

Sedgefield News

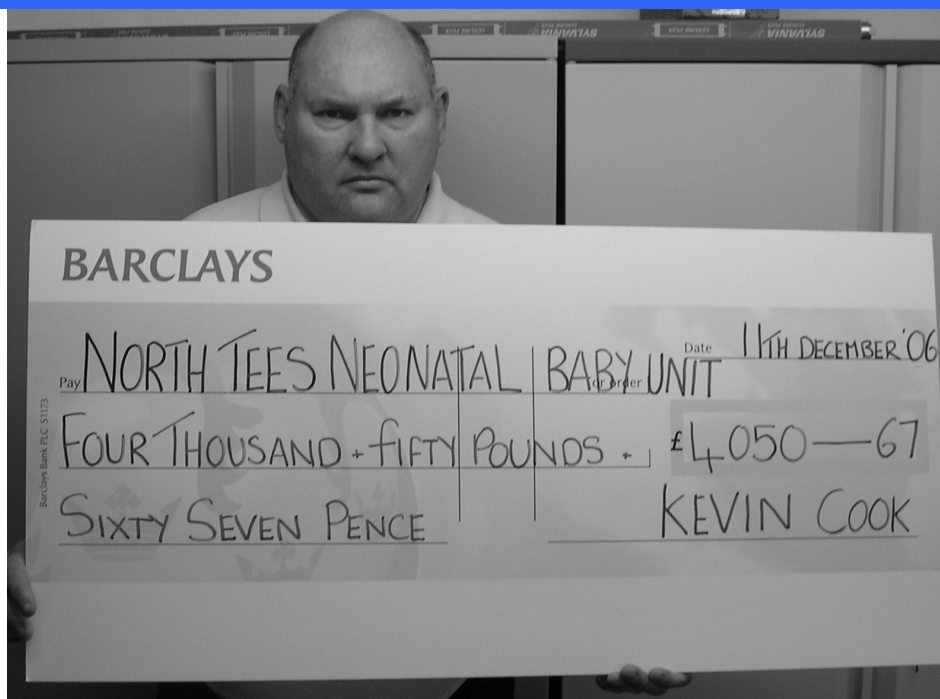
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Produced by volunteers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon

February 2006

Santa thanks the generous shoppers of Sedgefield

Kevin Cook (in the guise of Santa Claus) spent many hours in December packing bags & collecting donations in Sedgefield Co-op. He raised a magnificent £4,050.67 (over £1,000 more than in 2004), which he presented to nurses Barbara Harrison and Irene Bury from North Tees Neonatal Baby Unit at the Crosshill Hotel last month. Despite suffering from bad health himself, Kevin has collected many thousands for the Neonatal Unit over the past 10 years. He also collected in other Sedgefield shops & pubs.



Hardwick Park Restoration Revealed in its Winter Glory



A visit to Hardwick Park will be rewarded with the spectacle of the emerging yesteryear scene that the restorers have been striving to achieve. The Temple can now be seen in its full glory and provides a magnificent backdrop for the lake which is well on the way to being full. The Gothic Seat is also complete and can be viewed from the Temple field across the lake. The Gothic Tower has reached its full height now the scaffolding has been removed. For bird lovers there is the attraction of the three swans as well as a varied collection of ducks. So why don't you pay a visit? You will be surprised at the rapid progress made in the last few months.

Bradbury Sewage Treatment Upgrade



As promised in January's edition, this is a statement from Northumbrian Water regarding the works in progress at Bradbury.

"As part of Northumbrian Water's on-going commitment to protect and improve the environment and meet government legislation, improvement work is being carried out at Bradbury sewage treatment works (situated at the back of the petrol station). The £290,000 scheme, which began in October and will be complete by the end of January, will significantly improve the standard of treatment of wastewater. In turn, this will improve the water quality of the River Skerne. While this work is carried out customers should be aware that bogus callers, people who claim to be from the 'water board' but who are only interested in stealing from vulnerable customers' properties, operate in Northumbrian Water's supply area.

