



# Sedgefield NEWS

## November 2007

### Citizen of the Year 2007

It's time to start thinking about who *you* think might deserve to be awarded the title 'Citizen of the Year', so inside this month's News you will find a Nomination Form. Many people beaver away, unrecognised, except by those who know them well, or who regularly see or benefit from their efforts. If you would like to nominate someone, here are a few points to bear in mind.

#### **GUIDELINES for nominations**

*The person nominated must:*

- Live in the distribution areas of Sedgefield News and Sedgefield Extra
- Have carried out exceptional service for the community living in the areas above.

#### **RESTRICTIONS**

*The person nominated must NOT be:*

- A Town Councillor.
- Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary or Treasurer of the Sedgefield Development Trust Limited.
- President, Vice-President, Treasurer or Secretary of the Rotary organisation.
- A member of the judging panel.

All other citizens of 18 years or older are eligible, including members and employees of the above organisations.

Nominations will be considered by a panel including last year's winner and representatives of the three organizing groups - the Rotary Club, Sedgefield Development Trust and Sedgefield Town Council. The award will be made at the Mayor's Cheese & Wine Reception on December 13th and a report will follow in January's edition of Sedgefield News.

**Everything else you need to know is on the enclosed nomination form.**

### A brighter future for the Parish Hall?

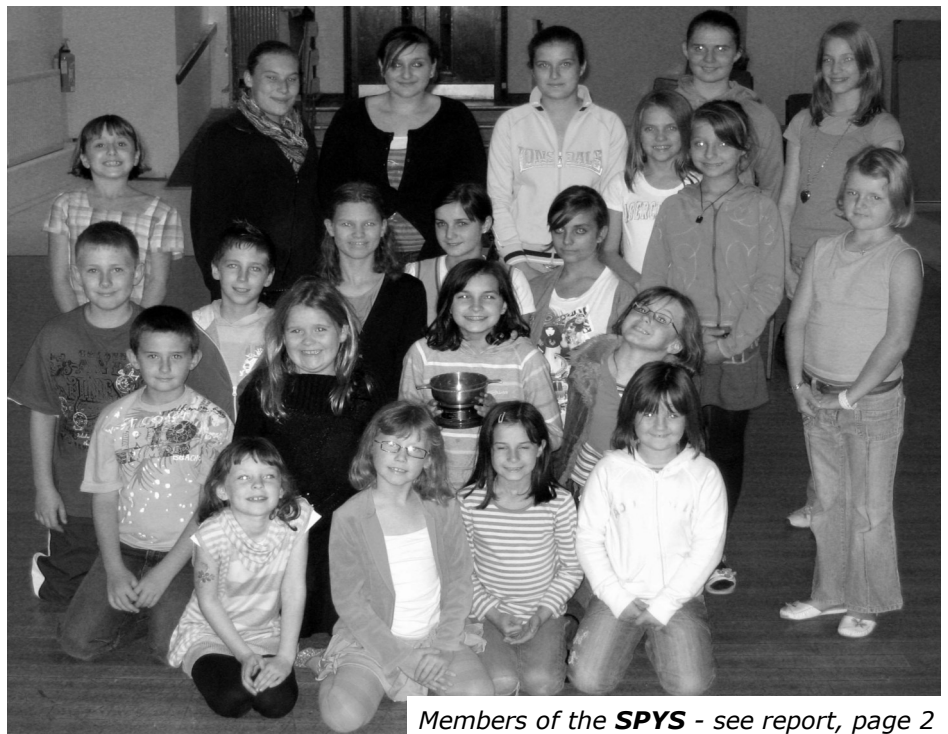
Is there another twist in the saga of the Parish Hall refurbishment? Plans are already well advanced for the programme of refurbishment to start early in the New Year. The work includes extensive works to the roof and walls including damp-proofing, a new acoustic wall and additional works to address the noise issues, a new kitchen and toilets and bar area, a new platform lift from reception area to main hall and new stage lighting and sound systems which will be available for all users.

The estimated cost for all this work is in excess of £170,000. So far, £39,000 has been obtained from Sedgefield Borough Council's Local Improvement Programme and a further application has been made to the same programme for £80,000. Another £9,100 has been sourced elsewhere. Sedgefield Development Trust (SDT), which publishes Sedgefield News, believes it can help and can secure more cash for the project. Gloria Wills, a Trustee of the SDT has been quoted as saying "Many of us within the community have vast experience of the community and voluntary sector and, as an independent group, could access different funding sources. Many of us have offered our voluntary time, support and expertise to try and help the Town Council. Clearly this has failed due to a number of factors, mainly an inability to work in partnership. I feel the Town Council should let us get involved."

SDT Chairman Roger Clubley commented that the situation had been going on for 25 years or more and many issues have prevented progress. The only way forward is through dialogue. The SDT wants to get things moving on the Parish Hall, not go over old ground and issues.

