

Sedgefield News

Produced by the Villagers for the Villagers.

Caroline Shields of Sedgefield - Explorer!

Caroline (l) with Sarah (r) the link teacher from Teesside High & Edith, a pupil from Dzuella Second school and Caroline's new pen-pal.

Picture: Caroline Shields and teacher and pen pal



Well, she's back! After 4 weeks living in a tent, teaching her new found African friends, Caroline is home with a new found sense of achievement and humility; achievement through having taught basic tasks to people whose everyday existence relies on a small helping of carbohydrate with a (very) occasional helping of meat; humility in having experienced the pleasure of people who have so little, enjoying life.

Caroline, along with another seven girls from Polam Hall School, Darlington, and four from Teesside High School, Eaglescliffe, flew from Heathrow on the 13th July, stopping at Nairobi en route to Lilongwe airport, Malawi, where they arrived some 10 hours later.

Their first impression was that everything was small, including the people!

They travelled by bus from the airport to their first stop-over point, Kiboko camp in Lilongwe. Their first task was to split into 3 groups. Caroline's group task was to do their own shopping as they had to do their own catering- living mainly on pasta. The Malawi people were extremely friendly, continually laughing and waving to the newcomers.

Having settled in for the first two days, the first major task they had to tackle was to man (or woman) handle an old trailer onto the back of a truck and then clear the campsite of grass & brush, with an old kitchen knife. Here they worked with local people who showed them how the job should be done.

The highlight of the trip was their help in setting up a school. The girls had taken a collection of things with them to enable a village to do just that.

During this stage the girls continued working in 3 groups, but rotating through the groups, thus getting to know the other members and therefore working better as a team.

The third week they moved to climb Mount Mulanje, the highest peak in East Africa (3002m). The first day they climbed to a plateau and



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camped; the second day was spent walking to acclimatise. On the third and final day they set off at 5-30am to attempt to reach the top. At 2900m they ran out of time and so had to turn back- even so it was a remarkable achievement. The party then took up a number of projects. Caroline's group task was to act as tourists, so that the locals could set up their Bush walks and Safaris. The girls had the easy task of pointing out adjustments.

The final phase was relaxation in Liwande National park. Here they saw Hippos, Elephants, Impala and Bush Babies, along with Crocs, Snakes and an amazing assortment of insects. Finally they set off for home, via Nairobi to Heathrow, and the coach home- after a truly remarkable 4 weeks experience of "how the other half lives."

Caroline has a new pen pal, Edith, one of the students of Dzuella Second School; she intends to keep in touch and give advice whenever it is needed.

But who knows what the future might bring, the magical lure of Africa may beckon, again!

Wilkinson's of Sedgefield 1919—1967

HELP! - Final Plea

Along with two colleagues I am in the process of writing the history of the above.

"Wilkie's" was the local bus company, with a very big reputation for quality & reliability, who unfortunately were swallowed up by the local conglomerate, United.

As we are going into the final stages, we would like to make a last approach for any further information anyone may have.

We think that we have covered the

latter years of the "Wilkie's" story very well, but feel that there are some gaps in the 1920s and 30s that we would like to fill

We have heard rumours of a fire, round about 1926. Can anyone verify this?

What did Reg Thompson do before buying Scurrs? What restrictions were put on their operating licence at the beginning of the war? And what was their fuel ration? Which vehicles were conscripted for the war effort?

These are some of the questions we would like answered before we close

the book, so if you can help with these, or any other points, please contact David Hillerby, 01740 621343, or Peter Cardno.01642 582947.

Thank you to everyone who has helped so far, and those who have visited our exhibitions.

David Hillerby, Peter Cardno & Phillip Kirk.

SEDGEFIELD POP-IN CLUB for the elderly & disabled

The Pop-In Club opened in September 1992 and meets in the lounge of Ceddesfeld Hall on three days each week. It attracts a number of regular members who take the opportunity for a chat over coffee or tea, during their trips to the centre of the village. For those who find the walk to the village difficult or even impossible, there is an ambulance service every Wednesday morning.

No charge is made for membership or transport assistance, overheads being met by the Sedgefield Charities with support given by the Rotary Club of Sedgefield.

Each year there have been two coach trips: places visited have included

Barnard Castle and Stanhope, Preston Park and South Shields, where afternoon tea has been provided, much to the enjoyment of all members. Christmas and Easter have usually been celebrated too, with free seasonal refreshments and a draw.

