

SEDGEFIELD NEWS

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

August 2019

Deadline for next edition, 15/08/2019



Photos. A fragment of the Hunting Cup, shown alongside a complete example. The hound is clear to see.

Unlocking the Past at East Park

Our lead story this month is written by new team member Paul Savage, who took part in the dig.

I can't say I was looking forward with much enthusiasm to digging up a field on a hot sunny day in the middle of June, but the day I spent with DigVentures proved to be both fascinating and more enjoyable than I could have imagined.

In 2003, the TV programme, Time Team (Season 10, Episode 12) visited Sedgefield and unearthed the tantalising remains of a Roman settlement at the northern end of East Park. This was followed by four more excavations by Durham County Council and Durham University in a concerted effort to reveal new details, but many questions still remained.

Discover Brightwater, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, is working hard to restore, reveal and celebrate life around the River Skerne, which passes between Sedgefield and Fishburn before heading towards Darlington. They asked DigVentures to assemble a team of volunteers to excavate the remains of the Roman town. My wife spotted it on social media and immediately signed us up. My knowledge of archaeology was limited to the films of Indiana Jones, so I gave little thought to the significance of the dig and prepared by deciding what to wear. Deciding a bullwhip was a little excessive, I settled on a very cool hat and sensible boots.

The volunteers had a wide range of experience, from beginners, like me, to two young girls who planned to study archaeology at university and had even brought their own trowels! So, with some trepidation, I waited for the briefing at the edge of a very large hole. I needn't have worried as the wonderful archaeologists made us feel welcome and answered any questions. They were keen to ensure everyone had a great experience, from working in the trench to recording and cleaning finds.

After the briefing, we were set to work. We started by 'cleaning' the mud, which involved scraping the ground with a tiny trowel. My skills were accurately assessed, and I was moved away from the delicate work, given a large mattock and asked to dig a big hole. It was hard work, but I was rewarded with my first, and only, discovery of the day - a small piece of an amphora, probably used to store wine - I really was Indiana Jones!

150 AD

The Roman soldier in full marching gear, sweated under the warm sun. The road from York to Chester-le-Street was wide and flat but he was looking forward to a rest at Sedgefield.

2019 AD

I leant into the trench and peered in, a flash of terracotta catching my eye. 'Is this something?' I asked hopefully.

Over 3 weeks, the team uncovered lots of pottery, including Samian ware, Roman Grey ware, amphorae handles, and even parts of a Nene Valley Hunting Cup depicting a hound chasing a hare. (top left)

One of most interesting discoveries was an iron key (below), but sadly, all signs of the lock had been lost beneath the ploughed fields.



I was fortunate to have a small glimpse into the fascinating Roman settlement that lies beneath East Park and there are still more treasures to be discovered.

The team will be back next year and will concentrate on what is believed to be a town square and take a closer look at one of the dwellings.

If you can't wait, and have been inspired, then another dig is taking place this summer at the castle at Bishop Middleham.

Volunteer! You might discover some real treasure from the past.

GREENER SEDGFIELD

In the war against single use plastic a few supermarkets and retailers are introducing the use of paper bags instead of plastic bags. But is paper really the 'green' alternative to plastic?

Admittedly, in the right conditions paper breaks down into biodegradable matter and is hence less harmful to wildlife, but we're not meant to litter in the first place so that's really no argument here. Besides, as we have learnt after the meeting with an representative from the council's waste management services that all the general waste in County Durham gets incinerated we know that we are not sending anything to pile up in landfills.

It might not be well known but actually it takes four times more energy and three times more water to produce a paper bag than it would do to produce a plastic bag. Paper production emits 70% more air pollution and 80% more greenhouse gases than plastic production. Whilst plastic bags can be reused a number of times paper bags are rarely used more than once or twice. And once we recycle the paper bag, if we haven't binned it already that is, recycling a paper bag uses 91% more energy than recycling a plastic bag. Also, paper can be recycled normally only four, maximum up to six times in its lifespan before the fibres become too short for it being possible to be reused. Paper bags are heavier in weight which means that transporting them adds even further to their already big carbon footprint.

This is not a pledge to keep using plastic bags though, just a pointer that by grabbing a paper bag we're not necessarily doing the 'right' thing for the environment. The best anyone can do is to **REUSE and BRING THEIR OWN** - whatever material their shopping bags are made of, and keep using them as long as they have life left in them. There is also an increasing number of reusable produce bags being marketed online that can be used for items like loose fruit and veg and which would be a great substitute both to plastic and paper bags. Although, if you're crafty it would be easy enough to make your own out of any old garment that is made of thin light material. Or, are there any local craft groups out there that would be interested in making produce bags or shopping bags for local residents?

Greener Sedgefield is an online community group for exchanging ideas on more sustainable living, for more info find us on Facebook.



