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LEEK SHOW FLOURISHING

by Alan Marron

A local Leek show is flourishing, despite the decline in recent years of interest in the North-Eastern Tradition.

Organisers of the Spennymoor Catholic Club Leek and Flower Show, say they were cheered, not only by the 287 entries that were benched by the allotted time, but by the quality of those entries.

The quantity and quality of the exhibits apparently gave the three judges, Gordon Steele, Vegetables and flowers, and John and Denise Kirkwood, Home produce and handicrafts, a difficult time in deciding the winners.

Pride of place this year went to George Soppitt who won The Ian Carswell Cup for Best Tray of Veg, The Geoff Hunter Bowl for Most Points in Flowers, The Columba Shield for Best in Veg and The Wilf Cave Trophy for Most Points in Show.

Another multiple trophy winner was Theresa



George Soppitt receives The Wilf Cave Trophy from Town Mayor Joan L. Wood at the Spennymoor & District Catholic Club Show (Photo: Alan Marron)

Gregory, who took home with her, The Campion Rose Bowl for Most Points in Home Produce and The D. Conlon Shield for Most Points by a Club Member. Billy Yarrow won The Coia Cup for the Best Stand of Pot Leeks with 177.8cu. inches, and The Worthington Shield for Most Points in Veg went to Fred Walker in a repeat of their success the previous year.

Gordon Hodgson earned

himself the Gunning Cup for Best in Flowers, and John Hayton gained The A. Hughes Shield for Best Leek in Show.

Husband and wife team Don and Mararet Lavery both went home with trophies. Margaret won the Linda Jewitt Memorial Salver for Most Points in Handicrafts and Don matched her with The F. Burnside Salver for Best Fuschia.

A new trophy donated by Councillor John Marr, The Dick Marr Memorial Trophy, was won in its inaugural year by fellow councillor George Tolley with the Best Stand of Chrysanthemums.

Spennymoor's Town Mayor, Councillor Joan L. Wood presented the winners with their prizes, and she was supported by her husband and consort Brian.

'DEAL OR NO DEAL' FOR SPENNYMOOR WOMAN

Maria Valente, a former cafe owner in Spennymoor, got her chance at winning £250,000 in Channel Four's "Deal or No Deal" to be shown on Channel Four on Tuesday 25th September.

The programme, which is hosted by Noel Edmunds, was recorded.

A spokesman for the programme was tightlipped about the outcome of the show.

INTIMIDATION AND DAMAGING PROPERTY LEADS TO SPENNYMOOR 16 YEAR-OLD BEING HIT WITH AN ASBO

A 16 year-old from Spennymoor has been given an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) for a number of reasons including intimidation of people and damaging other people's property.

South Durham Magistrates heard that Thomas John Andrew Kailofer, of Clyde Terrace in Spennymoor, made a habit of hanging around shops - often while he was drinking with friends - where he proceeded to abuse and intimidate both passers-by and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's). Kailofer, it was said, would seek confrontation with members of the public by staring at them and that he often trespassed at Spennymoor Comprehensive School, from which he had been excluded as a schoolboy.



Thomas John Andrew Kailofer

Bench, Christine Selby, said "I think some young people think that having an ASBO is a 'badge of honour' almost. We do not regard it as that - if you breach it, you could go to prison."

Speaking after the Hearing, P.C. Dawn Southern said that the ASBO served as a warning to people who fail to show respect to Police Community Support Officers.

See page 8 for full details of Kailofer's ASBO.

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Sunday 23rd September at 3.30PM

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WARRANT ISSUED FOR SPENNYMOOR MAN'S ARREST

Local Magistrates recently issued a Warrant for the arrest of a Spennymoor man who failed to appear before them to answer a charge of 'assault by beating'. The South Durham Magistrates sitting in the 'Simple, Speedy Summary Justice Court' at Newton Aycliffe, heard Mr, Derek Walton, appearing on behalf of the Crown Prosecution Service, state that 20 year-old Robert Lee Lance, of Atherton Road in Spennymoor, had an offence of 'failing to surrender to bail' already on his record of convictions. The charge which Lance faces is alleged to have arisen out of an incident in Newton Aycliffe at the end of July this year.

"DISCO DYNAMIC"
Disco Dynamic is an event for the under 5's with puppets, party games and dances, to be held at Spennymoor Library on Tuesday 2nd October at 10.00am. Places at the Library are limited and have to be booked by ringing 01388 814694

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IS HISTORY A MYSTERY?

"Family and local history understandably excite the interest and curiosity of countless people," says a spokesperson for the local History Society.

"There can be very few who would not like to know more about their forebears and their locality."

Two experts will be providing a further boost to this fascinating study at the next meeting of Tudhoe and Spennymoor Local History Society.

John Banham of Durham County Local History Society (www.durhamweb.org.uk/dclhs) and Paul Beel, compiler of the Picture Spennymoor website (www.picturespennymoor.co.uk) will be talking about the fund of family and local history to be found on the Internet.

They will show that there is much more available than just census and birth, deaths and marriage information. The National Archives

website alone has a wealth of information on other areas of history - particularly military history.

They will also go into the subject of publishing history on the Internet and sharing information with people of similar interests.

The meeting is on Monday September 24th at 7.30pm in St. David's Church Hall, Tudhoe.

"Visitors are always made very welcome" says the spokesperson.

BUSY SUMMER FOR LEISURE CENTRE

Spennymoor Leisure Centre has enjoyed a very busy summer following the redevelopment of the poolside area, and its many activities.

The poolside area was closed for a short period in July to allow for over £70,000 of improvements. This included the upgrade of changing and shower areas, improved pool access for wheelchair users and a music system has been installed along with new play equipment, chairs and tables.

