

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

William Cooksey is a Guinness World Record Holder

The late William Cooksey completed some amazing feats during his lifetime, none more impressive than entering and completing the Great North Run 2023 at the age of 102 years old.

After finished this incredible task, Newton News contacted the Guinness World Records to enquire if this was indeed a new world record. After completing the usual paperwork, clarifying and confirming all the details, this honour was bestowed on Mr Cooksey as Newton News received a certificate from the Guinness World Records organisation:

"We are thrilled to inform you that your application for 'Oldest Person to Complete a Half Marathon (Male)' has been successful and you are now the Guinness World Records Title Holder."

Debbie Iceton said "William passed away before being awarded with this honour, which will be very hard for anyone to beat but it means Bill's name will be in the Guinness Book of World Records for many, many years to come."

"At the age of 100 Bill walked 100 miles, at the age of 101 he cycled 1000 miles, all in aid of the County Durham NHS Trust Foundation."

Photo top: Debbie and Gavin Iceton with the world record holder certificate. Brendan Foster, Bill Cooksey and Gavin Iceton at the Great North Run 2023.



Sisters of Support Finalists in Together Awards



WE ARE FINALISTS!
 HEALTH AND WELLBEING AWARD

Sisters of Support CIC are over the moon to announce that we are finalists in the Health and Wellbeing Award category at the County Durham Together Awards 2024.

This award celebrates projects that make a real difference in health and wellbeing by providing vital support, advice and care to the community. The awards take place on Thursday 5th December, our directors,

along with some of our corporate partners, Perfect Care, will be attending to celebrate with all the other amazing finalists.

SOS was founded in June 2021 by Carrie and Amy. Identifying, through personal experience, a lack of mental health support for women in our area. The Newton Aycliffe group has run since then. Sisters of Support is a women's mental health, free to attend, peer-led support group, geared to supporting women (over 18 only) in our community who may be struggling with their mental health or just the everyday pressures of modern living. We provide a safe environment where women can talk, be listened to, without being judged and feel confident enough to share their thoughts, fears and concerns surrounding their mental, emotional and physical wellbeing. We want to end the idea, women talk, most need support to be able to open up and talk freely while feeling safe. #weARElistening

Carrie Howarth, Founder and Director for Sisters of Support, had this to say on the awards, "We're absolutely elated to be recognised for all the hard work and commitment ourselves, and our team, have put in place in the last three and a half years. Being named finalists in these awards is an amazing achievement and we are overwhelmed to even be nominated and so thankful and happy to celebrate this with our community and wider leadership team.

"We can't wait for the awards night to meet and celebrate all these awards, with all the other nominees. We do what we do with the support of other fantastic services around us, to be alongside a few of these at the awards is amazing.

"We would just like to thank all those who have supported us, the ladies who have used our services, and those that have noticed the work we do. We appreciate all of it so much and look forward to the exciting future we have. Whether we win the award or not, thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

You can find out more about Sisters of Support CIC and information on how to access our service on our social media channels or at our website: www.sistersofsupport.co.uk



Newton News Changes

Dear Newton News Readers,

As the world of media continues to evolve, your local newspaper The Newton News is facing unprecedented challenges. While we strive to remain committed to supporting the community and bringing you the latest news, shifts in how news is consumed have meant some necessary changes to how and when we print The Newton News.

Starting on Friday 29th November 2024, we will be reducing our publication frequency to two editions per month. Our aim is to continue providing you local news, providing what matters most to you while ensuring the ongoing viability of Newton News.

In December 2024, due to the Christmas close down, there will be a single edition on Friday 13th December, which will be our Christmas edition.

In January 2025, we will publish on Friday 10th and Friday 24th January and from February 2025 onward, we will publish on the first and third Friday of each month.

We know this change may be a surprise, however, we are confident that this new schedule will allow us to continue providing important, local content that matters to you, and we appreciate your continued support as we adapt to the changing media landscape.

Thank you for being a part of the Newton News community.

Warm regards,

The Newton News Team



Next Edition:
 Friday 29th
 November

Youthy FC Recognised

Newton Aycliffe Youth FC were invited to the Durham FA Annual Dinner at Ramside Hall, Durham, where they were presented with a special award to recognise the work they have been doing to improve Parental Behaviour on the sidelines on match days.

Durham FA have designed and pioneered a workshop specifically for parents to educate them on the acceptable standards of behaviour that is expected. NAYFC have been at the forefront of rolling this out to over 250 parents of their players. When surveyed, there was an overwhelming support from all the parents, who agreed that this workshop provided invaluable information on acceptable behaviour on the sideline. The focus was all about positive encouragement and support for children to let them enjoy their football. The club is hugely proud to receive this award.



Let There Be Light

Christmas Tree Lights Switch On

SATURDAY 30th NOVEMBER
AYCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE
3.00pm-7.30pm

All Disabilities Matter Wonderland & Rotary Santa Claus
FREE gift from Santa for accompanied under 14's

- Burger Van • Vintage Fire Engine • Face Painter •
- Stalls • Family Fun Fair • Mr Whippy Ice Cream •

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT:

3.45pm, 5pm, 6.15pm: The Christmas Trees
3.15pm: Greenfield College Choir
3.45pm: Shine Children's Choir
4.15pm: 'Calvos'
5pm: Macadam School of Dance
5.30pm: Aycliffe & Brancepeth Brass Band
6.00pm: St Francis' School Choir
6.30pm: Christmas Lights Switch On

Car Parking
ANPR Cameras
will be turned
off during this
event

6.45pm:
SPARK



Aycliffe Youth Football News

Aycliffe U10 Wildcats v CLS Amazons

An impressive win in a game which Aycliffe were the better team throughout. The girls raced into the lead with a brace from Bella and a long range shot from Maddie within the first fifteen minutes. Then, just before the break CLS grabbed a goal. However, despite chances for both teams, the girls defended well and saw out the game.