Fantastic fundraising

I would like to say a big thank you to all our customers and colleagues who have raised a fantastic £4294.52 for The Solan Connor Fawcett Family Cancer Trust.

Mark Solan who runs the trust was overwhelmed by everyone's generosity. This has been particularly close to our colleagues hearts, as the Trust helped one of our own colleagues Rebecca Sutherby, who sadly lost her battle with cancer on 6th June. She is a big miss to many colleagues in store and will never be forgotten.

The Trust, based in Spennymoor has helped many in our local area. Mark now has plans for bigger premises, with more treatment rooms, larger wig bank, a cafe and a drop in area. Their aim is to improve the quality of life of those affected by cancer in County Durham. Many thanks from everyone at Sainsbury's.

Angela Doidge, customer services, Sainsbury's Sedgefield



*Above, colleagues celebrate the final sum;
Below L-R Simon Parrott, Rebecca Sutherby,
Mark Solan & Becky Jo Mangan*



Sedgefield Charities: Education grants for students

The Trustees of the Sedgefield Charities make a number of awards each year to residents in the Sedgefield area who are taking up full time study beyond A level or its equivalent. Applicants must live in

Bishop Middleham, Bradbury, Cornforth, Fishburn, Mordon, Sedgefield or Trimdon.

Application forms and further information can be obtained by contacting the Clerk to the Trustees, John Hannon, East House, Mordon, Sedgefield TS21 2EY

Tel: 01740 622512

e-mail east.house@btinternet.com

The closing date for applications is September 15th 2019.

Les Joss Memorial Mathematics Award 2019

Every year the college presents a mathematics award in memory of the late Mr Les Joss, who was a mathematics teacher himself and a governor at Sedgefield Community College for a number of years.

This award is always presented to a student who has proved themselves to be an outstanding mathematician, demonstrating not only excellent mathematical skills but also perseverance and resilience.



This year, the award was presented by Lorna Joss (Les's widow) to Ethan Wrightson, a Year 10 student who has consistently impressed with his approach to his studies in mathematics. Well done Ethan!

Help needed

If you could deliver Sedgefield News once a month to Wykes Close (20 copies) or Thurlow Road (22 copies, please call **07899984464** or mail@toddshousefarm.co.uk

Many thanks, Judith Edgoose

Long-serving wardens make church history

Two men with long and distinguished records of service to churches in the Sedgefield area have made local church history by being honoured with the title of 'Churchwarden Emeritus'.

Parish wardens, John Burton and Brian Mutch are the first church officers in the Parish of the Upper Skerne, which covers Bishop Middleham, Fishburn, Sedgefield and the Trimdons, to be awarded the accolade. The pair were presented with 'certificates of grateful appreciation', cards and personal gifts by the Revd. Geoffrey Short, Team Rector, to mark their long and dedicated service.

Although they have relinquished their duties as parish wardens, both John and Brian will continue to serve as deputy wardens. Brian will have special responsibility for safeguarding the fabric of all church buildings in the parish. Taking over as parish wardens will be church members John Burrows and Reader Bill Armstrong who have strong links with Saint Michael's Church in Bishop Middleham but will work throughout the Upper Skerne.

Sunday's service saw a special presentation to Reader Michael King, to mark his hard work and leadership as Lay Chair of both the District Church Council and the Parish Church Council during the years that the Upper Skerne had no Team Rector or Vicar.



*Familiar faces to many. Above right: John Burton, top & Brian Mutch
Below L - R: Bill Armstrong, Michael King & John Burrows.*



Sedgefield & District Rugby Union Club Needs YOU!

The club is looking forward to the 2019/20 season, after 3 successful seasons in DN2 and 2 campaigns for the Saxons (2nd XV) in Tees Valley League. We are a small club and always looking for new players of all standards.

If you live in the local area and are over 18 we would be delighted to welcome you to your local club.

We currently have 1st and 2nd teams playing league rugby and we hope to have a Vets team playing social rugby this season.



Sedgefield News from the past

August 1869 – 150 years ago

by Martin F Peagam, The Time Traveller, on behalf of Sedgefield Local History Society

On Tuesday 10 August the second annual show of the Sedgefield Floral and Horticultural Society took place at Hardwick Park. Although rain fell at intervals, the show was deemed a great success.

As well as displays of flowers, vegetables and honey, there were sporting contests: a handsome silver cup was awarded to the winner of a bicycle race which was described as 'one of the great features of the show'. The united bands of Trimdon Grange and Wingate played music.

Amongst those exhibiting were the gardeners of the neighbouring gentry who provided attractive displays of stove and greenhouse plants.

Mr Stobart, gardener to Mr Anisty of Norton, took first prize for a display of six foliage plants 'of immense dimensions' and also won a prize for his white grapes. Mr Dick, gardener to Lady Vane, won a special prize offered by a wire manufacturer in Stockton for the best trained plants in wire hanging-baskets.

