

Sedgefield NEWS

April 2013



Sedgefield mourns the loss of a giant among men

Fr. John Caden was a charismatic, lively, warm hearted and great spirited priest and public servant. In 1966 he was appointed as parish priest of St. John Fisher's Sedgefield, where he has worked tirelessly as hospitals' chaplain, Town and County Councillor and as Chairman of Sunderland Community Health Council and Vice-chair of South West Durham Health Authority. He was a founding member of Sedgefield Community Association and a supporter of our twinning with Hamminkeln, welcoming the German friends to the village and his parish.

He was attentive, engaged and compassionate; a shepherd always vigilant for his village community and his flock and a most remarkable and faithful Christian minister. Although officially retired he continued to serve his people, celebrating the Eucharist and visiting the sick, both Catholic and non-Catholic, until shortly before he died. He wanted to make a difference, to help all people regardless of their faith, promoting the work of all the churches in the interest of the common good.

Education was a subject very close to his heart and he spent many years on the governing bodies of the Sedgefield Community College, St William's Primary School, Trimdon and Carmel College, Darlington. While a committee member for social services, education, youth and community services he worked to provide amenities at Sedgefield Community College including a sports hall, fitness room and floodlit outdoor playing area and as chair of Governors of Carmel College steered the college from threat of closure in the 1980's to the position of high performing college which it now holds.

In 1989 he was honoured with the title Honorary Alderman of Co. Durham and in 1998 was made an Honorary Burgess of Sedgefield. Finally in 1998 he was honoured by the Queen with the M.B.E. for his services to the community.

Fr. John Caden has been an inspirational man in all aspects of his ministry. He touched the hearts of many generations by his constant care for the sick, his anguish for the poor and his defence of the weak in society. People across the North East will remember him with gratitude and deep affection and many could say with Maura Regan, Principal of Carmel College and lifelong member of St John Fisher, "He has been my friend, my mentor, my inspiration and my confidant. I will be ever grateful that I had the privilege of knowing such a giant among men."

His funeral Mass in St Edmund's Parish Church, attended by hundreds of people, was a testimony to the uniqueness and generosity of the priest who had given everything in service to his community. May he rest in peace.



Awards from store developer's community fund

The £150,000 given by Terrace Hill, developers of the new Sainsbury's Store, as a gesture of goodwill towards the community, has now been allocated by Sedgefield Town Council, following presentations, public meetings and much discussion. The funding is expected once the store opens in May and these will be the main beneficiaries:

Sedgefield 1st Scout Group	£15,000
Sedgefield Bowling Club	£22,500
Sedgefield Harriers	£40,000
Sedgefield Out of School Fun Club	£10,000
Sedgefield Squash Club	£22,500

The Town Council retained the first £20,000 to divide equally between funding towards the new neighbourhood plan for Sedgefield and a small pot for grants up to £2,000, which will be administered by Sedgefield Together Community Partnership. A further £20,000 will be given to Fishburn Parish Council; it was felt that as the new store is close to Fishburn, their community should also receive some benefit.

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The Sainsbury's effect

Our new superstore seems set to make a big impact on the Sedgefield area, and not just on our shopping habits and petrol miles.

There has already been huge demand for jobs at the store and recruitment continues daily, but there are other sides to Sainsbury's arrival that we perhaps didn't expect. For instance, their involvement in the community could change the outlook for some local organisations, charities and individual fundraisers.

See p3 to meet the manager and learn of his plans for the future.

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Funding awards *continued from front page*

The Town Council were impressed with the presentations and agreed that all were very worthwhile projects. They discussed the merits of all projects and felt the money should be given to sustainable capital schemes with a real chance of success and of improving the existing activity. Unfortunately, applications from the Cricket Club and Youth Development did not make it into the final shortlist, but the overall recommendations of the working party were unanimous. Hopefully the successful groups can now move forward to obtain the necessary matched funding and other general permissions such as planning etc. The monies will be retained by the Town Council and handed over once everything is in place. If a project is unable to move forwards within two years, then the group can apply for an extension. Otherwise the money will be re-allocated.

Athletics track public consultation

Sedgefield Harriers will hold a public consultation event in early April to share the club's proposals to install an athletics training track at the community college. The event will give people the opportunity to find out more details of the plans and provide feedback to the Harriers about the project. The consultation will be held over three days; April 4th (5pm-7.30pm), 5th (10am-4.00pm) and 6th (9am-12noon) on the ground floor of the Manor House on West End (next to Barclays Bank). All are welcome to go along, meet the team behind the track project and have a look at some of the details behind it. During the event, there will be an exhibition of entries submitted by primary school children towards the end of last year, for a competition that looked back at the highlights of the Sedgefield Village Games, and the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics. Over 200 young people entered the competition and there were some very imaginative creations, many of which will be on display in the Manor House for the duration of the public consultation.

