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Ferryhill
& Chilton

CHAPTER

At the heart
of our wonderful community



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Historic performance by Enter CIC at Durham Cathedral



Enter CIC performed *Jesus Christ Superstar* to rapturous applause at Durham Cathedral on 9th and 10th April. Photo: Eddie Serrell.

Last week, 9th/10th April, Enter CIC performed *Jesus Christ Superstar*, written by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber, at Durham Cathedral.

This was a huge event which showcased the talents of over 100 young people at the World Heritage Site. This was only the second time that *Jesus Christ*

Superstar had been performed in a cathedral in the United Kingdom.

The event was attended by many dignitaries including Mrs Sue Snowden Lord Lieutenant of County Durham, Cllr John Robinson the Mayor of Durham and some London based agents. Due to a national tour going on at the same time it is almost impossible to gain the rights for anyone else to perform the musical at the same time.

However, due to Enter's tenacity, they gained the rights so that local people could benefit from them performing this musical in the cathedral at Easter time. The production has received rave reviews from the audience and local press.

Enter was delighted when the Dean of Durham Cathedral, the Very Reverend Michael Sadgrove mentioned the production in his evening prayers and attended the Friday evening performance. Paul Flynn from Enter CIC

Emergency services response praised

Residents of Rushyford have praised the emergency services for their quick response after a man in his 60s crashed his vehicle into a safety barrier before stabbing himself.

Twelve emergency service vehicles with police, specialist firearm officers and paramedics attended the scene at about 9pm last Tuesday night, 7th April.

The alarm was raised by residents living near the Eden Arms Hotel after the man crashed into a safety barrier and a litter bin before running onto private land behind a row of houses called The Cottages where he was seen to stab himself. Landowner, John Newbould was one of the first at the scene, shortly before the arrival of paramedics who treated the injured man before he was taken to James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough. His injuries were described as non-life threatening.

Mr Newbould, a resident of Rushyford for 17 years, said: "It was very surreal at the time and it all happened so fast. Once you stop and take in what happened it is very sad."

Neighbour, Peter Troy, called the police, and both residents praised the quick response of the emergency services: "The street was full of flashing lights within minutes," said Mr Troy.

"The police and the paramedics acted quickly and handled the situation very well."

A Durham Police spokesperson said: "Officers responded to a report that a man had stabbed himself after the car he was driving collided with a bin.

"Paramedics attended and gave treatment to the man at the scene. The man, aged in his early-60s, was taken by ambulance to the James Cook Hospital in Middlesbrough where he remains in a stable condition."

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Classifieds

All about local people ...



Passed Away

Irene Nicholson
(Nee Brown)

Of Ferryhill. Passed away after a long illness on 3rd April, 2015, aged 59 years.



Much loved by Ronnie, Paula, Cath, Connor, Ellie & all the family

In Memoriam

Sheila Lister
April 2012

Mam,
Always on my mind
Forever in my heart



Love Liz & Robin

Birthdays

Joshua Adams
19th April



Happy 9th Birthday
Have a great day



*Love Mam & Dad
xxx*

Acknowledgements

Carol Dunlavy

Kevin, Husband of late Carol, would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for the kindness & support during his recent bereavement and for the many cards and flowers. Heartfelt thanks to my Brother Michael, to Doctor Oakenfull, Macmillan Nurses and a special thank you to St Cuthbert's Hospice, Durham, for their overwhelming support and care in Carol's last weeks, to which a donation of over £300 was raised at a collection at Carol's funeral. Many thanks to Father Simon for a beautiful service, also a very big thank you to Marie Wall for her help and support.

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Acknowledgements

Laurie & Marjorie Liddle

Would like to thank David, Julie and Grandchildren, friends and neighbours for making their Diamond Anniversary special.

Need to contact The Chapter about a Classified?

Tributes paid after holiday tragedy



Beatrice Bolam, who tragically died in an accident while holidaying in Cuba.

George Bolam, one of the region's most popular butchers has spoken of his heartbreak after his wife died in an accident while the couple were on holiday. Mr Bolam, who owns George Bolam Foods in Sedgefield, was holidaying in Cuba with his wife Beatrice, 67, when she fell on boat steps leading to a lower deck.

