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Issue No 387

Ferryhill and Chilton CHAPTER
www.thechapter.org
Ferryhill, Friday 26th September 2008
At the heart of this wonderful community
Contact The Chapter at the Council Offices, Shildon.
Tel & Fax: 01388 775896 Duty Journalist: 0790 999 2731

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ALICE THE CENTURIAN

Chilton-born Alice Graham celebrated her 100th Birthday recently with a grand party, surrounded by family and friends at Feryemount Nursing Home in North Street, Ferryhill, where she has lived for two years.

The Deputy Mayor of Ferryhill, Eileen Martin, presented Alice with a lovely bouquet of flowers.

Alice, known by her friends as 'Lal,' was born in Dene Terrace in Chilton and has lived in the village all her life. She attended Chilton School and, in 1932, married Tommy Graham, who was also from Chilton.

Next door to Tommy lived his brother, Stan Graham, and his daughters Jean and Olive have vivid memories of calling next door when they were four years-old and having ringlets put in their hair by Alice whilst they sat on the table.

In 1948, the couple moved to Dene Bridge Row, where Alice lived quite independently until she was



100 Year-old Alice was presented with a bouquet of flowers by Deputy Mayor, Rileen Martin.

98 years old. She did, however, have a very good neighbour who cared for her, Sylvia Stephenson.

At one point, Alice worked as a nanny in a large country house for an industrialist near Leeds. She also worked at a Boys' College in York helping the Matron. Her husband Tommy worked in the lamp cabin at Chilton Pit until it closed. He was a very keen gardener with an allotment and a big garden

at the house. Tommy unfortunately passed away in 1985.

Alice had one son, Arnold, who also passed away in 1999. She has two grandsons, David and Tony, and three great-grandchildren, Jack, Matthew and Charlotte. Her pride and joy was her Church in Chilton for which, very often, she used to bake tray-loads of cakes. At the same time, her husband Tommy would send vegetables from his allotment.

The couple both loved their animals and would pick up any strays and feed and care for them. Their home was also a place where children were always welcome and they would often pop in for cakes and a little chat.

"My mother-in-law has always been content with her life and even now she never complains," said her daughter-in-law, Kathleen. Surrounded by many friends and relations, the sprightly Alice spoke to everyone whilst her many congratulations cards, including one from the Queen, were opened.

The entertainment was supplied by Al Richie who came all the way from near Otterburn in Northumberland, only four miles from the Scottish border. He sang many songs from the golden era to complete a perfect day.

MAYOR TO HOLD 60'S NIGHT FOR CHARITY

The Mayor of Chilton, Councillor Alan Bruce, would like to invite Chapter readers to attend his next fundraising event.

The Mayor's Charity Evening will be held on Friday, October 3rd, at Chilton Workingmen's Club from 7.30pm.

A fun-packed evening is planned with live music, based mainly on the 60's, by both 'Remember When' and Tony

Sheridan.

All proceeds raised are in aid of St John's Ambulance and the Ward 14 Trust Fund for Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy at James Cook University Hospital.

Tickets are priced at £2.00 and are available from Chilton Town Council offices and Chilton Workingmen's Club. For further details, contact Chilton Town Council on 01388 721788.

HISTORY SOCIETY LAUNCH 2009 CALENDER

The Ferryhill History Society will be launching their 2009 Calender on September 24th.

It will feature twelve black and white images of Ferryhill District taken between 1900 and 1960, some of which are previously unpublished.

The calender costs just £2 and will be available from The Eldon Arms and Mainsforth

News in Ferryhill Station, as well as Ferrydec in Parker Terrace, The Ladder Centre in Coniston Road, Kelly's Newsagent in Broom Road, Cottage News in Bede Terrace and Naylor's Newsagent in Darlington Road.

The calenders are also available from any member of the Ferryhill History Society.

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Starring Brilliant Vocalist "TONY SHERRIDAN" & Outstanding Trio "REMEMBER WHEN." This Is A Brilliant Tribute Show To The Best Of The 50's & 60's - Do Not Miss It! Come Along And Support Two Very Worthy Charities.

10th October - "VERTIGO"

A Warm Welcome Back For Clubland Award Winning Group 2007 - Fantastic Set List & Excellent Presentation & Light Show - Don't Be Late!

MAGNERS CIDER NOW ON DRAUGHT - CHEAPEST IN AREA

Saturday 27th September - Show Of The Month In The Lounge

- Knockout Show "EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN" £2.00 c/c. This Is A Fantastic Duo With A Four Month Waiting List For Saturday Nights. Come Along & See Why They Are Worth Waiting For!

50/50 Dancing to "**Alf Longhorne Band**" in The Hall - £2.00 c/c

Sunday 28th September - 50/50 Dancing to "Phil Tempest" in The Hall - £2.00 c/c

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In Memoriam

ALAN BAINBRIDGE
September 25th, 2005.
Time goes by, Still I cry,
For the times and memories
we shared.
Loved and missed always.
*Loving Wife,
Violet.*
x

ALAN BAINBRIDGE
Dad, Grandad.
September 25th, 2005.
Loving memories.
Deep in our hearts
Your memory is kept,
Someone so special
To never forget.
Loved loads,

Jill, Jason, Jason Jnr and Ruby.
xxxx

September 25th, 2005.
Precious memories of the best Dad
and Granda in the world.

