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Sedgefield NEWS

July 2011

Honouring Crimean War heroes

Sedgefield Village Veterans propose to have a plaque made, engraved with the names and Regimental details of the 4 Crimean War soldiers (1854-57) with Sedgefield connections. They are: Bugler John Nichol (survivor), 4th Dragoon Guards and Sgt Frederick Hardwick Bolton (died of wounds 25th October 1854) of the 6th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards who both fought at Balaclava in the Charge of the HEAVY Brigade: also, Sgt Thomas Denton 21st North British Fusiliers (now the Royal Highland Fusiliers) who distinguished himself at the siege of Sebastopol and Lt Col. Clement Wm Strong, Coldstream Guards, son of the incumbent Rector of Sedgefield, Rev. Strong, who fought at the battles of The Alma, Sebastopol, Balaclava and Inkerman. He later lost his toes from frost bite, due to living in the trenches (this was the beginning of trench warfare) and was then sent home to recuperate.

We feel that these men should be remembered as part of Sedgefield's heritage, so would ask fellow citizens for their thoughts. We propose to have the plaque sited on the village green, close to the War Memorial.

Your thoughts please, to Tim Spearey, Chair, on 623654 or David Hillerby, Secretary, 621343.

Photos: shaking hands on the deal that will bring Red House School to Wynyard Park are from left, Chair of Governors, Vinay Bedi, Headmaster, Alex Taylor and Sir John Hall. Full story, page 2

Below: thanks to Sedgefield's Ian Dunn for this wonderful shot of riders on the fearful cobbled streets of Durham in The Halfords Series of cycle races.



6th Sedgefield Folk Festival: 2nd - 4th September

Tickets are on sale now from the Council Offices and the Festival Office (48 Station Road, 621347). The wonderful line up includes the London Philharmonic Skiffle Orchestra, Billy Mitchell Band with Peter Tickell, Flossie, the Young 'Uns, John Wrightson Band, Anna Shannon, Cornshed Sisters, Tom Kitching and Gren Bartley...

After last year's success, we have a free story telling session for children in Sedgefield Library with nationally renowned professional storyteller, Tony Wilson; the ever popular World Spoons Championship and this year we're incorporating the Durham Traditional Songwriting Competition in the festival.

As well as the usual workshops, singarounds and dance groups, this year we welcome to the festival a children's Maori dance group. They will perform on the village green.

For full details of the programme go to www.sedgefieldfolkfestival.co.uk
Joan Edmundson

Please remember that mail for Sedgefield News should be sent to 55 White House Drive Sedgefield, TS21 3BU

We have been lucky this month that wrongly addressed letters were passed on to us from our old office at 58 Front Street, but if they continue be posted there it will only result in disappointment for contributors.

Our apologies for unfortunate gaps on the Diary page in last month.

Red House School to move to Wynyard

The Governors of Red House School, Norton, have announced their planned re-location of the existing award-winning co-educational independent school to a purpose built 22-acre site at Wynyard in 2013.

Since its foundation in 1929, Red House School has become synonymous with teaching and sporting excellence with a formidable academic record, backed up by its present No.1 in Great Britain position in the Sunday Times Parent Power league tables. In order to facilitate demand for places by parents and accommodate an increasing school roll, the School expects to move to its new site at Wynyard Estate by September 2013.

Following an agreement to purchase the new site with land owners Cameron Hall Developments Ltd., Red House plans to move forward with the development of a brand new school with state of the art teaching and sports facilities. However, its relocation and increase in size will not change its overall ethos of providing a caring, safe and warm teaching environment with an emphasis on small class sizes, discipline and academic excellence.

Having outgrown its existing site at Norton Green, the relocation of the school at the heart of the growing Wynyard residential development will provide an academic facility that is beyond parallel in the Teesside region. Expansion will also result in new teaching and non-teaching positions, generating new employment opportunities locally.

This new £18m school on this highly accessible site will create a flagship academic establishment with purpose built facilities, including the addition of a sixth form college, allowing pupils the opportunity to take advantage of a first class education from the age of 2 to 19.

Alex Taylor, Headmaster, said "It has been my long held belief that Red House School should provide a complete and rounded education for our pupils from nursery through to, and including, sixth form. These facilities will enable us to do that and I am particularly excited that we will now be able to offer a top class sixth form in order to continue the School's already excellent academic record."

Notes from Sedgefield in Bloom

Young visitors to Ceddesfeld gardens have enjoyed **Woodland Bingo**, searching the grounds for leaves from 12 tree species. Proceeds from this and Cream Teas go to fund additional planting in the village.

