

Produced by volunteers for the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon, and published by
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Sedgefield NEWS

February 2010

Recognise anyone in this montage?

There's a quirky report from the organising committee of the Cricket Club Talent Show over the page, but we thought such a display of talent and effort was well worthy of the front page. Well done on the fundraising front too.

Congratulations indeed...

... to Beryl and Alan Whitehead, now living at Willowdene Care Home. They celebrated their Platinum Wedding Anniversary on December 23rd 2009; that's an astonishing 70 years. We hope they very much enjoyed their special day.

Sedgefield Development Trust Limited

Notice of Annual General Meeting

This is to give notice that **Sedgefield Development Trust Limited** will hold its **Annual General Meeting on Monday 8th February 2010 at 7.45 pm, at No 58 Front Street, Sedgefield**

Any special or general resolutions proposed must be with the Company at its registered office no later than 12 noon on Friday 5th February 2010.

All nominations for Directors must be with the Company Secretary by latest at 12 noon on Friday 5th February 2010.

This AGM is an open, public meeting. SDT is owned and controlled by the community.

Sedgefield Development Trust is a company limited by guarantee; Company Number: 4312745 and is a registered charity; Charity Number: 1100806



Send your news, views, adverts and events to
sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Cricket Club Xmas Talent Show

"Another huge success" "best ever" "it just keeps rolling" "cracking show" - just some of the comments to organisers during the after show party. Well, what can we say?

The show opened with the haunting flute from the Lord of the Dance and quickly jumped into a medley of rhythmic music from the same show. Then, on came the dancers (these being three of the organising committee) - not dressed in the Celtic attire associated with the Michael Flatley show, and nor did the dance come up to his usual expected high standards! They looked like drunken vagrants swaying about and falling out of an Irish bar... but then all was revealed. The music quickly changed bursting into "Sally MacLennane" by Irish band, The Pogues, and this rousing bouncing number was performed brilliantly by the boys. What an Intro to the show! We're off! Seventeen performances and twenty eight separate tracks sung by the artists. Once again the evening was varied and well balanced and the audience gave good order. From the Beatles to Elvis to a John Wrightson trio...we had it all. Again, a couple of novelty acts this year, brothers by all accounts (the only way you could tell they were brothers was that they liked dressing up). The Old Windmill song performed by one of the brothers went down very well in the first half. Later, in the second half the other brother came on dressed as a bride in a white wedding dress. She's come "straight from the Jeremy Kyle show" someone said. The image was perfect! The music was cranked up a little and then a storming performance of White Wedding by Billy Idol. Who was he/she? Does anyone know?

It is always difficult to single out any one individual making his/her contribution, however, Andrew Orbison (Watson) is the now the new definition of cool. Andrew performed Pretty Woman and it went down a storm. We hope his performance secures him a place in the running order for next year. Well done Andrew!

The finale was once again a huge success - Madness! Madness it definitely was! Baggy Trousers, Night Boat to Cairo, One Step beyond and Must Be Love - they were all there. **"Fantastic"** was the cry.

Huge thanks go to all - performers and audience, who support this show year after year. Everyone had a great night but let's not forget why we were all there - **raising money for Charity.**

Two charities benefit this year and they are **The Great North Air Ambulance (GNAA)** and the **Durham Area Disability Leisure Group (DADLG).**

The Organising Committee

Brrrr! A good old-fashioned winter

It was fun for many, painful for the unlucky few and kept some people in close confinement for a bit too long, but we didn't hear many youngsters complaining - certainly not these three!

Beth, Harry & Gemma make the most of the snow. Photo Bob Swanson



Swine Flu update

Sedgefield surgery has sent out invitations to all of the at-risk categories identified by the Department of Health as priorities 1, 2 & 3.

Priority 1 These categories are the same ones that are used for seasonal flu - Under 65s with chronic; respiratory, heart, renal, liver and neurological diseases; diabetes and immunosuppression.

Priority 2 Pregnant women

Priority 3 Household contacts of immuno-compromised individuals

Over 65s in the same groups as priority 1 are categorised as priority 4.

