

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



Sedgefield NEWS

August 2007

Are we being overwhelmed?

In the last few days proposed plans have been published which could have a serious impact on the village and its environs. The first proposal, which was exhibited in the library from the 12th to the 18th July, was for a very large caravan and chalet park near Hardwick Park. This proposes a mixture of 330 static caravans and 70 wooden chalets. It will also include a rare breed centre with a café and shop. The proposal also envisages the conversion of some of the Carrs wetland to create a lake together with the provision of woodland and meadow walks. The existing Brakes Farmhouse would become the Management Centre for the project.

The map, below, shows that all this will cover a considerable area. Virtually all the land from the Sands Hall roundabout westward well towards the railway line then looping round northwards past Hardwick Park. We are told that the "Masterplan" will be implemented over an 8 year period in four phases. Phase 1 will comprise implementation of all landscaping which will be left to mature for a period of 5 years prior to the siting of any caravans/park homes and chalets. This will ensure the tourist accommodation is fully screened. Thereafter, caravans/park homes and chalets will be installed over a 3 year period from 2013 to 2016.

The perceived benefits are that it will operate in parallel with, and enhance, the visitor experience at Hardwick Country Park; generate just under £3 million of investment into the Borough each year; generate 80 direct and indirect jobs; and be consistent with the Borough Council's priority to focus on tourist opportunities at Hardwick Country Park.

Following on the Caravan park exhibition in the library was the Local Development Framework Drop-In Event on Thursday 19th July. This is part of the Borough Council's preparation of its planning strategy for the next 10 years. It is seeking peoples' views to decide where development should come forward, which areas of the Borough should be protected from development and how much affordable housing and renewable energy should be required. The published map shows potential areas for development to the south and east of the village, essentially the infill of all the areas inside the A689/bypass enclosure. More details of this on Page 2.