August 1909 – 110 years ago

Members of the Sedgefield Cycling Club were amongst the many cyclists from local clubs who gathered at Wolviston. The village was 'thronged with cyclists' for an annual feast of sports on the village green.

The sports included three-legged running races, skipping, quoits, and a donkey derby, and culminated with the chase and capture of a live pig – a contest won by Miss Bolton of Haverton Hill, who received a copper kettle for her efforts.



If you would like to know more about your local history, please visit the Facebook site of Sedgefield Local History Society or come along to one of our meetings.

The Chocolate Factory comes to Sedgefield

On July 19th & 20th, Sedgefield Players Youth Section (SPYS) delighted audiences with their annual summer extravaganza, this year a production of Roald Dahl's 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. The production featured on over 40 children, playing the famous roles of Willy Wonka (Kieron O'Donnell), Charlie and Grandpa Joe (Charlie Lines and Joshua Wilson) and the horrible children, Augustus Gloop, Violet Beauregarde, Veruca Salt and Mike Teavee (Naomi Law, Emily Legender, Kelsey White and Alisha Quinn).

The rest of the SPYS played various roles including Narrators, Parents and of course the bizarre Oompa Loompa's of Loompaland.

With set design by Walter Howell, costume design by Jeanne Iveson and Lighting and AV designed by Adam White and operated by Richard Flanagan, the show, directed by Sarah Atkinson and Tom Guest was a highlight of the SPYS year.

In September the SPYS will take part in the annual Sedgefield Drama Festival of One Act Plays with their production of 'As It Was' by ex SPY, Lucy Atkinson. The adult Players will present 'The Spy' by Bertolt Brecht and 'Twa Sisters' by Tom Guest.

The festival runs over the second week in September and will feature a huge variety of performances every evening. Tickets available soon from www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk and Tickety Boo.

Photos right by John Finlayson.



Bring me Sunshine

Sedgefield Lyric Singers, Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir (SLYC) and Lirica came together in the Parish Hall, to perform their annual summer concert. Although very hot on stage, it was a wonderful evening of entertainment, showcasing each of the three fantastic choral groups in the village.

The Lyric Singers entertained with songs including 'The Rhythm of Life' from the Musical 'Sweet Charity', a Choral Selection from the film 'La La Land' and a very challenging Eric Whitacre piece 'Sleep'. SLYC, who seem to grow in talent and ambition every year, performed songs from 'The Greatest Showman' and 'Sister Act' as well as John Legend's beautiful 'All of me'. Lirica challenged themselves with a barbershop version of Toto's 'Africa', Shawn Mendes' 'Stitches' and more classical pieces like 'Sing a song of sixpence' as well as a stunning arrangement of 'Amazing Grace'.

All three choirs came together to sing Bob Chilcott's 'Like a Singing Bird', a really beautiful piece with two songs working alongside each other, ending a very successful evening.

The choirs will be back again to perform at Christmas. As ever, new members are welcome when rehearsals start back in September.



Sedgefield Book Ends presents

Across the Pond

An evening of live music and poetry

Saturday 28th September

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SEDGEFIELD BOOK ENDS

Durham County Council

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SEDGEFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

DIARY **AUGUST** 2019

Submit events to diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

- Fri 2nd** **Veteran's Coffee Morning** meet in the Sedgefield Parish Hall from 10am to noon.
- Sun 4th** **Sedgefield Farmers' Market** is on the village green from 8.30am-12.30pm.
- Tue 6th** **Britain in Bloom** judges are visiting Sedgefield from 9am.
- Sedgefield Tea Dance** are back at the Sedgefield Parish Hall and everyone is welcome. 1pm-3pm, £2.50 including refreshments. For information, call Joyce 622601 or Ann 629070.
- Wed 7th** **Sedgefield Women's Institute** in Sedgefield Parish Hall from 7.15pm. "Funny Bones and Wisdom Teeth", a humorous talk by Dr Lowry. Visitors always welcome.
- Sat 10th** **Sedgefield Show** at Robert Brown Show Field, West Park. Gates are open from 10am.
- March4Men** will be walking around Sedgefield Racecourse in aid of Prostrate Cancer.
- Wed 14th** **Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch Meeting** in Sedgefield Social Club (upstairs room) from 7pm.
- Fri 30th** **Folk Festival Charity Night 7.30pm.** A free concert held in the Sedgefield Parish Hall.

Lots to do in August

Some of the regular groups and events are having a well earned rest in August but there is always something going on, so why not get involved. Sedgefield Show will take centre stage on Saturday 10th August but here are a couple of other ideas for the summer holidays and beyond.

