

# Sedgefield News

Insert  
logo

By the Villagers for the Villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Morden  
July 2003

## The Village Bus - Service 567

Have you tried the new bus service from Sedgefield to Billingham via Hardwick Park, Bradbury & Morden, Great Stainton & Bishopton, Stillington & Carlton and Castle Eden walkway? I have, and I think it's marvellous! It runs 2 hourly from Sedgefield from 7.56am until 17.56, linking up villages which for years have been isolated, except by car.

You could catch the 567 at Sedgefield at 4 minutes to noon, alight at the King's Arms in Great Stainton, have lunch and a couple of pints and catch the 1.27pm back to Sedgefield, or stretch it out and catch the 3.27pm - no more worries about drinking and driving!

The service only runs Monday to Friday, but it's great for us pensioners as we can use our passes and get half fare. It only cost me **£1.30 return** to Billingham.



On my trip I met 2 drivers - Thomas Smith on the outward journey and Marty Bunning on return. Both seemed to have the right attitude - they were looking out for potential passengers. As we drove through Bradbury, Nan Bradley was spotted standing on her doorstep so Thomas stopped and asked her if she wanted the bus. Unfortunately she was only going next door!

But with that type of service custom should soon build up, because people really appreciate the personal touch. That's how we at Wilkies got our reputation in the fifties & sixties.

Now it's our turn to justify the service that has been set up for our benefit, *so let's use it!*

Why not leave the car behind and try the bus? Happy Busing!

**David Hillerby.**

## Farmers Market



Following the success of the first Farmers' Market in front of the Hope Inn on Mediaeval Fayre Day, the Town Council in conjunction with the Farmers Market Committee, has decided to hold further markets every month. It was agreed that the best time would be Saturday mornings, but many of the stall holders are already committed to other venues for the next few months. So the next couple of markets will be held on different days, the first being **Thursday July 10<sup>th</sup>** during the afternoon, again outside the Hope Inn, and the second as part of **Sedgefield Show on August 9<sup>th</sup>**. From September it is hoped that the Market will become a monthly event. Details will be given at a later date. Bob Harris is coordinating the Markets on behalf of the Town Council and he asks that no-one leaves their car on the Hope Inn Frontage overnight before the Market. "We haven't got facilities to tow vehicles away but they do get in the way of the stalls" he said. "If the market's going with a swing they could even end up being sold!"  
*To take part, or for details of stalls or other Farmers Market information contact the Town Council Offices.*

## ***Recent changes in Sedgefield***

**Village Optometrist.** For 18 years Mrs Dorothy Gaskarth gave a very satisfactory service to the people of Sedgefield, and her ex-patients wish her a very happy retirement! We would now like to welcome Elizabeth Maw into the practice in place of Mrs Gaskarth. Elizabeth was born and spent her formative years in Belfast. Graduating from Aston University, she moved to the North East and worked in Durham, Darlington, Middlesbrough, Hartlepool & Stokesley. When she saw Dorothy Gaskarth's advert she decided to go into practice for herself. So here she is! May she enjoy her time here as much as Dorothy did.

**Fire Station Commander.** Just two months ago that we introduced you to Paul Mathews, our new Fire Station Commander, but as we went to press Paul was promoted (congratulations!) and moved on. In his place we have, would you believe it, another Mathews - Peter by name. More about him in the next issue. (NHW)

## **Hardwick Park - a progress report**

The exhibition in the Library produced some interest from the people who viewed it. Some concern was expressed at the loss of wild areas and fen carr, but most comments were favourable. The great crested newt survey continues, with 5 found so far; one individual having already been captured and released several times! The finger ponds behind the dam are to be restored by the autumn so that the newts will not be disturbed when work on the dam and bottle pond starts in autumn.

Ramside Estates may submit a planning application to convert the stable block into a leisure centre. The Hotel is also contemplating additional bedrooms possibly in the form of a low level building on the existing car park. Planning consent has been given for the stone-built sign at the entrance from the A177 to be replaced by two large signs set back on the 'footprint' of the old lodge building.

Students from Durham University are to carry out a geophysical survey in the East Park to supplement the work of the Time Team. They hope to discover the full extent of the Roman settlement.

We would be interested to know readers' views on the removal of the bridge in the middle of the Serpentine near the exit from the Boardwalk.

**Comments to the editor please!**

## ADSL (BROADBAND) - Don't get left behind!

The internet and email have become a norm in the lives of the younger generation and many businesses would be lost without it. Since the inception of the World Wide Web, we have toiled along with dial-up access, but the technology moves quickly. Unfortunately, as we live in a rural environment, the financial argument for BT to update our exchange has to be made by us. Forget about ntl installing cable modems in the area. I work for ntl and in the industry's current economic circumstances, there is no chance of this happening in the near future.