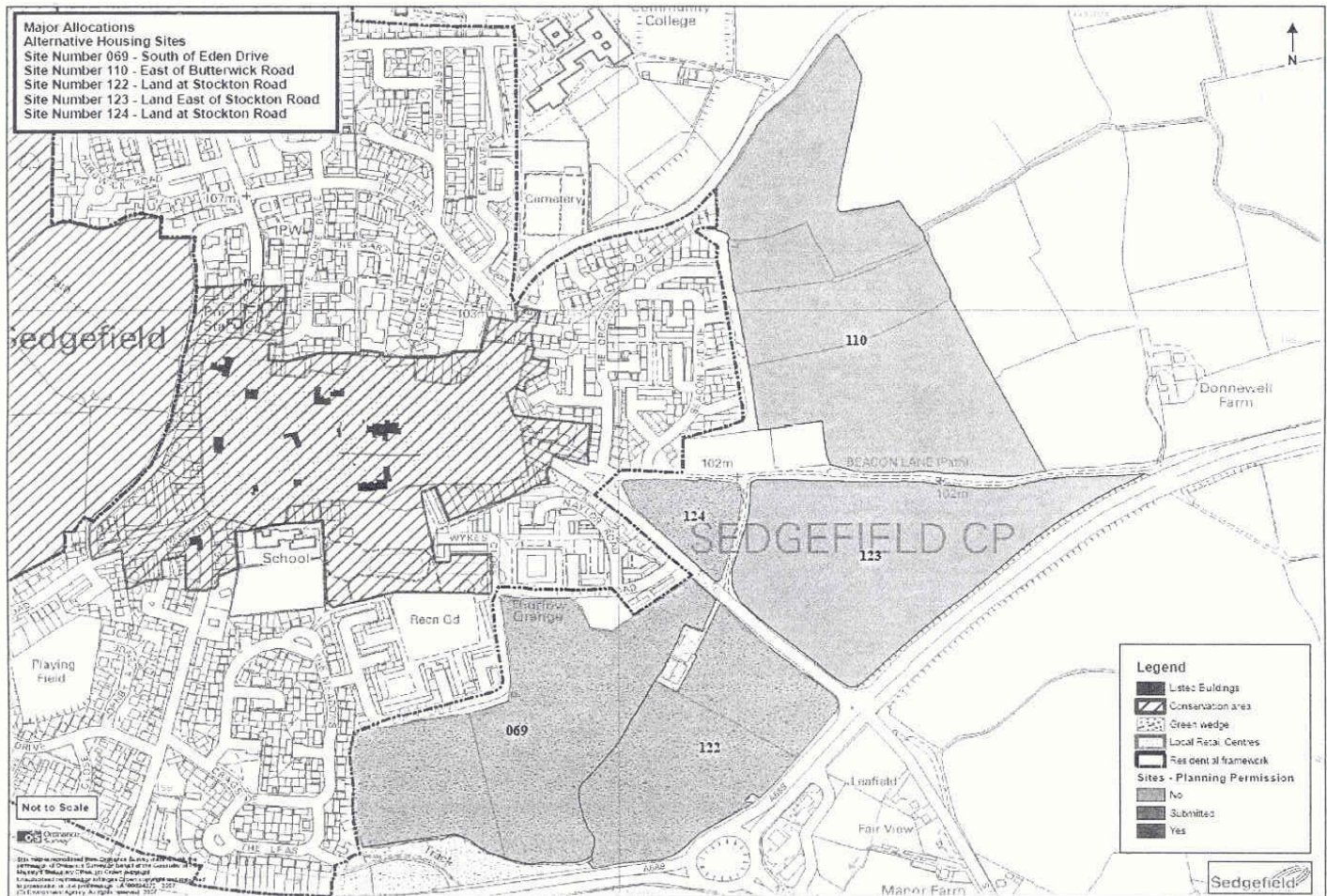


All this possible development raises many questions. 400 caravans and chalets is a huge development when it is considered that there are currently only some 2600 houses within the village. The infill of the currently green areas could result in hundreds of houses. What will this do for the already overused village amenities? The schools, the shops, the pubs and parking areas will, potentially, suffer severe overcrowding. To express views about the caravan site you should write to: Sedgefield Borough Council, Andrew Farnie, Development Control Manager, Sedgefield Borough Council, Green Lane, Spennymoor, DL16 6QF.

The darker areas on the map (left), to the south and west of Hardwick Park, show the extent of the proposed caravan and chalet park. A new lake is proposed on the left and the development will be made up of various "zones", some with caravans and some with chalets. It is proposed to screen the site with plantings of trees.

Local Development Framework Consultation

2



This map shows the areas, to the east of the village, which are being considered for possible development in the next 10 years. These areas numbered 069, 110, 122, 123 and 124 are as described in the upper left hand corner.

The current Local Development Plan is nearing its end and Sedgfield Borough Council is undertaking a consultation exercise across the Borough. As part of this, areas of the village that were excluded from the previous plan are again being considered. As can be seen, this includes the large green areas, inside the major road system, to the south and east of the village. In addition, the former dogs kennels adjoining the A177 next to the Golf Course and an area on the old hospital site are also being considered.

A CD is available from Sedgfield Borough Council which shows the whole draft plan and people are invited to make representations. Contact details are: Forward Planning Team, Sedgfield Borough Council, Green Lane Council Offices, Spennymoor, DL16 6JQ; Telephone 01388 816166, ext 4328 or 4511.

Closing date for representations is the end of August.

The Walking Group has got to South Shields!



A further letter

To whoever is responsible for destroying the floral display outside Ministers Restaurant

I hope you are pleased with yourself and before I continue, rest assured your actions have not affected me or the restaurant in any way whatsoever.

For the past 5 years it has been Marion's and my privilege to own a part of Sedgefield life and in a small way to invest in Sedgefield in Bloom, Northumbria in Bloom etc. but also to contribute towards making the village a pleasant place to live. It must take someone who, quite frankly, is a mentally deranged, childish, pathetic cretin to destroy something of such beauty.

Now, to the most important issue, I hope you, the perpetrator, is reading this. You haven't harmed us but you have hurt and upset an elderly, retired gentleman. This man has given his time and knowledge over the past six months to design, plant and nurture the floral display at Ministers and in one act of cowardly vandalism you have reduced him almost to tears – shame on you. He has now replaced most of the flowers although the display cannot be replicated as he would like. You have also deprived many people who walk past the restaurant admiring the flowers.

The police are examining CCTV footage but I don't hold out much hope.

Someone knows who did this and if anyone has an information I would urge them to contact the police on 0845 60 60 365. I know this is not the crime of the century but in a small village anyone with such mentality should be brought to justice. Marion and I would appreciate your help.

Our thanks go to those who, in one way or another, have voiced their dismay at what has happened.

David Owens

EDWARDIAN SPLENDOUR FROM SEDGEFIELD PLAYERS

Another triumph for Sedgefield Players in June, when Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" graced the stage of the Parish Hall. Those debonair men about town, Algernon Moncrieff and Jack Worthing, alias Richie Parry and Jason Legender, both met their match, literally, when they were swept off their feet by two delightful young ladies. Sarah Jones as society beauty Gwendolen Fairfax was determined that she was going to marry a man named Ernest, despite the best efforts of her formidable mother Lady Bracknell, played by Norma Neal. 14 year old Miranda Jones made an impressive debut as Cecily, a sweet, innocent country girl, but more than equal to the confident and self-assured Gwendolen. And just as determined to get her man, despite the watchful eye of her tutor Miss Prism (Jean Hewling). Terry West was called upon to play both butlers, Lane and Merriman, showing a Jeevesian disdain for his master in Act 1 and ageing up brilliantly for Acts 2 & 3. Local minister Canon Chasuble was played by Paul Baguley, who also directed the production with assistance from Norma Neal.