Aycliffe U9 Wildcats v Leon FC

Another excellent performance from every girl as they continue their excellent season. Plenty of goals and a clean sheet.

Aycliffe U8 Eagles v Stokesley

The Eagles earned a hard fought draw against the strongest team in the league, Stokesley FC. Stokesley were a physical team, but our boys did brilliant to control the game. Goals from Elijah (2), Kurtis (2) and a fantastic goal from Mason, to round off a great performance.

Redcar Athletic v Aycliffe U10 Eagles

Two weeks ago the boys played Redcar at home and, despite winning, it was a very tough game. This week we were out to prove a point and the boys were at it from minute one. Our attacks lead to multiple corners in the first half, but only a single goal. In the second half the boys continued the pressure and played with some real confidence, going on to complete an impressive victory.

Dormanstown Rovers v Aycliffe U11 Falcons

Five different goal scorers and a well-earned clean sheet. Goals from Zach and Sam to go 2-0 up at HT. Falcons kept pressing. Phoenix scored top corner, Hunter smashed one in and one from Harry M. POM: Hunter, Coaches: Phoenix, Sam and Evan Bowman.

FC Hartlepool v Aycliffe U11 Wildcats

The girls came back from a goal down to take the lead. Haynes got two goals, Granty scored an excellent third. Some understandably tired legs toward the end let Hartlepool back into it and Aycliffe needed a crucial save from Penny at the death to come away with a draw. POTMs: Alice and Haynes.

Aycliffe U18 Girls 11 v Washington 3

A sparkling debut from Maddie, who tormented the visiting defenders. The girls took control early and were four up at HT. This continued into the second half to see out a convincing win.

Aycliffe U16 Eagles 2 v Wrekenton Orange 2

Playing a team a division above them in the cup, Aycliffe knew this would be a challenge, however, the lads were the better side playing



the better football, only conceding due to a lucky scrappy goal and a free kick. Really proud of the performance even though they were disappointed with the result. Two fantastic headed goals from Liam took us to pens, but Wrekenton came out on top in the end. MOM: Ashton.

Leven Whites 4 v Aycliffe U15 Boys 5

The first half wasn't great, the lads were 3-1 down and deservedly so. A firm team talk at HT revved them up to deliver a great comeback win, scoring four within a 20 minute period, to turn the game around. Leven reduced the lead to one, with a few minutes left, but the lads dug deep to see the game out. Goals: Charlie (3), Josh & Zac. MOMs: Charlie and Harry.

Aycliffe U14 Girls 3 v Bishop Auckland Girls 3

The girls played well throughout the game and scored after twenty minutes. They then conceded, but replied immediately. They scored their third goal five minutes into the second half, but conceded two goals soon after. The girls continued to create chances that on any other day would have put the game out of reach. POTM: Imogen.

Marion 1 v Aycliffe U13 Eagles 2

The Eagles continued their run of form and created chances without capitalising until Harry Williams burst forward to score late in the first half. After half time, Mo Krubally extended the lead to 2-0, Marion rallied and pulled one back.

Hebburn Blues 1 v Aycliffe U13 Wildcats 1

A visit to a team in the relegation battle and one Aycliffe needed to win. The girls bossed the first half with efforts from Imogen and Lucy before taking the lead through. HT 1-0. The second half continued and Hebburn pulled level. At 1-1 Aycliffe were awarded a penalty which Lucy hit with great power, but it cannoned off the bar.

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Little Trooper Awarded Military Children's Medal

Eleven-year-old Indy from Newton Aycliffe has been awarded a medal by the children's charity, Little Troopers, for being brave following a health scare while her Dad was serving away from home with the British Army.



Indy Johnston has been rushed to hospital three times this year due to severe sickness and dehydration. Unsure what was causing Indy to be so poorly, she underwent several blood tests and scans before being diagnosed with swollen lymph nodes and a congenital kidney condition that was causing Cyclical Vomiting Syndrome. On her latest hospital stay, Indy's Dad, who serves with the British Army in the REME, was serving away from home on a military exercise and unable to be by her bedside.

Indy is now fully recovered and has not been poorly since the summer. Her Mum, Vicky, nominated her for the 'Little Trooper of the Month' award after showing remarkable resilience and bravery. Vicky comments: "Indy has always been so resilient. Along with her three siblings, she's grown up as a military child and moved home eight times in eleven years to various different Army postings across the UK, but she has always taken everything in her stride and seen life as an adventure. The last few months have been incredibly tough for her, especially because her Dad was away while we were in and out of hospital trying to get a diagnosis, but her courage and ability to stay positive in the face of adversity is truly inspiring."

Indy will receive a medal and £100 gift voucher from Little Troopers. Speaking of her award win, Indy says: "I am amazed I've won the Little Troopers Award and I will use my prize to treat my brothers and sisters to a day out at the cinema."

Louise Fetigan, founder of Little Troopers, adds: "Growing up as a forces child can come with plenty of challenges on its own - as Indy has experienced, moving home eight times in eleven years. But to then face health worries on top of this and be in and out of hospital at a time when your serving parent is away, is really tough. Our Little Trooper of the Month Award scheme is all about recognising military children who've faced adversity and deserve to be recognised. We hope Indy wears her medal with pride."

Little Troopers is a registered charity supporting children who have parents serving in the British Armed Forces. Through its resources and initiatives, the charity connects with thousands of military children each year, as well as running special projects such as the Little Troopers All Together deployment club and Little Troopers at School programme. The Little Trooper of the Month award scheme is sponsored by technology group, Thales.

For more information visit www.littletroopers.net

Honouring the Angels

Are you connected to the legacy of the Aycliffe Angels?

Local artist, Jillian Johnston, is seeking stories, photos and memories of the brave women who worked at the munitions factory in Newton Aycliffe during WWII. These women, known as the Aycliffe Angels, risked their lives doing dangerous work to support the war effort. In honour of their courage and resilience, a local artist is creating a portrait to celebrate the Aycliffe Angels, which will be displayed at Bishop Auckland Town Hall on International Women's Day.