Happy Families

Sedgefield Players March production of John Godber's Happy Families played to small but very appreciative houses. 'One of the funniest plays ever', 'Could hold its head up in the West End', 'So true to life' - a small selection of comments from those lucky enough to see it. With tickets at £6 & £5, the Players provide a bargain evening of drama of the finest quality. Thomas Guest gave an outstanding performance as son John, growing up and away from his working class family. The tough love of parents Jean Hewling and Terry West took him from a shy mumbling little lad to a confident out-spoken graduate in drama. Grandparents Geoff Clifford-Brown and Norma Neal kept a watchful eye on him, even from the grave, while the pride of his daft Auntie Doris (Sarah Atkinson) counteracted the snooty attitudes of posh Auntie Edna and cousin Rebecca (Viv Jacobs & Sarah Legender). All except John wore monochrome costumes in shades of grey, evoking a lifetime of memories seen in the mind's eye. The minimal set, mimed props, period music and subtle lighting changes enhanced a production which once again hit the high standards expected from Sedgefield Players. Many supporters travel miles to see us. We'd love to see more Sedgefield people at our summer production, from June 13-15. Details soon.

1863 Grand Gala at Hardwick Park 2013 Big Celebration

150 years to the day, the Friends of Hardwick are organising a celebration and re-enactment of a Grand Gala held for the Sedgefield Mechanics' Institute in Hardwick Park on 11th August 1863. With walks around the Park (with guides in costume); a Grand Musical Promenade and Military Concert (in 1863 by the band of the 16th Queen's Lancers) and athletics (sack race, bell race, pole leap, running high leap and foot steeple chase - some costumed, others open events) and a (tethered) hot air balloon ascent if possible. So please think about joining us on Sunday 11th August - maybe in costume! In 1863 "the fair sex turned out in best summer attire"!

Also please tell us anything you know or can find out about any of these:

- the Sedgefield Mechanics' Institute, especially in the 1860s
- the band of the 16th Queen's Lancers and its director Mr E Harker (whose 'Sparkling Cup' waltz and 'Home of Youth' and 'The Young Recruit' 'Galops' were part of the programme)
- what was a 'bell race'? what did the 'pole leap' consist of?
- what would the athletes wear in 1863?
- people mentioned in the athletics in 1863-
- G Newby of Durham (pole leap and steeple chase)
- J L Oyston of West Auckland (pole leap and high leap)
- ? Lindsay (steeple chase)
- ? Keenan of Shotton (running high leap)
- the silver mounted whip - the prize for the pony race in 1863

Any information will be gratefully received; please call John Fitzpatrick; 621431 or friendsofhardwick@gmail.com. And - see you on Sunday 11th August 2013!

Mediaeval Fayre May 18th Help needed!

As you will know, much of the Mediaeval Fayre income comes from goods collected from Sedgefield residents in the week running up to the Fayre, May 13th - 16th. This year we are **seriously** short of help for collections. If you could donate a couple of hours from 6 - 8pm on any of the above days, or if you would like tickets (£16) for the St George's Dinner on April 27th in Ceddesfeld Hall, please call Wendy; 620206 or Pat; 620607.

SCA launches 100 club

At its Annual General Meeting on 21st March Sedgefield Community Association launched its new 100 Club. There will be a draw each month with prizes ranging from £40 to £10. Tickets cost £2.00 per month. There will be more prizes and of greater value in June and December depending on the take up of the scheme.

People joining the club don't have to be a member of the SCA. They can select their own number, or numbers (providing they have not already been allocated). Payment is by one annual payment of £24.00 or by monthly standing order.

Chairman Phil Broomhead told Sedgefield News "Since losing our annual grant of £3,500 from Durham County Council and with other income streams coming under pressure we have to find different ways of raising the funds to keep the Association and particularly Ceddesfeld Hall going. The 100 Club is the scheme we are launching now but clearly we will need to consider others to make up the shortfall caused by the loss of the grant."

If you want to join the Club, please contact Treasurer, Dudley Waters, 620467 or 07989 094301 (call or text) to book your number(s) and arrange payment.

A sparkler of a birthday!

I would just like to say a big thank you to my family, friends and neighbours for the cards, beautiful flowers and gifts. I didn't realise how many people we could get in our house at once!

There was plenty of noise and laughter so I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did. Thanks again for coming out in such awful weather to help me celebrate my 70th Birthday. As you can see by the photo, even the cake was sparkling in the end - must have been something to do with the Champagne!



Dorothy Anderson

The Sainsbury's effect - continued from front page

The manager of the new store, Michael Watkiss (*pictured right*) comes to us with years of experience, having already managed stores in Sunderland, Darlington and North Yorkshire. He says "I am looking forward to providing Sedgefield and the surrounding area with a great place to shop and my colleagues a great place to work." Construction is well underway and the store is scheduled to open in May. The company will hold a Taster Day on Saturday 20th April at the Parish Hall between 10am and 2pm, where experts from Sainsbury's Try Team will be on hand to inspire us with recipe ideas and cooking up tasty treats to try. The official store opening date will be announced there and you will have the chance to meet and talk to Michael Watkiss.