A number of activities have taken place on the dry-side of the centre including a Wii Games programme for ages 8 and over..

Centre manager Paul



Spennymoor Leisure Centre where new improved facilities have been added (Photo: Alan Marron) Bewley, said: "The Wii Games programme has been very popular and a great way for people to meet up, make new friends and practice their gaming skills. Following the success over the summer holidays, we're looking to develop weekly sessions at the Centre in the near future.", he said. For information about any of the facilities and

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Spennymoor has received a number of interesting "Letters to the Editor" recently, but alas, the writers didn't add their names and addresses!

We regret we just aren't allowed to publish anonymous letters or other similar contributions and they have, unfortunately,

had to go in the bin. That is such a shame after all the effort taken to write them.

Please, when writing to the paper, especially by email, don't forget to include your name and address which we will always withhold from publication on request. Contributors of news stories and accounts of local activities are also asked to include a phone number in case we have to confirm something with the writer.

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RETURN TO SCHOOL MEANT THE 'OLD SCHOOL'

Children from Byers Green, Newfield and Binchester were forced to return to their old school building on Wednesday 5th September, because a promised new building hadn't been completed on time.

Contractors had hoped to have the new Byers Green school ready for the new term but by last Thursday, work had apparently still only reached the stage of installation of heating ducting.

Children returning to the school had been looking forward to starting in the new building, but had to walk past the fenced off construction site to start their lessons in the old building.



Youngsters returning to School in Byers Green pass their new building which is still a construction site (Photo: Alan Marron)

ARSON AND AGGRAVATED VEHICLE-TAKING CASE SENT TO CROWN COURT

Two Spennymoor men and an 18 year-old girl from Bowburn had the case in which they are jointly charged committed to be dealt with at the Crown Court.

Local Magistrates sitting at the Remand Court at Newton Aycliffe committed the matter to be heard at Durham Crown Court on a

date to be determined. The three Defendants in the case are Lee Mason, aged 25, of Baff Street, Spennymoor, Jamie Richard Robinson, aged 21, of Oxclose Crescent, Spennymoor and 18-year-old Stacey Anne Galloway, of Henry Avenue in Bowburn, near Durham. All three face charges of 'aggravated taking of a

motor vehicle without the consent of the owner' and 'arson', with both offences alleged to have been committed in Spennymoor in early May this year. The subject of both charges is a Ford Fiesta motor-car valued at £1500 which the trio are said to have taken and subsequently destroyed by means of fire.

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BANNED DRIVER DENIES CHARGE

A 29 year-old disqualified driver denied being behind the wheel of a car when he appeared before local Magistrates sitting at Bishop Auckland recently.

David Bolton, of Ivy Close in Spennymoor, pleaded 'Not Guilty' to charges of 'driving whilst disqualified' and 'having no Insurance', the offences allegedly being committed in mid-August this year.

Magistrates set a date for Bolton's trial as the 29th of November, at Darlington Magistrates' Court.

DANCE DATE

Samantha Heron emailed in to say that she has organised a sequence / ballroom dance at Spennymoor Town Hall on Friday 21st September, with music by organist Graeme Scarlett.

Dancing is from 8pm until 11pm and tickets are £4.50 and are available on the door.

LOCAL ARTIST TO EXHIBIT IN LOCAL STORE

Local artist, Eric Thompson is attending a two day charity event on Friday 14th and Saturday 15th September in Spennymoor's Asda Supermarket.

He will have lots of local scenes on display from Spennymoor and the surrounding areas and there will also be a large Giclee Limited Edition Print being raffled in the store to raise funds for the Cancer Research Charity they are supporting.

Eric's website is

www.ukwatercolours.com where all of the artists work can be viewed.

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Spennymoor Saturday 15th September 2007

“DESTINY” AT THE HALF MOON

X-Factor pop idol Shayne Ward's old band 'Destiny' will be singing 'live' in aid of The Great North Air Ambulance in the 'Half Moon Inn' Spennymoor on Saturday 15th September 2007.

There will also be an

exclusive CD sale which will never be repeated in the shops.

The day will begin with a morning tabletop sale, raffles and Tambola, from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. (Please feel free to bring anything along and add to

the cause.)

'Destiny' will appear live at the popular pub in the evening.

Tickets cost £3 and there will be a cheque presentation of all proceeds by Joan Wood Town Mayoress at 9.00pm.

OPERATIC BECOME “STAGE AND SONG.”

After over 90 years Spennymoor Amateur Operatic Society has decided to change its name to reflect the true nature of their activities.

This subject of a name change had been brought up on previous occasions, but, it seems, the Society thought it didn't felt right to alter it.

However in 2006 the current committee started to look very hard at the name to see if this could be holding back new members,

especially young people from joining the society.

The society was founded in 1911 when the approach to life and entertainment were much more formalised.

“The development of the English language has meant that the word ‘amateur’ has taken on a totally different meaning to that intended when the society was originally founded,” says a Society spokesperson.

The days of using the word ‘amateur’ as a proud title have gone. It is now used more frequently as one of criticism to imply shoddiness”.

“Similarly, the word ‘operatic’ now seems to imply some form of highbrow, elitist entertainment that does not truly reflect what the group is all about.”

“It was therefore felt that the time was now right for the society to adopt a new name that would truly reflect what we do.”

“This was proposed to the membership of the society at the Annual General Meeting in June, and it was unanimously agreed to change the name of the society to Spennymoor Stage and Song.”

“Our first productions under our new name will be the Pantomime Cinderella from 15th to 19th January 2008 and the musical Annie 15th to 19th April 2008.” If readers would like to be involved at this exciting time of change a warm welcome will be given to new and old members who would like to come and join the talented group of entertainers.

