

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

# Sedgefield NEWS February 2015

email sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com call/text 07572 502 904 twitter @sedgefieldnews The Editor, 55 White House Drive, TS21 3BU. Deadline for March is 15th February

# Can this year be as good as the last?

After a year in which the Farmers' Market was reborn and Sedgefield Energy Switch proved a successful and popular venture, the time has come for looking ahead to what Sedgefield Development Trust does next.

This year the our AGM is being held in the Manor House, West End overlooking the Green. Since this outstanding and historic building was acquired last November, a new locally owned company — Manor House (1707) Ltd - have had the building refurbished and beautifully decorated. The building is already home to a number of small companies and there is space for more to follow.

The Old Court Room, however, is to be available for meetings and events and on Monday 16th February it will be the venue for the Trust's AGM. The formal meeting starts at 7.45 pm and is expected to be relatively short, BUT, it will be followed by a chance to catch up on the Trust's projects, put forward your own ideas as to how this charity can go on to other projects that may benefit people in Sedgefield, Fishburn, Bradbury and Mordon.

Do you have questions about Sedgefield News, our website, www,sedgefieldweb.co.uk, DIDO, Sedgefield Energy Switch, Citizen of the Year or Sedgefield Farmers Market? Come and be heard.

Remember SDT is owned and controlled by this community and exists to help benefit this area and nowhere else. We still hope to find more folks to help with a few things, for example, setting up the Farmers' Market once a month, being part of the News team (see back page for Editor's up-date) and as trustees of the Trust, but no one will pressurise you.

So come along, talk to us, catch up and join us for a sociable evening and some light refreshments - and at the same time you can see this brilliant new facility in one of the area's outstanding buildings.



#### **Discovery at Ferryhill**

Last July, I was invited by a friend, the late Tim Spearey, as a services Veteran, to take part in a production about the First World War, at Auckland Castle by a young people's group. The invitation was vague to say the least as to what our participation would be. The 'young people' aged from 4 to 20+, were from Enter CIC, a Community Interest Company based in Ferryhill. If any reader has been privileged to see them perform, I will be preaching to the converted. They are amazing, their standard of performance has to be seen to be believed. Trained by Andrea Flynn and her highly qualified team they look, and perform like professionals. Credits include Sunderland Empire, Durham Theatre, Durham Cathedral, various Community Venues and their highlight of the year, a week at The Edinburgh Fringe Festival featuring a musical play called 'The Wind Road Boys', about our mining heritage, written by Andrea's husband Paul. Enter now trains a group from Sedgefield Community College and one from the Primary School. Skills taught include, Dance, Speech & Drama, Music, Guitar, Drumming, Keyboard and Singing. Continued on p 12

### Long term resident remembered

Bradbury remembered one of its own when on Saturday 10th January, a new seat was unveiled in memory of Maurice Bowes by his widow Ann.

Maurice lived in the village for almost 62 years, initially with his parents and later, after marrying Ann, returning to run the small holding at North End farm. During his time in the village Maurice served as Parish Clerk to the Bradbury and the Isles Parish Meeting and for a long period serving as Neighbourhood Watch Officer. He used to enjoy nothing more than chatting to people visiting the village and taking a rest on a seat in front of his home.

The new seat has been placed in a similar position and the existing seat relocated.

#### **NETPark: the next 10 years**

In 2014, NETPark, the North East Technology Park, celebrated 10 years since it opened and already it's a world class centre of excellence in technologies such as space science and printable electronics. Now it has announced ambitious plans to grow and attract more companies and jobs to the site in Sedgefield. Business Durham, the managers of the Park, have crafted a new vision for NETPark, one that will see it through the next 10 years and beyond, turning it into a global powerhouse. The vision for NETPark is to be the global hub for materials integration.

Catherine Johns, Innovation and Business Growth Director at Business Durham explains further, "Take Kromek plc, a company that has been at NETPark for 10 years. It started out as a 'materials' company, one that could produce cadmium zinc telluride, a semiconductor material, better than anyone else. However, Kromek realised that they would be even more successful if they integrated that material into a variety of innovative products, such as scanners that can detect the difference between water and alcohol, or a device that can sit on your kitchen counter and detect if there is radiation in your food. So Kromek became a 'materials integration' company and this is what transformed it from two employees to over 60, with two US subsidiaries."

Polyphotonix, another NETPark company, has had a similar journey; they always had expertise in organic light emitting diodes (OLEDs) but it was the integration of the OLED into a product that has transformed the company; in this case it is a sleep mask to cure diabetic retinopathy, which is projected to save the NHS £1BN a year.