The very convincing set, depicting two very smart Edwardian interiors and a charming garden were skilfully created by the stage crew, including Richie Parry and Viv and Garry Jacobs, who kindly loaned many items from their extensive collection. Local businesses Selections and Peridot were also invaluable in providing artificial flowers and plants as well as free-standing trellis to help create the garden scene. Many of the beautiful costumes, in particular those worn by Lady Bracknell, Cecily and Gwendolen were provided by Irene Hood of Able Costumes in Hartlepool.

The Sedgefield Players were delighted with the success of this venture. Chairman Norma Neal said, "This production was quite a challenge for us, both in terms of staging and acting. But the team put in a great deal of effort and commitment to bring this classic of English theatre to the stage." Members of the audience enjoyed a glass of wine in the auditorium, which had been set out with tables and chairs as if for a garden party. Many accepted the invitation to wear summer hats and members of a re-enactment society in Hartlepool attended in full Edwardian costume.

The Sedgefield Players next event will be the annual Festival of One Act Plays in September. More details will be available in the next issue of Sedgefield News.

1st Sedgefield Scouts Barbeque³

1st Sedgefield Scout Group would like to thank all of those parents, friends, ex scouts and ex scout leaders who attended the camp and barbeque that was held from Friday 29th June to Sunday 1st July. Despite some challenging weather (i.e. lots of rain and wind!), the barbeque and campfire event was a lively and very enjoyable affair.

The group would especially like to thank Roy and Jon Johnson of Heley House Farm for allowing the Scouts to camp on their land and for providing access to a barn for the barbeque and other activities.

Thanks must also go to Paul Unsworth for preparing the great camp fire, to Heather Cummings and Chris Lines for fronting the entertainment, and to Pauline, Joanne and John for cooking all of the food.

2007 sees the world-wide Scout Movement celebrate its centenary and the 1st Sedgefield Group camp and barbeque was a very fitting way to commemorate such a milestone. Congratulations to the group on its continued success – 1st Sedgefield is an absolute credit to both Scouting and the village – and hats off to Gary Hetherington and colleagues for being the driving force behind the camp and barbeque.



Above

The camp fire gets going—led by Heather Cummings



A scene from "The Importance of Being Earnest"

Community SAFETY

Policing in Sedgefield

Everyone, including most regular members of Neighbourhood Watch, feel that here in Sedgefield we don't see enough regular Police presence and especially at what might be termed "peak times" e.g. Friday nights. Readers of our meeting minutes will be well aware that these and other "Police" shortfalls are regularly recorded and hence fed back up the line of command into the resource pot that is Durham Police. Just this year we welcomed another "resource" to our village in the form of PCSO Dean Wilson and very welcome he has been to us, as well as to PC Keith Todd; but on our duo's days off and holidays and training days etc. we don't get automatic cover.



This is the same for all other locations in the Borough of course and they like us have "peak times" too. So when there are conflicting demands, e.g. Friday nights, how do the Police hierarchy decide where additional officers patrol? Answer is - in the main it is based on the number and details of public telephone calls that they receive expressing a problem (which equates to a need).

Without this record of problem/need the problem does not get a pre-planned resource.

So if, as is evident from residents attending our meetings and those of the Residents' Forum meetings, there is a significant problem that concerns residents (Friday nights) then unless individuals pick up the phone and report the issue to the Police **each and every time**, there will not be a recorded, visible (to the Police) problem. The consequence is clear no problem equals no Police, certainly not in a pre-planned way.

As we have reported many times now, the only solution in today's numbers driven society is to ring the Police, are willing to generate a record, and keep doing so until there is a response - if not we fear we will end up losing what we currently have!

The choice is there for each and every one of us, it's not up to somebody else - pick up the phone & report it.

Tapes for the Sight Impaired & Disadvantaged

If any readers have any unwanted audio cassette tapes these would be put to extremely good re-use in our (N/Hood Watch) Tapes for the Blind scheme. Anyone able to assist can you please contact C/man Ken Saiger on 01740 **621896** thank you.

PC Todd's report

I will start this month's article with an appeal for information regarding a Robbery which took place about 10:30pm on Saturday 16th June in the Eden Drive area. This cowardly attack from behind on a young female would be a frightening experience for anyone. Any information may help bring this person to justice.