Charity of the year

Sainsbury's is keen to become part of our community and each store has a nominated Charity of the Year, which colleagues help through fundraising and other activities. The store is looking for its first Charity of the Year and any charities that would like to partner with Sainsbury's for the coming year are asked to email Michael on manager.sedgefield@sainsburys.co.uk

Michael is already making links with local schools and other groups and says if you see him around Sedgefield in the next few weeks, please do say hello.

"I look forward to hearing from charities that would like to put themselves forward for our Charity of the Year."

Food donations

Michael is also looking for local charities to benefit from Sainsbury's food donations. He explains: "Often at the end of each day there is surplus food such as bread, milk, fruit, vegetables and other food which is either past its 'display until' date or has damaged packaging, but is still within the 'use by' date. We would rather donate this safe and nutritious surplus food to local charities for free rather than see it go to waste. If you think your charity or group could benefit from Sainsbury's food donations, please email me."

Recruitment

All jobs are advertised online on the www.sainsburys.jobs website. Anyone interested in a position at Sainsbury's should keep checking the website and be quick to apply as the company has been inundated with applications so far.

Can you help?

Sedgefield Lyrics, a friendly four-part choir performing songs from the modern and classical repertoire, are looking for a piano accompanist for weekly rehearsals and twice yearly concerts. We meet Fridays 7.30 – 9pm at Ceddesfeld Hall. For an informal chat, please contact Joan Green on 01325 317039 or email joan.green6@tiscali.co.uk.



Red noses in College

Sedgefield Community College supported Comic Relief this year at a non-school uniform day. The event was led by the student's own Charity Committee, very much the driving force behind the day, and amongst other things the students delivered a whole-school presentation to over 800 of their peers to encourage them to support the charity.

Students were asked to wear red on the day and bring a £1 donation for Comic Relief. Alongside this, 120 noses were sold by the Charity Committee as well as 421 'comic relief' cakes. In total, £1035 was raised for Comic Relief.

Vouchers for schools

The Primary Schools in Sedgefield continue to collect supermarket 'schools' vouchers from Sainsburys (running currently), Tesco and Morrisons (Autumn term), as well as Nestle Cereal Box tops (all year round). A wide range of resources can be purchased including sports equipment, art & craft material, ICT hard and software and gardening equipment. A collection box is held in the village Post Office, should you wish to help. The contents are split equally between the schools and we all thank everyone who supports us.

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel

Bank Note Forgery - Counterfeit Detection Pens

After local Police informed us in February of an increasing number of forged Bank Notes in current circulation in our area, the Neighbourhood Watch group made a number of counterfeit detector pens available from the Parish Council Offices (for a small donation.) Please make Police aware by calling 101 if you are passed a counterfeit note.

Talking Sedgefield News CDs:

Vice chairman David Hillerby, who with our Treasurer Phyllis produces these every month for those who are sight afflicted in the village, made a plea at our last meeting for members to seek out anyone they may know who could benefit from these, as sadly our existing numbers have dwindled recently. David and Phyllis do an excellent job. If you know anyone who would benefit by *hearing* the Sedgefield News because they cannot read it, please call David on 01740 621343. David & Phyllis are willing to help.

Flask in the Fridge:

Please remember to update your data sheet inside the flask, following any change to either your medication or health. It is vital, if Emergency Services are called, that the information they refer to is accurate & up to date. This is for your benefit only. A simple method is to put your most recent medication prescription in the flask (as long as it has all current medication on it).

Garden Thefts:

Don't become a victim of this regular 'easy pickings' crime by leaving tools and equipment lying around unattended. Lock them away out of sight. Mark valuable gardening items with your post code, using a simple UV pen. Think about installing a low-cost security alarm for your shed & please keep it locked with a decent lock.

The next Panel Meeting is on Tuesday April 16th, 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Residents' Forum Jottings from March Resident Forum

There was the usual update on previous & ongoing issues. Again, no representation from Councillors although there was a verbal promise that written updates would be sent. Verbal information was given following a query regarding progress on the caravan park. The caravan park is 3 years into the 5 year conditional period before caravans could be sited.

Survey work has been seen in areas of proposed housing development; we will have to wait for the final draft of the County Durham plan for final information. Following the Forum's objections to the perceptions of Durham Diocese as to housing need in the village (remember they own a large area of the land identified for building) they were to have further discussions on the issue and have promised to keep us informed of their views.

Of course it is an ongoing worry that County Durham is one of several councils who have not yet approved a plan in the time required by Government and as recent national press reports indicate this leaves areas very vulnerable to any development as the presumption in favour of development takes priority. Please attend any consultation meetings to protect our village character – your voice is important.

There were reports on the Police and Crime Commissioner, community policing, noise issues in and around the village and great concern was expressed at the use of a ward at the Community hospital as administration offices when, as residents identified, there is a need for more beds for elderly patients.

Update was given on the ongoing section 106 monies, Durham County Council have forward a budget showing the total spend of the circ £46K on the woodland work, (obviously future maintenance will have to come from Council Tax revenues !) They have not included any of the disputed interest on the monies but our investigations continue.

