

Produced by volunteers for the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon, and published by Sedgefield Development Trust: Company No: 4312745 Charity No: 1100906



# Sedgefield NEWS

MAY 2009



**Farndale** At this time of year, both banks of the River Dove are covered in daffodils over a seven mile stretch as it flows through Farndale in the North Yorkshire Moors. The Sedgefield village walking group enjoyed a visit to the dale on 10<sup>th</sup> April to enjoy this floral spectacle. *Thanks to Ian Hunter for the photograph.*

## Five Fantastic Fund Raisers!

Congratulations to the five Sedgefield friends who gave up their Saturday afternoon and lots of their toys and books to raise £107 for the Blue Peter *Mission Nutrition* appeal. The children, aged eight and nine, organized a "win every time" lucky dip stall at their PTFA Spring Fair. Whilst others were having fun at the fair, these public spirited youngsters tirelessly ran their stall until it was completely sold out. They then donated all their proceeds to the Blue Peter *Mission Nutrition* Appeal. The children also asked fair goers to sign the *Mission Nutrition* Petition to help ensure all children across the world receive the healthy food they deserve. Pictured right are Joseph Dredge; Jonathan White; Sam Nelson; Sadie Abel and Joe Bellis. Well done the fabulous five!



**April Fool!** The joke was on the editorial team when last month's News came out marked March and almost the same colour as the real March issue. We hope you noticed that the Diary page was correct for April, before chucking it in the recycle bin!  
Anyway, as ever, please keep in touch. [sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com](mailto:sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com)



# Proclamation

*Sedgefield Mediaeval Fayre*

*will take place on 16th May 2009*

*on The Village Green and at Ceddesfeld Hall*

*10.00 a.m. - 3.30 p.m.*

*Main Sponsor for 2009 - Hardwick Arms Hotel*

## This Year's Attractions

### On The Green

*Fancy Dress  
Tug-of War  
Morris Dancing  
Falconry Flying Display  
Craft Stalls  
Fun Fair  
Country Dancing  
Refreshments*

### In Ceddesfeld Hall

*Bar  
Morning Coffee  
& Refreshments*

### In Ceddesfeld Park

*Punch and Judy  
Birds of Prey  
Rosamundi Mediaeval Crafts  
Bucking Bronco  
Football Target Challenge  
Tai Chi  
Bouncy Castle  
Taekwondo  
Mini Go-Karts*

### **DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTIONS WILL START SUNDAY 10TH MAY**

**SUNDAY** *Kerr Crescent etc, Pine Ridge etc,  
Mitford Court etc, Hardwick Road etc,*

**MONDAY** *North End/Durham Road etc, The Lane etc,  
Whitehouse Drive etc, Hawthorn Road etc*

**TUESDAY** *Station Road etc, Spring Lane etc,  
Queen's Drive etc, West End*

**WEDNESDAY** *The Meadows etc, The Orchard etc  
Rectory Row/Centre, Cross St etc*

**THURSDAY** *Eden Drive etc, East End etc,  
St Edmunds Green, Stockton Rd etc*

**WINTERTON** *Residents should deposit items at 17 Winterton Avenue,  
Mon-Wed 6-8 pm. They will be collected on Thursday evening*

**Please support the Fayre by donating groceries, toys,  
books and bric-a-brac etc.**

**PLEASE - NO CLOTHES, SHOES, BIKES, MEDIUM/  
LARGE PIECES OF FURNITURE, HI-FIs OR TVs**





## PTFA Spring Fair Raises £1200

On what must have been the coldest and wettest day in March this year, the Fair started terribly when the pony rides had to be cancelled due to the torrential rain. Determined not to give in, the Go-karts took a gamble and started to whiz, the fire engine arrived and a myriad of excited, if cold and wet, bodies began to pour into school. It was not long before the windows were steaming up, tea cups were chinking and cries of delight were reverberating round the rooms. Sedgefield Harriers proved you were agile, not fragile, cakes were bought, the castle was bounced upon, cars were raced, books and toys galore were swapping hands and an afternoon of fun had begun. A vast array of over 40 stalls and activities buzzed merrily. From pasta dips to biscuit icing, catapults to Wii games, you name it, it was most likely there!

Our thanks go to our many sponsors, including Go-kart parties; Green Lane Nurseries of Trimdon; Phileas Fogg Foods; Phoenix Trading; Raring2go magazine; the Florist's shop of Sedgefield; your Community Warden; Sedgefield Harriers; local author, Steve Chaytor and Tees Active.

The Parent, Teacher and Friend's Association (PTFA) would like to thank all the children and families of Sedgefield Primary School who helped to organise and run the stalls, to everyone who donated items and to everyone who supported the event on the day. A special thank you goes to the five pupils who ran a "Lucky Dip" for the Blue Peter *Mission Nutrition* appeal and raised an £107 for a very good cause.