Volunteers continue working alongside Town Council gardeners and, on Wednesday morning sessions, have increased planting along the church wall, improved flower beds around Crispin Court and helped restore the large shrubbery at Beacon Lane. Jubilee Gardens on The Lane have been landscaped by Sedgefield Borough Homes, who kindly offered a donation to buy additional plants and the Rotary Wheel has been renovated, ready to be planted up and placed at the entrance to Winterton Park.

Students at the Community College are restoring a vintage plough to join the seed drill which made such an impression last year. Other farming equipment, generously donated by local people, will also be planted up.

Sedgefield in Bloom's cookery book will soon be ready and children who wish to take part in the sunflower competition to be judged in August can get seeds from the council offices.

Northumbria in Bloom judging is on Fri. 15th July.

On Sunday 17th, Sedgefield takes part again in the **National Garden Scheme open day**, when you can enjoy a wide variety of gardens, in aid of national charities (*see page 11 for details*).

If you would like to join the Bloom team, contact the council offices on 621273 or come on any Wednesday at 10am with trowel in hand!

Below: Pupils from both primary schools joined Beavers, Brownies & members of St. Edmund's Junior Church to help gardeners Stephen Young & Roy Cairns plant up beautiful tubs on the green. Mayor Alan Blakemore was delighted with their efforts, which are sure to impress the Northumbria in Bloom judges when they visit on July 15th.





Snapshots of Sedgefield

This month's snapshot is a real test, as it was taken in 1915 at the rear of the Manor House. Anyone have any ideas? Please contact me on 620091 or email norma@neal.myzen.co.uk.

Some requests this month:

Jackie Spinks wonders if anyone has photos or information about Lamb's shop, which used to stand where Crispin Court is now.

Another reader, no longer living in Sedgefield, was born, like lots of people out there, at Hardwick Hall and wonders if anyone has photos of the Hall as a maternity Hospital. Sedgefield LHS has just one, showing staff outside the Hall in 1944, featured in an earlier 'Snapshot'. If anyone has bonny baby photos of themselves taken at Hardwick, it would be great to include them as part of an exhibition at some time, perhaps alongside school photographs, or even 'then and now' snaps.

Last month's tree-planting Snapshot

I'm very grateful to Enid Suthern (nee Greenwell), Kenny Moyle and Sandra Coyle, who, between them identified several of the people in the photo. The beaming gentleman on the left is Alfie Wilkinson, whose shop on the corner now occupied by Evolution preceded Jordison's, which many of us remember from the 1970s. The little girl in front of him is Barbara Watt and the boy front left is Bruce Waller. Behind the tree, the boy with glasses is Brian Ducker, who lived on Front Street, next to him David Sirrell. Front right is David Threlfall, behind his head is Rita Auton and next to her John Marshall. The girl on the right, half in shadow is Wendy Tinkler. The little girl with the ribbon is Sandra Coyle, nee Hodgson, being held by her mother, Mary. The photo could have been taken in 1953, the tree planted to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

Trip to Redcar reminder

Wednesday 6th July's the date and the bus will pick up at the Parish Hall and Thurlow Grange at around 12.00. If you haven't yet put your name down, please add your name to the list in the Post Office or give it to Margaret Stewart or Billy Cooper by Saturday 2nd July at the latest. The cost of the trip will be £2. Any queries, please ring Linda on 620857 or Gloria on 622447.

Craft & Gift Fayre Saturday 16th July

11am - 3.30pm in the Parish Hall
In aid of the Anthony Nolan Trust.

A range of local crafters & small businesses including cakes, jewellery, wood crafts, handmade cards, personalised items, sock creations, home made sweets and preserves, Avon, Jamie at Home and many more. Refreshments will be available.

The Anthony Nolan Trust saves the lives of people with blood cancer by matching them to people willing to donate their blood stem cells for lifesaving transplants.

Since 1974 over 9024 people have been given the chance of life. In 2009/10 the Trust found 937 matches, but for every person whose life is saved there is another who miss out on that chance when no match can be found for them.

There are just over 420,000 people on the register but it isn't enough. The ambitious target is to double the number of lives saved.

If you are interested in registering to be a donor, please visit the website www.anthonynolan.org - and do come along to the Fayre to support the cause.