As outlined last month, local elections will be held on May 2nd; this is the only chance to elect our representatives for the next 4 years. It will be very interesting to see who stands for election. The Forum has agreed to hold an open meeting in April to allow prospective Town/County councillors to give information to and answer question from our community. We held such an event prior to the last elections and it proved very popular so do come along and meet the people who want your vote. We hope to hold the meeting at 7pm on April 23rd but watch the village notice board or the email circulation, if you are on that list, to see if the event is going ahead.

The next Forum meeting was scheduled for May 6th but since that is a Bank Holiday we have changed it to **Monday May 13th at 7pm in the Fletcher Room of the Parish Hall**. By then we will know our new Council members. But remember from March 18th to 22nd May there is a period of 'Purdah' - the pre-election period; specifically the time between an announced election and the final election results. It prevents local and principal councils (e.g. Durham County Council - DCC) from promoting or actively supporting any particular political party or candidate. It also prevents them from making announcements about any new or controversial initiatives which could be seen to be to the advantage to any candidates or parties in the forthcoming election.



PC Todd

Crime has remained low in Sedgefield over the last four weeks with only a report of theft on 23rd February of both front and rear number plates taken from a Renault Megan being reported. The recent publicity regarding counterfeit notes circulating in the village have also had the desired effect as we have had no further reports. Nearby villages have also seen a reduction in persons using them.

Pub Watch

A meeting was held recently in the Hope Inn. No incidents requiring further action were reported. A reminder to licensees/customers regarding the dangers of Drinking and Driving was explained after a female was arrested recently. She said that she had been drinking in a Sedgefield pub before driving her vehicle. She is now waiting for a court case and automatic ban.

P.A.C.T. Due to another meeting being held at the same time it was decided at the last meeting that the police would not attend this meeting of the Residents' forum. Also, that the Pact priority would remain the same for another month. This would be for the Neighbourhood Police Team to continue to focus on the complaint received regarding the of manner of driving/speed of vehicles coming through the chicanes and along Durham road. A number of drivers have received warning letters. You have been warned.

For Local Police, call 101

CPO Mark Pheasant, 01325 742714

Community Liaison Officer

Neil Langthorne, 01325 742755

Bloom website

Thanks to the power of Sedgefield News, Sedgefield In Bloom now has a web-team.

Seen here meeting in the council offices are Matt Wilson of Sedgefield Web Design with Y11 Community College students William Winter, Alex Wall & Craig Addison, who have kindly volunteered to help. We will let readers know as soon as the site goes online.



To advertise in Sedgefield News, please call/text 07572 502 904 or email sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

All back issues of Sedgefield News from 2003 to the present are now available at www.sedgefieldweb

Bloom judging alert!

Liz Lazenby and Albert Paterson of Northumbria in Bloom will visit Sedgefield on Wednesday 10th April at 1.30pm for their springtime judging. Local businesses have already received a flier about our new initiative, Pride in your Premises. We hope everybody, residents and commercial concerns alike, will pull out all the stops to show Sedgefield off at its blooming best.

Guide to the Gardens

The Friends of Ceddesfeld Gardens have designed and erected a new Information Board in Ceddesfeld Gardens. It is positioned just behind Ceddesfeld Hall overlooking the duck pond. It includes information on the history of the gardens, designed by Joseph Spence in the eighteenth century, and on the trees and wildlife currently found there. The Board was funded by County Durham Community Foundation and the Durham County Member's Initiative Fund. We hope it will give residents and visitors alike a greater appreciation of a much-loved area of the village.

Notes from Sedgefield Village Veterans

Johnny Hill. It is with deep sadness that Sedgefield Village Veterans announce that 91 year old Johnny Hill, ex RASC World War 2, passed away on 18th March in North Tees General Hospital. Born on 18th October 1921, in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, Johnny joined the army in April 1941. After serving at numerous camps he arrived at Sedgefield on Christmas Day 1941. Johnny landed on Gold Beach, Normandy on D-Day plus 1. He was one of the first British troops to enter Belsen. Whilst serving in Sedgefield, he met Rachel Stubbs and they were married in St Edmund's Church's on 2nd June 1943 and eventually had 2 children, Geoff and Joyce. May he rest in peace with his beloved wife, Rachel.

The last coffee morning raised £144 for funds. Many thanks to all who helped and subscribed. We would still appreciate donations of Tombola or Raffle prizes so if you can help, please call David Hillerby on 621343

Veterans at Ease (Because Military Minds Matter) are holding a full evening of music, from Rock to Blues & Jazz on Saturday 27th April from 7pm in Mainsforth Community Centre, Ferryhill Station. Tickets £5 (or VIP £6 - includes buffet) on sale from Heavenly Pet Supplies. Call 01740 622682.



The late Johnny & Rachel Hill on their wedding day.