Patients in priority 4 are being immunised as fast as we have the capacity to vaccinate them. If you believe that you fit one of the priority groups, and have not received an invitation, please ring the surgery at which you are registered to make an appointment. We are also required to offer the vaccine to children aged 6 months to 5 years; after we have finished vaccinating priority groups 1-4.

It is unlikely that we will be able to start vaccinating the children until mid February. We will let you know when to contact us for an appointment.

More of *Your Letters*

Dog Fouling

Would that CCTV could be installed over the footpath that runs between Whitehouse Drive and the back of Front Street, where some people are routinely taking dogs to 'perform'. To use the path at any time you need to pick your way between the piles of dog dirt, shopping trolley and baby buggy wheels cannot escape getting stuck up with filth. Mid January, as the ice cleared, there was hardly a yard of the path free of the stuff.

The path between Whitehouse Drive and Homebryth House is similarly used, but as it is overlooked, doggy bags are usually on show. Along there, some dogs are actually encouraged to run back and forth until they perform before being taken home!

If this is all the exercise the dogs are due then why keep them? Why bring them to footpaths outside other peoples homes to defecate rather than their own?

Reasons are obvious of course.

Care of the environment and concern for the health and safety of fellow citizens seem low priority for these offenders and they can hardly be described as dog lovers.

Joan Unsworth

DIDO celebrates another Christmas together

Over 45 people enjoyed a great day in the Parish Hall for their Christmas Party. This year the entertainers were our very own line dancers who as you can see looked absolutely fantastic and showed us just how much they have learnt over a very short time. This is all due to their excellent teacher, Angela Bannister, who gives her time and expertise free of charge to this project: another wonderful volunteer helping the community and helping us to provide a great project. Thank you from all at DIDO Sedgfield.

And coming soon - a new project

Community Lawyers

is being launched next month, providing free legal advice from a qualified solicitor. Watch this space!



It's behind you!

Sedgfield Players blew away the Christmas cobwebs in December with their very successful panto, Little Miss Muffet. Several members of SPYS took leading roles. Robert McGuinness and Tim Jasper played knockabouts Flip and Flop to great comic effect. Janine Yaxley was delightful as principal girl Molly Muffet and Ciaran Jasper coped brilliantly with several sets of legs as the talking spider. Other SPYS played village children and sailors, while dancers from Fishburn Dance and Drama (choreographer Gill Rowe) completed the youthful line-up. Behind the scenes, SPYS Amy Fletcher and Scott Yaxley ensured the smooth running of the show and Robert Young assisted Garry Jacobs on lighting and sound. Dame Dolly Drinkup, landlady of the Fillet Inn, was played by veteran performer Terry West, resplendent in costumes provided by Fancy That of Spennymoor. His ancient sidekick Granfer Fuddlewick was a sharp contrast to the leggy Captain Jack Dauntless, in real life husband and wife Jason and Sarah Legender. David Jasper, as showman Jasper Grasper, came in for plenty of boos and hisses, but the real villain was the evil witch Morac (Viv Jacobs). She was finally defeated by good fairy Annette Lawson with the help of Gorilla Jonathan Reeve, much to the delight of the King and Queen (George Harris & Jean Hewling) reunited with their daughter the spider, restored to her true self, Princess Valtina. Director Walter Howell said, "The talent, commitment and dedication of our members, from the youngest SPY upwards, combined with terrific audience participation produced one of our most successful pantos ever." Musical Director Thomas Guest, now a professional actor, provided excellent guidance and support. Sedgfield Players' next production is in March. The group meets in the parish hall on Wednesdays and Sundays at 7:30pm. SPYS, aged from seven, meet on Sundays at 6:30pm. New members are always very welcome, in any capacity. *Norma Neal*

L to R: Tim Jasper, Robert McGuinness (Flip & Flop) Ciaran Jasper (The Spider Princess), Sarah Legender (Captain Jack), Jason Legender (Granfer Fuddlewick), Terry West (Dame Dolly), Janine Yaxley (Molly Muffet)



Community SAFETY



Opportunist car theft

Neighbourhood Watch members who opt to receive Crime related messages from our local Police (by telephone or internet) will already be aware of local residents who have experienced the theft of their vehicle from outside their home whilst preparing to make that early morning journey to work / school, having left their vehicle with the engine running in order to de-ice the vehicle. They will also be aware (from the Police message) that Insurance Companies are now taking a very hard line and are not covering the loss as they determine that the owner has "left the vehicle unattended / unsecured". Please make sure you do not add to the victim list and fatten the coffers of these opportunist thieves.

