

# Sedgefield News

*Produced by the Villagers for the Villagers.*



This year the sun shone for the Annual Tub Planting on the village green.

Helped by the Mayor and Mayoress of Sedgefield, Coun Ian Sutherland and his wife Sheila, both of whom are keen gardeners.

The children, Daniel Lumsdon, Charlotte Scurr & Lee Mason, from Sunshine Corner are introduced to

growing plants.

Mary Osel-Cassidy said "We are really keen that the smallest children take an active part in village life".

On a slightly more serious note we are appealing to all dog owners to request they ensure their dogs do not foul our paths, and greens. In particular, those areas around the flower tubs.



Issue 3. July 2002

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## Sedgefield in Bloom

Summer judging for the 'Northumbria in Bloom' competition will take place on the morning of Wednesday, 10 July

We hope that everyone will try to make sure that their area of the village looks its best.

Anything you can do to tidy up your area, put out more tubs, flowers etc. even just for the day will be a great help.

## First Aid Skills

If you are interested in First Aid Training, the Development Partnership is organising two short day or evening courses commencing in mid July.

The courses are FREE and will last two hours on consecutive weeks. You can choose day time or evenings or mix and match.

If you would like to join, or find out more details, ring John Carr at the S.D.P office- 01740 629011

## Queen's Jubilee Baton Relay

On Wednesday, 10th July, the Queens Jubilee Baton Relay is in our area en-route to the Commonwealth Games in Manchester. The Baton is being carried by 5000 runners and will visit 500 towns and villages in 50 days before arriving at Manchester for the opening of the Games on the 25th July.

At approximately 4:19 pm on Wednesday July 10th, Audrey

Flanagan will carry the Baton from the BP garage on the A688 near Coundon for 440 yards. The Baton is made of machined aluminium and weighs 1.69kg. The message from the Queen to the Commonwealth Games is held in an aluminium capsule inserted into the top of the Baton.

Inside the Baton, sensors detect the runners pulse rate, these are conveyed to series of Light Emitting

Diodes, thence into a blade of pulsating light. The Baton Relay began it's journey from Buckingham Palace on Commonwealth Day, 11 Mach 2002 and has travelled to 22 Commonwealth Countries before returning to the UK on the 6th June. The Baton carriers are made up of athletes, celebrities, sponsors and a wide cross section of people from all walks of life.



## The Golden Lion Golf Society

The Golden Lion Golf Society was founded in 1989 by a group of enthusiasts who frequented the back room of Billy Cooper's Golden Lion. The society quickly grew from its original Sedgefield nucleus to include members from Newcastle, Sunderland, Spennymoor, Stockton and Knaresborough. The current membership stands at thirty-one. Members compete for the honour of

becoming society champion at seven different outings throughout the North East, between April & October.

With the formation of the Nags Head Golf Society in 1995, a match between the two societies has now become a regular event.

The competition is keen but friendly, and has helped to raise funds for a number of charities.

Mr. Billy Cooper remains as President of the society, and he continues to officiate at the annual presentation evening at the end of the season. The society continues to exist as a thriving, dynamic, organisation, providing both a sporting and social outlet for its members.

- C McGowan, Captain.

## Sedgefield 'General' Reunion

Sylvia Garbutt (nee Gilfellan) is helping to organise a final get-together on Sunday July 7th, of Staff of SEDGEFIELD GENERAL HOSPITAL. Anyone who was employed at the old General or even the Emergency Hospital, and latterly, the Community Hospital, is invited to WARD 4 of the Hospital for one last fling before it closes and moves to the new site at Salters Lane, Sedgefield.

Starting at 2p.m. the party will last till 6. If you would like to come along, please give Sylvia a ring on Sedgefield 01740 623179 - after 4p.m.

If you have any photos, memorabilia,

etc., Sylvia would like to borrow them (and will return same) Thank you!