March4Men

If you want to take a little gentle exercise, and help raise awareness and funds for Prostate Cancer UK, then March4Men may be the event for you. A relaxed walk around Sedgefield Racecourse, each lap is 2km and you can do as many (or as few) as you want. The course is wheelchair friendly but dogs are not permitted. Registration opens from 9.30am and the march starts at 11am.

For more information visit www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/march4menfor-prostate-cancer-tickets-59226516104 or Facebook page [March4men.sedgefield](https://www.facebook.com/march4men.sedgefield).

Archaeology at Bishop Middleham Castle

In 1075, Durham was a buffer between the warring nations of England and Scotland. Governing the region was almost impossible so William The Conqueror came up with an ingenious solution – get the local bishops to do it. This gave them great power and wealth and they were known as the Prince Bishops. There are estimated to have been over 300 medieval bishops houses in England and Wales and Bishop Middleham Castle is one of these residences. DigVentures have been commissioned, as part of the Brightwater initiative, to excavate the castle grounds. The dig will take place from the 5th to the 23rd August and is suitable for adults, and families with children aged 12 and above. It's free but booking is essential.

If you would like to be an archaeologist for a day, or even a week, please visit www.digventures.com/bright-water/background/bishop-middleham-castle.

And strictly for the children

The Space Race Summer Reading Challenge is under way at the Library. Reading for fun the summer long!



Christmas Extravaganza at the Sage: Friends of St Edmund's are taking bookings

Christmas may still be months away but the Friends of St Edmund's are already organising what promises to be the highlight of their year's social programme, a chance to see the massed voices of the highly-acclaimed Inspirations choir and the Royal Northern Sinfonia in a 'Christmas Extravaganza' at the Sage. The annual blockbuster concert on the afternoon of **Sunday, December 15th**, is a 'not to be missed event'. The Friends are keen to secure tickets as soon as possible for a party from the Sedgefield area. Supporters of the Friends will be particularly welcome. Tickets are £19 and early application is vital so the Friends' group can be seated together. Transport to the Sage will be left to individuals but lifts may be available for those without cars.

Further information from **Brian Mutch** on 01740 622302 or **Alison Hodgson** on 01740620912.

Sedgefield Library

Tel: 03000 269521 Opening Hours:

Wednesdays: 9.30am - 12.30pm

Thursdays: 10am - 6pm

Fridays: 1pm - 7pm

Saturdays: 9.30am - 12.30pm

Basic computing, tailored to your needs :
Thursdays 10.30 - 12.30

'Boogie Beat' pre-school session :

Thursdays 2pm: Booking reqd.

Craft Group: 1.30pm 2nd & 4th Friday

Book Circle: 2pm 3rd Friday.

Summer Reading Challenge: Space Chase, limited spaces, please book

The Hub

@Sedgefield Community College

New Dance Generation - Monday

U9s 5-5.45pm. Over 9s 5.45-6.30pm

Clubbercise: Tues 6pm

Zumba: Tues 6.30pm & **Thurs** 7pm

Blade Taekwondo: Sat 10.30am

Call **01740 617882** for all enquiries.

August @Sedgefield Social Club

Sat 3rd: John Brown

Sat 10th: Kendra Scott

Sat 17th: Max Peters

Mon 19th: Country Night

Sat 24th: Al Grahams

Sat 31st: John Conlon

Sew Easy Sessions in August

Mon 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th: 6.30-9pm

Wed 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th: 10.30am-1pm

Venue: Parish Hall Boardroom.

Ceddesfeld Acoustic Group

First Friday & last Wednesday of every month. All instruments welcome.

St John Fisher Catholic Church

Weekly Mass Times

Weds & Fri mornings, 9.45am.

Sunday 10.45am

Adoration on Thursday at 7pm.

Legion of Mary, Friday am after Mass.

parishsecretary1961@btconnect.com

New Generation Church

Sun 4th and 18th at Bethany Centre,

Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4UD

Sun 11th and 25th at

Sedgefield Parish Hall

Sedgefield Methodist Hall Non-Profit Playgroup

No sessions in August

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SEDGEFIELD VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Protect Your Property

Thousands of items of property are lost or stolen each year in the UK. Large amounts of property are recovered but the owners cannot be traced. Unfortunately, we tend not to think about crime until it happens to us. However, we can take prior steps to protect our property and help police stop property crime by using the 'Immobilise' National Property Register which already holds the details of 25 million items.

Register your property for free at www.immobilise.com, it takes only a couple of minutes and once you have registered you will have a better chance of getting your property back if it is stolen. When an item of registered property is lost or stolen report it to 'Immobilise' via your online account, this information is then made available nationally to all the major UK police forces through their online systems. If your property is recovered either the police or 'Immobilise' will contact you to collect it.