The committee and members extend a warm welcome to newcomers and hope that you will enjoy the opportunity to meet others. We meet on:

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
10 am to 12.30 pm

THURSDAY
1 pm to 3.30pm

Contact: Mrs. N Hissett.
Telephone 01740 620981

Coffee Mornings

in the Parish Hall are back to Thursday mornings only, throughout September, from 9-30 till noon. We apologise for the breakdown in service in August, due to problems beyond our control.

Wanted - boyz to make noyzz!

Do you fancy yourself as part of the next boy band if only you knew how to sing? Or do you know you can sing but can't find a place to express yourself? Well, this is for you. Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir has been on the go for 17 years and in that time lots of boys have enjoyed taking part. We produce quality sounds and have a really good time, singing folk, jazz, blues and

classics. We've done lots of concerts, some in Germany, and big shows, like Yanomamo and African Jigsaw. SLYC has raised a lot of money for charities too. Don't worry if you've never sung with a choir before. We don't ask you to audition - just join in and see how it goes. To be the best sort of choir member, you really just have to want to be part of the sound. It's such a fabulous feeling when it really works

that once you've been to a few practices you'll really want to get up on stage and show what you can do.

Girls needn't feel left out - you're welcome too! So if you're aged about 9 or over, and would like to give it a try, come to Ceddesfeld Hall at 6pm on Friday September 6th. All you need is your voice and 25p to pay the rent!

Sandy Clubley Tel: 620609



Nags Head Victory in Local 'Ryder Cup'

Saturday July 13th saw Sedgefield's annual version of the Ryder Cup, when rival golfing societies from the Golden Lion and the Nag's Head met at Knotty Hill Golf Club to contest a competition which is now in its eighth year.

It was a perfect day for golf, with clear blue skies, warm sunshine, little breeze and receptive greens, and though the event may not figure in the calendar of notable golfing fixtures, the match was contested with considerable passion and skill. Expectations were high in both camps.

32 golfers participated in 8 matches, playing a four ball better ball Stableford format, and in a very closely fought contest in which each society won four games, the honours went to the Nag's Head with an accumulated points score of 339 to the Golden Lion's 332.

Over the eight years the competition has been running, the Nag's Head now hold a 5 to 3 advantage in games won. After the match both teams returned to the Golden Lion for refreshments and the presentation of the trophy to Mr. Michael Price, captain of the Nag's Head team. It was agreed by both societies that an excellent day had been enjoyed by all and long may the fixture continue.

Mr. C. McGowan (Captain, Golden Lion Golf Society).

On yer Bike!

Did you know that cycling just 5 miles a day could vastly improve your overall fitness, halve your risk of heart disease and protect you against strokes?

It is amazing to think that just a 10% increase in the number of people cycling would save the NHS £200 million per year by reducing the incidence of heart disease.

And as if that weren't enough, it's also

Are you aware of the facilities there are in the Library, for your use? Are you aware of the services they can offer you? If not, then read on.....

Sedgefield Library has a stock of over 5000 books in the adult section and over 2000 in the children's section. These are available on loan for periods of up to 3 weeks.

There is a reading area where one can peruse the books before choosing and where The Northern Echo is available to read. They also have a fairly comprehensive Spoken Word section for anyone with difficulties!

The Library is managed by Librarian, Judith Machin, with 2 full time and 2 part time assistants. Judith is also Group Manager for Sedgefield, Trimdon and Wingate, plus the mobile Library van. This group was set up in 1997 to offer a better choice of shared service to the communities.

Beside a vast stock of books, the Library also provides an information service; whether you need a telephone directory, a bus time table or an Encyclopaedia, it is all there; a full compliment of leaflets and brochures allows you to plan outside activities and/or visits to exciting places! You can even buy books, use their photocopier or hold a meeting or an exhibition (contact Judith); even have a cup of coffee on Friday mornings.

Their Information Technology is second to none. You can surf the internet or email to all of your friends using their 2 PC.s and it's all free of

a fun, non-polluting and energy efficient alternative to the gas-guzzling car! Most of our bikes languish, year in year out, in the shade of our untidy garages, but why not give them an airing? Your village library has details of 5 interesting and safe low-level cycle routes to get you started, on sale at just £1.95. Sounds just the thing - I'm off to buy one right now!

Sedgefield Library.

charge - just book in advance to ensure your place.

During School holidays the Library staff organise activities for the children, with competitions to keep them interested.