John Fitzpatrick, Company Secretary of SDT, said "I would just reiterate our offer to support the project providing we can work together in **partnership**

*Continued on back page, column 3*



Members of the **SPYS** - see report, page 2

## MP opens new business in heart of Sedgefield

Sedgefield MP Phil Wilson, pictured left, acknowledged that 21st Century technology had arrived in Sedgefield when he open the new Headquarters of AAA Mortgage Group.

Group Director Richard Tucker, centre, welcomed the MP and invited him to unveil a plaque commemorating the opening. He said: "I'm delighted to have this opportunity to welcome a new, innovative company to my constituency and wish them every success". In locating their Headquarters to Sedgefield the Company has created 6 new jobs and expect as a result of their expansion plans throughout the North of England to be employing more local people in the future.

Richard stated: "plans for the opening of our next branch in Coxhoe are now well under way". The Company saw Sedgefield as ideal both as a location and having the most excellent hosting opportunities for business leaders visiting Head Office. The opening of this office brings together under one roof the administration of both brokers and office staff, supporting both our own

broker network in areas such as Burnley and Rochdale along with other independent brokers across the North East.



*Ian Spring certainly gets around the shows with his camera!*

## Sedgefield's World Champion

Proudly displaying his champion leek (measuring 538.34 cu. in.) is John Adcock, winner of the World Open Leek Show 2007 held at Ashington.

John's gardening partner Barry Stephenson scored a win too, at New Hesledon Open Show 2007 with a pair of leeks measuring 318.86 cu. in. Barry won the World Championship once before in 1984. He also won with his chrysanthemums.

This year the green fingered friends have won three out of the very top four leek shows in the world!

## Sedgefield Festival makes it 32

The 32nd Sedgefield Drama Festival of One Act Plays in September was a great success. Adjudicator David Vince from Norfolk, on his first visit to Sedgefield, was impressed by the professionalism and friendliness of the Festival, and performers and audience alike were full of praise for a great week of theatre.

Overall winners were Statement Drama Company of Scarborough, who also won Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor and the Jayne Award for Costume with "An Adult Evening of Shel Silverstein". They had selected four short plays from his collection blending them together brilliantly, using versatile staging, inventive direction and accomplished acting to great effect.

Sedgefield Players won the Audience Award, voted for by season ticket holders, and the Mayor's Runner-up Award for their production of "Here I Come", in which Norma Neal won Best Actress. Writer Karin Young from Newcastle was in the audience and declared herself delighted with the production of her play, which deals in a hilarious fashion with the sex lives of four women of varying experience. Sarah Jones of Sedgefield Players won the Best 30 Seconds Award for a very moving moment in her performance as Jill in "The Window Cleaner" by Gillian Plowman.

Sarah and Norma were delighted that "The Reunion", which they directed with a cast of 30 members of SPYS, Sedgefield Players Youth Section, won the Peter Young Quach for Youth. The individual youth award was won by the very talented Rowan Pierce of Saltburn '53 Drama Club in "Sparkle-shark" by Philip Ridley. "Words, Words, Words" by Richmond ADS won the Adjudicator's award, Most Effective Set and the John Walker Memorial Award for Technical Presentation. Cliffe Theatre won acting awards for Jackie Wilson and Katherine Hannah, while The Ray Tate Award for Endeavour went to Kirkby Malzeard Players with Alan Ayckbourn's "A Cut in the Rates". This was one of our best ever Festivals and we are very grateful to the teams, audience and generous sponsors for coming together to produce such a fabulous week. Sedgefield Players are now rehearsing the Christmas pantomime, Goody Two Shoes, which you can see from December 27-30<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm each evening, with a Sunday matinee at 2 pm.

*Norma Neal (Sedgefield Drama Festival Secretary)*



*Thanks to Ian Hunter for this photo of the Sedgefield Walking Group enjoying a glorious day out around Gunnerside and Reeth in beautiful Swaledale.*

*Why not join the happy throng? Call Jim Nutt, tel. 01388 816166 extension 4630 e-mail [jnutt@sedgefield.gov.uk](mailto:jnutt@sedgefield.gov.uk)*

## Sedgefield Show hailed a huge success!

The 2007 Sedgefield Agricultural and Horticultural Show, which took place in August was extremely successful and a record number of entries on the gate allowed visitors to try out all experiences of a traditional country show. If you are interested in the Show and its organisation, the AGM takes place on Thursday 22nd November at 8pm in the Nags Head. *Pictured right*, enjoying her day out at the fair, and all the way from Suffolk, 9 year old Kate Oliver got to grips with the digger which was this year's new attraction at the Show!



## Ciaran keeps it in the family

Following her brother Tim's success in the Sid Chaplin Short Story Writing Competition last year, 11 years old Ciaran Jasper was this year's joint winner in the 11-13 class. She won a £30 cheque plus a copy of the 'Northern Tales' Anthology, containing all this year's winning short stories. Ciaran's mysterious tale 'The Doorway' was inspired by a walk on a windy day with her dog, Topsy, along the cut between the Parish Hall car park and East End. The doorway in question is tucked away in the wall, opposite one of the gardens at the rear of Boynston Grove.