Home Security - a Brief Reminder

Remember it is all too easy to forget about the open window the unlocked door, your chance forgetfulness is the chance the thief or burglar is waiting for; get into a routine that includes keeping doors and windows locked even when you are in the house.

House unlit after Dark, this is an open invitation to the criminal to break in and help themselves to your property and valuables - remember these may be sentimental and once they are gone, irreplaceable. The message from local Police & Crime Prevention Officer Keith Lownds is simple. "Don't give the criminal the excuse to give your home a second look. Residents must take responsibility and keep their homes locked and illuminated. We advise residents to use timing switches to turn on lights or a radio around the house while they are out".

Door Callers. Trading Standards, the Police & N/H/Watch urge everyone **not to buy at the door.**

It is usually a costly exercise and it gives the dishonest and unscrupulous their opportunity to con honest folk out of their cash or actually steal from them directly. Why not display a **No Cold Calling Home** sticker and ignore any uninvited callers - *especially* those who ignore your notice. Stickers are still available **free** from the Town Council Offices (next to the Doctor's Surgery).

Walk in Theft, this happens to the least expecting & often to someone who is usually careful.

Police **Crime Prevention** continually stress the need to keep doors locked or secure even when you are in the house and *especially* during the fine weather when you might be in & out of the garden; opportunist thieves do operate in our area. N/H/Watch advice is to

- **KEEP THE DOOR CHAIN OR DOOR BAR ON AT ALL TIMES, ESPECIALLY WHEN ANSWERING THE DOOR**
- **IF IN DOUBT, KEEP THEM OUT**
- **A LOCKED DOOR PREVENTS UNWANTED VISITORS**

Door bars are still available, now from our Community Warden, Tim Spearey

Garden Security, mark your valuables with your post code using a simple UV pen (available at most stationers) & don't leave tools etc out unattended, lock them away preferably out of site.

Flask in the Fridge

Please remember to update your data sheet inside the flask, following any change to either your medication or to your health. It is vital that if the Emergency Services are called and refer to the information that it is **accurate & up to date; it is for your benefit only.**

The first 2010 meeting of Neighbourhood Watch will take place on **Tuesday 8th February** in the Parish Hall. If you want to improve our village come to the meeting & air your views or at least ask someone who attends to bring your request to the meeting.

PC Todd reports

PC Todd

The extended cold period has yet again provided car thieves with an ideal opportunity to steal your vehicles. If you have left your keys in the ignition with engine running whilst you return to your home to collect belongings – think again! Two residents have lost their cars in this manner, so far. Last year we had three vehicles disappear in the same circumstances.

Other crimes reported to police include damage to a car in Boynston Grove and the theft of a re-cycle bin from Wykes Close.

Two assaults were reported which have resulted in arrests made on both occasions. Until next time, *Keith*

Pub Watch

There was no meeting this month due to unforeseen circumstances

P.A.C.T.

The next pact meeting will take place in the parish hall immediately after the Neighbourhood Watch meeting on Tuesday 9th February.

Telephone Numbers

Community Warden

Tim Spearey 01740 623654

or via Chilton Control Room -

01388 721351

To contact **Local Police** to report any concerns, seek advice or pass on information to the Police, call

0345 60 60 365

(Keep a note of details of any conversation & obtain an incident no.)

Crime Prevention Officer

Keith Lounds 01325 742714

Community Liaison Officer

Neil Langthorne 01325 742755



Last month's SNAPSHOT brought in lots of information (see opposite) so we have re-printed it here for you to refer to. However, we will have space to do this every month, so if you are interested, perhaps you could keep your copy of the news until the next issue, when we will bring you some of the answers posed by the new photograph.

