

Newton News

Incorporating The Newtonian - Newton Aycliffe's Free Community Newspaper
 Editorial & Advertising contact: Telephone: 01325 300212 - Email: paul@newtonnews.co.uk - Website: www.newtonnews.co.uk

Healthier Future For All



Health and wellbeing charity, the Pioneering Care Partnership (PCP) has launched its long-awaited renovations at its healthy living hub, the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe.

The transformative project for the community includes two extensions. The first includes a new hydrotherapy pool and changing facilities, replacing the old pool that was struggling to meet demand. The new pool has doubled in size to support a growing demand for hydrotherapy, with more appointments available.

PCP's Options service for adults with learning and physical disabilities has benefitted from investment, with a much-needed extension and kitchenette, providing members with more space to learn, thrive and develop key day-to-day living skills. Carol Gaskarth, PCP's Chief Executive, expressed her excitement about the improvements and said: "As a charity, this is the start of an exciting journey for PCP, after years of planning, fundraising, and securing grants, PCP invested over £1 million to bring this ambitious project to life and ensure we can continue to support as many people as possible with our charity mission of 'Health, Wellbeing and Learning for All'. "Our Options service room has also doubled in size, giving members more space to take part in different sessions. We wanted to put Option's

name at the heart of their sessions, giving them more 'options' to choose activities that help them develop skills such as cooking, gardening and independent life skills that they can use outside of the Options service.

"As well as improvements for PCP's Options service, the Pioneering Care Centre offered over 17,000 hydrotherapy appointments annually, but PCP couldn't keep up with the demand for appointments from people across the region. It shows how hydrotherapy benefits so many people, and the investment into facilities enables PCP to offer more appointments, giving more people the chance to 'make a wave' and reap the benefits of hydrotherapy."

Valuable user feedback has helped PCP ensure new facilities meet accessibility requirements, with improved changing rooms, hoist equipment, state-of-the-art water jets, sensory features, and an overall relaxing ambience where people can come together to enjoy hydrotherapy. Eileen, a PCP hydrotherapy pool user, said: "My 24-year-old daughter has a rare genetic disorder. She is autistic and doesn't talk at all. She also has limited mobility. When we go to the hydrotherapy pool, she loves the whole sensory experience. I can tell from her body language that she is relaxed and happy. I am limited in activities we can enjoy together, and we both appreciate the time



together including a nice coffee and a sandwich in the cafe afterwards.

"There are definite physical and mental health benefits for my daughter and, as a carer, I feel it helps aches and pains in my back as well as the emotional boost of quality time spent together."

The centre developments are now complete. Anyone can book to use PCP's hydrotherapy pool, without a referral to support recovery, pain management or simply to relax. To book a session, visit the Pioneering Care Centre reception desk in the main entrance or call 01325 321234.

Informative & Entertaining

Ian Proctor from Digital Edge opened the show for us explaining how, in an ever increasing technological environment, social media has cornered the market in the business industry and it pays to maximise the use of social media for businesses large and small. Ian will be hosting the 'Be More Social' event at the Glow Conference Centre on Tuesday 5th November. Further details on the event, including ticket details, can be obtained from the Digital Edge facebook page.

When you are lucky enough to have one inspirational guest in the studio it goes a long way to creating a great show, but when four turn up for the show it's guaranteed to be a bit special. For the second half of the show we had members of the Dementia Friendly Darlington group with us, discussing the realities of being diagnosed with Dementia, the effect it has on everyday life, and the impact it has on family members who have to become carers of loved ones with Dementia.

We also got the chance to discuss the Dementia Friendly Darlington's 'Dementia's Got Talent' show taking place at the Darlington Hippodrome on Tuesday 21st January. Raising awareness, sponsorship opportunities, and fundraising for a very worthwhile cause, while showcasing the varied talents of people living with Dementia and how much can be achieved.

Further information and entry forms can be obtained by email:

joanne.hendry@darlington.homeinstead.co.uk or you can call 07513 723302 for further information.

Phill & Andy
 Around Town, Aycliffe Radio.



Stroke Support Where is that Pen?

Are you looking for peer support after having a stroke? You are more than welcome to join us at Stroke Survivors Group held once a fortnight at Woodhouse Church Hall, Bishop Auckland, DL14 6PD.

Next session is Friday 1st November, 10.30am-12 noon and only £3 donation. Please contact Lynn on 07453 982288 for more info - look forward to seeing you there.

Kinship Care Support Group

We meet every fortnight
Come along for a chat and a coffee

Tuesday 5th November, Veterans Hub
10.00am to 12.00 noon
All discussions are confidential
Email: korreena54@gmail.com

Dear Sir,
Over the last couple of weeks I have noted our MP referring to his 'work' on Hitachi. I am delighted he is keeping the focus, but what is actually happening? My Conservative Government had already sorted Alstom and were working 'at pace' on Hitachi options. He and his Shadow Transport Secretary had said 'Hitachi could be solved with the stroke off a pen', clearly this was misleading and recent media gives me serious concerns the pen has been lost. I see it was used though to help Coherent, this was a 'done deal' before the election, but at least it proved the pen exists, so please get it back off your Chancellor before she does any more damage and use it where it's needed.
Paul Howell
Former MP for Sedgfield.

RUNNING CLUB NEWS



It has been another positive week for Aycliffe Running Club with some excellent performances and personal bests.

On Wednesday 16th October, fourteen members took part in a special Darlington Trail Series West Park Night Run. This saw runners run 5k in the dark, using head torches to light the way. Representing the club were Jimmy Agnew (21:21), Richard Holland (22:29), Joe Dickinson (24:38), Lucy Postle (26:31), Sarah Gill (28:05), Keith Hatton (29:05), Salv McDonnell (29:20), Sue Podmore (29:36), Kelly Dickinson (29:40), Cath McDonnell (32:38), Peter Varley (34:30), Em Flynn (34:47), Nici Ingman (37:56) and Ian Stothard (42:21).