Victim Care and Advice Service

When we suffer from, or witness, the impact of crime, whether it be to person or property, it is then that we realise how a victim's life is affected. How do we go about getting help, advice and support? The Victim Care and Advice service (VCAS) is set up to help.

The type of support or assistance available includes:

- Telephone support
- Face to face support
- Advocacy including help to access available financial or legal services
- Support through the Criminal Justice System
- Support in accessing Therapeutic Counselling
- Support in accessing Criminal Injuries Compensation

You can contact VCAS to access support to help a victim or witness cope and recover from the impact of a crime. This is a free, independent, confidential service supported by the Durham Police Crime and Victims Commissioner. So, if you know a victim, witness or a family member of a victim that is in need of such support, then you can refer them into this service.

A Victim Care Officer will meet the victim or witness and discuss any emotional or practical needs they have. They will then put in place a support plan which may involve direct support by VCAS or may include referral into other specialist services for further help.

To speak to VCAS during office hours call **0303 040 1099** or email info@vcas.co.uk. To refer a witness to the service, email vcaswitnessreferrals@durham.pnn.police.uk

The Durham Police team manager is Mark Warcup. He can be reached at mark.warcup@durham.pnn.police.uk or on **07950 192510**.

Who are Neighbourhood Watch, what are we about?

Come and see us on **August 10th** at Sedgefield Show. Find out who is involved and what we do. Tell us what you think we should be doing (but please be polite). We are on the Durham Police Stand where you can also meet the Sedgefield Police Beat Team, who are the ones 'on the ground' keeping our community safe. What would you like to see them doing more of?

Are you a farmer or small holder? Please come and see us at the Show about setting up Farm Watch. How will it help you? We look forward to seeing you!

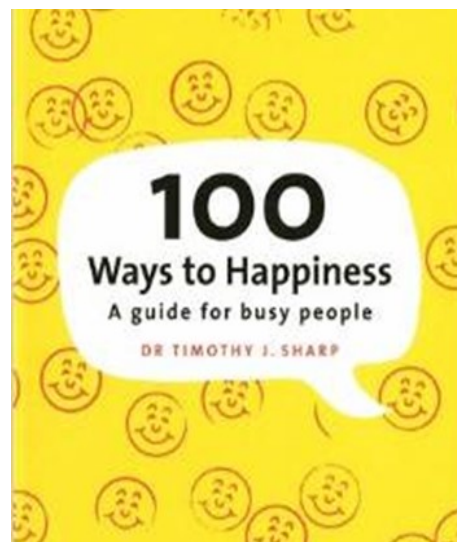
Remember, crime isn't as common as you think... but don't be a victim. Please lock up, stay safe and sleep well.



BOOK REVIEW

by Tamzin Lafford

100 Ways to Happiness – A guide for busy people, by Dr Timothy J. Sharp.



There is a risk in reviewing a book I haven't yet finished reading, but I'm up to number 28 out of 100 and a lot of what Dr. Sharp has said so far is relatively simple to put into practice. Here are a few example suggestions – try them and see what you think!

1. Get enough sleep, regularly. This is basic – but how many of us don't take care of it? Having been tired for about 20 years, I've been trying to catch up on some sleep. It is remarkable how much difference 20-30 extra minutes per night makes.
2. Every day, take a few minutes to think about some good things that have happened that day. If you write them down, you can look back at them and encourage yourself again another time. On days when things have been tough, stick with it - find at least one positive thing.
3. Practise gratitude. Reflect on some things you are grateful for; people you love or who have a positive impact on you; things that you consider deserve appreciation.
4. Forgive. 'Forgiveness does not change the past, but it does enlarge the future' (Paul Boese, 1668-1738, Dutch physician.)

For more, you'll have to read the book!

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Police Community Cohesion Officer Faye Callan - 101 Extension 742317.

Faye.callan@durham.pnn.police.uk

Confidential email address - John.lamb@durham.pnn.police.uk.

Any information we receive will be developed and acted upon.

STEVE'S NATURE DIARY AUGUST

Sometimes you come across a species of bird that can, by their behaviour, seem to be a little strange, if not stupid in the eyes of us humans. One of these species is the Little Tern; the behaviour is nesting on open shingle beaches which can be affected by wind, storms, rain and very high tides! Quite often colonies are permanently or temporarily wiped out by the combination of these environmental factors. Add to this the same beaches it nests on are the ones we love to walk on, meaning that Little Tern colonies can be very vulnerable not only to humans and their dogs, but also to predators such as gulls, crows, foxes, stoats, weasels and rats. In 2017, egg thieves stole at least 10 eggs from a thriving colony in Suffolk therefore disturbing the rest of the colony and in 2018 the Crimdon colony was deliberately disturbed by people with dogs. There are about 2,000 pairs nesting in the UK and locally they have nested at Crimdon Dene and South Gare – both these sites have in the past had problems with human disturbance both accidental and malicious.