Snapshots of Sedgefield

Many thanks to Rita Blakey and Bill Cooper for details about last month's snapshot (*see left*) taken during the war. Rita confirms that Ron, Bill & Iris Blakey are as we thought on the photo. Bill is the little chap with the puffed out chest. Next but one to him is his brother Thomas James, known as Sonnie, Rita's husband. The girl between them is Peggy Hindmarsh. Evidently the photo was taken at Sedgefield Cricket Club, by the railing just in front of the old tennis court pavilion. It was near the end house, where McKean's used to live before they moved to Fishburn; father was an insurance agent. That came from Bill, who proved to be a fount of information. In the girl's line, third left is Mary Robson, who lived in the council houses, known as Shanghai back then. The little face peeking out is Phyllis Lockey, who was pals with Joan Davison. Next to her is Sheila Dargue, later Archer, then June Bradley, who lived in North End; her father was a driver for Wilkinson's buses. Norma Quinn, 5th from left, became a nurse at Winterton, but at the time, she was an evacuee from Newcastle, as was the boy second left on the back row. Called Greenwell, he and his brother stayed with Aggie Ward, the lady verger at St Edmund's, famous for throwing the ball up at the Ball Game. There was no special occasion. They all just happened to be together, but don't they look smart? And who took the photo?

The Rev. Paul Hutchinson of Stokesley sent in further details from his mother Joan Pyle (Davison as was) who is 4th left in the photo and used to live at 26 Front Street. Joan corrects the name of the standing boy to Gerrard Needham and agrees about Mary Robson and Peggy Hindmarsh. However, she thinks the boy second left on the fence is Jack Duff and the girl second right is Hilda Parsons. Joan, who now lives in Durham, reckons the girls in the main line are only about ten years old. She was born in 1934. She also thought the little lad might be John Glattbach, although others say it's Sonnie Blakey. What do you think? Let me know if you can solve the puzzles!

The **February Snapshot** links to the January one because, it features Mrs Ward and the Ball Game. But do you recognise any other faces? When was it? Who won the ball that year? Please call 01740-620091 or email norma@neal.myzen.co.uk

Jottings for January 2010

No Forum meeting held in January as the first Monday (scheduled date) was too close to new year, so the next meeting is February 1st at 7pm in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall.

The weather since Christmas has certainly presented some problems, hopefully everyone managed to cope alright and community spirit 'fired up' with people helping each other. As a community we could certainly help with footpath clearing, it is becoming evident that there is little or no risk of claims against people clearing snow from areas, so we who are fit enough, could all 'do our bit' and make it much easier to get about in the slippery conditions.

If you managed to get across to Hardwick Park you will surely have appreciated the 'magical' effect the weather brought to the Park – we are lucky to have such a facility on our doorstep.

Planning: the result of the Appeal on Low Hardwick Farm (the long established off road motor cycle track lost its appeal) highlights the inconsistent approach planning officers present at planning committee meetings and appeals. The Forum is still seeking answers to your questions on the granting of permission for the caravan park. Hopefully the new year will yield some information.

Positioning of wind turbines in our area is ongoing, but interestingly more & more research is coming forward highlighting the detrimental effect on residents nearby.

After the December Forum meeting we requested attendance at the February meeting of a Council Officer for information on footpath repairs; no confirmation yet of any attendance but recent weather certainly hasn't helped not only footpaths but road potholes.

Everyone is welcome at Forum meetings – we look forward to seeing you.



SPORTS UPDATE

Send your sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com

Well, it's that time of year again, when I eulogise the sport/game of darts. Our cup 'ranneth over' between Christmas and 10th January, when we witnessed not one but two darts world championships.

First up was the feisty young PDC (Professional Darts Corporation) tournament over on Sky Sports. It was all razzamatazz, Sid Waddell hyperbole/hysteria and Phil 'The Power' Taylor. Taylor, in winning his 15th world title, proved beyond doubt that he is best tungsten chucker to have ever stepped up to the oche. He did at least meet a worthy opponent in the final. Simon 'The Wizard of Oz' Whitlock put up a really decent fight but ultimately The Power was too, er, powerful.

As the PDC event was drawing to its inevitable conclusion at the Alexandra Palace, over at the Lakeside, Frimley Green, the BDO (British Darts Organisation) world championships were lumbering into action. Broadcast by the BBC, with a new anchor in Colin Murray, the BDO event is the longer established of the two and was around long before the infamous 'darts schism' of 1992. The BDO is the traditional, somewhat old fashioned and very cheesy soul of darts, best represented by Murray's co-host, Bobby 'Too many nicknames to list' George (yes, he's the 'star' of those awful gold related adverts). I could get very boring very quickly with my thoughts on the relative merits of the two events.

