

Sedgefield News

Produced by the Villagers for the Villagers.

Sedgefield Junior Citizen of the Year

The Alan Sowerby Shields, one each for Hardwick and Rectory Row Junior and Infant Schools, were presented by Sarah Norman, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for the Sedgefield Division of Durham Constabulary.

On Wednesday 17th July 2002 the recipient at Hardwick School was Chloe Tate, who headmistress Mrs Coulson acclaimed as the perfect choice for this, the first Alan Sowerby Shield, because of her helpful attitude at school and her thoughtfulness towards

fellow pupils.

On Thursday 18th, Sarah presented the Rectory Row shield to Erine Evans, who according to headmaster Mr Irvine, had been the outstanding choice after a vote amongst the pupils.

As well as the shield, each winner received a certificate and a book as a permanent record of their success. The shield will be engraved with the winners name and hung in the School Hall, for future pupils to emulate and (hopefully) have their names engraved on it in years to come. The shields will be presented



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annually to the pupils who are considered to have been outstanding during their time at the two schools, by Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch, in memory of Alan Sowerby. Alan, before his death earlier this year, had been NHW Chairman for many years and without him the branch would not have been the success it is today.

New £8 million Sedgefield Community Hospital opens

The new Sedgefield Community Hospital has received its first patients! Staff and patients from the old Community Hospital started to move into the new state-of-the-art hospital on Saturday 20th July and by Wednesday 24th all services will have made the move.

The new £8 million 42 bedded hospital, which has been built on the outskirts of the village, replaces the 50 year old dilapidated huts.

The new hospital will provide up to date facilities including:

- 26 elderly care beds
- 16 elderly mental health beds
- two day care units
- a range of outpatient clinics
- other services including physiotherapy, occupational therapy and foot health
- and have innovative lan

scape gardens and secluded courtyards that patients can enjoy.

The modern facility will also have an extended x-ray department with a new ultrasound service.

Councillor Alan Gray, Chairman of Sedgefield Primary Care Trust, who will take over responsibility for managing the new hospital, said: "This is a memorable occasion for the people of Sedgefield and the surrounding villages. Local people have waited a long time for a new hospital, and finally it is here.

"We are very pleased to welcome our first patients to the new Sedgefield Community Hospital.

The PCT would like to thank South Durham Health Care

NHS Trust and Clugstons for all their hard work in helping to build this fantastic new hospital."

Sandy Taylor, Chief Executive of County Durham and Darlington Priority Services NHS Trust, said: "This is a key development for mental health services in the Sedgefield area and we have been looking forward to moving into our new, modern facilities for a long time. This impressive new hospital gives us the opportunity to provide a very high level of care to older people with mental health problems and staff are looking forward to settling in."

Continued on Page 3

Work started on the new hospital in July 2001 and has taken only a year

Caroline Shields, I presume!!

On Saturday, 13th July, 12 intrepid girls flew off from Britain to Malawi, perhaps in the footsteps of David Livingstone, for a month!

Among the girls, from Polam Halt School, Darlington and Teesside Prep School, is Caroline Shields, of Queens Drive, Sedgefield.

This is no ordinary trip. No air conditioning or luxury tours. The Team will sleep in tents, cope with the threat of malaria and poor sanitation; climb the highest mountain in eastern Africa; and help some of the poorest, but friendliest people in the world.

They expect to return changed- more mature, with a greater understanding of their own capabilities, teamwork, and of the world in which we live.

Each girl had to raise a minimum of £3000 to take part, and to buy the necessary clothing and equipment.

Weekends have been spent practicing camp craft and navigation. In February they lived in icy conditions in Derbyshire- not far removed from the climate at the top of the peak they intend to climb!

Their Objectives, to assist in interpretation and trail development in

Lengwe National Park.

- Climb Sapitwa Peak, Mulanje, at 3002m the highest peak in East Africa.
- Work with two primary schools and a wild life club.
- Leave Malawi via Liwonde National Park.