It is very unlikely that anyone from the water company will need to gain access into customers' homes while this work is being carried out. If customers are in any doubt of a caller claiming to be from the water company, they should not let them into their home. They should ring the company's customer centre on 0845 717 1100 to confirm the caller's identity.

There should be no inconvenience or disruption to you while the remainder of this work is carried out. If you have any queries please ring the Northumbrian Water customer centre."

Courses in the New Year - in the Zone at 58 Front St.

Let us know if you would like to do any of the following courses.

Certificate in Environmental Health (Basic Food Hygiene)
Genealogy on Computer
Introduction to Counselling

Contact Carol Smith or Maggie Jackson at Sedgfield Learning Borough on **01325 311177** or email carolferryhill@yahoo.co.uk

PARALEGAL TRAINING Foundation Course

Begins:

Wednesday 1st February

5.30 pm to 7.30 pm and

Friday 3rd February

10.00 am to 12 noon

In the Zone at 58 Front Street.

To enrol for Paralegal Training, please contact

Jackie Young on

01429 420302, email

jyoung.hdt@btconnect.com

Pantomime at Mordon

Mordon and Bradbury Village Hall Association players will take to the stage to perform "Dick Whittington" in the village hall on Thursday 23rd to Saturday 25th February

Performances as follows :-

Thursday evening 7pm

Friday evening 7pm

Saturday matinee 2.30pm

Saturday evening 7pm

Ticket prices

Adults £6

Children and OAP's £4

Pease call Wendy Sayers on
01388 720677

or Fiona Avery on
01740 620634

101 Gigs in February

03 - The Wooden Doll, North Shields.

04 - The Princess Alice, Middlesbrough.

05 - Sleepers, East Boldon.

09 - The Clarendon, Redcar.

10 - Dr. Browns, Middlesbrough.

11 - The Station Hotel, Redcar.

16 - The Gold Medal, Low Fell.

17 - The Old Fox, Felling, Gateshead.

18 - Ye Olde Horseshoe, Crook.

19 - The Normanby, Normanby.

24 - The Rudds Arms, Middlesbrough.

25 - The Ox Inn, Stanley.

26 - The Vic, Saltburn.

Sedgfield Town Council

Civic Dinner &
Masquerade Ball
Coleman Suite,

Hardwick Hall Hotel
Friday 3rd March 2006

7.15 pm - 12.45 am

Tickets £26

To include:

Champagne Reception

Four Course Meal

Dancing to Live Music

Proceeds towards the

Mayors Charity:

in particular Butterwick Hospice

A Village Fairy Story

by Norma Neal



Once upon a time, there was a very popular drama group. They got together in their village hall twice a week and practised and practised until they were so good that people came from miles around to see them. But the drama group said, "Just a minute, this Hall isn't really good enough; we'd better make some improvements." So they saved and saved until they had enough money to buy some lights. "That's better," the people said, "We can see the action clearly now." But still the Players weren't satisfied. "We could do with better curtains," they said, so they saved and they saved until they had enough money to hang curtains all over the stage and in front of it too. "That's better", the people said, "it looks like a proper theatre stage now." But still the Players weren't satisfied. "Our lighting board is very old fashioned, it should be in a museum," they said. So they saved and they saved, until they had enough money to buy a super up-to-date computerised lighting board.

"That's better," said the people, especially those who came to the drama festival, "Now you can alter the lights at the flick of a switch – very professional."

But still the Players weren't satisfied. "Now that we've got this super-duper lighting board, our sound system looks really pathetic, it's only fit for the bin", they said. So they saved and they saved until they had enough money to buy some very smart new sound equipment – and lots of mini discs too. "That's better," the people said, especially those who came to the drama festival, "now you can store all your sound effects on disc, without all that nasty clicking – very professional."

