

## **Newcastle football legend helps Newcastle Building Society celebrate grand reopening of Ponteland Branch**

On Friday 11 May at 9am the doors will officially open at the Ponteland branch of Newcastle Building Society, which has been closed since a car crashed into the building on 12 December 2006.

A Welcome Event for existing and new customers from 9am-5pm will be marked by the release of 1,000 balloons at 14:00 from Darras Hall First School, and an opening ceremony at 14:30 by Peter Beardsley, probably the best player to ever pull on a black and white shirt.

Following a full makeover including an extension, the Ponteland branch of Newcastle Building Society (formerly Universal Building Society) reopened for business at the end of April.

To celebrate Friday's official launch, Newcastle Building Society, which merged with the Universal on 31 December 2006, is offering an exclusive 6.5% Regular Saver Account to Ponteland branch customers.

A competition slip for the chance to win a £150 cheque will be attached to the balloons, for which a prize draw will take place on 31 May.

Based on a Springtime theme, sparkling wine, chocolate covered strawberries and a selection of complementary refreshments will be on offer throughout the day. Staff will also be encouraging customers to get into the spirit of the gardening season by giving away a potted strawberry plant.

All Ponteland customers of the former Universal Building Society, as well as local Newcastle Building Society customers and anyone interested in finding out more about the products on offer are invited to the event.

Colin Seccombe, Chief Executive of Newcastle Building Society, said: "I'm delighted to be offering our Ponteland customers a new and improved branch and apologise for any inconvenience since it was closed.

"This is the first time we have officially welcomed our new customers from the Ponteland branch of the Universal since the merger and our staff will be on hand to answer any questions.

"We are encouraging our Ponteland customers and their families, or anyone interested in finding out more about the products we have to offer, to come along on Friday to join in the fun

-ENDS-

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## **About Newcastle Building Society**

Newcastle Building Society is the biggest building society based in the North East and one of the strongest mutual building societies in the country. With assets under management of over £4.4bn we are certainly large enough to cope but small enough to care deeply about the needs of our members. We are committed to providing a range of innovative and attractive investment products and that is why we are offering this mortgage range .

The Newcastle Building Society is committed to remaining mutual and by doing so we feel we are better placed to continue to provide our investors with the quality of service expected from one of the country's strongest building societies.