ALAN BAINBRIDGE
(Bluey)
Miss you every minute of the day
and everyday.
*Your loving Daughter Joanne
and Grandchildren Shane,
Chantelle and Gary.*
xxxx

In loving memory of my Dad and
our Grandad,

ALAN BAINBRIDGE
Who passed away on
September 25th, 2005
Aged 60 years.
Softly, the leaves of memory fall,
Gently, I gather and treasure
them all.
Unseen, unheard,
you are always near,
So missed, so loved, so very dear.
*Tracy, Sharnie, Kirsty, Colin and
Connor.*
xxxx

ALAN BAINBRIDGE
(Dad)
September 25th, 2005.
Shining star up above
Give my Dad a great big hug.
*Love you always,
Corrina.*
x

Birthdays Memories

Birthday Memories of
CAROL DOBSON
(Nee Hammell)
September 27th, 1958.
A special Birthday wish,
Always in our thoughts,
Forever in our hearts.
*Love, Mam, Bobby, Children
Gary, Joanne, Sarah and
Husband Gary.*

Birthdays

TANYA ÖZDEMİR
Happy 18th Birthday.



*Lots of love,
Mam, Dad, Maria, Louise,
Stephen, Judith and Nanna.*
xxx

PETER FARLEY
Happy 40th Birthday, Peter.
*Love always,
Marie.*
xxx

PETER FARLEY
Happy 40th Birthday,
Peter (Turb)
*Love always,
John and Beth.*
xxx

Happy 1st Birthday
PAIGE MAY GOODWIN



*Lots of love always,
Mum, Dad, Sister Ashley, your
Grandparents, your Aunties and
Uncles and your Cousins,
Kieran and Kiera.*

MICHELLE SMALLMAN
September 22nd.
Happy 40th.
*All our love,
June, Mick, Cameron, Lynz, Col,
Leona, Ebbs and Dylan.*
xxx

ASHLEY MARIE HALL
September 28th.
Happy 18th Birthday, Ashley.
*Lots of love,
Nanna.*

SARAH GRANGER
Happy Birthday, Darling.
Love from Mam.
x

Birthdays

CRAIG GRAINGER
18th
September 29th.



Happy Birthday.
Love from,
Steven, Mam, Adam and Ricky.

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**BUS
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The current bus service,
number 110, which is run by
Ferryhill Village Travel and
runs between Ferryhill
Surtees and Spennymoor's
Asda, will, as from Monday,
October 6th, be operated by
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**CHILTON AWARDED
BRONZE FOR BEST
SMALL TOWN**

Chilton Town Council is pleased to announce that this year, Chilton has been awarded a Bronze in the Best Small Town category by Northumbria in Bloom. To improve on the success,

the Council is asking for volunteers to have an input into the Town's floral displays. Anybody who is interested should contact Chilton Town Council on 01388 721788.

Poetry
Corner
CLEVELAND HILLS

I gazed across the Cleveland Hills,
Past Sedgefield's Spire and Teesside mills,
To Roseberry Topping's lofty crest,
Modest and bare as a maiden's breast.
This land of rivers, trees and

plain,
And later, golden fields of grain,
That God should give us all this bounty,
I'm proud to live in Durham County.

*By Mrs E, Denham,
Chilton.*

THE CHAPTER

OCCASION: (Please tick)

Birthday Obituary
 Anniversary For Sale
 Birth To Let
 Congratulations Services Offered
 Appreciations Other (Please State)
 Memoriam

NUMBER OF SEPARATE MESSAGES.....

MESSAGE(S) - (Please write in clear block capitals and continue on a separate piece of plain paper if necessary)

.....

NUMBER OF WORDS =

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(If yes, please include a stamped addressed envelope if you would like your picture returned to you.)

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ABE AND JUNE - A DIAMOND COUPLE



June and Abe with Mayor, Alan Bruce, and his wife, Elizabeth.

A Chilton couple who live in Ruby Avenue celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary last week. Abe and June Stewart were married at the Wesleyan Chapel in Chilton on September 18th, 1948, and the Mayor of Chilton, Alan Bruce, and his wife, Elizabeth, were on hand to help them celebrate their 60th anniversary. Bruce and Elizabeth called at the couple's neat home and presented them with a bouquet of flowers with the compliments of the Council. Abe, 83, was a miner all his working life at Chilton Colliery, Metal Bridge Drift

and finally, Easington Colliery. The happy couple, who have two daughters and one son, celebrated their anniversary with a meal at The Kings Arms in Great Stainton with the family, then another meal with family and friends at Tindale Crossing and finally, a party at their daughter's home in Chilton. They both used to like gardening and Abe had an allotment years ago. They also used to enjoy travelling and, over time, have visited over twenty different countries including Australia, Canada, America, France and Ireland.

