

# Fast food man may be forced to move from his new pitch

Andrew Hinchcliffe, the fast food man, may be forced to leave his pitch on the car park at the Teesdale Sports Centre.

He believed he would be able to work from there indefinitely, selling burgers, bacon sandwiches, sausages and other hot snacks to the centre's users from his van.

But officials of Teesdale Council have told him he can stay only until the end of this week, and that he must apply formally for consent if he wants to trade after that.

Andrew, whose home is in Startforth Park, told the Mercury he is disgusted by this latest ruling, which came just days after he was told he could park and do business there.

He rang the office of Mr Derek Foster MP to protest, but was told he probably could not interfere with decisions of any local council.

Andrew then rang the office



Andrew Hinchcliffe

of Prime Minister Tony Blair to explain the position, but was referred back to Derek Foster's office.

"I am really fed up about being told I must move," he said. "I was told by one council official that I could park my van there, but that decision has now been overruled by a different official."

"Customers say they are

pleased with the service I give at the sports centre, and if I started a petition I could collect 1,000 signatures right away. It seems crazy that council officials can't make up their minds on a simple little matter like this."

He first parked his £1,500 second hand van in the main Barnard Castle car park. He was told he must move, but he applied to the council for formal permission to do business there, offering to pay a fee.

His request was rejected but before long he was told he could park instead at the sports centre, where his service soon became popular.

He said, "I mean to go through the official channels and seek the permission of councillors to go on providing a service here. I am only trying to make a living and feel I am helping the public."

A report on the controversy is likely to go to council members in the near future.

## People with Plans

Teesdale Council's latest list of planning applications is:

National Polytunnels Ltd., Southside Farm, Boldron, erection of factory extension.

Mr N. Back, 27 Copley Bent, Butterknowle, erection of extension to provide bathroom and lobby.

Mr D. Greenland, 1-2 North Terrace, Gainford, change of use of dwellinghouse to extension of shop and two flats.

G.A. Carter and H. Becker, Norman Richardson House, Foresters and King's Head, Market Place, Middleton, alterations to include disabled lift, cloakrooms and training annexe, and training brewery facility and boiler room.

Mr R. Tookey, South Side Farm, Butterknowle, erection of agricultural building for general storage and livestock housing.

Orange PCS Ltd., land at Keeverstone Grange, Wackerfield, erection of 30 metre telecommunications mast.

Mr G.S. Allinson, Spanham Farm, Barningham, erection of agricultural building for storage and sheep housing.

# Puppets are created - and soon come to life in series of home made plays

A puppet workshop run by tutor Liz Lempen as part of the community based project Artworks was enjoyed at Toft Hill Community Centre on Wednesday.

News of the one day course was circulated to schools and organisations in Teesdale and many children from around the dale turned up to try their hand at making puppets before incorporating their handiwork into a series of playlets.

The course was also open to adults and Mrs Barbara Peters of Middleton was thoroughly enjoying herself when the Mercury called.

"This is wonderful," she said. "It is something I have always fancied doing."

The morning was spent creating puppets, all with an



Lining up with some of the puppets they made are Rose Hughes, Laura MacKenzie and Arthur Carrington



Some more villains were created by Mitchell Greener, Melanie Hudson and Louise Hughes

aquatic theme, to take part in an afternoon mime performance to music. Nathan Greener of Cotherstone was busy making a fierce looking fish which became the villain of the piece, while others were carefully creating eels, an octopus and jellyfish to play the parts of friends, bullies and foes.

Liz Lempen said, "Everyone designed their puppet individually, working in small groups. We looked at all the puppets to see how they could operate before the play was finalised. I am pleased with the result."

## If bid succeeds it can improve life for many in parts of dale

Parts of Teesdale could benefit if a challenge bid put forward for West Durham rural networks succeeds in winning a big grant.

Various projects have been submitted from around the north to the Rural Development Commission for a share of £5 million funding from the government.

The West Durham effort, led by Derwentside Council, is County Durham's contender for this year.

It is based on an extension of broadband telecommunication infrastructures into rural communities. This will underpin delivery of improved services and create new opportunities for investment.