If you, or someone you know has stories, photographs or memories of an Aycliffe Angel, we'd love to hear from you! Whether they're relatives, friends, or local community members who remember these women, please share their stories.

How to Contribute:

• Email your stories, photos, and any other information to:

jillyjohnston@gmail.com

Help us bring the legacy of the Aycliffe Angels to life and honour their remarkable role in history.

Christmas Fair

St Michael's Church, Heighington, are holding their annual Christmas Fair on Saturday 30th November from 10.30am to 2.00pm in the village hall.

There will be Christmas themed stalls, refreshments, cake stall, tombola and raffle as well as Santa Claus, who will arrive at 12.30pm.

Start your Christmas celebrations with us and bring your family and friends.

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U11's Raise £820

The Newton Aycliffe Youth Falcons Under 11's football team aimed to raise awareness and funds for MISSEDABEAT after the charity generously donated a portable defibrillator and a new training kit for the boys. To show their support, the entire team, accompanied by Manager Scott Latter, Coach Dean Smith, along with proud parents and siblings, took on the challenge of climbing Roseberry Topping. During the climb, the boys proudly carried MISSED A BEAT boards and showcased them upon reaching the top of Roseberry Topping. With great weather conditions and a group of excited kids and pets (dogs), the walk turned into a joyful and spirited adventure in support of a meaningful cause. U11 Falcons raised a total of £820 to support MISSEDABEAT, helping fund portable defibrillators for local teams. The funds included £420 from their sponsored climb of Roseberry Topping, where team members, coaches and families came together for this meaningful cause. Pete also contributed £400 through a football card game for a signed football shirt, which he generously returned to the charity to be auctioned, further boosting fundraising efforts.

N.A.F.C. REPORT

Stocksbridge Park Steels 1 v Newton Aycliffe 1



Newton Aycliffe recorded a 1-1 draw against Stocksbridge Park Steels on Saturday. It was a frustrating, niggly game which wasn't really one for the neutral. Whilst a point away from home would otherwise be a good result, a feeling of 'what if' will pervade in the Aycliffe camp due to several missed late game chances. The first twenty minutes or so featured Stocksbridge trying to fire high crosses into the Aycliffe box, but Jim Pollard consistently dealt with them. The home side would keep Aycliffe to their own half for the majority of the first thirty minutes. Stocksbridge would eventually open the scoring when Joao Silva used his pace to pickpocket the Aycliffe defence and get past Pollard to score into an empty net. Despite the first half not having too many chances for either side, Aycliffe would score with arguably their best one, Liam Jarvie used his skills to get into the Stocksbridge box and, while his initial shot was saved by Ben Townsend, Dean Thexton successfully got on the follow up to make it 1-1. The rest of the first half was similar to how it started, with two teams struggling to pass on a heavy pitch, thus making both teams resort to frequent crosses and headers. The second half saw a chance for Aycliffe within the opening minutes when a free kick resulted in a wide header from Jake Petitjean. Shortly after, Petitjean would fire a shot from out the box that was easily saved by Townsend. He had a similar shot in the 74th minute which Townsend once again saved. Stocksbridge substitute James Morrison had a golden opportunity to change the game in the 86th minute, but his shot in the Aycliffe box flew well wide, summing up a game where two sides struggled to muster any noteworthy chances. In the 90th minute, and beyond, all the possession was Aycliffe, in a game where Stocksbridge had held the majority. Had this attacking spell come earlier, the games complexion might have changed with two missed Aycliffe chances late in the game, summing up a frustrating afternoon, as the score remained 1-1. Aycliffe have a midweek trip to Bridlington before returning to Moore Lane on Saturday 23rd November when Garforth Town will be the visitors. That game will be followed by a Race Night in the Sports Club at 6.00pm. Entry is free, so please stay on after the game. *Photo by Yvonne Wood of Joe Ferguson taking on the Stocksbridge defence.*

Strong & Resilient Communities


Plans to create twelve Local Networks across County Durham will be discussed as Durham County Council is proposing to replace its current fourteen Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) with the twelve Local Networks from April 2025. The aim of the new model is to enhance the capacity of local communities and individuals to become involved in improving their area. Local Networks will adopt a more strategic and outcomes-focused approach, developing four-year local action plans to guide investment and identify more opportunities for partnership working. Alongside this, the existing AAP Forum, made up of 15,000 people, will form a new county wide County Durham Community Network with increased opportunities to engage and help shape local network plans. The decision to replace the fourteen AAPs with twelve Local Networks reflects the updated electoral divisions and ensures that county councillors will only cover one Local Network area, creating more consistent population sizes and ensuring a more equitable allocation of budgets. It is expected that the new Local Networks will take over from the AAPs on 1st April 2025. This will allow time to prepare for the council elections in May 2025 and ensure the four-year Local Network plans are aligned to the electoral cycle. The council's Cabinet is recommended to agree the new Local Network boundaries and agree the proposed time scales for implementing the Local Networks when it meets. To find out more about the work of the AAPs, visit: www.durham.gov.uk/AAPs

The County Council of Durham
(Wynyard Court, Newton Aycliffe)
(Temporary Road Closure)
Order 2024

The Council on 15/11/2024 made the above Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, to prohibit all vehicular traffic from proceeding on the following lengths of road. A 58 metre length of Wynyard Court, Newton Aycliffe, to the front of numbers 5 to 6 and numbers 1 to 4 Wynyard Court, to enable sewer repair works to be undertaken. Throughout the period of the closure, no alternative diversion will be available to vehicular traffic. The maximum duration of the Order is 18 months. The proposed works are to commence from 8am on Monday 25/11/2024 and are anticipated to be completed in 5 days. On occasions, alternative dates for the closure may be necessary and these will be signed accordingly.