"This is our ambition for NETPark", Catherine continues, "it will be home to hundreds of companies and thousands of people, all working to unleash the potential of materials by integrating them into products which address our most significant societal challenges: a new biosensor to detect infection remotely, a new way of storing renewable energy, making water safe to drink, uncovering the secrets of the universe, or even securing our data to help us feel more comfortable in the world."

"This is about creating highly skilled, home-grown jobs in some of the most exciting things happening in our world today. And these jobs will be 'close to home', contributing to the economic prosperity of the communities in Durham. Connections with these communities remain extremely important to us; the people who will be working at NETPark over the next 10 years are currently studying at local schools. With the advent of new EU funding, we hope to deliver more outreach and engagement and even, who knows, bring back the annual summer science festival. This is the one thing I always get asked about so it really does work as a showcase for NETPark but also for the wonders of a career in science. Someone has to create the next iPad or the next MP3 player — why not someone from Sedgefield?"

For more information about NETPark's 10 year plan, please visit http://www.northeasttechnologypark.com/about/netpark-10-year-strategy

#### New Year, New You

Enhance your IT Skills. Free Workshop for those thinking of Self Employment Thursday 12th February 1pm - 4pm at Novus Business Centre, Peterlee, SR8 2OJ

Are you thinking about starting your own business? The Rural Growth Network would like to invite you to a free workshop before you start. You will get up to speed with 21st century IT skills and appreciate how to make your computer work harder so you don't have to. Over the three hours you will:

- Communicate effectively and efficiently with business documents. Include pictures and professional graphics, with less effort than you might believe.
- Learn some excellent spreadsheet skills to take care of number crunching and managing information.
- Uncover the relationships between spreadsheets and social media applications, such as LinkedIn & Twitter and email marketing.
- · Take home useful hints and tips which will help save time on your IT.

To ensure every participant receives individual attention, places will be limited. Don't miss out. To book or for more information contact Sarah Marshall from Rural Growth Network on 07800 916932 / 0191 5863366 or email sarah.marshall@edbs.co.uk

#### Trimdon Bereavement Support Group

A sister group to the established Sedgefield Beavement Support Group (see Regular events) has now been set up in Trimdon. We aim to provide a supportive environment for the bereaved. We do not give advice - we do listen to you. We do not tell you what to do - we hope to help you to work it out yourself.

All are welcome, of all faiths and none, at either of the groups. Come and join us in church and we'll have coffee (or tea!), a natter and a light hearted activity. If you have a favourite, uplifting poem, bring it along to share. We look forward to seeing you on the first Tuesday of the month from 7-8 pm. Please contact Joan Clifford on 01429 880346 for further information.

#### **Sedgefield Players**

Following an extremely successful box office Pantomime success, the Sedgefield Players have already started rehearsing for the next production, 'Entertaining Angels'. As a clergy wife Grace has spent a lifetime on best behaviour. Now, following the death of her husband Bardolph, she is enjoying the new-found freedom of being able to do and say exactly as she pleases. But the return of her eccentric missionary sister, Ruth, together with some disturbing revelations forces Grace to confront the truth of her marriage. Set in a classic English vicarage garden complete with a grass-banked stream and willow, the play is filled with sharp-edged comedy and probing wit. Joining regulars Sarah Atkinson, Jean Hewlin and Viv Broomhead is relative newcomber Helen Holcroft. Following on from her first role as Fairy Nasty in the Panto, Helen is looking forward to her first role with the Players stating, 'I was really surprised to be given the role as I am fairly new to the group, but am really enjoying the experience'.

Not to be left out, the other members of the group are joining together to work on short plays and duologues. As the group has attracted so many new members, this gives them a chance to work with the more experienced Players, to work on stagecraft, character building, voice work and learning lines.

Not to be outdone the SPYS are also busy as well. The Stage Three Section are currently rehearsing 'The Princess and The Wolf'. This original play, written by Thomas Guest, this was first performed at the Sedgefield Drama Festival and is going to be performed next at the Richmond Drama Festival next month.

# Snowdrops for remembrance



The Snowdrop Walk which takes place in the beautiful, peaceful surroundings of Hardwick Park on Sunday 22nd February from 12 noon to 3pm, provides an annual opportunity for bereaved families and their children to remember babies who have died.

Snowdrops will be available for purchase on the day and volunteers will be on hand to help and advise with planting. Also, in a quiet corner, there will be a book of remembrance for individual entries.

In the Visitor Centre, where refreshments are available, children can join in with Arts & Crafts activities. This very special day is organised by Child Bereavement UK and supported locally by Julie and David Kilpatrick. You can contact the charity at childbereavementuk.org or telephone 01494 568 912

# **Energy Switch Reminder**

If you propose to submit your request for a very competitive offer for your electricity and gas prices, the closing date for the next auction is Monday 2nd February.

