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SEDGEFIELD NEWS

AUGUST 2016



Produced by volunteers for the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury, Mordon and Fishburn

Sedgefield Scouts 50th Anniversary

by Kelly Aitkin

Sedgefield Scouts, Cubs and Beavers recently enjoyed their 50th birthday with a big celebration in Hardwick Park, involving pioneering, a camp out and making a big banner for the 50th anniversary. I headed along to find out what's changed over the years and what has ensured the Scouts' success has continued.

Hugh Dunlop, the leader of Sedgefield Scouts, told me how being a Scout leader gave him the opportunity to do things that he wouldn't be able to do as a parent. Hugh explained that as the leader he kept an eye on the Scouts, as did the Cub and Beaver leaders, but patrol leaders (young Scouts) made a lot of decisions, gaining life skills and confidence. Although the laws and safety surrounding these groups have changed, everything to do with the movement has carried on, making it as popular as ever 50 years on. "We're watching them develop from little idiots into big idiots", Hugh laughed. In just half an hour at the camp I learnt how much of a friendly, fun atmosphere the Scouts has always had.

Thirteen year old Fred, a patrol leader himself, told me how he thought the best bits of Scouts were the number of friends he had made, working in teams and learning to cook. He told me how, because of Scouts, when he's older he'll know how to "cook more than just beans on toast!". Achieving the position of patrol leader to him meant that he had gained more confidence and was able to work together with a lot of people. Something that has never changed in regards to Scouts is the ability to have new experiences, such as big country camps that involve groups from all over the region, as well as the chance to get awards such as the Duke of Edinburgh award, which these young teenagers were already planning to place on their university application!

The 50th Scout anniversary was celebrated well in Sedgefield, as these groups still continue to teach, introduce friends and benefit young people in their future years.

Sedgefield Show - still growing!

The 163rd Sedgefield and District Agricultural Show takes place in the Robert Brown Show Field on Saturday 13th August and has already attracted a large amount of interest. It has been a growing tradition for over 160 years and this year a record number of entries and attendees are expected. The need-to-know details are: Gates open 10am, Car parking free; Marquees open 12 noon; Activities many and varied! There's a full range of competitions and displays; agricultural classes for horses, ponies and donkeys, vintage tractors, classic car display, small livestock, horticulture and a "Crufts Qualifier" dog show. Cattle, sheep and goat classes return, along with the heavy horse category, and the Show will host three centre ring attractions during the day.

Several marquees will house craft stalls, horticultural displays, home produce and handicrafts and the popular food hall will offer a vast range of local and regional delicacies. In the horticulture marquee, prize vegetables, home and farm produce and outstanding floral arrangements take the stage. Visit the craft tent for a spinning and weaving demonstration, "hands on" proggy mat making and stalls offering individual designer products.

There's plenty for children at the Funfair, along with Go-Kart party, Magician, Beat the Goalie, International Centre for Life display and much more.

The Show Committee would like to thank the many supporters whose commitment allows unique events such as Sedgefield Agricultural Show to bring local people, industries and traditions together.



Summer Comes to Sedgefield

Britain in Bloom judges, Eileen Burns, Val Giles and new judge Ron McParlin enjoyed their summer visit to Sedgefield so much it took them twice as long as usual to complete the judging trip.

Accompanied by Sedgefield Bloomer, Ian Sutherland, they enjoyed Stephen Young's beds, tubs and hanging baskets together with volunteer Bloomers' hanging basket towers and the eye-catching Bloom Bike in the village centre. Continued on page 2.

Green & friendly - but different!

Having found out that there are many local internet sites (see them on Facebook) where you can buy, sell and swap, we have decided not to go ahead with the 'freecycling' at the Farmers' Market. However, if you would like to offer something for collection, send us a brief description and contact phone number, by email, text or letter to the editor (see below). We will give your offer a line or two in the News.

SEDGEFIELD NEWS INFORMATION

**Deadline for September edition -
Monday 15th August.**

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Steve's Nature Diary *The natural world month by month*

August

The first week in August sees the second week of National Marine Week, when The Wildlife Trusts celebrate our awesome sea life! Summer is simply not complete without a day at the seaside - but is life in our rockpools quite as placid as it seems? Why not discover the real Rocky Horror Show and try a dip into some rockpools. Keep an eye out for fins amongst the waves and see what other surprises our sea might offer this summer. National Marine Week offers shoals of events to holiday makers and locals alike to enjoy the real Rocky Horror Show. For inspiration, activities and compelling short films see www.wildlifetrusts.org/rockpools

Exploring rockpools is often our first experience of the marine environment – and life in these pools is no picnic. Conditions are tough for the weird and wonderful creatures that live there, from anemones to lurking devil crabs. The rocky shores that fringe the islands of the United Kingdom are home to a colourful cast of characters. This includes the starfish which can re-grow arms and their stomach too! When eating a scallop or mussel, the starfish regurgitates its stomach out through its mouth and stuffs it into the shell of its prey. It digests the prey into a seafood soup before re-swallowing it, stomach and all. If threatened mid-meal, the starfish bites off its stomach, leaving it inside the prey's shell, and crawls away. It will lie low until its new stomach has grown.