Another incident occurred recently in the Winterton Estate where praise should be given to a local resident who confronted a group of males in the early hours after they had spent some time prowling around gardens and garages. His actions have, no doubt, prevented crime taking place. They scurried away sharpish, like the vermin they are. Enquiries later revealed they had caused damage to a number of garages in the Kerr Crescent and Gables areas.

Other crimes committed recently include a window damaged in Station Road and theft of estate agent signs in the Winterton site. Until next time
Keith

Pub Watch

A meeting was held in the Golden Lion recently where all licensees reported a positive response to the new "Smoking Ban" by customers with no reports of persons actively defying the ban. No incidents were reported that warranted further action by members.

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:
CPO Neil Langthorne:
01325 742714

Neighbourhood Watch
Coordinator Sarah Norman:
01325 742755

Sedgefield Community College Wins Praise from Ofsted

Local comprehensive school, Sedgefield Community College won praise as 'a good and improving school' after inspection by Ofsted. The inspection team was in school on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th April 2007, during which time they observed numerous lessons, spoke to many members of staff and consulted with groups of students.

Particularly pleasing for students, parents, staff and governors is the fact that the college was identified as 'Good' in all areas, with inspectors stating that, 'all students, whatever their background, make good progress and achieve well'.

This excellent inspection reflects the outstanding progress of the college in recent years, with 72% of students achieving 5 A*- C GCSE qualifications (or equivalent) in the summer 2006 exams and the ambition that the college will exceed this figure this summer. Head teacher Lynne Ackland, whilst delighted with the inspection, was keen to stress that further progress could and would be made. "We have made superb progress and are now a leading school - this does not make us complacent though".

Jottings from Sedgefield Residents' Forum

25th June 2007

It was good to see so many people had turned out on such wet night. Borough Council officers had been scheduled to attend the meeting to discuss planning and noise issues relating to Hardwick Hall events. However, the Hotel have withdrawn their application to have a large marquee in the grounds. The planning meeting approved a 2 year temporary permission for the existing marquee on the car park; this marquee does not appear to contribute to noise problems. The Borough Council acknowledge the noise complaints from residents and will be continually monitoring the situation, but residents are encouraged to report any problems to the environment department at the Borough Council. Planning permission has been granted for the Care Principles secure mental health unit on the old community hospital site. The 10 additional wind turbines have been approved for Butterwick Moor. As a result of some unresolved issues, Government Office for the North East is being requested to 'call in' the turbine application for further investigation. It also transpired that some, who are in favour of the development employed some very unpleasant tactics. The Chair commented that irrespective of opinion for or against any development, actions which bring further distress to residents who are adversely affected by developments is very sad and disappointing, particularly when it is fellow residents who employ such tactics and cannot show some empathy. Other on-going planning issues are Bolam's animal waste incinerator and the proposal of McCarthy and Stone to build in Durham Road. All opinions are welcome at the Forum so do come along and give yours. The meeting covered many issues affecting the village and residents, all can be read in the minutes which can be accessed on the village web sites, from the Town Council, in the Library (at least a week before the next meeting). Meeting dates are always the 4th Monday in the month at 7pm in the Parish Hall (dates are listed on the notice board) and anyone can have all the information emailed to them by giving Jane at the Town Council your email address jane@sedgefield.net and request to be included on the Residents Forum email list. After the meeting we were given information on a proposed development of a holiday park on land at Brakes farm on the outskirts of the village (330 static caravans and 70 chalets. Plans probably to be submitted towards the end of July. Also, Durham County Council are to apply for an entertainments licence for East and West Park to cover every day of the year from 9am to midnight. Hopefully we will have more detail for the July meeting.

There will be no meeting in August so the following meeting will be September 24th.

A History of Medicine in Sedgefield – The Other Half

We feel that we cannot allow the one-sided article concerning the Medical History of Sedgefield to pass without comment. There is a glaring omission of the part that the Harbinson family and practice played in the care of Sedgefield patients. The father and two sons provided well over seventy years continuous care to the people of Sedgefield until the death of Ray Harbinson in 1978. Originally they had a call house in East End and a purpose built surgery in Fishburn.

Keith Beveridge joined in 1959 and worked in the practice until retiring in 1995. Drs Harbinson and Beveridge purchased 23 West End in 1960 and it became their main surgery in the village until the purpose built surgery was opened in 1987. This was when the other practice joined the Beveridge Jones practice. Peter Jones joined the Beveridge practice in 1983 and continues as senior partner in the new enlarged partnership. The new surgery was named after the Harbinson family, particularly Ray who is still remembered with gratitude and affection by older patients. The practice has, therefore, provided continuous care to Sedgefield residents for over nearly 100 years.