However, the latest colony that seems to be doing well has popped up on a new site. If you visit Seaton Carew, just behind the landmark seafront bus station with its renovated grade II listed art deco clock tower, you may find a group of people with binoculars keeping an eye on the latest additions to the beach natural history. With this new colony a plan had to be hatched. A Little Tern Warden was employed by Durham Wildlife Trust and volunteers from Durham and Tees Valley Wildlife Trusts and others have been monitoring the population and encouraging people not to enter the colony and disturb the birds. As I write 32 pairs had nested, and chicks had been recorded.

Little Terns are the smallest of the 5 terns that breed in the UK and quite often can be identified by size alone. It is short-tailed and has a fast flight. Its bill is a distinctive yellow with a black tip. It can often be seen close to shore hovering between 5-7m above the water, when it spots food on the surface it will drop down with a splash to catch the fish. At this time of year the colony can be a hive of activity with birds coming and going and is well worth a visit. The chicks are well camouflaged and quick to become mobile, they often leave the nest after a day but usually remain close as they are reliant on their parents for food for about 15 days after which they are able to fly. It has been recorded that a Little Tern can make 109 plunge dives an hour and 63 visits to feed young during the day. Soon after fledging the bird will start their migration to Africa some travelling over 2,500 miles. Juveniles take 2 years to return to Britain to breed, so it is thought they spend their time maturing off West Africa. They can live for around 12 years. If you do visit Seaton Carew it is worth having a word with the warden or volunteers if they are there – they will tell you what's happening.

Blooming delight!

Following the July visit of Northumbria in Bloom judges, Sedgfield welcomes Leanne Bone and Keith Jackson of Britain in Bloom on Tuesday 6 August. They will tour the village centre, visiting ...

Ceddesfeld Gardens, before enjoying planting at both sides of Rectory Row, the wildflower meadow & mixed border at Wykes Close and the wonderful troughs outside the Social Club.

Gardens at Crispin Court & Malton Terrace, created by the Bloomers, & the sumptuous displays at the Golden Lion and Dun Cow, which always attract praise.

The agricultural heritage area at Beacon Lane & the Turnpike Bed opposite, which provide an attractive show at the entrance to the village. Beneath the village signs, planters created by town council gardeners offer a colourful welcome to Sedgfield, along with the beautiful tubs, hanging baskets and beds around the village green. The Bloom Bike and Beacon Bed have become firm favourites over the years.

Judges are always impressed by the Manor House gardens, created by the Bloomers, while planting provided by new proprietors at the Pickled Parson, Impeccable Pig and Herd & Herb (formerly Hardwick Arms) have brought a touch of class to the centre of the village.

'Results are not announced until the autumn, so we all have a long wait, but we are pleased to see Sedgfield looking so lovely and greatly appreciate the outstanding support from our wonderful community.' *Norma Neal*

Brownie Gold Award Achievement

Millie Beamson of 2nd Sedgfield Brownies has achieved her Gold Award at Brownies. The Gold Award is the highest award in Brownies and has recently been established as part of the new Brownie programme. Millie is the first Brownie in our Division to achieve this award. This is a huge achievement for which we at 2nd Sedgfield Brownies are very proud.

Millie has been a Brownie for over 3 years, joining in guiding activities, setting an excellent example to her peers and showing what it is to be a member of Girlguiding. Only the most dedicated Brownies will achieve their Gold Award as it takes a lot of effort and hard work so it is an outstanding achievement. Well done Millie!

Photo: Millie is pictured with Brown Owl, Joanne Tinkler and Mayor of Sedgfield, Leo McCormack.



CEDDESFELD HALL

Home of Sedgefield Community Association

Sedgefield Day provided a great opportunity to celebrate what this community does best, with a varied music programme and a chance to find out what is offered by various organisations based in Sedgefield. Thanks to everyone who took part.

Ceddesfeld Beer Festival was well attended and great fun. The beers and ciders were well received, with new beers from Hopper House Brew Farm proving very popular. Thanks to the volunteers who helped, and to Lol & Maxine and Maggie & Jeff for entertainment on Saturday evening. The festival wouldn't run without volunteers and sponsorship from local business; Sedgefield Blues Club, Bailey Group Accountants, Hopper House Brew Farm, Robinsons of Wingate, Manor House Weddings, Select Financial Solutions North East and new to this year, local builders Taylor Wimpey.

Sedgefield Folk Festival (6th - 8th Sept) has events at the Parish Hall and Ceddesfeld. On Friday 6th there's an evening with Ceddesfeld Ukulele Band (£5 entry) and the Open Mic Night on Saturday features the Old Age Travellers & begins at 7.30pm. There are workshops (ukulele, guitar, fiddle, song writing, Northumberland pipes, banjo) as well as singarounds.