On Sunday 20th October, a number of members travelled to York to take part in the Run For All Yorkshire Series of Races. In the marathon, five members took part and, despite rain and wind throughout the race, Mikey Taylor (3:05:54), Kieron O'Connor (3:06:29), Gary O'Connor (3:07:03), Bernadette Cooper (3:55:17) and Daniel Tatham (3:59:59) all achieved new PB's with this the first time Daniel had managed to get below the elusive four hour mark, amazing.

At the same time, five members took part in the 10 mile race, with Mark Bainbridge (1:19:32), Beau-Louise Mason (1:23:50 and new PB), Heather Bainbridge (1:30:48), Kirsty Sykes (1:37:53 and new PB) and Sam Harding (1:47:05) all representing the club.

On the same day, one member took part in the Run Northumberland Castle Half Marathon, starting and finishing in Bamburgh. Sandra Collins (2:14:47) was the sole representative for the club, finishing second in the Female Over 60 category.

At the same time, four members made the trek to Scarborough to take part in the Yorkshire Coast 10k. Dispute the testing conditions, with wind and rain, John Surtees (37:17), Tracey Surtees (43:57), Trish Kay (56:13) and Eve Doe (1:05:05) all completed the race.

A special mention this week to Gareth Hamblin who took part in the Tough Mudder Infinity North West event which included eight hours of running, obstacles and plenty of mud. For the first two laps, Gareth was flying and held a respectable third position and was running in the top ten of British OCR finalists. Unfortunately, on lap three, he got horrendous cramp, slipped on an obstacle and took a heavy fall on ribs forcing him to slow to a walk to complete the lap. As cold set in, he decided to make the correct decision to stop. This is still a fantastic achievement and Gareth showed he can compete against some of the best runners on a tough course and, after a week off, will start training for his next goals, including with the Tough Mudder Infinity.

On Saturday 12th October, 51 members started their weekend with a parkrun. At Warrington, Judith Porter (33:55) completed the course for the first time whilst Jayne Rudd (31:45) completed the event at Gateshead for the first time. At Redcar, Heather and Mark Bainbridge (27:02) completed the course for the first time. At Hackworth, and in the 500th ever parkrun at this course, Andy Sedgwick (20:43) finished third and Karl Hume (20:48) fourth with Bernadette Cooper (23:06) first female. Jimmy Agnew (21:52), Trevor Agnew (23:07) and Peter Varley (31:38) set new course PB's with Trevor Needham (24:43) completing the course for the first time. At the picturesque Talkin Tarn, Carley Cooper (30:23), Jean-Pierre Hupin (30:37) and Em Flynn (36:13) all completed the course for the first time with Sandrine Hewitt (31:24) setting a new course PB. At Epworth Equestrian, Lou Mann (36:24) 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.



FAMILY HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

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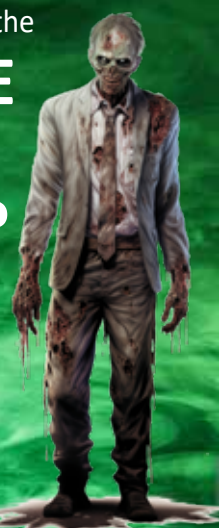
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Recycle Week 2024



From Monday 14th October to Friday 18th October, St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School celebrated Recycle Week. This year's theme was 'Rescue Me'.

The school's eco warriors kicked off the week by leading a whole school assembly on the three Rs of managing waste - reduce, reuse and recycle. The group then completed an audit of the school, checking each classroom and office had two bins (one for non-recyclable waste and another for recycling).

After completing this, the children created posters to let everyone know what items could be put in each bin. The week ended with a visit from Katie and Stuart (Durham County Council) who led a talk for the whole school on what can and cannot be recycled and what happens to our recycling.

One of the eco warriors said, "We all need to do our bit to reduce waste to help save our planet. It also helps the animals as they can get hurt."

St. Francis' Day



St. Francis was known for his love of nature, particularly his love of animals. I think all of us empathise with that! Historians believe he was born over 840 years ago, in either 1181 or 1182, in Assisi which is now part of Italy. St. Francis believed that nature was the mirror of God. He called all creatures his 'brothers' and 'sisters'. There are stories of him preaching to the birds and speaking with wolves. He spread the word of God during the wars of the Christian crusades, dying in Assisi on 3rd October 1226, aged around 44. He was made a saint on 16th July 1228. His feast day is held on 4th October.

Last week, the Year 5's at St. Francis' Junior School taught us all about St. Francis, who our school is named after. They made us realise how lucky we are to be named after such an important, special saint. Well done Year 5, after four weeks back at school you have learnt a lot about St. Francis and were so brave delivering our first class assembly this year.

We also celebrated St. Francis' Day by holding a school disco. The staff and children gathered for our St Francis' Day Disco. What a great disco it was. The children and staff had an amazing time dancing away and playing some party games. We stopped for a hot dog and juice break before dancing the night away together! It was great to see the children having such a fun time together.

Candle Light Service

A candle light service, to remember loved ones, will be held on Saturday 2nd November at 6.00pm in St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe. This is an opportunity to come together as a family and light a candle for that special person as their name is read out. The invitation is for all who are missing a loved one, regardless of when they passed. Everyone is welcome to this short, relaxed service of remembering, as we continue to support one another as another year passes. If you have any queries, please contact 07716 801262.

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KidzFlicks

Garfield The Movie - is showing at KidzFlicks Cinema Club on Saturday 2nd November at 2.00pm. Come along and enjoy an end of holiday treat for just £1 with prizes at the end. Selling sweets, crisps, drinks and cakes from 20p and there are always some great bargains, so please do come along and support this community children's group run by the Youth Team at St. Clare's Church, Newton Aycliffe.

After an unexpected reunion with his long-lost father a scruffy street cat, Garfield, is forced to leave his perfectly pampered life in order to take part in a dangerous outdoor adventure.

Doors open at 1.30pm for the best seats in the movie hall at St. Clare's. Adults are welcome to accompany children under five years of age, older children are able to watch the movie with their friends if they so wish. Everyone is welcome, no need to book.