Rehearsals begin Monday 3rd September for Cinderella and Tuesday 4th September for Annie. They are held in Rosa Street Trinity Church from 7.30pm to 9.30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT IN SPENNYMOOR ‘AFFRAY’ CASE

When two Spennymoor men appeared before local Magistrates last week, their case was adjourned until 19th of September when a date for their trial will be arranged.

The two Defendants, 22 year-old Lee Andrew Ellis, of High Street, Spennymoor, and Sheldon Metcalf, of Whitworth Terrace, Spennymoor, both face a charge of ‘affray’.

The offence was said to have been committed in Spennymoor in mid-March this year

Ellis meanwhile has also been charged with ‘causing criminal damage to a window, window blinds, laminate flooring and a television set’, this said to have occurred at the same time as the ‘affray’ and ‘having no Insurance’, alleged to have been committed in Spennymoor’s High Street in May.

SPONSORS WANTED FOR SCHOOL CALENDAR

Tudhoe Grange PTA is hoping to produce a school calendar for 2008 as part of its fund raising activities.

The calendar will have pictures and photographs depicting various aspects of school life.

They are approaching local businesses to ask if

they would like to sponsor the calendar by placing one or more of four £25 advertisements on one of the twelve pages.

Readers who are interested in supporting the PTA in this way, should contact

Tudhoe Grange School on 01388 81500 before Friday 28th September.

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PITTA SALAD & CHEESE	£1.90
POTATO SALAD	£1.35
CAESAR SALAD	£2.99
CLASSIC CAESAR SALAD	£2.99



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 Large (L) for 2-3 and Extra Large (XL) for 3-More.
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27. PESCATORE Prawns, anchovies & tuna	4.19	5.99	7.59	11.99
28. GARLIC PIZZA BASE V	2.29	3.29	4.09	6.59
29. VEGGIE HOT Onion, garlic, jalapeno peppers. V HOT	3.79	5.39	6.79	10.79
30. VEGETARIAN Onions, green pepper, sweet corn & mushrooms. V	4.59	6.59	8.39	13.19
31. CALZONE (folded pizza) Ham, mushrooms, salami & green pepper	N/A	4.79	N/A	N/A
32. CALPOLLO (folded pizza) Spicy chicken & mushrooms	N/A	4.79	N/A	N/A
33. CALDONNER (folded pizza) Donner Meat & onions	N/A	4.79	N/A	N/A
34. DOUBLE DECKER (folded pizza) ham, mushrooms, bolognese & garlic	N/A	6.49	N/A	N/A
35. CLASSIC SPECIAL Chef selections of lots of different toppings	4.99	6.99	8.99	14.99
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WHAT'S ON IN SPENNYMOOR AND DISTRICT

CHRISTIAN AID TEA TIME

'The Knit and Knatter' along on Wednesday 19th group at Trinity Methodist Church, are hosting a "Christian Aid Tea Time" to help people in the world's poorest communities work their way out of poverty. Christian Aid is inviting people all over the world to take part in the Tea Time "Readers are invited to go

BRASS BAND CONCERT

"Nevilles Cross Friends in aid of Cancer Research UK" present Fishburn Brass Band in concert on Saturday 6th October at Spennymoor Town Hall. Tickets are available, priced £5.00 by ringing (01388) 817589 or (0191) 384 4731 or readers can pay at the door, which will be open at 7.00 pm in plenty of time for the 7.30 start. There will be a complementary raffle and the licensed bar will be open.

CHILDREN WELCOME

Children are welcome at the Explorers in Tudhoe Village on Sunday mornings in a Christian Environment for children of school age and upwards in St. David's Church Hall from 10.15am until 11.30pm.

For information readers should call Marie on 01388 813881, or just pop along and see what's on offer. A snack is provided and there is no charge.

CARD CAKE AND COFFEE MORNING

St Paul's Mothers Union are holding a 'Deanery' Card, Cake and Coffee Morning in the Church Hall on September 29th from 10.00am until noon. All readers are welcome to attend.

COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM

On Wednesday, 26th September, Middlestone Moor Community Centre will hold their AGM at the centre in Albion Street. The meeting will open at 5.30pm and committee members say, 'anyone wishing to attend will be most welcome'.

BOOT FAYRE

Kirk Merrington Community Centre will be holding a Boot Fayre on Saturday 29th September from 11.00am until 4.00pm. The event will be held indoors if the weather turns bad and they ask stall holders to arrive by 9.30am to allow setting up time. Anyone wishing to book a table (cost £5.00) is asked to phone Diane on 0785 637 1839. There's a free cuppa 'n' biscuit to anyone producing this item from Spennynews.

COUNTRY FAIR

There will be something for everyone at the 7th annual Country Fair organised by the British Red Cross at Whitworth Hall Country Park on this Sunday, 16th September.

A large marquee will house a wide selection of stalls selling products as diverse as Jams to Rocking Horses, Mustards to Cosmetics and Knitwear to Jewellery.

Also in the marquee will be entries from local primary schools in Art and handwriting competitions. Elsewhere visitors will be entertained by Spennymoor Youth Band and a group of Northumbrian Pipers.

Cycles and garden ornaments will also be on sale and there will be a display of Nissan Vehicles. There will also be face-painting for the children, ice cream and a "Guess the name of the Teddy Bear". For an extra donation, visitors will be able to pick fruit in the walled garden.

The Fair is open to the public from noon to 5.00pm and admission is just £2.00, adults, £1.50 senior citizens and entry is free for accompanied children under 12. Further details are available on 0191 375 0192.