Community SAFETY

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel Request to Residents as well as Members

At every N/H/Watch meeting for several years now the problem of dog fouling is reported and complained about. Since Durham Unitary Authority was inaugurated the problems have worsened; it would seem that the time Tim Spearey spends in this village has diminished dramatically to the point recently where he is becoming ineffective. Despite written requests from Sedgefield N/H/Watch and from our Town Council there is no intention by Durham County Council to put more resources into the Village to improve the situation on dog fouling or other issues needing assistance from the Community Warden.

WHY? Because DCC only allocate resources (like Tim) when complaints / issues reported to the **DCC Helpdesk** raise the priority to a high enough level (compared to other locations)!

If you want to see our Warden Tim Spearey in our Village then you must ring Durham County Council and report each and every incident of dog fouling, as well as anti-social behaviour, fly tipping etc. - and not just where you live but wherever you come across it. Please insist that each "deposit" is recorded as a single complaint and not listed as only one fouling incident.

Please ring DCC and **not** our chairman, Ken Saiger; for all his efforts he has been unsuccessful, as he is classed as a single resident complaining. It is up to each and every one who encounters dog dirt or stands in it, to report it and inundate the Helpdesk with calls; then and only then will we get any benefit from their "resources".

During May Tim advised that there were no reports of dog fouling to DCC from Sedgefield - therefore **no problem** for DCC to tackle! Clearly the first part of the solution lies in each and everyone's own hands so please pick up the phone and report to the DCC Helpdesk! The number specified in the Durham County News is **0300 123 70 70**

Now for a more positive report -

The following message was issued on May 17th to all NHW members who have elected to receive Police information/requests for observations/ feedback on incidents via their phone (this is also available via the internet).

This is a Police message for members of Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood Watch. We have had nine calls relating to suspicious activity in the village since the beginning of May and thanks to one Neighbourhood Watch member whose prompt action allowed us to respond and check a suspicious waste carrier, which resulted in an offender being prosecuted for a number of offences.

Thanks again and keep up your good work.

This demonstrates the benefit to our village of ordinary residents reporting concerns and responding to Police requests for specific observations. It all contributes to keeping crime down and improves the place we live in.

Important telephone numbers

Local Police 0345 60 60 365

Tim Spearey, Community Warden, **0300 123 70 70**

Police Crime Prevention Officer Keith Lownds, **01325 742714**

Police Community Liaison Officer Neil Langthorne, **01325 742755**

Parking on public footpaths

At the last Town Council meeting, Cllr. David Brown raised this matter. An email was sent to Durham County Council and their response was as follows:

Durham County Council shares your concerns regarding motorists parking vehicles on pavements and obstructing their use by pedestrians. Unfortunately there are no powers which we or the Police can use to enforce pavement parking where motorists do not contravene yellow line restrictions.

However if vehicles are parked such that they obstruct the footway and cause pedestrians whether disabled, pushing a pushchair, accompanying children etc, or not to use the road to get past, then an offence may have been committed and the police may take action. It is often the case that to take action the Police must view the obstruction taking place (i.e. both vehicle and pedestrian in situ).

With the current level of car ownership, sadly a compromise has to be accepted in respect of parking on the footway. However, this is not to be to the detriment of the pedestrian. If you wish to contact the Police to report this matter the local office can be reached by telephoning 0345 6060365.

PC Todd reports

This month I would like to draw your attention to the car parks of Castle Eden walkway on the A689. This area is popular for cyclists and dog walkers alike. However, we have received more complaints that vehicles have been broken into, and handbags, Sat Navs and mobile phones taken. Even if secure your car is still not safe. Two other vehicles had Catalytic converters removed from under the car. These crimes have occurred between 7:30am & 10am, mainly at the weekend. Please try to avoid these times to reduce your risk, and don't leave valuables in the vehicle at any time!

Yet more damage is being caused around the area of the Doctors surgery and Council offices. The young people who visit the youth shelter may not be responsible but if this mindless vandalism does not cease this facility may be removed. Whoever you are, don't spoil it for other youngsters in the village.

Until next time, Keith.

P.A.C.T.

Unfortunately there was no meeting this month, so the Beat Team will continue with the speeding campaign along Durham road as agreed at last month's. A number of persons have already received warning letters regarding their speed. Repeat offenders may get their chance to explain themselves at court.

Pub Watch

A meeting was held recently in the Dun Cow. No incidents requiring further action from members were reported. Members were asked by the county licensing department to familiarize themselves with the change in betting laws in pubs & clubs

Limestone Landscapes

**Saturday 6th August
9am to 5pm**

A day of discovery on the Durham Magnesian Limestone Plateau at the Rainton Meadows Reserve.