Knife Crime Prevention Programme



At our last Rotary meeting, Police Sgt Andy Boyd came along to talk with us about the Newton Aycliffe Police strategy on knife crime prevention which is being rolled out across schools in our community. His presentation was hard hitting yet effective and provoked much discussion among us.

Other guests included Rotarians Gary Blenkinsopp of Darlington Rotary Club, Jacqui Molyneux and Mike Overy, both from Middlesbrough Erimus Rotary Club. Jacqui and Mike are currently delivering a similar programme to schools, colleges and community groups across the region on behalf of Rotary, using VCR technology. It was interesting to chat about the merits of the differing approaches and the aim is to support each with partnership working at some point in the future. If any groups in the area wish to talk more with Rotary about this initiative, please get in touch.

Photo 1 to r: Jacqui, Mike, Joint Club President Margaret & Sgt. Boyd.

The Voice of Conscience

Breakfast

"Acceptance is the key to happiness"

Rick Astley

(on BBC Breakfast, 08/10/24) b. 1966 - English Singer

Catering and Cafe Assistant



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Experience and food hygiene qualification preferred.

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Public talks on

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Poor Standards

Dear Sir,
So many people, that I have recently spoken to about this, all agree, the town is becoming run down by outdoor services we once took for granted. For example, the terrible mess made by grass cutters, with footpaths and gutters covered with dead grass and strewn around. Quite recently, hedge cutters left their cuttings shoved around the borders, leaving the area ugly and looking neglected around the top of my road, near Neville Parade. In Bury Road there are reports of cans and bottles behind the hedges near the block of flats. I have reported these issues to Durham County Council, but nothing seems to be getting done and, when they are done, they are not completed and left a mess.
J. Lawler.

Vane Road New Starters

If your child is due to start school in September 2025 please come along and join us for our new starter meeting on Wednesday 13th November starting at 5.00pm ending at 6.00pm. This is an opportunity to have a look round our school and speak to staff. We look forward to seeing you.

COUNTY DURHAM



Cleaner x 3

Greenfield Academy

Greenfield Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7LF

Tel: 01325 300 378

Email: joanne.battye@greenfieldschool.net

Website: <https://greenfieldacademy.org.uk/about-us/vacancies>

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Hours: 12.5 Hours per week

Required: ASAP

Further details and application forms are available on the Academy website or via school reception

Closing date for applications: Monday 4th November at 9.00am

Interviews: To be confirmed

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Halloween Line Dance

Fly on down to our Halloween line dance party night on Thursday 31st October at the Phoenix Club.

We have Shirley and Tony, our fantastic line dance teachers, from 8.00pm to 8.45pm, then we have a great artist from 8.45pm to 9.30pm and 10.00pm to 10.45pm. There will be prizes for best costumes, as well as an open buffet. So, PBAP, come on, fly on down, and have a fantastic night, broom parking available. Entry £5.



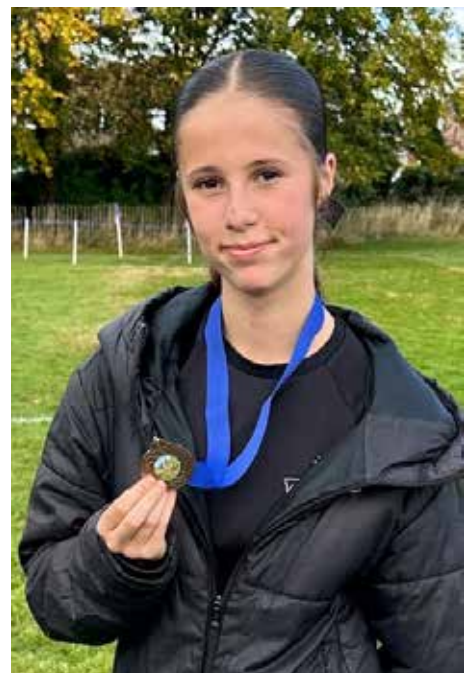
DON'T FORGET

To turn your clocks back this weekend

Cross Country Championships



Twenty five students from Woodham Academy recently competed in the Southwest Durham County Cross Country Championships, held at Barnard Castle School. Students from years 7, 8, 9 and 10 all featured in the team, and were a credit to the school, consistently demonstrating our core values of: Aiming High, Working Hard, Never Giving Up and Being Kind. Students had to run various distances, depending on their age groups, ranging from one to two miles. Overall, students placed considerably well.



Year 10 Daisy D gained third place in the intermediate girl's group, which was made up of up to 50 Year 10 and 11 girls. We are extremely proud of the students who represented Woodham Academy.

Illegally driven and dangerous off-road bikes (off-road vehicles include: quad bikes, electric scooters, go-peds and trials bikes) are amongst the most common complaints raised by local residents, who are understandably concerned about reckless riders causing a significant amount of harassment, alarm, and distress in their local communities.

These inconsiderate riders are often seen riding without helmets and wearing balaclavas, putting their lives and the lives of others in mortal danger. These riders do not only pose a significant danger to the public, but they are also causing a huge amount of environmental damage and noise pollution.

To combat this problem, I am funding a range of schemes and investing in advanced technology to help officers identify, pursue and apprehend offenders. For example, Section 59 warning signs have been erected in hot spot areas. These signs give police officers the power to seize offending off-road bikes, quads or 4x4's immediately and, whenever possible, bikes will be confiscated and crushed so they cannot be returned or resold. I am also investing in new state of the art technologies, such as drones, to revolutionise our approach to tackling off-road bikes. Drones enable officers to track and trace illegal off-road vehicles and their riders. Equipped with high-resolution cameras, drones can cover large areas very quickly, capturing real-time footage of illegal activities and images of the perpetrators. Aerial footage not only identifies the locations where bikes are being stored, but also assists in tracking the offender to where they can be located and arrested.