But still the Players weren't satisfied. "You know, sometimes we could just do with a bit of extra stage space," they said. So they saved and they saved until... well, you know how it goes. As well as all this, the Players were putting on lots of productions every year and had a pantomime and a festival too. They went to

other Festivals and won lots and lots of prizes too. Before they knew it, they had been together, putting on plays for 35 years. "That's pretty good," they said, "we can feel proud of ourselves." But it was too soon to be satisfied, because one day the landlords decided no more money would be spent on the village hall "We don't really need this hall any more" they said. "It would be much better to build something else over the road."

At this the Players were not satisfied, "Just a minute," they said, "Everybody loves this hall, even people who don't live here, even people who have appeared on professional stages in huge theatres. Why don't you ask the people what they think?" And the people said "Quite right! We love the Parish Hall and we want to keep it where it belongs – in the heart of the village." "Jolly good," said the Players, "Mother Goose and her friends won the day after all. We may not have Buttercup the cow to fly us to the moon or Ermytrude to lay us golden eggs, but with the support of the people we can reach for the stars!"

Sedgefield Players next production, "It Could be any One of Us", a comedy thriller by Alan Ayckbourn, will be presented at Sedgefield Parish Hall in March, before going to the Isle of Man Easter Drama Festival in April.

Thursday 23 to Saturday 25th March at 7:30 pm in Sedgefield Parish Hall Tickets £6, Concessions £5

Available from Selections and on 01740 621000

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood Watch

Motorists urged to protect their valuable car accessories

Sedgefield Borough Community Safety Partnership urges members of the public to be vigilant when leaving their cars unattended. Car crime, namely stolen accessories, can rise after Christmas. These thefts include car body parts, alloy wheels and portable navigation systems. Crime Prevention Officer, Neil Langthorne, said. "Sat Nav" systems are becoming very popular with motorists. They have been a popular Christmas gift and are a relatively new and expensive accessory proving very attractive to thieves." He advised motorists to systematically remove the system whenever they leave their car unattended, stressing that any tell tale signs of such systems installed, such as a mounting cradle would cause criminals to enter the car and conduct a search for the device itself. He added that owners of portable satellite navigation systems should register them in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations and retain serial numbers and any other identification details. Further information can be obtained from the Home Office Crime Reduction website, www.crimereduction.gov.uk; and information on immobilisers and other vehicle security devices are available from Thatcham (The Motor Insurance Repair Research Centre), www.thatcham.org

Tapes for the Partially Sighted



As has been reported in Neighbourhood Watch minutes and various articles included in this newspaper on previous occasions, Neighbourhood Watch produce a tape every month that is simply an audible version (read by kind volunteers) of the full contents of the current month's Sedgefield News.

A copy tape is then distributed (freely, & again by a volunteer) one to each resident who has registered an interest in receiving one from the Neighbourhood Watch.

The resident hands the previous month's tape back to the person delivering the new one each month; the system is really that simple.

So if anyone is aware of a friend or relative who could benefit from this "Tape" we would welcome them to discuss it with that person and if they then want to proceed they should telephone; - Mr. Ken Saiger (Chairman) on **01740 620056** who will be happy to make the necessary arrangements on behalf of N.H.Watch.

Next Panel Meeting is Tuesday 14th Feb. in the Fletcher Room (Parish Hall) – starts 7.00 p.m. prompt ALL WELCOME

Charity Quiz and Meal at Ministers

Monday 3rd April, Tickets from STC office 621273

PC Todd reports

Happy New Year to all readers.

I am happy to report that over the Christmas and New Year period there were very few crimes reported: these related to damage to cars in the High Street and Thurlow Road, and theft of a Ford Puma car from White House Drive.

I am still receiving complaints of young people, a high proportion of whom live outside Sedgefield, congregating around the church gates on an evening. I have spoken to most, if not all, involved and am disappointed that they continue. I am particularly disappointed that a headstone was knocked over but am confident that eventually I will find out who was responsible. Parents please inform your offspring not to use this area as a meeting place.

Pub & Club Watch notes

This month we say farewell to Ed and Wendy Challens and welcome Peter and Margaret Kane as the new licensees of the Black Lion. We look forward to the contribution they will make to the pub watch scheme. One male has been given a written warning regarding his unacceptable behaviour in one of our premises.