Personally, my heart is with the BDO, but my head tells me that the PDC will prevail. It has the benefit of the presence of Taylor, but crucially, money talks and the PDC has much more of that, with which it has for years been regularly tempting the best players to defect from the BDO. At the moment, Barry Hearn, the man behind the PDC, is trying to unify the two organisations (i.e. buy out the BDO). I will follow developments with great interest.

For the moment, I thoroughly enjoyed both world championships. Colin Murray really enhanced the BBC coverage of the BDO event and was clearly having a ball. Martin 'Wolfie' Adams eventually prevailed at the Lakeside in a pretty exciting final, which I'll wager was watched on TV by a much bigger audience than saw the PDC final.

Of course, there will always be a

debate over whether darts is actually a sport or a game. I can appreciate both sides of the argument and though I'll give tungsten the benefit of the doubt, it's by no means clear cut. I would say that Sid Waddell's regular assertion that Phil Taylor is the greatest sportsman of all time is utter rubbish, even though the man is clearly a phenomenon. I should also point you to a much loved comedy sketch from 1980 that was based on some fundamental truths about darts and made a lasting impact on the public perception of the sport/game. If you can, have a look and a hearty chuckle at www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHnBppccI0o.

Even today, during interviews at televised events, darts competitors will reference the number of pints (of beer/lager, not water) that featured in their pre match preparations. The booze may not be on stage any more, but it's still the isotonic energy drink of darts. Nevertheless, I love the tungsten and can't wait for the next big event, with those big players and their ridiculous nicknames.

Right, back to more energetic activities in Sedgefield!

Sedgefield Harriers

The ice didn't quite melt in time for Sedgefield Harriers' Winter Handicap for the Gerry Kearsley Memorial Trophy to take place over its usual route between Fishburn and Bishop Middleham - where the course wasn't treacherous, it was flooded. Determined to stage the race after many events had been cancelled in recent weeks due to the weather, the run was switched at the eleventh hour to a three lap course on East Park, just across the road from Hardwick Park, Sedgefield, where paths and trails were in good condition.

The day of the race dawned fair and the runners and volunteers who turned up were pleased to see some sun after a full calendar month with snow on the ground.

There was a good turnout of 41 runners from Quakers RC, Newton Aycliffe, Heaton Harriers, Elvet Striders, Durham and Darlington Triathlon Clubs, along with Sedgefield Harriers themselves. The route was lengthened to 7.5 miles from the usual 6.5 miles, with the 10km handicapping applying. The winner of the race was Peter Brooks from Elvet Striders in 66 minutes and 59 seconds. Peter

found that he was leading from midway through the first lap and held on as handicapped runners chased him to the finish. He gets his name engraved on the Gerry Kearsley Trophy for his efforts. There were also trophies for first Sedgefield Harriers man, Matthew Jones in 53:23, and first Sedgefield Harriers lady, new member Sue Smith in 68:02. The fastest runner over the course was Sedgefield Harrier David Greator in 49:03. Sedgefield Harriers' next event is the Neptune Relays in Hardwick Park on the evening of Wednesday 21st April, involving teams of four over 1.7 mile stages.

For more details contact Ean Parsons - ean2005@hotmail.co.uk. The Harriers sent a good number of junior and senior teams to the Northern Cross Country Championships in Blackburn on Saturday 23rd January. I will report on how they got on in next month's Sedgefield News.

Netball

Sedgefield has a growing band of netball enthusiasts, who are keen to meet more players of the game, or people who would like to have a go. They gather every Tuesday evening at Sedgefield Community College, at 8pm. Players of all abilities turn up for netball games that are really friendly occasions. At only £2 a week, these sessions provide great opportunities to get fit while having fun and meeting new people.

If you would like to find out more about netball in Sedgefield contact Katrina Robinson on 07968 482017 or Katgill69@hotmail.com.

After a long, enforced break due to the weather, the Sunday league football season should be up and running again by this time next month and I'll try and bring you updates from Sedgefield's three teams.