FREE PUBLICITY

If your group has an event which requires publicity, pop the details into our Spennymoor Office (inside BLP Property Services Limited) just across the street from the Town Hall, or email us at Spennynews@talk21.com, or use the contact form on our web site www.spennynews.com. Offer subject to availability of space. Non-commercial events only please.

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CIVIC SERVICE

On Sunday 30th September the Spennymoor Town Mayor, Councillor Joan L. Wood extends a cordial invitation for members of the public to join her and members of Spennymoor Town Council at St. Paul's Church at 3.00pm for the Annual Civic Service.

The United Churches service will be conducted by The Rev. Lynda Gough, the Vicar of St. Paul's.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

I intend to live forever, and so far, so good - Anon.

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£89,950

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- Externally there is a low maintenance gravelled and paved garden to the rear, to the front is a Driveway providing off street parking.

CHILTON

NEW



Meadow Dale

£164,950

- Three bedroomed extended Detached House with UPVC DG and GCH.
- Entrance porch, Lounge, Dining room, Fitted Kitchen, downstairs WC.
- Three well proportioned bedrooms, family bathroom/WC.
- Externally there is a landscaped garden to the rear, to the front a planted garden, Driveway, Single Integral Garage.

NO UPWARD CHAIN

SPENNYMOOR

NEW



South View

£144,950

- Three bedroomed Semi Detached house with UPVC DG and GCH.
- Entrance hallway, Lounge, Dining room, Sun room, Fitted Kitchen.
- Three bedrooms, Family bathroom/WC with Spa Bath.
- Externally there is a good sized garden to the front, to the rear Detached Garage and Off street parking.

BYERS GREEN

NEW



North Street

£123,950

- Three bedroomed End Terrace house with UPVC DG and GCH.
- Entrance hallway, Lounge, Dining room, Fitted Kitchen.
- Three bedrooms, Family Bathroom/WC.
- Externally there is a yard to the rear with Double gates providing access to Garage. To the front a pleasant garden.

SPENNYMOOR

NEW



Mayfields

£145,000

- Extended Detached Three bedroomed house with UPVC DG & GCH.
- Lounge, Separate Dining room, Kitchen, Family room, Bathroom/WC
- Three bedrooms, Family bathroom/WC.
- Externally gardens to the front, side & rear. Garage.

SPENNYMOOR

NEW



Meadow Green

£144,950

- Well presented Three bedroomed Semi Detached House with UPVC DG & GCH.
- Entrance porch, Lounge, Separate Dining room with patio doors leading out onto rear garden, Fitted Kitchen.
- Three bedrooms, master having En-suite facilities, Family bathroom/WC.
- Externally there are gardens to both the front and rear along with Driveway providing off street parking, Integral Single Garage.

SPENNYMOOR



St Andrews Road

£99,750

- Three bedroomed Mid Terrace house with DG and GCH.
- Entrance hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with integral appliances, Rear Lobby, Shower room.
- Three bedrooms & Bathroom/WC.
- Externally there is a garden to the front, to the rear an enclosed paved yard.

SPENNYMOOR



Belle Vue Villas

£134,950

- Three bedroomed Semi Detached property with UPVC DG & GCH.
- Entrance hallway, Lounge/Dining room, Kitchen with built in appliances.
- Three good sized bedrooms, Attic room and family bathroom/WC.
- Externally there are good sized gardens to both front & rear, front with blocked paved driveway leading to Single Garage.

SPENNYMOOR



Derwent Terrace

£339,950

- Four bedroomed Detached Bungalow with UPVC DG & GCH via combi boiler.
- Entrance hallway, Spacious lounge, Stylish refitted Kitchen.
- Four excellent sized bedrooms, Bathroom/WC.
- Externally there are superb sized gardens, off street parking.

SPENNYMOOR



Wansbeck Close

£119,950

- Well presented Two bedroomed Semi Detached house with UPVC DG and GCH.
- Entrance porch, Lounge with patio doors leading to rear garden, Refitted Kitchen.
- Two bedrooms & Bathroom/WC.
- Externally there is a maintained garden to the rear, front is a garden area with Driveway leading to Single Garage.

SPENNYMOOR



Bluebell Drive

£212,000

- Four bedroomed Detached family home with UPVC DG, GCH and SAS.
- Entrance hall, Downstairs WC, Lounge, Dining room, Good sized Kitchen.
- Four bedrooms, master with en-suite, 2&3 share Jack & Jill en-suite shower, family bathroom/WC.
- Externally to the front is gardens, Double driveway leading to Integral Garage, Garden to the rear.

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- Externally there are front & rear gardens, Single Detached Garage.

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STRING OF PROHIBITIONS TO YOUNGSTER'S ASBO

A sixteen year old, who has been made subject to an antisocial behaviour order has been prohibited from a number of activities in order to protect people in the area.

Magistrates sitting at Newton Aycliffe have prohibited 16-year old John Thomas Andrew Kailofer, of Clyde Terrace, Spennymoor from

*Harassing, intimidating, assaulting, threatening or

abusing any person;

*Damaging or interfering with the property of others except with their permission; *Consuming or possessing alcohol in a public place and being disorderly at the same time;

*Being in the company of three friends in any public or open space in either Spennymoor or Middlestone Moor;

*Entering, or being within ten yards of, the Co-operative Supermarket in Oxford Road;

*Entering the premises, including any part of the grounds, of Spennymoor Comprehensive School; *Encouraging others to commit any act prohibited by the Order.

A breach of the order is a criminal offence and can lead to a term of imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine,

or both.

When the youngster appeared in Court recently, he was represented by Mr. Lawrence Petterson.