This experience to be challenging, enlightening, and of help to those less fortunate.

(Thanks to Malawi Expedition News for our reproduction) Sedgefield News would like to wish them well in their endeavours!

Famous For Five Minutes



It all began in the car park of the Park Head Hotel at Coundon at 3.00pm on Wednesday 10th July. This was where I had to report for the QUEEN'S JUBILEE BATON RELAY. Uniformly dressed in white shorts and shirts splashed with mauve, blue and yellow, I and the other runners in this sector received our instructions on the baton carrying procedure. Then it was on to

the shuttle -bus in readiness for our run. I appeared to be the oldest, so why do I have to trot up Park Head bank?

A message is received by our driver, the baton is nearing Spennymoor, so it's off we go towards Spennymoor, before turning back and waiting for the baton convoy to reach us. The first of the police escorts arrives, information from our controller is passed on then its away we go. The adrenalin is kicking in now, and the doubts. I am the second runner in this sector, what if I drop the baton? Fall over? The bus reaches the first marker; Adrian goes to wait on the pavement for the baton to arrive. On we go to my yellow marker, a quick good luck and I too am standing on the pavement. A small girl from a nearby house has photo taken with me, further up the road I can see people I recognise, supporting me! The police escort and the media van go

passed, I wave, and Adrian comes running up with the baton. We shake hands; I hold the baton and set off on my 450 yards up the hill, with my escort running by my side.

By now I am even more hyped up as W.I. members and friends shout encouragement, the roundabout is getting closer. Is the hill steeper or am I running out of steam? We slow to a walk but as we get on to the roundabout I have a little trot, after all, the traffic as been stopped for ME. Almost to the end of my run now, more supporters, onlookers and husband, I pick up a little speed, reach the next runner, a ten year old girl, pass on the baton with the words- enjoy it,..... Then I realise how breathless I am.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO MADE MY DAY.

Audrey Flanagan

Your three Borough Councillors

Welcome the chance to give you an update on what we have been doing at the Borough Council. Our new roles since the Annual Meeting are: Linda Byrne, Deputy Mayor, Gloria Wills, Vice Chair of Area 3 Committee, John Robinson, Vice Chair of Scrutiny 1 Committee.

Over the last couple of years funding has been given through the Area 3

Committee 'Tidy Estates Budget' for improvements on Council owned land and the courtyard at Thurlow Grange is now a tranquil haven with a newly designed garden area. Residents at Naylor Road asked for improved access to their bungalows and this has been done. A new project has been suggested for East End so watch out for that.

You are welcome to come to the meeting and give your views; details of dates and times are put in the Post Office, Library etc. As Councillors, we hold monthly surgeries to keep in touch, but if you wish to talk to any of us we are all listed in the 'phone book.

Linda Byrne.

The "GENERAL"

Coffee Mornings

Sylvia Garbutt would like to thank all those who helped her to organise the gathering of the CLAN on Sunday 7th July 2002. Over 300 people turned up from all walks of life, all with one purpose in mind- to lay the "GENERAL" to its final resting place. Although it has been called various names throughout its life, most people remember it as the "GENERAL". The gathering remembered it with affection! There were some vivid memories dusted down! Feel sure that the ghosts of those long past were there to stand shoulder to shoulder with those

mortals still remaining, to enjoy the wake!! R.I.P.

The exhibition of photos, collected on the day, has been shown in Sedgefield Library for 2 weeks, until the 19th July and in Ferryhill Library for a similar period. We hope you enjoyed it!

Finally, a book is being written all about Sedgefield General. If you would be interested in buying a copy (we don't know the price yet) give Sylvia Garbutt a ring on 01740 623179 Mon-Fri after 4p.m

The Coffee mornings in aid of the Parish Hall Development Fund will be open on Friday mornings, as well as Thursday, during the month of August. Open from 9-30a.m. till noon, it is your chance to help to re-develop the Parish Hall.