Meanwhile, if you have any other sports news, please send it to chrisjlines@aol.com



It's been a while since we had a mug-shot of our renowned sports correspondent,

so here he is doing what he does best - enjoying himself! The good looking one on the right is younger son, Charlie. Ed

A Winter's Market

Thanks to all who braved the elements to support the January Farmers' Market. Thanks also to Mr Mellanby, who was one of only 2 stallholders who managed against the odds to brave the conditions. He provided a stall full of quality vegetable produce, which was well supported by customers.

The next market is on Sunday 14th February, when new stallholder Brackenhill Fine Foods will be filling the vacant slot left by our former co-ordinator and stallholder "Pickled Pink" who will be greatly missed. Enjoy your retirement Joan and Richard and thanks for your promotion of the market over the years.

Angela Simpson.

Sedgefield Cricket Club

Our pre-season net practice this year takes place at the Norton indoor cricket centre. Our first session is on Sunday 7th March from 2 – 4 pm.

We have 3 nets booked over a 5 week period so can accommodate all comers. New players are particularly welcome, and if requiring contact prior to the first session, can contact our first team captain Phil Heslop on 620237.

As part of our club's development in 2010 we intend to provide new flower beds around the grounds. As we are the focus of many people entering the village we like to help the image of Sedgefield by giving a good first impression.

If anyone in our community would like to volunteer to help with this project via provision of plants or/ and labour, please contact Ray Lower on 620373.

Below: Sedgefield's first man home, Matt Jones ploughs a lonely furrow on the route of the Sedgefield Harriers' Winter Handicap for the Gerry Kearsley Memorial Trophy.

Right: Peggy Kearsley presents Sue Smith with her trophy for first Sedgefield Harriers Lady



The Soul Retreat

A new and exciting business is opening up in recently refurbished premises in Fishburn. The Soul Retreat is a Spa like environment staffed with highly qualified practitioners offering Massages, Aromatherapy Treatments, Ear Treatments, Tanning Treatments, Waxing, Hot Stones, Pedicures, Manicures, Eye Treatments and Facials and much more.

The Soul Retreat is more than just a beauty salon. It is a stylish, welcoming, compassionate warm and discreet establishment which is there to set you on a new direction... a direction that will make you feel good in mind body and soul.

Here you will be able to come and feel totally at ease within the surroundings. It goes without saying that you will relax and unwind and with our help you will remove all of the stresses of a hectic lifestyle.

Our philosophy is to encapsulate three key elements in to all the treatments available, with an emphasis on relaxation and rejuvenation.

PEACE, HEALTH and BEAUTY.

Visit the Soul Retreat and see all that is currently on offer. Preview the plans for the future expansion.

Send for information or call and make a booking.

Step into... The Soul Retreat

**tel. 01740 620975
07909 897737**

or email

jennifer@thesoulretreat.co.uk

To remember the children ...

The Snowdrop Walk

takes place this year on

**Sunday 28th February
at Hardwick Park**

Details of the event are on the Child Bereavement Charity website. Go to fundraising events/ snowdrop walk north.

Julie Kilpatrick 01740 629884.

February Events Diary

Sedgefield Library

re-opens at 9.30 on

Monday 15th February

Renew books using Library Online
www.durham.gov.uk/libraries
or call

Trimdon Library **01429 880433**
or Wingate Library **01429 838339**
We apologise for any inconvenience
but look forward to seeing you soon

Hardwick Park events

Contact 01740 621 505 or
hardwickpark@durham.gov.uk

Saturday 6 February

Drawing Inspiration

10am – 4pm Age 16+ Free
Please call to book in advance
& bring sketch book & pencil

Saturday 6 February

Winter Tree Walk

1pm – 3pm All welcome Free
Meet at Visitor Centre entrance

Sunday 14 February

Nest Box Making

1pm – 3pm Families £2.00
Please call to book in advance

Wednesday 17 February

Cloud Climbers

11am – 3pm Families Free
Just show up at Visitor Centre

Sedgefield Gardening Club

No meeting in February

Local History Society

Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45pm

Monday 1st February

AGM and Gordon Morris

**"Our Roman Legacy - a Classical
Tour of the North-East"**

All welcome

Residents' Forum

Monday 1st February

at 7pm, Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 3rd February

92nd Birthday Dinner
at Hardwick Hall

Members please note -
7pm for 7:15pm

The CeddesFolk Session

Ceddesfeld Hall from 8pm

Wednesday 3rd February

All acoustic players welcome

Mobile Movies

In the Parish Hall at 6.30pm

Fridays 5th & 26th February

All ages welcome (under 8s
need accompanying adult)
Refreshments on sale before film.
For more details call 620042