This fragmented landscape is of international significance and the discovery day aims to investigate the geodiversity, biodiversity and historic environment of the Limestone Landscapes.

The day is for anyone with an interest in the flora and fauna, geology and the historic environment of our very special Durham Limestone Landscapes.

**To book a free place, email
ken.bradshaw@durham.gov.uk
or call 0191 383 4078**

Reception Refurb

Children in Sedgefield Hardwick Primary School's Reception Class have a lot to be excited about! Not only has their classroom been refurbished with beautiful light coloured furniture and flooring but the outdoor learning area has also had a great deal of work done. Class teacher Mrs. Victory has worked hard to design an environment that is exciting, stimulating, flexible and safe. There are now raised beds in which the children are growing their own vegetables. They also have a large sand pit which is proving to be very popular! The most recent addition, however, is an outdoor learning room. This is multi-functional and already the children have suggested that it can be used as a stage, a home area and a shop. Our children love learning and exploring outside and recently worked together well to build a super 'bug hotel' which they made from materials donated by Jewsons and parents. We can't wait for creatures to move in!

Fairtrade Fun!

On May 6th, two children from the Y4 class at Hardwick Primary School attended a special presentation at County Hall with their class teacher, Miss Owers. They had been learning about Fairtrade through their topic work and entered into a county-wide Fairtrade logo competition. Charlie Harrison and Matt Robinson were delighted to be invited to the presentation where they saw their designs on display.

They also received a certificate and an Easter egg for entering such super designs.



Jottings *from the June meeting of Sedgefield Residents' Forum*

As usual this was an interesting, informative meeting, with residents giving views on issues which affect our community.

There appear to be differing views on the effectiveness of the youth bus in the village on Saturday nights, also there was information given that an alcohol free facility is currently operating in Sedgefield but no-one seems to know anything about it, so any information would be helpful please.

It seems unlikely that the Planning application for wind turbines in Spring/Foxton lane will go to planning committee in June. Residents expressed concern if the application was to be considered in July or August when many are away on holiday. A request has been made to the Planning Department to avoid these two months. Still on the issue of wind turbines, the Public Meeting on the possibility of a further 45 turbines at Bradbury and the Isle gave some interesting information not least that Co Durham has already met its target re wind renewables for 2020 – so why do we need to continue industrialising our landscape? Watch out for further information and meetings, remember the proposed Spring/Foxton lane turbine installation will have a tremendous affect on our whole village.

The Local Government Ombudsman is currently finalising the decision, report and recommendations on our complaint about DCC (Durham County Council) and the s106 monies attributed to the Cunningham Court development, an amount of circa £53K is outstanding to our community.

Important issues affect our community; the Boundary Commission is finalising consultations on the DCC Counsellor areas and it will result in Sedgefield being partnered with Fishburn in future instead of Bishop Middleham as has been the case for many years. Also recent news shows proposals to change the Constituency areas; the proposal is that Sedgefield will disappear and will join with Billingham to form Stockton North. Information on this is expected to be out for consultation in September. Do you want to see the Sedgefield constituency disappear?

Many other issues were discussed. Come to a meeting to find out more or minutes can be emailed to you if you request ask jane@sedgefield.net or find them in the library one week before the next meeting. The next meeting is on July 4th at 7pm in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall.

One final issue which was raised – not dog fouling this time but horse fouling. Some residents experience problems on narrow pavements fouled by horses. Those with push chairs, wheel chairs etc. are having to go on the road to avoid 'piles'- so an appeal to horse riders - please use the roads wherever possible and avoid fouling public footpaths.

Altogether Greener ENVIRONMENT AWARDS **www.countydurhampartnership.co.uk/envawards**

Nominations close on Friday 15th July for the 2011 Environment Awards, which reward great design, environmental guardianship & community spirit in County Durham. There are 10 categories. Schools & community partnership category criteria have been updated this year and there are new awards as detailed below.
Built environment; Business (*new*);
Climate change; Craftsmanship;
Community partnership;
Natural environment & countryside improvement;
School Volunteer under 18 (*new*);
Volunteer over 18 (*new*);
Waste management.

Please encourage individuals, businesses, schools & community groups to consider putting forward a submission this year. You can even nominate yourself and your team, (self nomination not accepted in volunteer categories).