Mrs Bolam spent three days in a coma before she passed away with her family at her

bedside on Sunday, March 22nd.

Mr Bolam paid tribute to his late wife, saying: "Beatrice was not only my wife but my best friend too.

"We started George Bolam Foods together back in 1968 in Ferryhill Station and she has been constantly at my side helping to make the business what it is today.

"Everyone, our sons, daughter, and grandchildren are totally shocked by what has happened.

"She played a massive part in all of our lives and leaves a big void in our lives."

Mrs Bolam leaves two sons, Andrew and David and one daughter, Elizabeth.

Mr Bolam said the family plans to continue running the business in Mrs Bolam's memory.

"This is a place where Beatrice's memory will live on," he said.

"I would like to thank all of our friends and customers for their kind words and sympathy at a very sad time for our family."

Enter CIC

From page 1

said that it had been a phenomenal event made extra special by the dedication and hard work of Enter's young people.

"Our staff and volunteers aim to bring out the best in young people and those who performed in the Cathedral were a credit to

us, their families and their community. We could not be more proud," he said.

At the end of both performances the cast received lengthy standing ovations and Mrs Sue Snowden, Lord Lieutenant of County Durham gave an inspirational speech recognising the incredible achievement of Enter's young people.

Inquest opens into motorcyclist's death

The inquest into the death of a motorcyclist who died on the A66 last week has been opened by Coroner Andrew Tweddle at Crook Coroners Court.

The motorcyclist, who was killed on April 6th after his BMW motorbike collided with a Toyota Hilux at Stainmore, near Spital Park Farm, Bowes, was named as Charles Rayner, 62, a construction manager from Bishop Middleham.

Mr Rayner, who suffered multiple traumatic injuries,

was pronounced dead at the scene. He was identified by his wife, Christine Rayner.

The driver of the other vehicle, a 20 year-old man from Bowes and his two passengers, a 48-year-old man from Whitby and a 15-year-old boy from Barnard Castle, were uninjured.

The inquest was immediately postponed by the coroner until Monday, 29th June, to allow police to complete their investigation.

Surtees Doorstep Green Easter Egg Hunt



After the Easter Egg hunt, the children were entertained by Pat's Puppets.

"The Ferryhill 2000 Committee, Ferryhill Town Council and the Friends of the Surtees Doorstep Green Community Group would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who attended the Surtees Easter Egg Event which took place on Wednesday 1st April," said a spokesperson for the Town Council, adding that, "Due to inclement weather the event was moved from Surtees Doorstep Green to the Royal British Legion Club who kindly allowed us to use the club to enable the event to continue.

"Over 50 children attended

Postponed surgery

Due to the regulations governing elections, the councillor surgery planned by Cllr Joe Makepeace for April has been postponed. "The surgery will be held in

May as usual, with the date and time to be advertised in the Chapter," said Mr Makepeace. "Please come along to discuss any issues you may have," he added.

Next Chamber of Commerce meeting

The next meeting of the Ferryhill Chamber of Commerce will take place on Monday 20th April at 5.30pm in Ferryhill Town Hall.

All local traders are invited to attend the meeting to bring forward any items for discussion.

"All ideas and comments

will be most welcome," said a spokesperson.

It is hoped as many local traders as possible will attend the meeting and support this initiative.

For further information about the Ferryhill Chamber of Commerce contact the Town Hall office on 01740 652157.

Easter at Tenlands Care Home



Left to right: Richard McQuillan (Co-op Funeralcare Director), Nicola Howarth (Tenlands Chef), Veronica Booth, Melanie Allen (Kitchen Assistant), Julie McMullen (Co-op Funeralcare) and Edith and Ron Allinson.

On Good Friday, Tenlands Care Home held an Easter Bonnet and Easter Egg competition.

Tenlands Activity Coordinator, Bev Poulson, said, "We had some great entries from our residents and visitors to the home."

"Our Easter Bonnet competition was won by Marjorie

Daley and second prize went to Nevaeh Poulson.