He said that the teenager did not admit to all of the allegations, however, he added, "he does accept that much of his behaviour is 'out of order'".

Mr. Petterson went on to state that a number of the offences which had been committed by Kailofer had resulted from him being encouraged by others, however he did not oppose the imposition of the Order. The ASBO is effective until 2nd September 2009.

Members of the public who wish to report a breach of the order should contact Durham Constabulary on Tel 0845 6060 365 or ring The Anti Social Behaviour Reduction Team on 01388 721351

ARREST WARRANT ISSUED FOR DEFENDANT WHO BROUGHT SICK-NOTE TO COURT THEN LEFT

A Spennymoor man who was scheduled to attend Court to be sentenced, arrived at the South Durham Magistrates' Court in Newton Aycliffe prior to the Courts sitting, handed in a sick-note and then left.

22 year-old Grant Charles Edwards of Heath Road in Middlestone Moor was due to be sentenced for a number of offences to which he had previously entered 'Guilty' pleas.

He was charged with 'failure to comply with a Community Order', 'criminal damage', 'resisting a Police Officer in the execution of his duty' and 'failing to surrender to bail'. The breach of the Community Order, imposed on Edwards at the end of May this year by the South Durham Magistrates, occurred when he failed to attend Probation Service appointments on consecutive weeks in June.

The remaining three offences were committed in early July in Spennymoor. Edwards had admitted the charges at a previous hearing and Magistrates ordered the Probation Service to prepare a Pre-Sentence Report. Edwards was then granted conditional bail to reappear in Court last week.

Magistrates imposed conditions on the Defendant, ordering him to comply with the Probation Service, attend the appointment with the Probation Service for

the preparation of the Report and to report to the Police when required to do so.

Last week the Court was told that Edwards failed to comply with the Probation Service in the Report's preparation, the consequence being that the Service presented the sitting Magistrates with a "Nil" Report.

Edwards' Solicitor, Mr. Calum Terry, told the Court of the Defendant's appearance earlier in the day to deliver the Sick-Note, stating that he was suffering from depression.

Mr. Terry added that Edwards' had previously informed him that his grandfather was close to death and this was the reason why he failed to keep the appointment with the Probation Service.

Mrs. Marion Waterworth, on behalf of the Probation Service, told the Court that Edwards had an extremely poor record of compliance with the Probation Service, this being the second occasion when it had been necessary to present a "Nil" Report.

Mrs. Waterworth added that Edwards had been given one last chance by the Court - hence the bail conditions - and he still failed to make an appearance for the Report's preparation. The sitting Magistrates, after a momentary deliberation, issued a Warrant for Edwards' arrest.

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Mrs Moore, High Wycombe.

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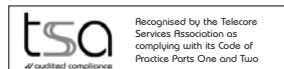
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CHAIR SET ABLAZE IN JAMES STREET

by Alan Marron

The Fire and Rescue Service were called to a fire at the rear of James Street in Spennymoor at lunchtime on Tuesday 4th September.

Three children, the eldest of whom is believed to have been no more than about 8 years old, allegedly set an armchair alight.

Clouds of smoke were clearly visible from the nearby High Street.

The chair, apparently placed towards the closed end of the back street, burned fiercely, leaving a scorched rear wall and partly melting a wheelie bin before fireman arrived and quickly tackled and extinguished the miniature conflagration.

A witness claimed that the



A cloud of smoke is all that remains as a Fireman quickly extinguishes the blazing chair at the rear of James Street. (Photo: Alan Marron)

children had been spotted that morning. hanging about outside Town Local police are Centre shops a little earlier investigating the incident.

NO PLEAS ENTERED IN TYRE-SLASHING SPREE CASE

A Spennymoor 18 year-old, who is no stranger to the South Durham Magistrates sitting at Newton Aycliffe, made another appearance at the Court last week.

This time the appearance was made by means of a videolink from H. M. P. Castington in

Northumberland where he is currently remanded in custody.

Michael David Moore is currently appearing before the Courts in connection with a sizeable number of charges, the offences said to have been committed in April and August of this year.

In chronological order the chargeshe faces are Eleven charges of 'criminal damage to car tyres' as well as 'affray', 'possession of a folding pocket knife with a blade exceeding 3" in a public place', 'criminal damage', 'unlawful and malicious grievous bodily harm', 'assault', 'possession of a knife in a public place' and 'possession of a metal bar in a public place'.

Moore is alleged to have had the folding knife in Spennymoor's Wood Vue and the other knife and metal bar in the town's Tyne Crescent close to his home in Tees Crescent, whilst the 'criminal damage' charge relates to damage caused to a Police Cell at Bishop Auckland Police Station. The eleven offences of tyre-slashing are said to have occurred over two consecutive days in Spennymoor's Tees Crescent.

To date, Moore has yet to enter pleas to the charges and the sitting Magistrates remanded him in custody until the 3rd of October when he will make another appearance at the Newton Aycliffe Court.

OFF TO BURY MARKET

Spennynews is organising a special coach trip to one of the largest markets in England on 24th October.

Further details of the trip to Bury Market, famous for its black puddings, will appear in the next issue

SPENNYMOOR SECURE GROUND AND THE FUTURE'S LOOKING ROSY



Spennymoor in action in the FA Cup game against Garforth Photo: Andrew Furguson.

Photos of all three goals and match reports are on 'Moors website: www.spennymoorunitedfc.co.uk

Spennymoor Town travelled over to Sunderland Nissan and have reached an agreement with their landlords, Spennymoor Town Council, and have signed a new 25 year lease on the Brewery Field securing their future at a time when the team are riding high.