SPORTS UPDATE

Send your sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com

Did anyone else out there apply for tickets for the London 2012 Olympics? If so, based on media reports and what I've heard from family and friends, you may have been really disappointed with what you did (or more likely didn't) get. I applaud organisers LOCOG for trying to administer as fair a system as possible. The lottery was clearly designed to give everyone who applied for tickets an equal chance of being allocated some. However, what actually happened is that most people (like me) applied for the lower priced category tickets, which were hugely over-subscribed. It seems that those who felt able to request the most expensive tickets (e.g. £400+ per ticket for some sessions of athletics) were more fortunate. There is 'round two' of course, which will be underway by the time you read this, but the vast majority of the most popular tickets have long since been allocated. I'll still be trying to get hold of at least some tickets that will get me and my family onto Olympic Park; otherwise, it's going to be difficult to justify spending money on transport, and possibly accommodation, to witness four hours of archery at Lord's Cricket Ground on a Monday afternoon! One last thought - once the corporate and sponsors' tickets had been removed from the process, I wonder how many of the lower price category tickets were actually left to be allocated to the general public?

Sedgefield Harriers

There was a strong turn-out at the Redcar Half Marathon on Sunday 12th June for a race which is a fixture in the North East calendar and which is run over a 'fast, flat course' which usually promises good personal times and maybe even an elusive personal best (PB). What this really means to those taking part is that it is going to be a hard race. 'The Redcar' is run over an out-&-back course and the wind was kind on the way out but in the face on the return, making a mockery of splits. Nevertheless, there were some solid performances and some PBs. Though short of his best due to injury, Gary Hetherington still managed to finish first in the vet-50s and a very good 16th overall in a field of nearly 1,200 in a time of 1:18:58. Ian Blakemore was second Harrier, 33rd overall in 1:21:46. Gail Bell was first for the Harriers Ladies in 1:35:14 and Christine Hearmon put in an excellent run for a PB of 1:48:14 which was thoroughly deserved, following excellent effort in training in recent months. All Harriers had a good run, including Ean Parsons (1:35:05),

Football

Here's a final round up of the 2010/2011 Sunday league season.

St. Edmund's finished in 6th place in the Durham District premier league, which is a decent outcome. However, after a fine 3-1 win at Ferryhill on the last game of the season, the news emerged that Ferryhill had dropped out of the league and would not complete their remaining fixtures. This meant that St. Edmund's lost the six points they had earned by beating Ferryhill twice, and were not mathematically safe from relegation. In the end, the club stayed in the top flight. Despite a difficult and inconsistent season, team spirit was excellent and everything bodes well for the future. At the end of season awards presentation, Steve Flockett was crowned player of the season, Steve Bagshaw was players' player and young player of the season. Andrew Beamson was leading goal scorer.

Sedgefield NetPark FC finished in 4th place in the 2nd division of the Durham District league. The league has since confirmed the club's third promotion in a row, continuing the great progress that NetPark FC have made in recent years. Key to the club's success has been the outstanding team spirit, with everyone in the squad and among the backroom staff making important contributions. At the end of season presentation in Salvo's restaurant in the Crosshills, the following awards were handed out: club player of the year, Martin Broom; players' player of the season, Dan Pilling; goal of the season, Dan Pilling; most appearances, Nicky Walker; supporters of the season - Harvey Ryder, Robbie Dickerson & Ciaran Lines; best looking player (!) Phillip Bland.

Sedgefield Youth FC held their presentation evening on 11th June in the Parish Hall and had a great night. Every player was presented with a trophy for their contribution to the season. In addition, the following awards were made: most man of the match awards, Jamie Herd; manager's award, John Walton; most improved player, Michael Thompson; sportsman of the season (the Alfred Stelling Trophy), Sam MacCormack; most goals scored (at 36, also, most scored in the league), Jamie Herd.

Other prizes went to home referee James as a big thank you (I presume for excellent service, rather than any 'helpful' decisions!) to coach Sean Parkin for continued dedication and to Joe Worley & Ryan Towler for being the fittest players. The John Robinson Trophy went to William Davies (Taff), the club's most dedicated supporter. He attends every home game and most away games, even though his grandson no longer plays for the team. Unfortunately, some Sedgefield Youth FC players will leave before next season. The club wishes them all of the best for the future. They hope the dedication shown this season carries on to their final year together as a youth team.

Graeme Addison (1:36:02), Jason Catterall (1:37:19, his first half marathon), Jamie Smith (1:39:05) & Vicki Weatherspoon (1:51:40).