VANDALISM TO DEAN BANK PARK AGAIN

Yet again Dean Bank Recreation Park has been a victim to vandalism, only this time, the vandals have gone one step further and set fire to the wooden play equipment situated in the park. This is at least the seventh

time there has been vandalism to play equipment at Dean Bank Recreation Park in the last year. If residents see anyone entering the park and causing trouble, please contact the local police on 0845 6060365.

Suntanna

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**NEW
TUBES
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JOHN AND HILDA CELEBRATE BLUE SAPPHIRE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

When John Pirt visited his wife in Tenlands Care Home in Wood Lane, Ferryhill, on Thursday, September 18th, he was in for a big surprise. John has been visiting his wife, Hilda, everyday for the last six years and unbeknown to John, his family and staff at Tenlands had organised a surprise visit to celebrate the couple's 65th Wedding Anniversary.

The Deputy Mayor of Ferryhill, Eileen Martin, presented the couple with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a glass tankard to commemorate their wonderful achievement.

John and Hilda, both 86, were married at St. Luke's Church on September 18th, 1943.

John is a 'doggie' lad, born in West Cornforth, and his wife, Hilda, was born in Witton-le-Wear.

The couple set up home in Eamont Road where they lived for seven years before moving to Commercial Street in Ferryhill Station, where they stayed for over thirty years. The couple finally settled in Peacehaven, John's present address.

John was a miner for over forty years, starting at Mainsforth Colliery where



John and Hilda with the Deputy Mayor of Ferryhill, Eileen Martin.

he worked until 1968 when the pit flooded and had to be closed.

He then moved on to Blackhall Colliery, doing every job conceivable. Hilda's first job after leaving school was as a housemaid in an old Victorian house in Scarborough. She later worked at the Munitions Factory at Aycliffe Industrial Estate.

The couple have one daughter, Maureen, who lives in Manchester. They also have two grandsons, Ian and Neil, and three great-grandchildren.

Although Hilda is unable to

walk, this doesn't stop active and spirited John taking Hilda out in her wheelchair on a regular basis on the bus, visiting Stockton, Darlington, Durham and other local towns.

John still does his own housework and cooks for himself. He has also won two 'good neighbour awards,' being nominated by people in his street, the Durham Aged Miners.

He still likes a pint at the British Legion, where he is a founder member, but he spends as much time as he can with his wife Hilda.

The couple celebrated on the day of their anniversary with a nice meal at The Gretna Green in Newton Aycliffe, accompanied by their daughter and son-in-law.

SIXTIES NIGHT (MAN!)

Kirk Merrington Village Hall will be stepping back in time next month, when it will be hosting a Sixties Night.

RAINBOW WHIST

St Michael's Church in Bishop Middleham is holding a Rainbow Whist and Domino Drive in the Village Hall, at 2.00pm on Saturday, September 27th.

Admission costs just £1.50 which includes refreshments. There will also be a raffle and all proceeds will be in aid of church funds.

"Everyone is most welcome," said a spokesperson for the event.

The 'groovy' event will take place on Friday, October 10th, from 7.30pm till late.

Fancy dress is optional and there will be music, a bar and nibbles.

Tickets cost just £5 and are available by calling 01388 811108.

Got something for the paper?

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ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING COURSES AT CHILTON

Chilton Primary School and Community College are encouraging learners, new and old, to take part in the following courses which commence at the end of the month.

On Monday, September 29th, Basic Admin will be held from 9.30am to 11.30am and Basic IT from 6.30pm to

8.30pm.

Holiday Spanish will begin on Tuesday, September 30th, from 4.00pm to 6.00pm, while Salsa classes will get started from 6.00pm to 7.00pm on Friday, October 3rd.

There will also be a Yoga class and a Painting and Drawing course, however dates for

these are yet to be confirmed. The cost is £40 for a ten-week course, (Basic IT being a five-week course,) and those who are in receipt of certain benefits may be entitled to a reduced cost of £6.

For further information contact the school on 01388 720255 or the college on 01388 720911.

BERTHA STREET ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION SECURES GRANT FUNDING

Since Bertha Street Allotments became a self-managed site, the Allotment Association has formed a close partnership with Ferryhill Town Council. With the Council's support, the Allotment Association has already started to improve the site and has recently been successful in securing a funding grant of £3,922 from Big Lottery Funders, Awards for All.

James Gee, Vice-Secretary for Bertha Street Allotment Association, said, "Members of the Association are thrilled by the support Ferryhill Town Council has given us, particularly in applying for funding. Receiving the Awards for All Grant will help us provide much-needed equipment for our site which will greatly benefit our plot holders." Councillor Pauline

Crathorne, Portfolio Holder for the Town's Allotments, said, "I am delighted by how successful all of the Town's self-managed allotment sites have become."

"The improvements to each are evident and this is just another example of how Ferryhill Town Council works in close partnership with service users for the benefit of all".

FERRYHILL COUNCIL SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION



Deputy Mayor, Councillor Eileen Martin, and Portfolio Holder for Ferryhill, Councillor Doreen Barber, with members of Endeavour, The Manor House and Town Council outside staff.