Opened in 1940 as an Emergency Hospital, it was first used to tend to the evacuated wounded troops from Dunkirk. 62 years later it is still going strong, though looking a little battered. An awful lot of people have been through its doors, so it can now retire with pride, thanks to all the Staff who have worked there. Doctors, Nurses, Radiographers, Physiotherapists, Pharmacists, Clerical Workers, Porters, Maids, Cleaners and Maintenance Staff. The Public salute you!!

## Drugs

Wednesday July 17th.

7p.m. in The Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

Neighbourhood Watch invites you to a DRUGS, ALCOHOL and SOLVENT Awareness Evening

A lively and informative talk by Loraine Joyce, with your opportunity to be involved in the discussion afterwards. Also enjoy the Wine & Cheese party.

## Bradbury

We hope most people know where Bradbury is as we are only two miles west of Sedgefield heading to the A1M.

Bradbury can be traced back to Roman times, but older folk may remember Bradbury Station more clearly.

There are 22 houses in the village and also a Methodist Chapel over 100 years old. We do not have a pub but we have an original Red Phone Box in excellent condition.

Mainly a farming community there are pleasant walks which are clearly marked on the village notice board. So come around sometime.

## Sedgefield Juniors Football Club

Sedgefield Juniors have just completed their 3rd season in the Teesside Junior Football Alliance League, and the team will play at Under 15's level next season in this very competitive league.

If there are any budding Dyers, Philips or Southgates out there who are interested in joining our summer training please contact Mark Cain on Sedgefield 01740 623118. We are also seeking sponsorship to assist

with the purchase of a new kit for the coming season and would be pleased to hear from anyone that may be able to offer any assistance.

Finally Alan Jones, who has guided the team to two promotions in the past three seasons is resigning as Team Manager and all the boys and parents would like to thank Alan for his time and commitment over the last 3 years.



## Sedgefield Juniors Shine on Badminton Debut

**Sedgefield Year 7 and Under Badminton Team** gave a good account of themselves on their debut in a local badminton League.

The team, consisting of **Robbie Hancock, Joseph Donlan, Stephen Rowsby, Rachel Cannings and Jonathan Briggs**, were pitched against clubs from the Darlington

area. With all their matches completed, the team (coached by **John Hall**) look set to finish in a comfortable mid-table position.

Team Manager **Roisin Hancock** commented:

"In most matches, the team were up against opponents who were one or even two years older. All the team are

young enough to play again next season, so we are hoping to do even better".

More information contact:

**Chris Hancock,**  
Tel:01740621143

## Villagers in good voice for stirring song

SEDGEFIELD village celebrated the Queen's Jubilee in fine style with a weekend of activities, starting with a Disco for the young people last Friday evening and then, in the sun drenched Ceddesfeld Hall grounds on Saturday.

It was a wonderful spectacular of music, Proms in the Park- style with the grounds packed with partygoers sporting a wide variety of dress from traditional to the more flamboyant, all expressing their loyalty as they waved their Union flags.

The guests started to arrive about 3.00pm to claim prime spots for the seven-hour concert, and to enjoy the

welcoming glass of champagne with which they acknowledged the loyal toast. This was proposed by the Mayor of Sedgefield Borough, Coun David Newell, who with all other guests was welcomed by Allan Smart, Chairman of Sedgefield Community Association, who paid tribute to the work of the many volunteers who had made the celebrations possible.

He specially paid tribute to Coun Maxine Robinson for her work despite illness.

The balmy weather made for a never-to-be-forgotten evening which ended with a fireworks display and a concluding vote of thanks by the Mayor of Sedgefield Town Coun Ian Sutherland.

The celebrations continued on Sunday with a free cream tea

and musical entertainment in the afternoon for the older residents and then on Monday a family fun day was held with numerous attractions.

The event was organised by the Community Association supported by Sedgefield Town and Borough Councils, and Awards for All.

One of the most memorable parts of Saturday's entertainment was the singing of "Land of Hope and Glory" by the party goers who were in such full voice that it could be heard outside the grounds through out the village and even, it was claimed, by residents in nearby Fishburn.