Drs Keith Beveridge and Peter Jones

CAVOS CAN HELP YOU TO TAKE POSITIVE STEPS

Do you want to get more out of life, but lack the confidence or motivation to do anything about it?

Would you like to make new friends and learn new skills?

Would you like to find out about volunteering or training opportunities?

Let CAVOS help you to take that all important first step.

Our Positive Steps training programme could help you to decide what you really want from life and show you how to go about getting it! You will attend one morning per week for 8 weeks and by the end of the programme you will have the tools you need to get your life on the right track.

You will learn to recognise existing skills and how you can build on them through further training. You will learn how to cope with interviews and interview nerves.

We will work with you to develop your own individual action plan that will help you reach your goals at your own pace and in your own time. We will help you draw up a CV that reflects your skills and abilities. We will arrange interviews and we can even provide a 'buddy' who will attend those interviews with you if that is what you need.

Our next course begins in August and there is still time to book your place. We are working with staff from the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe who will provide therapies to help you cope with stress and learn how to relax. We are working with Bishop Auckland College who will provide you with professional careers guidance. The course is free of charge and your travelling expenses will be reimbursed.

What have you got to lose? If you would like to find out more please get in touch with Freda at CAVOS on 01388 811115.

Newcastle United Football In The Community (FITC) Summer Courses

Over the years, the Newcastle United FITC courses at the Community College have proved to be very popular. They are always well attended by youngsters who support any one of the North East's five major clubs. This year should be no different, with courses planned to take place for two of the six weeks of the school summer holidays. As before, the courses will take place at the Sedgefield Community College and will be on Astroturf or grass, though if the weather is bad the indoor gym and sports hall will be made available. Courses are open to youngsters - boys and girls - aged between 4 and 14 yrs. Courses run from 10am to 3pm for four days, Monday to Thursday, and the first course will be during week three of the holidays - 6th to 9th August. The second course will be during week five - 20th to 23rd August. The cost is £45 per child, with a £5 discount for additional family member and there is also a £2 discount for any Junior Mags. FITC staff will be on duty from 9.30am so any parent wanting to drop their child off earlier than 10am can do so. For further details and to book a place, contact George Shipley on 0191 263 8414 or george.shipley@nufc.co.uk.

Sedgefield Harriers

It would have taken more than the heavy rain on Thursday 5th July to detract from the success of Sedgefield Harriers Club and Invitation Summer Handicap. The Handicap was run over the now established route starting near Fishburn and following a scenic course along the old railway line, then a circuit taking in Bishop Middleham and returning past Middleham Ponds to Fishburn - a total of approximately 6.5 miles.

A total of 31 runners took part including competitors from other clubs including Aycliffe, Billingham Marsh House, Sunderland Strollers, Peterlee and Darlington. The runners competed for the inaugural Gerry Kearsley Memorial Trophy and members of the Kearsley family were on hand to make the presentations. For the first time the handicap was based on recent previous performance and this gave all runners a chance of coming home first.

Jo James of Sedgefield Harriers took advantage of the new handicapping. Running off a handicap of three minutes, Jo returned first in 55:09 and took the trophy for overall winner as well as first Sedgefield woman. Lou Shaw of Billingham Marsh House Harriers running off a zero handicap returned 2nd in 57:52 and Ken Tweedy of Sunderland Strollers off 15 minutes returned 3rd in 58:40. Dave Smith took the trophy for first Sedgefield Harriers man - with a handicap of 13 minutes, Dave returned in 59:02. The Handicap will next be run in the winter when it is hoped an unseasonable heat wave is forecast!

The Harriers have also been active in other races. In the Darlington Pit Stop 10k around Croft circuit Gary Hetherington finished 2nd in 34:50. In the Tynedale 10k Graeme Addison finished in 42:08. At the invitation of Durham Elvet Striders on 27th June, eight Harriers took part in the Court Inn Clamber over 5 miles with Gary Hetherington finishing 2nd in 35:32 and the Harriers played a full role in the social at the Court Inn afterwards. On 15th July 10 Harriers travelled to Northumberland to run the 14 miles of the Northumberland Coastal Run from Beadnell to Alnmouth.

Finally, it's not too late to enter the first Sedgefield Serpentine race, which will take place at 1pm on 11th August, starting at the Sedgefield Show. For further details, go to www.sedgefieldharriers.com or contact Matthew Jones at the barbers.

As ever, please send any sports news to me on chrisjlines@aol.com.

Didn't we have a LUVELY TIME, the day we went to Redcar !