Go to www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk and look for Sedgefield Energy Switch. The Development Trust will be supporting future auctions so keep an eye on these pages for information.

#### **Farmers' Market**

Not often do the words "sheer luxury" and "Farmers' Market" come in the same breath, but last month's fresh face, Chocolatiere & Patissiere Ellie Armstrong, sent many a shopper away with keen anticipation of a teatime treat! We are definitely spoilt for choice now, with wonderful British and French baking to choose from.

As the weather improves, we expect the return of Fish, Bread, Poultry, Cheese, Pork & Sausages and our three regular bakers. This shopper expects to be sitting down to watch the world go by with a smile, a coffee and a tasty treat.

# Steve's Nature Diary

#### A new monthly feature

February can be a harsh month for wildlife. Birds are frantically searching for food and drinking water that isn't frozen or if we have a mild spell thinking about breeding. So, it is important that we continue to feed the birds and provide them with fresh water. One of our Blue Tits has already been investigating our bird box and at the end of February it is the British Trust for Ornithology bird box week. Now is an ideal time to put some gloves on and clean out your bird boxes, if possible, ready for the new breeding season or if you don't have a bird box think about putting one up. They are available to buy from garden centres etc. or online or they are quite easy to make – you can find instructions at <a href="http://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/activity-sheets">http://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/activity-sheets</a>.

The best way to attract birds to your garden is to provide a range of food including

mixed seed, peanuts and fat balls; you can also try to attract particular species by using specialist seeds such as niger seeds for Goldfinches and red millet for Tree Sparrows. If you do get sparrows in your garden it is well worth having a closer look to see what sort they are. Male Tree Sparrows are the ones with a chestnut brown crown and a black spot on the cheek whilst the House Sparrow has a grey crown and a larger untidy black bib. Both House and Tree Sparrow inhabit my garden and both have been suffering national population declines but for different reasons. Populations of House Sparrows across the UK have fallen from about 12 million pairs in the 1970s to between 6 and 7 million pairs today, with a greater reduction in urban and rural areas than in suburban ones. The reasons for decline are complex but may include lack of nest sites, pesticides, cats and air pollution. With the development of modern farm practices, the amount of food available to Tree Sparrows has declined, resulting in a 93% reduction in numbers from 1970 to 2008; so by encouraging these species into your garden you are doing your bit for conservation.

#### **Cricket Club Xmas Talent Show**

A grand opening once again this year followed by a few opening words (which were tinged with sadness) by our compère, Neville Iceton. We wanted to pay tribute to one of our own Mr Wayne Headley who sadly lost his battle with cancer during 2014. Wayne was a Songster and Troubadour who had performed for us regularly at the show and he will be sadly missed by us all. We would be sure that Wayne was looking down on us over the course of the evening and that he would have wanted the show to go on.

There were 25 participants this year performing 38 individual tracks. The evening was well organised and all went off without a hitch. Good feedback once again this year from a full house. It is very difficult to single out any individual this year for a mention as everyone performed very well indeed so a big thank you to all who got involved throughout the evening.

There was £608 raised this year and it was decided that this money would be donated to Cancer Research and therefore a cheque will be presented to Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals - NHS Charities. This was our 14th year in the current format and the show still rolls on from strength to strength. We hope to see you all return this year and as always, new faces are welcome.

#### Ceddesfeld Hall

#### Home of Sedgefield Community Association (SCA)



It has been a very busy and enjoyable festive season at Ceddesfeld Hall. Parties, concerts and events have been well attended. A special presentation was made to Barbara Nicholls, to thank her for many years of service, opening up the building and helping out at many and varied events. We wish her a long and happy retirement. The various groups at Ceddesfeld are looking forward to 2015 and new members are always welcome. Toddler group runs every Wednesday from 1.15 pm to 3 pm during term times. Mums, dads, babies, grandparents and carers (as well as toddlers) enjoy making friends, socialising, playing and learning together. If you have a little one, please come along and join in the fun.

Future events include an Easter Egg Hunt on 6th April as well as a Mediaeval Fair Dinner on 25th April, which will celebrate 800 years of the Magna Carta, in words and music! As usual, the bar is open from Sunday to Friday evenings, so please pop in if you're out and about.

For more information contact Wendy on 01740 620206, Pat on 01740 620607 or visit our website at **www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk** 





# **Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel**

The final Panel meeting of 2014 took place on December 2nd in the Fletcher room; the minutes will be available at the first meeting this year on Tuesday 10th February. One important matter raised at the meeting, was in regard to the possible folding of the Residents' Forum due to the retirement of long serving stalwarts, Chair, Julia Bowles and Secretary, Angela Barron. Julia asked if the Neighbourhood Watch Panel could / would pick up the activities normally dealt with by the Residents' Forum if the forum ceased to be viable.