Article courtesy of D&S Times. 07 June 2002



*Coffee Anyone*

On their own initiative, the Parish Hall Cleaners, **Judy Sadler & Josephine Doolan**, pictured above, have started a Thursday Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall, in aid of the said Parish Hall Review. Open from 9-30 till 12-30, there is Tea or Coffee available plus a cream scone or a biscuit or two - and the price is reasonable. They also intend to open on Fridays during the school summer break, when the W.I. are not open. I called in for Tea & Cream Scone last week, and thoroughly enjoyed it! So do come along. Bring or meet, your friends for a natter and a cuppa!!

## Sedgefield Road Safety Committee

An open meeting was held in the Parish Hall on Monday 10th June 2002 and among the items on the agenda were: -



Speeding(?) Vehicles in the Village!

It was reported that Community Force had been in the Village with their speed indicator board and that they had noted that after a few minutes of them being there, a marked reduction of vehicles

registering speeds of over 30m.p.h.was apparent.

They soon got the message!

Community Force will continue to do these checks on a regular basis.

The Police will also be asked to bring their speed gun, so as to show that speeding must be eradicated.

*Institute of Advanced Motorists* will be coming to Sedgefield, providing there is sufficient interest shown, and carry out checks on driving standards. So, if you would like to take part, there are forms available in the Library to arrange a booking.



Sedgefield Village Crime Watch Panel



# Sedgefield Crime Watch Panel

## Neighbourhood Watch

(ALL for ONE & ONE for ALL)



Sedgefield

Sedgefield Crime Watch & Neighbourhood Watch bi-monthly meeting was held on Tuesday 11th June, in the Parish Hall.

The format for the evening was, Welcome to new members (7) and the new Area Co-ordinator, Sarah Norman. This was followed by the formal part of the proceedings, the Agenda.

Chief among the items discussed were, (1)The planned presentation of the Alan Sowerby Shields to the two Junior Schools, for the "Junior Citizen of the Year", date to be fixed.

(2)Highlighted was the subject of Distraction Burglaries, where a householder is confronted by bogus representatives of (usually) The Water Board, one of whom distracts the householder while the other helps himself to their valuables. There have

been two cases, recently, in Sedgefield, but a lot more in the surrounding areas. **So householders should not open their door to anyone they do not know!**

(3)A presentation was also given on the subject of DATALINK, a system by which a householder's medical condition, prescribed medication, next of kin, etc., can be passed to the Emergency Services, in the event of them not being in a condition to do so themselves.

Called the "Flask in the Fridge", Sedgefield NHW intends to ensure that all vulnerable people in the Village are offered the chance to participate! So far the system has been approved by the Sedgefield Medical Practitioners. Interest has also been shown by the Parish & Borough Councils, Community Force, The Police and local Aged Concern.

(4) The usual site has been booked for Sedgefield Show on Saturday 10th August and anyone who is able to, can provide Tom bola prizes through their Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and will be gratefully received.

There was a wine & cheese party afterwards, where the new members were introduced. Finally a raffle was held, Mrs Mary Hodgson won a bottle of wine donated by Crime Prevention Team (Police).

(5)The next meeting was arranged for Tuesday 6th August, although we are in the process of arranging a talk on "Drug Abuse" by a member of the Crime Prevention Team, in Sedgefield Parish Hall, date Wednesday 17th commencing 7p.m.

## P.C. Todd's Column.

As I said in my column last month, I would highlight various crimes and trends the criminal fraternity in our community, are up to!

On this occasion I would like to focus on the despicable crime of Bogus Officials (or Distraction Burglary as it is also known). These people prey on the old, weak and vulnerable members of our society, who deserve better!

There have been two of these crimes in Sedgefield recently and I would like to take the opportunity to remind ALL the residents to ask for identification BEFORE allowing anybody you don't know, even me, into your home! I will not be offended and nor should any other Official, who has legitimate reason to call on you.

If in doubt, don't let them in and inform their Company via your telephone, what business they have with you. Contact your family, friends and/or neighbours, to assist you. Finally, call the POLICE, if you feel they are not genuine!