*What really is on the other side of it?*

## Great Run!



**Sue Wears** wrote to us to say thank you to all the people and businesses, especially the clients of Clifton Lodge Veterinary Clinic, who sponsored her in the **Great North Run** on September 30th.

"It was very hard work but a great personal achievement and an unforgettable experience running with another fifty thousand runners".

Sue expects to raise around £1500 for Changing faces, a charity set up to help those with a facial disfigurement and their carers, for both children and adults. She is collecting the sponsorship in now and if anyone who was unaware of her run would still like to contribute toward this worthwhile cause she will be very happy to take your money. Sue was the only person that she and the charity knows about who ran for Changing Faces and she has every intention of doing it again next year (Oct 5th).

If any-one would like to join her she would be delighted. Sue says "Not only is it for a worthy cause but you will be setting a challenge for yourself and taking part in a day you will remember the rest of your life. Finally, thanks to Sedgefield News for including the original item. It helped a great deal in making people aware of the run and increasing the sponsorship money".

## Are you ready for Christmas?

If not, come along to **Sedgefield Primary School** for a sale of stationary, books, cosmetics, toiletries, gifts and other goodies, on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**  
**All proceeds will go to the school's PTF.**

## Sedgefield Community Christmas Fayre



### Join our Tommy's festive fundraising event

on **Saturday December 8th from 10:30 - 1:30**  
at **Sedgefield Parish Hall**

**Donations are needed by November 17th please, for Auctions, Christmas Hamper Raffle, Tombola & Sweets Stall**

**Please bring your donations for the Cake Stall and Bring & Buy a Toy to the Parish Hall by 10am on the day**

**Contact Andrea 01429 883217  
or Laura 01740 621847**

*Tommy's exists to save babies' lives because right now in the UK one in four women loses a baby during pregnancy or birth. We fund research into and provide information on the causes and prevention of miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth. By 2030 we want to halve the number of babies who die during pregnancy or birth.*

**For more details, visit [www.tommys.org/xmas](http://www.tommys.org/xmas) or call 020 7398 3430  
TOMMY'S THE BABY CHARITY is a registered charity no 1060508**

# Community SAFETY



## Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crimewatch Panel

Relevant details from the meeting held on October 9th

**Under Matters Arising:** Item 4a) - A member stated that contrary to Tim Spearey's statement there is an ongoing drugs problem in the village and she is still finding evidence of drug taking in public places near her home; and the Police are **still** well aware of this state of affairs. C/man also confirmed this fact and gave details of his own **very recent experience** which involved finding pills and hypodermic needles. He commended the Borough Community Support Officer, who attended very promptly and removed them, for his professionalism and courtesy.

**Representative Reports:** **a) Community Force:** Tim tendered apologies due to other duties, but had issued C/man with his report which was circulated to members present. **b) Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:** Sarah Norman talked about Identity Fraud and the national drive to raise awareness of this crime. She referred members to the web site [www.identity-theft.org.uk](http://www.identity-theft.org.uk) & confirmed there were other useful web sites & contacts available to the public. An interesting exchange of questions took place and Sarah affirmed yes, she really did think it is worthwhile for everyone to take the time to shred and destroy their addresses on postage along with paper containing more sensitive personal details, even in a place like Sedgefield. **c) Crime Prevention Officer:** Neil Langthorne reported on Operation DARC again and reminded everyone of the need to take precautions to deter burglars and thieves in the dark nights ahead. He gave details of how only a few persons can be responsible for the majority of burglaries and thefts in an area and of how difficult it is becoming to get criminals custodial sentences. Without a prison sentence the crimes will continue to be carried out for the individuals who do this, it is quite simply their career/job. Neil commented to members that even in Sedgefield the crime level could be reduced if householders took some simple precautions e.g. don't leave tools / ladders available, use security lights, disguise house owners away on holiday etc. Members questioned Neil about security issues and welcomed his assistance and guidance. Neil advised that there are two key areas to protect; garages & sheds; doing this would really reduce crime in our area.

**d) Village Constable:** Keith was unable to attend due to other duties but provided his list of the Reported Crime in Sedgefield Village for the period **Aug 14 - Oct 9**. 20 crimes were recorded: 7- Burglaries; 9-Thefts (inc 2 car related) 4- Damage (inc 2 car related). Due to Keith's absence there was no discussion relating to these specific crimes, but there was discussion about: - **d1) Winterton Estate** (crime, anti social behaviour, alcohol related aspects) **d2) Anti Social Behaviour** in the Village (not getting resolved by Police or Borough, not enough Police presence or interest). **d3) Alcohol misuse** problems in the Village (not getting resolved by Police, Borough, or Town Council and not enough Police presence or interest) the desire still to have a trial in our village of No Street Drinking which continues to be ignored by (and actively dismissed by some) Police, Borough & Town Council - despite residents' requests. **d4) Drug Use** well known to Police & still not resolved by Police or Borough; residents are being worn down by authorities lack of interest/action. **d5) Damage** to local areas (environment)- despite information Police / Borough do not seem to be able to record or see the same issues. **d6) Lack of Police Presence** (esp. when it matters eg Fri. nights) & rumours that PCSO Dean Wilson, who has passed entrance to Police Force, will not be replaced. Town Council representative Alan Blakemore attending his first meeting (for the Council) was able to respond to a lot of the above issues but unfortunately was not able to convince members present that any of the "initiatives" or the actions taken by the Borough are even going to tackle the key issues let alone resolve them. However Alan was thanked for his contribution and especially for his kind assistance to a member.