"The Easter Egg competition was won by Alan Nelson and second prize went to Caleb Wilkinson."

"All of our winners received Easter Eggs as prizes."

"Thank you to all those who donated prizes and bought tickets for our

raffle, which raised £107 for our residents' fund."

"A big thank you also to Coop Funeralcare who, once again, donated hot cross buns for our residents."

"Finally, we would like to thank everybody involved for their continuing support."

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Poetry Corner

One man's meat is another man's poison (dedicated to my dearest friend)

By Velma Dixon, Ferryhill

I like this and you like that
You like your head bare, I wear a hat
I like classical, blues and jazz,
You like middle of the road and razzmatazz
'One man's meat is another man's poison'

I like mismatch, you like neat
You like savoury, I like sweet
I like museums and places out of reach
You like the sun and lazing on the beach
'One man's meat is another man's poison'

I like dull and other strange things
You like bling and diamond rings
I like reading thrillers and chillers
You don't like reading about villains and killers
'One man's meat is another man's poison'

We are so different you and I
But the greatest of friends, none can deny
If we all liked the same how boring it'd be
I'm glad that you're you and glad that I'm me.

Benefit cuts leave ill man with no money



Arron Smailes says he has been forced to live without money after being declared fit to work.

A Ferryhill man who suffers from the debilitating illness, Ankylosing spondylitis has been left without any money after he was told he was fit to work by his local job centre.

Arron Smailes, 28, of Surtees Terrace is often so ill that he cannot get out of bed. He was forced to give up his job as a night porter at the Eden Arms Hotel in Rushyford in November due to the illness.

Ankylosing spondylitis is an inflammatory condition that affects the joints in the spine.

As the inflammation settles, calcium is laid down where the ligaments attach to the bones that make up the spine. This reduces the flexibility of the back and causes new bone to grow at the sides of the vertebrae. Eventually the individual bones of the spine may fuse together.

Mr Smailes, who had claimed employment and support allowance since being forced to leave work, was asked to attend a medical assessment by the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP).

The DWP decided he was fit to work and stopped his benefit in March telling him he should claim Jobseeker's Allowance instead.

However, Mr Smailes has not claimed the benefit as he claims doing so would mean he would have to attend job interviews which he says his illness will not allow him to do.

He said: "I was diagnosed two years ago and I take strong tablets, like Tramadol, for it and I have an injection once a month. "The right hand side of my body swells up like the Elephant Man. I have worked all of my life but I had to leave the Eden Arms due to medical grounds last November.

"The assessors do not see me day to day and sometimes I don't get out of the house. I'll have this for the rest of my life.

"How do they expect me to go to work when some days I can't get out of bed. It's an absolute joke."

Mr Smailes is consulting with the Citizen's Advice Bureau about the ruling, which he plans to appeal.

A DWP spokeswoman said additional information could be submitted at appeal.

"Anyone has the right to appeal," she said, adding that, "A decision on whether someone is well enough to work is taken following a thorough independent assessment, and after consideration of all the supporting medical evidence."

PACT MEETINGS

Police & Communities Together

Bishop Middleham & Cornforth Ward

Thursday 7th May, 2pm, Cross Keys, Bishop Middleham

Previous issues - Evidence of poaching taking place at the Nature Reserve at Bishop Middleham. Youths gathering at Elvet Close & Maughan Close, throwing items and causing a nuisance to elderly residents.

Broom & Ferryhill Station Ward

Wednesday 6th May, 6pm, Ferryhill Town Hall

Letters

Have your say...

Dear Editor,

I was devastated to hear that the latest money making scheme from Durham County Council involves removing all road lighting between Durham and Chilton on the A167.

Strangely enough, the street lighting in the grounds of County Hall remains untouched. Even the car park is well lit.

The only hope we all have is that the contract for this work is awarded to the same company who completed the Thinford roundabout.

That way we can look forward to light for many years to come.

Yours sincerely,
Jane Makepeace,
Ferryhill.

Dear Editor,

As a dog owner and lover I have concerns about people still not picking up after their dogs have fouled.