If this is the case, you can assist the Police identify and arrest these people by remembering as much as you can about them- facial features,

clothing, accent, vehicles used and anything else you can think of!

The latest incident involved two males, one of whom convinced a 92-year-old lady, that he was from the Water Board and carrying out work nearby. He then asked the lady to turn her taps on. While she was distracted, a second male entered unnoticed and made a search of her house. Eventually they were confronted by the lady and asked to leave. They took with them £50 of the ladies money! So, please BEWARE!

Lastly, I would like to remind people that garden furniture and plants, still remain popular with the thief, as these are easily stolen, and sold at car boot sales! So, please look after them! If anyone would like to call on them, to give advise on crime prevention measures, just give me a ring- at Sedgefield 620272 or at Fishburn 621989.

### Sedgefield Pub & Club Watch Scheme

Pub & Club Watch Schemes were set

up Nationally nearly 3 years ago, in response to problems with-in the Licensed premises. It was recognised that such schemes would help to prevent and also reduce crime. It would also make the atmosphere for people visiting Pubs & Clubs more pleasant and friendly. It would be more acceptable to take along the family, as well! A more convivial place to socialise in!

This collective effort by all Licensees within Sedgefield has resulted in a very successful scheme. The majority of the drinking fraternity has also accepted it!

A constitution has been agreed upon, and procedures adopted to ensure that any trouble that starts does not develop nor escalate to other premises!

Meetings are held monthly, where any issues are discussed and relevant action taken. Feel assured that every effort is being made to ensure your night out is an enjoyable one. SKOL!!

#### P.C. Keith Todd.

The following signs are displayed in all premises:-

### **Sedgefield Pub & Club Watch.**

Any person involved in:-  
 Drug use on our premises  
 Damage to property  
 Violence of any kind

**Will be barred from all the pubs & clubs in the village.**

We are here to make OUR village safer.  
 Nags Head, Cross Hills, Ceddesfield Hall,  
 Social Club, Golden Lion,  
 Cricket Club, Hardwick Arms, Black Lion,  
 Hope Inn, Dun Cow,  
 In partnership with Durham Constabulary

## ***Community Force and NeedleStick***

In 1991 the Scott report commissioned by the Home Office, concluded that the general public's greatest concerns on crime were those on: Anti-social Behaviour, Nuisance, Vandalism and Graffiti. A large proportion being **drugs related.**

It was proposed that all affected and interested parties, namely the Police, Local Authorities, Community Groups and members of the Public, should tackle the problems themselves.

**Sedgefield Borough Council**, after consultation with local residents (who had identified a preference for a uniformed presence), took the initiative and formed what is now the **Community Force**. This is made up of ten Patrol Officers. So for the first time anywhere in the country, highly trained and uniformed civilians, funded solely by a local authority, now patrolled the Borough of Sedgefield, on the basis of 24hours per day, 365 days per year!

### **NeedleStick**

During the course of our patrols, Officers found themselves being first at the scene of potentially hazardous situations! Road Traffic Accidents, small fires, and like other Council employees and members of the public, finding discarded, and often, used Hypodermic needles and syringes!

It was apparent from these incidents that to maintain **Public Safety**, specialist training, as well as new protocols, were required. To this end all Patrol Officers are now trained First Aiders and are fully trained in "NeedleStick" management!

**NeedleStick** is the general term used, that deals with the dangers of coming into contact with drug paraphernalia, such as hypodermic needles etc.. Dangers from scratches, which could then lead to the contraction of such diseases as Aids and Hepatitis 'B'. Also **the safe handling, removal and disposal of any such items, once discovered!**

The Community Safety Department's Policy and Procedure, on this subject is quite clear and precise and is this:-

Needles can be discarded and found anywhere; thrown into gardens, hidden in bushes, lay-bys, and disused properties or even in the street! So members of the Public, who come across any of these items are Urged not to touch them or attempt to remove them themselves!

If a member of the public does come across needles of any description, we ask that they contact the Community Force, as soon as possible. For example, if they have a mobile phone, call them straight away, giving your name and phone number; if possible remain at the location to safeguard the area until Patrol Officers arrive. This will normally be in minutes!