**Cold Calling:** Sec'y gave update on the present position and reasons for delay. **A.O.B. Police Consultative Meeting 10/9/07:** Committee (PCC) C/man had sought views on Police Priorities from public present; these were (in order) Anti Social Behaviour, Alcohol Related & Drug Related. Interestingly, exactly the same 3 for every area represented and the same problems echoed too - not adequate Police attendance/response, public disillusioned now & don't report, unhappy that Police turn blind eye to problems. **Inadequate Police Response:** A member was concerned that despite serious threats no uniform Police attended for 3 days. However CPO Neil Langthorne had been contacted on 3rd day and Neil was personally & publicly thanked for his much valued assistance. Alan Blakemore offered further guidance which was gratefully received. The **AGM** was held on Tuesday 9th October also, at which the audited accounts were accepted as was the C/man's report. As there were no new nominations for office all those in post and on the Executive committee (who had agreed to serve again) were duly re-elected.

## PC Todd's report

Now that the dark nights are here I would like to remind you that nocturnal 'parasites' may be looking to burgle your house, so, remember, the general rule is to give the impression that the house is occupied even if you are out. Locks and alarms are not enough to deter the burglar so, if you are going away, arrange for someone to visit every day to open/close curtains and remove mail, giving an air of normality.

A timing switch on the landing to turn lights on before it gets dark is always helpful. Burglars look for easy targets and open curtains in the bedroom and lounge give the clear message 'Not At Home'. Recently two families returned from holiday to face the shock and horror of such crime. The burglars had stolen a set of ladders from a shed in a nearby property and used them to disable an alarm at the front of one house. Tools from the shed at the other property were used to gain entry into the second house. Follow the above advice and **DON'T BECOME A VICTIM**.

Other reported crimes include damage to a car and theft of spare wheel in the Winterton area, and damage to a drainpipe in High St.

Until next time

Keith

## Pub Watch

The monthly meeting was held at the Black Lion. Two incidents of unacceptable behaviour in members' premises were reported, resulting in 4 persons receiving warning letters. Pub Watch members will not tolerate bad behaviour in their premises and action will be taken against offenders.

Please remember to ask for plastic glasses if you intend to take a drink outside - even if it is only for a quick smoke.

## Telephone Numbers

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

**Local Police: 0845 6060365** - to report concerns, seek advice or pass on information to the Police  
*(it may be prudent to keep a note of details of any conversation & to obtain an incident number).*

For advice/assistance, call CPO Neil Langthorne on 01325 742714  
or Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Sarah Norman, on 01325 742755

## **Jottings** from **Sedgefield Residents' Forum**

The last published jottings covered the last meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September, brought forward from the scheduled date of Sept 24<sup>th</sup> so that urgent issues regarding the proposed Holiday Park application could be addressed. Since then the working group to deal with the Holiday Park application have met several times and done a tremendous amount of work gathering information, formulating objections and getting information out to every household in the village. By the time you read this we hope you will all have responded with your views on this application – we have tried to make it as easy as possible for everyone to have their say and it is really, really important that everyone does – don't just rely on others to make the objections.

We don't yet know the date for the application to be considered by the Planning Committee; it could be in November or December. We will publish the date as soon as we know – watch the village notice board. Remember, anyone can attend the planning committee meeting and it would be interesting see if they could accommodate as many of you as attended at the meeting in the Parish Hall!

Bolams' animal by-product waste incinerator appeal enquiry will probably take place on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2008; residents can attend this meeting which should be at a local venue. If you wish to make any comment on this issue please come to a Forum meeting or contact us by letter or telephone.

The next meeting is on 26<sup>th</sup> November. Any other public meetings will be well publicised but please do keep an eye on the notice board. As always minutes etc are available in the Library, from the Town Council Offices, by email if you have given a contact and on the village web sites.