An interesting fish found in rock pools is the cuckoo wrasse, which is one of the UK's most colourful fish; females are peachy-orange in colour and males neon blue. All are born female but the leading fish will change sex – adopting vivid blue markings to advertise its new-found masculinity. It is likely (though not yet confirmed) that cuckoo wrasse exhibit a phenomenon recorded in other fish species - 'sneaky male syndrome' – whereby some fish change into males without changing colour - which means they can breed with females without being found out by the alpha male.

Another rather strange creature which can also be found in rockpools is the hermaphrodite sea hare – a slug which indulges male and female desires simultaneously. They form mating chains, even complete circles, as each slug plays female to the slug behind and male to the slug in front.

Rockpooling is the perfect activity for families and intrepid coastal explorers alike; it's free, accessible to all and the only equipment required is a keen eye and a curious mind. Be careful to leave everything as you find it, putting all creatures back into the pool where you found them and not scraping any residents off the rocks.

This is an ideal time to get to your closest bit of coast whether it is Redcar, Saltburn or Hartlepool - go and see what you can find. Whether you want to find out more about gory rituals of rockpool life or enjoy a whale and dolphin watch with all the family, there are events at which to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of the sea and learn more about its riches.

See <http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/whats-on>

Summer comes to Sedgefield

The judging team also reviewed displays at some of Sedgefield's iconic buildings. These included the developing "Stepping Through Time" project, which will recall the Georgian splendour of Ceddesfeld Hall, together with the Manor House's beautiful Jubilee Rose Garden. Features around the church, such as the 700 bed's tribute to The Queen's 90th birthday and The Bloom Beacon's commemoration of the Sedgefield men who fell at The Battle of the Somme were also visited.

The Bloom team have created attractive plantings at Crispin Court and Rectory Row, a herb garden at Malton Terrace and a mixed border at Wykes Close. Beyond the village centre, spectacular planting near the old toll road, is complemented by the vintage plough and seed drill opposite. The judges also visited residents' gardens in Eden Drive, Claremont Grove and Station Road and were impressed by Sedgefield Racecourse, Hardwick Country Park and Hardwick Hall's magnificent walled garden. Sedgefield in Bloom publicity officer Norma Neal said, 'Judging day was very relaxed and enjoyable, rather like inviting friends to see your own garden. Having won gold and Best Small Town many times, this year Sedgefield was elevated to the category Champion of Champions. We hope we have risen to the challenge and done credit to this lovely place.' Results will be declared at an award ceremony in Gateshead on September 14th.

News in brief

Diamond wedding

Dr & Mrs Keith Beveridge celebrated their Diamond Wedding on June 30th. They married at Holy Cross church, Newcastle upon Tyne in 1956.

Dr Beveridge did his first house job at Sedgefield General Hospital in July '56 before doing two years National Service. He returned to Sedgefield in 1959 and joined Dr Ray Harbinson's practice, where he remained until his retirement in 1995.

Hearty congratulations to them both.

Scarecrow competition

Households, businesses and organisations are invited to enter this year's Sedgefield Scarecrow Festival being held on the 20th & 21st August. Use it as an activity for the kids during the summer holidays. It's also an excellent way of advertising your business or organisation. Entry forms can be collected from the Town Council offices. For details go to Facebook, ([sedgefieldscarecrow](https://www.facebook.com/sedgefieldscarecrow)); email maxinerobinsonsedgefield@gmail.com or call 620042.

Completed entry forms can be handed into the Town Council offices or 28 White House Drive. YOU decide the theme for your scarecrow. All we ask is that they are displayed between 10am-4pm on the two dates. Deadline for entry forms is Friday **12th August** but we welcome them before this date.

Eden Drive Appeal

(300 houses)

A Public Inquiry is to be held at Sedgefield Racecourse on Tuesday August 9th starting at 10 am. It is scheduled to last for 8 days.

Members of the public may attend and at the Inspector's discretion express their views, or just observe proceedings.