Within three weeks of the commencement of the Coffee mornings, in June, the grand sum of £186 HAS BEEN RAISED- £155 from the refreshments and £31 from the raffle. Thanks to all our customers!!

So this is what you think!

Those who attended the Development Partnership's open meeting in Ceddesfeld Hall last month heard Chris Cox, the consultant leading the Community Appraisal, give an initial report on the findings of the recent questionnaire survey.

Amongst the key points to emerge were:

We like living here. 96% are very satisfied with the area; we value the location, the friendly community and the amenities. We like the picturesque quality of Sedgefield and we take pride in preserving its identity and environment. However most residents also feel there are issues and concerns that need to be addressed. In particular:-

- Litter and dog fouling
- Traffic and parking
- Disruptive youths (although young people's input to the appraisal is not yet at hand!)
- Lack of leisure facilities

These four issues are felt to be intrusive by residents and contribute to the feeling that Sedgefield is staying the same or is declining.

Residents are keen to see control of speeding traffic, and improved parking, control litter and dog fouling legislation, better environmental maintenance, solutions to the issue of disruptive youths. This is seen more as a need for facilities to divert young people rather than for punitive measures against them. Amongst the facilities we most want is a swimming pool; (indeed wasn't that the conclusion five years ago as well?!)

Other findings are:

- That most households have not recently experienced crime and people feel safe in both inside and outside their homes.
- There is general satisfaction with local services.
- 90% believe the local environment to be attractive

What happens next? Well the questionnaire is only one input to the appraisal. There are two elements yet to be done. One specifically will address young people's issues and the other will look at what people see as important priorities for the future. This will be tackled through a number of discussions in focus groups that will take place over the next month and will involve many people who volunteered to take part when they responded to the questionnaire.

The appraisal will be concluded over the summer and will be a public document. It will be vital for the community, and for all groups and organisations as a record of the community's concerns and issues as well as providing a basis for justifying money for needs and priorities.

New Hospital Continued

to build. The hospital was built under the Government's Private Finance Initiative. South Durham Health Care NHS Trust's partners in the

venture were Normanby Healthcare Projects Ltd, a consortium consisting of Clugstons and the Royal Bank of Scotland plc.

For further information please contact Tina Young, Communications Officer on 0191 333 3382.

Sedgefield Village Crime Watch Panel



Sedgefield Crime Watch Panel

Neighbourhood Watch

(ALL for ONE & ONE for ALL)



Sedgefield

This month's highlight is
KEYS!!

A few weeks ago, the Sunday Post published an article from the Borders & Lothian Police. What it said was that thieves have found a new way to steal cars! They push a stick with a hook on or a fishing rod through letterboxes and "catch" keys!

Well, this is not new this side of the border. Neil Langthorne, our Crime Prevention Officer, has been preaching to us NOT to leave keys, whether **CAR, HOUSE or GARAGE** keys in sight of doors or windows. A lot of people do it! If you are one of these, **PLEASE CHANGE YOUR HABIT- NOW,**

before it's too late. You could be next!!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 6th August, in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall, starting 7p.m. Do try to come along!

We like to welcome newcomers to the village and this is particularly relevant at this time as there are over 40 houses now occupied on the Winterton site. It has been a target for crime over the past months.

We would like to establish a Neighbourhood Watch group in this area to help to eradicate the mini crime wave.

So do come along! Or, if you can't make the meeting, our Chairman, Ken Saiger would be pleased if you

would ring him on **01740 621896**. Thank you!!

It is Sedgefield Show on Saturday 10th August and NHW is having the usual stand. We are having a representative from **Yale Locks** on our stand this year- so if you have a problem or query, please call and talk to him, or to Neil Langthorne, our Crime Prevention Officer (Police)

We are having our usual **Tombola**, so if you have anything to donate as a prize, please ring Ken Saiger 01740 **621896** or David Hillerby 01740 **621343** and we will be happy to collect. Thank You!