Mayor's Charity Day at the Races

At Sedgefield Race Course to include champagne reception, 3 course meal in a private box and course entry. Tickets £50, must be booked by 17th Feb. All proceeds go to mayors charities. Contact STC office 621273

Notes from **SEDGEFIELD VILLAGE RESIDENTS' FORUM**

The Forum did not have a meeting in December but there are one or two things that we think you should be aware of :-

The results from the November meeting consultation have been sent to the Town Council for them to discuss and progress, we anticipate updates from the Town Council at Resident Forum meetings. Over the Christmas period the application from Bolams to build an incinerator on their site to burn animal waste hit the headlines. Again very few people were aware that this application had been submitted in November. Any objections and comments need to be with Durham County Council by February 15th 2006. There is a potential impact to the whole village from such an incinerator and residents should have the information and time to consider and co-ordinate their views. The January meeting will raise the issue, however that is after you will have received this Newsletter.

The Forum will be examining ways in which we can make residents aware of planning applications at the earliest opportunity. Sedgfield Borough Council (SBC) are wanting residents from across the Borough to share their views on how green and open spaces should be used and improved. SBC needs public input to create a detailed plan, there is a web site for comment on www.sedgfield.gov.uk or contact Chris Myers on 01388 816166. The web site is not at all easy to access and use.

We have many green and open spaces in the village that need protection and improvement. Again this issue will be raised at the January meeting, maybe to avoid missing the opportunity we should ask the Town Council to co-ordinate village residents comments. Council Taxes will be going up shortly – the controversial issue of how much SBC are spending on changing the Borough Logo will obviously contribute to increases. SBC state that they consulted on the change of logo – again we have little evidence of any consultation – are there any village residents out there who were involved in any consultation?

The Forum will continue to try to address issues which residents raise. Do come along to the meetings, everyone is welcome. Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month at 7pm in the Parish Hall. *Julia Bowles*

What's happening in Ceddesfeld Grounds???

Work is now well under way in Ceddesfeld Grounds. Having been awarded the £50,000 in November a working group with representatives from the Town Council and Community Association was established and one of the first actions was to hold an open forum meeting to involve other groups in Sedgfield including the Wildlife group, Countryside Group, Civic Trust and Local History Society.

The bid was primarily concerned with reducing anti-social behaviour and, at the same time, improving access for the disabled and younger members of the community. Work has started on improving the existing footpaths, installing new lighting, creating pond dipping tanks, providing new seats and litter bins and removing some of the minor undergrowth where much of the anti-social behaviour takes place. Work has started on all of these.

Durham Wildlife Trust who are advising on the pond work and our proposals to have new pond dipping tanks. Contracts should be issued within the next few weeks for the footpath work which does not include any tarmac, simply a re-edging and top dressing of the existing paths.

We have met with Fiona Green from the Garden Trust and Martin Roberts from English Heritage. In addition we have also met with Dr. Myra Tolan-Smith from English Heritage who is at present considering if the grounds are of sufficient historic interest to merit consideration for registration within the *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England*. It is only a couple of months since the vote and Tyne-Tees Television will be returning soon to see what progress has been made.

If you would like any information on the project then please contact Lesley Swinbank at the Council Offices 01740 621273. *Lesley Swinbank, Town Clerk*

This is just a summary. A full write-up, including pictures, will be included in the March issue of Sedgfield News.

Sports Update

with chrisjlines@aol.com

The Sunday League season is now well underway and various clubs from Sedgefield continue to work hard for results every weekend. I will try to provide updates from all of the teams over the next couple of months, but will focus on the Cross Hills this time. The club has had a wretched time so far, without a win to its name. Despite several new players joining over the summer, the team has been unable to improve on a strong finish to last season. The main problem has probably been the club's inability to put out a settled line up week in week out (the captain will be calling out a register from now on!). Inconsistency in personnel has translated to patchy performances on the field and the Cross Hills is consequently languishing at the bottom of the league table.