The response from the floor and also the officers of Neighbourhood Watch was an emphatic no – this would not be possible.

The Residents' Forum has now ceased because no-one appears willing to take up the reins; whilst this will be a significant loss for our village, it must be made clear that Neighbourhood Watch will remain solely as a Neighbourhood Watch group - for as long as *our* aging group of volunteers are able to continue.

Once again we ask residents to report (to the Police on tel.101) all out of place or suspicious vehicles and also any persons that give rise for concern. From these reports our village & our homes will be made even safer.

Next Panel Meeting – Tuesday 10th February 2015 in the Fletcher Room
Useful telephone numbers:

**Local Police 101** 

CPO Duncan Gill 01325 742714 Parking Shop 0191 3846633

Adviceline (CAB) Monday to Friday 10am - 4pm

From a land line 08444 111 444 From a mobile 0300 330 06 50

TYPETALK users 08444 111 445

### **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 16th February 2015 at 7.45 pm, in the Manor House.**The business part of the meeting will be short, leaving plenty of time for discussion. This AGM is an open, public meeting. SDT is owned and controlled by the community.

Any special or general resolutions proposed must be with the Company at its registered office, 7 Melgrove Way, Sedgefield, TS21 2JN, no later than 12 noon on Friday 13th February 2015. All nominations for Directors must be with the Company Secretary by latest, noon Friday 13th February 2015.

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



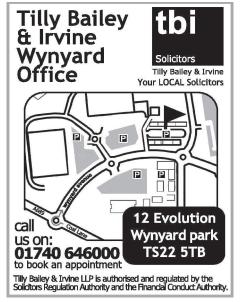




Photo by kind permission of The Northern Echo

No message from Keith Todd this month
- our pet PC is away on exercise of an
entirely different sort right now!
But we would like to remind you of his
efforts to get ready for the London
Marathon, on behalf of ABF, the
Soldiers' Charity. If you would like to
sponsor Keith, you can stop him in the
street, or, probably more sensibly, go
to justgiving.com/Keith-Todd1



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Fishburn: Manager, Carol Woods 01740 620683

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# **February Diary** Changes are afoot at Sedgefield News and at the bottom of this page you'll find details of how to contact our new Events Editor, Paul Anderson.

#### **Sunday 1st**

Sedgefield Farmers' Market from 8.30am on the Village Green
New Generation Church Every Sunday 11am in the Parish Hall. All welcome

#### **Monday 2nd**

**Sedgefield Local History Society** Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45 pm. AGM with Barbara Leo talking about old Sedgefield photographs

#### Wednesday 4th

**Sedgefield WI** Parish Hall at 715pm. "A night with Estee Lauder" by Binns of Darlington. Members' competition, a pretty perfume bottle. Visitors always welcome

#### Friday 6th

**Sedgefield Village Veterans** Coffee Morning. Our first of 2015 in the Parish Hall, 10 - noon. All welcome.

**Sedgefield & District U3A** 2pm at the Parish Hall. "Teesdale & Weardale Mountain Rescue" with Steve Owers. Members Free, Guests £3. For more information call Brenda on 01740 629574

#### **Saturday 7th**

Cricket Club Quiz Night Presented by Tony McGee. 8pm start

#### **Monday 9th**

Methodist Wives & Friends 7.30pm Food Bank, with Michael King

### **Tuesday 10th**

**Neighbourhood Watch Panel Meeting** Fletcher Room, Parish Hall, at 7 pm. All welcome

Ladies' Club Ceddesfeld Hall. Talk on the British Red Cross

#### **Thursday 12th**

Sedgefield Show 8pm in the Nag's Head

# **Monday 16th**

**Sedgefield Development Trust** AGM & open meeting at 7.45pm in the Manor House. Refreshments.

**Sedgefield Family History Group** (Branch of Cleveland FHS) Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.45pm "Nostalgic Views of the North" by John Moreels. For information www.sedgefieldfamilyhistory.org.uk or call 620367. New Members always welcome.

# **Tuesday 17th**

**Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club** Parish Hall at 7.30pm. "All for the Love of Flowers" with Patti Dawson North West Area Demonstrator

# Friday 20th

**Sedgefield in Bloom** Coffee morning 10 -11.30 am in the Parish Hall. Delicious home-made cakes, gifts, crafts, books, tombola & raffle.