A **'Family Fun Afternoon'** takes place on Saturday 3rd August from 1-4pm, with bouncy castle, face painter, garden games and sports activities for children 3 - 14 years to enjoy and share with the family in the fantastic grounds of Ceddesfeld. The bar is also open.

Sedgefield Book Ends begins on Saturday 28th September with a children's workshop at the library (10 am to 12 pm) and an evening of music (with a little poetry) from 'Across the Pond', with fantastic local musicians. There's something for everyone and it's on your doorstep! A full programme will be inserted into next month's issue with details. Full listings also on the SCA website and the Book Ends 2019 Facebook page.

For information on Ceddesfeld Hall events, regular activities, room hire and bar opening times, call Wendy on 01740 620206, Pat on 01740 620607 or Sarah on 01740 622185.

Find us on Facebook & online at
www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk

SEDGEFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST NEWS

Working for the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury, Mordon and Fishburn

Sedgefield Farmers' Market - Sunday 4th August

The range of our wonderful producers is still gradually increasing, and more and more customers are realising that a visit to the market is a great experience. Do pop over to the green one of these first Sundays - you might be surprised! Butterwick Hospice is the visiting charity stall this month and our summer season of live music continues with 'The Push Button Band'.

To contact the Market, use farmers@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk and for Charity stall & Music use charitystall@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Homework Help

Homework Help students and helpers are taking a break during the summer holidays. A huge thank you to all our helpers, who give time and expertise for free on a regular basis and have often been very creative in working with the students. A huge thank you also to them, our students, who have turned up, stuck with it and kept working hard, and to the adults who support them - and to Katie, Gary and the team at Sedgefield library, for all their help.

We've been able to help quite a few students this year, across a range of subjects from maths and English to science and languages, from Year 6 SATs to A-level and advice regarding a university application. We've have had some positive feedback, including this from one parent: *"The Homework Help Group has been a fantastic, free help group which has enabled my son to develop and gain confidence with English"*.

We'll be raring to go again in September, and would like to help even more students. Please, if you can spare an hour or two per week to share your understanding to help school students improve theirs, do get in touch. Email homework@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk or go to our Facebook page. Also contact us if you'd like help with your homework. We'll do our best to match you with a suitable helper. For more information, see our Facebook page or go to www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk/homework-help.html.

Sedgefield News

News about the News? Yes, some good news! Last month's appeal for help bore fruit and our editorial team is delighted to welcome Paul Savage on board to deal with the Diary page and to write for us. We were also very pleased to hear from Carole Lawford, who will be writing regularly about her exciting new allotment project.

You may have noticed that we have a new look. It's inspired by design work by Neil Edmundson, done when SDT approached him late last year. We were all thrilled that Neil took Sedgefield News very seriously and agreed to set about creating a more serious image for us.

It was difficult to bring Neil's full design to print (Neil works on professional software and we work on quite another) and I'm sorry to say that I could not make the two meet. However, this month I decided to bite the bullet and try again. I have taken Neil's design as inspiration and, even though some of his ideas are missing, I hope he will not be too disappointed by the result. You never know, at some point we might overcome the challenge and manage to incorporate more of the design. *Sandy Clubley*

Woodland & Wildlife

As a newbie to Sedgefield, it has been a real pleasure to get involved in the Woodland & Wildlife Group. They are such a friendly bunch of people, and Melissa in particular has been very welcoming. The hundreds of trees planted by the group last year are growing well - although some are hidden underneath some spectacularly lush vegetation. The group is keen to learn all it can about the site and its residents, and to this end a bat walk has been organised with expert input from members of the Durham Bat Group - watch this space to find out what we see! *Cathryn Gathercole*

Sedgefield Energy Switch will be at Sedgefield Show to offer advice and answer your queries. You can also ask at the SDT stall at the Farmers Market.

Email our website: sedgefieldweb@hotmail.co.uk

Facebook pages: [Sedgefield News](#), [Farmers' Market](#), [Woodland & Wildlife](#), [Homework Help](#)
Twitter @[sedgefieldnews](#) & @[sedyfarmmarket](#)

SPORTS UPDATE

Email your reports to chrisjlines@aol.com

It was never in doubt was it? That Durham County Cricket Club would play a crucial role in the destiny of the 2019 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup I mean. In the final, there were five players in the two sides whose formative years in the sport were spent at the Durham academy, which has become a veritable production line for international players. The key contribution was made by the remarkable Ben Stokes, who still plays for Durham when he isn't on England duty, in the most extraordinary finale to a sporting occasion that I have ever witnessed. It was a wonderful tournament and while New Zealand didn't deserve to lose, England have set the standard in one day cricket during the last four years and were very worthy winners. In this region, the ICC was good enough to award three group stage games to the Riverside at Chester le Street and they were all excellent matches, which concluded with England securing a semi-final place with a comfortable victory in their first match against New Zealand. The rest, as they say, is history.