To make matters worse, manager Ian Joss has decided to stand down. Ian has worked really hard over the last few years to build a strong, settled team that could consistently challenge the better outfits in the league. Things haven't worked out, despite great commitment from Ian and some periods of success. Everyone in the club has asked me to express their thanks to 'Jossy' and their best wishes for the future.

On the positive side, the new kit has arrived. It's light blue, so will probably be more difficult to wash. How the challenges pile up!

The club is now looking forward to working hard for results during the second half of the season and planning for the future. If you would like to come along and lend your (much needed) support to the Cross Hills, forthcoming fixtures are as follows:

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Sun 5th Feb | vs. Ferryhill Black Bull |
| | HOME (Community College) |
| Sun 12th Feb | vs Ferryhill Celtic |
| | HOME. |

That's all for this month. As ever, please send



Sedgefield Harriers

I have reported about the formation of Sedgefield Harriers in previous issues and the club has recently been represented by a number of runners in events over the holiday period. Most notably, five members competed in the ever-popular Loftus Run on 18th December. First finisher was Richard Fearnside in 60mins and 25secs followed by Ann Hydon (61:27), Matthew Jones (62:29), Rosie Sims (64:47) and Gail Bell (66:27).

Sedgefield Harriers were formed in September of last year and already have a keen group of over 30 runners. The Harriers meet Wednesday and Friday at 6.30pm, and Sunday at 8.30am, at Sedgefield Community College. All runners are welcome, from novice to elite. Anyone who has a New Year resolution to get fit is particularly welcome. You will be joining a sociable group with loads of help and support. An information sheet is available from Jeanette Ives on 01740 629 778 or by e-mailing Ean Parsons on, ean2005@hotmail.co.uk.

Anonymous letters

The editor's mailbag has recently contained some very interesting and provocative letters. Unfortunately, a few of them have missed off the writers name and address. We are unable to publish a letter if the author is unknown **but** we are happy to leave out these details when the paper is published. Sedgefield News, on occasions, has come under considerable pressure to release names of "anonymous" letter writers. It has, as a matter of editorial policy, steadfastly refused to do so and will continue to refuse to do so in the future. So please give us your name and address, we will only publish them with your permission.

NB Some letters have been held over till March due to lack of space.

Back in the UK

A brief resume to let the villagers know why I'm back early. I set off to Zambia last January intending to spend two years teaching in a rural boarding school. On arrival I was informed that the agency sending me, Voluntary Service Overseas, were pulling out of education in Zambia as there is now a surplus of native Zambian teachers who are unemployed. In fact, during the year that I was there the government extended the teacher training course from two years to three years to prevent having too many unemployed trained teachers on the street.

As you can imagine, this made it hard to justify staying as a 'donated' teacher in a country in which local trained teachers were unable to get work. I consulted VSO Zambia to ask if they could use my skills in any other way and they couldn't. So I shortened my contract to 1 year.

So that's why I came back early. As for the experience, it was wonderful – a tremendous opportunity to experience life in a very different culture. The main thing that I found about Zambian rural life is that the people there have a wonderful sense of humour and a real sense of the joy of living. They are very traditional, like to have lots of children, and are struggling to adapt to the pressures of rapid urbanisation and 'modern values'. There are few signs of any development on its way in Zambia for the foreseeable future, and most people there would bolt given half the chance.

Anybody who's interested in a VSO placement, provided you've got a little cash in the bank and go intending to learn about a culture, I recommend that you go ahead and do it. Unfortunately, some volunteers go for quite different reasons, maybe they've been a failure in the UK, or have difficulty finding a partner here. I must discourage such folks from going on a VSO placement, as Zambia is an impoverished country and really doesn't need any more useless white people over there, believe me there are enough there already!

Anyone planning to join VSO, or to travel in Zambia, feel free to e-mail me on DMSwanson2@hotmail.com and I will give you any guidance I can. Thanks to Sedgefield Round Table and Stockton Rotary Club for their financial support.