On July 4th over 120 of our older people went to Redcar. This trip had a long history of being supported by the publicans of Sedgefield, and organised by Billy Cooper. Sadly when Billy retired the trip was under threat until Sedgefield Development Trust agreed to try and raise the money. Together with a generous donation from Sedgefield Charities and another from the Mayor Cllr Dudley Waters; then finally the National Lottery came up trumps and our prayers were answered. This also meant a little bit of 'pocket money' could be thrown in. This year Linda Maddison agreed to take over the organising and 'hey presto', the trip went ahead.

Amazingly, the sun shone and as you can see they really enjoyed themselves, in fact they even recruited two traffic wardens to help them park the buses. We must say a big thank you to **Griersons** who provided the buses for a very good price. And to those 'brave men' who ventured out with all of those ladies!!!



Pictures will be available at the next meeting of DIDO on



If anyone would like to make a donation to support the Older People's Trip for 2008 please contact SDT on 01740 629011 (leave a message). Any donations no matter how small would be gratefully received.

MORDONFEST 2

- Our very own Glastonbury

7



The second Mordon outdoor music festival known as Mordonfest took place on Saturday 23rd June on the Lower village green in Mordon. Featuring ten local bands and soloists each playing for about 40 minutes, its start time of 1pm was delayed because of heavy rain, but when the heavens eventually cleared the festival launched with a bang with keyboard genius, TONY HUNTER playing such great classics as Fanfare for the Common Man by ELP and Axel F from Beverly Hills Cop. He was followed by the superb MARK HEWITT playing his own acoustic solo set. The sun started to shine as THE CLEVELAND BLUES BAND treated the increasing audience to some great blues songs. It was then time for a little fun as BANJO DAVE & THE SEXOLETS played a handful of classics in their own distinctive style. The advertised 12bar blues Jam and the Drumathon were dropped in order to get back on schedule and we were charmed by the delightful sounds of a young, talented saxophonist from Bishopton, CHRIS SMITH playing his solo set to an enchanted audience. Mordon then welcomed back the amazing STEVE FOTHERGILL for his second gig of the day (having played at a wedding earlier). He's normally front man with his band The Zoo but he brought his acoustic guitar and rocked the green with his great renditions of some all-time favourites. He was followed by another young band currently carving a name for themselves around the area - THE EVACUATION from Spennymoor showed that they have a very promising future ahead. Rock guitarist IAN JACKSON then played his solo set which consisted of some great classic rock songs. Fresh back from their European tour, THE LURIOS returned to Mordon for a fourth time to play their great songs that are currently being played on Radio 1. The day was closed by its host band STRAY DOGS who had to cut their set short because of time restrictions caused by the late start, (just as everyone had got up to dance). Sorry folks! The organisers would like to thank Edwina Burrows for a terrific tombola that raised £200, AEI Cables for the generous donation of power cables, Maxine from Elementis Ecology Centre, Yarm for loan of the Gazebos, Mordon Parish Meeting for the use of the Green, The local residents for your co-operation, the performers and everyone who attended. Your support has made this year's Mordonfest another great success raising over

Sedgefield in Bloom

Sedgefield was looking bright and beautiful when Northumbria in Bloom judges visited last month. Sedgefield in Bloom would like to express a huge thank you to everyone who made sure that their gardens and business premises looked at their very best on the day.

If you would like to volunteer for future projects aimed at improving your local environment, please ring Maxine Robinson - 620042.

The 154th Sedgefield and District Agricultural Show

The Show takes place on Saturday 11th August 2007 and has already attracted a large amount of interest and support.

The Show, which takes place in the Robert Brown Show Field, West Park, Sedgefield has been a tradition in the local area for over 150 years and as this event continues to grow year on year, the Show Committee anticipates a record number of entries and attendees to this years event. Gates open at 10am and marquees at 12 noon, and attendees will be able to enjoy a variety of activities including a full range of competitions and displays comprising of agricultural classes for horses, ponies, vintage tractors, small livestock, dog agility and a dog show. The cattle and sheep classes have also been reintroduced this year for the first time since the Foot and Mouth outbreak in 2001; in addition there will also be the reintroduction of the heavy horse category.

There will also be several marquees with craft stalls, horticultural displays, home produce and handicrafts. New for this year there will also be a food hall where there will be a vast range of local and regional delicacies on offer, cookery demonstrations by a national award winning chef and a local pianist to entertain visitors.

The Show Committee are also looking forward to a large number of entries for the 'Build a Scarecrow Competition' where participants will be required to base their 'design' on a famous person, a profession or somebody they know!

For the first time the Show is hosting the Sedgefield Harriers 10K Sedgefield Serpentine off-road race. The race starts at 1.30pm and the Harriers are expecting to attract over 200 entrants to the undulating off road run which will take in beautiful countryside and local historical landmarks.