Ferryhill Town Council held a presentation event recently for Endeavour Woodcrafts, The Manor House and the Ferryhill Town Council outside staff, to thank them for the efforts and contributions in this years Northumbria in Bloom event.

Every year, Endeavour Woodcrafts help plant the

numerous flower beds around Ferryhill and are presented with a certificate for their contribution.

This year, the Manor House were also presented with a certificate from the Northumbria in Bloom Committee as they were awarded a Silver Gilt Award in the 'Best Public House' category.

FERRYHILL MAN ASSAULTED OFFICER

PIRATES AHOY!

Parents are being encouraged to take their children along to Ferryhill Library for a pirate-themed party to celebrate National Bookstart Day.

The party will be held on Thursday, October 9th, from 10.00am to 12 noon, and

activities will include storytelling, arts, crafts and face painting.

When approached by the two Officers, Robson became somewhat aggressive and refused to provide the Officers with his details.

At this point, Robson headbutted the Police Officer and ran towards his home.

As Robson attempted to close his front door, the Police Officer managed to prevent this, whereupon Robson punched him in the face.

At this point, Robson's partner appeared on the scene and managed to diffuse the situation after which, Robson was duly arrested.

With regard to Robson's first encounter with the P.C.S.O., the Court heard that when he

was stopped, Robson just panicked and drove away.

When Robson was approached by the two Officers a few days later, he considered that the Police Officer adopted a particularly aggressive attitude towards him.

Robson was handed an 18 week jail sentence, however it was agreed that this should be suspended for a period of 12 months.

Robson was banned from driving for 12 months and ordered to pay compensation of £100 to the Police Officer as well as being fined £125 and ordered to pay Court costs of £43 and the £15 Victim Surcharge.

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A Ferryhill man who attempted to evade a Police Community Support Officer and a Police Officer before carrying out an attack on one of them, last week escaped being sent to prison by local Magistrates.

Thirty four year-old Wayne Frank Robson, of Hylton Road in Ferryhill, entered 'Guilty' pleas to charges of 'refusing to stop for a Police Community Support Officer', 'having no Insurance' and 'assaulting a Police Officer', the offences being committed in Ferryhill in mid-August this year.

Appearing on behalf of the Crown Prosecution Service, Mr. David Maddison told the Court that the P.C.S.O. was on duty in Ferryhill's Hylton Road where she attempted to stop and speak to the Defendant who was behind the wheel of an MG Metro motorcar.

Robson, however, told the P.C.S.O. that he was rushing to the Bank and drove away. Some four days later, however, the same P.C.S.O. was again on duty in Hylton Road, this time accompanied by a Police Officer, where he was spotted doing some work on his vehicle close to his home.

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Letter to the Editor

This angry Mum asks, "Where has the Great gone?"

Dear Editor,

Once upon a time I would say that I was proud to be British...after today I can't say that anymore.

As I was ending the school run on September 18th, I noticed my car needed some petrol. I was in spennymoor so a drove to the petrol station.

Me and my three children were in the car. When I got so far onto the forecourt my car wouldn't start. The petrol station is always busy any time of the day. I tried numerous times to start my car but it wouldn't turn over ...so me and my 15 year-old daughter got out of the car and struggled to get it to the pump.

Not one person offered to help and there was at least ten to twelve cars as well as mine, yet they all sat and watched us struggle.

I would offer to help any one in that situation, that's the way I have been brought up. But those people who were sat in their cars watching us

struggle should be ashamed of themselves.

We were a 'Great' Britain once over. If someone's car broke down, or they needed help, people were only happy to help. Not today though. I can't hold my head up and say "yeah, am proud to be British today."

From a very upset and angry mother.

HELP!

The Chapter's Support Organisation, Community Newspaper Support, has a vacancy for an Assistant to help with the production of three Community Newspapers.

Candidates must be outgoing, friendly, computer literate, and a working knowledge of desk top publishing, photo-shop and other media applications would be an advantage.

The position is part-time and hours are flexible. Please ring for a chat on 01388 775896.

DEAN BANK MAN ADMITS SMASHING CAR WINDOW

A Dean Bank man admitted smashing a window of a car when he appeared before local Magistrates last week. At the Court in Newton Aycliffe, 27 year-old Ian Haswell entered a 'Guilty' plea to a charge of 'criminal damage', the offence being committed in Ferryhill on

June 13th this year. The Court heard that the window of the vehicle which was broken by the Defendant was valued at £70. Haswell was handed a Conditional Discharge for a period of 12 months and ordered to pay £70 compensation and Court costs of £43.

COUNCILLOR ALLEGEDLY COST COUNCIL OVER £30,000

A local Town Councillor is currently facing allegations that he has wasted thousands of pounds of public funds, despite the fact that he was elected after he had promised to cut council tax.

The allegation is that the Councillor, Brian Gibson, has cost Ferryhill's Town Council more than £30,000 after he has inundated Council Officers with futile requests. It is claimed that Mr. Gibson has sent 250 letters to the Council which have necessitated 140 responses and that he has made twenty complaints which have all, with one exception, been found to be lacking in any substance whatsoever.