The bid seeks to encourage economic diversity and wealth creation in areas of lower economic success, providing jobs and reversing the decline in rural services by the addition of up to date technology.

A successful bid would enable a 26 strong partnership to help disadvantaged rural communities in a number of ways. Local people could tap into improved banking, education and training facilities, businesses could access the information superhighway and improve supply chain networks, and medical services could upgrade patient care through more efficient systems. All these objectives are designed to improve life in rural areas.



These fierce looking fish and octopus are the bullies created by Robert Hudson, Aiden Gowland and Thomas Moore

## Coffee time to help the boys of Brazil

A coffee morning will be held in the snack bar of the Witham Hall today between 10am and noon. It is being organised by Mrs Ruth Staley of Bluestone Farm, Marwood, along with family and friends.

All the money raised will be sent to her son Adam, who featured in the Mercury two weeks ago. It will help fund his work with street children in Recife, Brazil. He does it through the organisation Youth With a Mission.

The coffee mornings, which are held on the last Wednesday of every month and are proving popular, have raised £600 so far to send three talented boys to a coaching course at a soccer school.

The three are Patricio, Luciano and Cesar. They say the coaching will give them a wonderful new chance in life, and they keep thinking of all the Teesdale people who are assisting them.



Nathan Greener busy on an unusual creation

# The GCSE pass list from 3 schools

## Teesdale School

Teesdale School's GCSE candidates are shown in alphabetical order, with their total of passes between Grades A and G. Dominic Allen 9, Paul Allinson 9, Sophie Andrews 9, Sonya Argyle 9, Julie Atkinson 9, Paul Atkinson 9, Mark Baker 9, David Bell 8, Kevin Bell 7, Christopher Blackwell 9, Katy Blareau 9, Laura Boothby 9, Shirley Bousfield 9, Danielle Bowman 8, Leanda Bracchi 9, Andrew Bradley 9, Kathleen Bradley 9, Claire Bright 8, Thomas Brooks 9, Karen Brown 7, Colleen Brunskill 7, Leigh Brydon 6, Ashley Carter 9;

Natalie-Anne Carter 9, Sheryl Carter 9, Michael Charlton 8, Benjamin Clark 9, Christopher Collin 6, Lisa Colman 9, Amanda Corry 8, Steven Cruickshanks 8, Graham Dale 8, Emma Darke 6, Simon Davis 9, Claire Dobson 9, Samantha Drake 8, Dale Dryden 8, Martin Edwards 9, Daniel Fell 4; Gemma Finn 9; Amanda Folkes 9, Lee Foster 8, Louise Gardner 9, Stephen Garnett 4, Amanda Garton 9, Lecann Gibson 5, Victoria Goodall 8, Kelly Grace 8, Denise Green 8, Gillian Gregory 9, Tina Grey 9, Joanna Hancock 9, Jamie Harrison 8, Paul Harrison 9, Richard Hinton 9, David Humble 9, Emma Hunt 9, John Hunter 9, Colin Hutchinson 9, Lindsay Hutchinson 6, Charles Jeffrey 9, Nicola Johnson 9, David Jones 8, Marie Jones 3, Mark Jones 3; Lindsay Jopling 9, Luke Jordan 9, Matthew Kirtley 9, Alan Kwan 9, Robert Lowes 9, Bradley Makings 8, John Marriott 9, Sarah Mawdsley 9, Rhoda McGarr 9, Marie McKie 9, Louise Metcalfe 9, Colin Middlemas 9, Jeffrey Milner 8, John Mitchell 8, Lindsay Monaghan 9, Rebecca Murdoch 9, Michelle Murrell 9, Trevor Newton 7, Richard Norton 9, Sharon Oates 9, David Parsons 8, Arran Pearce 8;

Alan Petty 10, Mark Pinkney 8, Joanna Platt 9, Shayne Proffitt 1, Victoria Raw 7, Anna Ronham 9, James Richardson 9, Kimberley Richardson 9, Suzanne Richardson 9, Michael Richmond 10, Damien Riley 9, Rebecca Robins 9, Andrew Robinson 5, Martin Robinson 8, Gemma Robson 9, Victoria Robson 5, Mark Rudd 9; Emma Sayer 9, Carl Simpson 9, Helen Smeaton 9, Andrew Smith 9, Louise Smith 6, Sarah Smith 9, Ian Spence 9;