DATED: 22/11/2024

Helen Bradley
Director of Legal & Democratic Services
County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UL



St. Francis' Remembers



The year 6's led us in Collective Worship to remind us of the important roles many people and animals played during the war. They took us on a journey to the past and told us what it was like to be a child during the war. They even sang some songs that were written during the war and really transported us to another place in time. Amazing work year 6, you were all so brave and we are all very proud of you.



Memorial Charity Night
In Memory of Jim (Tombola King)

raising funds for Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group

on Friday 29th November
from 7.00pm
at Chilton Catholic Club

Entertainment by singer 'Mike L'
along with a game of Bingo and Raffle

Tickets £5.00 available from
Aycliffe Cancer Shop or call Marianne 07442 991859

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Successful Season



On Sunday 16th November, Scarlet Whitaker Dunn had a successful end of season test day at Teesside Autodrome on her MS Junior, twin engine, Pro-Kart.

This kart is quite a contrast from what she has been used to, in that it has more power due to the twin Honda GX200 engines and more grip from its wider wheels and tyres.

For the last two years Scarlet has been racing in the highly competitive Honda Cadet 200cc class, but has relished the opportunity to step up to a bigger and faster kart.

Scarlet managed many laps throughout the test day, putting in some very quick lap times. "I love driving the Pro-kart, especially the better brakes and more power, which I find is very responsive and easier to drive, I thoroughly enjoyed the test day and look forward to getting back out again soon," said Scarlet.

"I was really impressed with how Scarlet got to grips with her Pro-Kart, especially considering it's only her second time on this much faster, heavier and bigger kart," said Mam, "It was clear to see Scarlet loved driving this kart."

We would like to thank Amaron Racing, PHM (Peninsula Historic Motorsport), Grandad Ron and Rob Storey for their generous assistance and financial support making this possible. To support Scarlet in her journey please email: mail@amandawhitaker.com

Space Week at Kielder



From Monday 11th to Friday 15th November 2024, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School celebrated 'Space Week'. The biggest highlight of the week was a visit from Kielder Observatory. Every pupil, from nursery to Year 6, entered an inflatable planetarium and took part in an immersive show. It felt like they were really in space!

The pupils looked at the different star constellations and how they got their names. They also investigated a range of different planets and watched a film deciding if aliens really exist. In addition to this, pupils in Key Stage 2 took part in a workshop where they watched clips from a real meteorite falling to Earth. They also had the opportunity to touch rock from Mars.

Pupils in Key Stage 1 investigated light and experimented with infra red light. One pupil stated, "The planetarium was amazing; I am going to visit Kielder Observatory at the weekend."

The experience certainly made a lasting impression on the pupils, with parents commenting that their children 'didn't stop talking about the experience when they got home'. We would like to thank Adam and Dan, the astronomers, from Kielder Observatory for coming along and inspiring the pupils.

Can You Help the Town's Museum?

Dear people of Newton Aycliffe and local businesses. Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society is the first and only museum in Newton Aycliffe, as well as being a registered charity. We need your help! As well as running regular events at the museum, we also take our vehicles to outside events around the north of England, so the public can experience the look, feel and aroma of bygone days.

We have a very dedicated group of volunteers who give up their time freely to support our organisation, but we are starting to feel the pinch with rising rent and utility bills, even though our landlord gives us a considerable discount.

We do not charge the public to come to our museum as we feel there are many families on low income and we want to provide education, activities and fun times for all who visit us, totally free of charge. We depend on donations to help pay our rent, if every business on the town

donated a few pounds per month we would be able to offer our families so much more.

Can you spare a few pounds every month? Would you like to sponsor one of our buses? Can you offer a small donation towards Newton Aycliffe's first and only museum? For more information please go to our website: www.aycliffe-bus.com or, Telephone 07935 551766

How to donate:

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Have a Say on Local Issues

Residents in Great Aycliffe & Middridge can find out how local issues are being tackled when the local area action partnership holds their next board meeting later this month. The Great Aycliffe & Middridge Partnership Area Action Partnership (AAP) board will be meeting on Tuesday 26th November 2024, between 6pm and 8pm (online via Microsoft Teams), and members of the public are invited to observe proceedings. Board members will be receiving an update presentation in relation to Durham County Council's Poverty Action Strategy. Anyone who would like to attend the meeting should register in advance by emailing gampaap@durham.gov.uk.

St. Andrew's Gift Day

Please come along to Aycliffe Village Hall on Saturday 30th November, from 11.00am to 2.00pm, for our annual Giving Day for St. Andrew's Church. There will be stalls and refreshments and, of course, the Piper. We look forward to seeing you. Stall-holders welcome, please get in touch on 07957 397298.

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For further information please contact **Zanna Bewick on 07929 916725**

Another Successful Year in Athletics



Laurie Cummings has had another remarkable year in athletics at the tender young age of 83. To summarise, he has finished first Veteran Over 80 in every race that he has competed in, beating over 10,000 athletes. After winning all North East Masters AA League meetings he raced 100m, 200m, 300m, 400m, 1500m, 1 mile and 3000m as well as winning gold in the 5000m AA Masters Championships and gold in the British Masters 10,000m Championship at Jarrow. After winning the 5km road race at Croft Circuit in 25.47, Laurie was first V80 at the Darlington 10km road race in 56.14, before winning the Quayside 5km at Newcastle three days later in 27.05. The 10,000m this year was on the track, finishing in a time of 55.53, was the 8th best of all time for a UK athlete. Laurie is ranked fourth in the all time list of mile racers. In the track he is ranked, as a V80, second in the mile, third in the 3000m, 4th in 5000m and 1st in the 10,000m and on the road, second over a mile. In addition to these, he now holds 153 age category records at parkruns around the UK. At the recent Darlington Borough Council Stronger Communities Awards, which was held at the Dolphin Centre on Friday 8th November, Laurie was the nominated winner out of three nominees for 'Performance in Sport' category, for which he received a trophy and certificate.