Junior Harriers were in action at County Durham Athletics Network inter-club match at Maiden castle on Wednesday 15th June against Durham City Harriers, Chester-Le-Street A.C. and Derwentside A.C. This annual fixture has taken place for three years and has been won by Durham City Harriers on both previous occasions. The event is aimed at younger athletes and has categories for U11, U13 and U15. All athletes take part in a sprint, an endurance run on the track, a long-jump and a throw, scoring points for the club, so it is a good test of athletics skills and abilities. There were some marvellous individual performances for the Harriers in all events and Sedgefield Harriers came out on top - a fantastic result, given the level of competition from other top clubs. The U13s won their category outright and Ellie Gaines was top U13 girl of the whole event.

Would you like to win an athletics medal at Gateshead Stadium?

Leanne Fleetham and James Raw did just that recently with second place in the howler throw (the howler is used to teach generic throws skills relevant to javelin, shot, discus and hammer) and a third in the standing long jump respectively in the Young Athletes League. A lot of credit for all these results must go to the large team of coaches who work with the Junior Harriers, developing their skills over a long period and preparing the athletes for competition, namely; Tim Dredge, Diane Baines, Kate Devine, Sharon Carr, Anne-Marie Robertshaw, Hannah Davison, Christine Hearmon, Sue Dobson, David Walker and Frances Barlow who work with the lead junior coaches at the club (Marie Walker, Scott Hydon and Ean Parsons). In recognition of the great athletic development work going on at the Harriers, the club has been included as one of a very small number of clubs in the North East to benefit from direct support from England

Squash

The Junior Sedgfield Squash Club was delighted to be awarded runner-up in the best team category at the recent Sedgfield youth awards. The club continues to attract new players aged 7-16. Many simply enjoy going along to Saturday morning coaching sessions while others will eventually join the adult leagues. This season, Robert Pearce and George Peden are playing for the county at U15 and U13 levels respectively, while others have attended county squad training sessions or regional events. There's a break at the end of the school term, with coaching resuming at the start of September

Senior squash

Although the season has officially ended, events continue at the club, with the Summer Squash Blitz which was held on 25th June, and the summer barbeque.

Over the summer break, the club will be getting the front wall on court two refurbished. The new season starts at the beginning of September with the annual team handicap competition, open to players of all abilities, as a means of a warm up for the challenges ahead. The club plans to overhaul its website, www.sedgfieldsquashclub.co.uk over the next few months.

Athletics as a part of their Athletics 5 -5-5 strategy, aimed at bringing through top talent. This support comes in recognition of the very strong development pathway that the club now has, which gives every junior athlete the opportunity to take part and fulfil their potential. Coaches Scott Hydon, Marie Walker and Ean Parsons have also been selected to be a part of England Athletics Local Coach Development Programme, giving them access to first class resources and support and which will also ensure the young athletes at the Harriers have every opportunity to progress strongly. The junior club is now attracting athletes from a wide area across Durham and Teesside to train and compete in the Sedgfield vest. Juniors of all abilities are very welcome at the club, and not just runners! The club now has coaches in sprints, throws and jumps. For more information call Scott Hydon (07883 886305) or visit the website. Summer is going to be very busy for the Harriers, events coming up in the

next few months including The Gerry Kearsley Memorial Handicap on Thursday 21st July (details from Ean Parsons, 07771 828 568); the Sedgfield Serpentine Trail Race (details from Matthew Jones, 07866 441 097); and the Club BBQ at Ceddesfeld Hall on Sunday 14th August (details from Jo James, 07725 615 885). All events are on www.sedgfieldharriers.co.uk.

Finally, some Harriers news that I couldn't squeeze in last month.

While over 160 athletes warmed up in preparation for the Neptune Relays, more than 100 children competed in a race around Hardwick Park's lake. The race attracted junior athletes from around County Durham and was handicapped, with children being set off according to their age. This, allied with a steep climb to the finish next to Hardwick Park's temple, made for an exciting race that saw Ciaran Lines take the boys' honours with the first victory of his athletics career, while Carla Able ensured bragging rights over her two sisters with victory in the girls' race.

Village Olympics

The Harriers have been asked by the town council to lead on a Village Olympics to take place in the lead up to the London 2012 Olympics. All (hopefully) schools, sports clubs and youth groups in the village should now have been contacted to ask if they wish to take part and many have responded positively. There will be a meeting on Tuesday 13th September to flesh out the plans. Any organisation which has not been contacted and that wishes to take part should contact Ean Parsons at ean.p@sedgfieldharriers.co.uk.