In addition to drones, everyday technology such as CCTV, doorbell cameras and smartphones can capture footage of offending off-road bikes. This information can provide crucial evidence that can lead to successful prosecutions. Every photo or piece of footage we receive helps us to build a bigger picture, identify offenders and keep people safe.

The law relating to off road bikes:

- It is illegal to drive or ride a mechanically propelled vehicle without lawful authority on common land, moorland or land not forming part of a road, or on any road which is a footpath, bridleway or restricted byway.
- Under section 34 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 the driving of motor vehicles off road and on public land is prohibited.
- Persons riding a quad bike on a footpath, bridleway or restricted bridleway would be guilty of an offence under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
- Even if someone has permission to ride a quad bike on land, if they are found to be riding 'dangerously' or 'carelessly' they would be guilty of an offence, even when they are driving off-road.
- Under Section 59 Police Reform Act 2002, officers can seize vehicles which are being used illegally, including prohibited off-road use.
- Noise issues can be dealt with by the local council under statutory nuisance noise legislation as provided by the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
- If riders are caught causing criminal damage, they can be arrested under the Criminal Damage Act 1971.

Anyone with information regarding the riding of illegal bikes should:

- Call the Police on 101 or report online by visiting durham.police.uk
 - Or report to Crimestoppers (100% anonymously) by calling 0800 555 111 or visiting crimestoppers.org.uk
- State:**
- Times, days and locations the bikes are being used.
 - The make, colour or size of the bike.
 - Details of clothing, helmets and other distinguishing marks.
 - Where bikes are being kept.

WEDNESDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2024
5.00pm to 8.00pm

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Half Term Holiday Activities



Green Arts are excited to celebrate the holidays with a free activity for young people and families as part of their autumn programme. We are delighted to offer quality creative fun in our lovely studio at Green Arts. The fun creative workshop will be led by professional artist Dawn Belshaw and will run on Wednesday 30th October from 2.00pm to 3.00pm at Green Arts, Moore Lane, Newton Aycliffe.

Join Dawn and have fun at this hands-on session and make something amazing to take home. The sessions are very popular and are suitable for young people and families. You can reserve your place via our website, using our simple online form.

Just visit www.green-arts.co.uk or email info@green-arts.co.uk to find out more.

The family focused sessions form part of a bigger programme at Green Arts with activities for all generations.

We are committed to bringing arts to our community and continuing to inspire young people and families, just visit our website to find out more about us and to join our mailing list to keep up-to-date.

HALL FOR HIRE

School Aycliffe Community Centre

Large hall (high ceiling), meeting room, Wi-Fi, private off road car park, kitchen facilities, accessible toilets, baby changing facilities and a lovely enclosed outside area.

For further information please contact
Zanna Bewick on 07929 916725



Newton Aycliffe Juniors

Under 8's entertained TIBS and, in an amazing display, they managed to score fifteen goals through Oliver (3), Mathew (3), Cooper (2), Harry (2), James (2), Lewis, Joey and an OG.

Under 8's Blues travelled to Redcar Town Lions U8's, for a game played in difficult conditions. Aycliffe scored goals through Nate (3), Carter and Harrison A, in a game which highlighted their attacking abilities.

Under 9's Reds had a battle at Nunthorpe Athletics in a brilliant game of Football. In heavy rain, Aycliffe were brave, determined and strong with goals from Ollie (2), Thomas, Jakey and Parker. POTM was Parker and parents POTM was Jakey.

Under 9's Juniors played against Cleveland Junior Lions, not deterred by the wet weather, it was a great match. Aycliffe's goals were scored by Kian, Lincoln and Zach. MOTM were Reign and Kian for not stop work and determination.

Under 10's played against Ferryhill, in an extremely competitive game. POTM was Olly, who was a rock in defence and Teddy, who went past, played and made amazing tackles in Midfield.

Under 10's hosted Billingham, Noah scored after a lovely through ball from Eddie. MOTM was goalkeeper Harvey, who continues to improve on his distribution. Parents MOTM went to Isaac for his hard work in midfield.

Under 11's Reds faced Normanby United, putting arguably their best performance of all time. Aycliffe simply dominated the attacking play, with goals from Oliver T, Charlie (3) and Koa (2). MOTM was Marshall, whose work rate was phenomenal.

Under 11's Blacks had a tough trip to Darlington Young Bulls, it was a day to forget, with the positives, a goal, from Jack B and some great goalkeeping from Liam B. POTM was awarded to Hughie W, who stayed strong and composed.

Under 12's Blacks faced a strong Cleveland Juniors, in tough windy conditions. It wasn't to be Aycliffe's day, with Kai scoring Aycliffe's only goal with a great finish. MOTM was Harry.

Under 13's Juniors returned to winning ways this week with a 3-2 victory over Riverside Juniors Whites, with goals from Jonah, Lucas and Dom. Will and Jonah providing the assists.

Under 13's Whites progressed through to the next round of the cup after a second round 7-3 win over Thornley FC. The goals were scored by Albie (2), James (2), Oliver (2) and Michal. MOTM went to Serge for excellent communication to the rest of the team from centre back.

Under 13's Blacks faced Crook Hornets, coming away with a great 5-0 win. Connor helped himself to a hat-trick and Jack H scored the other two goals. MOTM, from the parents were James and Olly. MOTM, from the managers, were Alfie and Oliver B.

Under 16's Blacks travelled to face Peterlee in the second round of the cup. Jayden set Leon up to give Aycliffe the lead, before the hosts equalised with a penalty before half time. It was then Jayden who turned out to be match winner, scoring the second goal in a 2-1 win. MOTM was Danny.

Under 23's got a great 3-0 win v New Brancepeth in the Durham trophy. Aycliffe dominated the game and thoroughly deserved the victory against a team who are two divisions higher. Matty (2) and Andy scoring the goals, with Andy picking up the MOTM award.



Ten Reasons to Oppose Assisted Suicide

Dear Sir,

The 'name and addressed supplied' writer in last week's Newton News, misses the point as he didn't give his/her name, I will try to address the writer as him. I have been through the people dying from cancer in my family. My mother-in-law had cancer and died at 56 my brother-in-law, a fire officer, died at 54 with cancer, then my sister-in-law also died of cancer. In each case, they had the treatment of the hospice.