School Parking Issues

Dear friends, neighbours and residents, Firstly, congratulations to Woodham Academy on the opening of the new school. I also hope you enjoyed the fireworks at the OakLeaf. There are also some nice Christmas decorations and lights beginning to brighten our ward. Secondly, Central Avenue has been a lot quieter with the road closure but has caused some long detours. Thank you everyone for your patience. However, despite the reduction in traffic, school runs remain busy with no drop off point due to Durham Council trying to encourage teenagers to walk and cycle to 'big school'. Most parents are allowing 12+ years to walk and only 20-30 car driving parents believe Tesco, Moore Lane and St Oswald's is too far for their older students. A real problem is that up to six local residents insist on parking dangerously close to the entrance of Washington Crescent and Morrisons shop, causing blockages, near the Central Avenue entrance and next to Morrisons shop. Greater Manchester Police and Wigan Council have highlighted the Highway Code saying 10 metres is the only safe distance to park near a junction. I am going to ask the Durham Police Commissioner, Joy Allen, and neighbourhood Wardens, if we can have similar leaflets for Newton Aycliffe. We all know that Aycliffe has a shortage of parking bays due to many houses now having 2-3 cars. However, cars are parking purposely near junctions, when there are many empty spaces in Morrisons car parking bays and Felton Close. This just to save walking 10 metres or less. Excuses range from: 'I can't cross the road because I am a single parent' or 'I can't use the layby because I have CCTV' and 'I want to park in front of my house'. These individuals needs, v the whole community, means that three or four residents are happy, but dozens of residents and shop/school visitors have to queue up constantly, to get around two or three cars blocking the road. I ask those minority of people to consider the police and Highway Code safety warnings and respect the needs of the whole community. The younger children, elderly and disabled, need protecting when having to cross the road and cars not in bays block their visibility. Please park safely without causing an obstruction. Thank you.
Councillor Tony Armstrong.

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Safety and security are paramount concerns for those living and working in County Durham and Darlington. Unreported crime and anti-social behaviour can have a significant impact upon victims well-being and quality of life. That's why I want to encourage residents not to suffer in silence and to report incidents to the Police. This local intelligence is vital if we are to prevent, deter and detect crime and pursue offenders, whilst protecting and supporting vulnerable victims.

Over the past couple of years, I have been working closely with the force to bring about much needed transformational change. We have invested in the latest technology and have introduced new ways of reporting crime, making it easier, more convenient and flexible to report crime and anti-social behaviour.

So now, as well as reporting crime on the phone, you have the option of using chat online or reporting directly online. These new communication methods are enabling more residents to report incidents and share valuable intelligence from the comfort of their own homes.

This information helps the force identify and respond to crime trends, hotspots, and patterns to prevent and deter criminal activities before they occur and relentlessly pursue those responsible. By encouraging the public to share intelligence through phone calls, online chats, or other directly online, we can create a more connected and informed community that works together to reduce crime and support victims.

Ways to Report Crime

Emergency 999

Call 999 in emergency situations like these:

- there is an immediate danger to life
- someone is using violence or is threatening to be violent
- a road traffic collision where life is at risk, or the road is blocked
- a crime is happening right now, like a house burglary or a theft

Silent 999 calls

• If you're in danger, but you can't talk on the phone, you should still call 999, then follow these instructions: If you accidentally dial 999, please stay on the line and tell the operator you're safe and that no crime has occurred.

Non-emergency 101

Online reporting www.durham.police.uk
Your report will be dealt with by our control room in exactly the same way, whether you report it online or make a non-emergency call.

Report online or call 101 if you want to report a minor crime or incident, such as:

- a stolen item
- property damage
- a civil dispute
- if you suspect drug use or dealing in your neighbourhood
- to share information about possible criminal activity in your area
- antisocial behaviour
- non-urgent enquiries

Hearing or speech impairments

- If you have a hearing or speech impairment, and you've pre-registered with the emergencySMS service, you can use our textphone service 18000 or text us on 999.
- If you're a British Sign Language (BSL) user, you can call 999 BSL to use a remote BSL interpreter.

Report crime anonymously to Crimestoppers

If you want to report a crime, but you don't want to identify yourself, contact Crimestoppers

Online: crimestoppers-uk.org

By phone: 0800 555 111

0800 numbers are free from a landline and don't show up on BT or cable phone bills.

Report fraud and cyber crime to Action Fraud

Online: actionfraud.police.uk

By phone: 0300 123 2040

If you've been the victim of a fraud, online fraud, cyber crime, or you suspect one is being attempted, report it to Action Fraud.

War Memorial Handover The Lindisfarne Gospels at Rotary

On Monday 11th November, Armistice Day, around 100 people gathered in the Town Centre at 11.00am to remember and honour the fallen with a short service and two-minute silence, led by Revd. James Walsh and The Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor John Clark. Also in attendance was Rotary Newton Aycliffe President, Revd. Ruth Dawson, Town Clerk, Dan Austin and Rotarian, Pat Pickersgill.



The Civic party then moved across to St. Clare's Church and the War Memorial where an official handover from Rotary Newton Aycliffe to the Town Council was held. The Memorial, erected in 2008, was the result of a massive fund-raising effort directed by the late Syd Howarth and the Rotary Club, and it was thought appropriate that Rotary should hand this hugely important community asset into the care of the Town Council.

President Ruth read a statement to the assembled group giving the history of the Memorial. The Mayor, Councillor John Clark, commented, "The Town Council is honoured to take on the ownership and care of

the War Memorial on behalf of the town and will work to ensure the memorial is managed and maintained for the community for many years to come." Particular mention and grateful thanks were given to Pat Pickersgill, Dan Austin and the staff of the Town Council, as well as Newton Press, for their valued assistance with research into background information.