Sedgefield Village Action Group will be making representation under Rule 6, objecting to this development. Applications for this site have been refused twice; the main reason being that the development represents a harmful and significant incursion into open countryside around Sedgefield which will impact negatively on the village. If you can attend the Public Inquiry, please do so. It is vital that local residents turn out to make their presence felt and their voices heard.

Sedgefield Twinning Association's visit to Germany (continued from July edition)



Twin Town's work with refugees

After lunch at the Klausenhof Academy in Dingden, Bürgermeister Bernd Romanski, principal of the Academy, showed us the work that the people of the area, specifically in Dingden, are doing with refugees. This was an eye-opener to the people from Sedgefield. We all know that there are lots of refugees and asylum seekers in Europe, but we did not realise how much the little village of Dingden has been involved ever since the summer of 2015, when host families were found for whole families (220 people) and Academie Klausenhof gave accommodation to 75 unaccompanied male refugees.

Since October 2015 the Academy has cared for 121 young unaccompanied minors, mostly from Iraq and Syria, but also from Afghanistan, Iran, Bangladesh and Morocco. They are given accommodation, English tuition, help finding jobs and help with social skills, and above all dignity. On the edge of Dingden there is a whole community of refugees living in converted containers,

and volunteers from the community help them with language and social skills, and offer them friendship. One young refugee had learnt German very quickly and was acting as interpreter for the others – he also spoke good English, and even though it was Ramadan and he could not share our food, he came and sat with us when we had lunch and talked to us. Two women came to talk to us to show how much German they had learned, and to tell us how much they appreciated the efforts made for them. They had baked cakes for us from their homeland! One was from Syria and although aged only 24, had 4 children, a handicapped brother and an epileptic mother to look after. The other was from Arabia and had older children in a local school and was delighted because she had just got a job!

Other days were filled with such things as a tasting at a winery in Wertherbruch (see photo, above) and visits to a textile factory in Dingden, a bakery in Hamminkeln, followed by the inevitable Kaffee und Kuchen.

The whole trip was very interesting and gave us a real insight into how our friends live. We also had wonderful weather, even though the week before they had suffered from horrendous flooding and many of the fields we passed were still under water. All German houses have cellars, which is wonderful most of the time, but not quite so wonderful when all the water has nowhere to go!

We returned home full of enthusiasm for our partnership and planning a return visit from Hamminkeln next year. We do feel it is important that more young people become involved. Many of us have been travelling to and from Hamminkeln for up to 34 years and feel it's important to pass the connection on to the next generation. If anyone feels they might be interested in hosting next year (the dates still have to be decided) or being involved in any way, please do contact us and we will give you further details.

Judith Edgoose, Secretary STA. 01740 620244. 07899 984464 or mail@toddsousefarm.co.uk

Summer Art

The Manor House in Sedgefield has hosted a second summer art exhibition, featuring work by local artist Jane Spink and welcoming a local guest artist each day. The Manor House provided the perfect venue for such an event and Jane was keen to involve the local community in a relaxed and informal exhibition. Visitors to the exhibition willingly contributed their own artistic skills to a community art project and Toshachs tea shop catered for lunches throughout the 5 day event so that visitors could enjoy their lunch at the exhibition whilst overlooking the village green. Jane worked throughout the exhibition and completed the painting of the view of St Edmund's Church (see insert right of photo.) Many of her paintings feature local landmarks. Memories of the exhibition have been recorded on the facebook page Jane Spink - Art.



Community Safety

PC Todd reports

Crime remains low again this month with reports of the theft of an orange wheelbarrow from a garden in The Lane and the theft of a child's BMX bike and two child's scooters from a garden in Conifer Avenue. A local farm has also been the victim of a crime where a large amount of horse riding equipment was stolen. Youths are continuing to gather in the cemetery on an evening which we are keen to prevent and will take action against offenders.

Pub Watch

A meeting was held recently at the Golden Lion. One incident of unacceptable behaviour in a member premises was reported. A warning letter has been issued and the male has been banned from that public house.

Until next time, Keith

New support scheme for young victims of crime

Young victims of crime will be helped to rebuild their lives thanks to an "extremely innovative" new initiative launched by Durham Constabulary. Eight young people between the ages of 12 and 17 will be offered the opportunity to take part in the 'Bounce Resilience Academy'. All of those selected have overcome adversity in their lives.

Bounce aims to provide clients with skill to deal with issues from their past and so to move forward to a successful future. The Bounce Resilience Academy this summer involves six days of activity, which conclude with a graduation where all involved receive a certificate of achievement.