One such place where dogs have been taken by their owners to play or poo is the children's play area at the bottom of Wood Lane on the left overlooking the Nature Reserve. This caged play area is for children only.

When you enter The Carrs Nature Reserve there is loads of dog poo left on the path and grass for about 50 yards. It is absolutely disgusting. Please pick up, this area is popular with families with wheelchairs and small children walking.

Also the path and grass leading to Cleves Cross School on the bungalows side has been fouled with poo left yards from the small gate where they all enter with their young children.

I noticed the new signs put on lamp posts close to the school so I hope they read them.

Yours sincerely,
By email,
name supplied.

Dear Editor,

Can I thank the whole cast of Enter CIC for an outstanding performance of Jesus Christ Superstar at the superb setting of the magnificent Durham Cathedral.

Andrea and Paul Flynn and all their staff are providing a range of front line services for our children throughout County Durham. I am so proud they are based in Ferryhill.

The cathedral was packed with bus loads arriving from Ferryhill and neighbouring towns. I've watched our children develop with Enter CIC for several years now and they are a very professional outfit.

Mrs Sue Snowdon, Lord Lieutenant of County Durham was overwhelmed by their performance when she spoke at the end of the show. Mrs Snowdon showered praise on the cast for their hard work and dedication and to Andrea and Paul and their staff for their patience and drive to achieve such a very high standard.

The audience gave them a standing ovation. Well done everyone, you were great!

Yours sincerely,
Cllr Brian Avery,
Durham County Council.

Council passes lighting amendment



Durham County Council are proposing to remove lighting from the A167, which residents claim will endanger lives.

An amendment to a proposed motion calling upon "Durham County Council to release sufficient funding to retain lighting on the A167" has been passed by the Mayor's casting vote at the latest meeting of Ferryhill Town Council on Wednesday 15th April.

The amendment instead added the condition that "If this is not possible then in the event of any serious or fatal accidents on the unlit stretches [Durham County Council] takes full responsibility and immediately reinstate the lighting."

The amendment added that "The stretch of the A167 in connection with this is from Thinford to Chilton Roundabout."

Eight Labour members voted in favour of the amendment with eight FAIR members voting against, including the authors of the original motion, councillors Melvin Brown and Brian Gibson.

As there was a tied vote, the Mayor, Pauline Crathorne used her casting vote in favour of the amendment. A vote was not required on the original motion as this was defeated when the amendment was approved.

CHIROPODY

Mr P. Oliver

BSc(Hons) - M.Ch.S

Cooperative Funeralcare donate Easter Eggs



Funeral director Richard McQuillan and FSO Louise Meighan, centre, with staff at the Treetops Children's Ward at the University Hospital of North Durham when they called in with some eggs for the children.

A spokesperson for Cooperative Funeralcare in Parker Terrace, Ferryhill, offered the company's thanks to everyone who kindly donated Easter eggs and gifts to their annual

Easter Egg Appeal.

"All the Easter eggs were distributed just before the day to local organisations for children and adults with special needs," she said.

"Funeralcare also once again did their annual Hot Cross Bun Run on Maundy Thursday to donate buns to care homes in local towns for the residents to enjoy."

Council agree to formation of Ferryhill Youth Council

At the latest meeting of the Ferryhill Town Council, Mayor Pauline Crathorne advised members that she had visited local schools to speak to children about the Council's role in the community, during which

it was identified that the school children would like to form a Youth Council. Members agreed by vote to the formation of a Ferryhill Youth Council, including agreement on the time-scale for its formation and

to an annual budget for the Youth Council of £400. The Mayor advised that talks were currently at a first stage and that all youth groups would be contacted regarding the proposal.

Parkinson's UK fundraiser

Olly Murs and Michael Buble impersonators will be among the performers on Saturday, April 25th, at Mainsforth Community Centre where a fundraising concert will take place to raise funds for Parkinson's UK.

The evening will also feature stand-up comedian, Rudi West and also includes a fully licensed bar.

Parkinson's is a progressive neurological condition for which there is currently no known cure.

