

Sedgefield News

*At last, a really local newspaper !
Produced by the Villagers for the
Villagers.*



Issue 1. May 2002

The Sedgefield Development Partnership, has formed a sub-committee, from local volunteers, to produce a regular newsletter, funded initially by the Scarman Trust

It is planned that this will be printed each month and distributed to all homes, and business addresses, in Sedgefield village, Bradbury, Mordon, Thorpe Larches, Foxton & Butterwick.

The continuing success of such a venture will be dependent on the level of support it receives.

We hope that the people of the villages enjoy reading it and that they, and all local organisations, will contribute news and information for others to enjoy.

The New Logo

The Sedgefield Development Partnership now has a new logo, designed by a local artist—Brian Sutherland. Based upon the ball game and caring hands—a reference to local hospitals—it appears for the first time on our masthead.

We believe that it has many meanings, supporting Sedgefield, seizing opportunities, different people working together, and partnership.

What do you think?

Site of Roman Village Uncovered

East Park was the scene for the filming of the TV Time Team programme and their excavation revealed remains of a Roman village. The highlight of the three day dig was when an almost complete pottery kiln was uncovered, together with identifiable pieces of Roman pots.

The Programme is expected to be broadcast on TV early in the New Year. Watch out for details.

A Theme Park on Our Doorstep ?

Rumour has it that an entertainment consortium proposes to construct a film set, somewhere between Sedgefield and Wynyard. This may later be developed into a Theme Park.

Can this be true?

Do tell us!

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What Sparked Off The East Park Excavations ?

Well, it seems that a metal detector enthusiast from Fishburn was responsible for this exciting and important archeological discovery.

Alan Luton, a former Sedgefield man, on one of his many searches with his detector unearthed, over a period of time, several Roman coins of differing dates in different locations. He mapped and reported the finds to the Durham County Archeologist, who came to see his collection and checked the site against aerial photographs. He then called in the Time Team crew and the rest "is history."

The Sedgefield Development Partnership

A Not for Profit Organisation.

A group of local volunteers, from all walks of life, with the following aims:

To bring together individuals and groups to address community needs in the area of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon.

To provide opportunities for the local people to engage in activities improving their quality of life.

To promote the improvement, energising and regeneration of the community.

To undertake projects, either directly or by working with others.

To advance the economic, social, environmental and cultural quality of life of residents, visitors and people who work in the area of benefit.

Current projects are :

First Responders

Giving their time to extend yours.

First Responders are members of the community who volunteer their free time to be trained in basic life saving skills and to use an automatic defibrillator.

if you are interested in joining the First Responders team please ring:

Mark on 621739

Lifelong Learning

Learning is cradle to grave! Learning is for everyone. It's a process, which begins at birth and continues throughout life. A pilot project conducted a survey on learning and asked the populations of Sedgefield, Bradbury and Mordon to participate.

A bid has been submitted to funders in order to build upon the pilot scheme and in particular to use the findings of the survey to address specific needs and opportunities. This will all take time and negotiation with venues, colleges and funders. In the short term it is hoped that Bishop Auckland College will be running bite size courses in May or June.

Thank you again to everyone who completed the survey, we will keep you in touch with what's happening.

The Village Newsletter

Well, here it is! What do you think of it? Can you contribute to it's continuing success? What about some letters to the Editor?

**Write to: Sedgefield News,
c/o Advice & Information**

Centre, Sedgefield, TS21 3AJ

Telephone: 620991

Fax: 622831

E-mail: sdp@sedgefield.net

New Parish Hall Development Group

The villagers of Sedgefield were dealt a shocking blow recently with the discovery that their beloved Parish Hall, a focus for a wide variety of village activities for generations, would have to be replaced. New regulations mean that the 150 year old hall no longer meets acoustic, disabled access or health and safety requirements. Hundreds of villagers turned up for a meeting called by the Town Council to begin resolving the problem.

Following the meeting the Council asked the Sedgefield Development Partnership to take over the project and has made a grant to help start the work.

The large volunteer committee formed as a result has now broken down into 3 groups, each one working to particular responsibilities, and all meeting together once a month. One group has the daunting task of finding funding. It is estimated that the final project may cost close to £1 million.