With regard to the request for information on the licence times for music in local venues we have obtained the following from Sedgefield Borough Council:-

Premises	Activity	Timing
Hardwick Hall Hotel	All music	Mon-Sat 09.00 - 02.00 Sun 09.00 - 00.00
Hardwick Arms	Recorded Music  Live music etc	Mon-Thur 11.00 - 23.20 Fri-Sat 11.00 - 00.20 Sun 11.00 - 22.50 Mon-Sat 11.00 - 23.00 Sun 11.00 - 23.30
Sedgefield Racecourse	All music	Mon-Sun 10.00 - 02.00
Golden Lion	All music	Mon- Thu 11.00 - 23.00 Fri-Sat 11.00- 00.00
Black Lion	All music	Mon- Sun 10.00 - 00.00
Hope Inn	Recorded music  Live music	Mon - Sat 11.00 - 00.20 Sun 12.00 - 23.20 Mon - Sat 11.00 - 00.00 Sun 12.00 - 23.00

### **CAVOS WORKSHOPS**

#### **Quick Steps to Doing it Better Thursday 15th November**

Sedgefield Parish Hall, 9.30—2.30  
Find out about funding, volunteering and money management at 3 bite-size workshops you just can't afford to miss

**'How to lose a volunteer'** –  
a bad practice guide

**'How to get your hands on the money'** and **'Keeping out of the Red'**

Trained funding advisors will be on hand throughout the day

**BOOKING is ESSENTIAL so  
contact CAVOS at 01388 811115  
enquiries@cavos.org.uk**

### **CAVOS has moved**

After being forced out of its existing premises by the new owners of Festival Walk in Spennymoor, CAVOS is now located at 20 High Street, Spennymoor, Co Durham, DL16 6DB. That's above Fulltums Café, just across the road from the previous premises. People with disabilities who might struggle with stairs are invited to telephone to arrange a home visit. **Tel 01388 811115.**

CAVOS was established in 2000 to provide help, support and advice to community and voluntary groups, agencies and organisations across Sedgefield.

## **Runner up award for Council**

Sedgefield Town Council has been awarded Runner Up Council of the Year for 2007, in a competition to recognise outstanding achievements in first tier local government.

Cllr. John Robinson and Town Clerk Lesley Swinbank represented the Town Council at the National Conference in Bournemouth in October and received the framed certificate.

Councillor Dudley Waters said 'This is testament to the commitment, hard work and support of Members and Staff and their loyalty to our community. There are exciting opportunities ahead for our tier of local government and by achieving this award we have demonstrated that we are ready to embrace all future challenges.'

Lesley Swinbank was amongst the final 5 short listed for Clerk of the Year and was presented with a bouquet at the Council Meeting.

### **Sedgefield Village Veterans**

**The Annual Service & Wreath Laying Ceremony at the War Memorial, St Luke's Church, Winterton Park, will be at 2pm on Remembrance Day, Sunday 11th November, so as not to clash with the St Edmunds 10am service**

## **The Bookworm**

**'Half of a Yellow Sun' by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, author of 'The Purple Hibiscus'.**

A truly excellent read, set in Nigeria in the 1960s during civil war, it tells the story of Olanna, a university lecturer who abandons her privileged life in Lagos to live with Odenigbo, the professor, and Ugwu, their houseboy from a poor village. The story is full of intrigue; Olanna's relationship with Richard and her twin sister Kainene; the twists and turns of how the war engulfs them all, testing their loyalties throwing them apart and yet bringing them together. This is the kind of novel you want to read all over again.

*GW*

*Share your thoughts on a favourite book with our other readers. Send your copy to 58 Front Street, Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ or email [snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk](mailto:snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk).*

# SPORTS UPDATE

with [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com)

## Rugby

Sometimes, it's just great to be proved wrong. Last month, I mocked England's rugby union team, having just seen them thrashed 36-0 by South Africa. Four weeks later and I am writing this on the eve of the World Cup final. By the time you read it, England could have retained their crown – amazing. And even if they don't win the final, they will have certainly made a fantastic defence of their title.

Back here, Sedgefield District RUFC goes from strength to strength. The team recently won their second game, against an outfit from West Hartlepool. A crowd of over 50 turned up to watch the 24-10 victory. Details on this next month, but for more, go to [www.sedgefieldrugby.co.uk](http://www.sedgefieldrugby.co.uk).

## Dinghy Sailing at Hartlepool

The Hartlepool theme continues with news of a fantastic triple triumph for some Sedgefield youngsters. On Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup> the Tees & Hartlepool Yacht Club Youth Regatta was held at Jackson's Dock in glorious sunshine and a fresh force three south-westerly breeze. The first race was in Optimist dinghies for the 8 years and under and was won by Alex Jones (8). She was competing in her first regatta having only started sailing this year. The other races were held in Topper dinghies. Michael Jones (12) was second in the 13 years and under race and Sam Jones (14) finished first in

the 16 years and under race.

The final race of the regatta was the overall Youth Championship race for the Burton Trophy, open to all youngsters aged 18 years and under. Sam was a little over-eager at the start, crossing the line too early and had to re-start, but Michael sailed an almost faultless race to finish first and become the youngest winner of the Burton Trophy. Congratulations to all three Joneses on their fantastic performances.

Alex is a pupil at Sedgefield Primary School and Sam and Michael both attend Sedgefield Community College. Cadet Sailing training (under-18) takes place at Tees and Hartlepool Yacht Club in Hartlepool every Friday evening in term time from May to October.