I oppose the legalisation of assisted suicide out of concern for the good of every person in society, the protection of this good in law, and the spiritual and pastoral care of the sick and dying.

My opposition is a matter of human reason, as well as religious faith: assisted suicide is inherently wrong and the evidence from other jurisdictions shows there can be no safe or limited assisted suicide law.

Clarity of language is central to effective public debate on important moral issues. The use of the term 'assisted dying' in this inquiry endorses the euphemism that assisted suicide means compassionate assistance in dying rather than the prescription of lethal medication. The ten reasons were used in evidence at the Health and Social Care Committee in 2023.

- 1/ Life is a gift and equally valuable, even in times of suffering;
 - 2/ Assisted suicide is based on a flawed idea of autonomy;
 - 3/ Assisted suicide is based on a misleading view of compassion;
 - 4/ Calling assisted suicide 'dignity in dying' ultimately passes judgement on the value of human life;
 - 5/ Assisted suicide undermines the medical duty to care for patients;
 - 6/ Assisted suicide undervalues the lives of people with disabilities;
 - 7/ People may choose assisted suicide because they feel like a burden;
 - 8/ We cannot know for sure if people seeking assisted suicide have full mental capacity;
 - 9/ Legalising assisted suicide is likely to lead to a slippery slope;
 - 10/ Investing in palliative care is a better way to support people suffering at the end of life.
- Rather than legalising assisted suicide, I, along with others, strongly support greater Government investment in the availability and accessibility of specialist palliative care across the country. I would like to reiterate the Catholic Church's commitment to protecting and valuing life at all stages, no matter how physically or psychologically limited, and our opposition to assisted suicide as an attack on the inherent dignity of human life.
- Vince Crosby



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Secondary School Places

Parents in County Durham are being reminded they are running out of time to apply for secondary school places for their children. The deadline for applications for the next academic year, which starts in September 2025, is Thursday 31st October 2024. For a child to be eligible to start secondary school in September 2025, their birthday must fall between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014.

Cllr. Ted Henderson, Durham County Council's Cabinet member for children and young people's services, said: "For parents, the decision of which school to send their child to is, understandably, a big one. We would urge parents to make sure they apply by the deadline as a late application greatly reduces their chances of getting into a preferred school."

Applications can be made online at: www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions or by post. If posting, the form should be sent back using signed for or special delivery services.

Application forms can also be requested by phoning 03000 265 896 or by writing to the School Places and Admissions Team at Education Development Centre, Enterprise Way, Spennymoor DL16 6YP.

Offers of places will be made to parents on 3rd March 2025.

For applications completed online, offers will be received by email. For applications sent by post, offers will be received by letter. These should arrive by no later than 5th March 2025.

WATER POLO UPDATE

Sedgefield Water Polo Club's Under 16's team made the long drive to Hucknall, Nottingham on Sunday 15th September to play their league match.

The game got off to a fantastic start, with Kyle scoring a penalty after just two minutes on the clock. This was followed a minute later with a goal from Hucknall. Tyler then scored Sedgefield's second goal of the match before the opposition quickly equalised. The first quarter ended with a 2-2 on the scoreboard. The second quarter started with goals in quick succession from Thomas, Kyle, Gregor and Ilesha, giving the team a comfortable 4-7 lead at half time. After a team talk, by coach Ben, the team were determined to continue their winning ways and wanted to score as many goals as possible to help in their pursuit of winning the league.

The third quarter started with another quick goal from Kyle, followed by more goals from Thomas, Kyle and Finley which resulted in a 6-12 win by the end of this quarter.

Going into the final quarter, the team could see the win ahead of them, but knew they had to continue working hard and showing off their impressive fitness skills in order to look as fit in this quarter as they did at the start of the game. The quarter started with Hucknall scoring a couple of goals before Sedgefield found their fighting spirit and scored another three goals. Final score was a very well deserved 10-14 win and a huge well done to Bram who, not only played up two age groups,



but also played in goal for the entire game.

We'd also like to advise that we can now offer player sponsorships for just £30 per player for this season in return for regular advertising and promotion on our social media pages. If this is something that your business may be interested in, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

All monies raised will be used to allow our fantastic members the opportunity to develop their skills and provide them with the equipment they need in order to succeed in the sport.

In addition to Junior and Senior sessions, Sedgefield Water Polo Club now offers a beginner session at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre on a Saturday afternoon for those wishing to try this fun and exciting sport. All sessions need to be booked in advance on our Club App, so please check our website for further information and joining instructions, email: sedgefieldwp@hotmail.com or contact 07579 030598.



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MP's Update

E: alan.strickland.mp@parliament.uk

I've had a busy week in Parliament, our constituency and visiting a major Royal Air Force base to learn more about the work of our forces. I'm really pleased to have been awarded a place on the Armed Forces Parliamentary scheme, an outstanding programme that's been running for over thirty years. The aim of the scheme is to help make sure members of the House of Commons and House of Lords have a good knowledge of our armed forces, their work and the realities facing our service personnel. The programme is cross-party and supported by the services and the Ministry of Defence.

I've joined the Royal Air Force branch of the programme and our first assignment was to fly to RAF Valley by Chinook helicopter to see first hand the UK's fast jet training school. It was great to meet RAF personnel, including people from our area, and learn about all aspects of military training. As well as hearing from senior leaders about RAF operations around the world, it was good to have honest conversations with servicemen and women of all ranks about day-to-day life in the forces and what needs to be improved. I'll be picking up the issues raised with defence ministers to push for the very best for those who defend our country.

Local jobs in the defence sector, such as those at Oetric Semiconductors in Newton Aycliffe Business Park, contribute greatly to our local economy and it's important to gain further insight into the sector so I can support growth and opportunities locally. Good, local, well-paying jobs remain my top priority as your MP.