If you have any queries, or require information, the Library telephone number is 01740 620103

And their email address is:-

sedgefield.library@durham.gov.uk

Opening hours

Mon	9.30 to 12.30	1.30 to 7.00
Tue	9.30 to 12.30	1.30 to 5.00
Wed	9.30 to 12.30	Closed
Thur	9.30 to 12.30	1.30 to 7.00
Fri	9.30 to 12.30	1.30 to 7.00
Sat	9.00 to 12.30	Closed

Wanted - baker to represent Sedgefield

Informal links between Sedgefield and Vallauris Golfe Juan in Provence have existed for some years. Now their Town Council has contacted ours with a wonderful invitation - or is it a challenge?

At next year's Mediterranean Festival they will celebrate the craftsmanship of bread making and have invited bakers from Germany, Italy, Hungary and Sedgefield! The dates are 17th and 18th May 2003. Lesley Swinbank is getting more information: meanwhile if you know of someone who would represent Sedgefield please get in touch.

Tel: 621273

Sedgefield Villages Crime Watch Panel



Sedgefield Crime Watch Panel

Neighbourhood Watch

(ALL for ONE & ONE for ALL)



Sedgefield

At the meeting held on Tuesday 6th August 2002, the following is a resume of the minutes. The Minutes of previous meeting were accepted.

There were no matters arising.

Village Constable- read Keith Todd's column!

Crime Prevention - Neil Langthorne apologised for the confusion arising from a meeting of the Burglary Action Group. In the Northern Echo's report the reference should have been Sedgefield Borough-as this caused confusion amongst our members when only Sedgefield was printed. The Reporter has since apologised to our Chairman.

NHW Co-Ordinator, Sarah Norman thanked the Panel for inviting her to present the Alan Sowerby Memorial Awards at the 2 Junior Schools

Community Force- their representative, Tim Speary reported that requests for assistance from Sedgefield Village had increased after the article published in the previous issue of this paper. Reminder that their Tel. 01388 721351

Sedgefield Show. The Chairman requested more tombola prizes and more volunteers.

Spennymoor First Responders. It is reported that this team has folded, it was therefore decided that as soon as sufficient proof is at hand to this effect, the monies held by the Alan Sowerby Memorial fund will be presented to Sedgefield First Responders to do with as they see fit.

Door Bars are available from this panel at £1 each, to any Villager who requires them and will be fitted free of charge. Please contact your local NHW representative, or Chairman Ken Saiger on Tel: 621896.

Data-Link. Age Concern is interested in this system and hopes to offer them to "vulnerable" people throughout the County, free of charge. To this effect David Hillerby will attend a meeting with them on 22nd August- (report in next months Sedgefield News).

Village Crime Figures (including Winterton Park, Industrial Estate and outlying Farms). For period 12th June to 6th August 2002 there were 17 reported crimes.

There was one most serious case of Assault on a female person. When a man attempted to sexually assault her, the lady punched the attacker and he ran off! Well done!!

One attempted burglary at Winterton Cottages- 2 persons disturbed and ran off.

2 cases of criminal damage. Fire damage to tarmac at Rectory Row School shortly after it had been renewed, and a window broken in East Parade- 2 arrests £30 compensation has been paid.

8 cases of theft from outside the Village

5 cases of theft in the Village; (alloy wheels from Pine Ridge, a child's bike from The Meadows and 3 cases of garden furniture stolen, referred to by P.C. Todd in his column).

NHW would like all the Villagers to be aware that they will receive a visit from their local co-ordinator shortly, to invite them to have a SMOKE DETECTOR fitted free, where one is required. The Community Force or the Fire Brigade will do the actual fitting, and will install the batteries, which will either be of 5 year guaranteed life or even 10 years (they are not sure yet). Householders will be able to have up to a total of 2 per property, supplied free by H.M.Government.

Sedgefield Show. Despite the atrocious weather, due to the efforts of our volunteers, we still managed to raise over £200

P.C. Todd's Column.