**Live Music Night** 7.45 pm Sedgefield Cricket Club. Locals Night; Folk Festival fund raiser. John Wrightson Band, Jack Burness & Andy Hogg, Broadband, Loose Connections, John Weighell, Ray Thom, Bertie Draycott, Ann Lamb. £10. Tel: 621347

# **Sunday 22nd**

**Snowdrop Walk** 12noon to 3pm at Hardwick Park. See article on page 3.

# **Monday 23rd**

Methodist Wives & Friends 7.30pm Anne Sawyers, Baking Demonstration

# Tuesday 24th

Ladies' Club AGM and supper

# Looking ahead

# Thursday to Saturday, 26th - 28th March

**Sedgefield Players** present "Entertaining Angels" by Richard Everett. Tickets from Tickety Boo, 621771 or www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk

# **Regular Meetings**

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

Eddies@4 Sundays For 2-6 yr olds. 4pm, Welcome Room, St Edmund's. 621125

**Bridge Club** Ceddesfeld Hall Sun & Tues 7.30pm. Beginners welcome. Jen 620434

**Sedgefield Players** Parish Hall, 7.30pm Sun & Wed. SPYS Sunday 6.30pm. 620091

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

**Sedgefield Playgroup** Methodist Hall, Mon, Wed, Thurs, 9:15-11:30am tel. 620893

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

Community College Bowls Mon 6-8pm. Carpet/Short Mat Coaching All ages 623198

**Sedgefield Mags** 1st Mondays in the Nag's Head from 8pm 07966029434

Tai Chi Parish Hall, Tuesdays 10 - 11 am

Sedgefield Carpet Bowls Tues & Thurs 8.30am-12. Ceddesfeld Hall. Beginners welcome. Call 622532

**Fishburn Taekwondo Club** Tues & Thurs 6pm, Fishburn Youth & Community Centre. Mike Britton 07743455065

Sedgefield Pop In Club for elderly & disabled. Ceddesfeld Hall. Tues 9.30-12 Wed 10-12.30 Thur 1-3.30

**Sedgefield Art Group** Tues 6.30-8.30pm Methodist Church Hall. Tuition, all welcome

**Craft Club** Swinhoe Rm, Ceddesfeld Hall, 2nd/4th Tues 7.30-10pm. 620656

CAB Advice FortnightlySessions Wednesdays 10am-1pm

Sedgefield Advice & Information Centre

Sing for Health 2nd & 4th Weds, 1-2pm, Methodist Church Hall

**Toddler Club** Weds term time 1.15 to 3pm, Ceddesfeld. Joan Brennan 622385

Sedgefield Handbell Ringers 7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall, Wed (Mon1st wk of m'th) Beginners welcome. 621292

**Rotary Club of Sedgefield** Wed 7.30pm Call Bob, 07831270892; Mel, 07530315331

#### **Sedgefield Acoustic Evenings**

1st Friday & 4th Wed. Ceddesfeld Hall, 8.30pm Informal singaround, all welcome.

**Round Table** 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays. New members welcome. Carl 07775644598

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

Ceddesfeld Hall Art Group Small & friendly! Thursdays from 10am -12 noon

**Café@St Catherine's** Friendly chat & Fishburn gossip! Fridays 9.30am-12noon

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

Youth café at Toshach's Every Friday from 7 - 9pm



#### Sedgefield Out of School Fun Club

Providing Childcare before/after school.

Full day care in school holidays for all children Age 3 -14 inSedgefield and the surrounding areas. Rated Good by Ofsted.

Phone 01740 623565 for booking or further details. or call in during our opening times:

> 7.45am - 9 am & 3pm - 6pm 8am - 6pm in the school holidays

**Bookings now being taken for Easter Holidays** 

#### Sedgefield Social Club

Do U like to Dance?

Try Ballroom & Sequence at

Sedgefield Parish Hall 1-3pm

£2.50 including refreshments.

Call Ann, 629070, Joyce, 622601

Tuesdays Feb 2nd & 17th

- or just turn up!

#### **February events**

Sat 7th: Vicky Laws, Young Vocalist Sat 14th: Alan Stephens, Vocalist Sat 21st: Mason Roy, Brilliant Vocal Entertainer Sat 28th: Mark Thomas, Guitar Vocalist Members and their Guests Welcome Concert room available for functions Tel: 01740 620591 for bookings

# Friday 6th February

2 course buffet, entertainment & Disco £12.95 per person

Friday 13th February

Arrival 7pm, £10 per person

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#### Hardwick Hall Hotel

# Olly Meets Bublé

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Friday 27th February

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Are you ready to party yourself into shape? Come to Sedgefield Community College for Zumba on Tuesdays 6pm & Thursdays 8pm.