In Aycliffe, I had the pleasure of opening the new hydrotherapy pool at the Pioneering Care Centre. The pool will assist with rehabilitation and recovery for those with physical injuries and disabilities. I was delighted to join the Lord Lieutenant, Mrs. Sue Snowdon, who opened the new Options Room for service users. The renovations mark a new chapter for the centre as they continue to improve the fantastic services they provide to us here in Aycliffe and across the region.

My constituency and Westminster offices are now at full strength. My team are working incredibly hard to help me assist constituents with a whole range of issues. We've now responded to nearly 2,000 letters and emails and assisted over 700 people with complex cases including Pension Credit claims, re-housing and school issues. If there is anything you feel I can help with, you can contact me on: alan.strickland.mp@parliament.uk

I've held several constituency surgeries throughout this month, including one in Aycliffe this week. If you would like to attend my advice surgeries to discuss any issues, then please email me to book an appointment.

It was a privilege to visit the Solan Connor Fawcett Cancer Trust in Spennymoor. Following their creation, in 2015, they've helped children and adults who have been affected by a cancer diagnosis. This includes counselling, financial support, advice and a new support hub. They work closely with local health services and charities to ensure residents get all the support they are entitled to. They've helped thousands of residents, including lots of families in Newton Aycliffe. Please do have a look at their website if they might be able to help you. I'm pleased that this Labour Government is committed to halving the number of deaths by cancer in the next 5 years. We'll do this by doubling the number of cancer scanners and investing in an extra 700,000 appointments a year to speed up diagnosis and treatment. Back in Westminster, I voted on several key Bills currently going through Parliament including a law to remove the remaining hereditary peers from the House of Lords and the creation of GB Energy. A whole raft of legislation is currently moving through the parliamentary process, and I look forward to the progress being made on the policies we set out in our manifesto.

I look forward to updating you all next week, please get in touch if you think there's anything I can help with.

Alan Strickland, MP for Newton Aycliffe & Spennymoor
alan.strickland.mp@parliament.uk

Senior Football



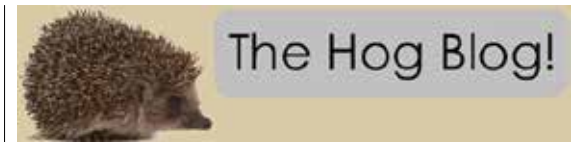
Wynyard Village 2 v Newton Aycliffe Youth Seniors 2

The Seniors travelled to their away game with a strong squad of eighteen to select from. Aycliffe know how Wynyard play, so it was going to be interesting to see how the younger lads coped with their physical presence. First twenty minutes was all one way action, with Aycliffe dominating the game, but the final pass or decision was lacking. The next phase of the game saw Wynyard take control, mainly down to our own mistakes, with Adam Scott pulling off three top class saves in the closing five minutes of the half to keep us in it. We spoke at half time about improving what we did in the final third.

Slightly against the run of play, Wynyard took the lead through a very poor mistake at the back, which saw a clearance closed down and looping back towards the goal, which was tapped into an open goal. A ball to Niall was turned on and he shot from distance with too much power for their keeper, as it found its way into the back of the net. Ryan Groves did try to claim the goal; however, his claims were waived away by the dubious goal committee as quite laughable. A long ball by Wynyard should have been cleared, but again Aycliffe caused their own problems and went 2-1 down. Some good football saw the lads string five or six passes together, with the ball finding Niall 12 yards out to smash home. Aycliffe had another couple of chances, but again the final ball let them down and the game fizzled out to a draw. A strange game where it is difficult to decide if it was two points dropped or a point gained. MOM: Adam Scott. Team Sponsored by: David Hardy - Retirement Planning, Mortgage Advice Centre, Gestamp Tallent, Securicorp Group and Unite the Union.

Newton Aycliffe Women v Gateshead Rutherford Ladies

Another postponed game for the women as the wet weather arrived, once again.



These little mammals never fail to amaze me, over the weekend I have admitted some very little hogs, no more than 230 grams in weight, what has happened to their mums and siblings is anyone's guess, however, I am overwintering quite a few here, I have some bigger ones in rescue and the weather conditions are far from desirable. When the nights are mild there is too much rain so there is no chance of them making dry nests. Running this rescue is very hard work, but these beauties are better here than left out to die.

All here are doing well, I have Little Maggie from Angie, Cherub from Caroline and her partner from Honister Place also doing well and the list continues, but unfortunately I have to stop admitting because these little ones are eating well and won't stay little forever. I also want to thank everyone who has donated, Mr & Mrs Burak, Lynda, Joan, Julia, Jackie and John Connell, Sharon for some lovely cages, the support is really appreciated and keeps these lovelies alive.

I have also been asked to assist some level six degree students make a film about our delightful prickly pals, other rehabbers have been getting involved too, because the demand is high to get the plight of our hedgehogs out in the open. This interview I am doing may be, at some point, on programmes like The One Show. Can I say that, if you have visiting hedgehogs in your garden, you should consider this an honour, they still need our help. Please keep feeding them through the winter, some don't hibernate and need to be fat enough just in case they do fall asleep, we never know how the weather is going to be from one day to the next.

Finally, I will be doing a Christmas Scratch Card, a Christmas Cake has been donated and I will also add a second prize of £25-30. Here are my little hogs, Cherub and Little Maggie, too small to be out alone, so if you see a hedgehog out in the day, please pick the poor soul up, bring indoors, put in a high sided box and ring for help. These little ones will be here 'til spring.

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society number is 01584 890801, this is a 24 hour line or this website is also good: helpwildlife.co.uk
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N.A.F.C. REPORT



**Belper Town 0 v Newton Aycliffe 2
 Saturday 19th October 2024**

Newton Aycliffe pulled off a stunning win at high flying Belper Town on Saturday. The hosts had hopes of going top of the NPL East, but Brian Atkinson's side had other ideas in a game they deservedly won, earning the three points and moving them up to 15th in the table. Due to their successful cup runs, Aycliffe have games in hand on most of the teams around them.