With regard to the correspondence sent to the Town Council, it is estimated that dealing with it has cost over £30,000 in 'Officer-time', this figure being greater than what it costs to run Ferryhill's allotments or the E-cafe for the younger people of the town

The situation came to light when a local resident decided to follow up a series of correspondence in the regional press and raised concerns about a member of the Council wasting the time

of the Council's Officers with needless requests.

The resident, Mr. Duncan Harrison, who in 2007 stood as a Labour candidate for election to the Ferryhill Town Council, submitted a 'Freedom of Information' request to obtain details of the person who had written to the Town Council on most occasions.

Although the Labour-controlled Council would not name the individual, it did, however, release the figures. Mr. Harrison said, "I was shocked. If this money hadn't been wasted, it would have gone on public facilities or services."

He added, "I accept the need for answers, but this seems an unnecessary and excessive amount of correspondence that has been expensive for tax-payers."

Councillor Gibson, who was elected to the Town Council in May as a candidate for the opposition F.A.I.R. (Ferryhill Association for Independent Representation), whilst admitting that he was the person referred to, totally refuted the figures.

Councillor Gibson said that the correspondence began as

far back as 2006 when he wrote to the Council as a resident of the town, as the Secretary of Ferryhill Allotment Association and on behalf of a disabled man. Since he was elected to the Council, Councillor Gibson stated that he has repeatedly requested details of the salaries of Council Officers and of payments for overtime, as two-thirds of the £550,000 precept goes on staff costs, something that Councillor Gibson considers is excessive.

Councillor Gibson said, "I have checked my files for correspondence and believe, that in reality, it is a fraction of the number quoted. I think these figures have been plucked from thin air and I completely refute the total." "This has all been orchestrated and is absolute garbage," he added.

The Leader of Ferryhill Town Council, Councillor Pat McCourt, said, "I am sure that the residents of Ferryhill will be outraged. This is especially shocking as he is the Leader of the F.A.I.R. Party which stood at the last election on a platform of reducing council tax."

DENEHURST SAYS 'THANKS'

Denehurst Nursing Home in Merrington Lane in Ferryhill would like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who donated and supported their recent tombola stall in Ferryhill Market. The endeavour raised a fantastic £223 for the Nursing Home.

SPARE CHAIRS

Cleves Cross Primary School has a number of tables and chairs which are surplus to requirements is offering them to any groups or clubs that may need them.

"They are in reasonable condition and any donations would be gratefully received," said a spokesperson for the school.

If you are interested, contact Cleves Cross Primary School on 01740 651599.

'THANKS'

The Chapter would like to thank Ferryhill Village W.M.C. Leek Club for its kind donation of £20.

WEST CORNFORTH MAN FACING CROWN COURT APPEARANCE

The Committal Hearing in the case involving a West Cornforth man was listed to take place before the South Durham Magistrates sitting at Newton Aycliffe last week. Thirty four year-old Barry Anderson, of Poplar Terrace in West Cornforth, faces a number of allegations of motoring offences said to have been committed in West

Cornforth and on the A1 (M) and involving a Vauxhall, a Ford Transit and a Peugeot. The charges to be faced by Anderson are three of 'driving whilst disqualified', three of 'having no Insurance' and one charge of 'dangerous driving.' Anderson will be dealt with by a Crown Court on a date and at a venue to be determined.



FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

OCTOBER MEETINGS

Civic Amenities Committee -

Wednesday 1st October, 2008

at 7.00pm in Ferryhill Town Hall

Recreation Committee -

Wednesday 1st October, 2008

following Civic Amenities Committee

Town Council

Wednesday 15th Oct, 2008 at 7.00pm in Ferryhill Town Hall

Finance Committee

Wednesday 15th October, 2008, following Town Council

Members of the public may attend the above meetings

OTHER MEETINGS

Ferryhill 2000 Committee

Wednesday 1st October, 2008 at 6.00pm

at Ferryhill Town Hall.

Members of the public are invited to participate in this meeting

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GREYHOUND TO RAISE MONEY FOR LITTLE ROBBIE

The Greyhound in Ferryhill will be playing host to a fundraising event next month, which will hopefully raise money for two year-old Robbie Jones, who recently lost both of his legs to Meningitis.

In early July, Robbie's parents, Jill Graham and Wayne Jones who live in Bowburn, woke to find him covered in black and blue bruise-like marks, which they thought was an allergy.

However doctors at the University Hospital of North Durham confirmed he had group B meningococcal septicaemia, for which there is no vaccination.

The youngster was transferred to Newcastle General Hospital's paediatric intensive care unit where he was prescribed powerful



Brave little Robbie is recovering well but needs as much help as possible.

medication and pain killers, and Jill and Wayne were told Robbie's chances of survival were slim. Septicaemia had spread throughout his body and on July 22nd, doctors made the decision to amputate both of his legs in order to save his life, as well as the tips of his fingers on

his left hand.

Friends and family have organised charity events to raise money for Robbie and the Meningitis Trust.

