

Your Shout

THE VIEWS THAT REALLY REFLECT LIFE IN THE NORTH EAST

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INSPIRED: Joanne Stott

JOANNE Stott has opened her first bridal shop in Newcastle in memory of her parents Mary and Johnny. She has called the boutique YAP which stands for You Are Precious, a term used by both her parents as they signed letters to each other during their 60-year marriage. ANGELA UPEX caught up with her.

Who has been your favourite celebrity bride and why?
Sol Campbell's wedding to Fiona Barratt springs to mind. I loved her gown as I do like a sash around the middle with certain ball gowns. I loved Fiona's cathedral veil. It would definitely be my choice if I was getting married now.

What's your best advice for any brides-to-be when it comes to choosing their dress?
One of our questions during consultation with our brides-to-be is: "How do you want your wedding gown to make you feel?" This is the most important question of all! Don't settle for anything less than this feeling.

Do you think your parents would have been proud of you?
I would hope so. I loved them dearly and they brought me and my three brothers up to love each other!

Your dad ran a successful joinery business for many years, what was his best business advice?
He was a go-getter and had passion. The best bit of advice from him was; have integrity and be honest with everyone.

What are the tips for the big day?
Enjoy every minute and go with it.

Are you a romantic?
I'm very romantic and love being romanced. Life is too short not to be - if you love someone tell them.

It's a brave decision to open a new business in the current economic climate, does it worry you?
I worry a little bit. However, I am confident as I have bought in the best couture bridal wear in the world.

Are Georgie brides traditional?
I think Georgie brides are totally traditional. I feel Northern girls tend to stick to what is known with a few outside the box ideas to give a modern twist. Great.

What would be your dream wedding?
It would be a beach with no shoes and a Lea ann Belter wedding gown. I would want everyone I love in my life to be there. The day would be one big celebration of love, life and friendship.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?
I see myself with my wonderful husband and two amazing children learning and enjoying what life throws at us as a family.



Youngsters' guide to home safety

THIS picture was taken after kids from Cullercoats won their way through to the county finals of the first regional Home Safety competition. Four teenage Girl Guides with the 6th Cullercoats Guides volunteered to take part

in the quiz and beat off the challenge of three other teams in a local heat at the Central Library in North Shields. At the time, sisters Jane and Elsie Rigby, both 14, Maxine Oliver, 14 and 13-year-old Phillipa Bull were looking forward to the

county final which was held at Newcastle Civic Centre. Pictured above (left to right) are Elsie Rigby, Maxine Oliver, Vivienne Paterson the Guider, Phillipa Bull and also Jane Rigby.

To buy any of our photos, log on to www.chroniclelive.co.uk/buyaphoto or call (0191) 201 6001

So many reasons to say sorry

HOW interesting to read in the media on Saturday, September 4, 2010 that Tony Blair has admitted in his book that he got something wrong.

Could it be his decision to leave in place the Tories' anti-trade union laws? Could it be his decision to push council housing into the hands of private landlords ... or even his decision to continue with the discredited Tory privatisation of our railways?



Perhaps it was his decision not to give us a referendum on the European constitution (simply renamed The Lisbon Treaty) ... after he promised us he would give us a say?

Might it have been his decision to part-privatise our National Health Service - and mortgage the future of the NHS with PFI hospitals?

Taking our country into an illegal war in Iraq might have been another possibility ... misleading us that there were "weapons of mass destruction" that simply didn't exist?

No, Blair apparently tells us that his biggest regret was to ban people from inflicting unnecessary suffering on wild animals by allowing our MPs to vote to ban hunting wild animals with dogs (a piece of legislation that's full of loopholes anyway). When Blair and his brigade took over the Labour Party they indicated they were taking it on a journey. What journey that was I don't know as we're still waiting to find out.