## Football

*Thanks to Ryan Towler for this update on Sedgefield Youth FC:*

"Although now out of the league and county cups, the team is still top of the league. We have played some really good matches lately, drawing 3-3 against Aycliffe Youth, losing 2-0 to Grangetown YCC in the league cup match, but then winning against Bedale JFC 2-1, Eaglescliffe Elementis 5-3 and South Park Rangers (B) 4-2, before our 7-4 defeat to Norton U11s in the county cup.

"On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Oct we led the family fun day sponsored walk around Sedgefield racecourse, to show our support for other events happening in our village. In total,

## Youth Football Fixtures

11 Nov (H) v 21<sup>st</sup> Allstars (b)  
18 Nov (A) v Great Ayton JFC  
25 Nov (H) v South Park Rangers (b)  
09 Dec (A) v Beechwood Youth  
Kick-off times - 10.30 to 11.00am

14 out of our 17 team members showed up, so we were proud of our turn out. Jamie Hurd, Mathew and Joe Bennet, Ryan Brown, Luke Towler and I completed all five laps and I got the fastest lap of the day! Thank you again to everyone for the support they have given the club so far."

*I am also grateful for an update on the progress of St. Edmund's FC, provided by Andrew Watson:*

"To date, St. Edmund's have played 11 games this season and are still in four cup competitions. They have only lost one game so far and have made an excellent start. Top goal scorer from last season Brian Fairhurst continues to improve, with six goals already, while new signing from Chilton WMC Craig Mason has settled in well and is second top scorer with five. We play our home games at Sedgefield Community College, kicking off at 10.30am on Sunday mornings – supporters are always welcome."

## Sedgefield Harriers

Sedgefield Harriers Junior Section, pictured below at their annual presentations at Ceddesfeld Hall, celebrated a year of hard work and outstanding achievements. The Juniors now have 47 members training at the Community College on Wednesday evenings with



Durham Sports Coach of the Year for 2007 (more on this next month), Scott Hydon. **All of the young athletes received their SHINE awards, which mark athletic achievement.**

Making the presentations, Scott said how hard it had been to choose the recipients from such a group of talented young people. Best Cross Country performance awards went to Alexandra Walls for her performance in the U11 girls race at Sunderland Harriers Cross Countries; Joe Potts - the boy's award for his performance in the U11 boys race at the same event. Ashley Boardman - the girls track performance award for her performance in the 800m at Shildon in a North Yorkshire South Durham League meet. Jonathan Baines - the boys' award, for his performance at a British Milers Club meet for 800m with a time of 2:28. JT Fanneli - the award for girls' field event performance for her shot put at Shildon, and Andrew Lawson - the boys best field event performance award for his long jump of 4.05m at an NYSD meet. Andrew was also commended for receiving a gold medal for consistently good performances throughout the NYSD season. Adam Flatters & Corri Sinclair showed best improvement throughout the year. The Young Member of the Year Award went to Jonathan Baines who has performed well consistently for Sedgefield Harriers and shows a level of commitment to his sport and a desire to succeed that is an example to everyone at the club.

The evening was very well attended by young athletes, parents and grand parents, who all enjoyed Peter Hind's entertaining family quiz after the presentations. That's all for this month. As ever, please send any sports news to [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com)

## A Swinging Visit

On Saturday the 29th September, a group of musicians from Germany paid us a visit as part of the Twinning Association celebrations of 25 years of friendship with Hamminkeln. The "Young People Band" are based in Brunen which is a town in the Hamminkeln district, and their 22 talented members have a repertoire of more than 380 numbers from traditional swing in the Glen Miller Style to modern jazz, gospel and latin jazz. The concert was held in the Parish Church and also featured Alex Ord and his Trio. The performances, which were given free of charge, were greeted with much enthusiasm and were obviously appreciated by the audience. The resulting contributions to Church funds amounting to just over £250.

Following the concert the band were invited to a buffet luncheon in the Rectory Row Social Club, following which they were shown around the "Heritage Trail" by Judith Edgoose, before leaving for home in Germany. (see picture). An email received following their return expressed thanks and appreciation for the warm hospitality they received during their brief visit. We look forward to similar events in the future.



... and it was a blast from the past - on the trombone that is, for Jackie and Ernie Postgate, who had received an email from Peter De-Vroedt to tell her he would be playing trombone in St Edmunds church with the Young People's Band. They went to the concert, which was "fabulous"! Jackie first met Peter & his sister Sabine 24 years ago when they came to Sedgefield with a scout group led by Heinz Hessling, camping on the racecourse. Many visits followed to and from Hamminkeln with the Scouts and Guides, which led to many long lasting friendships as the groups travelled together to Berlin, Italy, and Switzerland.

*Pictured below are Liz Garner (who hosted Peter on early visits to Sedgefield) with Peter, Jackie & Ernie.*

## Windermere charity Swim

Congratulations to Duane Newton & Mark Perry, both of Sedgefield, who successfully completed a 3k swim in Lake Windermere on September 1st, raising over £800 for cancer research.