On Friday, October 10th from 7.30pm, two bands will be playing at The Greyhound with the hope of raising some money for the two worthy causes. A U2 Tribute Band will perform, as well as Vader Grande, the lead singer of which is Robbie's dad, Wayne. There will also be an auction and a raffle, along with compere and vocalist, Dave Harland.

£257 RAISED FOR DIABETES UK

A combined total of £257.31 was raised from a raffle held on on Gala Day and a Coffee Morning held at St. Luke's Church last month on behalf of Diabetes UK.

Susan Forster, who organised the events, said, "I would like to thank everyone who donated prizes for the raffle

and for the donations and the help I received on the Coffee Morning. I could not have done it on my own." Susan chose this particular charity because her seven year-old son, Adam, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in December of 2007.

OUT AND ABOUT IN FERRYHILL

A representative of Ferryhill Town Council informed the Area 2 Forum recently that the new anticipated Sports Facility at Dean Bank Park was well-in-hand.

It was stated that there were only one or two small problems, which would be solved at an imminent Council Meeting.

Local Councillors have been asked to bring residents up-to-date at the Residents meeting on Monday, October 6th, which will be held at the Dean Bank Institute from 7.00pm.

The portfolio holder for the park will not be at the next three monthly held meetings but the Town Council have been requested to send a representative who can keep

everyone in touch.

At the forum meeting it was also revealed that £70,000 was being offered to Dean Bank Park for the development of children's play equipment. One of the conditions of receiving this funding, however, was that the Town Council hold a consultation with the public. The Residents Association have made an offer to the Town Council to help in this process. The regeneration 'drop-in' session will be held in the newly refurbished offices at Haig Street on a Wednesday. "If any resident has any concerns or would like to voice their feelings to the multi-agency meeting please call in, said a spokesperson for the event.

METHODIST CHURCH RAISED THE ROOF

A very happy evening was spent at the Methodist Church in Ferryhill recently, when the congregation were entertained by the Ferryhill Stage Society. A spokesperson for the church

said, "Our thanks to the Society for a lively evening, not only to sing and enjoy, but to boost the roof fund. To close the evening, we sang Jerusalem, talk about raising the roof!"

MAGISTRATES DECLINE JURISDICTION IN SERIOUS SEX OFFENCES CASE

Local Magistrates last week declined to accept jurisdiction in a case involving a Ferryhill man accused of carrying out a considerable number of sexual offences over a seven year period between 1986 and 1993 in Trimdon Village and Sedgefield.

Appearing at the South Durham Magistrates' Court at Newton Aycliffe, the Defendant, 44 year-old Paul Waterhouse, spoke only to confirm his name, address and date of birth.

Waterhouse is facing 22 charges of 'indecently

assaulting a girl under the age of 14' and four further charges of 'inciting a person to commit an act of gross indecency with or towards a girl under 16'.

After the sitting Magistrates agreed to decline jurisdiction in the matter, they fixed the date for the Committal Hearing as November 12th at the Newton Aycliffe Court. Waterhouse was granted an extension of his unconditional bail until that date when the case will formally be sent to a Crown Court to be dealt with.

ASSAULT RESULTS IN FERRYHILL MAN GOING TO PRISON

Local Magistrates last week not only partly activated a suspended sentence which a Ferryhill man was subject to, but also imposed a prison sentence for the offences for which he had just been convicted.

Thirty three year-old Jay Wayman, of Ferversham Terrace in Ferryhill, entered 'Guilty' pleas to charges of 'assault occasioning actual bodily harm' and 'criminal damage' when he appeared before the South Durham Magistrates sitting at Newton Aycliffe, the offences being committed on August 20th this year in Ferryhill.

The Court, after hearing that Wayman was currently the subject of a Suspended Sentence Order, agreed that

part of that Order, namely 12 weeks in prison, should be activated, with a further four weeks imprisonment added.

The sitting Magistrates also ordered that the two terms of imprisonment - 12 weeks and 4 weeks - should run consecutively, making a total of 16 weeks.

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FERRYHILL TO STAGE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

Ferryhill Town Council and the Ferryhill 2000 Committee are inviting residents and businesses of Ferryhill to take part in a competition being organised to judge the Town's best Christmas Lights. The competition will comprise two categories, residential and business, with the winners of each category being awarded a hamper full of Christmas goodies. Entry into the competition

is completely free and judging will take place on Friday, December 12th, with a presentation event being held at the Town Hall the following Friday, December 19th.

Anyone interested in taking part in the competition should contact Karen Emerson at Ferryhill Town Hall, on 01740 652157 for an application form.

The closing date for entries is Monday, December 1st.

Councillor Peter Atkinson, Portfolio Holder for the Town's Events, said, "Organising this competition is an excellent way of encouraging the residents and businesses of Ferryhill to get into the festive spirit. By decorating the outside of their homes or businesses with Lights and displays, residents will not only be brightening up the Town but will also be bringing the community together."