P.C. Todd's Column.

In this issue I would like to focus on the role of the Police, as they quietly go about their duties throughout the night.

Most people understand the need to have routine patrols to help catch and frustrate the criminal element, from conducting their nocturnal activities. Sometimes these patrols prove very successful, as was the case a couple of weeks ago.

But firstly I would like to point out that there have been three successful night time vehicle chases through the Village in recent weeks. One, sadly, resulting in the injury of a local Officer (I won't mention his name to save him from any embarrassment). These chases each came to conclusion in the Cleveland area. The incident I would like to focus on

started in the early hours, when two youths were spotted by the Police driving around the streets. They failed to notice the blue light flashing behind them, or the sound of the siren. I must apologise at this point to the people living in Station Road, West End and Rectory Row, as they may have heard the siren as the chase developed. It is necessary at times to use the siren to warn other road users of possible dangers. The chase ended near the Golden Lion PH when their vehicle hit the kerb, spun out of control and came to a halt in the middle of the road. Both youths abandoned the vehicle and ran off. One was caught in the car park of the Golden Lion but the other was able to avoid detention until the Police aircraft was able to locate him in the gardens around The Orchard area. Both youths are now being dealt with

for various traffic/driving offences, including unfit to drive through drugs, and dangerous driving. I have mentioned this incident in some detail in the hope that readers will have some understanding, when you are woken in the middle of the night. We did receive a couple of complaints regarding the noise made by the sirens and police activities, on this occasion.

Generally, Sedgefield has remained a quiet, crime free area, with only isolated incidents of theft from gardens, of tubs and plants. Plus a couple of vehicles having property removed!

Cheerio till next time,

P.C. Keith Todd.

Sedgefield Road Safety Committee

Institute of Advanced Motorists

We now have 10 volunteers to take part in the test drives!

We are waiting to fix a firm date, but the IAM Secretary is on holiday, so will advertise the date by posters around the village as soon as possible.

Ode from Residents of White House Drive

P.S. Would it not be better, for all, if you left the car at home?

If you left the car @ home, the walk would do you good
No parking, don't have to fight for space wherein another stood,
No squeezing in, to blacken down your mood,
 Just take the fresh air and the exercise you should,
 Take advantage of it, for tomorrow maybe too late,
 Perhaps another Store will open opposite YOUR gate!

Dig

Sedgefield Crime figures 9th April to 11th June 2002.

In this latest report there are 28 crimes listed, (a big drop from the last one) but only 13 actually took place in the Village!

Of these, 3 were thefts from gardens; plants & ornaments

5 were damage to vehicles, only 1 of which involved theft (audio cassettes)

1 theft of wallet from unsecured car.

3 broken windows; one in the Surgery, a shop in Front Street and a greenhouse in East Parade.

There was also theft (bilking) of

SAFETY FIRST!

PLEASE remember that White House Drive, Sedgefield is a residential area- we live here, our children play here.

PLEASE also remember to park SAFELY and be prepared to walk a little further to be safer!

PLEASE DO NOT use White House Drive for u-turns, or as a short cut!

PLEASE DO NOT obstruct footpaths!

PLEASE DO NOT park across driveways!

PLEASE DO drive SLOWLY!

PLEASE DO NOT park on yellow lines!

Thank you! From the residents of White House Drive, Sedgefield.

(Endorsed by Bells STORES.

Speeding in the Village.

It is planned for Community Force, in conjunction with the Police, to continue speed checks- so take care, it may not be just a speed indicator, it maybe for real.

Did you watch Good Driving on BBC2 last week?

The Thames Valley Police did a speed check. In a 30mph zone anyone checked at over 40 mph were fined on the spot. Anyone travelling between 35 and 39mph had the chance to accept a £60 fine and 3 points on their licence or trial by Children. Most chose trial by Children! But when faced with some of the questions, such as: - Why do you speed? Did you know you were speeding? They felt rather sheepish. The classic question was "what would you say to my Mam, if you knocked me down? Out of the mouths of babes!!!" The Committee rests its case!