# Toshach's Tea Shop

Traditional afternoon tea available Monday to Saturday

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Mums' special afternoon tea Monday 9th to Saturday 14th March

Tel 07716857467

# Sedgefield Blues Club

The Wolfpack have been and blown the house down, so now it's the turn of **Ron Saver Jr.,** featuring sublime vocals of Charlotte Joyce. When John Mayall says "Always dapper & powerful" and Buddy Whittington quotes "Tunes sound real good... sure sounds choice", we have to sit up and listen. The blues club team went in to action, saw them perform and being suitably impressed, they now grace the Parish Hall stage on Friday 6th March. Support will be from the solo blues acoustic machine Half Deaf Clatch who are "quite possibly the best solo slide/stomp acoustic blues musician in the UK"! Another two class acts. Tickets are available online at

www.sedgefieldblues.com

#### Exciting half term opportunities for you & your child

as IN2 launch their brand new holiday specialist activities for children aged between 3 and 14, from Sedgefield and surrounding area.

IN2 is located at Sedgefield Hardwick Primary School on Hawthorn Road.

#### Monday 16th February: IN2 Eco

Interested in nature and the outdoors? Bring your wellies & woollies and join our nature specialists to experience an action packed day. Hunt for mini-beasts, build animal shelters, plant ready for Spring and keep a close eye on live feeds from cameras in animals' natural habitats.

#### Tuesday 17th February: IN2 Glee Club

For budding performers, come and be the star of the show. Workshops throughout the day will develop singing, dancing, acrobatic and acting skills that will culminate in a Stage Show at 4pm. Work with Wellfield Wildcats to make this a show to remember!

#### Wednesday 18th February: IN2 Adventure

Camouflage up and get ready for Operation Rwanda! Rebuild the city of Kigali using only natural resources, work together to supply your people with fresh water, food and supplies and even explore a diamond mine whilst blindfolded. If you love an adventure, join our team of outdoor experts for an exhilarating escapade at IN2.

#### Thursday 19th February: IN2 Culture

To celebrate the Chinese New Year, the children will discover a whole new culture. From a Mandarin workshop, to creating lanterns and learning origami, we have a huge range of activities for the children to get involved in. A specialist Asian chef will also be delivering a cookery workshop to give IN2 a taste of the orient.

#### Friday 20th February: IN2 Safety

The Bikeability Training team will host IN2 on Friday, with fun and interactive cycling proficiency workshops, teaching the skills needed to safely cycle in traffic. Durham Constabulary will also be on hand to attach 'Coded Cycle' labels to bikes in case they are lost or stolen. Also, Jet, Ben and the Durham Fire service will teach children valuable life skills on how to keep themselves and others safe.

Monday - Friday 9am - 3pm. FA Football Camp on the 3G Pitch, for children aged 5-14 years, divided into 2 age ranges. Coached by FA approved specialists who will cater to the ability of both beginners and soccer stars!

Full Day: £30, Half Day: £15. Book a full week of IN2 fun and receive a brilliant 10% discount! To secure your child's place at IN2 Holiday or if you require further information please contact Alison Cockburn on 01740 620041.

# Sing for Health goes on

We meet again on Wednesday 11th February from 1-2pm, to celebrate our sixth year with a short sing followed by a faith afternoon tea. This will provide us with an opportunity to discuss our way forward. David Jasper has led most of the singing, which has been varied and fun. Latterly Tim Jasper joined us and I thank them both for their musical expertise and support. All our very best wishes for the future to you. Now for the feel good factor - let's sing! Joan Seymour

#### Sedgefield Town Council Annual Civic Ball Friday 6th March at Hardwick Hall Hotel

The Ball is to held in aid of local groups & organisations as well as the Mayor's Charity, Parkinson's UK, Durham & Teesside.

Tickets are £28 and include a champagne reception, 4 course meal and Dancing to Audiocover. If you would like to attend, please contact Sedgefield Town Council on 01740 621273 or email jane@sedgefield.net for full details and a ticket application form. Champagne Reception 7.15 pm, Dinner 7.30 pm, Carriages, Midnight.

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# with Sports Editor, Chris Lines Email: chrisjlines@aol.com

It's the time of year when in some sports, fixtures are at the mercy of the weather. Orange footballs are all well and good, but at the grass roots level, if there's a hard frost or heavy snowfall, there's no under soil heating to rescue a match. At the time of writing this, Sedgefield NETPark FC are still waiting to play their Durham County Trophy semi-final. The game has already been postponed twice and a third delay is on the cards. Hopefully, we'll have a result in time for next month! In contrast, other sports thrive in wintry conditions. The cold, mud, snow and more are staple ingredients in a cross country running race and more people than ever are lacing up their trail shoes or long spikes and having a go – the recent Sedgefield Harriers winter handicap attracted its biggest ever field, by some margin.