The Sedgefield Development Partnership will be applying for grant aid from big organisations like the National Lottery, but we also want people of Sedgefield to feel involved and committed to fund raising in small ways, such as buying a seat in the new building. Already the Lyrics Youth Choir has started by running a raffle, at it's recent concert, in aid of the Parish Hall fund.

Community Appraisal

The Community Appraisal has started and a contract awarded to Chris Cox & Associates to lead the work, but its success depends on us all.

The Appraisal will help shape plans & priorities for the future. It will identify the community's needs, concerns & priorities and will be vital in helping groups justify bids for funding.

Questionnaires will be sent to every house, please help us all by completing them.

Look out for focus group sessions and have your say.

Sedgefield Development Partnership will be organising a public presentation and discussions on the findings.

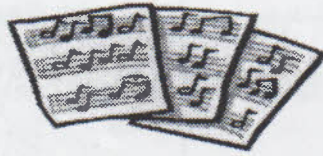
-See June issue for details.

WHAT'S ON IN MAY

This page is open to all associations wishing to announce future events.

Jazz night

Sun 5th May 8.00pm
Hardwick Hall Hotel



Proms in the Park

Ceddesfeld Hall
1st June 6.00pm

Cricket Club

Mon 6th
Sedgefield v Ushaw Moor

Sat 18th
Sedgefield v Evenwood
both start at 2.00 pm



First Responders

Training - 7.00pm fortnightly
Parish Hall

Local History Society

Mon 6th May
7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall

WI Market

Friday mornings - 9.30am
Parish Hall

Family History Group

Mon 20th May
7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall

Development Partnership Board Meeting

Wed 15th May
7.00pm
Parish Hall

Annual Council Meeting

Tues 14th May
7.30pm
Parish Hall



Mediaeval Fayre Queen Disco

Saturday 4th May
7.00pm Ceddesfeld Hall

Ecumenical Service

Sun 2nd June
10.45am Ceddesfeld Hall

Elderly Residents' Party

Sun 2nd June
2.00pm Ceddesfeld Hall

Queens Jubilee Disco

Friday 31st May
6.30pm Parish Hall

Sedgefield Mediaeval Fayre

Saturday 18th May - see supplement for details

Sedgefield Road Safety Group (Speed kills; kill YOUR Speed)

Leave the Car at Home

At the inaugural meeting of the above Group, the STRONG message, which came across, was to "Leave the Car at Home", especially for short journeys within the Village.

Fears were expressed at the dramatic increase in cars and lorries using the inadequate village roads. Worries are that someone, especially a child, would be killed, if action is not taken soon to reduce the speed and behaviour of some drivers.

Residents from various parts of the Village voted to unite in a Road Safety Committee to focus attention on measures to improve the problem areas and to work on solutions to improve road safety for all.

The meeting was called, and chaired by Councillor Linda Byrne, Sedgefield Borough Councillor.

The new committee will have representation on the Borough Council's Welfare Working Party, where all concerns will be brought to a public forum of Town, Borough & County Officers and elected representatives.

If you would like to join us, please ring Linda Byrne for details.

01740 622647

*Display your advertisement here.
for a small monthly contribution
towards our running costs.*

Congratulations Audrey Flanagan,

Current President of Sedgfield WI, On your appointment as Chairman, Durham County Federation of Womens Institutes.

Nags Head Golf Society

The Nags Head Golf Society was formed in 1995 by the then landlord, Dave Goad, and has gone from strength to strength since then, with membership of 32 golfers who compete each month for a variety of trophies, at courses throughout the North East.

This year they are privileged to have, as President, Dean Robertson, one of the top players on the European Tour. He has represented Scotland in two World Cups, playing with Colin Montgomery and Andrew Coultard, and won the Italian Open in 1999.

As an amateur he represented Great Britain in the Walker Cup, the culmination of any amateur career. Captain this year is Michael Price, with Ian Storie as Vice-Captain.

Mordon News -

May we congratulate the Development Partnership on this, the first issue of the Newsletter and wish it great success.

Visitors to Mordon should soon see an improvement on the approach from Bradbury, as the old barns at Mordon North, which have been derelict for many years, are about to be improved. Planning permission has been granted for their conversion into two upmarket dwellings, now sold, subject to contract. A condition is that the developer must use existing structures in the modernisation, which should mean that buildings are in sympathy with their surroundings.