Although the prospect of the NetPark has been mooted as a good impetus for local roll-out of ADSL, in practice it will probably have no effect for the domestic user. Microwave links are fairly common for business, but are really only a cheaper substitute for digging in cables or fibre. They are also restricted as far as bandwidth is concerned and would not be a viable option for a village the size of Sedgefield, so we are left with 3 options if we want to increase our bandwidth and have faster connection to the internet.

**Satellite** – very expensive to install and very expensive monthly payments

**ISDN** – this is more expensive than broadband and delivers less

bandwidth.

**ADSL – a possibility if you want it.** In my opinion, the only viable method for 'the great unwashed' is to register their support for broadband. BT says they need 400 people to express a *genuine* interest and they will install ADSL in Sedgefield. We are now at 54% of that value. With a concerted push we could have the bandwidth most of us desire. If attention is drawn to how we can do this now, rather than how we may be able to do it in the future it will happen all the sooner. So how do we achieve this? Very simply. All you have to do is register your interest with BT or your ISP. For instance, with AOL or Freeserve, just log on to the home page, and follow the links until you get the option to register for 'broadband', but regardless of who your ISP is, the best option is to go to the BT Broadband web site and express an interest:

[www.bt.com/broadband\\_information/index.html](http://www.bt.com/broadband_information/index.html). At the end of the day, BT is a business and wants a return on its investment. Places like Sedgefield are low on its priority list due to population density and revenue generating ability. Look how long it took the exchange to become digital. The onus rests on individual subscribers - we can stay in the dark or choose to move forward.

**Paddy Duffy**



### Diamond Couples

Our congratulations to John & Rachel Hill who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2003. Married in St Edmund's Church 60 years ago, John met Rachel Stubbs when he was in the Army, stationed at the camp in Sedgefield during WWII. Rachel was a nurse at Winterton Hospital, where she continued to work until her retirement. When John was demobbed, he worked as a driver with H. Merrington & Sons, Hauliers, before finally getting a job as a painter for the (then) District Council, where he worked until he retired.

They have a son, Geoff and a daughter Joyce, 5 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. May they have a long and continuous life together!

Another Diamond Wedding celebrated in Sedgefield, on 5<sup>th</sup> June, was that of Cyril & Gwen Bailes. They had a quiet celebration with sons Alan & Geoff and their families. As usual Cyril didn't want a fuss, so no photo! Well done to you all! (NHW)

# Community Safety *with contributions from Neighbourhood Watch, Sedgefield Police, Road Safety Group & the Primary Care Trust*



## Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch & Crime Watch Panel

The secretary welcomed the attendance of Councillors E. Robinson & L. Goddard. The Town Council has awarded a £45 grant towards charges of £90.00 for use of rooms this year.

PC Keith Todd circulated copies of Reported Crime in Sedgefield Village for the previous two months and highlighted damage to the Doctors' Surgery window, and to a car bonnet as a result of fighting (following visit to Hardwick Hall), attempted theft

of a vehicle (damage caused, ran off when disturbed), theft from a lost wallet, theft of golf clubs whilst unattended when loading car, theft during fight (women) on trading estate. There were no residential burglaries this period. 15 crimes were recorded (9/4- 9/6) *Burglary 1, Property Damage 5, Theft 7, Vehicle related 2*. Questions from members related to CCTV use, recent Travellers, (latter to be followed up by PC Todd and feedback provided).

Recently appointed **Sergeant, Simon Trotter** was introduced and gave an interesting summary of his career, stating how pleased he was to be at Sedgefield. Simon gave a commitment to be visible and active with the Panel and residents of Sedgefield, and to build on the achievements made by his predecessor.

CPO Neal Langthorne described some IT aspects of his work with SPARC : [www.comunigate.co.uk/ne/sparc](http://www.comunigate.co.uk/ne/sparc) for detailed information. He offered to give a brief visual presentation in the future.



**Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, Sarah Norman** spoke of concerns about Garage, Shed and Allotment Security & gave practical advice on preventing crime, encouraging the use of simple alarms and security devices that can be purchased from our own Panel (contacts Ken Saiger 620056 and Sarah (01325 742755).

### Security/Local Services Exhibition 19th July Parish Hall:

Ken Saiger stated it has been difficult to attract security firms; despite this he has resisted cancelling. Displays or representatives from Carelink, Crime Prevention, NHW, Community Force & Police all confirmed. Also 1<sup>st</sup> Responders, Age Concern & the Fire Brigade, with a Fire Tender on display. David recorded that some of the mate-

rial used during NHW week was to be used at the Exhibition

**Sedgefield Show:** Chairman asked all present to help and obtain prizes for tombola stall. We still do not have any adequate form of tent/shelter for use at the show. Sarah trying to resolve.