Tuesday 19th November saw the visit to Rotary Great Aycliffe of a facsimile of what may be one of Britain's most important historical documents, definitely one of the North East of England's - The Lindisfarne Gospels.

The book was accompanied by Ross Wilkinson who is the Learning and Engagement Manager, Durham University Library and Collections.

He gave a very knowledgeable and enthralling talk on the history of the Gospels to a totally captivated audience.

Being able to touch and examine the document, with all the intricate drawings and exquisite penmanship, was a once in a lifetime opportunity for which I am personally grateful. Thank you to Fiona for introducing Ross to Rotary Great Aycliffe and a very fascinating subject delivered in a riveting way.



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JOY ALLEN
DURHAM POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

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E: alan.strickland.mp@parliament.uk

It's been a busy couple of weeks as your Member of Parliament, standing up for our area in Parliament and supporting some of our fantastic community organisations.

Pushing to secure a positive future for the Hitachi factory in Aycliffe remains a top priority. I brought Jim Brewin, the UK Chief Director of Hitachi, to Parliament to meet a group of North East MPs, to update us on the negotiations to secure new orders. This is crucial to fill the gap they have between current train orders and future High Speed Rail contracts to come. We were pleased to hear that there's been a step change in the speed and quality of negotiations since the new government was elected and good progress is being made. As part of my work on Hitachi, I also met Lord Hendy, the Rail Minister. I spoke to Lord Hendy about the situation at Hitachi, which he was fully on top of. We also discussed the need to end the 'feast or famine' approach to rail manufacturing which we saw under the Conservative government. This is part of what caused Hitachi's problems and we must move to a more sensible, planned approach to placing train orders and away from the chaotic manner we've seen previously. I also met with representatives of LNER and Northern Rail to discuss how to improve rail connectivity in the new constituency.

Back in the constituency, I had the pleasure of meeting with the inspirational local charity, Sisters of Support. They're based in Aycliffe, but provide a peer support group for women across the County, supporting female survivors of domestic abuse and those struggling with their mental health. Having only set the charity up three years ago, they have grown and expanded and are doing brilliant work. Noticing the lack of support for women, they look to provide a bridge between those struggling and the support networks they are entitled to. They have run successful local campaigns such as #WeAreListening which encouraged women to come forward and share their experiences, breaking down the barriers and stigma around mental health. Please have a look at their website or their Facebook page if you think they might be able to help you.

It's encouraging to see vital work like this in our community and I'm delighted that the government is taking mental health seriously. The Health Secretary has set out plans to give mental health the same level of focus as physical health. Extra funding for our NHS was announced in this recent Budget. This will go a long way to tackling the mental health crisis and supporting fantastic local charities like this one. I also attended the Cornforth Partnership in West Cornforth for my MP advice surgery. Beforehand I got to see the brilliant work they are also doing to support local people across our area, including employment training, benefits advice and community activities. They do great work in their community, helping to get people back into work and access to services that they need. I acknowledged their hard work in my maiden speech as an MP and I look forward to supporting them throughout my term.

Finally, I was honoured to unveil the newly refurbished St Catherine's Church Hall in Fishburn. I've been to lots of events there and seen firsthand the real sense of community. Facilities like this are the heartbeat of our local communities and improvements like this will allow this to be a hub for residents for years to come.

My constituency office continues to work through the emails and queries they receive from constituents every day. Thank you to everyone that has been in touch recently. My team and I are working hard to support a large number of residents, including families facing very serious issues. If there is anything you think I can help with then please email me: alan.strickland.mp@parliament.uk

Christmas Fair at PCC

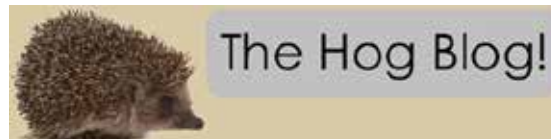
The Pioneering Care Partnership's (PCP) annual Christmas Fair takes place on Sunday 1st December from 10.00am to 2.00pm.

Explore a variety of festive stalls, perfect for stocking up on Christmas gifts and treats.

There is something for everyone - meet Santa, enjoy face painting, and indulge in delicious refreshments from the Garden Kitchen Cafe.

No need to book, this is a free event to get into the holiday spirit.

For more information, please email enquiries@pcp.uk or call 01325 321234.



It's been far from quiet here at my rescue, what's worrying is that over the last weekend I admitted another two small hedgehogs, last Friday, one of my dear friends and supporters, Elaine, panicked because she saw a little hog being attacked by magpies, her dog, Bobby, chased the magpies away, the poor soul, only 375 grams, was picked up by Elaine and I brought him into my rescue, so Bobby the hog, as he is now named, has been poorly as a consequence of the attack, but is making progress. He will be overwintered like all the others here, most of them are very little too. Also, on Sunday, another little female was brought in from School Aycliffe, she has a parasite burden, but is responding to treatment. Neither of these little ones would have survived winter, thank you both for being so caring.

I have now got 25 here in rescue, so I have had to purchase another cage, they are beautiful little creatures, and they will have to be here the whole of the winter. If you want to help me raise some money, I still have raffle tickets on sale at Grannies Choice, I am at the PCP centre on 1st December from 10-2 and also Valerie and June are at St. Clare's Church Christmas Fair on Saturday 30th November. Finders are more than welcome to ask about their hogs too. Each and every hog I have here with me are going to be fine.

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society are there if you need them, telephone 01584 890801. My Facebook page is Prickly Haven Hedgehog Hotel, Email: pricklyhaven@yahoo.com

#askstead



Our thanks to Michael Stead for joining us in the studio this week as a guest presenter on Around Town.

With Christmas quickly approaching, we looked at some Christmas traditions, how things have changed over the years, a few tips on festive shopping and cautionary advice against posting too many personal details on social media, in case it's not just Santa who decides to pay you a visit.