Sports UPDATE

with Sports Editor, **Chris LINES**

Winter still has us in its icy grip (certainly at the time of writing this), which must mean that the English county cricket season has started. It's true, though the first match took place far from these shores, in Abu Dhabi, where an MCC select team faced county champions Warwickshire. Durham's first game is due to start at Chester le Street on 10th April – we'll see! Meanwhile, England's test team has been toiling on some very unresponsive pitches in New Zealand. It's fair to say that it wasn't the most enthralling series, and England didn't perform particularly well, but it was good to see on the TV footage that the Sedgefield contingent of the Barmy Army was there to cheer on the team. It will be interesting to see how well the New Zealand top order copes with an early season pitch at Headingley in May.

Back in the village, many of the teams at Sedgefield Cricket Club had a great season last year. Optimism is high for 2013 and Sedgefield News will keep you updated with news from the club, which you can also find at www.pitchero.com/clubs/sedgefieldcricketclub. Hopefully, the team won't have to clear snow from the pitch before the first ball is bowled.

Wheelchair Rugby

The North East Bulls wheelchair rugby team recently took part in the first Coloplast Super Series event of their season, in Cheltenham. The Bulls played three games over a weekend and won the first against West Coast Burn 49-46. The second game was against league newcomers, the West Country Hawks, which resulted in a comfortable 48-11 win. In that game, the Bulls played their weakest line up, but their experience shone through. Due to an injury to a key scoring player, the Bulls had to field a weakened team in their final game and suffered a narrow 38-45 defeat to The North Wales Dragons. Performances over the weekend were promising and bode well for the rest of the season, with the team hoping to secure a league promotion to the first division.

The North East Bulls train between 6pm and 9pm on Tuesdays & Thursdays at Sedgefield Community College and all, including able bodied, are welcome along, with equipment available for those wishing to have a try. To find out more about the club call 07968 827064 or visit www.thebullswrc.com.

Squash

The Durham and Cleveland County Squash season has just concluded, and it has been an outstanding season for Sedgefield Squash Club's senior teams. The first team were promoted as champions of Division 3, winning 16 out of 16 matches. The second team won promotion from Division 4 as runners-up. The third team narrowly missed out on promotion from Division 5, in a race which went down to the last match of the season. Joining them in next season's Division 5 will be the fourth team, who were promoted as champions from Division 6 in their first ever season.

In the race for individual player points, the club's overall performance this season was reflected in the fact that 8 Sedgefield players were among the top 20 points scorers in the league - Stephen Rowsby, Oliver Walls, Mark Simpson, Simon Hill, Gordon Peden, George Peden, Robert Pearce and Gary Hetherington. Stephen and Oliver should be favourites to win their respective divisional player of the season awards, with Gordon also mounting a very strong case. The club will find out more at the county presentation night on 8th May.



The ladies' first team finished a very creditable second in Division 1 of their league, behind a very strong Darlington team. In their first season, the ladies' second team finished in mid table having won six and lost six. In the individual player points, congratulations to Anne Holmes (2nd) and Marie Priest (10th).

Meanwhile, the club has been continuing its programme of encouraging local schoolchildren to try the sport. The latest fruits of that work saw Sedgefield Primary School (*photo right*) participate in the County Durham and Cleveland primary schools squash competition recently. Playing against more experienced opponents, the Sedgefield players acquitted themselves well and came away full of enthusiasm for the sport.

Football

Despite having a mixed season in the league, Sedgefield's leading football club St. Edmund's will be playing in a cup final for the second year in a row. They will contest the final of the Heart Foundation Cup after a 3-2 semi-final victory over Ferryhill Saints.

Meanwhile, Sedgefield Youth F.C is hoping to find the next generation of football players for a new Under 9s team that will start playing next season. To qualify to play, a child must be in school year 4 from September 2013. For more about plans for the team, contact David Ryder on 07515 020766.

Word reaches me of a Sedgefield connection to a young lady on the verge of playing international under 19s football for England. Lauren Briggs is the daughter of Helen Smart, formerly of Whitehouse Drive, and was recently called up to an England training camp at Warwick University. Lauren plays for South Durham & Cestria Ladies in the Northern Combination League and combines football with her studies at Gateshead College, where she also plays football. Recently, she has played as far afield as Gothenburg and Amsterdam, with a trip to Estonia in the cards this year. Her mum was a very good athlete in her youth and Lauren appears to be following in her footsteps.

Junior Athletics

Sedgefield was well represented in the Durham County primary schools cross country finals, with boys and girls from the village all running really well on a tough, hilly course in Willington. The stand out performance came from the yr 5 & 6 girls' team, who secured second place in their race. Three runners (all

Sedgefield rock & blues club

The event on Saturday 16th March was very special even by our high standards. 19 year old Lewis Hamilton, a prodigious talent from Glasgow absolutely wowed us - followed by one of the best bands I have seen for many years; and I have seen a few! Three encores and standing ovation attest to the enthusiasm of the audience. Albany Down are certainly on the road to stardom. I hope that we can still afford them when we ask for their re-visit.