Thank you for your generosity. You raised £1200 for the children at Sedgefield Primary School. Well done everyone!

You may contact the PTFA by e-mail at [sptfa@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sptfa@hotmail.co.uk)

## Fashion Show thanks

The Inner Wheel Club of Sedgefield would like to express their thanks to villagers and friends for the tremendous support for the recent fashion show by House of Fraser, making it a huge success whilst raising approximately £900 for local charities. The Parish Hall proved an ideal venue and was much admired by visitors to the village.

Our thanks to local businesses who donated prizes for our raffle, House of Fraser, The Co-op, The Dun Cow Inn, The Gallery (Hair Studio), Peridot and The Tea Shop (No 4). Thanks also to staff at North End Garage for selling tickets and to all concerned for help with hiring the Parish Hall.

## Strewth but didn't we have a bonser night?

The blokes (some with their Sheilas) turned up at Ceddesfeld Hall on March 28th to try out some Antipodean grog and tucker. Earbashing was carried out by Zena Smith and Roger Place, who gave the low down on some beaut tasting white and red grog.

Tammy Joyce supplied us drongos with fair dinkum and delicious Aussie delights such as Damper Bread, Anzac Biscuits, Lamingtons and a real tasty Jumbuck Stew.

Strewth. Even the 'Kangaroos loose in the top paddock' were catered for with a quiz - with the top roos getting a prize.

Thanks everyone for all your hard work. You gave us a ripper of a party.  
*Pauline Tweddell*

## Proms in the Park – Saturday 13th June

The ninth annual Proms in the Park event will be held in Ceddesfeld Hall grounds on Saturday 13th June.

It starts with a local favourite, Fishburn Colliery band, followed by a seven piece Irish band, Steam Radio. They will be followed by a rockabilly band, Sour Mash and after that a soul band, Smokin' Spitfires, will perform. This part of the event will be rounded off with the John Wrightson Band.

The final part of the night, the Proms themselves, will be led by Lirica and the evening will finish with fireworks over the lake.

The whole event promises to be as popular as ever and tickets costing £16 (the same as last year) will shortly be available from the Town Council offices (tel. 621273) and Peter Hinde (tel. 01429 881502).

Sedgefield Methodist Church  
presents a  
**Spring**  
**Musical Concert**  
Saturday 9th May at 7 pm,  
**Lirica**

**Alan Carrick's Barbershop**  
**Quartet**  
**CeddesFolk**

**Jim Briggs with 3-4-U**  
**& Sebastian Reichel, Guitar**

**Tickets £5**

including refreshments  
from Mrs. M Dickerson 621093,  
Mrs. M Maloney 621310,  
Mr. D. Glass 621618,  
Mrs. C Spring 621196

## Christian Aid Week 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May

The arrangements for this year's Christian Aid Week annual house to house collection should be well underway by the time you are reading this. Once again our dedicated collectors are giving freely of their time to call upon you and, once again, we ask you to give as generously as you can.

Christian Aid seeks to support some of the world's poorest people. Most of us have more than we need.

Last year we collected just over £4,100 from Sedgefield, Bradbury and Mordon. The National total was £14.6million. It is worth noting that if you are a UK tax payer, the amount you give can be increased (at no extra cost to you) by simply completing the details on the envelope. Christian Aid can then reclaim the income tax you have already paid.

We ask you to again remember the counters' prayer, "Please let not all the coins be copper or small". The larger denominations take so much less time to count!

Thank you all for your continued support,  
*David & Margaret Glass.*

### The Collector's Prayer

Lord of life  
underneath me are two feet:  
please may we do this task  
willingly;  
in front of me are rows of doors:  
please may they open to me  
cheerfully;  
in my hands are dozens of  
envelopes: please may they be  
filled generously;  
in my heart are millions of needy  
people: may all I do this week  
make this a world in which they can  
all thrive. Amen.

# Community SAFETY

## Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel Minutes of Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2009

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting,** 9/12/2008: were accepted and approved as a true record.

**2. Matters Arising:** There were none

**3a) Treas. Report:** Details were given by the Treasurer, there were no matters arising.

**3b) Sec. Report:** The Secretary gave details of correspondence issued & received, specifically detailing - Insurance cover (via Police umbrella), Town Council (Parish Hall damage issues & Sedgefield Together), Durham (new) Area Action Partnership, & Cavos (Community engagement).

### 4. Representative Reports:

**a) Community Force:** Tim was unable to provide his usual report due to teething problems from the changeover to Durham Unitary Authority. Nonetheless Tim gave a brief update of current activity.

**b) Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:** Mel thanked members for their work in our successful N/H/watch and announced that she had recently taken up a new post in Durham and so was no longer our Liaison Officer. Mel thanked members for making her so welcome during her stay in the "Borough".