A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES AND MUSICALS

The Civic Hall in Shildon soon be alive to the sound of music, singing and dancing, when the award-winning youth theatre group, 'The Tearaways,' take to the stage for four performances of it's latest production, 'A Night at the Movies and Musicals'.

"There will be something for everyone in this two hour

show, with music from 'Singing in the Rain', 'Mamma Mia', 'Dirty Dancing', 'Hairspray', 'Grease', 'High School Musical', 'Fame' and many more being performed by these young 8 to 16 year-olds", said a spokesperson for the group.

Performances are Thursday, 25th and Friday, 26th of

September at 7.30pm, and Saturday, 27th and Sunday, 28th September at 2.00pm. Tickets for the show are only £4 for adults and £2 for children and concessions, and are available from the Chapter Office in Shildon Town Council Offices just off Main Street, or for pre-booking please ring 01388 774838.

COMMUNITY PENALTY HANDED OUT FOR 'AFFRAY'

When 20 year-old Warren Oughton of Dene Terrace in Chilton appeared before the South Durham Magistrates sitting at Newton Aycliffe, he admitted a charge of 'affray', alleged to have been

committed in Chilton on July 27th this year.

After the Magistrates requested the Probation Service to prepare a Pre-Sentence Report, Oughton was made the subject of a 12

month Community Order which involves the completion of 150 hours of unpaid work in the community. The Defendant was also ordered to pay Court costs of £43.

HAVING A PARTY?

Are you planning a wedding, birthday party or christening? Mainsforth and District

Community Association in Ferryhill Station is a registered charity and has a number of meeting rooms and a large ballroom.

A member of the Committee who would be happy to take enquiries said, "If you are planning a function, why not

give us a ring and we will gladly show you what is available. Catering and entertainment can be arranged for you and we also have a well-stocked bar with very competitive prices." For more information, contact Bill on 07814 965 724.

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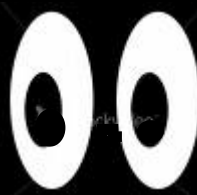
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JAIL FOR ARMED MAN WHO TERRORISED EX-GIRLFRIEND

A Ferryhill man who terrified his former girlfriend and who fired an air weapon at her new boyfriend was, last week, jailed by a Crown Court Judge. Thirty seven year-old Steven Ferguson, of Birch Road in Ferryhill, appeared before the Durham Crown Court who heard that he entered the Ferryhill home of the woman shortly after midnight on May 24th.

Despite the fact that the woman's new boyfriend, three young children and an older girl were present in the house, Ferguson sat down and refused to leave.

The Court heard that Ferguson then stood up and went out of the house, picking up a .22 air rifle which he had previously left by the door.

At this point, the woman told Ferguson that it was her intention to telephone the Police, whereupon he re-entered the house and, from a distance of no more than six or seven feet, fired a pellet into the leg of the woman's boyfriend, telling the woman to shut up, threatening to shoot her and the occupants of the house.

As the woman was telephoning the Police, she heard another shot ring out as Ferguson again fired at her boyfriend, this time into his calf, before leaving the house. At this point, the Court heard that the victim, who suffered two injuries to his leg in the attack, refused to make an official complaint to the Police about the incident and, therefore, no charges arose concerning that part of the incident.

Mr Baker, prosecuting, then told the Court that shortly afterwards, Ferguson returned to the house, banging on the locked door before firing the air rifle through the letter box as well as against a window pane before leaving the scene. Ferguson then made his way along a nearby street where

he confronted a man who was out walking his dog, punching him in the face and firing the air rifle, which was now minus any pellets, towards the face of the man.

As the man opted to run for safety with his dog, Ferguson fired the weapon again in his direction, however, the 51 year-old man subsequently turned and pursued Ferguson who threw away the air rifle as he fled, this being picked up and later handed to the Police by the man.

Around 6.00am., Police Officers went to Ferguson's home in Birch Road where he admitted having the weapon and throwing it at someone, however he denied shooting anyone with it when it was loaded with pellets.

At the Hearing at Durham Crown Court, Ferguson entered 'Guilty' pleas to two charges of 'possessing a firearm with intent to cause a fear of violence' and a further charge of 'possessing a firearm when prohibited from doing so'.

Jailing Ferguson for a period of three years, Judge Brian Forster told him, "Anyone out with a weapon and using it to threaten members of the public going about their lawful business can expect serious punishment.

At the conclusion of the proceedings, Judge Forster ordered the forfeiture and destruction of the weapon and awarded the dog-walking man who had pursued Ferguson a sum of £250 from public funds for his "public spirited actions", namely that he confronted and chased the Defendant.

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CHILTON CHILDREN'S CENTRE NOW OPEN

A beautiful day helped to make the official opening of Chilton Children's Centre a huge success last Saturday. The event proved to be a fun day from start to finish as the Centre, at Chilton Primary School in Rear South View, Chilton, simply buzzed with families enjoying the wide variety of entertainment and activities on offer.