Back to the future and on May 4th we are pleased to welcome Aynsley Lister back, with his band this time. In support is Mitch Laddie, a local with a national reputation - and proud owner of one of Rory Gallaghers' guitars! Some are asking if we really do have them both on the same bill! Yes we do, so another amazing night looms.

Tickets are selling very quickly so please get to the post office or ring Garry on 07931448469 asap, or you may be disappointed.

And ... more live music in Sedgefield

Once again, we are looking forward to some great live music events at Sedgefield Cricket Club and the Parish Hall, with the promise of the best line-up of performers we have ever had. The 8th annual Folk Festival will be held during the first weekend in September (5th-7th). Performers booked for the three concerts (at the Parish Hall & Ceddesfeld hall) include The Wildcats of Kilkenny; The Mighty Doonans with the Irish dancers; Flossie; Edwina Hayes; The Tea-cups; The Young 'Uns; John Fyffe; Andy & Jamie McLoughlin; Dan Hands; Jay Walkers; John Wrightson Band; Bertie Draycott; Old Age Travellers; Ceddesfolk and the Stockton Darlington Ukulele Express. In addition, there will be the usual workshops, singarounds and dance groups, the Durham traditional song-writing competition and World Spoons Championship. Tickets go on sale from 1st June.

To help finance the festival, two concerts will be held at the Parish Hall. On Friday 17th May, the Happy Cats are the main guests and on Friday 12th July, the Haley Sisters make a welcome return to Sedgefield. Tickets are £11.

The live music nights at Sedgefield Cricket Club continue to flourish and the last event before the summer recess will be on Friday 12th April, with Paul Tilley and Tom Townsend. More information at www.sedgefieldfolkfestival or call Joan Edmundson on 621347.

junior Harriers) finished inside the top ten, with Aimee Barlow 5th, Carla Abel 6th and Kate Abel 9th. Well done to Jenny Walker too, who ran as a sole representative in the year 3 & 4 race and finished 19th.

When winter finally relents, thoughts turn towards track & field. In 2012, Sedgefield Harriers had more athletes than ever competing in track & field events and with some success, taking over 100 medals in throws events alone. This year, the club expects to build on that success, competing in open meetings like the Anne-Marie Redshaw event at Shildon, the North East Championships and the new North East Youth Development League. There are many juniors to watch as they progress through the season, but here are a couple of young athletes to keep an eye on.

Emma Scarborough. Emma is an U13 multi-event athlete who has competed in the North East and around the UK. In her first outdoor/indoor season Emma attained Power of 10 UK ranking in sprints, jumps and throws and in the 2012 outdoor season she came away with 22 top three places in a variety of track & field events and top five series places in the Minor Athlete League at Gateshead and the North East Athletic League while competing alongside athletes from clubs that have a track and associated facilities. Emma loves athletics and her role model is Jessica

Ennis who she would love to emulate by winning gold at the Olympics.

Abie Hearmon

Abie has made great progress over the winter, competing in the National Cross Country Championships and after finishing 16th in the Northern Championships in Liverpool she was selected for the National Inter Counties Championships in Birmingham, finishing in 61st place. Abie then went on to be selected for the National Schools Cross Country Championships in Derby where she finished about 60th out of 290. These performances brought Abie to the attention of the selectors for the mini-marathon at this year's London marathon and she has been picked to represent the North East in London on 21st April.

parkrun

Sedgefield parkrun has just celebrated its first birthday. Based in Hardwick Park, the parkrun is a free weekly 5km timed run that is open to people of any age and ability. It was founded by Sedgefield Harrier Jane Spink, with the support of scores of volunteers during the last 12 months. Since its launch, 1,061 different runners from all over the country, including participants from 67 athletics clubs, have completed 4,161 runs, covering a total distance of 20,805km. Closer to home, many people from Sedgefield have taken up running, thanks to the accessibility and friendliness of the parkrun community. After the first birthday parkrun, runners gathered in the Hardwick Park café for coffee, cakes and some annual awards. Angus Hearmon was crowned parkrunner of the year, while Val Newton was volunteer of the year (she volunteered an amazing 37 times during year one). If you want to try parkrun, visit www.parkrun.org.uk/register and register for free.

That's all for this month. As ever, if you have any sports news please send it to chrisjlines@aol.com.