Darts and dominoes

I've received a note from the Golden Lion Blue Star darts and dominoes team. Although the note doesn't include details of any results from the league they compete in, it does make reference to a presentation night which featured many trophies and cups, along with fine food and plenty of ale, which all sounds good! The evening was also a fundraiser for the team, who thank Dave and Cheryl for keeping track of the money. Everyone in the team would also like to express their gratitude to Graham and Julie from the Golden Lion for providing food during the season's home games. If anyone would like to let me know how the darts and dominoes teams performed in the league, I'll include that information in a future update.

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

July Events Diary

Open Air Theatre

Friday 1st July

Chapterhouse Theatre Company
in Hardwick Park at 7.30pm
Sense & Sensibility by Jane Austen
Please call 621505 for tickets

Eddies@4

Sunday 3rd July

Informal service for 2-6 year olds
4pm, Welcome Room, St Edmund's
Bible story, songs, refreshments
Contact J Rowsby, 621125

101 at The Black Lion

Sunday July 3rd

Starts 8.30pm

Sedgefield Library Events

Tickle Time: 2.15-3pm

Monday 4th & 18th July

Rhyme Time: 10-11am

Wednesday 6th & 20th July

Book Circle: 2pm

Wednesday 20th July

Summer holiday activities for the
children; please contact library for
more information

Residents' Forum

Monday 4th July

7pm, Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

Local History Society

Monday 4th July

Ceddesfeld Hall, 7.45pm

Geoff Wallis

"Mining in the North East"

All welcome

Sedgefield Gardening Club

Tuesday 5th July

Visit to Trimdon Community Garden
- demonstration n compost making
Leaving Ceddesfeld Hall at 6.30pm

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 6th July

7.15pm, Parish Hall

"My time as a snooker referee"

Vera Selby

Members' competition -

a sporting photograph

Visitors welcome; fee £2.50

Parish Hall Country Market

Friday 8th July

Lyric Singers & Youth Choir

Summer Concert

7.30pm in the Parish Hall

Friday 8th & Saturday 9th July

Tickets £5/£4 (concessions)

from Tickety Boo or call 620625

Bingo @ Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 9th July

Eyes down 7.30pm

Farmers' Market

Sunday 10th July

NECP Concertina Workshop

Sundays 10th & 17th July

Ceddesfeld Hall at 1pm: all levels
welcome. Contact 01642 588197

Sedgefield Village Veterans

Thursday 14th July

Ceddesfeld Hall, 7pm

NB. Meetings have reverted to

Thursday evenings

Sedgefield in Bloom

Friday 15th July

Northumbria in Bloom

Summer judging

Ukulele Workshop

Friday 15th July

Ceddesfeld Hall, 8pm

All levels welcome. Call 621729

Gardens Open Day

Sunday 17th July 1-5 pm

£4, children free. Admission fees
support national charities:

Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie

Curie Cancer Care, Help the

Hospices & Crossroads Care.

Collect a route map from

Ceddesfeld Hall and enjoy cream

teas, plant stall & Tombola.

Sedgefield in Bloom DVDs and the

new Cookery Book on sale.

Profits from additional sales to

Sedgefield in Bloom

Ferryhill, Sedgefield &

District Flower Club

Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 19th July

Members' Evening

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 28th July

Durham Heritage Coast

Meet 6.30pm at Parish Hall Car
Park to share lifts. Call 620559 or
sashton@teeswildlife.org for details

A FREE service to non-
commercial organisations

Sedgefield Show

Thursday 28th July

Meeting in Nag's Head at 8pm

Winterton Wayfarers

Walking Group - Weekly Sunday
walks, between 5 & 10 miles.

Contact 620034 or 620434

Sedgefield Playgroup

Methodist Church. Ofsted inspected

Mon - Thurs 9:15 - 11:45

Spaces for children 2+ years

Contact 620893 or 620923

Sing for Health

2nd & 4th Wednesdays

at 1pm in the Methodist Hall

Rotary Club of Sedgefield

Wednesdays 7.15pm

Nag's Head: new members

welcome, call 629070 or 620562

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable
events. New members welcome

Contact Rob on 629079

www.sedgefieldroundtable.org.uk

Ceddesfeld Art Group

Small, friendly group: 10-12 noon

on Thursdays in Ceddesfeld Hall

Call in or contact Malcolm Scott

on 622871

Ready Steady Grow

Sedgefield Methodist Church

Fridays 9.30-10.30am, for parents,

carers & children. Bible stories,

songs, etc. Call 621618 or 621071

Café@St Catherine's

Friendly chat & latest Fishburn
gossip! Fridays 9.30am - 12noon

Tea, coffee, toast & conversation

Cupcake Café

Sedgefield Community College

10am-12 noon, term- time Fridays.