Denise Spooner 10, Anna Stafekis 9, Amanda Stephenson 8, Alan Stoddart 9, Christopher Swainston 5, Darren Tarn 10, Angela Tinkler 9, Darran Tunstall 9, Louise Tyldsley 9, Matthew Vollans 8, Sarah Waldock 8, Matthew Walton 9, Robert Walton 9, Rebecca Watson 9, Leila Whelan 9, Alexandra Whiteford 9, Joanne Wilson 9, James Wood 6, Emma Woodgate 5, Dean Morley 8.

## Barnard Castle School

Apart from Martyn Frampton another success at Barnard Castle School was Matthew Banner of Croft with seven starred As and three As. David

Garget of Richmond gained five starred As and four As while Charlotte Defty of Kirk Merrington had three starred As and seven As.

The school's director of studies Mr Nicholas Wilson said he was very pleased with the number of pupils who had distinguished themselves. "Like the A level candidates, their results reflect the work they have done," he said.

The school's overall percentage of A\*-C grades was 80%.

Other results (A\*-C) were: L.P. Alexander 8, A.W. Alexander 8, R.G. Allinson 4, R.W. Almond 10, R.C. Baucutt 10, R.A. Bell 6, D.A. Beverley 3, M.G. Bolton 10, W. Burushong 1, G. Cammock 9, P.H. Campbell 10, S.P. Carroll 10, K.M.I. Chan 3, A.P.H. Chan 2, M.K.B. Chui 4, C.J. Cook 9, N.J. Cooke, 10, G.R. Copland 9, I.K. Crook 8, O.A. Davies 8, R.P. Ellison 10, J.M. Ewart 9, R.W. Faircloth 6, G.T. Forster 7, S.R. Francis 3, M. Gates 9, M.S. Gill 10, S. Gill 10, A.D. Hankin 9, A.R. Hill 9, B.R. Hobbs 4;

S.J. Hollis 10, S.F. Jones 6, D.S. Kingham 8, A. Kuti 9, A.L. Kwan 1, W.K.D. Lam 4, C.Y. Lau 4, M.J. Lee 8, S.S.L. Lee 10, A.J. Lipinski 7, Y.Y.T. Liu 2, T.D.S. Liu 2, L.R. Manners 9, E.J.W. Morgan 9, J.M. Oliver 5, S.J. Pettler 10, P. Randon Partis 10, T.C. Raw 4, N.J. Rushbrook 9, T.W. Schofield 5, R.W. Shield 7, A.R. Suggitt 8, B. Swayne 8, G.P. Tassell 10, P.M. Taylor 9, T. Triputa 2, S.F. Waddell 1, A.A. White 10, R.J. White 9, G.P. Wilks 7, I.M. Wilson 9, R.F. Winder 5, P.J. Wiper 3, A.D. Wood 10, R.W. Yeadon 9.

## Staindrop Comprehensive

Gavin Allinson 9, Peter Allinson 9, Katherine Anderson 9, John C. Armstrong 8, Paul Armstrong 6, Naomi Barras 10, Stephen Bell 9, Darren Best 9, Michael Black 10, Simon Blakeburn 9, Lianne Bowes 9, Kevin Brown 9, George Bryson 9, Amy Buckland 7, Laura Buckland 6, Chris Burney 10, Adam Butynski 9, Emma Choules 9, David Clark 9, Philip Clarke 9, Nick Collingwood 9, Clare Cotterill 9, Joseph Cox 9, Gary Davison 8, Jill Denham 9, Mark Dent 9, Michael Dodd 10, John Dowd 6, Sarah Dowson 10, Marie Dunn 9, Ryan Evans 8, Peter Fallon 8, Ben Ford 9, Stephen Gibson 10;