A large number of trade stands are also expected, selling products ranging from ride on lawn mowers, to jewelry and cars. New for this year and in addition to the usual children's rides there will also be a miniature railway to give rides and the opportunity to sample the hands on experience of operating a mini digger.

In an effort to sustain these local events which promote activities on which villages like Sedgefield have been dependant on for such a long time, the Show Committee would like to thank the many supporters whose commitment allows unique events such as Sedgefield Agricultural Show to bring local people and industries together.

Ian Mason, Show Chairman, said, "We are excited again for this years show and, with the introduction of some new categories, we will be delighted to see a record number of attendees. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kind support and commitment.

Here's a funny thing

They reckon everything we need to know about life, we can learn from Noah's Ark. A kind of 'Ten Commandments' for modern life?

Don't miss the boat

Remember that we are all in the same boat

Plan ahead - it wasn't raining when Noah built the ark

Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big

Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done

Build your future on high ground

For safety's sake, travel in pairs

Speed isn't always an advantage - the snails were on board with the cheetahs

When you're stressed, float awhile

Finally, remember, the ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals

To advertise in Sedgefield News
email: news@sedgefieldweb.co.uk
Or phone 01740 629011 and leave
a message.

August Events Diary

Announcements **FREE** to
non-commercial organisations

CeddesFolk

Acoustic Session

Ceddesfeld Hall from 8pm on
Wednesday 1st August
Share tunes & enjoy the 'craic'!

Sedgefield W.I.

"Organic Milk Production"

Gordon Tweddle

Wednesday 1 August

Parish Hall

7.15 pm

Members' competition – a Glass
Animal

Visitors welcome (fee £1.50)

Wynyard Planetarium & Observatory

Friday 3rd August 2007, 3:00p.m. :
"Wonders of the Universe"
Contact 01740630544

Bingo at Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 4th August

Doors open 7pm - Eyes down 7.45
Cash Prizes. Bar open.
All Welcome!

August at Sedgefield Library

Beaded Bugs

Mon 6th

10-11am - 6yrs+

Re-cycling Fun Day
Activities & Information

Tues 7th

Morning and Afternoon
FREE

Crafts

Friday 10th 10-11am

Monday 13th 10-11am

Tuesday 21st 10-11am

Tuesday 28th 10-11am

Book Circle

Wednesday 15th 2pm

Fantasy Flowers

Thursday 16th

10-11am - 7yrs+

Mr Twister

Thursday 23rd 10-11am

Unless stated all holiday activities require £1 non-refundable booking fee
All children under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult

Sedgefield Racecourse

Fixture date Friday 10th August

First race 2.30pm

Last race 5pm

154th Sedgefield Show

Saturday 11th August

on the Showfield, West Park Lane

Sedgefield Farmers' Market

Sunday 12th August

on the Village Green

Days In Days Out (DIDO)

Activities for older people

Monday 13th August

at 1.15pm in the Parish Hall
Entertainment (Ollie Burton),
Bingo & Raffle

Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 20th August

"Members' Queries and Problems
Evening"

Bring along some of your own
research, perhaps we can help you
find those elusive ancestors
We will have access to the internet
and other research facilities
Sedgefield Library

7pm

**NB Please note change in venue
and time for this meeting only**

Wynyard Planetarium & Observatory

Sunday 26th August 2007,
3:00p.m. : "Secrets of the Sun"
Contact 01740630544

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club

No meeting

Residents' Forum

No meeting

Local History Society

No meeting

Sedgefield Garden Society

no meeting in August

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

No meeting

Sedgefield Civic Trust

No meeting

101 Gigs in August

03 Normanby Hotel, Normanby
04 Tut & Shrive, Bishop Auckland
21 Potters Bar, M'bro (Private)
25 The Ox Inn, Stanley (Acoustic)
26 The Frigate, Marske (Acoustic)
31 Dr. Browns, Middlesbrough

St Edmund's Church

Weddings and Baptisms may be
arranged in church on Thursday
evenings at 6.30pm

Sunshine Corner

Bible stories & fun for pre-school
children. **Fridays 10am – 11am**

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable
events - new members welcome

Contact Rob on 629079

Country Market

Friday mornings in the Parish Hall
Market resumes in September

Coming up

Bingo at Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 1st September

Sedgefield Garden Society

Tuesday 4th September

A talk on permaculture and
sustainable living by Wilf Richards.

Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 17th September

"Preston Hall and its Collections"
Paul Lake

Ceddesfeld Hall

7:45pm

Visitors welcome

Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 15th October

"Not a Drum was Heard"

Norman Welch

Ceddesfeld Hall

7:45pm

Visitors welcome

Send your Diary entries to
snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk
or post them through
the door at
58 Front Street

Respect

I agree entirely with the letter by Maria in the last edition of Sedgefield News. I believe that the attitude towards young people displayed by police in Sedgefield and across the country is both irresponsible and immature. The government and the police never seem to tire of discussing 'anti-social behaviour', and always point out that it is young people who are most likely to be the victims of these crimes. However, I would like to point out that in all the time I have lived in Sedgefield, I have never been the victim of anti-social behaviour, but have repeatedly been subjected to what can only be described as harassment by both police officers and community support officers. In one particular incident, myself and two friends were followed from one side of the village to the other by an officer walking just behind us. This was in broad daylight and, as far as I can tell, we had done nothing to suggest we might be intending to commit a crime. Did he have nothing better to do with his time?

Of course, some young people do cause crime, but surely a better way to deal with this is to look at why they do it, rather than simply causing more resentment by treating all of us with disdain? If the government really wants to engage young people in their local communities, a good start would be for the people who are supposed to be the role-models of society to start treating them with some respect.

Yours faithfully
Jack Crallan

An opposing view

In reply to "Your Letters - Maria July 2007 - Sedgefield News"
I am a pensioner who lives around the parks area, where children congregate, mainly at week-ends. These areas are surrounded mainly by pensioners' bungalows. When we have between 20-60 teenagers around it's quite intimidating, but when we have squealing girls, youths shouting, both sexes using extremely bad language, drinking alcohol, breaking bottles and leaving a lot

Your Letters

of litter, this is quite disgusting. I have had missiles thrown at my windows, items taken from my garden and my car tampered with. I am disabled, so you can appreciate, it's not very pleasant for myself or my neighbours. You and your friends may not be involved in any of this, but you must be amongst those who are involved.

However - I do sympathise with you and your friends, at having nowhere else to socialise, and feel something should be done for our youth of today. There will always be a certain element that will not join in anything, because they do not want a controlled environment where they can't drink, smoke or spoil things and they like making a nuisance of themselves, because they think it makes them look good.

Perhaps the parents of most of these children should come down to these parks (when there are large groups of children down) and see both boys and girls all the worse for drink - not a pleasant sight. It's time schools, PTA, youth workers, school governors, councillors and the residents of the villages did something for these children, it should not be a police problem - NIP THINGS IN THE BUD, our children deserve better and times have changed.

Name and address supplied

Wonderful Community

I write to say a big thank you for the organisers, also people that gave us senior citizens' trips to Redcar and other days out and tea parties. We are so fortunate to live in Sedgefield among a wonderful community. We do appreciate you. God Bless You All.

Margaret Harris

Cricket - No Way

Both as an individual Council Tax payer and as a local walk leader I feel compelled to respond to Chris Bunting's letter on behalf of the

cricket club.

The 'extra land' that Chris refers to was bought in the recent past by Durham County Council using Council Tax monies. The councillors elected to represent us therefore had a clear duty when disposing of that asset to obtain the best value possible for the tax payers as a whole. A Right of Way round the cricket field seemed to me to be a fair and sensible exchange and I therefore readily believed that explanation when I heard it.

Chris is quite right to admonish the thoughtless people who walk across the field instead of around it and I agree such thoughtlessness becomes dangerous when there is a game or organised practice in progress. It is not, however, anywhere near as dangerous as the alternative which is crossing the very busy and very fast A177 when visiting Hardwick Park. This is particularly the case when one reaches an age when one no longer has the speed and agility required to enjoy a game of cricket or dodge fast flowing traffic. Hopefully Chris and his fellow cricketers will live long enough to appreciate what I mean.

It is now over fifty years since the late Captain Ramsden MC gave the cricket field to his village cricket club and I think it would be nice if the present day members of the club remembered and emulated the generosity of that brave gentleman and gave the villagers as a whole a Right of Way (clearly marked so as to avoid any confusion for the thoughtless) around the edge of the field. I am sure the club's benefactor would have approved and that the county council will gladly assist with the signposting and marking of the Right of Way. If necessary, I am prepared to take this matter up with the county council, but in the meantime could someone please tell me who erected and paid for the stiles.

To change the subject completely, Roger is quite right

- **Neptune is fabulous!**

Ian Hunter



the community-based regeneration network

Sedgefield Development Trust is a member of the Development Trusts Association

The deadline for the September issue of Sedgefield News is August 15th

Contact us at 58 Front St, Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ:

phone 01740 629011 or email snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk.

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

Sedgefield News is printed by Ceddes Print & Design Tel: 01740 621793