Petrol from North End Garage.

Outside of the Village there was a car broken into on Castle Eden walkway & tax disc stolen

Various thefts and attempted thefts from Winterton site.

A ride-on lawnmower stolen from Sands Hall

A Van, 10 chickens etc. were taken from 3 Farm premises.

5 conifers were stolen from Salters Lane Industrial Estate.

Cash tins taken from the Racecourse and 2 cases of bilking- taking fuel from garages, without payment.

Letters to the Editor



Dear Sir,

Sedgefield Ceddesfeld Hall Pre School Children Celebrate the Golden Jubilee and successful Ofsted Inspection.

As you can see from the photograph the children of Ceddesfeld Hall Pre School took the celebration of the Queen's Golden Jubilee to their hearts, and enacted their own portrayal of the celebrations by making their own crowns and flags, decorating the montage on the wall behind them, and dressing in red, white and blue for the day.

Added to their joy came the news of a very successful Ofsted Inspection which praised the facilities available to the children, the warm, caring atmosphere, and the excellent range of toys and learning methods available.

Group leader, Barbara Hobson, is also pleased to be able to inform parents of prospective future members that children are now eligible to be enrolled to join from the age of two.

Barbara can be contacted on 01740 620 934 to provide more information, and to discuss future enrolments.

Yours Sincerely

Brian Crossan

Dear Editor,
Sedgefield News

On behalf of the village Neighbourhood Watch Panel I wish to record our thanks and our continued support for the production of this very worthwhile "local" publication.

It is through your paper that we have seen an increase in our membership, something we hoped for but did not really expect!

It is through your publication that we know every householder is now able to get the up to date facts in relation to crime and anti social behaviour in our area, as well as how to prevent it happening to them.

We look forward to the continued benefit for our group in having our own village paper,

Yours sincerely,

Joe McKenna

Secretary

Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch Panel

MORDON

The Parish of MORDON stretches from the stands on Sedgefield Racecourse to Preston-Le-Skerne, on the boundary of which is a dismantled railway line. This used to run from Port Clarence on Teesside, to Simpasture (now the town of Newton Aycliffe), where it joined the Stockton and Darlington Railway. Its main use was to transport coal from the West Durham coalfields to Teesside, and in 1914/15 the line was electrified which lasted until the 1930s, when steam trains were re-introduced. By the old railway at High Grindon is the site of a mediaeval village no longer visible. In the winter of 1946/7 floodwater from the River Skerne covered the Carrs (as the low lying land is called), and a local farmer remarked that "You could have rowed a boat to

Mordon", since when the drainage of the carrs has been much improved. An old adage states that "When Roseberry Topping wears a hat; Mordon-Carrs will suffer for that." The village of Mordon is on higher ground and is "an oasis of green raised above the marshy levels." Its name has been suggested to be derived from More-dun or the Moorish Hill (as described by Surtees in 1823.) The size of the Parish is too small for a Parish Council, so we hold a Parish Meeting with an elected Chairman and Clerk to carry out the political business. We consider this to be the most democratic of all meetings, as all parishioners on the electoral roll are allowed to attend, have their say, and vote.

John Parkinson

DM GALE

PLUMBING & HEATING

Est. 1912

100-102, THE STATION

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What's on in August

This page is open to anyone wishing to announce future events

Friend of St. Edmunds Church

Sat 14th Sept @ 7.30

Hartlepool Barbershop Singers.

Tickets £5.00, Conc. £3.00
To include light refreshments.

Tickets from Post Office, Selections, Katies Kitchen also from committee members

Sedgefield & District Agricultural & Horticultural Society

149th Annual Show

Robert Brown Showfield
West Park, Sedgefield
Saturday 10th August

Hartlepool Horticultural Show

Incorporating the North of England Gladioli Show
Borough Hall,
Hartlepool

24th & 25th August 2002

Sedgefield Community Association

Positive Youth Project
Film Nights

Friday 9th August

Jurassic Park 111

Friday 29th August

Monster Inc.