**Drugs Issue:** Concern reported from local residents at evidence of drugs abuse and serious littering at the cemetery and The Lane near Butterwick Lane. PC Todd said it is one of his areas of concern, though he has recently arrested a cannabis user there and was surprised that local residents were not aware of his actions.

**Communications between Residents & Police:** Sgt Trotter emphasised that members of the public should ring the Police and tell them of their concerns. Only through direct contact can action

be taken and issues resolved.

The issue of reluctance was discussed, without any real step forward. Tel. **620272**

**Community Force: (Tel. 01388 721351)** A member and her husband formally recorded their gratitude to the Force, who recently responded within 12 minutes to a call for help dealing with abusive nuisance from a group of youths. As a result there have been no more incidents.

A big thank you!

**Flask in the Fridge:** Ken Saiger & David Hillerby reported on Age Concern activity in this field & requested the Panel approve handing over remaining flasks to them so that they can run the scheme in Sedgefield. This was approved so the Panel will not now need direct input to the scheme. The **Raffle** raised £20.00

## PC Todd reports

Damage to the value of £1,000 was caused to a window of the Doctor's Surgery recently.

This mindless damage is not an isolated case.

The Surgery has suffered from minor damage in the past, but not on this scale! More recently, things have been improving in

the area, but as this incident proves, we can't afford to be complacent. Therefore I appeal to all parents of teenage children to tell them that I will be patrolling the area and action **will** be taken against offenders.

I also appeal to the motorbike rider who has been using The Meadows & Eden Drive as a race

track, to please - STOP IT RIGHT NOW! It's not big and it's certainly not clever, and I **will** catch you if you persist in your activities. **Also, the wearing of a crash helmet is required by law!**

I'm sure the local residents will keep an eye out on my behalf.

Thanks, **Keith**

(NHW)





## Road Safety Group

You may have noticed that recently, members of this group, along with Sedgefield Borough's Community Force have been surveying speeding vehicles in the village, sometimes with the police in attendance. We intend to carry on with this and are assured that the Police will continue to monitor and will prosecute when they find anyone speeding! Middleton-St-George residents found that their speeding problems were self inflicted: please slow down and make sure this isn't the case in Sedgefield!

A survey of cars taking children to the Community College and Hardwick School on one morning, using Cherry Tree Drive/Rowan Oval, was 131 vehicles in the 35 minutes between 8.25am & 9am.

We have not yet checked Elm Avenue or Chestnut Road but feel sure that some form of "Walking Bus" could be arranged to reduce the figures! We will try to establish this as the County Council is prepared to assist financially.

The panel also intends to carry out a survey into the use of the Zebra crossing in Front Street, as we feel that we should have a light controlled crossing with audible warnings to aid people with sight problems; at present there is no school crossing patrol here. Also there are other areas where an island could help people to cross.

We will be looking deeper into these initiatives, rest assured!

## Congratulations...

*to all who took part in the Sponsored Abseil on St Edmund's Church Tower.*

*This brave and spectacular effort raised a lot of money for Macmillan Cancer Relief, the Macmillan Nurses and the Friends of St Edmund's...*

*...& to Health Visitor **Jill Salkeld (right)**, who has been nominated for a national award by Sedgefield Primary Care Trust for her outstanding work with travellers. Chairman of the PCT, Alan Grey, said he is delighted that her work has been recognised in this way.*

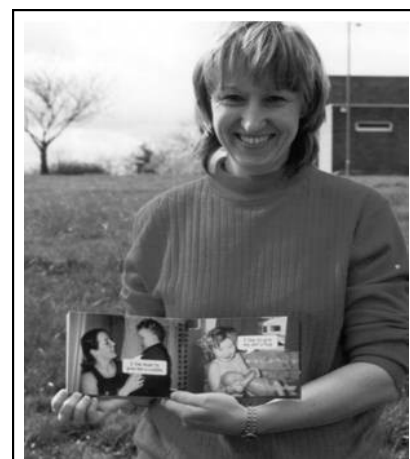
## Exercise scheme fights heart disease

Heart patients from the Sedgefield Borough are taking part in a new exercise scheme to help fight heart disease. The new Cardiac Rehabilitation Exercise Programme, which got underway on 28 January, is being offered to angina patients and those who have had Coronary Artery Bypass surgery.

It will run for six weeks on Tuesday and Thursday from 1-3pm in the Pioneering Care Centre in Newton Aycliffe. Developed by Sedgefield Primary Care Trust, the Pioneering Care Partnership and Sedgefield Borough Council, the programme involves exercise, relaxation and education & advice on heart disease and prevention (including diet, medicines and stress management). Coronary Heart Disease Prevention Nurse for Sedgefield PCT, Karen Reid said "Sedgefield Borough has higher than average levels of coronary heart disease with currently almost 5000 CHD patients. In the past patients from Sedgefield area had to go further for cardiac rehabilitation. This new programme will give local heart patients the chance to have a cardiac rehabilitation service in a community setting, more easily accessible to them. Exercise is very important to maintaining a healthy lifestyle so we hope patients enjoy the classes and are encouraged to take more regular, gentle exercise and adopt a healthy lifestyle."

