this week to create goals. The second half was different again, some of the calm passing returned and the boys clawed the score back to 3-2. A hard fought game and an exciting morning of football.

Aycliffe U10 Eagles v Kader

The boys started off slowly and found themselves three nil down within a couple of minutes before getting a goal back before half time. In the second half, the boys battled really well and managed to get it back to within one goal. Despite their best efforts, the boys lost by one goal. Goals from Ollie and Mason and two for Josh.

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E: alan.strickland.mp@parliament.uk

September has been a very busy month as your local Member of Parliament. Myself and my new office team have now responded to over 1500 emails and helped 500 people with individual pieces of casework including very complex issues around housing, welfare and education. I've also secured a big win for the Newton Aycliffe, following a lot of painstaking work.

Success in saving the Aycliffe semi-conductor plant

Since before the election, I've been working hard behind the scenes to help secure a clear future for what was the Coherent semi-conductor factory in Aycliffe Business Park. Newtonians, my age and older, will remember HM Queen Elizabeth opening the factory as a Fujitsu plant in 1991.

After a contract to make electric chips for Apple iPhones was moved abroad earlier this year, the high-tech facility was facing sale and possible closure. The factory also makes semi-conductor technology for UK defence, including fighter jets, so it was clear there was a strong local and national argument for investing in this plant and saving the 100 jobs. I've been working with Labour's defence team to push this for some months.

After months of confidential work, I was delighted to welcome Defence Secretary, John Healey MP, to Newton Aycliffe to announce the government would step in to save the plant. In a £20 million takeover, the Ministry of Defence bought the facility to secure homegrown supply of this vital defence equipment. As well as saving local jobs, the new government is committed to investing in future growth and opportunities at the Newton Aycliffe plant. This important announcement shows the value of having a pro-active, local MP who's standing up for our town.

New staff team recruited

I'm really pleased to say that, after interviewing in the last few weeks, my staff team is now at full strength. I've had to recruit from scratch, as a new MP, and have been pleased to hire some excellent local residents from across our constituency.

Like most Members of Parliament, my staff team are split between an office here in the constituency and in Westminster. Standing up for our area is my top priority, so I've spent the majority of my staffing budget locally. My constituency team assist with enquiries, help me to chase government departments and other organisations, who residents are having problems with, and book in local meetings. I've now got an Office Manager, Senior Caseworker, Caseworker and part-time Communications Officer. We're currently working from temporary office space and are moving to premises in Newton Aycliffe in the near future. The other part of my job is making sure we have a strong voice in Parliament and being a national legislator. That involves meeting government ministers to raise issues, asking questions, speaking in the House of Commons and engaging with organisations to push local issues. It also involves scrutinising and voting on laws. To help me with my work in Parliament, I've recruited a Parliamentary Researcher, who starts shortly.

With the final members of my team starting in the next few weeks, I'll be able to support more residents, and more quickly. As ever, if there are issues you think I can help with, please email me at:

alan.strickland.mp@parliament.uk

Upcoming advice surgery in Newton Aycliffe

Throughout the month I've held six constituency surgeries across the towns and villages in our new constituency. I wanted to thank everyone who's taken the time to come and raise issues with me. My next advice surgery in Newton Aycliffe is on Friday 25th October 4-6pm. Other slots are available in locations across the constituency. Get in touch if you would like to book an appointment.

Alan Strickland MP.

RUNNING CLUB NEWS

It has been another very busy week for Aycliffe Running Club, with some unique races taking place and also some exceptional performances.

On Saturday 28th September, one member took part in a very unique race, the Pilgrims Ultra, running 50km (32 miles) following in the footsteps of Saints and Kings along the stunning route of St Oswald's Way, taking in some of Northumberland's finest scenery. Starting on Holy Island, Paul Dalton took part in the event which finished in Craster. Despite suffering from cramping after 17 miles, Paul managed to keep on going, showing great determination and pushed through to finish the event in an excellent time of 6:54:59.

On the same day, it saw the return of cross country with the first race in the Start Fitness North Eastern Harrier League with the first fixture taking place at Thornley. The club was represented in the Under 11 boys race, with Will Allison (6:13) finishing in an excellent third place and Joseph Ashmore (7:45) also representing the club.

On Sunday 29th September, one member took part in the Beck Busters 10k set in Bishop Monkton. Andrew Tweddle (53:57) was the sole representative for the club.