Toddlerstastic

Four mothers from Sedgefield have teamed up to create a group called Toddlerstastic and have managed to bring music sessions to babies and toddlers in Sedgefield and the surrounding area. With the help of John Atkinson at CAVOS, Toddlerstastic applied to the Lottery Fund and have received an "Awards for All" grant of £2,055. The grant has allowed the music sessions to be offered at a greatly reduced cost.

The sessions are led by a Musical Minis representative, and last for 45 minutes. They provide an introduction to music, movement and the use of musical instruments, using action songs, nursery rhymes and different types of music from classical to modern, in a fun and relaxed atmosphere.

Toddlerstastic are holding these sessions on Tuesday mornings in the Parish Hall, during term time only. If you are interested or would like more information, please phone:

**Marie Walker on
0785 475 1643**

THE POTTER'S TALE

Some time ago, Bill Todd of "Sedgefield Pottery" had his web site designed and launched with the help of the Sedgefield Development Partnership, with comprehensive details of the range of kilns, clays, and other products available for professional and amateur potters. This has recently resulted in a call from Sweden, asking for information regarding a special colour glaze which the caller was having trouble locating. With his usual eye for business, Bill was able to send details of the product, including price and delivery. Of some concern however, was how the stuff was to be paid for, but that was an issue easily resolved as the client said he would come and collect the colour, and even better, pay cash in pound notes. A few days later it all happened, as the man called into the pottery with his wife and child, collected the goods, and due to his word, paid up in good old English pounds.

This of course is not the first time Bill has exported overseas, as you may remember during the visit of George Bush, the security people almost emptied the shop, as the availability of local hand made articles very much appealed to their taste. The rumour that the name of the shop is to be changed to "Sedgefield Pottery International" is not likely to happen.



Volunteers from Sedgefield Borough were amongst 59 volunteers from the North East, recognised for their hard work and dedication, in a Regional Awards Ceremony hosted by Durham County Council as part of the Year of the Volunteer celebrations. The Lord Lieutenant Sir Paul Nicholson and TV personality Denise Robertson presented each volunteer with a commemorative medal.

Pictured

Left -Right Albert Draycott, Gloria Wills (Chair, CAVOS) Dorothy Bowman, Anita Dodds, Denise Robertson, Sharon Vasey (Volunteer Centre, CAVOS) Chris Palmer, Cllr Vince Crosby, Peter Beaty, Ian Philips, Bob Waller and Brenda Stubbs

Cook's Corner

Banana Scones

250g (8oz) SR flour
 1 heaped tsp baking powder
 25g (1oz) margarine
 15g (½ oz) sugar
 3 large ripe mashed bananas
 a little milk
 25g (1oz) chopped walnuts (optional)
 Gas 7, 220C., 425F.
 Grease baking tray. Sieve flour and baking powder. Rub-in margarine, stir in sugar and nuts. Add mashed bananas and mix to a soft dough, adding a little milk if necessary.
 Turn onto a lightly floured board and roll out to 2.5cm (1") thick Cut into 12 rounds. Place on baking tray. Brush tops with a little milk. Bake for 10-15 minutes until well risen and golden brown. (Co Durham Five a Day Programme)



*Developing science and
learning in Sedgefield*



Ceddesfeld Hall Applications Withdrawn

The controversial planning applications for developments at Ceddesfeld Hall have been withdrawn, at least for the present.

Sedgefield Town Council had applied for planning permission and listed building consent to build a three-storey side extension to Ceddesfeld Hall. The proposal was for toilets and storage space in the basement and a ground and first floor providing a large open space for functions as well as service and kitchen space. External to the building various works were proposed including hard and soft landscaping, new car park layout, tree felling (including a mature beech tree), management and re-planting. The council had sought consent as part of a long standing review of facilities in the village focused around the future of another community building, Sedgefield Parish Hall, the use of which is restricted because of noise pollution.

Objections had been received from English Nature, Durham County Council Archaeology section and the Highways Authority, Northumbria Gardens Trust and several others. Local objectors wrote dozens of letters and collected a petition signed by about 1000 residents stating a number of reasons why the scheme should not be approved. The main points of concern were an adverse impact on an historic building and parkland, poor parking provision, destruction of wildlife habitat, the feared loss of the parish hall and noise.