Partnering Durham Constabulary in this venture is the Teesside company, Clarity, which deals in personal change work and specialises in Neuro Linguistic Programming. Clarity personal change expert, Hannah Bell, said that she was looking forward to "helping young people who have had an extremely challenging start to their lives move forward to secure the best possible opportunities for their future."

Durham's Assistant Chief Officer, Gary Ridley said that he hoped this would be the first of many Bounce programmes.

For Local Police, call 101

Education Update

Need help with the cost of university ?

Support with Sedgefield Charities invite applications from residents in Bishop Middleham, Bradbury, Cornforth, Fishburn, Mordon, Sedgefield and Trimdon for educational grants for study beyond "A" level or equivalent.

These grants are particularly designed to help new university students who may find the additional costs of university life – books, laptops, etc. – difficult to fund.

The grants are, however, available to anyone, of any age, taking up a full-time course of education at a higher level.

A limited number of awards are made each year but every successful applicant will have that award renewed for every year of the course, provided they make good progress and their circumstances do not change.

For further information and application forms contact the Clerk to the Trustees, John Hannon at East House, Mordon, Sedgefield, TS21 2EY; 01740 622512 or e-mail east.house@btinternet.com

The closing date for applications is 30th September 2016



Sedgefield Community College's new Head Boy and Head Girl

All change at the top

Six students were recently nominated for the role of Head Boy and Head Girl at Sedgefield Community College.

The students each attended a formal interview, which mimicked the intensity of a professional job interview, before a selection panel made up of Headteacher, Mr Davies, Deputy Headteacher, Mr Foster and Chair of Governors, Mr Robinson, made the decision.

They chose Robbie Till as Head Boy and Eleanor James as Head Girl. Both students demonstrated that they have the qualities that are required to represent the values and ethos of the college. Congratulations!

The Les Joss Memorial Mathematics Award 2016

In recognition of the late Mr Les Joss, Sedgefield Community College presents an annual mathematics award to a student who excels in this subject. Members of the community will remember Les, a mathematics teacher himself, and governor at the College for a number of years. This year the award was presented to Thomas Richmond (pictured right), a Year 10 student who has displayed excellent mathematical skills and outstanding persistence. Well done Thomas!



Lock up or lose it!

POLICE say many motorists are making it 'easy pickings' to car thieves by leaving their vehicles unlocked – in some cases overnight. Recent local research shows that almost half of all such crimes could easily be prevented if owners took more responsibility.

"There is little the police can do if members of the public carry on leaving their vehicles unlocked and valuable items in full view. You might as well leave a note on the windscreen telling the thieves to help themselves" said Detective Inspector Paul Phillips.

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Sedgfield Farmers' Market: 7th August

Our two Community stalls this month are **Darlington Beekeeping Association**; anyone interested in joining Sedgfield Development Trust's Beekeeping Group or just interested in what DBKA - Beekeeping do, come along and have a chat: and **Durham Coast & Lowlands - Regeneration and Economic Development**, providing information about grants to support small rural businesses. There's music from Hokey Folky and Kitchy Retro, two bands whose music we have enjoyed previously, and Sedgfield Village Games with sporting activities for young children, so do come along and enjoy the fun, as well as the excellent local food on sale.

As for the traders, never let it be said that we ignore our four legged friends here in Sedgfield! Sardine and Basil Oatcakes, Apple and Cheddar Bites, Liver Biscotti or Banana Muffins - all on offer on our latest stall, Dottie and Dora!



Sedgfield Energy Switch

PAYING MORE THAN £699/YEAR FOR GAS & ELECTRICITY?

If you registered for our last auction in May, and use approximately 3,100 Kwh of electricity and 12,500 Kwh of gas per year you are classed as a 'Medium User' by **ofgem** and you would only pay **£699** for the 12 months of your contract. Almost 100 people in Sedgfield did take the opportunity to register and as a result can expect to save, on average, over £270 /household in the next year.

Disappointed not to be part of it? Don't fret, there's an opportunity to benefit from the next auction in the autumn. The key dates to note are:

Registration opens 2nd August and closes 10th October. Auction date is 11th October.

Offer letters are issued from 21st October. Closure 29th November.

IMPORTANT: if you have switched already with our scheme and your contract comes to an end before the end of this year, this will be your last opportunity to register again, before your contract expires. If you wish take advantage of the competitive tariffs that have been achieved so far, please register again.

If you would like further details about the scheme please call the Sedgfield Development Trust Helpline on **07980 134 594** or visit **www.sedgfieldweb.co.uk** and open the ENERGY SWITCH section.