There is also a programme running at Barnfield Centre, Spennymoor on Wed & Fri 9.30-11.30am.

**For more details, contact Sedgefield PCT - 0191 3013820**



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- ☺ Fully qualified staff

**For details contact**

**Billingham Forum**

01642 551381

**Splash!**

01642 393900

**Stockton Sports Centre**

01642 607994

**Thornaby Pavilion**

01642 760971

**Thornaby Pool**

01642 616727

**A service provided by Stockton Council**

**Prom another big success**

This year's Prom in the Park was a sell-out and was thoroughly enjoyed by over 500 people from Sedgefield and surrounding area. The weather was kind and the non-stop entertainment was excellent. A real Caribbean carnival atmosphere was provided for the opening by the young Steel Attitude, and the two compères, Peter Hinde & Ernie Gilchrest added humour to the programme. Tees Valley Youth Brass Band, Stuart Hardy and George Welsh, French singer Flossie, 50's group the Skip Rats, The Happy Cats and the



John

*Wrapped in the flag in proms tradition!*

Wrightson

Band all gave great performances. Vera Davison led the singing in traditional Last Night style, while Basil Watson lit up the skies with his terrific firework display. SCA were thrilled by the event's success and hope to make it a regular feature.

Cllr. Linda Maddison,

(pictured at auction!)

Mayor of Sedgefield, opened the event and in sporting fashion, allowed her cleaning skills to be auctioned for her charities! She thanks everyone who kept the bidding going, and especially the gentleman from Homebryth who made the final bid at £105. He may have to wait some time for



his prize, as the end of her evening was not without incident! We leave it to Linda to sum up. "Last but by no means least, can I say a personal thank you to the First Responders for their excellent work. Their professionalism was unquestionable as I know from



first hand (or foot!!) experience. Thanks to you all following my accident".

*Mark & Bob, from a 9 strong First Responders team, on*

## All Systems 'GO' For NETPARK - *Vision becomes Reality*

Leading figures from the partnership developing County Durham's new science & technology park, formally marked the start of construction by digging the first sod on the site set aside for the first building. Known as the NetPark Institute, it will be home to 2 high-tech spin-out projects from the University of Durham, when construction is completed early in 2004.

The University's Centre for Advanced Instrumentation and its Digital Enterprise Technology Project will share the 22,000 square foot purpose-built R&D facility, set on a two acre site at the heart of the development.

NetPark plays a key role in the recently published twenty-year vision for County Durham in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Councillor Ken Manton, Leader of Durham County Council and Chair of the County Durham Strategic Partnership said "Building a strong economy is a vital component of the Dynamic Durham we will be striving to bring about over the next two decades. NetPark will spearhead our efforts in that direction. The start of work to turn our vision for NetPark as a technology hub into real bricks and mortar is a major step forward for our economy, but as importantly it is one of the first steps towards achieving our Strategic Vision for County Durham. As well as Sedgefield, especially its young people, being able to enjoy the benefits which NetPark will ultimately create, we fully intend that it will also bring some very broad-ranging benefits to the whole of County Durham."

The University's Centre for Advanced Instrumentation will work with observatories around the world to improve the quality of astronomical observation and imaging, helping to construct and exploit novel instruments for optical and infrared astronomy. The Digital Enterprise Technology Centre harnesses the latest developments in computer modelling, graphics and information management to give industry important insights into product development, risk reduction and responsiveness to customers. Its innovative Agility programme has been running for over two years and helps manufacturing companies adapt quickly and profitably to rapidly changing market conditions.



*Councillor Ken Manton & Professor John Anstee, Pro-Vice Chancellor & Sir Kenneth Calman, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Durham*



*An architect's impression of the NetPark Institute*

## *A message from Sedgefield Community College*

The College is delighted to contribute to Sedgefield News & always happy to work in partnership with residents and businesses in Sedgefield - with 150 employees we are one of the largest employers here.

### **This month's topic – Litter**

We take our responsibilities to our village seriously and try our best to contribute. Sedgefield should be proud of our recent academic achievements, which now far exceed those of our nearest rival 'state schools'. We hope to do even better this year. There are 970 young people at the college and yes, they do drop litter. It is a modern problem. But it is interesting to see the village early on a morning, litter strewn from outlets not open during school hours. We try to educate, encourage and sometimes punish young people in an effort to make them more responsible. Litter is a joint responsibility; nobody wants it and there is no easy answer. We are trying to help young people grow up. Banning them from the village at lunchtime doesn't help to teach them

responsibility. It would also cut the profits of some of my business colleagues!