Then Mel advised of her recent work (on our behalf) in regard to No Cold Calling; she has passed on the Red Cross arrangements to Durham Trading Standards who are to use these as a "template" for other companies if & where necessary. Also that in respect of Toasty Homes their Managing Director has said that they will not be canvassing in Sedgefield again, due to our complaints.

C/man Ken Saiger thanked Mel on behalf of the Panel for all her assistance and work which will benefit other communities and not

just our village; he also congratulated Mel on her deserved promotion and wished her every success in the future.

**c) Village Constable:** Keith circulated copies of his report for the (six week) period 1/03 - 14/04/09 this showed that there were **14 reported crimes** consisting of **1 Burglary, 7 Thefts (3 car related) & 6 of Damage (2 car related)** within the village. There were a number of questions from members including events that did not appear on the crime list, some of which Keith was not aware of.

**d) Crime Prevention Officer:** Neil Langthorne gave a brief report on crime in the Borough and warned members to "Be on their Guard & take that *Extra* step to be secure & prevent domestic crime" as there is a trend that burglaries may be on the rise in our wider area. Members were also informed about "Operation Hawkeye".

Neil also took the opportunity to publicly thank Mel for her work in the Borough and wished her every success in her new post. Neil then introduced members to several useful security devices that he had brought along which included a Shed type padlock (alarmed, cost £10); portable wire free alarm/intruder detector that can even be used as a car alarm (cost £10); a very neat & simple anti tamper (again portable & alarmed) motion detector that can be hung on a door handle (cost £3) also a Digital Security Camera/Flood Light this records high quality pictures onto a digital card for subsequent download onto a computer if needed (cheapest price currently £98.00).

Neil demonstrated each device and gave advice/guidance on each of the items. Neil suggested orders /

enquiries for items were best routed via C/man Ken Saiger. Members thanked Neil for a most beneficial demonstration and his continued commitment to our meetings, it is most appreciated.

**5 No Cold Calling:** Secretary advised that recent events were covered by last month's article in Sedgefield News and Mel's update (above); he urged members (& all residents) who display our No Cold Calling sticker to either not answer to people who ignore the notice or take their name etc & report them, complaining to their parent organisation directly, as it does work.

**6 Ringmaster Calls:** Lack of calls to members was discussed & explained.

### 7. A.O.B.

**7.1 Alcohol Consumption in Public areas:** Julia Bowles reported that this had been raised at the Residents Forum & they are to ask the Town Council again (as have N/H/Watch in the past) to trial this in our village. For despite the Town Council having been advised by **Durham Police** (in the recent past) that they do not / will not support such arrangements there are now **several** locations where such a ban is now in force **in County Durham!**

All members present support this approach for our village & our community.

**7.2 Cars on Village Green:** Reports of this were discussed with PC Todd, who said it is not acceptable and if reported to them persons responsible would be removed forthwith.

**Raffle:** Prize very kindly donated by Bel & Ken Saiger.

**Next Meeting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

## Town Meeting date

The Sedgefield Town meeting is to be held at 7.30 on Tuesday 5th May in the Parish hall.

The evening will include the handing out of cheques by the Mayor, Cllr. Tim Jeanes from monies raised for his Mayor's Charity over the last year.

Agendas and other information for the meeting are available from the Council Offices from April 27th.

## Telephone Numbers

*(if you don't contact them, Police/Community Force don't know a problem exists)*

Community Warden Tim Spearey at Sedgefield ring 623654  
or via Chilton Control Room: 01388 721351

To contact Local Police to report any concerns, seek advice or pass on information to the Police, call **0345 60 60 365**

*(NB it may be prudent to keep a note of details of any conversation & obtain an incident no.)*

For advice / assistance:

Crime Prevention Officer Neil Langthorne, Telephone 01325 742714  
Community Liaison Officer - Mel Elliot, Telephone 01325 74275

## PC Todd reports

I am unable to understand why anyone should want to chop down a healthy tree in Ceddesfeld Hall grounds but that is what happened on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. A large group of youths had gathered around the mature tree and evidence from the stump would indicate an axe type tool was used. I would like to know who was responsible but, more concerning is the fact that someone amongst the young people is carrying such a dangerous weapon. Other crimes reported recently include damage to garden plants in Beacon Avenue, theft of number plates from a vehicle in Hadley Close, wheel trims taken from a vehicle in Hall Lea and North Park Road. A fence panel was damaged in North End and two vehicles suffered damage in Winterton. A female was unlucky, having her purse stolen whilst having a drink in the Black Lion, only for it to be found in the lady's toilet a short time later, minus its cash.  
*Until next time, Keith Todd*

## P.A.C.T. meeting

As reported in last month's Sedgefield News, the monthly PACT meeting has been combined with the Residents' Forum meeting. At the recent Residents' Forum meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> April the reasons for the PACT initiative were explained. Agreed priorities for April/May on which the beat team will concentrate efforts are as follows:

1. Parking vehicles within the boundary of the zebra crossing including the zig zag lines.
2. Parking causing an obstruction at the junction of West End and Front Street (near to the Dun Cow).
3. Litter, especially around the public seating areas on Front and High Streets.