April Events Diary

Sedgefield Gardening Club

Tuesday 2nd April, 7.30pm
Ceddesfeld Hall. Catherine Lawlor:
From hobby to career. How I became a
professional gardener. All welcome

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 3rd April, Parish Hall,
7.15pm. Neil Armstrong
"WaterAid & its work in Nepal"
Members' comp. An unusual bottle
Visitors always welcome (fee £2.50)

Sedgefield Village Veterans

Friday 5th April 10am-12noon
Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall
Tombola, Raffles, Books, Bric-a-Brac

Sedgefield and District U3A

Friday 5th April: 2pm, Parish Hall
Celebrating Lives - planning a funeral
well, by Michael Wright
Members Free, Visitors £2. A warm and
friendly welcome to all. For more
information call Brenda - 629574

Crickets Club Quiz Night

Saturday 6th April: *last of the Season!*
8 pm. Quizmaster, John Bryant

Farmers' Market

Sunday 7th April from 9.30am

New Generation Church

Service every Sunday at Sedgefield
Parish Hall, 11am-12.30pm. Everyone is
welcome. Contact 07582 925093

Eddies@4

Sunday 7th April

4pm, Welcome Room, St Edmund's.
Informal service for 2-6 yr olds.
Contact J Rowsby, 621125

Methodist Wives & Friends

Methodist Church Hall

Monday 8th April: Margaret Foxall

Monday 22nd April: The Gideons

Local History Society

Monday 8th April 7.45pm
Ceddesfeld Hall. Gwen Keating:
Former Geordie Gentlemen

Inner Wheel Fashion Show

Tuesday 9th April 7.15pm Parish Hall
Fashion by Mavis Wayman, Hats by
Catherine Hart, PLUS Boots No7 Skin
Foundation Match. Tickets £6 from Ann
Carr 629070 Jayne's, Theakston's
Garage & PO. For Cancer Charities

Ladies' Club

Tuesday 9th April: Howard Leslie
Broadgate Farm Nurseries
Tuesday 23rd April
Mediaeval Fayre fundraising

Sedgefield Village Veterans

Thursday 11th April, 7pm
General meeting in Ceddesfeld Hall

Sedgefield Social Club

Members & their guests welcome

Sat 6th April: Jimmy Moon

Sat 13th April: Mike Wilding

Sat 20th April: Terry James

Sat 27th April: Vicky Laws

Cover charge £1.50 pp.

Folk Night Wednesday 24th April

Singers, Musicians, No cover charge

Country Night Monday 22nd April:

with Lee Davis. Cover charge £3 pp.

Concert Room available for functions.

Tel: 01740 620591 for bookings.

Blood donor session

Sedgefield Racecourse.

Thursday 11th April 2:45 - 7pm.

Call 0300 123 23 23 for appointment

Country Market

Friday 12th April, 9.30 -11am. Parish
Hall. Coffee, cakes, cards, gifts, plants

Live Music Night

7.45 pm at Sedgefield Cricket Club

Friday 12th April

Main guest Paul Tilley & Tom Townsend.

Also featuring: Sonic Fruits, Ian Tyzack,

John Weighell and John Wrightson Band

Admission £10 inc buffet. Tel 621347

NECP Concertina Workshop

Sundays 14h & 28th April at 1pm

Ceddesfeld Hall. Contact 01642 588197

Family History Group

(branch of CFHS) **Monday 15th April**

7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall

Arthur Dodds on Eddie Chapman,

The Spy from County Durham.

Visitors always welcome. For info

contact S Hall 620367 or visit

www.sedgefieldfamilyhistory.org

Neighbourhood Watch

Panel Meeting

Tuesday 16th April

7pm in the Parish Hall

Ferryhill, Sedgefield &

District Flower Club

Tuesday 16th April

7.30pm in Parish Hall. North West

Demonstrator Dawn Weaver

Sources of Inspiration

Open meeting - all welcome

Macmillan Cancer Support

Friday 19th April, 9.30 -11.30

Coffee Morning, Parish Hall. Meet
friends for a cuppa & a delicious scone

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 25th April

7.45pm Parish Hall

'Otters' Vivien Kent, Durham Wildlife

Trust. New members welcome

Contact Steve Ashton 01287 636382

sashton@teeswildlife.org for details

This page is free to non-commercial organisations

Regular meetings

Bridge Club

Meets every Sunday & Tuesday at 7.30pm in
Ceddesfeld Hall. Beginners welcome. For
more information call Jen - 01740 620434

Winterton Wayfarers

Walking Group - Weekly Sunday walks, from
5 - 10 miles. Contact 620034 or 620434

Sedgefield Playgroup

Methodist Church, Mon-Thurs 9:15-11:45.
Spaces for children 2+ years Contact 620923

Fishburn Art Group

Youth & Community Centre, Butterwick Rd
9.30am -12 noon, Mondays

Community College Bowls Club

Meets Mondays, 6 - 8pm. Carpet Bowls or
Short Mat. Individual coaching available. No
age limit. Contact, J. Kinghorn, 623198

Sedgefield Carpet Bowls Club

Meets every Tuesday & Thursday mornings
8.30 - 12.00 in Ceddesfeld Hall. Tea, coffee,
conversation & healthy exercise. Beginners
welcome. For more info call Sheila on 622532

Sedgefield Pop In Club

for the elderly & disabled at Ceddesfeld Hall
Join us for Tea or Coffee and biscuits on
Tues 9.30-12; Wed 10-12.30, Thurs 1- 3.30

Craft Club

Swinhoe Room, Ceddesfeld Hall
2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7.30 - 10pm
Further details call Jean, 620656

CAB Advice Session

Advice & Information Centre
10am-1pm, Wednesday 6th February and
every 2 weeks thereafter.