Tea, coffee, homemade cakes &

biscuits. All profits to charity

Sedgefield Family History

No meetings in July & August

Send your diary dates to

sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Local store is best

B & Q announce 20% profits today. I am sure Richard Block & David Quagle started business in a small way in 1969.

I purchased an expanding wood trellis for £15.98; on my return to Sedgefield I visited my local shop, Theakstons, and behold the exact same item - £11.95. I returned to this mighty store in Darlington (DLN121). No recompense on the difference because Sedgefield is 11 miles. Store policy is 10 miles. Stockton & Bishop Auckland 11 miles. WHATEVER HAPPENED TO GOODWILL? I will not be returning again, always shop locally. B & Q should mean Back & no Quibble.

Jeff Wragg

A menace on the road

Not once but twice in the last week, I witnessed the driver of a local builder's truck engaged in dangerous driving, as the young, irresponsible driver attempted to negotiate the traffic calming measures in Durham Road, travelling out of the village. On the first occasion, he was using a mobile phone with his right hand, changing gear with his left and STEERING with his elbows. Next time the same driver was busy texting on his lap, as he attempted the same manoeuvre, whilst gripping the base of the steering wheel with a few spare fingertips. How long will it be before this brainless idiot kills some unsuspecting pedestrian by mounting the pavement or causes an accident with another vehicle? It would be of great benefit to us all if the owner would take steps to halt the downright dangerous behaviour of this moronic employee, who seems determined to break the law every time he is behind the wheel.

Name and address supplied

Your Letters

Thanks from Willowdene Care Home

Our residents would like to say a great big thank you to members of The Round Table who kindly gave up their time to help establish a sensory garden outside The Maple Suite.

We would like to ask readers if they have any clothes from the 1950s, 60s or 70s that they no longer want or need. Would they consider donating them to Willowdene so that we can incorporate them in our 'memory lane'?

Clare Liddy, Activities Co-ordinator.

Just to say thank you to Sedgefield Bradbury & Mordon

A final total of £3512.33 was raised during this year's Christian Aid Week.

This amount will be further increased by approximately £310 as a result of the completed Gift Aid declarations. Thank you to all who contributed to this substantial amount, which will be used to help improve the lives of some of the world's poorest people. Thanks also to our team of dedicated collectors, who gave their time and effort to this worthy cause.

After delivering the envelopes our collectors endeavour to call back twice; however it is not always possible to catch everyone at home. We are sorry if your envelope was not collected. Thank you to the people who brought their envelope to our home afterwards.

David & Margaret Glass



Five very proud students who recently excelled in Royal Academy of Dance Ballet examinations.

At the back are Jessica Sadler & Siân Johnson who both gained a Distinction in Grade 2. In front, Mhairi McElhoney, Chloe McLean & Megan Darby, who all achieved Distinction in Primary Ballet.

The girls are taught at the Lauren Beedle School of Dance, at the Methodist Church Hall in Sedgefield, and their hard work has certainly paid off.

Lauren can be contacted on 07855171201 or lauren@elvetdance.com

Community Football Tournament

Footballers in Co Durham are invited to take part in a community football tournament in aid of the Sir Bobby Robson Foundation. Sedgefield Borough Homes is holding the 5-a-side tournament on Sunday 7th August at Mainsforth Recreation Ground in Ferryhill, along with fun activities for the whole family.

A £20 contribution per team applies which will be donated directly to the charity. Players must be 16 years or over and teams will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

To register a team contact Gary Mountford on 0845 505 5500 or email gary.mountford@sedgefieldboroughhomes.co.uk no later than Friday 22 July. For more information visit www.sedgefieldboroughhomes.co.uk

Contact details

for Sedgefield Development Trust and its other projects

Corporate & Business Mail

Company Secretary,
Sedgefield Development Trust,
c/o 7 Melgrove Way, Sedgefield,
TS21 2JN

Community Lawyers & DIDO:
07899 022 133

Hare Hills Lodge, Sedgefield,
TS21 2EG

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Delivery of own insert is £150/£185

For more details, email

sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

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15th July is the Deadline

for the August edition of Sedgefield News. Email copy to sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Text or call **07935 447 455** or post to The Editor, 55 White House Drive, Sedgefield, TS21 3BU

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