If you have questions, you can always talk to someone from Sedgfield Development Trust at the Farmers' Market and this month we are at Sedgfield Show on Saturday 13th.

Busy Bees at Hardwick

Good News Update

Sedgfield Development Trust is delighted to have been awarded a grant of £2,850 from the E.ON Butterwick Wind Farm Fund, to purchase three community hives and related equipment. This will allow people who have done the Beekeeping course, but do not own their own hives etc., to further develop their skills and enjoy this rewarding and essential pursuit.

The three hives will remain in the ownership of the Trust, and therefore the community.

Ceddesfeld Hall



Home of Sedgfield Community Association

The SCA would like to say many thanks to all of the volunteers who made Ceddesfeld Hall Beer Festival such an enjoyable and successful event. Without their commitment and hard work, the event just would not take place. Special thanks must go to our sponsors, The Bailey Group, Bright and Kind, Parsons Containers, Select Financial Services and to Sedgfield Web Design who created all of the promotional materials. Thanks to Lol and Maxine Crallan for their mix of folk and popular songs. They really entertained the visitors who attended on the Saturday night. It was a weekend of fun and really good beer and we're already looking forward to the special 25th anniversary festival next year!

Plans are going well for the Sedgfield Scarecrow Festival on 20th & 21st August. (All the details are on page 2.) It's great family fun to take part, making the scarecrow and then following the Scarecrow Route maps to see all the entries. There's no particular theme this year and organisations, local businesses as well as families and individuals are encouraged to take part. **Sedgfield Folk Festival** takes place on 2nd and 3rd September. Ceddesfeld Hall is delighted to be part of this fantastic weekend. Ceddesfeld is hosting music workshops, the 'World Spoons Championship' and Sunday Sing-around. On Friday 2nd starting at 7 pm, Lol and Maxine are hosting a 'Ukulele Kanikapila' with the Stockton to Darlington Ukulele Express and introducing Ceddesfeld's own Ukulele Group. Please bring along a ukulele and join in the fun! Tickets are £5 from Lol on 01740 621729 or from behind the bar. On Saturday evening, beginning at 7.30 pm we have Ceddesfeld Open Mic Night, featuring the Old Age Travellers plus a host of local talent. The event is free and there will be a raffle.

We're looking forward to a busy summer of community events and everyone is welcome. Just to let you know also that Ceddesfeld Hall has a variety of rooms available for every occasion for private hire as well as catering facilities and a bar if required.

For information, contact Wendy 620206: Pat 620607: Sarah 622185 or www.sedgfieldsca.org.uk.

11th Annual Folk Festival

The Sedgefield Folk Festival, now in its 11th year, has become one of the highlights of many residents' social calendar. Taking place across the course of a weekend, and in a variety of different venues, the Festival has been going from strength to strength. Nationally recognised artists and bands such as Kieron Goss, Gilded Thieves and The Teacups have performed, along with more home grown talent, including The John Wrightson Band, The Hokey Folkeys, Lirica and The Old Age Travellers.

This year's Festival performances take place from Friday 2nd September to Sunday 4th (for a full programme check out sedgefieldfolkfestival.co.uk).

Festival organiser Joan Edmundson, who also plays keyboards in The John Wrightson Band, started the Festival after the existing Festival at Trimdon was no longer able to run. Joan was approached by the Arts Development Officer who felt it would be sad to lose the traditions of the Folk Festival, and that Sedgefield, with its variety of venues, all within easy walking distance of the centre of town, would be an ideal location.

The Folk Club at Sedgefield Cricket Club, which has been running now for 27 years was an excellent place to start, due to its reputation for its friendly atmosphere and the high calibre of acts. The Festival receives nothing in the way of official funding, but instead runs from Ticket Sales and fundraising events throughout the year. Joan and her team work extremely hard to ensure the ongoing success of the Festival, both artistically and financially.

Asked what makes the Festival such a success, Joan couldn't pinpoint one specific thing, but instead highlighted the intimate nature of the events that take place, the many supporters who give their time and effort, the variety of performances and performers from all over the country, the different types of music being played (including traditional folk, blues, bluegrass, country, choral and a capella music), but mostly to the audiences, without whom, there wouldn't be a festival at all.

The opening of the Manor House as part of the Folk Festival Fringe, under the Festival banner, has given another venue in which to see performances, as well as the incorporation of the Open Mic Night into the Folk Festival Programme, and the inclusion of the Golden Lion. The number of Free Workshops has grown this year, including workshops for Ukelele, Violin, and the annual World Spoon Championships, run by the local hero Bert Draycott. This year's festival is sure to be varied, exciting and full of wonderful, traditional and new music. Get tickets if you still can! TG



Above: Kieron Goss. Right top, The Gilded Thieves: Below, The Teacups.