Sing for Health

2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 1pm
in the Methodist Church Hall

Sedgefield Handbell Ringers

Wednesdays 7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall
(First week of month - Monday)
Beginners welcome, contact 621292

Rotary Club of Sedgefield

Wednesdays 7.15pm, Nag's Head
New members welcome.
Call 629070 or 620562

Round Table

Sporting, social and charitable events.
1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays. New members
welcome. Contact Rob on 629079

Ceddesfeld Hall Art Group

Small, friendly group: 10-12 noon, Thursdays

Café@St Catherine's

Friendly chat & Fishburn gossip! Fridays
9.30am-12noon: Tea/coffee/ toast & chat

Ready Steady Grow

for Parents, Carers & Children.
Sedgefield Methodist Church,
term time Fridays, 9.30-10.30am.
Call Margaret Glass; 621618

Lyrics Choirs

New members welcome. Fridays in
Ceddesfeld Hall: 8-18yrs: 6pm, Adults 7.30pm

YOUR Letters

Brenda Terry Gallery

On behalf of Brenda's family, I wish to say how very deeply touched we are that the new art gallery at Fishburn is to be named after her at 10am on Saturday March 9th. This is a wonderful thing to do for her, and a very appropriate memorial to her memory. She would have loved this and been so proud.

Unfortunately, we aren't able to attend the opening day, but please would you express our deepest thanks to all the members of the art club for this lovely gesture, and to Councillor Lucy Hovvells for officiating. We wish the club continued success.

Jillian Curley (Brenda's sister in law)

Parcel post frustration

Am I the only Sedgefield resident who has to constantly drive to Stockton to collect parcels that not long ago were left at our local Sedgefield post office? I suspect not! This round trip of about 18 miles is not only expensive, but also very environmentally unfriendly, as well as extremely inconvenient (opening hours are not very convenient at Stockton depot).

In our busy modern lives, where more and more items are purchased via the internet and delivered by mail, surely there must be a better solution to this problem than the current one. I am fortunate to have a car and can drive to Stockton. Many people in the village will not. My heart sinks when I come home and there is the dreaded red 'failed delivery' post form on the doormat.

If anyone can explain why we have such an inefficient postal system in the village, I would love to hear it! Perhaps a petition is in order?

Neil Coates

Hardwick Park April Diary

Wednesday 3rd: Crafts

Spring Chicks & Bunnies 11am-3pm (drop in) £2 per child, adults free

Sunday 7th: Orienteering Challenge

1pm-3pm (drop in) £2 per child, adults free

Wednesday 10th: Crafts

Fabulous Flower Pots 11am-3pm (drop in) £2 per child, adults free.

Guided Walks - All drop in, £4 pp, under 5s free. Meet steward at parking machine hut next to visitor centre to collect free parking pass. Spend £3 in the café afterwards and get a free hot drink.

Wednesday 10th

History of Hardwick Park with Photo Opportunities 10.30am - 12.30pm

Saturday 13th

Wonder of Wetlands & Birds 10am-2pm

Tuesday 23rd

Photography in April 10.30am - 12.30pm
Remember your camera!

For many more April activities please call 01740 621 505

Honesty and prompt action much appreciated by blues band

A the end of a very enjoyable night in the Parish Hall, in the rush to clear and clean the hall for the Sunday service held in the Hall, one of the performers at the Blues night left two cases containing valuable equipment on the front step, before departing for the hotel.

Thanks to David & Enid Hillerby for their community-spirited action in taking the boxes home, and their detective work in finding my number and informing me. Suffice to say the band were very pleased to be re-united with their belongings and were very complimentary about a sort of place where such things happen. Not only were the valuable drums not spirited away during the dark hours, but were duly returned to their owners at the earliest opportunity, which they assured me was not what they would expect from most locations where they perform. To me it was nothing of a surprise, but then not everyone has the good fortune to live where we do! This is just a small reminder of how easy it is to forget what we do have in Sedgefield. We are often all too concerned with what we believe to be it's failings, as is often reflected in these pages.

Garry Jacobs

June 1953

Coronation day was dull and rainy and hardly anyone had TV. Fortunately my sister-in-law had one. She lived in a council house in Fishburn. There were only two TVs locally and everyone crowded in to watch. It had a tiny screen which wobbled but we were all thrilled. Food was rationed so we all dined on lettuce (alone) sandwiches! Happy memories. *GW*

Coronation school photograph correction

We apologise for missing Robert Stokell's name from last month's list. Robert was on the back row between Terry Canmore and Dave Merrington.

Local History Archive

Harry Smith kindly supplied this photo of the Winterton football team who won the Auckland Cup in 1969. Alex Boal, father of Vivienne, who loaned the picture, is seen on the left, above the man in the checked jacket. Can anyone provide more details? Contact me on 01749-620091 or email norma@neal.myzen.co.uk.



Sedgefield News next deadline is Monday 15th APRIL

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