Christmas Concert

A Christmas concert by Northern Voices will be held at St. John's Church, Shildon, on Saturday 7th December at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced at £6.00 which includes refreshments after the concert, there will also be a raffle available. For tickets and more details contact Paul or Lynne on 07752 618587.



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Newton Aycliffe Juniors

Under 8's Blues travelled to face Billingham Juniors Blues in what turned out to be a very tight game. The game was played in the right spirit, with goals from Nate (2) and Carter. Opposition POTM was Poppy for her relentlessness and Parents POTM was Oliver for a solid performance at the back.

Under 8's entertained Skelton in the last game of the first half season. The game started at frantic pace and never eased up. A fantastic display of football from the Aycliffe team and a wonderful way to finish the season, with goals from Cooper (3) and Oliver.

Under 9's Reds faced Nunthorpe Athletic JFC, in what proved to be an end-to-end game, with PPOTM Leo scoring Aycliffe's two goals. POTM went to Bear who showed great spirit.

Under 9's Juniors travelled to Nunthorpe Athletic Blues in a great game where both teams showed good defensive organisation. Aycliffe's goal was scored by Linc and MOTM was Kian for magnificent work down the wing.

Under 10's Whites visited South Park Whites and played amazing. New signing James assisted two goals, with Teddy scoring and Archie (2), which was enough for him to win MOTM. PPOTM was Franco.

Under 10's welcomed Saltburn Athletic Blacks to Moore Lane, with Eddie M scoring a hat-trick and Alfie F scoring too. MOTM was George T for his strong display in defence and PPOTM was Harvey P who made six superb saves.

Under 11's Blacks entertained Hartlepool United, after conceding early, MOTM JJ grabbed four goals, with the pick of the bunch a volley from a corner. Alfie S was also on the scoresheet with a superb solo effort.

Under 11's Reds had a brilliant performance against Hartlepool, causing trouble to the opposition throughout with great wing play. Goals scored by MOTM Koa (2), Charlie, and Andrew (2). Olly P put in an impressive performance.

Under 12's Whites drew 3-3 with Washington Athletic Sparta, in a game which could have gone either way. The goals were scored by Oscar (2) and Josh, with Harry earning MOTM.

Under 12's Blacks entertained Hartlepool St Francis, in a game where the momentum swung both ways, Aycliffe could not get the result they desired. Harry, Kai and Ryley scored the goals.



Under 13's Whites travelled to high flying Farrington in the third round of the RFYL cup, progressing through to the next round, winning 7-6 on penalties after a 5-5 draw. Goals from James (2), Oliver, Michal and Ethan. MOTM was James who never stopped being a threat upfront.

Under 14's were away to Prissick Rovers, and raced into a 4-1 lead, only to concede 3 to draw 4-4. The goals were scored by Layton W (2), Rhys and Grayson. MOTM was Layton W.

Under 16's Whites travelled to long standing rivals Brompton, who took the bragging rights at the end of last season. Aycliffe showed no mercy against a depleted Brompton team, coming away with a 12-0 victory. Goals were scored by Adam (5), Ethan (3), Clayton (2), Jayden and Ethan. MOTM was Adam.

Under 16's Blacks exited the RFYL cup in the third round with a 3-0 loss to an exceptionally good Hetton Milan side, with Aycliffe giving a good account of themselves. MOTM was Leon who stepped up to play in goal when Trystan was injured.

Under 23's won 9-1 at home to Kirk Merrington, the goals were scored by Burrows (2), Ollie (2), Damo (2), Matty, Sean and Kenzie. MOTM was awarded to Lynchy.

In Memoriam

Lynne Wright



21st February 1952
to
25th November 2021

"Sweet Dreams"

Obituary

Reginald 'Reg' Lewis

14th November, peacefully after a short illness, Reginald 'Reg' (retired Detective Inspector), aged 82 years of Newton Aycliffe, formerly Easington Village. Loving Husband of Audrey; also a dearly loved Father, Father-in-Law, Grandad, Brother, Brother-in-Law and a good friend to many. Will friends please meet for service on Thursday 28th November at 1.30pm at Wear Valley Crematorium, Coundon. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu may be left at the crematorium for the St. Teresa's Hospice.

Joanne Louise Prior

Died peacefully at home on 10th November 2024, surrounded by her loving family, aged 59 years. Joanne, beloved Wife of David; much loved Mam of Christopher and Thomas and a adored Grandma to Imogen and Reuben. Funeral service to take place on Tuesday 26th November at St. Mary's Church, Newton Aycliffe at 10.00am, followed by committal at Wear Valley Crematorium at 11.30am. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu, if so desired, to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

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Licensing

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

GBA Services Ltd trading as GBA Services Ltd of 429 Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank, Preston, PR4 6XJ is applying for a licence to use Land off Burtree Road, Langton Business Centre, Aycliffe Industrial Estate, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 6XF as an operating centre for 25 goods vehicles and 25 trailers. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7UE, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office. 22-11-2024

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

The Silver X Group Limited trading as The Silver X Group Limited of The Willows, Horsley Road, Horsley, Derby, DE21 5BR is applying to change an existing licence to add an operating centre to keep 6 goods vehicles and 0 trailers at G.B.A. Leaside, Aycliffe Business Park, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6HX. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7UE stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office. 22-11-24

June Taylor
(nee Briggs)

20/10/40-11/11/24 After a long illness, in hospital, aged 84. Loving Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Sister and Aunt. Funeral to be held on Monday 25th November at Wear Valley Crematorium at 3.30pm. Followed by reception at Woodham Golf & Country Club. Donations, in lieu, to Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group.

Keith
Younghusband
(Keith Julius)

My Dear Brother, passed away on 9th November, suddenly, after a short illness. Keith was known by many throughout his long singing career. Funeral on Wednesday 27th November at 12.30pm at Coundon Crematorium, then afterwards at Shildon Institute, all welcome. Always remembered, Joyce, Karen & Nicky.