The buffet went down well and there was juggling and fun with John from 'Educational Entertainment,' while staff and volunteers provided outdoor toys, plants to take home, face painting, martial arts and much more. Chilton's friendly local Community Police Officer, Dan, mingled and chatted to children and smiling fire fighters answered questions and allowed delighted youngsters to sit in their fire engine. Visitors from Chilton Library, teachers from Chilton Primary, local Councillors and families from Chilton made this a fantastic community event.



Everyone enjoyed their time at the opening of Chilton's Sure Start Children's Centre.

Terry Brimm, a local childminder and volunteer at the Children's Centre, commented upon how wonderful it was to see toddlers walking into the Centre so happily, as though it was home from home. Another young mum, Claire Corrigan, told The Chapter, "People were actually crying with laughter at John the Jugglers antics and he had to repeat his show a second time due to popular demand!" Councillors Potts and Avery

carried out the official opening and were full of praise for the Children's Centre staff and volunteers whose hard work was evident. Organised and co-ordinated by volunteers at the Centre with support from Sure Start, the event was attended by over 100 people. To find out what is available for you and your family at Sure Start, call in to Chilton Community College, Chilton or telephone 01388 721259 or 01740 658080.

FOOTBALL SHORTS.....

Ferryhill Celtic gained their first victory of the season in the Wear Valley Sunday League when drubbing Shildon Flag and Whistle 6 - 1, with Shane Todd (3), Mark Pattison (2) and Alan Robson on target.

A 3-1 victory over pointless Sunderland Beer Company ensured that **Chilton Community College** took over second place in the Sunderland Catholic Club Over-40s League's Premier Division. In the same Premier Division, struggling **Ferryhill Greyhound** went

down by just one goal to Grindon Broadway. **West Cornforth**, in Division Three of the Over-40s

LEAGUE AND CUP SETBACKS FOR CORNFORTH UNITED

A recent home defeat by Wheatley Hill S.C. and also away at Birtley means the Cornforth United not only missed out on a chance to go second in the Carcraft Durham Football Alliance League, but also went out of

League, lost their second League game of the season by 2-1 when visiting Shildon to play The Grey Horse.

the League Challenge Cup at an early stage.

Playing against Wheatley Hill, Cornforth took the lead through Dean Smithson before going two down to their visitors. The home side hit back in the last 20 minutes through a tremendous strike from Steve Parnaby, however Wheatley Hill snatched a late penalty to take all three points.

A visit to Birtley to play the Town Reserves in the League Challenge Cup resulted in another defeat for Cornforth by the odd goal in five and the two sides will meet up for the second time in two weeks when Birtley Town Reserves visit Cornforth for a League encounter.

On the 11th of October, Cornforth embark on the Durham County Trophy trail when they travel to Teesside to take on Norton and Stockton Ancients Reserves at the hosts' Station Road ground in Norton.

UNDER 9'S MARCH INTO NEXT ROUND

Ferryhill Under 9's football team made it into the 2nd round of the league cup with a resounding 5-1 win. They could have won by a lot more had it not been for a man of the match performance by the Greatham goalkeeper. Joe Richardson opened the scoring midway through the first half and two minutes later, Kieron Walton added a second. The Greatham defence was being over run by a strong Ferryhill team and Joe

Richardson Added a third just before half time. In the second half, Ferryhill started where they left off and with the defence of Josef Stehlik, Samuel Luckhurst and Harry Fisher staying solid, Ferryhill pushed forward and Jake Petjean combined with Callum Foster to set up Joe Richardson for his hat trick. Greatham then grabbed a consolation before Joe Richardson completed the scoring with his fourth and Ferryhill's fifth.

UNDER 14'S STEAM AHEAD WITH 7 - 4 WIN

Ferryhill Under 14's football team played their first round of the league cup against St. Francis recently, and from the start it was end to end with Ferryhill leading 3-2 at half time. St. Francis came back hard in the first five minutes of the

second half to equalize and then go ahead, but Ferryhill upped a gear and put another four in, making the final score 7-4. Goals came from Ritchie Brown, Tom Olley and Cory Loscombe, who all got two, with Chrissy Devine netting one.

FERRYHILL CLUB BOWLERS TRIUMPHANT!

Three bowlers representing the Ferryhill Workingmen's Club recently played the Final of the C.I.U. Triples Knockout Bowls Competition and triumphed. The local Club team, consisting of Billy Maddison, Jimmy Maddison and Kenny Peters, went to the Vane Tempest Bowls Club in Durham City where they took on Leadgate W.M.C. The Final, which consisted of 18 ends, was extremely closely fought in the early stages, with both teams seemingly being restricted to

a single shot at each end. However, after this 'nip and tuck' beginning, Ferryhill managed to pull out the stops with an exceptionally good end which resulted in them taking, what proved to be, an unassailable lead in the contest.

Following the seventeenth and penultimate end in the match, Ferryhill led their opponents by some four shots and looked a safe bet to take the title.

In the final end, however, as Ferryhill were lying 'shot', Ian Peacock, the Leadgate skip, produced a tremendous final bowl which placed the result of the match in some doubt. That was until the Ferryhill skip, Billy Maddison, managed to match his opponent's bowl and resulted in Ferryhill taking the C.I.U. title by 20 shots to 16.

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