# November Events Diary

A FREE service to  
non-commercial organisations

## Round Table Autumn Fayre

**Saturday 3rd November**

10 am - 12 noon in the Parish Hall  
Tins, bric-a-brac, books, toys, etc.

## Firework Display

Ceddesfeld Hall Grounds 6.30pm

**Saturday 3rd November**

Adults £2 Children £1

Tickets from Post Office, Council  
Offices and Ceddesfeld Hall  
*You cannot be guaranteed entrance  
on the night without a ticket*

## Cricket Club Quiz Night

Starts 8pm

**Saturday 3rd November**

Quizmaster - Ryan Davey

All are welcome

## Local History Society

7.45pm at Ceddesfeld Hall

**Monday 5th November**

Ian Stubbs, Dorman Museum,  
Middlesbrough - **Personalities of  
the Iron and Steel Age**  
All welcome

## Sedgefield Garden Society

Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.30pm

**Tuesday 6th November**

**Winter Hanging Baskets**

by George Richardson

NB This is a Programme Change

## Sedgefield W.I.

7:15pm in the Parish Hall

**Wednesday 7th November**

Sharon Hogarth

**Chocolate Demonstration**

Members' competition - a  
Pretty Chocolate Box

Visitors welcome (fee £1.50)

## CeddesFolk Traditional Acoustic Session

at Ceddesfeld Hall from 8pm on

**Wednesday 7th November**

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

## Sedgefield Civic Trust

**Thursday 8th November**

at 7 pm at 28 White House Drive  
Business & members' night

## Sedgefield Farmers' Market

**Sunday 11th November**

on the Village Green

## Sedgefield Mags

**Monday 12th November**

8pm in the Nags Head

'Sedgefield Mags' run a bus to all  
Newcastle United home games

## Sedgefield Primary School

PTFA Christmas fundraiser

**Wednesday 14th November**

7.30pm - see page 3

## Christmas Shopping

Our Trip to York leaves Sedgefield

8am, returning from York at 5pm

on **Saturday 17th November**

**Tickets £7 each or £24.50 for 4**

**Proceeds to Sedgefield**

**Community College PTFA**

tel: **Sharon Rhodes - 623963**

## Craft Fair

Sedgefield Parish Hall

**Sunday 18th November**

10am-4pm. Handmade cakes &  
pies, cards & presents, jewellery,  
wood turning & more. Free  
admission. Refreshments available

## Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

**Monday 19th November**

7.45pm at Ceddesfeld Hall

**"A Close Run Thing" -**

**The Battle of Waterloo**

John Sadler (DLI Museum)

Visitors welcome

## Ferryhill, Sedgefield &

**District Flower Club**

**Tuesday 20th November**

7.30 pm in the Parish Hall

**"Christmas Sparkle"**

Kevin Gunnell, National &

NW Area Demonstrator.

All welcome

## Sedgefield Wildlife Group

**Thursday 22nd November**

7.45 pm in the Parish Hall

Details from Steve Ashton, 620559

Everyone welcome

## Sedgefield Show A.G.M.

**Thursday 22nd November**

8 pm, Nags Head - All welcome

## Sedgefield Cricket Club

**Live Music Night**

**Saturday 24th November** 8 pm

Main Guest: Happy Cats;

Also featuring Judith Haswell,

John Wrightson Band & other

guests

£8 inc. buffet: call 621347

*The Cricket Club is available to let,  
normally free of charge.*

*To book the Club,*

*call Jane on 629616*

## Residents' Forum

**Monday 26th November**

7pm, Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

All welcome

## Mobile Movies

A film for all the family

**Friday 30th November**

Parish Hall. Entry £1.50 all ages  
No need to book but under 8's need  
an accompanying adult

## 101 Gigs in November

02 - The Telstar, Billingham

03 - The Penny Black, Stockton

9 - The Foresters, Coundon (6pm)

13 - Elgins, Redcar

16 - Manhattans, Stockton

17 - O'Neills, Durham

18 - The Normanby, Normanby

22 - The Gold Medal, Low Fell

23 - Dr. Browns, Middlesbrough

24 - Black Lion, Richmond.

25 - The Bensham Jockey (5pm)

30 - The Avalon, Whitley Bay

## Round Table

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

Sporting, social and charitable

events - new members welcome

**Contact Rob on 629079**

## Ladies' Circle

**2nd & 4th Thursdays**

Sporting, social and charitable

events - new members welcome

**Contact Viv on 629079**

## Country Market

Friday mornings in the Parish Hall

## Sedgefield Mother & Toddler Group@ Methodist Church

Mondays from 1.15 - 2.45 pm

Tea, coffee and a chat whilst your  
children play. Term time only.

For further information call 620572

## Coming up

### Sedgefield Garden Society

Tuesday 4th December

Christmas festivities

### Local History

Monday 3rd December

Robert Cooper on

the Story of Holy Island

### Bingo at Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 1st December

### Days In Days Out (DIDO)

Christmas extravaganza!