Belper had the first chance of the game. A corner in the fourth minute fell to Swales whose shot, from thirty yards out, was spectacularly tipped over the bar by Jim Pollard.

However, Aycliffe got into their stride with some impressive play moving the ball around well and testing the home defence. After 34 minutes a ball played through to Liam Adamson found him one on one with the keeper who managed to save the shot.

The breakthrough came just three minutes later. Great build up play between Dean Thexton and Liam Jarvie broke through the Belper defence and found Adamson. His perfectly weighted pass was met by Toby Pascoe who slotted home from a tight angle.

Aycliffe showed great determination in the second half to prevent Belper getting the equaliser with Joe Ferguson and Alex Nelson to the fore. The Nailers came closest in the 53rd minute with a shot that hit the post.

The visitors sealed the points in the last minute. A short corner from Ethan Wood found Ferguson who played a fine pass to Liam Jarvie. He fired a low shot past the keeper to secure the win.

Aycliffe play a home league game against Consett on Tuesday night.

That is followed by the next round of the Isuzu FA Trophy. Aycliffe travel to NPL Premier side Stockton Town on Saturday 26th October.

Whichever side wins will set their record for their best FA Trophy run & go into the draw as the Step 2 clubs join the competition.

Photo: by Yvonne Wood, Goalscorer Toby Pascoe at Belper.

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

Tel: Paul 01325 300212

or paul@newtonnews.co.uk

Acknowledgement

Maria Cockburn

The family of the late Maria Cockburn wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the kindness and sympathy shown to them during their recent bereavement. Also for the cards and donations to the British Heart Foundation. Thanks to the doctors and staff of Ward 51 at Darlington Memorial Hospital and staff of Barrington Lodge Care Home. Special thanks to Sheila for being a good friend and Claire and Bev in the Care Home. Thanks to Jodie McCombie for a comforting service and to Gibson's Funeral Services and staff.

The Baird family would like to acknowledge the wonderful service provided by the Coop funeral directors throughout the process of Mark's passing. We would like to thank Dave and his team for their exceptional care and compassion during this difficult time. Thank you to Father Cornforth for conducting the service and all who attended, your support made a huge difference

Obituary

Diane Robinson



Passed away, at home, on 12th October 2024 in her sleep, aged 69. Much loved Mother of Glenn; treasured Grandma to Max and Finn, dearly loved Sister, Sister-in-Law, Auntie and friend to many, who will be greatly missed.

Funeral service to take place at Wear Valley Crematorium on Friday 1st November at 12.30pm. All are welcome, please meet at the crematorium.

Family flowers only, donations, in lieu, would be much appreciated, in aid of the Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group.

Patricia Carroll (nee Fawcett, formerly Chadfield)

Patricia, of Newton Aycliffe, passed away peacefully at home on 18th October, aged 88 years.

A much loved Mum, Nanna and Great Nanna.

Will family and friends please meet for a service at Darlington Crematorium on Monday 18th November for 2.00pm.

Donations, in lieu of flowers, if so desired, may be made for The Dogs Trust.

For Sale

Approximately 12.5 cubic metres of half price, seasoned logs (equivalent to 17 dumpy bags). £60 per bag or £800.00 the lot, located in School Aycliffe. Buyer to collect and bag. **Tel: 07773 972735**

Congratulations

Paula

Happy anniversary and thank you for 38 wonderful years, and here's to many more. All my love, Stuart xxx

In Memoriam

Syd Howarth - Dad

21st October 1937 - 29th October 2018
 Your life was a blessing,
 Your memory a treasure.
 You are loved beyond words,
 And missed beyond measure.
 Remembering you today and every day.
 Paul, Beverley, John-Paul, Carrie and Matthew and all your Great Grandchildren

Syd Howarth - Dad

21st October 1937 - 29th October 2018
 Another year without you - not a day goes by you are not in our thoughts, would love one of your famous rib crushing hugs and one of our lengthy chats - so missed, words cannot say how we feel. Never forgotten, much loved,
 Stuart, Joanne, Adam & Alex

Syd Howarth - Dad

21st October 1937 - 29th October 2018
 We miss you every day, you are always in our thoughts and will never be forgotten, the best Dad and Grandad.
 All our love, Chris, Michelle, Jack and Joe xx

PUZZLE CORNER

Sudoku

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

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Memorial Service

Newton Aycliffe Methodist Church, Neville Parade, is holding a Memorial Service on Sunday 27th October at 11am. You are invited to come along and join in this service and light a candle in memory of lost loved ones. A warm welcome awaits and we look forward to seeing you there.

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Gum Busters



A dusk 'til dawn blitz on chewing gum is underway in Durham City. The work is taking place over the next month, with cleansing teams hitting the streets from 8pm to 4am to get the job done with minimal disruption to the public. The blitz is funded by a £27,418 grant that Durham County Council has secured from the Chewing Gum Task Force, which is managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy. It will start on Claypath, before moving on to Silver Street and Framwellgate Bridge and finishing on North Road. Research has shown that similar schemes in other parts of the country have had lasting effects, with a reduced rate of gum littering still being observed six months after clean-up. Allison Ogden-Newton OBE, Keep Britain Tidy's chief executive, said: "Chewing gum litter is highly visible on our high streets, so the support for councils, provided by the Chewing Gum Task Force and the gum manufacturers, is very welcome. "However, once the gum has been cleaned up, it is vital to remind the public that when it comes to litter, whether it's gum or anything else, there is only one place it should be – in the bin. "That is why the behaviour change element of the task force's work is so important." Keep Britain Tidy estimates that cleaning up chewing gum costs UK councils around £7million a year, and around 77 per cent of England's streets are stained with gum. The Chewing Gum Task Force is funded by major gum manufacturers including Mars Wrigley and Perfetti Van Melle.