Offenders will be dealt with by means of a fixed penalty notice.  
With thanks for your support, *Keith*

## Your Letters - extra

### St Luke's Church

Walking past St Luke's Church on Winterton Park is a depressing experience. The building deserves restoration as a listed Victorian remnant of Winterton Hospital, surrounded as it is by mature trees and grass. Sadly, on close inspection, the building is open to the elements, inhabited by birds who arrive through the vandalised windows. Recent evidence of forced entry means the church is also inhabited by other unwanted human tenants. Could I appeal to the owner of St Luke's to inform local residents, via your publication, of any plans to renovate the building. If nothing happens then we will suffer a sad loss, as the rapid rate of decay takes its toll.  
*A concerned resident  
Name & address supplied.*

## Jottings

from the meeting of Sedgefield Village Residents Forum, April 2009  
Another varied and lively meeting.

Issues discussed included the transfer of green open spaces in the village to a private landlord as a result of Sedgefield Borough (SBC) housing stock transfer, the new build at the Community College, the creation of a partnership group in the village, the new Town Plan which the Town Council (TC) are working on, how the £47000 of unexpected money received by the TC will be spent, policing issues, health provision issues and of course the ongoing saga of the Caravan Park and Local Government reorganisation.

Residents have sent many excellent letters to our MP still expressing their objection to the Caravan Park (4 in favour) and the process by which planning permission was granted. There is still great anger and feelings of injustice from our community regarding this application and there is a firm commitment to continue to seek a review of the decision.

A big thank you must go to the residents who have offered financial support toward seeking a review but we could not possibly raise sufficient funds to go for Judicial Review and our MP is extremely critical of our efforts to access the 'public purse' for legal aid by asking someone on benefit to come forward. So we are still awaiting a response from the Secretary of State who can call for a review of the decision. We will then look at how we can proceed.

As from April 1<sup>st</sup> (April Fools Day – most appropriate) we have a new Unitary Authority, Durham County Council and no longer have a Sedgefield Borough Council (SBC); there is still a great deal of confusion as to how things will work, Area Action Partnerships etc. But we have already experienced a problem. The new authority will not inform Community Groups and Town Councils of large/controversial planning applications by letter as SBC have done in the past. Instead we will be expected to 'trawl' through, what could be extensive email lists to identify issues in our area. We believe this to be too onerous for volunteers and that the responsibility to inform effectively should remain with the Authority. We will be asking to retain our original service.

It will be interesting to see the results of the first Area Action Partnership information event for our area – it is on April 29<sup>th</sup> and we will have a report at the next Residents Forum meeting.

We have asked the Town Council to object on our behalf to the car parking charge which is to be introduced at Hardwick Country Park. It is fine that visitors to the area should pay but local residents have had free access to the park for decades and many of our elderly residents who enjoy a walk in the park need to drive there as the walk over to the park is 'just too much'. So we are requesting that 'locals' be issued with a free pass.

The next meeting of the Forum is on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Fletcher Room. Although it is a bank holiday members still want to hold the meeting. Everyone is welcome so do come along and have your say on village issues. Minutes are available in the Town Council offices and the Library at least one week before the meeting.  
We hope to see you.

**Sedgefield Out of School Fun Club**  
Rectory Row, Sedgefield

*Half-Term Holiday Club*

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May and Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

Open to ALL children aged 4-12yrs.

**Cost: £15.15/full day,  
£8.70/half day (any 5 hours).**

Places must be booked and paid for in advance.

Phone 01740 623565 for booking or further details.



# SPORTS UPDATE

Send your sports news to [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com)

Various sport seasons are reaching their climax at the moment. The football season in particular is charging towards an exciting conclusion, for all sorts of reasons. At the time of writing, all three of the region's Premier League clubs are in grave peril of being relegated and, sadly, the odds are that at the very least one of them will suffer that fate. Closer to home, the Sunday league season is also coming to a close and I'll bring you a report on the fortunes of the Sedgefield teams next month. First, Ryan Towler wraps up Sedgefield Youth FC's season for us.