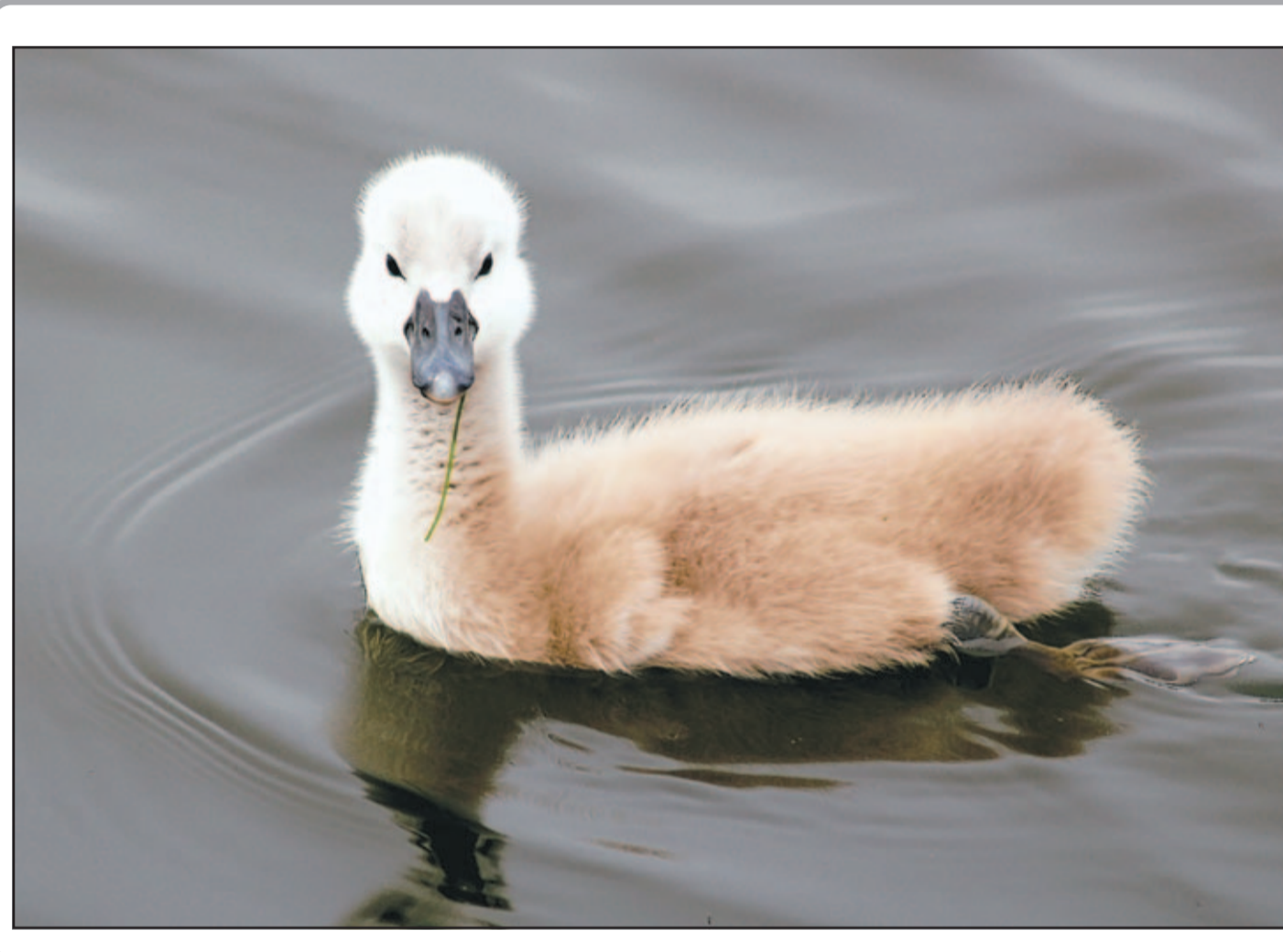
Reading the media articles on Blair's book, even our friends and comrades who stayed with Labour must be shocked, saddened and dismayed about just how far in the wrong direction they have actually travelled.

RICHIE VEITCH, Southbank, Otterburn Villas, Jesmond

Forgetting our vessels

FRIDAY, September 3, was Merchant Navy Day yet many public buildings were not flying the Red Ensign. Why?

Our island nation seems to have forgotten about the Merchant Navy and its important part in bringing food to our table and essential goods to our homes. Ships carry some 92% of our international trade and 24% of internal trade goes by coastal shipping, thus relieving our busy, crowded roads and railways of



Your View

Every day Your Shout publishes photographs taken by our readers in and around the Chronicle area - and we need your help. We're inviting readers to send us images of their favourite places in the area, and every day the best will be featured on this page. To be considered for our Your View, log on to www.chroniclelive.co.uk/readerphotos or post them to Evening Chronicle Reader Pictures, Groat Market, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1ED. Sorry, we cannot return hard copies of photographs.

QUACK: Today's photo is of a cygnet on Killingworth Lake, by Malcolm Straker

POLL OF THE DAY

SHOULD COUNCIL HOME LEASES BE FOR LIFE?

To vote, log on to our website www.chroniclelive.co.uk

YESTERDAY'S POLL

Should the Government put a cap on the number of foreign students granted visas to the UK?

YES 91% NO 9%

freight. The UK population has become sea-blind.

Early signs are that the Defence Review will give us a still smaller Royal Navy, with fewer ships.

This of course will mean that the Navy's important everyday task, in both peacetime and war, of policing the sea lanes, our nation's lifelines, will be harder to carry out.