We shall continue our efforts, which include having a member of staff on duty in the village at lunchtimes. We look to local businesses to provide more bins and to only serve the students who have lunch passes (these have photos on them); to local politicians to work with us to put together a strategy; to local people to 'lobby' those who have influence, ask for more litter collection and perhaps a warden to impose fines. It would be nice to work in a positive atmosphere and be recognised for our excellence. Recently we won the Cleanest Secondary School in Sedgefield Borough Award and are proud of this. The attitude of some people upsets me. Rather than 'well done' I get 'look at all this litter'. Students don't throw down their litter as a personal act towards residents. We need to have respect for all parties and work together to challenge this part of 21<sup>st</sup> century culture. I am open to sensible, helpful suggestions. *Lynne Ackland, headteacher.*



## Lifelong Learning: 2 examples to highlight what it's all about!

Every Wednesday night since the beginning of January come rain or shine, a group of hearty souls have made their way to the Advice and Information Centre to learn computer skills. All ages and from all walks of life, they get together in a fun atmosphere, supported by Maureen from East Durham & Houghall College, who is responsible for their progress. I'm sure the brain power generated could provide the village with electricity for at least a year! I would like to say thank you and well done to them all.



The other story is about 'FREE ZONE', a new group that started in May. I have linked up with Sedgefield Community College to provide an out of hours facility to give young people access to support and computers. At present the trial of this scheme is carried out in Trimdon Grange Community Centre where there is already access to computers and the internet.

It supports young people needing help with study skills, homework, exams and computers, to help them to achieve their full potential. So far it has been a great success with students and feedback has been very positive. This has all been possible because Sedgefield Community College took the initiative to do something in an innovative way. I feel sure that as soon as other facilities are available they will expand the scheme. Well done to them and the students.

To finish off, I'll just remind you that learning is not just for the young. It's for everyone and there are people who are only too willing to help you learn. Just let me know what you want to do and I'll try to help. Have Fun! **Bob Harris: 629011**

**Mordon News** After being without a bus for many years, we can now use **service 567**! Older residents are eligible for a Bus Pass which can be used on this service, but you must apply in person at the Borough Council Offices in Spennymoor. Councillor John Robinson has restarted surgeries in the Village Hall at **6pm on 1st Tuesday each month**.

**Planning applications** have been submitted for modifications to The Bread & Beer House and Harpington Hill Farm, & new livestock buildings and an agricultural worker's house opposite Hope House Farm, on Bishopton Road, next to Boggle Beck Farm. Finally, the development at Mordon North is now almost complete. **John Parkinson**

### Sedgefield Out of School Fun Club requires a **PLAYWORKER**

to cover Maternity Leave. Childcare Qualifications not required, just a willingness to assist the play-leaders and maintain a fun environment!

Approximately 12 hours per week during term time and school holidays as required.

Wage depends upon qualifications and experience. Driver preferred but not essential

Please send C.V. and covering letter by 15th July to Miss B Banner  
Sedgefield out of School Fun Club  
Rectory Row,  
Sedgefield, TS21 2BJ

### New Facilities Up & Running!

Work on the new Gymnasium and ITC suite at Sedgefield Community College has finally been completed. This is a new facility which is open for students and the community. For further details contact the Community College on 621097.



## Library News

Sedgefield Village Library is currently the venue for a **Durham Miner Project Course**. If you are interested in Local Mining/ Social History why not come along on Thursday evenings between 5pm and 7pm or contact Linda Dobson on 191 383 4478 for further details. School Holidays are approaching, so watch for information on our **Summer Holiday "Dinosaur" Activities!**

## Calling young Toon Army fans

### 4 day summer football course at Sedgefield Community College

*During the last week of the summer holidays, from Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th August - 10am to 3pm, Newcastle United 'Football in the Community' scheme will be running a course open to boys and girls aged 4 to 14 years.*

Every player will receive a certificate and branded NUFC football at the end of the course and will have the chance to win medals and trophies. There's a chance to win 2 pairs of match tickets for a first team game and also to be picked as a ball boy or ball girl for a first team game. One lucky participant will win the draw for a framed replica shirt signed by Alan Shearer.