On the same day, one member made the long trip to Inverness in Scotland to take part in the Baxters Loch Ness Marathon. This saw runners, run 26.2 mile along the east side of Loch Ness. The marathon is regarded as quite possibly one of the most stunning marathons in the world, with spectacular scenery, a fantastic atmosphere and a truly memorable experience. Richard Campbell was the sole representative for the club finishing in an excellent time of 3:13:46.

At the same time, two members travelled to Berlin in Germany to take part in one of the best marathons in the world, the 50th ever Berlin Marathon. Trevor Dixon ran a superb race, finishing in a new club record of 2:45:36 in the men's 40-44 category taking over 6 minutes off his previous best. Helen Boyd (6:13:04) also completed the event, running an excellent race. Helen completed this race as part of the Abbott World Marathon Majors Six Star Medal. This is something that is awarded for runners who complete all six major marathons, with Helen now half way there on three stars and well on her way.

On Saturday 21st September, 44 members started their weekend with a parkrun. At Albert Park, Trevor Needham (22:22) set a new PB for the course along with Shaun Dodd (23:20) and Rob Nicholson (26:35). Thomas Heywood (23:10) and Judith Porter both completed the course for the first time. At Carlisle, Yvonne Wood (37:22) completed the course for the first time. At Sedgfield, Jimmy Agnew (21:52) and Trevor Agnew (24:23) both completed the course for the first time. At Hackworth, Rob Young (20:50) finished second.

Mark Bainbridge (22:57) set a new PB at Penrith. At Keswick, Tracey Pickering (39:09) and Cliff Pickering (41:04) both completed the course for the first time. At Dalby Forest, Sandrine Hewitt (29:23), Richard Tonge (31:15) and Kathleen Tonge (36:00) all completed the course for the first time. This was also Sandrine's 50th ever parkrun. At Isobel Trail, Steve Williams (25:54) and Viv Williams (1:02:21 whilst volunteering as tail walker) both completed the course for the first time. A special mention for Matt Heron (22:46) who completed the course at Bear Creek Greenbelt in America. Luckily, there were no bears present on the run. At Yarborough Leisure Centre, Linda McNamee (32:54) completed the course for the first time. At

Wynyard Woodland, Deborah Kell (35:54) completed the course for the first time. If you are feeling inspired and are interested in joining the club, you can turn up for one of our sessions. More information is available on our website www.ayclifferunningclub.org.uk - or our Facebook page. If you would like to chat with someone, then you can email ayclifferunningclub@gmail.com - If interested in the Junior Section you can email arc.juniorsection@gmail.com - Make this year the year you or your children get into running and join us to keep it going for many years to come.

Blocked!

Dear Sir,

I would like to say how annoyed I am with our local MP, Alan Strickland, I was furious to find out he voted against our pensioners, to take away the winter fuel payment knowing that there are many pensioners he represents that rely on that money to keep warm.

I followed Alan on Facebook and commented on one of his posts, asking if he planned to visit any of the pensioners he voted against, to find he had blocked me. I find it very childish behaviour for an MP to act this way and I'm not the only one, he's blocked a lot of people, seems like he doesn't like to hear the truth. Shame on the Labour government.

Tracy Welsh.

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

By PCSO Steven Kipling



Hello, I hope this finds you well.

Here's a brief update of what has been happening over the past week or so; Last Saturday, a male was arrested for several breaches of an electronic tag and was transported to custody.

Last Sunday, a male was arrested on suspicion of assault and causing criminal damage to a house, following an incident in Kirkstone Place.

Two Herbert Protocols have been completed over the past week. These are completed to help find vulnerable residents living with Dementia/Alzheimer's should they go missing. Two females have both been cautioned over the past week after committing several offences.

On Wednesday, PC Roberts and PCSO Todd attended the Shopwatch meeting in the town centre.

PCSO's Kipling and Todd conducted a Safer Homes Visit on a lady who had suffered criminal damage to her windows.

On Saturday afternoon, a male was arrested on suspicion of assault following an incident in Arncliffe Place.

Also on Saturday, a male youth attended the station to be interviewed for a number of offences. The youth will be working with the Youth Offending Team moving forwards to prevent him reoffending.

On Saturday evening, a male was arrested for several shoplifting offences. He was later charged with these offences, remanded and will appear before court on Monday.

Thanks for reading, enjoy your week.
PCSO Steven Kipling.