In sharp contrast, on the other side of the world, in tennis, the Australian Open has started in that country's summer, and the England limited overs cricket squad is preparing for the World Cup in February. It's warm enough for them over there already, yet they continue to be subjected to plenty of hot air from a certain former player with a large axe to grind. Back to Sedgefield...

#### Squash

The annual Sedgefield Squash Club handicap competition was held recently and the final was contested by Peter Redshaw and Kevin Amer, both of whom have played in these finals in recent history (Peter was the winner in 2010 and runner-up in 2013, while Kevin was runner-up in 2011). Peter had to concede 41 points to Kevin in a best of three final, playing each game up to 15 points. Peter started strongly, but eventually Kevin got into his stride and was able to go 13-2 up, before Peter rallied to clinch a nailbiting game 15-14. In the second game, Peter's greater squash fitness started to show, and making very few mistakes, he was able to quickly claw back the deficit to level points with Kevin at 8-8. With the match seemingly in the bag at this point, Kevin managed a last ditch effort to challenge some tightly contested points, before Peter finally sealed the victory 15-10.



Peter Redshaw (left) & Kevin Amer

#### **Football**

Sedgefield NETPark FC are currently sitting fourth in Durham Alliance League. Since joining this Saturday league, things have gone very well for the club. With 50 local lads all registered to play, the future is looking great. When the semi-final of the Durham County Trophy is finally played, NETPark will hope to take another step towards securing the club's first silverware, which would be a fantastic achievement.

Home games (when not postponed!) are played on Saturday afternoons at the community college, normally with a 1:30pm or 2:00pm kick-off. All support will be appreciated. You can find the club on Facebook, where all the latest news is shared. Any companies who are interested in sponsorship opportunities can contact David Ryder: 07515 020766.

### **Rugby Union**

After a very poor start to the season and the near demise of the club, Sedgefield District RUFC is on the mend. Following a strong publicity campaign, Sedgefield, Fishburn and Ferryhill have all provided a vital life line of new young players, keeping the club alive and providing a glimpse of a bright future. Some of the new starters had never actually played rugby before, but they are coming on well and are enjoying the social side of the sport. With the younger generation also bringing along friends, the second half of the season has started well, and the team secured wins in their first two games of the year, against Darlington RUFC 2nd XV and Washington, both in the league. Good numbers are now training every Thursday at the community college, and the club has re-started its Tuesday night boxing session for extra fitness. So, if you fancy a new year with a new sport and a great social circle, pop along to a training session or even a match.

#### Cycling

Young Sedgefield cyclist Ben Hetherington has started 2015 in excellent form. A member of the North East based Achieve elite road cycling team set up, Ben is now competing at a very high level. Early in January, he raced in the first round of the Velo29 winter series. In challenging weather conditions with an often strong crosswind, Ben managed to break away from the lead group relatively early and that was the last that they saw of him, as he recorded a convincing victory. Last year, Ben was awarded a bursary by Sedgefield Village Games, which helped him to travel around the country to take part in races and build his experience. That hard work is now paying dividends and hopes are high for his prospects in 2015.

#### **Athletics**

At the height of the winter season, athletics is dominated by cross country and other off road events characterised by mud, hills and bad weather. For some Sedgefield Harriers, the running year began on 1st January with the Captain Cook's Race, a five mile dash from Great Ayton up to Captain Cook's Monument and back down again. It was certainly a good way to blow away a few cobwebs, as five Harriers found out. Ian Blakemore finished in the top 20 in a field of 270 and Chris Lines, David Walker, Ray Carmichael and Ean Parsons ran well. Three days later, over 20 Harriers travelled to Hart village for the Old Monks Race, another popular event at the start of the year. The challenging five and a bit mile course took runners in and out of Castle Eden Dene twice, which meant that everyone had to tackle two significant hills. Five Harriers finished in the top 20, and another was 21st. James Oldfield was second overall, Paul Weir seventh and Ian Blakemore eighth. First lady Harrier was Tracey Henderson who was just

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Sports update continued

outside the top 100 in a record field for the event.