## **Sedgefield Youth FC**

Sedgefield Youth FC's season has now finished and there are two final games for me to comment on. First, we were at home to Wolviston FC and, thanks to some sharp shooting from Jamie Herd, we found ourselves 2-0 ahead within minutes of the start. Jamie continued to find the target and the margin soon grew to 5-0. About seven minutes before half time I made a run for goal, only to be barged by the opposition centre back. I turned around to find with joy that the referee was pointing at the penalty spot. Coach Sean gave me the nod to take the penalty and I was delighted to watch my shot hit the back of the net. Six goals in the first half was a great effort all round. We didn't score any more, but Wolviston only managed to hit back with two goals, so Sedgefield Youth recorded a convincing 6-2 victory.

Our last match of this season was against Thirsk who are near the top of the league. They beat us 3-0, though we did get several decent shots on target that were saved by an excellent keeper.

The club is pleased to welcome its newest player, Matthew Craddock, who is signing on for next season. If anyone else (under 14) is interested, please come along to our training on Thursday evenings from 6.00-7.15pm at Sedgefield Community College (on the field behind the science block).

*As always, thanks to Ryan for his update and we look forward to hearing more from Sedgefield Youth FC next season.*

## **Sedgefield District RFC**

As the rugby union season draws to a close there is plenty happening within Sedgefield Rugby Club. The team recently played local rivals Newton Aycliffe in a 'friendly' match

which saw Sedgefield come out on top. It was a close fought game in tough conditions, but the 12-7 scoreline represented a well deserved victory.

Now attention turns to Sedgefield District RFC's annual ball, to be held at Wynyard Hall on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets are on sale now. Details on [www.sedgefieldrugby.co.uk](http://www.sedgefieldrugby.co.uk). The rugby itself doesn't stop for the summer. The club's coach, Mike Williams, will be holding a sevens tournament throughout the summer at Sedgefield Community College on Wednesday evenings - all are welcome. Keep an eye on the website for further information.

## **Squash**

The Durham & Cleveland leagues have now finished with all of Sedgefield Squash Club's men's teams ending the season well in their respective divisions - two finished in promotion positions. The 1<sup>st</sup> team finished top of the 3<sup>rd</sup> division, beating their nearest rivals by 43 points and only suffering defeat twice, an incredible and dominant performance. The 2<sup>nd</sup> team finished runners up in the 5<sup>th</sup> division, one place higher than last year, which ensured promotion to the 4<sup>th</sup> division. The 3<sup>rd</sup> team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> from bottom in the 5<sup>th</sup> division, securing their position and gaining valuable experience, after gaining promotion last season. Congratulations to all of the men's team players for another successful campaign, and let's hope they continue their success next season.

The success for the 1<sup>st</sup> team didn't stop with them winning the 3<sup>rd</sup> division by a considerable margin. They also performed outstandingly well in the County Cup, reaching the final, where they were unfortunately beaten by a team from Redcar.

After last year's promising results for the ladies friendly team, the club entered a ladies team into the Durham & Cleveland leagues. The team finished bottom of the division, but thoroughly enjoyed the experience and the club aims to enter a ladies team again next year. The ladies friendly team also enjoyed their season and produced many promising results.

The club introduced racketball for the second year running at the start of this month, to encourage people who have never played squash, or who played a number of years ago and think squash is too energetic

for them, to give the sport a try. Through this, the club hopes to widen its audience and attract new people. Racketball is not as physically demanding as squash and is therefore regarded as an easier sport.

If you are interested in giving racketball a try, why not pop down to one of the coaching sessions. They run on Sundays from about 11.20am until 12.20pm and Wednesday evenings from 8.00pm until about 9.00pm. All you need to take along is a clean pair of indoor trainers and £1.50 to cover the cost of the lights. Racketball will be running throughout the summer, finishing at the end of August. If you would like any information about the squash club, please contact Chris or Julia Rowsby on 01740 621125, as new members are always welcome.

## **Sedgefield Harriers**

Harriers seniors have put in some good performances in the annual batch of spring road races with evergreen Gary Hetherington and still improving Scott Hydon being the pick of the bunch. At the North of England Half Marathon Championships, this year held in conjunction with the Redcar Half Marathon, Gary finished an excellent 8<sup>th</sup> overall in a time of 74:19 and Scott was 38<sup>th</sup> in 81:13. Seven more Harriers ran well in excellent conditions with Richard Bayles and Dave Greatorex completing a quad of Harriers under 90mins. Anne Hydon ran 94:50 and Gail Bell 96:34. Ever improving Paul Temperton completed in an excellent 1:52:49 and Barry Durham and John Caldicott were just either side of 2hrs.

There were some very good runs in the North Tyneside 10k the week before, Scott Hydon going under the magical 40mins for the first time in an excellent 37:32, among 11 Harriers competing.