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Charity Night

The Mayor's charity event is in aid of Quinn's Retreat and will take place on Friday 8th November from 7.00pm to 11.00pm in the Phoenix Club, Macmillan Road, Newton Aycliffe. Handmade crafts by Bernadette, tombola, raffle and a buffet provided by Cafe HQ. Tickets are £15 each and available from the Phoenix Club and Bernadette Clark via email: bernadette-22@hotmail.com

Regional Fun for Girls



This summer, 150-year-old charity, Girls Friendly Society, hosted a Regional Fun Day for its groups across the North East, including local chapter GFS Eldon. These events are important because they give girls a chance to make new friends and try new things in a safe environment. "Meeting together like this helps the girls to realise they are part of something bigger than their own group. Friendships between groups can build up over time." – Pam Hutchison, GFS Eldon Group Leader. Part of what makes GFS unique is the fact that events and activities, both big and small, are tailored to suit what girls tell them. In fact, this year's North East Regional Fun Day was filled with activities designed with girls in mind! The day started with lots of ice-breaker games to help the girls get to know things about each other. Other games were designed to get girls up and talking to each other, such as seat swapping, if you have a sister or if you play sports. Last year, girls told GFS they wanted to try new things and try their hands at baking – so GFS booked sessions with locally owned businesses, Creative Creatures and a Willy Wonka Chocolate Experience. Girls helped each other throughout the activity – girls who were good at mixing and pouring helped the younger girls. There may have been a few misplaced cracked eggs on the table, but girls were able to try again and perfect the brownie mix. "We should do this more often!" – GFS girl. The Creative Creatures session gave girls the opportunity to interact with different animals and step out of their comfort zones. The facilitator, Amanda, had a warm and welcoming style, encouraging the girls to take part, without pressuring them to do anything they are uncomfortable with. The animals included stick insects, owls, guinea pigs, spiders and snakes! Girls also enjoyed decorating their own t-shirts, before wrapping up the day with snacks, certificates and fond farewells. GFS relies on volunteers to make events like this possible. To find out more about GFS Eldon, visit girlsfriendlysociety.org.uk/eldon

In Memoriam

Mrs Pamela Joyce Rawlinson
(née Whalen - Atkinson)

Died 5th October 23
You fell asleep and angels came, the Lord looked down and called your name, now Heaven has its brightest star and in our thoughts you are never far. Lots of love, Ken, Louise and Andrew xxx

Obituary

Joyce Pattison

Of Newton Aycliffe. Passed away peacefully on 19th September 2024, aged 83 years. Much loved Wife of the late Billy. A special Mam to Gwen, Susan, David and the late Julie. Also, a treasured Nana of eight grandchildren. Will family and friends please meet for a service at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon on Thursday 10th October at 12:30pm.

Birthday Remembrance

Gladys Harbottle

Happy memories of our lovely Mam, born 100 years ago on 3rd October 1924. Fondly remembered by Vera, Lavinia and Andy xxx

Mark Lynch (Baird)

Of Newton Aycliffe, passed away peacefully on 22nd September, aged 51 years. A much-loved Son, Brother and Uncle. Family and friends please meet for a service at St. Mary's Catholic Church on Tuesday 8th October for 12.15pm, followed by interment at The West Cemetery, School Aycliffe. Family flowers only, by request.

Pauline Swinburne

7th October 2022
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5			2					
	5		9		3			
	3				8	7	9	
6						2	1	

HEIGHINGTON BOYS F.C.

Heighington U8s

Great effort today by the U8's, battled hard and never stopped running. Both keepers making some great saves with Riversides being the busier of the two. A 2-2 draw sees the unbeaten run stay intact, more work to be done, but the boys are ticking along nicely. Henry Wilson, Finley. Coaches MOM Jesse, Opposition MOM Henry W.

Heighington U12's 4 v Wear United U12's 3

Heighington looked dangerous on the attack, but were caught napping three times in the first fifteen minutes. Tommy then popped up with two cracking goals before half time. Second half saw Levi finish clinically and Danny fire in a long-ranger for a deserved comeback win. MOTM Riley produced brilliant footwork for Tommy's second.

Felling U15's 0 - Heighington U15's 7

Heighington cruised to a comfortable 7-0 away win against a physical Felling side. A very pleasing performance, especially considering the early start. Heighington shared the goals around with seven different scorers. In a game where everyone contributed, the MOTM went to Freddie B with a superb individual display.