*The course costs £38 with £2 discount for Young Supporters and £5 discount for every additional immediate family member.*

***The courses are staffed by qualified coaches who aim to create a fun atmosphere. NUFC wish to assure parents that all coaches have been through Criminal Record Bureau checks.***

There are also sessions on Fridays in term time at the Community College from 4.30-5.30pm and 5.30-6.30pm, open to boys and girls of all abilities between 7 & 14. To book a place on either course, contact Julie Oxley on 0191 263 6585 or E-mail [Julie.Oxley@nufc.co.uk](mailto:Julie.Oxley@nufc.co.uk)

***Newcastle United Football in the Community look forward to seeing you on one of their courses.***

## South Durham ABC

We reported last month on the success of local boxers in the Bolton Cup and I just had to go to the club to meet some of the people and see how they operate. Tracy Saunders was the first person I met. She told me about the club and what it has achieved. Some record! 5 of the club's boxers had been matched against other boxers from Europe in the Bolton cup, and all of them managed to get into the finals of their weights. Both Karl Thompson and Jeff Saunders won Gold and Robbie Wilkinson, Paul Warnett and Brian Robinson took Silver. I was already impressed but there was more!

I met a young man called Bradley Saunders who had just been selected to represent and train with the England Squad in the upcoming 4 nations Competition. Bradley, a Sedgefield lad coached by dad Jeff, has captained England and has been Schoolboy Champion for the last 6 years. In his last fight he came up against Marcus Poston for the title of Best in Britain. The ref stopped the fight in the second round with a standing count and Bradley emerged as the victor. The reputation of the club is such that they have been invited to various competitions including in Denmark.

Soon they will fight in Huddersfield as star attraction at the launch of new facilities.

So if you fancy yourself as the next Lennox Lewis (or Bradley Saunders) you'll be welcome at the club.

Good luck lads! Represent your club and the village well.

**Bob Harris**



## Music for Youth?

I play in a Fishburn band called CODA and also teach drums & percussion to some local youngsters. Many of my students play in bands and one problem facing us all is that there are too few local venues to perform in.

During the last German exchange visit a number of bands played at an event in Ceddesheld Hall grounds. I believe the council provided the stage and sound system.

I would really like to organise a similar event for local bands, to give younger musicians a chance to perform in front of their friends as well as to play using a professional stage and sound system. I'm sure the event would draw - and keep - a large crowd.

It would be good to know what other people think and if there is any possibility of backing from councils and community groups.

***You can contact me on 621539 Richard Patterson.***

## Historic year for Sedgefield Show

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August the 150<sup>th</sup> Sedgefield Show will take place in the Robert Brown Showfield, West Park, Sedgefield. Organisers (Sedgefield District Agricultural and Horticultural Society) are hoping that fine weather and the relaxation of the Foot and Mouth regulations, which caused restrictions last year and cancellation in 2001, will encourage a large turnout for this special occasion.

A full range of equestrian events will be included, plus sheep and cattle classes, small livestock (rabbits, pigeons, poultry, covies), horticultural classes and a homecraft selection which includes children's classes. There will be a dog breed show, a dog agility competition and a craft tent and trade stands.

The Grand Parade and prize giving takes place at approximately 3.15pm and the prizes will be presented by the Society's President, Mrs. P.M. Haggie. Mrs. Haggie is maintaining a long-standing family connection with the show, being the daughter of Capt. E. Ramsden M.C., president for many years up to 1982.

To further mark the historic aspect of the Show, the Committee are hoping to hold a display of vintage tractors and cars, and the ladies Committee an exhibition of archival material (photographs, press cuttings etc).

Anyone wishing to take part in these displays or provide archive material please contact the secretary on 01740 620431.

## Sedgefield in Bloom

### Hidden Garden Competition

We'll be running our annual competition for the best hidden back garden again this year, so if you would like to enter your garden, please pass details, name, address, telephone number, plus a photo if available to Sedgefield in Bloom, C/o Town Council Offices, Advice & Information centre, Front Street, by the end of July.

### Garden Open Day

Once again Sedgefield residents will be opening a number of their private gardens to the public on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July**. We are listed within the National Gardens Scheme 'Yellow Book' and aim to raise funds for the Macmillan Nurses, as well as for 'Sedgefield in Bloom'. Admission charge is £2.50 which entitles you to visit all the open gardens.

Just pay for your map listing all the private gardens you can visit, from members of the Bloom Committee who will be on the Church Circle from 1pm that afternoon, and then wander round

the village at your leisure visiting as many as you wish.

Cream Teas and plants will be on sale at 30 The Lane. Because of demand in previous years, we recommend that you start out early, because it takes a couple of hours to see all the gardens – and our delicious creams teas sell fast! (Volunteers to help out would be very welcome!) Last year we made over £1,000 and had a great day so let's hope it's even better this year!

**If you would like to open your garden, no matter how small, and meet lots of other interested gardeners, please let us know.**

### Cream Tea

Bloom members Sue Hannan and Peter Turner, will be holding their annual 'Cream Tea' in the garden at Holly House, 30 The Lane, on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August** in aid of **The Alzheimer's Disease Society**. This will include sales of cakes, plants, bric-a-brac, plus Tombola, Raffle etc.