We may be damp and wet, as visitors to the Agricultural Show on Saturday 10th August will testify, but this is summer (with a capital S(?))! A time when we can sit in our gardens and enjoy the fruits of our labour, digging, planting, pruning. Not forgetting the expense of flower pots, garden furniture and ornaments- all a distant memory after some nocturnal scavenger, sneaking around at night, is only too happy to help himself to them, thereby spoiling our enjoyment! This is exactly what happened a few weeks ago. We know of 5 gardens, which had visitors through the night (there maybe more who haven't reported it). Eden Drive, The Meadows and Thurlow Grange were the targets. Among the items stolen were, a Garden bench, tubs of

flowers, a stone birdbath and even a birdcage (although I'm not sure if there was a bird inside it). The point is, that gardens are easy pickings for these people. The goods taken are usually sold at boot fairs to an eager public, wanting to improve their own gardens (although a couple in Hartlepool have been charged recently with having a garden full of stolen objects). What can we do to stop it? Other than the obvious, like putting the items away or securing them to the floor, if at all practical, then we could frustrate the thief by painting or scratching our name or post code onto the item. This will make it more difficult for the thief to dispose of the item and easier for the Police to catch him! With a little bit of imagination, you won't become a

victim next time he calls.

SCHOOL WATCH We are currently running this annual scheme through the summer holiday. So far, so good; our schools have not suffered any damage to date. However, I must remind our younger readers that they are NOT allowed to meet their friends on school property! I would like to thank all the residents who spoke to me at the show. Despite the weather, my FARM WATCH initiative was well received and many local farmers signed up for it! If any Farmers didn't have the opportunity to catch me on Saturday, please contact me at the office.

Bye for now

Keith

Sedgefield Road Safety Committee

Cyclists Please be aware that there are areas in the village where cycling is not permitted- such as the cut between Rectory Row and Wykes Close and from Boynston Grove to the Library car park. Look for the signs! It has been reported that cyclists use these particular cuts and travel at fairly high speeds! Elderly residents may not be able to get out of the way and could be seriously hurt. So, please, stop and think- and WALK your cycle to the other end. BE RESPONSIBLE!

Institute of Advanced Motorists

still haven't been able to agree a date for assessments, but we will contact individuals when there is some news.

Buses using Cherry Tree Drive for access to Hardwick School We have written to Griersons, asking them to direct their drivers to use the wider and more accessible, Chestnut Road.

Profiles

This months profile is a joint one of Neil Langthorne and Sarah Norman. Neil is Police Crime Prevention Officer for Sedgefield Division. He is part of a Crime reduction team, based in the new Spennymoor Police Office. Neil is available to offer advice to anyone on crime prevention. His brief is to design out crime. This entails setting up systems that will effectively stop crimes before they happen. With this in mind, Neil works closely with many Partnerships, including our own Crime Watch Panel (Neighbourhood Watch). His advice is free and impartial. So if you have a problem, then give Neil a ring on 01325 742714.

Picture: Neil Langthorne



Picture: Sarah Norman



Working closely with Neil is the new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Sarah Norman, who took up the post after Lin Craddy left. The difference in the job is that whereas Lin was employed by Sedgefield Borough Council, Sarah is employed by the Police, out of Spennymoor Office, and works closely with the Borough Council.

Sarah is 24 years of age and has a Degree in Business Studies from Teesside University.

After graduating, Sarah was employed for a time by the Probation Service in a purely clerical role. As she wanted something more demanding, she applied for her current post and already seems to be bringing her own touch to the job.

CAVOS

(Community and Voluntary Organisation Sedgefield)

Partnership Wins Major Grant

CAVOS held a Community Forum at the Sedgefield Parish Hall in July.

This was an opportunity for local inhabitants and organisations to come along and hear a presentation by Anne Frizell, the Community Network

Co-ordinator. In addition, to discuss any training or grants which they might need for their organisations. The meeting was attended by a relatively small number of people.

Representatives from the CAVOS Community Network have recently had the opportunity to visit the five group areas in the borough. The groups were Ferryhill Chilton & West Cornforth, Newton Aycliffe, Sedgefield, Fishburn & The Trimdons, Shildon and Spennymoor.

The tour guides for the areas were the local representatives of the Forum. Opportunities were given to see and hear about the best and the worst in each area. This will be very helpful for the network team in future decision -making. The tour for Sedgefield took place on the 8th of August, with Colin Richmond as your local CAVOS representative.

Sedgefield Development partnership has been awarded a grant of over £20,000 by the Learning & Skills Council to bring Lifelong Learning opportunities to Sedgefield. This follows a grant made to the Partnership last year, which was used to identify the kind of demand existing in the village and surrounding area. Many of you helped with that research by returning your questionnaires and the new grant will enable the Partnership to meet your priorities. The emphasis will be on making these opportunities available within village venues.

Roger Clubley, Chairman of the Partnership said "competition for these grants was very great and it is an endorsement of our efforts last year that we have been backed to this extent. We are looking forward to bringing to the villages the kind of learning that people most want and

making it available at convenient times and places".