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Special Guest



James Birkett with Mike Dixon on Jazz Time Aycliffe Radio - Sunday 6th October 6.30-8.00 (repeated Tuesday 8.00-9.30). This Sunday, (6th Oct) Jazz Time features James Birkett guitarist as guest. James is a renowned guitarist in the North East, the regular guitarist with Emma Fisk and the Hot Club du Nord (which also features Aycliffe's own Bruce Rollo). James will be talking about his career as a Jazz educationalist and guitarist, selecting various Jazz tracks featuring guitarists who are significant in Jazz history. Listen to Aycliffe Radio on Sunday at 6.30pm (repeated Tuesday at 8.00pm).
 Photo: James Birkett with Emma Fisk.

Health and Inspiration

We had a really healthy and inspiring show this week. The inspiration was due to come from Mark Solan, the founder and CEO of the Team Solan Connor Fawcett Cancer Trust. Mark was our guest back in June, and agreed to join us again to bring us up-to-date with the trust's continued growth, and recent developments. Unfortunately, family commitments meant Mark was unable to join us, so Angela and Sandy stepped up to ensure we were informed, educated and inspired by their knowledge and experience.



Angela and Sandy work out of the Pioneering Care Centre. Angela is the founder and owner of The Reflex Clinic, and was our guest at the beginning of August when she came into the studio and did a live show while giving Andy a reflexology treatment on his feet. He was amazed at how enjoyable and relaxing it was and as a result, he had the best night's sleep for a very long time. Sandy, who is based in the Reflex Clinic with Angela is new to the show, but comes to us with thirty years knowledge and experience in a wide range of complementary therapies. Since Andy was the eager recipient of Angela's healing hands last time, we gave Sandy the chance to demonstrate her acupuncture skills, Indian head massage and a little bit of Reiki thrown in for good measure. I had the chance to sit back and enjoy the process, which I found pain free and a very relaxing experience. The show lived up to our expectations to be informative, educational and very entertaining, and both Angela and Sandy have agreed to return as our guests early in the new year. Phill & Andy Around Town.

Labour is Failing Pensioners and Tax Payers

Dear Sir,
 Further to Vince Crosby's letter in the Newton News (27th September), I'm loathe to cross swords again, but feel that I must. Labour appears to have forgotten its pre-election promise of being a 'party for people, not politics'.
 Only five months ago, the then Shadow Work and Pensions Minister, Alison McGovern, told the Guardian that Labour would be 'the party for pensioners'.
 Apparently not. How many pensioners were conned into voting Labour, only to be stitched up, within days, with the abolition of winter fuel payments?
 And, despite a £10 billion windfall from the Bank of England, Labour MPs - including our own - still voted to cut this much needed payment.
 Weren't we told that Labour's plans had been fully costed? And, didn't they promise that any holes in the finances would be borne by the 'broadest shoulders'?
 Let's look at some figures.
 There may well be some very well-off pensioners - particularly those on gold-plated public service pensions, which cost around £5 trillion a year.
 But, according to a report in The Telegraph on September 17th, the pension increase of 6.8% for public sector pensions this year is going to cost current tax payers a whopping £208 billion - because that's the shortfall needed to fund the rise.
 So, yes, some pensioners are able to live the high life, but tell that to the single pensioner on a state pension, struggling to pay their bills. And, if you are just a couple of quid over the threshold, you will not qualify for Pension Credit (which attracts other benefits, like TV licences and free dental/optical care).
 Instead of robbing pensioners, what is the government doing to tackle fraud - especially benefit fraud?
 According to the latest Fraud Indicator Report, annual UK benefit fraud losses could be as much as £219 billion! How many doctors, nurses and police could that pay for?
 If the government recouped just half of that, it would pay almost all of the UK's State Pension bill for the year.
 Having worked all my life to get my State Pension (incidentally, one of the lowest in Europe), I resent the myth that all pensioners are rich. But means testing people who have worked all of their lives is just insulting.
 Vince Crosby's 'I'm alright Jack' attitude is unbecoming. Yes, he may 'cope' with the lost heating allowance, but a million pensioners, who are in poverty, won't.
 Meanwhile, two tier Kier - on his annual salary of around £170,000 - won't have to worry about his outgoings. He's already had thousands of pounds in donations from his mate, Lord Alli. Not a good look is it?
 Debbie Ingram.