Coincidentally, the Alzheimer's

## 101

### Gig List for July - (8pm start)

1st - Elgins, Redcar  
2nd, 9th, 12th, 20th & 30th - Princess Alice, Middlesbrough  
**13th - Golden Lion, Sedgefield**  
18th - The Normanby  
**19th - Bird in Hand, Trimdon**  
25th - Dr. Browns, M'bro  
26th - Ye Olde Horseshoe, Crook  
**27th - Hardwick Arms, Sedgefield**

## Ceddesfeld Hall Beer Festival

**Sample Cider and 12 Real Ales  
in a truly great atmosphere!**

**Friday July 4th: 8pm - 11pm**  
Bar-B-Q and music from the  
**Corner Boys**

**Saturday July 5th: 3pm - 11pm**  
Bar-B-Q from 5pm  
Music in the Evening from the  
**Norman Brown Jazz Trio**

**Sunday July 6th: 12noon - 3pm**  
(Beer Supply Permitting!)

Disease Society is the Mayor's Charity this year, so this year's Mayor, Councillor Linda Maddison will be keener than ever to make it a success! The Plant Stall will be in aid of Sedgefield in Bloom.

### Northumbria in Bloom Summer Judging

This year's summer judging is at 9.30am on **Wednesday 23rd July** so please make sure that your area looks its best!

We still have lots of work to do in the village itself, so if you can help us in any way, either on the committee, or helping with our clean up sessions (the next one is Sat 12<sup>th</sup> July 10-12am) please get in touch.

Perhaps you would consider opening your garden on 20<sup>th</sup> July – just contact Ian & Sheila on 622532, or Sue & Peter on 629549.

# July DIARY

Promote **your** events -  
Announcements are **free** to non-commercial organisations

## Sedgefield Garden Society

Tues. July 1st at 7.30pm

**'Shrubs' with Mr Dinning**

Information from

Christine Wass - 621504

*All welcome*

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 7.30pm

**Autumn and Winter Colour**

**by Dianne Nichol-Brown**

at Ceddesfeld Hall

NB The Garden Society will not meet in August

## Sedgefield WI

Wednesday July 2nd at 7:15pm

Sedgefield Parish Hall

**Richard Wood on the work of Durham Wildlife Trust**

Visitors always welcome

(£1 entrance includes a cuppa!)

## Darts & Domino League

*a reminder!*

**The OAP trip to Redcar**

leaves from the Parish Hall

at **12.15pm on July 2nd**

Names to the Post Office please

## Local History Society

Monday July 7th at 7.45pm in

Ceddesfeld Hall

**George Flynn will talk about "Castles"**

Information from

Helen Clifford-Brown on 621686

**Guests & new members welcome**

## Sedgefield Lyric Singers

supported by

**Darlington Clarinet Ensemble**

present

**"MELODIES FOR YOU"**

in Sedgefield Parish Hall

at 7.30pm

**Fri 11<sup>th</sup> & Sat 12<sup>th</sup> July**

Tickets £4 Concessions £3

from "Selections"

or Audrey Lofthouse 620625

## WI Market

**in Sedgefield Parish Hall**

**Friday mornings 9.30-11am**

**during school term**

Cakes, pastries, preserves,  
EE Eggs, crafts, handmade  
cards, plants & garden produce.

**Meet friends for tea or coffee**

**We would love to see you!**

## Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club

**Members' Night**

in the Parish Hall

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 7-30pm

## Sedgefield Twinning Association

**Annual Barbecue**

in Ceddesfeld Hall grounds

**Saturday July 19th from 5.30pm**

Tickets £6,

and further information from  
Keith or Nancy Wells, 620467 or  
any member of the Committee

## Advance Notice

To raise money for the October  
visit of German choirs and bands,  
we are holding a

**Safari Supper** on

Saturday September 13th.

There is a limit of 16 guests  
at a cost of £15 per head.

If you are interested in this  
culinary experience, please ring  
Joyce Jordan (620783) for further  
information.

## Positive Youth Project

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July, 10am – 2pm

**Family Fun Day in the grounds  
of Hardwick Hall Hotel**

Children's Fairground Rides  
Entertainers, stalls and BBQ  
Community Rangers presentations  
will be made during the event

**Everyone welcome**

Details from John or Maxine

Robinson 620042

## Sedgefield Cricket Club Fixture List

**Home matches in July**

**'A' Division**

Sat 12th - S' field v Brandon

Sat 19th - v Ushaw Moor

**'B' Division**

Sat 5th v Evenwood

Sun 13th v Shildon

Sat 26th v Willington

**3<sup>rd</sup> Team**

Sun 6th - S' field v Lanchester

## Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood Watch

**Security & Wellbeing**

**Exhibition**

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 10am-4.30pm

in the Parish Hall

**Displays & demonstrations**

of Security devices,

Carelink system, etc.