Sedgefield Players Youth Section Kipling's "The Jungle Book"

Though minimally rehearsed, didn't all the children give polished, wholehearted performances right through the lengthy script and fast-moving, not rushed, enactment? And while this observation pleads unbiased and objectivity it would indeed be remiss of this pen to deny unavoidable-non-attendees of their, sadly, missing a cameo-like performance of cast character 'Mowgli', thus personified by Kieron O'Donnell: rightly, spontaneously acknowledged by a packed house in the usual manner. Unsurprisingly, the apparently redoubtable and yet modest young Kieron, later, with his family, professed 'exhaustion.'

So in conclusion, sincerely to him and all others listed on the programme - not forgetting the generous sponsors - many, many thanks for such a fine "Jungle Book" in nice or better mixed company of all ages. Sure 'twas a grand treat for us all, so it was! And God be good to us all.

Eamonn Murtagh

Many thanks Eamonn for your letter. Such praise from our audience is lovely to hear. The SPYS work incredibly hard throughout the year to perform shows like 'The Jungle Book'. We will be taking part in the drama festival in September with our production of 'Mobile Phone Show' by Jim Cartwright and starting rehearsals for the annual Pantomime. TG (Photo left by Sarah Atkinson)



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SPORTS UPDATE

email chrisjlines@aol.com

It is now high summer and we have witnessed some highly impressive sporting performances in recent weeks. Andy Murray proved yet again that he's one of the greatest sportspeople that Britain has ever produced, while as I type, Chris Froome has just secured his third Tour de France victory, while fellow Brit Mark Cavendish sprinted to four stage wins during the tour. Of course, the less said about the England football team, the better. The Rio Olympic Games are imminent and here's hoping that it goes smoothly, safely and spectacularly, despite everything that has (or hasn't) happened away from the actual sporting competition.

Sedgefield Village Games

You may recall that Sedgefield Village Games was launched in 2012, inspired by the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games. Four years later, this year's festival was a huge success. Hundreds of local youngsters took some part in the fortnight of free taster sessions, designed to encourage more active lifestyles. The festival involved 16 sports, dance and outdoor activities, hosted by Sedgefield's clubs, community groups and individuals. The 2016 festival had a 'Rio' theme to it and was given financial support by the County Durham Community Foundation. The events began on Monday 6 June and ran until Friday 17 June, with a schedule that included trampolining, badminton, table tennis, strength and conditioning, Wigglets (dance and exercise for toddlers), racket and ball skills, athletics, football, rugby union, cricket, climbing, junior parkrun, tap dancing, squash, archery, Clubbercise (dance exercise), duathlon (run-bike-run) and orienteering. By attending at least five events during the fortnight, young people were able to earn a special festival beanie hat. Simon Hill, one of the organisers of the Sedgefield Village Games 2016 Festival, comments: "Our festival offered a positive counterpoint to the recent Sport England report on decreasing sports participation in this region. Bucking that trend, we are delighted with the response to the events, keeping the flame of 2012 burning bright here in Sedgefield. It was brilliant to see so many young people trying out new sports and other activities – some of the sessions attracted over 150 participants. None of this would have been possible without the contributions of a huge number of volunteers from Sedgefield's many great sports clubs, other groups and the three schools, and we are very grateful to everyone who supported the Sedgefield Village Games this year." Well done to everyone who got involved, whether as organiser, helper, parent or young participant.

Cricket

At Sedgefield Cricket Club, all of the junior teams are performing really well in their respective leagues, but among much positive news, there have been some standout performances. The under 9s were runners up to Hartlepool in a tournament at Norton on 12th June, while the under 11s reached the league cup finals day and sit towards the top of their league, with every chance of winning it. Meanwhile, the under 12s have reached the league cup semi-final and are awaiting confirmation of their opponents.

The under 13s girls' team were runners up in a Durham-wide Lady Taverners competition, losing narrowly to Shotley Bridge after beating Chester-le-Street, South Shields and Willington on their way to the final. This was a particularly impressive performance, because all of Sedgefield's girls are under 11!

And perhaps saving the best to last, the under 15s team (*photo, right*) recently became North East champions, by recording a victory over Seaham Harbour in a 'champion of champions' trophy after beating various sides to get to the final. Sedgefield will now play the Yorkshire Champions Hallam CC (Sheffield) in the next round of this national competition. That's a seriously impressive set of results for the juniors and the club is grateful to thank Hays Travel and YoungsRPS for sponsoring youth cricket development in Sedgefield.