To the south west of the village, on an area of high land near the media review village in Mordon Carrs, a 40 metre high mast has been erected to gain information on wind velocity over a 12 month period. We await with interest the results and consequent proposals.

—John Parkinson.

32 Park St.,
Sedgfield,
TS21 3AQ

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Things from Hardwick Park

The "Time Team" dig in the East Park has grabbed local attention, but other things are also happening in the Park.

Whilst the Time Team were digging, members of the Heritage Lottery Fund were here for a site tour, and to discuss details of our lottery grant bid. We should hear the result next month.

Regular visitors to the Park will have noticed the absence of Alex Gibson, the Durham County Ranger. He retired at the end of last month and we all wish him well in his retirement.

Help to make this newsletter a success. We welcome contribution of:

Local news articles,

Information,

Stories,

Letters to the editor

Notification of forthcoming events Etc. etc.

**Please send your contributions to:
The Editor, Sedgfield News,
C/o The Advice & Information
Centre, Sedgfield. TS21 3AS.**

Sedgefield Mediaeval Fayre



FOR a day of dancing, singing and fun and games, this year's Mediaeval Fayre is hoped to be the best yet. It will see the return of the Knights of the Black Phoenix, there will be another tug-o-war competition, there will be dancers and singers, Punch and Judy and the chance to dress up and get in the full mediaeval spirit of the day.

On 18th of May Sedgefield Community Association are staging their thirty-second Mediaeval Fayre. The event will start at 9.45am with a parade of floats led by the May Queen and with music provided by the Cleveland Police Band. John Robinson, Secretary of the Community Association hopes that this year's event will be the most successful yet: "We hope that this will be the start of a bumper summer. Last year was the most successful and we hope that we can take it that one step further this

year."

Family entertainment at the event will include dancing by the excellent Black Sheep Morris, Durham Rams, Palatine Clog Morris and Sedgefield County Junior School.

To add the atmosphere there will be a fun fair with a selection of rides and games and there will also be a wide variety of stalls selling crafts, food and bric-a-brac, there will even be an exhibition by the South Durham Tae Kwon-do Group.

Return of the Black Knights

This years event will see the return of The Knights of the Black Phoenix. They will be demonstrating how mediaeval knights were trained in horseback battle techniques like jousting. Youngsters will be given the opportunity to take part in their very own 'Jousting on Horseback Competition' (for over sixes only) and the

chance to dress in clothing of the time like chain mail and other mediaeval costume. There will also be the usual fancy dress competition. Also, in the tradition of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table there will be a chance to be king for the day if you can remove the sword Excalibur from the stone.

Dare you take up the challenge

Last year's tug-o-war winners, the team from Cross Hill Hotel, are challenging anyone who dare enter this years tug-o-war competition. They are even throwing down the gauntlet to any ladies, for the second year running they are also entering a ladies team. So if you think you've got what it takes and dare take up the challenge why not show them who's boss.

May Queen

The position of May Queen 2002 is open to all girls under eleven.

The winner will be May Queen for the rest of the year, she will lead the procession of floats that open the Mediaeval Fayre and will also win a trophy.

The winner will be chosen at the May Queen Disco at Ceddesfeld Hall on the 4th of May.

The winning entrant will be picked by the landlady of the Golden Lion between 7 and 9pm.

In Ceddesfeld Hall

There will be an array of events and displays in Ceddesfeld Hall, the home of the Community Association. There will be displays of falconry, living history and traditional Punch and Judy shows. Morning coffee, delicious homemade lunches and an all day bar provided by the 'Best CAMRA Club in the Region' are also available in the Hall.

All proceeds from the fayre will go toward the upkeep of Ceddesfeld Hall, a grade 2 listed former Rectory, and will

hopefully assist in the funding of the Community Association's activities, so give your support while you have a great time. John Robinson of Sedgefield Community Association said: "The upkeep of Ceddesfeld hall takes a lot out of the budget. If we have a good event this year it could go a long way in keeping the hall and if things go really well it could help with funding the Jubilee celebrations and other events that the association would like to run this year."

This year's event is produced in association with Linpac Filmco, Carpets and Curtains at Home, Turners of Sedgefield, Crass & Co, The Dun Cow, The Black Lion, The Golden Lion, Wright's and Clugston construction companies and Cross Hill Hotel as well as other local businesses.