However, the Town Council, on the advice of its planning consultants Nathaniel Lichfield & Co., decided to withdraw the applications a few days before they were due to go before Sedgefield Borough Council's development control committee on the grounds that a bat survey was incomplete and an archaeological report cannot be completed at the present time. The Town Council is now expected to continue working with the consultants to try to overcome the objections before submitting revised plans later in the year.

The Town Council P&R Committee decided, at its subsequent meeting, that Sedgefield Town Council should co-ordinate a meeting, as soon as possible, to discuss community facilities in Sedgefield and invite 2 representatives from each of the following groups:

Sedgefield Development Trust, Sedgefield Community Association, Sedgefield College, Community Association, Community College, Residents Forum and Education in the Community.

For any of our readers who are interested in ploughing through the full text of the planning applications, they can be found on the Sedgefield Borough Council web site at:

[http://sedgefield.moderngov.co.uk/Published/C00000289/M00001759/\\$\\$ADocPackPublic.pdf](http://sedgefield.moderngov.co.uk/Published/C00000289/M00001759/$$ADocPackPublic.pdf)

Start the New Year

on a musical note!

A new musical theatre group is being formed in the area to introduce the younger generation to amateur musical stage.

'Spot On!' is looking for singers, actors, dancers and musicians.

If you are you aged between 16yrs and 30yrs and interested in any aspect of theatre including wardrobe, scenic design and stage management, come along and give it a try. We aim to have fun in producing and performing showcases and musical shows.

We hope to start rehearsing for 'Shows on a Shoestring!' in February 2006 involving songs from such shows as 'Chicago', 'Grease', 'Les Miz', 'Joseph' and 'West Side Story' to name but a few and our first major production will hopefully be 'Grease'.

A workshop audition will be held at the end of January. 'Spot On!' is affiliated to N.O.D.A and N.A.Y.T.

If you are interested in joining us, please call Vivien on 01388 816305 for further information

February Diary

**Announcements in the Diary are free
to non-commercial organisations**

Sedgefield W.I.

Wednesday 1st February
88th Birthday Dinner
Members - 6:45pm Parish Hall

Wynyard Planetarium

Friday 3rd February 7.30pm
What's up in the Night Sky?
Friday 17th February 7.30pm
Who is the first Martian?
Adults £3 Children/Concessions
£1.50, Family ticket £6
Prior booking advised -
contact John McCue on 630544

Cricket Club Quiz Night

Sat 4th Feb
Presented by Chris Budd
Bar open 7.30 for 8pm start

Sedgefield Garden Society

**Tues 7th Feb AGM
Pie & Peas Supper**
Tues 7th Mar Northdale
Horticulture Simon Cross
Meetings start 7.30pm
Ceddesfeld Hall

Sedgefield Library

Rhyme Time - stories, songs
and rhymes for under "5"s
Wednesday 8th February
From 10 - 11am
Book Group
Weds 15th February at 2pm
Crafts at Half-Term
20th-24th February
Booking is essential
Call into library for more details

Sedgefield Farmers' Market

From 9:30am - 1:30pm
Sunday 12th February
On the Village Green

Town Councillor Surgery

Monday 13th February
6.30-7 pm Council Offices

Parish Hall Film Nights

Friday 17th Feb. 6:30pm
A film for all the family
(Title to be announced)
All ages welcome, under 8s
must have an accompanying
adult. Refreshments on sale
before the film **Entry £1.50**
For details ring 620042
Next film night is 10th March

Sedgefield Cricket Club

LIVE MUSIC NIGHT
Saturday 18th February 8pm
Main Guest - Happy Cats
Also featuring The John
Wrightson Band & other guests
£7.50 (incl. buffet)
*NB The Cricket Club is available
for hire for private parties free
of charge*