Congratulations to Graeme Addison who capped a 3 year quest to beat the 10k 40min barrier at Marske on Good Friday, finishing in 39:42. Harriers also competed at the South Shields Sand Dancer 10k, the Hartlepool Marina 5 miles, where Gary Hetherington was 10<sup>th</sup> overall in 27:49 and in the Guisborough Moors Race over 12 miles+ and 2,500ft+ of climbing where Gail Bell was first Harrier in 1hr 54mins, 4 mins ahead of Matthew Jones. By the time you read this, four

Harriers will hopefully have completed the London Marathon in our blue and white vest and ten, including the four from London will be only a few weeks from the Edinburgh Marathon on May 31st. It can be no coincidence that many Harriers have improved their performances this year. The club offers supported coaching sessions for all abilities whatever age, fitness or experience. Coach Rosie Sims is supporting a ladies Monday evening session and Gary Hetherington leads a tough but inclusive session on a Wednesday evening from which many are benefiting. Not all sessions are coached and anyone simply wanting to run in company for support and encouragement is welcome along. Details are on [www.sedgefieldharriers.com](http://www.sedgefieldharriers.com).

**Harriers Juniors** were out in force on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April to compete in the annual Anne Marie Readshaw Open Track and Field Meeting at Shildon which always attracts a strong turn out from clubs across the North East and further afield. Around 20 from Sedgefield tested their skills, some for the first time, in sprints, jumps, throws and endurance. Team spirit was fantastic and the young people were well supported by their parents and families. Our young competitors did not disappoint and there were displays of fantastic promise as well as some gold medal performances. George Pilkington showed the way early on by qualifying as winner of his U11 boys 60m sprint heat. George was accompanied in the final by Stephen Greaves and Tom Flatters to give Sedgefield three from eight finalists along with runners from Birtley, Aycliffe, Middlesbrough and North Shields. George took gold in the final equalling his heat time of 9.20secs. with a superb and strong run. Further glory wasn't far behind for the Harriers when exciting runner Scott Kippen finished second in his U15 Boys 100m heat and took silver in the final with a time of 12.90secs. Ellie Gaines wasn't going to be out of the medals in the U11 Girls 600m and showed a lot of guts to out-sprint a Gateshead runner for Bronze medal in a field of 20 runners which included Zoe Carr from the Harriers. There was greater glory to come for Scott Kippen who justified his confidence over 200m by taking the gold medal ahead of runners from Sunderland Harriers and Middlesbrough Mandale in a time of 25.70 secs in the U15 boys event. Not to be outdone, George Pilkington took a second

medal, a bronze in the U11 boys 150m in a time of 23.10 secs. All of the competing Junior Harriers put in excellent performances and showed tremendous promise for the future. These included Stephen Greaves, Joseph Devine, Kelly Dobson, Gemma Hill, Zoe Carr, JT Fannelli, Zoe Dobson, Adam Flatters, Elliot Bourdais, Lee Armes, Tom Flatters Rory Varley, Gemma Varley and Matthew Walker. Everyone should take tremendous confidence from the meeting. On the same day there was further glory for Harriers Juniors when Ben Hetherington won the Fun Run at the Redcar Half Marathon. Brother Josh also competed for Harriers.

**Finally, some news just in.** Bradley Saunders is back boxing with England again and has just won a gold medal in a tournament in Finland, where he was also named best boxer of the competition.

As mentioned above, I'll have a full Sunday league football round up next month, hopefully along with some early season news from Sedgefield Cricket Club. If you have any sports news, please send it to [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com).



*Congratulations to Junior Harrier, George Pilkington, winner of the U11 Boys 60m at Shildon*

## James inspires fundraising effort

House of Eden Nursery at Rushyford has raised a record amount of funds in its latest appeal. The nursery raised £4,884.20 of which £697.10 was matched by Barclays Bank in their £ for £ scheme. The money was raised for the Children's Heart Unit Fund (CHUF) at Freeman Hospital, Newcastle. The fundraising effort was inspired by 2 year old James Hudson, whose life was saved by medics at the unit. When James was a baby, doctors discovered he had 4 holes in his heart that required open heart surgery. James' mum and dad, Jules and David Hudson nominated CHUF as the recipient of the nursery annual fundraising charity. They played an important part in helping to raise such an enormous amount of money. Fundraising efforts included a supermarket bag pack, sponsored walk round Hardwick Park in Sedgefield, a coffee morning and a Christmas concert and raffle.