This weekend the Moor's entertain Brigg Town at Home in the FA Cup and a massive crowd is expected with Moor's having been defeated only this season On Tuesday the side

travelled over to Sunderland Nissan and spent more than half the match playing with ten men after Richie Ward was sent off for a professional foul. Even so, Spennymoor still managed to hold Sunderland Nissan to a 1-1 draw

The result took the current unbeaten run to five games, and gave a huge boost of confidence to the 'Moors players.

Adam Johnson got Spennymoor's equaliser just before half-time.



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Letters to the Editor

This reader was told he couldn't sell his car by parking it on Council property with a 'for sale' sign on it.....

Dear Sir,
 On Tuesday 4th September I decided to privately advertise my car for sale. I put a for sale notice in the window and contact details, then parked the car on the grassed area of Cuthbert Terrace, between Durham Road School and the rear entrance to the school.

This land was recently advertised 'For Sale' by J W Woods on behalf of Sedgfield Borough Council. I parked it at around 10.30am, in full view of traffic passing in both directions.

At 1.30pm I received a call from my wife, who had been accosted by an SBC 'Town Ranger' whilst out for a walk with our two children aged 2 and 1 years respectively. My wife was told to remove the vehicle from the grass as it was illegally parked. After getting a neighbour to look after the children, she removed the car and the Town Ranger drove off.

I immediately rang the council to find out why the vehicle had to be moved. After speaking to three different people I was eventually put through to a man called Colin, allegedly the Town Ranger Team Leader, who, once I had explained the reason for my call stated that 'Council legislation states that nothing can be sold from council land for personal gain'.

He also categorically stated that a 24 hour removal notice would have been issued on the vehicle, and that if the vehicle was returned to the grassed area it would be removed. No notification was given to my wife, and no quotes of this legislation were offered to her by the Town Ranger.

I asked Colin if the vehicle was to be parked on the grass without a 'For Sale' sign in the window, what rights would the Town Ranger have to come and remove it.

He was unable to answer this question!

The thing that really annoys me about this minor incident is that, as a Council Tax Payer I cannot park my (taxed and insured) vehicle near to my home and advertise it for sale for three hours, without SBC

jumping in on the scene. I feel it would be more appropriate if the so called 'Town Ranger Team' did more walking on the towns estates put legislation to some use by having cars parked on pavements (e.g. Grange Estate) issued with a 24 hour removal notice. My wife often has to negotiate her way around these cars and walk onto the roads with the pushchair and my young daughter walking alongside.

A friend who is disabled and uses an electric scooter also has great difficulty using the pavements, which have recently been made accessible for the disabled. If there is no legislation for this then I suggest there should be.

We had travellers illegally camped on the Daisy Field for over seven days, where the council provided portaloos for them, at no doubt expense taken from Council Tax, and I cannot advertise my vehicle for sale near my own home and

within three hours I am hounded by the council. What a joke.

I look forward in anticipation to your comments.

Scott Miller
 Durham Road,
 Spennymoor,

Hmmmmn...

Surely if everyone was allowed to sell their cars by parking them on grassed areas, then wouldn't most of the garages in Town start doing it, rather than paying for forecourts?

Apparently the grass cutters say parked cars make their job impossible whether the cars are for sale or just badly parked.

We look forward to receiving readers comments, but would say that an ad in Spennynews is more likely to sell a car rather than parking it on a public open space! ... Ed.

S CRABTREE

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APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE LICENSING ACT 2003

APPLICANT: Camerons Brewery Limited
 PREMISES: The Railway, 1 Clyde Terrace, Spennymoor, County Durham, DL16 7SE

An application is made to vary the existing premises licence to account for structural alterations to the garage which is to be replaced by a outdoor smoking area. In all other respects the licence is to remain the same. Drawing SJR/07:36 April 2007 accompanies the application.

Anyone wishing to oppose this application must write to the Licensing Department, Sedgfield Borough Council, Council Offices, Green Lane, Spennymoor, County Durham, DL 16 6JQ no later than 3 October 2007. The application can be viewed at that address or at www.sedgfield.gov.uk

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application made pursuant to the Licensing Act 2003. A person guilty of such an offence is liable to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

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'LITTLE CHAPEL' CELEBRATES AND GIVES THANKS

Spennymoor's Little Chapel' in Half Moon Lane has celebrated the completion of £10,000 refurbishment work.

The church held a Thanksgiving Service on Saturday 8th September to celebrate the completion of refurbishment work, made possible by a grant of £10,000 from their circuit. "The work sees the church looking at its beautiful best and sends its members into the future with renewed confidence and vigour," says a spokesperson.

The refurbishment includes a new kitchen, new wall panelling and carpeting in the church and new chairs for worshippers, together

with redecoration.

That included a rainbow mural dedicated to former Minister Walter Wilkinson and painted by Dale Smith, a sixth form art student at Tudhoe Grange School. Members of the Church believe that the work has given the church a new lease of life.

The service was led by Lynne Yarrow, and featured two solos by Mark Oxley. The address was by Eric Southwick of Seaham, a long time friend of the church.

Amongst those attending were Jenny Wilson, aged 87, the long serving organist at the Independent Methodist Church in Clarence Street



Mark Oxley, Lynne Yarrow, Anne Wilkinson, Leeanne Wilkinson and Eric Southwick after the service (Photo: Alan Marron)

and Myra Wilkinson, 84 year old mother of the late Minister, and still an active member of the church

Kids Korner

A five-year-old-girl walked up to her grandfather, tugged on his little finger and asked him, "Granddad can you make a noise like a frog?" "Why, Yes," he answered, "Why do you ask?" She replied, "Mam said when you croak we can all go to Disneyland!!"

community. The church continues to work amongst the needy and homeless in Middlesbrough.