Athletics

Sedgefield continues to produce some very talented junior athletes, who are making great

progress. Sedgefield Harrier Aimee Barlow is a case in point.

On 19th May, Aimee (*above right & in high jump below*) competed for her school in the Durham County combined events championships.

The competition consisted of five events - 75m hurdles, shot, high jump, long jump and finally 800m. Aimee was the only athlete from Sedgefield to take part and despite not having the facilities to train for the jumps and hurdles came away as county champion. This then took



her, as part of the Durham team, to the North East Region English Schools combined events championships on 26th June. 23 girls were registered from the region, which includes Northumberland, Durham, Cleveland, North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, South Yorkshire and Humberside. Aimee's first event was the 75m hurdles and she ran a new personal best of 13.1 seconds to claim eighth place. Her weakest event was next - the shot put – and she threw close to her personal best, which kept her in the same position. Next was the high jump which is one of her strongest events and she equalled her PB of 1.45m to take her up to fifth. Next, in the long jump, Aimee jumped a new PB of 4.40m to move her to fourth.

To be able to get to the national English Schools, Aimee had to be part of the winning team or in the top two places. Two Durham girls had dropped out over illness and injury throughout the day so getting through as the winning team was not possible. As a result, she needed to run her final event, the 800m, and beat all the other athletes and get enough points to get into the top two places. 800m is Aimee's strongest event, but after a long day and four events this was a tough challenge - she rose to it. After the first lap, she was in a clear second place but was gaining on the first place girl with every stride. At 200m to go she overtook the first girl and comfortably won the 800m with a season's best time of 2.29.9. Aimee's time was enough to jump her from fourth to second place and secured her a place at the English Schools final in Exeter in September, where she will be one of only 45 athletes in the country in her age group to compete; a huge achievement for a girl who only really trains for 800m – congratulations to Aimee! (*More photos on SedgefieldWeb*) I will bring news of great progress by another junior athlete from Sedgefield next month, in the form of very talented shot putter Kate Carmichael.

Pole Climbing

I have covered the pole climbing exploits of Luke Towler before and am pleased to report that he's becoming ever more successful at this unusual sport. Still only 17, Luke is now both Scottish and British champion. He claimed the Scottish title at the

Highland Games in Edinburgh and followed that up with the British title at Kent County Show not long afterwards, where his winning time was a very rapid 10.97 seconds. Later this year, Luke will compete to be world champion. climbing competitions.

Your **LETTERS**

A very good deed for the day

On Friday 15th, as the Community College was breaking up for the summer holiday, a young lady came across a little, old dog, in The Lane. It was clearly lost. She brought it into Boynston Grove just as Phyllis Hillerby arrived at her brother's house. Phyllis took control of the dog and took it to the Vets to try to identify it. I would like the young lady to know that later that afternoon, the dog was reunited with its owner - so all's well that ends well. (By chance the dog belonged to the Mayor and his family).

Enid Hillerby

Farewell tributes to Rector

Revd. Michael Gobbett, has been praised for the 'enormous contribution' he made to parish life during his ten years here, before he left to take up a new post in Whitby. At a farewell lunch in Sedgefield on Sunday, Reader Michael King led tributes to Father Michael's 'quiet, friendly, spiritual and prayerful leadership', commenting: "The parish owes an enormous debt of gratitude to you for your commitment to us. "Since arriving in Sedgefield when we were a newly-established parish, you have helped us to find our feet and have guided, supported and enabled us to grow and to develop."

Mr King said that Father Michael would be remembered especially for his encouragement to make greater use of lay members in both the life of the church and in helping to lead worship, his support for the shared ministry development team, and his commitment to pastoral care.

Members of all five churches in the parish attended Sunday morning service at St Edmund's when Father Michael was presented with several gifts. Highlight of the lunch that followed at Sedgefield Cricket Club was the cutting of a large iced cake made by churchwarden Brenda Moore and iced with decorative shapes of the five parish churches by church member, Julie Latheron.

Footnote: Mr King has reassured congregations and local residents that it will be 'business as usual' until a new Rector is appointed.