Admiral Lord Nelson wrote, in 1804: "I consider the protection of our trade the most essential

service that can be performed." We forget those wise words at our peril, for maritime piracy is a reality and not just the stuff of Hollywood.

The lack of interest in flying the Red Ensign is a signal. It should be a wake-up call.

LESTER MAY (Lieutenant-Commander RN), Camden Town, London.

A great city to holiday in

WE are going back to Wales tomorrow after a great holiday in your region. We would just like to give a special mention to Charlie's

restaurant near the Swing Bridge. The food and the service were excellent. As it was early evening there were few people in and we had a great table overlooking the quayside and bridges. The staff couldn't do enough for us and made us feel very welcome. We love the region and will definitely be back. **MR AND MRS C BELLIS, North Wales.**



VENT YOUR SPLEEN
I APPLAUD the brilliant letter from JM on September 3. The only thing he/she omitted was that if you are taken into care all your assets are used to fund your stay. Better still, do not work at all and run your car and take holidays thanks to the benefit scheme. **MAP Denton Burn**

TONY Blair, on the day voting papers are distributed for the Labour leadership, hogs the headlines by releasing his memoirs. Apparently, he consulted Alex Ferguson on whether to sack Gordon Brown, which is par for the course.

Without saying it categorically, he admits that he and Bush failed to see the nightmare scenario which developed when Saddam was found to have no weapons of mass destruction.

On Gordon Brown, he states he knew Brown's leadership would be a disaster for Labour. So what in effect did he achieve except the destruction of a great reforming party and a place in history as the worst ever PM, and that includes Ramsey MacDonald and Neville Chamberlain.

DM, Gateshead

GIVE US A RING ON (0191) 201 6170 AND TELL US WHAT REALLY MAKES YOU ANGRY. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR INITIALS AND WHERE YOU LIVE

Reader's Poem

IT'S ALL BECAUSE

Since I met you
My nights are filled with longing, my days wanting
To meet you again,
Since I met you
I've lived with our first touch, your smile and those Eyes,
Since I met you
The stars and midnight are mine, my nights never Dreamless,
Since I met you the clock has become my enemy
And oddly my friend,
Life has no beginning or end, the telephone is silent,
Since I met you.
Since I met you again
I've learned heartache, pain and jealousy, for you are
With another
Since I lost you
I have learned to wait, hope, and then you telephoned Me,
He's your brother; you want us to meet again soon.
Since we've been together,
Love, life and hope are as one, in harmony, all because
I met you.
GEORGE CARRICK, Cramlington

MY name is John Burns. I am putting together a reunion of a unit I served in during the 1960s. The Unit was called 20 Ordnance Field Park, RAO, based in Detmold, Germany. I am looking for anyone who served there in the 60s and 70s.

I was there from 1966-70. Guys that come to mind are Alan Green, from the Bedlington area; and Mike Armstrong, from the same area, who was on attachment with the Int Corps' Cpl Guthrie and worked in the Officers' Mess. Another guy, Alan Riding, from Lancashire, married a lass from the North East and joined the police in the 70s. He was stationed in the Bedlington and Morpeth area.

The reunion is to be held in Blackpool in September 2011. Up to now, we have 53 rooms booked, with 10 more in the pipeline. I can be contacted on 07876 348638, or by email on johnburns298@googlemail.com

THE South Benwell School reunion this year will be held on Saturday, October 30, at West Denton Fire Station Club, West Denton Way, Newcastle upon Tyne, from 7.30pm.

The reunion is getting better every year and we now have a wide range of ages, from 50 to almost 80-year-olds. If you do wish to come alone, please feel free to bring someone with you. Anyone interested, please contact Yvonne Young (nee MARGARET PATON, 114 Solingen Estate, Blyth, Northumberland. NE24 3ES



REUNITED
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Luscombe) on 267 1420, Lillian Allinson (nee Barclay) by email: sillylily43@btinternet.com or Margaret Walker on 267 5204.

I AM trying to trace descendants of my great-great grandmother James and Margaret Wardle. James was born in Low Fell in 1835 and Margaret, nee Hogg, in Seghill in 1838. In the 1881 census, James was inn keeper of the Black Horse Inn, Kells Lane, Low Fell. Their children were Johan, 1861; Margaret Ann, 1863; my great grandmother Isabella, 1879; Mary Jane 1873; John 1875 and Alice 1878. My grandmother Florence Wardle Dixon was born in the Black Horse in 1894. I have photos with James Wardle's name over the door and photos with William Wardle's name. Can anyone help me trace this family and put names to photos? **MARGARET PATON, 114 Solingen Estate, Blyth, Northumberland. NE24 3ES**