SDP expects to recruit a project co-ordinator as soon as possible and will also be working with its partners, Sedgefield Community College, Bishop Auckland College, SCA and others, to make the project sustainable in the longer term.

First Aid Training.

We would like to apologise to those of you who wished to take up the first aid training we expected to start in July. Our course organisers have been experiencing some difficulties, but you have not been forgotten and we will contact you all individually just as soon as the training is able to go ahead.

If you would like to know more about SDP and how we can help you, please contact us at Tel:01740 629011.



What's on in September

This page is open to anyone wishing to announce future events

Sedgefield WI

Parish Hall
Wednesday 4th
September 2002
@ 7.15pm

**Caroline Randell of
Bowes Museum on**

'Antique Fabrics'

Sedgefield Festival of One Act Plays

*Hosted by Sedgefield
Players will take place in
the Parish Hall
From*

*Monday 23rd to Saturday
28th September 2002*

*Nightly or Weekly Tickets
available, with times &
Prices from Selections or
any Sedgefield Players*

Sedgefield Family History Group

Monday 16th September
2002

David Simpson
**'Surnames and Their
Meaning'**

@ Ceddesfeld Hall at
7.45pm

Friends of St. Edmunds Church

Saturday 14th September
@ 7.30pm

**'Hartlepool Barbershop
Singers'**

Tickets £5.00, Cons
£3.00 to include light
refreshments
from
Post Office, Selections,
Katie's Kitchen,
also from Committee
Members.

Sedgefield Cricket Club

**Captain Ramsden Cup
Final**

**Saturday 7th September
2002 @ 2.00pm**

Free Admission

Junior Presentation Night
Saturday 28th September
Parents & Friends Welcome

Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch A.G.M.

In the Fletcher Room,
Parish Hall on
Tuesday 1st October 2002
@ 7.00pm
Everyone Welcome

"Days of Steam"

An exhibition of work by
**Sedgefield Artist,
Les Joss**
At the DLI Museum and
Durham Art Gallery

17th September to
16th October
Every day from
10am-5pm

Adult £2.50
Concessions £1.25
Family £6.50
Season £10.00

For more about Les, see
our back page!

For more information contact reception on Tel: 01749 830133

Beer Night
The Valley Jazz Band
Sunday 1st September
8.00pm until 11.30

Tickets £2.00

Elvis Presley
The J. McGowan & Sons
celebrating the Elvis an.
Friday 27th September
Dinner at the Gallop Inn
at 8.00pm Tickets £30.00

Beer Night
The Valley Jazz Band
Sunday 15th October
8.00pm until 11.30

Tickets £3.00

Sedgefield artist at the DLI

Amateur artist Les Joss has been offered an exhibition of his paintings and drawings at the DLI Museum and Durham Art Gallery at Ayckley Heads in Durham City. The former deputy head and teacher of mathematics at Wellfield School admits to being besotted by steam power from an early age, but says he's not an 'anorak'. His wife, Lorna may disagree with the latter!

Now retired, Les has much more time to spend visiting preserved railways and indulging his other hobby, painting and drawing. Not surprisingly then, his exhibition is entitled 'Days of Steam', and

includes watercolour, gouache, oil and acrylic paintings and pencil drawings of steam driven transport (mainly locomotives) from the 1950s and 60s.

Subjects range from the Humber Ferry paddle steamer Wingfield Castle, now in Hartlepool Marina, to a British Railways Standard 9F locomotive hauling iron ore to Consett.

These "nostalgic recollections of a misspent youth" (the words of the artist, not the editor!) can be seen in the Print Room of the gallery from 17th September until 6th October.



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. The deadline for the next issue is the 15th September.

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

Sedgefield Development Partnership

Project Co-ordinator

required to help with the Partnership's Lifelong Learning project.

Approx. £300 per week, depending on qualifications and experience

We are looking for a person who will encourage people in Sedgefield to engage with learning opportunities. The post is for 30 hours per week and will be temporary for the life of the project, which is until the end of March 2003. If the project develops well, there is potential for it to be extended.

The Co-ordinator will be based in the Partnership's office, but will be expected to take opportunities out into the community.

The person we are looking for is self motivated and generally confident with both young people and adults. He/she must be a good communicator and have relevant experience.

You can obtain further information, a job description and details of skills and knowledge required, from the Partnership office at the Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, or by phoning 01740 629011. If you wish to talk to someone about this opportunity, please ring either Becky Rowe on 01740 629068 or Roger Clubley on 01740 620609.