The event has been organised by Parkinson's sufferer, Bill Holdsworth, who explained: "I have Parkinson's myself and so have first-hand experience of what it is like to live with the condition."

"The funds I raise will contribute to making a difference to other people living with Parkinson's, and hopefully find better treatments and a cure in the near future."

"I hope everyone will come

along to the tribute evening and have a great night out."

The event has been organised to coincide with Parkinson's Awareness Week which runs from 20th to 26th April.

Mr Holdsworth arranged a similar event last year which raised £1,600. He is hoping to build on the success and is aiming to raise £2,000 this year.

Abby Robinson, North-East regional fundraiser at Parkinson's UK, said: "I'd like to thank Bill for supporting Parkinson's UK for a second year."

"As the UK's Parkinson's support and research charity we're leading the work to find a cure, and we're closer than ever. But our work is dependent on donations."

Tickets for the fundraising evening cost just £5 and are available from Colin's Fish Bar in Ferryhill or by contacting Mr Holdsworth on 07814 965724.

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Cricket club's new season preparations continue



Work continues on the new Mainsforth Cricket Club pavilion with completion expected in mid May.

Mainsforth Cricket Club continued their preparations for the 2015 season with a trip to Feethams for a friendly against Darlington Cricket Club. The captains decided on a 35 over match with Darlington batting first. At the close of their innings Darlington scored 155 runs for the loss of 9 wickets. Recent signing Jon Barnes was the leading wicket taker with figures of 3 for 29, and he received good support from Curtis Bihari (1 for 15) and Martin Lower (2 for 34). The Mainsforth reply was always just behind the

required run rate and their innings closed on a commendable 141 for 7. This was a valuable work out for Mainsforth against a side that were champions of the North Yorkshire South Durham Premier League in 2014. Work is progressing well on the club's new pavilion with completion planned for mid May. The seven week indoor cricket programme at Ferryhill Community Hub has now finished with the season's preparations continuing outdoors at the club ground. Senior net sessions are

held on Tuesday evenings at 6.15pm. Coaching for under 11 and under 13 players takes place on Friday evenings between 4.30 and 6pm, and is followed by U15 and U18s from 6 to 7.45pm. New players are always welcome, particularly for the under 13 age group. The club have re-engaged Muhammad Nawaz as their professional for 2015 and he is due into the country on 21st April. The 2015 season begins on Saturday 25th April with the 2nd XI having a home league game against Crook Town, starting at 1.30pm.

Champion bowlers



Members of Ferryhill Indoor Bowls Club proudly display their silverware as winners of the 2015 Durham & District Inter Club Triples League.

Back row left to right: Norman Grimmer, Jim Maddison, Kevin Weallans, Alf Ridley, Bob Jefferson, Brian Johnstone, Dave Cummings.

Middle row: Ray Laing, John Gleghorn, Harwood Wilson, Barry Wayman.

Front row: Colin Larcombe, George Whittaker, Keith Seymour, Deric Perks, Joe France, Ken Tait (captain).

Celtic clean up in league catch up

Ferryhill Celtic played four games in a week after securing two cup finals. They had chance to focus on the league and to catch up on games with teams around them. They started against the unbeaten Pelton Crown and inflicted their first defeat in the league with a comfortable 3-1 win, Shane Todd (2) and Andrew Agar scoring the goals. Next up was top of the league side Washington and once again Celtic won comfortably 6-0. Andrew Agar (2), Connor Pierson, Jay White, Luke Thompson and Shane Todd all scored. Next up was Framwellgate Club and again the Celtic

were in scintillating form winning 7-1. Jay White (2), Liam Pierson (2), Nathen Lawson (2) and Shane Todd with the Celtic goals. Finally, Celtic entertained Belmont at home and they rounded off a fantastic week of football and results by winning 3-0. Liam Pierson, Luke Thompson and Liam Taylor scored the goals. The results push Celtic into 4th place in the league with several games still in hand. The club have their first cup final this Friday, 17th April at Durham City's ground with kick off at 7:45pm. There is a supporters bus leaving Llewelyns on Friday at 6:15pm.



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