Members of the public, who have found items but can not remain at the location, so as to make the phone call, etc., we ask that they loosely cover the items where possible, prior to leaving the area. When telephoning, we again ask that they give name and telephone number, also how many items and an EXACT location, where the items can be located!

All Community Force Patrol Vehicles carry the necessary safety clothing and a number of Sharps Disposal System MK11 packs. These packs contain all the equipment needed for the safe and effective removal of hypodermic needles and syringes!

**THE NUMBER TO CALL COMMUNITY FORCE IS:-01388 721351**



## Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Can anyone cast light on what has happened to the pineapple finials which used to cap the gate posts to the Manor House, Sedgefield?

Perhaps the man from Del Monte has them?

It was thought they were removed for restoration sometime ago.

John Mac Donald.

Dear Editor

I would like to congratulate the organisers of the film shows for young people in the Parish Hall.

At last, something for our young people in this village. Many of us complain about young folk 'hanging about' but what else can they do?

I realise these film evenings will not solve all the problems but at least it's a positive start- keep up the good work.

Name and address supplied.

Dear Editor

I have been asked by the Campaign for Community Banking Services, for any local feedback. Do you know about the scheme? How is Sedgefield's Barclays Pilot going?

Let me know.

Lesley Swinbank  
Sedgefield Town Council.

Thought community spirit was dead!!! Residents from all corners of Sedgefield Town proved that community spirit is alive and active in our community.

In February 200 people attended a public meeting and again in April 300 people had the Parish Hall 'bursting at its seams', to show their support in keeping our community safe and accessible for its residents.

The issue that roused such a huge of feeling is the problems being experienced on Old Beacon Lane. Speeding motorists, fly-tipping, drug use, anti-social behaviour and the use of the area as a stopover by gypsy/travellers has impact on the rest of the village and the public meetings showed a unanimous wish that access to the area should be restricted by lockable barriers.

The area is County Council land so the County must agree to the restriction but despite everyone else concerned i.e. residents, farmers, Town and Borough Councils wanting the barriers to be installed the County Council will not co-operate. Over the years Cllr Manton (Sedgefield's elected County Council Representative) has given dozens of excuses as to why the road can not be closed, every one of these excuses can be refuted but still there is no co-operation from the Cllr Manton and the County Council.

So, at the last public meeting, at the suggestion of the Town Council a group of residents came forward to form a group (Sedgefield Village Residents Liaison Group) who will lease with the Councils and seek the early closure of Old Beacon Lane.

This group has now met on three occasions firstly to organise a group/committee procedure and identify the best way forward. It has tried to meet with the Town Council, but to date has not had any success and so has decided to call a meeting of all interested parties. The Town Council has tried to do this on several occasions over recent years but the County was always unable or refused to come to the meetings.

Other parts of the County and the Region that have experienced similar problems have had the problem resolved in the same way as is suggested for Old Beacon Lane, so the new group will seek to get a fair and equitable solution for our community.

Sedgefield Village Residents Liaison Group will keep everyone informed via this news letter and if necessary will call further public meetings. The group is determined to have the wishes of our community addressed and not ignored or dismissed by those who are elected by us and therefore should have the community's interest at heart.

**If you have any questions please contact**

Justine Smith (Co-ordinator)

7 Boyne Court Sedgefield

**01740 6211035**

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# What's on in July

This page is open to anyone wishing to announce future events

## W.I Meeting

Wednesday 3rd July 2002

7.15pm

PARISH HALL

Adam Wellwood

"Taking Care of Your Feet"

Visitors Welcome

## TINY STEPS

Wednesday 3rd July 2002

2-3pm Welcome Room

St Edmunds Church

Informal Activity Group for Under 5's

Music, Stories, Crafts &

Refreshments

All carers of pre- school  
children welcome.