Jan Hooper, Nursery Manager said, "This is the most we have ever raised. It was a great team effort between nursery staff, children, friends and family,



*James with Paddy Walsh from the Heart Unit.*

*In the background are Jules and David Hudson and Jan Hooper*

# May Events Diary

A FREE service to non-commercial organisations

## EDDIE'S @ 4

**Sunday 3rd May**

4pm service for 2-6 year olds in the Welcome Room at St Edmund's

## Residents' Forum

**Monday 4th May**

Fletcher Room, Parish Hall at 7pm

## Sedgefield Mags

**Monday 4th May**

8pm in the Nag's Head

## Sedgefield Town Council

Town meeting

**Monday 5th May**

7.30 pm in the Council Offices

## Sedgefield Gardening Club

**Tuesday 5th May**

Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.30 pm

**Formation & making of the Gardens of St. Benedict's Hospice**

Alan McManus

*All welcome*

## The CeddesFolk Session

Ceddesfeld Hall from 8pm

**Wednesday 6th May**

Join our line up of fiddles, whistles, squeezeboxes, guitars, ukuleles ...

## Sedgefield WI

**Wednesday 6th May**

7.15pm in the Parish Hall

**AGM & Discussion of Resolution**

Members' competition -

An amusing headline cut from a newspaper

*Visitors always welcome (fee £2)*

## Sedgefield Civic Trust

**Thursday 7th May**

7.30pm at 28 White House Drive

*All welcome*

## The Sedgefield Players

present **"Some People Talking"**

by Sue Wilding

**Thursday 7th, Friday 8th & Saturday 9th May**

7.30 pm in Sedgefield Parish Hall

Tickets £6 (£5 concessions)

available from

Selections and members of

The Players (620 091)

## Spring Musical Concert

Sedgefield Methodist Church

**Saturday 9th May** (details p.3)

## Bingo @ Ceddesfeld Hall

**Saturday 9th May**

Eyes down at 7.30pm

## Farmers' Market

on the Village Green

**Sunday 10th May**

## NE Concertina Players

**Sunday 10th May**

at 2pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

*(Tutor group meets at 1pm on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month)*

## Local History Society

7.45pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

**Monday 11th May**

Gordon Henderson, Roma Antiqua

**"Roman Medicine"**

*All welcome*

## Sedgefield Methodist

**Wives & Friends**

**Monday May 11th**

**Speaker, Margaret Foxall**

*New members always welcome*

## Sing for Fun

A lighthearted singing session for all, from 1 - 2pm on

**Wednesdays 13th & 27th May**

Methodist Church Hall, North End

## Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

**Monday 18th May**

Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45pm

Shirley Lenderyou

**"The ragged and industrial schools of the Northeast"**

Visitors are always welcome

For more information please ring

Sylvia Hall 620367

## Ferryhill, Sedgefield &

**District Flower Club**

**Tuesday 19th May**

7.30pm in the Parish Hall

**"One thing leads to another"**

Ann Simpson,

North East Area Demonstrator

*All welcome*

## Sedgefield Wildlife Group

**Thursday 28th May**

Meet in Parish Hall Car Park

at 6.30pm for visit

(details to be arranged).

More information from

Steve Ashton on 620559

*All welcome*

## May @ Sedgefield Library

**Tickle Time**

Monday 11th, 2.15-3pm

**Rhyme Time**

Wednesdays 13th, 10-11am

**Toy Library**

Wednesday 6th & 20th, 10-11am

**Book Circle**

Wednesday 20th 2pm

**May holiday crafts for children**

Please contact library for details

## Round Table

**1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays**

Sporting, social and charitable events - new members welcome

**Contact Rob on 629079**

[www.sedgefieldroundtable.org.uk](http://www.sedgefieldroundtable.org.uk)

## Country Market

Friday mornings  
in Sedgefield Parish Hall

## 101 gigs in May

01 Garricks Head, North Shields

02 Masons Arms, Stanley

03 The Star Inn Newcastle (4pm)

07 The Vic, Saltburn

08 The Ship Inn, Marske

09 Turbinia, Newton Aycliffe

12 Elgins Bar, Redcar

16 Number One Rally, Stokesley

17 Normanby Hotel, Normanby

22 Wedding, Treebridge Hotel

23 Lemington Labour Club,

25 Coundon Cons Club (2pm),

29 Penny Black, Hartburn

(Tim Lowe Solo)

30 Princess Alice, Middlesbrough

**31 The Black Lion, Sedgefield**

## Coming up in June

### Sedgefield Gardening Club

Tuesday 2nd June

'Late Perennials'

by Louis Ruffle

### Sedgefield Show

Next meeting

Thursday 11th June

8pm in the Nags Head

### Proms in the Park

Saturday 13th June

details p.3



## Parking at Hardwick Country Park

We were dismayed to see that one of the first effects of the new Unitary Authority will be to implement parking charges of £3 per car to Hardwick Park (£40 for a season ticket).

This is our local country park (we live in Fishburn), we have young children and visit several times a month (sometimes twice per week in good weather) as it is our local park. We have visited for years, long before the redevelopment started and enjoyed it just as much in its "wild" state. We cannot walk there from Fishburn, it is too far with children.