Sedgefield Harriers also hosted their first event of 2015 in January, the annual winter handicap race for the Gerry Kearsley Trophy. This year, conditions were very seasonal, with heavy snow falling during the race, but that did not deter competitors and the event attracted almost 120 entries, around 50 more than usual. Run over a mainly cross country course between Fishburn and Bishop Middleham, runners are given a starting handicap off 60 minutes, based on their fastest 10k time in the previous 12 months. Thus, the majority of runners finish around the same time on the day and it is hard to predict a winner. First home this year was David Musgrove of Run Peterlee; with a handicap of six minutes, his time on the day was 45:52. The first Harrier across the line was Deborah Pennick and the first male Harrier to finish was talented junior Ryan Watson. Sedgefield Harrier James Oldfield recorded



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the fastest time of the day at 35:46, with junior club-mate Kieran Walker not far behind in 37:39. The event trophies were donated and presented by Peggy Kearsley and Eamonn Murtagh respectively and the club is very grateful for their ongoing support for the event.

Thanks also go to Fishburn Club, which was the event's base on the day. The winter handicap was a free to enter event and managed by a committed (and often shivering!) team of volunteers. Teas, coffees and assorted treats were served

in the club after the race. Runners made voluntary donations totalling £183, which will be presented to Harriers' chosen charity for the year, Marie Curie Nursing Care.

Photos; above right, Ryan Watson, first male harrier home in the Gerry Kearsley Trophy. He received his trophy from Peggy Kearsley

For the love of running! Harriers, David Walker (foreground) and Rob Morrison endure those wintry conditions

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



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# Your Letters

#### Regarding having Station Road field registered as a village green

There has been a good response to this effort to have this green space registered. I would feel more confident about the success of this if we had more people willing to submit evidence. There is still time to fill in a questionnaire which will provide the basis of evidence required to have this playing field protected from development.

A lot of people have found the questionnaire unwieldy and to simplify this I have drafted a letter which cites the length of time it has been used as a public amenity "as of right" for more than twenty years and that it has been used by the local community. The letter only requires you to fill your name and address and to be signed. If there is anything in the letter that you do not agree with then you can strike it out or add extra information if required. The other requirement is that everyone that makes a submission should sign the map I have identifying the field.

If anyone has any photographs or video of people using this field for sport or leisure activities that would greatly help this submission. I would be most grateful if I could borrow these which I will return once copied.

Please note that having the field registered as a village green does not affect ownership of the land. Registration just gives protection from development and ensures its status as a public amenity into the future.

Please contact me if you are willing to complete a letter or a questionnaire. I will send you some. The responses are individual so there can be many letters from the same address. 0191 3839397 or email holmesway@hotmail.com

N Holmes & Rachel Myers

#### Cars parked illegally outside the Co-Op

I feel compelled to write a letter regarding a particularly dangerous situation with regards to car parking outside the Co-Op in Sedgefield. On many occasions I can walk along Front Street , especially on an evening and notice many cars parked illegally on the white zig-zag lines adjacent to the zebra crossing. This mindless action of essentially ignorant drivers should be stopped. It is potentially putting the lives of people at risk due to the zebra crossing being obscured by the illegal parking. Tonight there were two cars illegally parked, one of which was actually parked blocking the entrance to the Co-Op car park! I am sure that if our local police are aware of this situation then something could be done about it and people would soon realise that a parking ticket is much less preferable compared to a short walk from the perfectly acceptable Co-Op car park. Surely I am not the only person who has observed such dangerous parking on a regular basis? Let's continue to keep our village as safe as possible. We can start with easy fixes such as this. A copy of this letter has also been passed to the local Police Station. Neil Coates

#### **Beauty and The Beast**

Thank you to Sedgefield Players for giving such delight to those of us fortunate enough to see this sell-out production. It was an imaginatively scripted version of the traditional story by Dad, Dave and son, Tim Jasper. Plaudits were well-earned by the Principal Boy and songstress Ciaran Jasper who, with Lady Atkinson, made a well cast and lovely duo. Awesome Beast, newcomer Alan Holcroft was the part supreme with Thomas Guest's choreography of a similarly high standard, and surely the young angel-attired performers were beautiful to behold. I tried honestly to be critical but unsuccessfully, of this most enjoyable production – Bravo our fine Players. We are so proud and grateful to you all. *Eamonn Murtagh* 

#### Continued from front page

In April, Enter CIC will perform Jesus Christ Superstar in Durham Cathedral, It will be an epic performance, not to be missed. Details will be available soon, both in Sedgefield News and around the village.

If any young people are interested to learn more about Enter CIC, they can call 01740655437 or visit www.entercic.org. Enter also welcomes the young at heart volunteer. I am a member at just 77! Colin Hewaill

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### ... and finally

Efforts to find a new team to edit Sedgefield News are gradually bearing fruit. This month an Events Editor has joined the Sports Editor, relieving the current crew of quite a large area of work. Quite soon we expect a couple of features editors to be ready to start work on general news items, leaving the advertising in my hands for a little while longer. Sandy Clubley

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