## Sedgefield Local History Society

1st July 2002

The American Connection

Gordon Morris

## St Edmund's

Strawberry Teas

Sunday 7th July

7.00pm

## Drugs Alcohol & Solvent Abuse Talk

Fletcher Room

Wednesday 17th July

7.00pm

Followed by wine and cheese

## Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir

Invites You to a

'Year End Gathering'

Ceddesfeld Hall

At 7.30 pm on

July 12th 2002

All are welcome to listen or even join  
in! A free and easy evening, with the  
bar open!

## Sedgefield General Ward Four

REUNION of ALL STAFF

Current and former

7th July

2-6 pm

## Judgement Day for Sedgefield

Northumbria in Bloom

Competition

10th July 2002

## Hidden Garden Competition

Nominations to Town  
Council Offices by the 1st  
August 2002

## Sedgefield Lyric Singers Summer Concert

Supported by Fishburn Band

**JUBILATE**

Friday 5th and Saturday 6th

7.30pm

Parish Hall

Tickets £4.00 & £3.00 conc, from  
'Selections' or from Audrey Lofthouse  
01740 620625

## Sunflower Competition

Are you growing Sunflowers  
for our competition  
Measure by the 1st of  
August 2002,  
Contact Sheila Sutherland on  
01740 622532

## Cream Tea at Holly House

30 The Lane

Saturday the 27th July 2-5 pm

In aid of the Alzheimer's  
Disease Society.

If you have any plants to  
donate contact Peter or Sue  
629549

## Community Network

Open Meeting

9th July

12-2.00pm

Parish Hall

## Garden Open Day

Sunday 4th August

In aid of Macmillan Nurses  
& Sedgefield in Bloom

Details available from

'Number Four'

On the day

Buy it with Flowers  
Buy it from us

**The Florist Shop**

01740 621112  
11-15, Market Street, Sedgefield  
0181 384 1144  
27-29, Park Road, Sedgefield, Durham  
0191 384 1747  
12-14, Broad Street, Sedgefield, Durham

**GOOD NEWS FOR  
SEDGEFIELD  
COMPUTER OWNERS!**

Just joined to The Computer Shop is Farnham, offering you a new range of new equipment, repairs and upgrading services. There are plans also to add a "Cyber Cafe" area. We will copy and back up your records at their own service.

**WALTER FLEMING**  
TS21 3AD

- Building and construction services
- Roofing, gutters, chimneys, etc.
- Electrical services
- Plumbing services
- Heating services
- Air conditioning services
- Gas services
- Driveways
- Landscaping services
- Fencing and boundary services

01740 621112  
11-15, Market Street, Sedgefield

**DIANE CARR**  
BSC (Hons) BSC (Med) MClin  
STATE REGISTERED CHIROPODIST



32, Park St, Sedgefield, TS21 3AD  
Tel: 01740 621112

**Can you help?**

Shopping in Sedgefield always looking for new helps, do if you can assist in any way either in the marketplace helping with our food up market, or by watering your garden on August 4th - just contact us on 01740 621112 or John & Peter on 01844 447000

**FLOORCOVERINGS  
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11-15, Market Street, Sedgefield, TS21 3AD

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24-hour Helpline: 01740 620999

**The "Friends of Hardwick" need your help!**

Since they were formed some three and a half years ago, the "friends" have uncovered a huge amount of information about Hardwick Park and John Burdon, who owned it. So much information that we have been able to publish a book, 'The Re-awakening of Hardwick Park', on the park and its history. However, one important fact has escaped our net! We know that John Burdon had a coat-of-arms, we have a description of it but we can't find a picture of it. It was apparently painted on his pew in St. Edmunds Church but this has disappeared. John Burdon also lived at Coxhoe Hall before moving to Hardwick so his coat-of-arms may have been there also.

Can you help us? We will give the first person who can provide a picture of John Burdon's coat-of-arms a free copy of our book. Please contact the secretary John Fitzpatrick on 01740 621431 if you can help.

**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](mailto:sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com) or The Editor, Sedgefield News, The Advice and Information Centre, Front Street, Sedgefield, TS21 3AS  
**Tel: 01740 629011**