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County Consider Food Waste Collections

The region's largest council will consider preparations to begin collecting food waste. Durham County Council's Cabinet will be asked to approve changes to County Durham's household recycling collections in line with the Simpler Recycling reforms introduced by Government. The new legislation makes it a statutory requirement for councils to collect the same materials for recycling across the country, making it easier for residents to know what can and cannot be recycled. This includes a requirement for all councils to introduce weekly household food waste collections by 31st March 2026, and by March 2025 for large businesses. Cabinet will hear that options have been considered for collecting food waste and that weekly collections in a separate specialised vehicle - called a stillage vehicle - would be the most cost effective and efficient option. The stillage vehicles have small compartments, which would also make it possible to safely collect small batteries and used vapes from households. The council is also proposing to simplify recycling, making it easier for residents and for refuse collectors. Glass recycling is proposed to be collected in the main recycling blue-lidded bin, rather than in a separate box. As the new legislation requires food waste collections for large businesses to be in place by March 2025, Cabinet will be asked to approve the procurement of a small number of waste collection vehicles. Residents will be contacted about their collection date and provided with containers ahead of household food waste collections coming into place in 2026.

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Piano Recitals

The opening recital of Darlington Piano Society's 2024-25 season, in Central Hall, the Dolphin Centre, at 3pm on Sunday 20th October, is the first of six bringing a series of international pianists, all of whom are first time performers for the Society. The season is planned some way ahead and by pure chance, it includes a Leeds International Piano Competition finalist from this September, a jury member from the competition, and the first female winner in 2009.

However, the season opens with a debut by a London based young Romanian pianist, Cristian Sandrin. In 2024-25 he will be playing at St John's Smith Square and in Milan, and making his debut at the Beethovenhaus in Bonn, Germany. The programme is book-ended with a work published in 1696 (Purcell's Suite no.7) and Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, arranged by Mikhail Pletnev and published in 1978, with two sonatas by Mozart and Schumann's Kreisleriana in between. Details of the full programme are available at www.dpiano.co.uk - where season tickets and individual tickets can be purchased. Tickets are also available at the door on the day, price £18, with under 21's free. The recital series takes place in Central Hall, the Dolphin Centre, at 3pm on Sundays with Cristian's recital opening the season on 20th October.

N.A.F.C. REPORT



**Saturday 28th September
Liversedge 4 v Newton Aycliffe 0**

Newton Aycliffe ended a disappointing week of results with a surprisingly poor 4-0 defeat at Liversedge on Saturday. Many were hoping to see Aycliffe bounce back from their 4-2 defeat at Heaton Stannington on Wednesday, although this wasn't to be the case. Aycliffe didn't start too badly, with Dean Thexton having several chances in the first half that Liversedge's Jake Oram easily dealt with. The hosts opened the scoring when Jack Carr smartly moved

in the box and fired past Jim Pollard in seventeen minutes. The hosts doubled the lead in the thirtieth minute as Jack Dyche got on the end of a cross into a crowded box and to make matters worse, and essentially end the contest within thirty four minutes, Joe Walton was deemed to be pushed in the box sufficiently enough to give the hosts a penalty which Alfie Raw successfully converted. Such a quick spell of goals basically killed any entertainment value the remainder of the contest had, and both teams seemed unlikely to score any more goals in both the final minutes of the first half and the majority of the second half. Aycliffe probably held a larger degree of possession in the second half, but didn't make it count for much at all. As the second half wore on, Liversedge started to get a bit more comfortable going forward again and the home side sealed the contest when substitute Chinedu Osadebe was set up by Jack Crook after Crook's engaged a lung busting run through the Aycliffe midfield and defence, Osadebe maneuvered himself into the right place to fire it home in the 85th minute. It was truly an afternoon to forget for Aycliffe and even worse when factoring in the loss at Heaton Stannington on Wednesday.

After a midweek home fixture against Sherwood Colliery, Aycliffe turn their attention back to the Isuzu FA Trophy with a trip to NPL Premier side Whitby Town on Saturday 5th October. This is the first time Aycliffe have reached the Third Qualifying Round of the FA Trophy and, playing a team from a league higher, will prove a stern test. However, having put NPL East leaders Emley out in the last round, Aycliffe will be hoping to continue their excellent cup form. *Match report by Ryan Livingston. Photo by Yvonne Wood: Man of the match Joe Ferguson on the ball at Liversedge.*

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