Sedgefield Family History Group (A branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 20th February
This meeting will be held in the
Library from 7pm-9pm.
Members are invited to bring
along any problems they have.
We will be able to access the
internet and see all the facilities
that the library has to offer.
**Change of venue and time
for this meeting only**

Mordon Pantomime

"Dick Whittington"
in the Village Hall
Thurs, 23rd -Sat 25th Feb,
See page 2 for details

St Edmund's Church

Baptisms & Weddings can be
booked in Church on
**Thursday evenings from
6.30 to 7.30pm**

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 23rd February
7:45pm in the Parish Hall
Speaker to be arranged
All Welcome

Ferryhill, Sedgefield and District Flower Club **Tuesday 28th February** (nb change from usual date)

7:30pm in the Parish Hall
A demonstration by
John Thexton
of Armthwaite near Carlisle
"Such Delights"
All Welcome

Round Table

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

Country Market (WI)

Fridays Parish Hall
9:30-11am
Great value home baking,
eggs, garden produce and
crafts

Sedgefield Players

"It Could be Any One of Us"
a comedy thriller by
Alan Ayckbourn
Thurs. 23 - Sat. 25th March
7:30 p.m. Parish Hall
Tickets £6, Concessions £5
Available from Selections and
on 01740 621000

A letter received in reply to the open letter published in December

Dear John,

As you know the Town Council discussed your letter from the Development Partnership dated 24th November at their recent P & R committee meeting which was held on Monday 9th January. In addition the report on the current situation was circulated to all members of the public including yourself who were present at that time.

As you know the Town Council are now taking advice from the planning consultants in respect of the planning application for Ceddesfeld Hall. In addition the Council is very aware that there is substantial feeling to retain the existing Parish Hall and having now met with the user groups are looking and considering different options. As a result we would like to take advantage of your offer of becoming involved and are hoping to coordinate a meeting with yourselves and the other groups as mentioned in the report within the very near future which includes the Community College, SCA and Residents Forum.

I'm hoping to co-ordinate this within the next couple of days and once this has been finalised I will of course be in touch.

Yours sincerely, Lesley Swinbank, Town Clerk

Your Letters

Town Council Amazes!

I was amazed to see that the Town Council have withdrawn their planning application for the proposed extension to Ceddesfeld Hall, which was scheduled to be considered on 6 January. It seems to me rather bizarre to withdraw at such a late stage. It is also quite surprising that the consultants would advise their clients to withdraw the application because of additional information which had not at that time been completed re; the bat survey and archaeological report, *ref: Sedgefield Town Council P&R Report 9 January 2006*, both of which would add very little to counter the arguments put forward in the report to the Development Committee. Surely through considerable discourse with the Borough Council Planning Officers the issues upon which the recommendation for refusal was made, had been considered at every stage. The consultants would be well aware of the issues which could prevent the application from being successful. Isn't that why someone employs a planning consultant in the first place? I am concerned as a local tax payer that this has become a very costly exercise and one which can only leave us wondering how much the total bill will be. *Gloria Wills*

These are my own personal views and not that of any other organisation.

Response to "Disrespect in the streets"

There has been quite a lot of consultation with young people (including those around the churchyard) in recent months, and the Town Council hope to provide lots more information in the next edition.

Cllr. Maxine Robinson

Thanks

I would like to say thank you to everyone who sent get well cards, good wishes and prayers during my recent stay in hospital after my heart operation.

I am well on the way to recovery and looking for fine weather when I will be out and about again.

Thanking you once again
Mrs Mary Davison

Dear Friends

I would like to express my deep gratitude to all who took part in the search for my husband, Colin, when he was lost on Monday into Tuesday.

Some of you kindly searched areas of Sedgefield and further afield looking for him, others prayed for him; to all of you, our sons and I cannot thank you enough. Our thanks go also to our local surgery and Colin's specialist who saw to his needs so quickly when he was returned home by the police.

Colin is home now and is grateful to everyone for the efforts made on his behalf.

Yours sincerely

Geraldine Richmond



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to 58 Front St, Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ: phone 01740 629011
or snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk**

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