Monday 3rd December at 1.15pm

### Town Council Trip to Leeds

Wednesday 5th December

Tickets £8 from Town Council Office

### Christmas Concert

with the Lyric Singers, Lirica & SLYC

Fri/Sat 14th & 15th December

# Your Letters

## A Cautionary Tale

We would like to share our tale with other Sedgefield residents. About 6 months ago, we received a leaflet from a company from York, specialists in exterior house painting using textured coatings, and this was followed by a visit from their rep. We agreed a substantial price to have our house repainted, as textured coatings are expensive, and paid a 30% deposit. Shortly afterwards, unfortunately, my wife had an unexpected serious illness and we had to delay the house painting by about 2 months. When we subsequently gave the go-ahead, we were told that the original company had ceased trading, but that the contract had been taken over by a second company based in Leeds. The men duly arrived, carried out the work and impressive "before and after" photos were taken. Initially, we were very pleased with the finished job ... until a number of blisters began to appear under the paint. As the work carries a 15 year guarantee, we have been trying to contact the 2<sup>nd</sup> company for the last 3 months to request they carry out remedial work. We phoned at least 20 times over a 4-week period, and have sent letters and emails, but no-one has responded. We have come to the conclusion that they do not intend to honour their "guarantee" and have reported the company to the Trading Standards Office, in the hope of obliging them to correct the problem. But imagine our irritation when a new leaflet popped through our door (probably yours, too) showing "before and after" photos of our house, from a third company, again from York. We have never heard of this company, nor have we agreed to our photos being used in their publicity. Interestingly, all three companies appear to have the same senior management team led by the same Director. Are you thinking of having your house painted with a textured coating? If so, think carefully about who you engage to do the work!

*Name and Address supplied;  
traders names omitted*



**Sedgefield Development Trust is a member of the Development Trusts Association**

## Durham Road Retirement Flats

Duncan Maw comments on the proposed McCarthy & Stone planning development from a standpoint of someone 'less blinkered and self interested'. This implies that those who are unhappy about this development, by definition have no concern for the interests of elderly people. This is not so. Mr Maw's comments appear to ignore the rights of those already living in the surrounds of this intrusive and exploitative scheme, many of whom themselves are retired and also might be described as 'elderly people'. They too 'know what they want' and have made the choice of where they live, one presumes, in the expectation that they will not be overlooked by such a large development; especially one which is completely out of character with surrounding properties. Not wise, Mr Maw to set yourself up as a spokesperson for some sections of the elderly community whilst totally ignoring others. Not wise either to claim no 'self-interest' when elderly people are a core to the business of an Independent Financial Advisor. Naive of you too, to comment on village developments knowing full well that living within the confines of 'conservation' status affords you protection from such developments. Sorry Mr Maw, but I don't think too many people living near the Durham Road scheme would willingly accept a lecture from you (or anyone else with a business interest) about self-interest and NIMBYism. I do not propose to dignify your other points with more commentary. Instead I, like many others I suspect, will save my breath (and pen) until the planning application is formally submitted and we can all assess for ourselves the impact on the road, the surroundings and on Sedgefield itself.

*Martin Lodge*

## ... a brighter future for the Parish Hall? Cont from page 1

with a clear written agreement to safeguard any public funding which is sought by virtue of Trusts that the general public contribute to. I would like to see a meeting set up where a constituted committee could be formed with a clear brief to take this forward and a clear commitment from the Council to a Community Management Committee for the Parish Hall. While I see difficulty with the Town Council agreeing to this it is the only way we can have the safeguards necessary for the Trust and to protect our name. Although a transfer to a trust is important, there is no reason why the Town Council can't look after the day to day running of the hall, e.g. the bookings. We know from our own experience that funders will look for some long term commitment from the Town Council to the community and that could be in the form of a long lease with a peppercorn rent which would mean that they do not give up 'ownership' of the building, merely transfer its future into the hands of the community." Cllr. Dudley Waters, Mayor of Sedgefield said "Since the result of the referendum, staff and Members of the Town Council have been working hard to raise money for this refurbishment. I personally hoped and expected that everyone would 'pull together' and I have been surprised and disappointed that a SDT Trustee, Gloria Wills, has been using the media to criticise and possibly seriously hinder progress. We are confident contracts will be awarded very early in November". Town Clerk Lesley Swinbank said "We are all aware of the history of the Parish Hall, but we now have all the funding in place for the building works and are launching a fund-raising appeal to provide 'extras' eg furniture, crockery etc. We would be delighted to received help and support from all groups. I am confident that Sedgefield now wants the Town Council to proceed. Let's just get on with it!"

**The DEADLINE for copy for inclusion in the December edition of Sedgefield News is NOVEMBER 15th. Contact us at 58 Front Street, Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ: phone 629011: email [snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk](mailto:snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk)**

Views expressed in Sedgefield News are not necessarily those of the publisher: we strive to be impartial & independent. We reserve the right to edit contributions and will not publish letters of independent authorship, so please include your contact details in correspondence.

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