- Other local councils do not charge for access to green space, e.g. Middlesbrough, Stockton and Hartlepool do not charge for parking at their country parks.

- It discourages Healthy Lifestyles. Free swimming IS being introduced for under 18s & over 60s in all pools across County Durham. We can take the kids swimming for free or if you an oldie you can get a free swim but you have to pay for a walk round your Country Park! How does this fit with the Council's Health & Well-Being strategy?

- Specifically discriminating against those with impaired mobility and low incomes. Hardwick Park is heavily used by those with impaired mobility such as disabled people, older people and those with young children because it is flat, accessible and easy to get round.

- Improved Facilities? Hardwick will now have improved facilities (including the much needed new toilets) and more than other similar resources in County Durham but certainly NOT more than those in Stewart Park (Middlesbrough), Summerhill (Hartlepool) or many of the excellent country parks run by Stockton Council – NONE of which charge for parking.

- Local people are already paying through their Council Tax, in the Durham County Council Budget 07/08 £0.3m was allocated "to run Hardwick Park Visitor Centre". It is fundamentally not right to charge people for access to their local green space and sets a very worrying precedent.

Andy & Alison Nelson



Sedgefield Development Trust is a member of the Development Trusts Association

## Your Letters

### And, in brief, more points about the parking charge...

Although I agree with the need to provide improved facilities at Hardwick, particularly toilets, I understand that £0.3 million of council tax money is already allocated to the running of the new centre. I therefore ask, what are local residents, who have already paid this proportion of their council tax for the last two years (and not yet received a visitors' centre) going to receive for the £3 parking charge?

My family uses Hardwick Park regularly; we walk there when we are able, but it is not always possible to do so. When you have young children even a half hour trip out to catch some fresh air can involve loading the car with drinks, towels, wellies, fishing nets, buckets, balls, kites, waterproofs and a host of other much needed items. We have tried cycling, but as there is a cycling ban at the park, which we have always adhered to, it leads to problems of what to do with our bikes when we get there. Then of course have you ever tried cycling from the centre of Sedgefield to Hardwick Park, with young children, with fishing nets, buckets etc? Of course not. It is extremely difficult, and at times dangerous.

A significant proportion of elderly and less able residents enjoy a trip out to the Park. Are they too expected to pay this parking fee simply to enjoy a facility they already have?

What are the people who live a little further out expected to do? It is their local green space too. Families at Mordon, Bradbury, Fishburn and Bishop Middleham all regularly use this fantastic facility. It is too far to expect them to travel to Hardwick Park on foot, yet what will they receive for their £3 parking charge? I ask readers to raise their concerns over this issue with their local Councillors.

Local parent, Dawn Bellis

### Caravans and turbines - reply to a different point of view

I feel moved to respond to the letter from Mrs. May of Mordon published in the March edition. Mrs. May says it is a case of "Not in our back yard" She is absolutely right - it isn't in **her** back yard. If a developer came up with a proposal to blight the lives of the residents of Mordon (Mrs. May included), I feel sure that they would protest as loudly as Sedgefield residents over the proposed Caravan Park. We don't want it - by all means let Mordon have it!

I believe Mrs. May is wrong to assume that the proliferation of wind turbines will reduce the cost of electricity to the end consumer. This form of technology cannot be implemented on the scale needed to have any real impact. Whilst many people abhor the prospect, the only credible solution to our future energy needs is nuclear power. Whilst successive UK governments have shilly-shallied over the issue of nuclear power other countries have taken positive action to develop their nuclear industries and now find themselves 20 years ahead of the UK.

John Brewer, Sedgefield

### Don't be an idiot

Pleasing as it is to live in Sedgefield, there is always one idiot who decides to ruin it for everyone. On a wonderful sunny Easter Sunday it was fascinating to watch a certain 'idiot' uprooting the plants around the green and throwing them at his mates. Despicable. One of his more intelligent friends asked him to stop, but he continued, finding it extremely funny carrying out his mindless act.

People pay a lot of council tax to have this village look the way it does but also, someone has taken a great deal of time planting all these plants only to have them uprooted and thrown about the green by some idiot who thinks it is funny. You know who you are and should be ashamed of yourself.

Sedgefield Resident,  
Name & address supplied

Letters continue on page 5

### NEXT DEADLINE

**For inclusion in the June edition of Sedgefield News please send news or adverts by May 15th to [sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com](mailto:sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com) or to 58 Front Street, Sedgefield TS21 2AQ: tel 01740 629011**

Opinions expressed in Sedgefield News are not necessarily those of the publisher: we strive to be impartial & independent. We reserve the right to edit contributions & will not publish letters of unknown authorship. **Please include contact details in correspondence** and, if you wish, ask to have your name/address withheld.

Sedgefield News is printed by  
AZTEC COLOURPRINT Tel: 0191 417 8001