Sedgefield Parish Hall

6.30pm entry £1.50

All ages Welcome

Contact John or Maxine

Robinson on 620042

Neighbourhood Watch Meeting

Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

Tuesday 6th August
7.00pm

Refreshments

Coffee Anyone!

Open each Thursday & Friday

Throughout August

9.30 till noon

Parish Hall

Summer Splash 2002

Playzone

Sedgefield Community College

5th to 16th August

Monday to Friday

10am to 12pm

1.00pm to 3.00pm

Free Activities

Registration By an Adult Required

Summer Splash 2002

Active Programme for young people 0-16 years

www.splashactive.info

Sedgefield Borough Leisure Services

Tel: 01388 816166

Summer Sports Free Coaching Available.

Under 8's must be accompanied by an adult booking essential, details from Gary Cooper on 01388 816166 ext. 4336

For more information contact reception at Tel: 01388 816166

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Beef, Sals, Market, Pasty
and the Major
Friday 2nd August
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Sunday 18th August
8.30 Arrivals in our
Marquee
Dinner 11.15

10th 11pm
Sunday 18th August
8.30pm to 11.30pm
Tickets £9.00 including
Soup and Sandwiches

Sedgefield First Responders



First Responders work in partnership with the North East Ambulance Service, providing a rapid response to 999 calls where the casualty is unconscious or suffering chest pain, stroke, diabetic coma, etc. within the area of Sedgefield, Fishburn, Bishop Middleham, Bradbury and Mordon. They do not in any way take the place of the ambulance crew, but provide first-on-scene cover whenever possible.

The responders are all volunteers, most of whom had no experience. They are trained in the use of the Heart Defibrillator and in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation, and the each now has a full first aid certificate. There are two active trainers, Mrs Mary Osel-Cassidy and Mr Mark Stewart, who provide training on a fortnightly basis. All volunteers must re-qualify every 90 days to ensure a high level of competency.

The First Responders team was

launched in October 2001 and is now looking for more volunteers so that they can meet their aim of providing 24 hour cover by the end of this year. If you would like to serve your community in this worthwhile way and can spare a little of your time, they would love to hear from you. As a volunteer you will be expected to attend regular (friendly) training sessions and will receive a certificate from NEAS after assessment at the end of the required training. After that you can put in as much or as little time as you are able; the more volunteers, the less time on call for everyone in the group. You will never be expected to attend a call alone, as the group always works in teams of two.

**For more information contact:-
Mrs Mary Osel-Cassidy
on 01740 621956**

WAS IT RICHARD WOODS OR JOSEPH SPENCE?

At the last meeting of the Friends of Hardwick in the Hardwick Hall Hotel, Nick Owen who is a Historical Landscape Architect came up with the theory that the Pleasure Gardens in Hardwick Park may have been designed by either Richard Woods or Joseph Spence. Many of the features of the Park bear remarkable similarities to those in other gardens. Woods was responsible for laying out the gardens at Harewood House and Spence was responsible for the park at Auckland Castle. The decision from Heritage Lottery on the bid for a £4.4m grant is expected before the end of July. Forestry work should be started this autumn and major landscape restoration next spring.

John Fitzpatrick
Friends of Hardwick

DIANE CARR
B.Sc. (Hons) S.P.C.M., M.Ch.S.
STATE REGISTERED CHIROPODIST



Telephone
01740 620787

Home Visits - Mobile: 01762 733043

From the Editor,

Thanks to your support, the news letter continues and we are finding it easy to fill eight pages.

Please keep the news and information coming.

Articles and information on forthcoming events to:-

sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

or

The Editor,
Sedgefield News
The Advice and Information Centre.
Front Street.
Sedgefield.
TS21 3AS
Tel: 01740 629011

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