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BARCELONA WELCOMED SCHOOL BANDS

by Alan Marron

Members of Tudhoe Grange School's two bands spent part of their Summer Holidays on tour in Spain. The tour was the 18th in the history of the Bands 18th and it took them to Barcelona, where they treated their continental audiences to a wide variety of music ranging from Big Band classics to contemporary ballads. The reward for their efforts came when the Barcelona Tourist Board requested permission to use the music and footage filmed at their concerts to help publicise the city on



Tudhoe Grange School Bands played for the citizens of Barcelona on their recent tour

their new Barcelona Tourist web site.

The bands were also able to sell copies of their numerous CD's, the latest being 'It Don't Mean A Thing If You Ain't Had That Swing', a double album compilation featuring bands and soloists spanning the bands 25 year history. Copies of the CD's are still available from the school on (01388) 816050.

Adrian Biddulph, founder and Musical Director of the Tudhoe Grange School Bands, said that there was time for band members to take in the beautiful sights of the beautiful city of Barcelona, as well as being able to relax and enjoy some of the theme parks around the city.

With the summer break over, both bands are now busy rehearsing new material for the year that lies ahead.

100TH EDITION

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Letters to the Editor

This correspondent asks why the courts are so soft.

Dear Editor,

Many people will have read about my nephew, David Ward, who was killed whilst travelling to Appleby Fair. This week the man responsible for his death, was given a 12 month sentence, a two year driving ban and his position in the police force is to be reviewed at the end of the sentence.

Every parent will realise the disgust and dismay at the sentence.

Life will start again for the driver, but ours ended the morning he killed my nephew and professed he did not know how it happened.

What a load of rubbish!

In my eyes, my nephews life is being regarded as cheap, or the sentence would have been greater.

What's happening to our justice system because our country is in total chaos with crime.

Can anyone tell me why the courts are so soft?

Mrs. Janice Ardle,

Rock Road, Spennymoor. John Thompson, aged 30, from Sunderland, a Civilian Police worker, admitted causing death by dangerous driving at Carlisle Crown Court.

He drove into the back of one of two caravans at 70 miles an hour on the A66 at Stainmore on 7 June 2006, killing David Ward, aged 40, of Coxhoe and injuring his 15-year-old son, Davie.

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MAYOR WELCOMES NEW MINISTERS

by Alan Marron

Spennymoor's Town Mayor, Cllr Joan Wood joined members of the Methodist congregations to welcome new Ministers to the town recently.

On Sunday 2nd September, a special service was held in Spennymoor Town Hall to welcome the Rev. Michael Pullan and wife Anne, together with Student Minister Janet Preston

The Ministers have been appointed to the Spennymoor circuit on the retirement of the former Minister John Bower.

The service was jointly led by Rev Ann Shepherdson, Superintendent Minister, West Durham Methodist



(l to r) Ann Shepherdson, Janet Preston, Michael Pullan, Graham Carter, Spennymoor's Mayor Joan L. Wood and her husband and consort, Brian. (Photo: Alan Marron)

Circuit and Rev Graham Carter, Chair of the Darlington District.

The Revd Carter is also a past President of the Methodist Conference.

The Revd Carter spoke of his travels not only around the United Kingdom but world wide, and of the Christian outreach work he has witnessed.

Councillor Wood, was accompanied by her husband and consort Brian and they joined church leaders from around the

town in welcoming the new arrivals.

WHO CAN REMEMBER WILLIAM'S REMOVALS?

A Welsh reader, from Caernarfon, has written in asking for readers help in tracing his relatives.

Mr. R Stevens, is trying to trace some of his distant relatives.

"Their name is Williams and they used to run a removals business in Spennymoor," he

writes. "I think they also had a furniture shop in the same town". "I know the removals side of the business was running in the 1950s and 60s and maybe in the 1970s." "I would like to trace any member of the Williams

family." "They originated from Wales and I think the original owner was known as Yanto, or in Welsh, Iento" Readers who can help should contact Mr Stephens by email on stephens@cavour14.freemove.co.uk or on 01286 881989.

Training usually lasts an hour and takes place outdoors in the Summer and indoors in the winter. Each session costs £2.00 and any youngster interested in joining should call 0793 402 6225 for more details.

JOKE OF THE DAY

A goodwhile ago, before the car was developed, two Spennymoor lads were staggering down the Great North Road.

"That's a strange place for a gravestone," said one. "What's the epitaph read?"

The other said "He was 262, his name was Miles and he came from London!"

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YOU'D HAVE BEEN TICKLED PINK TOO!

By Alan Marron

Staff at ASDA are well known for their charity fund-raising, and perhaps their best known annual effort of all is 'Tickled Pink' which has supported Breast Cancer Care with a whopping £16 million over the last ten years. The local store raised £8,050 last year alone and this year, staff at the store

decided to kick off the 2007 campaign with something different – a bra chain! The 400 bras in the chain were all donated by staff and customers of the store, to show that Breast Cancer affects all women, regardless of age, shape or size. Every year 44,000 women (and 350 men) are diagnosed suffering from Breast cancer, which means that nationally one new sufferer is added every 12 minutes throughout the year: more than 850 new sufferers every single day. The Tickled Pink Campaign encourages people to be 'Breast Aware', because early detection is a crucial factor in the successful treatment of the condition.