Cricket Club Quiz Night

Saturday 6th February

Quiz presented by Chris Hancock
Bar open 7.30
Everyone welcome

Bingo @ Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 6th February

Eyes down at 7.30pm

EDDIE'S @ 4

Sunday 7th February

4pm service for 2-6 year olds in the
Welcome Room at St Edmund's

Sedgefield Methodist

Wives & Friends

Monday 8th February

Bead Chic

Monday 22nd February

George Nairn - Postcards

New members always welcome

Neighbourhood Watch

Panel Meeting

7 pm, Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

Tuesday 9th February

ALL Welcome

Ladies Club

8pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

Tuesday 9th February

Rhine cruise to Switzerland (1)

slides, David Rodway

February 23rd - AGM

New members welcome

Sedgefield Show

Thursday 11th February

8pm in the Nag's Head

Everyone welcome

Farmers' Market

Sunday 14th February

From 9.30 - 1.30 on the Green

NE Concertina Players

Sunday 14th February

at 2pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 15th February

"Queries & Questions Evening"

Sedgefield Library, 7pm - 9pm

Let us help you in your search for
those elusive ancestors. Access to
the internet and to the library's
other research facilities

NB Change of venue & time for this
meeting only. *For more information
please ring 620367*

Visitors are always welcome.

Sing for Health & Fun

Methodist Church Hall, North End
every **2nd & 4th Wednesday**

All are welcome

A FREE service to non-
commercial organisations

Ferryhill, Sedgefield &

District Flower Club

Tuesday 16th February

Parish Hall at 7.30pm

Pamela Alexander from Morpeth

'Wood, Glorious Wood'

All Welcome

Willowdene Care Home

Fundraising Race Night

at All Saints Catholic Club,
Dean Road Ferryhill.

Saturday 20th February

Bar, Buffet and Entertainment,
entrance fee £1.50.

Doors open 7pm

Live Music Night

8pm at Sedgefield Cricket Club

Saturday 20th February

Main guest: The Haley Sisters
Also featuring:

Ian Swinburne, Rob Guest and
The John Wrightson Band

Admission £9 including buffet

Tel 621347

*The Cricket Club is available for hire
for private parties, christenings, etc.
Call Jane on 620090*

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 25th February

7.45pm in the Parish Hall

Durham Veteran Tree Project

By Jesse Meridith

New members always welcome

Café@St Catherine's Fishburn

Pop in for friendly chat and the
latest gossip, Friday mornings 9.30
-12 noon. Tea, coffee, toast &
conversation. *All welcome*

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable
events - new members welcome

Contact Rob on 629079

www.sedgefieldroundtable.org.uk

Coming up in March

Great Wine Tasting Evening

"FIESTA CHILENA"

At Ceddesfeld Hall

7:30 prompt on

Saturday 13th MARCH

7 Chilean Wine Tastings

Two Free Glasses Wine, Themed
Food, Quiz + Prize

Prize For Best Costume

Tickets £13 (until 5th March)
from Ceddesfeld Bar & Abbracciare

send your diary dates to
sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Cycling on the pavement

In Sedgefield news January 2010, PC Todd reports to both adults and young people that it is against the law to ride a bicycle on a footpath.

Whilst this statement is of course correct it is not as straightforward as it may seem. On 1st August 1999, new legislation came into force to allow a fixed penalty notice to be served on anyone who is guilty of cycling on a footway. However the Home Office issued guidance on how the new legislation should be applied, indicating that they should only be used where a cyclist is riding in a manner that may endanger others. At the time Home Office Minister Paul Boateng issued a letter stating that:

"The introduction of the fixed penalty is not aimed at responsible cyclists who sometimes feel obliged to use the pavement out of fear of traffic and who show consideration to other pavement users when doing so. Chief police officers, who are responsible for enforcement, acknowledge that many cyclists, particularly children and young people, are afraid to cycle on the road, sensitivity and careful use of police discretion is required."