Meanwhile, the world cup coincided with the ECB's All Stars initiative, which proved to be very popular at Sedgefield Cricket Club – perhaps some of the future stars of the game will have had their first taste of the sport in Sedgefield this summer, while their ambitions have been fired by the heroics of the England team. We don't like cricket oh no, we love it.

Athletics

The summer months are always very busy for both senior and junior athletes at Sedgefield Harriers. As well as a packed schedule of road and trail races, the outdoor track and field season has been in full swing. Many of the club's members were regular participants in the NYSD series of open events at Middlesbrough Sports Village. Once registered, athletes could simply show up at each of the six fixtures and have a go at any of the events on the night in question. The schedule was different each time and, over the series, included pretty much the full range of track and field disciplines. Harriers of all ages from Sedgefield took the opportunity to try a wide variety of events, urged on by the club's unofficial track and field champion Jane Spink. Senior newcomers included Sue Dobson, Fay Uphill, Sarah Horner, Ian Spencer, and Mark and Beth Raine, and there were plenty of juniors in action too. A special mention to Sue Dobson, who has become a seasoned sprinter this summer! Lining up for a 100m or 200m race can be pretty intimidating, but Sue has done both and managed to improve her times over the season. After one event, she bumped into Team GB star Richard Kilty: "As I left the track I had a quick chat to Richard Kilty who had arrived to 'lay down some 200s'. I decided he didn't need any coaching tips from me as he looked pretty quick." I reckon that Sue could offer some useful tips to other aspiring sprinters!

Tennis

Sedgefield Tennis Club recently merged with Chilton and plays all year round at the Miners' Welfare Recreation Ground in Chilton, with four outdoor courts and clubhouse facilities. The club currently has around 100 members. Chilton and Sedgefield Tennis Club hosts relaxed social tennis sessions four times a week and adult and junior coaching every Sunday. There are also various club competitions through the year, as well as open days, quiz nights and other events. The club fields three men's teams in the Dunlop Cleveland League and is looking for female members who will be interested in joining a ladies' team. Not long ago, the newly merged club held an inaugural doubles tournament. While there was a trophy up for grabs, it was just as much an opportunity for members to meet up and enjoy the sunshine. The event attracted a great mix of players - some who have been at the club for many years and others who have only just joined. There was food and drink in the clubhouse which, in true Wimbledon style, included Pimms and strawberries and cream. The tournament started with a group stage, so every pair played plenty of tennis, before the top four pairs made it to the semi-finals. In the final, Steven Rowsby and Tony Bland beat Darren Young and Danny Fitzgerald to claim the trophy, while Tony Williamson and Pam Valks won the third place play off.

Chilton and Sedgefield Tennis Club is keen to attract new members. Annual family membership costs £60, adult membership £40 and junior/student membership £20. Anyone is welcome to come down and join in at any of the club's social sessions. Contact the club via email on sedgefieldtcc@gmail.com, and you can find more information on www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/ SedgefieldTennisClub, and on Facebook and Twitter.

Cricket

The growth in girls' and women's cricket participation in recent years has been notable, and Sedgefield Cricket Club has become one of the few North East clubs to have a large contingent of girls playing the sport competitively. Much rarer are girls making the grade in men's senior cricket, so it was a significant milestone when, on 7th July, Jess Weatherspoon became the first female ever to play for one of the club's senior sides. Playing in the 3rd XI against Billingham Synthonia, Jess bowled four overs during the Billingham innings, and then watched while the batters impressively overcame the opposition's total of 230, to record a great win.

The other senior sides continue to progress. The 1st XI have established themselves in mid-table in their first season back in the second tier, with several juniors making their debuts along the way. Meanwhile, the 2nd XI are in a two-way battle with league returnees Stockton for the sole promotion place on offer from Division 4.

For occasional, lapsed or retired local cricketers, the infamous Captain's Cup has also returned, under a new formula and name: the John Walker 60 Ball Bash. Now a 10 over, seven-a-side competition, the semis and final take place on Bank Holiday Sunday, 25th August. The bar will be open all day with televised sporting action in the clubhouse.

To take advantage of reduced drinks prices, the club welcomes new members, with social membership costing only £10. Email enquiries to sccmemberships@outlook.com or complete a form at the bar. Keep up to date with everything going on by liking the club's Facebook page or following its Twitter feed.

Squash

Sedgefield Squash Club is open for business all summer, with the new season curtain raiser - the Blitz, a madcap afternoon of timed squash to be held on Saturday 24th August. An entry list is on the club noticeboard for interested members. Junior coaching will resume after the summer break in September. Details and more news in September.

That's all for this month. As always, please send any sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com.