Computers

AYCLIFFE COMPUTERS

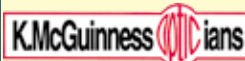
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SCAM ALERT: Watch Out for Fake Dentist

People are being urged to be aware of social media posts claiming a new dentist is opening with NHS places in Shildon. Durham County Council's trading standards team is warning people to be on their guard after receiving five complaints about the supposed new venture in premises which once housed a genuine dental practice. Posts show a new waiting room and even comment on new modern additions complimenting the building's 1800s heritage. The posts state there is some urgency in what they are offering and that the offer is a limited time one, asking people to contact them quickly and only within a short window of time. An option to call the surgery is given with the usual fallback of an internet registration option. This is where the scammers want people to go, as they can ask for what would seem like normal details: personal information and payment details.

Anyone who has been a victim of the post is advised to contact their bank or building society to make them aware of the scam. They can freeze or cancel bank cards and seek to recover what money they can but, more importantly, stop any further payments being taken, whilst also issuing a new card. Council officers carried out various checks, as soon as they became aware of the scam, including visiting the address given and finding it empty.

They also checked with the General Dental Practice and NHS. A website claiming to be that of the new dentist has been taken down. Ian Harrison, the council's business compliance manager, said: "We are aware that scams such as this are happening across the country."

"The scammers will have been aware of reports of people being unable to find NHS dentists and there being a shortage of appointments and will have seen this as an opportunity to exploit people and part them from their money."

"Not just this time of year, but all year-round, scammers will try to prey on members of the public in order to try to get their hard-earned money."

"Scams come in many shapes and forms, but usually follow similar formats. They often centre around a popular subject, product or service and create a time pressure to make people think they have to act quickly."

"We would ask that people think very carefully before disclosing private information or banking details to any company, or organisation, that they are not familiar with." Information on scams circulating in County Durham can be found at www.durham.gov.uk/currentscams

For further advice on scams visit:
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Magna Carta on Display at Durham Cathedral

Three rare Magna Cartas will go on display next summer at Durham Cathedral to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the 1225 issue in the cathedral's collection. Next summer, Durham Cathedral will be displaying its three rare Magna Cartas for the first time in eight years



for the 800th anniversary of the 1225 issue in our collection. From 11th July to 2nd November 2025, visitors will be able to see the rare documents as part of a new exhibition, Magna Carta and the North. On display will be the only surviving 1216 Magna Carta, along with issues from 1225 and 1300, and three Forest Charters - practical documents granting access to land and natural resources.

Magna Carta, or the 'Great Charter', has been described as the most famous document in English history and a cornerstone of modern democracy. First issued in 1215, it was the first document that put into writing that the king and his government were not above the law, in order to prevent the king from exploiting his power. With three clauses from the 1225 Magna Carta still in force today, the document remains a cornerstone of British democracy.

The last time the Magna Cartas and the Forest Charters were on display at Durham Cathedral was in the summer of 2017 when almost 19,000 people came to see them over an 11-week period. To celebrate the anniversary and the display of these rare surviving documents, the cathedral is also planning to host temporary installations and community-focused artworks throughout the cathedral that will tell the story of these 800-year-old documents that are still a powerful symbol of social justice in the world today.

Andrew Usher, Chief Officer for Visitor Experience and Enterprise says, "Next summer it will have been 8 years since the Magna Cartas and Forest Charters were last on display, so with the 800th anniversary of the 1225 issue we're keen to really mark the occasion, by not only showcasing these fascinating documents but also exploring what they mean in the world today. Taking inspiration from the themes of freedom and social justice we're looking at ways to engage even more people by telling the story of the Magna Cartas through art, light and sound around the cathedral."

From 11th July to 2nd November, visitors will be able to get up close to the documents in the Durham Cathedral Museum. Tickets will go on sale early next year and will cost £7.50 for adults and will be free for under 18s.

For more information visit www.durhamcathedral.co.uk

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Rotary Great Aycliffe Christmas Hamper Distribution

Saturday 16th November saw the members of Rotary Great Aycliffe assembled at the 5 Acres site in ROF59 to distribute the huge quantity of toys that had been given to them by Tesco, Newton Aycliffe, recently. Initially a total of 35 'bakers type' trays of toys had been received by the Rotary Club to distribute to needy families. The Rotary Club of Great Aycliffe had contacted ten local charities and similar minded organisations in the Newton Aycliffe and surrounding area who they hoped would take a share of the toys and then place them with families and in particular children who would not otherwise enjoy Christmas presents this year.

After circulating a list of the toys that were available to most of the recipients, a second batch of toys arrived from Tesco at very short notice, but this did not phase the club.

The Rotary Club had prepared an initial list of who would receive which toys based on the requirements of the clients of each charity/organisation and preferences shown by some of them, but due to a lack of time the second delivery was not included in this. So, after the members spent the best part of two hours separating the first delivery of toys into ten different lots, the representatives of the recipients had



granted. This day was only made possible by the kindness of Tesco Newton Aycliffe, their Community Champion Shirley Cormack and the Proprietors of 5 Acres, for the use of their premises, and the people who have given up their time to make this happen. Thank you to all of you.

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only a ten minute lunch break to devour the sandwiches and other goodies generously donated by Walker's Butchers. At 2.00pm the charity's/organisation's representatives arrived to take these away and also to take a share of the second delivery, that they had not seen or read about, but not until they had been photographed with the Club President Geoff Knapton. Due to Saturday's being busy days for all, not all of the organisations could be represented on Saturday but, where this happened, a Rotarian was appointed to make choices for them, based on previous knowledge, and to deliver the toys to them in the following few days. By 3.00pm, all toys had been allocated to a charity/organisation and most were packed into cars and were on their way, leaving the Rotarians to enjoy a well earned cuppa knowing that with the amazing support of Tesco Newton Aycliffe and, in particular, Shirley Cormack, that there were going to be a lot of children that would enjoy a Christmas with gifts, something a lot of us just take for

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