The two charities supported are Breast Cancer Care, the leading provider of information, practical assistance and emotional support for those affected by Breast Cancer and their families, and The Breast Cancer Campaign, the only charitable group funding independent breast cancer research in the UK. Tickled Pink has helped fund 23 vital research projects and its first Scientific Fellowship, and hopes this year to beat last years record breaking total of £4.2 million pounds. To help fund-raising the store has lots of events planned during the month of September from street parties to sponsored walks. On Saturday 15th September they will be holding a Fund-raising Night at Middlestone Moor Club, featuring ASDA's tribute to 'The Blues Brothers', Abba, and 'Sister Act', as well as entertainment from Take This. Readers who would like to help with fund-raising, or to donate prizes, are asked to contact the store on 01388 420249.



Asda staff and customers stretched this bra chain from the store's doors right through the car park to launch 'Tickled Pink' (Photo: Alan Marron)

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- Two bedroomed Terrace property with UPVC DG, GCH via Combi boiler.
- Entrance Reception Vestibule, Hallway, Lounge with period style fireplace, Modern Beech style fitted Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor Bathroom.
- Two good sized bedrooms & WC.
- Externally there is an enclosed yard with gated access to the rear.

Eden Road

£93,950

SPENNYMOOR

NEW



- Two Bedroomed stone built Terrace property with UPVC DG and GCH.
- Lounge with modern fireplace, Dining room, Fitted galley style Kitchen.
- Two bedrooms and bathroom/WC with corner suite.
- Externally there is an enclosed yard with brick built storage and gated access to rear.

South Street

£82,950

SPENNYMOOR

NEW



- Two bedroomed Link property with UPVC DG and GCH via Combi boiler.
- Entrance porch, Lounge with feature fire surround, Modern fitted Kitchen/Breakfast room.
- Two bedrooms and a shower room/WC with double shower cubicle.
- Externally there is a graveled garden to the front and lawned garden to the rear, Single Garage is located close by.

Witton Drive

£107,950

SPENNYMOOR

NEW



- Well presented Three bedroomed Detached property with UPVC DG GCH via Combi boiler, Cavity Wall Installation.
- Entrance reception hallway, Lounge, Dining room with bow style window, Conservatory, Kitchen/Breakfast room with integrated cooking appliances.
- Three good sized bedrooms, family bathroom/WC with shower.
- Externally there are well cared for gardens to front & rear, Block paved Driveway providing off street parking.

Buttermere

£182,000

CROXDALE

NEW



- Three bedroomed Terrace property with UPVC DG and GCH via Combi boiler.
- Entrance reception hall, Lounge, Oak style fitted Kitchen/Dining room, Rear entrance Lobby, Family bathroom/WC.
- Two double bedrooms and shower room/WC, second floor a further bedroom and separate Study room.
- Externally an attractively designed courtyard with decked seating space and gated access.

Rogerson Terrace

£139,950

TUDHOE

NEW



- Three bedroomed Detached property with UPVC DG and GCH.
- Entrance reception vestibule, Lounge with archway leading to Dining room, Modern Maple & Chrome fitted Kitchen/Breakfast room.
- Three good sized bedrooms, Master bedroom enjoys built in wardrobes & ensuite shower room/WC.
- Externally there are gardens to both the front & rear, Side Driveway, Single integral Garage.

Briony Close

£170,000

SPENNYMOOR

NEW



- Four bedroomed detached property, UPVC DG and GCH via combi boiler.
- Entrance Reception Hall, Lounge & Dining room, Study, modern fitted Kitchen, Cloakroom/WC.
- Four bedrooms, bedroom one with en-suite, bedroom one and two benefit from fitted wardrobes, family bathroom/WC.
- Externally there are gardens to front & rear, Driveway parking and Garage.

Winchester Court

£197,500

SPENNYMOOR

NEW PRICE



- Three bedroomed End terrace property, UPVC DG & GCH via Combi boiler.
- Entrance reception Vestibule, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining room, Fitted Kitchen.
- Two double sized bedrooms, single bedroom, family Bathroom/WC with electric shower, separate WC.
- Externally to the front of the property there is an enclosed forecourt, enclosed yard with gated access to the rear.

Whitworth Terrace

£112,950

SPENNYMOOR

NEW PRICE



- Three bedroomed Link style property with UPVC DG
- Entrance reception porch & Hall, Lounge/Dining room & patio doors leading out into rear garden, Fitted Kitchen.
- Three bedrooms, bedroom one enjoys fitted wardrobes, as does bedroom three, Modern Bathroom/WC with electric shower.
- Externally there is a lawned garden & patio to the rear, block paved Forecourt area to the front. Single garage to the side of the property.

Victoria Gardens

£99,950

SPENNYMOOR

NEW PRICE



- Two bedroomed modern Link style property with UPVC DG and GCH.
- Entrance Reception Vestibule, lounge with French doors leading out onto the rear patio & Garden, Kitchen.
- Two bedrooms and a bathroom/WC.
- To the front of the property externally there is paved driveway parking, generous sized garden to the rear aspect.

Wansbeck Close

£105,000

SPENNYMOOR

NEW PRICE



- Three bedroomed Link style property with UPVC DG and GCH.
- Entrance Reception Hall, Lounge, modern fitted Kitchen/Diner, Rear Porch/Garden room.
- Three bedrooms and Bathroom/WC with Electric shower.
- Externally there are well cared for gardens to the rear aspect, to the front enclosed paved hardstanding provides Off Road Parking.

York Hill Road

£75,000

SPENNYMOOR

NEW PRICE



- Four bedroomed Semi detached property with UPVC DG and GCH.
- Entrance Reception Hall, Lounge with bow style window, Dining room, Conservatory, Kitchen & Breakfast room with integrated appliances, Cloakroom/WC.
- Four bedrooms, two of which enjoy fitted wardrobes, Family bathroom/WC with standing bath, Double shower cubicle.
- Externally there are lawned gardens to front and rear, Double Driveway and larger than average Garage.

Witton Drive

£174,950

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