It is important to note that most legislation relating to 'cycling on footpaths' actually relates to the riding of cycles on a 'footway set aside for the use of pedestrians' which runs alongside a road. For example, the 'fixed penalties' do NOT apply to country footpaths where there is no road. Fixed penalty notices also cannot be applied to areas such as parks, shopping precincts etc. unless a byelaw has been passed making cycling such areas an offence, nor do they apply to anyone under 16. Many people (including police officers) seem to think that 'a footpath is a footpath' wherever it is and that the same laws apply. This is not the case.

Hopefully those cyclists who feel the need to cycle on the footpaths for safety reasons will also remember that they must cycle extremely carefully (and slowly) when there are pedestrians around and this way everybody can be safe (and free from prosecution).

Stephen Gilmore

Postal addresses

On the far side of Teesside, where several of the smaller villages are quite properly called "-in-Cleveland", many locals also prefer to give their county of residence (North Yorkshire) as their address rather than the post town (Middlesbrough)

Revd Paul Hutchinson
Stokesley Rectory

Your Letters

Wind Farms

I wish to draw peoples attention to the invidious encirclement of our village by the wind farm companies as part of the concerted effort to turn the North East into the most heavily concentrated area of the UK for erecting wind turbines even though we already "Over-Produce" electricity in our region for our own requirements via conventional and nuclear power stations, so our countryside is being ruined to produce power for other regions, especially the south of the country where they don't wish to see the North and South Downs or the Cotswolds blighted by 325ft high metal windmills.

Much better to let the mugs in the NE have them as everyone knows it's full of Coal Mines, Slag Heaps and Heavy Industry so a few hundred turbines won't matter.

This is not NIMBYISM on my part, I spent my entire working life in the Construction Industry, building among other things Power Stations which are and will remain the way we produce our electricity in this country. If all 60million people in the UK had their own windmill on a windless day you can't turn a light on, so why spend billions on a technology so fatally flawed when Wave Power, Hydro and Carbon Capture can appease the green lobby and produce power 365 days a year.

The answer is the subsidies paid to power companies to erect and run these wind farms, without which they would have no interest in erecting them. Have people not noticed that every planning application has a sweetener of promised money to be paid to the relative authorities annually for some perceived good cause? This used to be looked on as a bribe to grease the wheels in my day of contract negotiations.

Please look on the web to see the planned Wind Farm concentrations for the UK to verify the truth of my concerns.

Michael Dea

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Wonderful care for Mum

On behalf of my father and family I would just like to say a big thank you to the staff of Sedgefield surgery, particularly to Drs. Robertshaw and Hearmon for the kindness and care they gave to my mum, Marjorie Adamson and for the support they gave to her family during her illness, which she fought courageously.

Also a big thank you to Dr. Skinner and the staff on the Francesca Willer Ward at Sedgefield Community Hospital. They cared for my mum like she was their own parent, during the last few days of her life. Mam had lived in the village most of her life and it's nice to think that she spent her final days in the local community hospital, with excellent care, attitudes and approaches.

Yours, Judith Suggett (daughter)

Thanks to the Round Table

My wife and I and many other Sedgefield residents I have spoken to, would like, through you, to thank the Sedgefield Round Table for their offer of assistance when and wherever needed, during our present weather spell.

Connie and Ian Spring

School opened - thanks!

I would like to thank Sedgefield Primary staff for maintaining school as usual during the first week back at school. Hundreds of schools were closed up and down the country, quite often when most other people had to go to work no matter what the weather. The closing of schools has a major impact on working parents and their ability in arranging childcare. It either ends up costing working parents more money in fees, or they too have to take their own annual leave to care for their child(ren); the lucky ones have other family members to call upon.

The knock on effect to the country must be financially devastating, not only the loss in education but the inability of employers having their staff in at work, being totally counter productive, so thank you Sedgefield Primary staff, for maintaining school opening hours and tackling the driving conditions during the snowy winter months, for all the above reasons.

Jan Welsh

Deadline February 15th

for articles, letters or adverts in the March 2010 edition of
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sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

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