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Council Tax Reduction Scheme Extended

Councillors have agreed to extend a council tax reduction scheme which supports County Durham's most vulnerable residents. Durham County Council's Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme offers a council tax discount to eligible residents on low incomes, whether in work, unemployed or retired. Just over 53,800 residents are currently benefitting from the scheme, with more than 41,000 receiving the maximum 100 per cent discount, meaning they pay no council tax. At the Full Council meeting, it was agreed that the scheme would continue unchanged for another year. Cllr Richard Bell, the council's deputy leader and Cabinet member for finance, said: "We understand that our residents are feeling huge pressure on their household budgets but we are determined to do what we can to protect those who are most vulnerable. We would also encourage households who are struggling to seek help and find out what support is available". Further details about the council tax discount scheme can be found on the council's website at: www.durham.gov.uk/counciltaxreduction

Pumpkin Forest at Auckland Palace



For the first time, Auckland Palace, the historic attraction and landmark in the centre of Bishop Auckland, is hosting a special event named 'Pumpkin Forest'. The new light trail takes place on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays between 4 – 27 October and daily from 28th - 31st October, celebrating everything there is to love about autumn and the change of seasons. During the special night-time event, guests will be in awe of over 600 hand-carved, illuminated pumpkins featuring a range of themes and designs, along with hundreds of chrysanthemums and decorative gourds thoughtfully displayed within the newly renovated gardens of Auckland Palace. Auckland Palace and the rest of the route will be adorned with handmade scarecrows, hay bales and other autumnal and festive motifs, giving families of all ages plenty of entertaining picture opportunities and experiences to enjoy. Jared Bowers, Chief Operating Officer at The Auckland Project, said of the new event: "Here at Auckland Palace, community, family and entertainment is important. Pumpkin Forest is one of a kind; celebrating the best parts of autumn with a rich tapestry of colour and textures that will give families of all sizes, couples and groups of friends something to look forward to as we approach the end of summer." For those feeling peckish, tasty food and drink will be available at outlets across the trail, including seasonal light bites and hot cider and creamy hot chocolates. "As someone originally from the USA, which celebrates the arrival of autumn on a big scale, I'm really pleased that we're hosting Pumpkin Forest and that we've received significant demand for an event of this scale at this time of year. There will be sensory-friendly sessions, and the route has been designed with all ages in mind. It'll be wonderful to see the vision come to life from 4 October," added Jared. The entry to the Pumpkin Forest takes place every 30mins from 6pm to 8pm, where it's open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sunday between 4th - 27th October and daily from 28th - 31st October. Tickets are £15 for adults, £11 for a child (under 16 years old) and free for under threes and carers. Family tickets are available for £48, consisting of two adults and two children. © Copyright Visit County Durham.

An Early Christmas Show

An Early Christmas Show will be taking place starting at 6.00pm on 15th November 2024 at the Big Club, Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe DL5 5NU.

The first hour will be Santa's Grotto and Christmas music with a small gift for each child (under 13 years with parent/s) then, at 7.00pm, The Variety Show for all the family begins and goes on until 10.00pm, tickets are £5 each for all ages.

The show includes lots of fun and laughter with various Christmas themed acts. Something for everyone who enjoys the season including music and sing along. There will also be a raffle and bingo (bring a pen). Food can be purchased with a free Christmas cracker given away. Souvenir programmes will be on sale and a free raffle will take place.

To purchase a ticket: visit The Vape Shop in Beveridge Way, The Big Club on Sheraton Road or The Fresh Sandwich Shop at Neville Parade or email Noel Bennett with your contact details on: noelbennett@uwclub.net

To sell tickets: If you are the leader of a group or charity, and would like to raise some funds for your organisation, again contact Noel.

Aycliffe Youth Football News

Lots of games called off this weekend as the heavy rain arrived.

Newcastle Dynamo 1 v Aycliffe U14 Girls 4
The girls put on a very good team performance to make it through the first round. The team got off to a brilliant start putting Newcastle under constant pressure, but just couldn't find the back of the net. The girls were reminded to get the basics right and keep it simple. The girls eventually settled themselves down to get the goals and secure the win.

Darlington Young Bulls 0 v Aycliffe U15 Angels 12

Premier Division v Division 1 in the league cup second round. Young Bulls fought valiantly and kept it really tight until the half hour mark when Aycliffe pulled away. Goals from Heidi (3), Isobel (2), Eveie (2), Charli, Hannah, Faith, Amy and Ruby. Star players Isobel and Ruby.
Aycliffe U12 Eagles 8 v Gateshead Juniors 1
A fantastic performance from the lads. The game started tight, but they were getting into dangerous areas. A corner from Noah caught a deflection off a defender to go 1-0 up. The second half started the same, until goals from Jacob and Oliver made it 3-0. A goal for Gateshead proved no more than a consolation as the lads went on to get goals from Regan, Teni and Oliver (2).

Washington FC 1 v Aycliffe U12 Girls 2
Second round of the cup for the girls and a hard fought victory. First half saw the girls behind 0-1, but with the game very even the girls pushed back. Amelia scored the first, a deflection for a defender fell in front of Amelia who volleyed it straight into the top corner, 1-1. With two minutes left, Aycliffe were pushing for the win and Phoebe scored to get her team the win. MOTM was Amelia.

Billingham Synthonia v Aycliffe U10 Eagles
On a morning which threatened to be extremely wet and windy, the boys picked up another win on the road. In a tight first half, Billingham defended well, but it was largely one way traffic and at half time the boys came in 1-0 up but had deserved more. In the second half the game opened up and the boys built on that with some flowing football and great team play to end the game comfortable winners.

Aycliffe U10 Wildcats v Harton & Westoe
Another game where the girls are showing that they have the players to compete in the league, but not the result they worked hard for. However, they are still moving forward.

Aycliffe U9 Wildcats v Crook Town
The girls' unbeaten start to the season continues after defeating Crook, who were also unbeaten. Despite dominating possession and shots, they trailed 2-0 at half time as Crook capitalised on their chances. Emelia scored a brilliant solo goal to make it 1-2, then Matilda assisted Sophie for two goals, putting us ahead 3-2. Willow made several crucial saves towards the end.



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