

## Grassroots sport



Alnwick Castle Picture: STEVE MILLER

Blyth youth club celebrates prestigious Queen's Award

# Proud to be chosen!

A VOLUNTARY group from Blyth has been rewarded for 26 years of voluntary service with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

Blyth Youth Rugby is among 112 organisations around the country to receive the honour, classed as being the equivalent of the MBE for voluntary service.

At a presentation at Alnwick Castle, representatives from the club received a certificate

### Junior rugby

signed by the Queen and an exclusive commemorative crystal.

The club picked up the award for promoting participation in sporting activities for schoolchildren.

Blyth Youth Rugby chairman Max Proud accepted the award on behalf of the club from the Duchess of Northumberland.

Proud said: "It is a great privilege to be recognised for all the work the volunteers have put in over the years.

"My thanks go to everyone connected with the club, as without them we would not be here.

"We hope this work continues for many more years and we can build on our reputation."

A citation read by vice-Lord Lieutenant Captain Ian Moffat, said: "Blyth Youth Rugby is an

outstanding example of an entirely voluntary group working with and for young people.

"The group has operated very successfully for many years and is exceptional in the quality of what it does for young people.

"The enormous contribution which the group makes to youth provision is widely recognised and the positive relationship developed with local schools is singularly impressive.

"Led by a first-class team, and through hard work and dedication, the group's volunteers have developed excellent relationships across the community and have earned both respect and appreciation.

"Blyth Youth Rugby is an exceptional and inspirational example of a successful, dynamic and entirely volunteer-led group dedicated to enhancing the lives of young people through active participation in sport."

## Morpeth boys are in best of form

MORPETH Under-14s put in their best performance so far this season to secure a 43-14 home victory over Tynedale.

The Mitford Road youngsters controlled the match from the kick-off, their strong back-row of Benedict Gosling, Lewis Nicholson and Ewan Kirk particularly dominant.

A charged-down clearance kick on the Tynedale 25-metre line followed by a chase saw