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AUGUST 2016 DIARY

email diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Date	Event
Wed 3rd	WI 7.15pm, Parish Hall "Upstairs Downstairs" with Maeve Nattrass. Members' competition - a Teapot. Visitors are always welcome
Sat 6th	Sedgefield Library 10-11am. Surgery with Councillors Rachel Lumsdon and John Robinson
Sun 7th	Farmers' Market on the Green from 8.30am.
Fri 12th	Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. 9.30 - 11.30am in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall
Sat 13th	Sedgefield Show Show Field West Park Lane, Gates open at 10.00
Mon 15th	Deadline for Sedgefield News September edition

Tea Dance Summer Holiday

Thank you to everyone who has supported the group over the past year. We are having a summer break until Tuesday 20th September when we hope you will return and people who have not been will give it a try, times 1 - 3pm.

We are a very friendly group - come and join us. Enjoy the summer!

Ann Carr & Joyce Davison

Coming Soon

Sedgefield Folk Festival 2nd - 4th September (see article on page 7)

Sedgefield Drama Festival of One Act Plays 12th - 17th September

For Tickets www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk, Tickety Boo, ☎ 621771

Regular Events, Meetings and Get-togethers

Acoustic Evenings 1st Fri & 4th Wed. Ceddesfeld Hall 8.30pm All welcome.

Art Group Tuesday 6.30-8.30pm Methodist Church Hall. Tuition, all welcome

Bereavement Support Group 3 - 5pm. Thursday, St. Edmund's Church

Bowls Club Ceddesfeld Hall. Beginners welcome call 622532 for information

Bridge Club Ceddesfeld Hall Sunday & Tuesday 7.30pm Beginners welcome. 620434

CAB Advice Sessions alternate Wednesdays 10am - 1pm Advice & Information Centre

Café @St Catherine's Friendly chat & Fishburn gossip! Fridays 9.30-12.00

Ceddesfeld Hall Art Group Small friendly group 10am-12.00 Thursdays

Ceddesfeld Hall Pre-School Mon, Wed, Fri am; Children 2+years. 620934

Craft Club Swinhoe Room, Ceddesfeld Hall, 2nd & 4th Tues 7.30-10pm Tel: 620656

Fishburn Art Group Youth & Community Centre, Butterwick Rd. Monday 9.30am-12

Fishburn Taekwondo Tues & Thurs 6pm, Youth & Community Centre. 07743455065

Fitness classes in the Parish Hall Tuesdays in term time: **Tai Chi** 10 - 11am and on Wednesdays: **Exercise to Music** 11.30am - 12.30pm: **Pilates** 12.30 - 1.30pm and **Healthy Horizons** 1.45 - 2.45pm.

Handbell Ringers Weds 7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall or 1st Mon of month 621292

Lyrics Choirs Fridays in Ceddesfeld Hall. SLYC 6pm Adults 7.30pm. All welcome.

NECP Concertina Workshop 2nd & 4th Sun 1pm in Ceddesfeld Hall. 01642 588197

New Generation Church Every Sunday 11am at the Parish Hall. All welcome.

Playgroup Methodist Hall, Mon, Wed & Thursday 9.15-11.30. 620893

Pop In Club C'feld Hall Tues 9.30am-12 Wed 10am-12.30pm Thurs 1-3.30pm

Rotary Club of Sedgefield Wed 7.30pm Call Bob 07831270892 or Mel 07530315331

Sedgefield Mags Hardwick Arms first Tuesday of month at 8 pm. Tel: 07966029434

Sedgefield Players Parish Hall, 7.30, Sunday & Wednesday and for young people, SPYS Sunday 5.30. 620091

Sedgefield Tappers Parish Hall Mon 7 - 8. Contact 622185

Tea Dance Parish Hall from 1-3pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays (not August)

Toddler Club Wed term time 1.15 - 3pm, Ceddesfeld Hall. Tel: Joan Brennan, 622385

This information appears every month at www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk



PHOTOGRAPHY

Portraits, Events and Special Occasions

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Chi Taekwondo: Sat 10.30 - 11.30am

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Sedgefield Library

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Thursdays 10:00am - 6:00pm

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Library staff would like to thank Councillor Rachel Lumsdon for providing funding for our Krazy Kev workshop - a great success. This year's Summer Reading Challenge has a Roald Dahl theme. Please come along to the library and speak to staff to join.

Sedgefield Social Club

August entertainment

Saturday 6th: Ryan King

Saturday 13th: Stephz

Saturday 20th: Ben Dillon

Mon 22nd: Country Night with Tanya Turner.

Saturday 27th August: Ray

Opinions expressed in Sedgefield News are not necessarily those of the Publisher or the Editor. We strive to be impartial & independent. We reserve the right to edit copy & will not publish letters of unknown authorship. Please send your contact details with correspondence.

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