Members of NHW,

Crime Prevention, Local Police,

Fire Brigade, First Responders,

Community Force &

Age Concern will be there.

Tea & Coffee on sale

Come & see the Fire Engine

**Free Balloons!**

## NHW Urgent Request for Tombola Prizes

for our stall at Sedgefield Show

If you can offer something, ring

**Ken 621896 or**

**David 621343 ASAP!**

**We can collect.**

## Sedgefield Racecourse Fixtures in July

**Tuesday 22nd**

1st Race 2pm

Last Race 4.30pm

**Monday 29th**

1st Race 2.30pm

Last Race 5pm

Entry to Course **£6**

Entry to Grandstand

& Paddock Enclosure **£12**

Children under 16 **Free**



### Sedgefield Cemetery

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May we took flowers to the cemetery and were dismayed at the overall state of the place. The grass needed cutting, and the whole ambience was one of neglect. I am told the grass is cut 13 - 18 times a season but we may 'miss our turn' due to inclement weather. I was assured that the grass was cut in the cemetery 'for Mediaeval Fayre Day' although the relevance of this escapes me. Perhaps it is in case visitors stray down there, but the grass would seem to have grown about a foot in the intervening few days.

However the care of the Cemetery should not rest simply with 'the grass being cut'. Surely it means tending and caring for the place, making it so that that one can visit for moments of quiet reflection; sadly it does not lend itself to that.

I have lived in Sedgefield almost 70 years, as have all my forebears and I know they would be appalled to see the sorry state of a place that used to be well cared for. The grass may be cut, but no care is taken to safeguard flower containers which are regularly damaged, as they are never removed during grass cutting. Also the number plaques in the graves are trampled into the ground by the machine.

The last caretaker, who lived in the grounds, did an admirable job and was always courteous and friendly when we visited. I understand that the 'powers that be' i.e. the people who dole out our money – insisted it was not a full time job and sadly we lost him. I for one consider that to reach the standard that we would find acceptable, it needs more than a few minutes racing round like the dodgems every now and again, depending on the weather.

**Joan C. Wilson**

### Travellers, Teenagers? Disagreement over what is the real issue!

Dear Editor

I read the letter about travellers and the problems they can cause with interest but I think that some groups of local people cause more trouble throughout the year.

The village's biggest problem is the children who hang around the village centre and down Old Beacon Lane on Friday and Saturday nights, getting drunk, having underage sex or doing drugs. Gangs of youths can be very intimidating for people, especially down at the duck pond area. The old people must be terrified all week by the thought of these all night parties every weekend.

The Age Refusal books at Bells and the Co-op show that some of these children are as young as thirteen. They cause noise and disrupt other people's lives and the damage they sometimes cause is obvious for anyone to see on a Monday morning especially at the Doctors' Surgery, which is another popular place.

Gangs of teenagers go on the rampage every weekend completely taking over the village, making it intimidating and frightening to get about on foot in the village during weekend nights. Shouldn't more Police and Council time and money be spent on the problems caused by these teenagers and less on the travellers who visit our village four or five times a year?

Perhaps people turn a blind eye to this problem because at the end of the day they're local. For example dog fouling in Old Beacon Lane was mentioned with regard to the travellers, but Sedgefield people frequently walk their dogs down there and if they hold their hands up and are honest, not all clean up after their pets.

**Name & address supplied**

Dear Editor

Thank you for an informative easy to read magazine. I read last month's letter about travellers and I think some of the comments border on the racist. In my opinion the leaflets sent out before the first meeting at the Parish Hall were also a disgrace. A number of people complained at the meeting but no one could be heard above the shouting. I for one like to walk in the old cemetery and have never felt unsafe walking past travellers. I always chat to them and they chat back. If you treat people how you would like to be treated you have no problem.

I also live in a beautiful part of the village, near the duck pond, and we have a lot of problems with litter, dog fouling and young people drinking at night but the council and people round here clean it up so it looks nice.

**Mrs. D Jones**

### Just to say thank you!

This year's Christian Aid week house to house collection raised £3,191.29, almost £1,000 more than last year. Thanks to all who contributed. Your donations will help improve the lives of poor people around the world. Thanks also to our team of dedicated collectors who gave their time and effort to this worthwhile cause.

**David and Margaret Glass**

### From the Editor

**For inclusion in the August issue, send your copy before July 15th**  
**snews.sdp@sedgefield.net**  
 or to **Sedgefield News**

Advice and Information Centre,  
 Front St., Sedgefield, TS21 3AS  
 telephone **629011**

### Please Note:

**We wish to make it clear that the strong views expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the publisher.**