Samuel Gill 9, Marc Hall 10, Philip Hanby 9, Andrew Hanson 9, Glyn Heaviside 9, Ian Heddle 10, Alison Hedley 9, Catherine Hewitt 9, Paul Hogg 8, Karen Howe 9, James Jackson 9, Helen Jennings 8, Catherine Jewitt 10, Andrew Johnson 10, Emma Johnson 9, Stephanie Kelly 7, Oliver Kent 10, Margaret Kitch 8, Robert Kirkup 9, Steven Lamey 9, Richard Laws 10, Joanne Lees 10, Craig Longstaff 10, Sarah Longstaff 9, John Lumley 10, Owen Mairs 7, Steven Milner 9; Rachel Morrow 10, Daniel Mumberson 10, John Owen 10, Tony Parkin 7, Claire Parr 9, Martyn Pinkney 9, Simon Place 10, Chris Plimmer 10, Tammy Pounder 9, Donna Price 9, Sarah Proud 9, Samantha Rand

10, Lee Richardson 8, Simon Rolfe 9, Gavin Sams 9, Lee Sams 10, Neil Sams 9, David Scaife 9, Andrew Screen 10, Helen Shevels 9, Gail Slack 9, Beverley Smith 9, Chris Smith 10, Elizabeth J. Smith 6, Helen Smith 9, Kelly Smith 9, Peter Smith 8, Claire Stephenson 9, Ben Stone 10, Melanie Stuart 7, Jonathan Studholme 8, David Sturman 10, Michael Sutton 9, Emma Tenwick 9, David Tenwick 9, Neal Thompson 10, Stuart Thompson 9;

Suzanne Thorne 10, Laurie Turnbull 10, David Turner 10, Richard Vart 9, Sarah Waldron 9, John Walker 9, Andrew Ward 9, Emma Watson 10, Claire Webb 9, James West 10, Mike Wilkinson 10, Sarah Wilkinson 10, Steven Wilmore 10, John-Paul Wilson 9.

## College's results improve again

Bishop Auckland College improved yet again in its GCSE results, moving beyond the national pass rate. A record 67% of this year's GCSE's were graded A to C against a national average of 54%.

One hundred per cent of students achieved success in Italian and Art & Design. In English Language 71% gained an A-C grade, while in sociology 89% gained success. Exam passes in maths, foreign languages, photography and psychology at the college all beat the national pass rate.

Stephen Lambert, curriculum area leader for GCSEs at the college, congratulated everyone on the success.

He said, "We are delighted with this year's results. The college has beaten the national pass rate in many subjects and more students are now doing better than ever."

"Students are to be congratulated on their success. These results show what the college can achieve when the priority is to raise standards and widen participation, and that goal is shared by tutors, students and parents."

He added, "The success of students illustrates the commitment from everyone concerned, and Bishop Auckland College looks forward to even greater success in future."

## Lots of entries in produce show

There have been a large number of entries for Cotherstone flower and vegetable show, which takes place in the village hall this Saturday.

The popular show opens to the public at 2pm, with the presentation of trophies at 4pm. This will be followed by a produce auction, which always attracts eager buyers.

Home made teas will be available during the afternoon. Everyone is welcome to see the excellent selection of flowers, vegetables, home produce and children's sections.

## £153 for lights

Mrs Audrey Docherty, fund organiser for the Middleton Christmas lights appeal, has extended her thanks to Mr and Mrs Fred Bennett for a donation of £153.22, raised during a table top sale. Mr and Mrs Bennett sent their thanks to all who supported the event and everyone who helped organise it.

## Whose dog is it?

A case of failing to keep a dog under proper control against Rachel Mary Peat, 38, of Waterside Cottage, Wycliffe, was adjourned until 3rd September by Teesdale magistrates on Wednesday to establish the dog's ownership.

## Now £50 better off

The winner of Barnard Castle Round Table's 150 Club draw for August, taking a prize of £50, was A. Medd.

## Skipper Donna is voted the best in soccer tourney



Donna Priestley, 15, has returned triumphant from the North Tyneside international football tournament at Whitley Bay where her all girl team played and won five exciting matches.

Donna, of Rochdale Street, Evenwood, who captains Middlesbrough Ladies' Under 16 team, was named player of the tournament, which featured a team from America.

She thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere of the event, in which her skill was commented on by a number of the other players as well as officials.

She has been a leading light in the world of women's soccer since the days when she was a regular member of the school team at Evenwood.

She would love to play football among men at a higher level, but that is not allowed under FA rules.