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SEDGEFIELD NEWS

JULY 2015

Produced by volunteers for the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury, Mordon and Fishburn

Sedgefield Day proves the point!

The "midsummer" weather didn't dampen spirits too much and the very enjoyable musical offerings from combined school choirs, Lol & Maxine, Handbell Ringers and Northumbrian Pipers, plus displays from the History Society, Twinning, Art Group, Players, Lyrics, Toddler Group, Sedgefield in Bloom, Ladies Escape, Squash Club, Craft Club, Archery and Blues Club, demonstrated the huge range of what's on offer in Sedgefield. Thanks to Twinning and the Bloomers for refreshments through the day.



Sedgefield Day Sport: Sedgefield Squash Club practice racket skills in the rain and Sedgefield Harriers' Minis Section and Coaches demonstrate their throwing prowess. Full Village Games report in Sports Update on page 10.



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The August deadline is July 15th



New on the editorial team this month is Tom Guest, pictured left. He has put together an **Arts & Events Update** on Page 7. The **Diary** is now on page 12.

Pictured right is Liz Delderfield, who takes over this month on **Social Media**, first to manage our Facebook page and very soon, our Twitter feed too.

Also on the editorial team are Tony Magee and Sue Dobson, and of course, Chris Lines continues his great work with the **Sports Update**.

Sedgefield Web Design manages our online presence at **SedgefieldWeb** - with a brand new look on the 1st July!

Overall editor with responsibility for **Advertising** is Sandy Clubley, and keeping it all legal is John Fitzpatrick, Company Secretary of Sedgefield Development Trust. Don't hesitate to say hi and give us your feedback.

Distribution Help Needed

Our wonderful team of volunteers is managed by Judith Edgoose, and she would like to hear from anyone who is willing to deliver Sedgefield News to East End, East Parade & Eastwell Close.

If you can help, please contact Judith on 01740 620244, 07899 984 464 or email edgoose@f2s.com.

Steve's Nature Diary *The natural world month by month*

My car went in for some work to be done recently, so I took the opportunity to have a walk round Coatham Marsh, Redcar and because it took longer for them to do the work than expected (doesn't it always) I had a very pleasant stroll around Tees Valley Wildlife Trust's Nature reserve and saw quite a few things. This is interesting because recently someone wrote a piece about how nothing lived there and what a poor state it was in. The site was looking at its best partly due to the hard work and commitment of Tees Valley Wildlife Trust staff but also because of the gallant effort of local community groups who have all been doing a sterling job of tidying up the local area. Not that it is really their job - we all have a responsibility to look after the environment whether it is taking litter home with us or picking up our dog poo. Back to the walk, the first thing I heard was a Sedge Warbler which was singing its heart out close to the Locke Park entrance to the reserve. These warblers, like a lot of the species that visit the marsh, are summer visitors, quite often from Africa, who come to places like Coatham to bring up their young. They have a noisy, rambling warble which goes on a bit and can be difficult to see, but quite often perch on a bush or the reeds. Over the water I could see four more migrant species who were hawking for insects - they were Swallows, Swifts, House and Sand Martins. The latter, it is hoped, will move into the custom built Sand Martin Nest Bank put on the reserve last year. No signs yet but it can take a while for them to discover new places to nest especially if they are manmade. As I continued my walk, I saw families of Blue and Great Tits, heard a Water Rail and Reed Warbler. I spent quite a while watching hundreds of tadpoles by one of the bridges feeding on something (not sure what) and also saw a small shoal of fish. So far I have not mentioned any of the water birds I saw but this included two Mute Swans with 4 cygnets, Mallard, Coot, Moorhen, Tufted Duck, Pochard and I watched a Heron fishing for 5 minutes. As the weather started to warm up the insects emerged. I saw a yet unidentified moth, Common Blue and Small Heath Butterflies and Blue Tailed and Common Blue Damselflies.

Plant wise, not being an expert, I took a few pictures which I will be posting to the www.clevelandcoast.org.uk/add/ to see if they can be identified. The reserve was bursting with patches of Bird's Foot Trefoil and Kidney Vetch all being used by the butterflies. The reserve has several public footpaths and will soon become part of the England Coastal Path. There is a small car park at Todd Point Road. In July it comes alive with damselflies and dragonflies along with butterflies such as Meadow Brown and the rare Grayling butterfly so well worth a visit - you can find more information at www.teeswildlife.org/nature-reserve/coatham-marsh/.



94 year old Frances Fraser, guest of honour on the village green

Blooming Sedgefield



Northumbria in Bloom judges Sophie Straker and Richard Germany were very impressed on their first ever visit to Sedgefield in April. They particularly noted the strength of community involvement. We hope to repeat the good feeling when they return for the main judging day on **Wednesday July 22nd from 2pm**. Volunteer Bloomers and council gardeners Stephen and Roy are all working hard, striving to see Sedgefield strike gold once again.

Construction careers for women

Bishop Auckland College is the first further education institution in the country to become a member of The National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC).

The college has a 100% success rate for female construction students, and women are working in a range of roles. The College runs Level 1, 2 and 3 courses in Bricklaying, Carpentry & Joinery, Construction, Painting & Decorating and Plastering and from September is offering HE level HNC/ HND courses in Construction & the Built Environment. Visit bacoll.ac.uk, email start@bacoll.ac.uk or 0800 092 6506.

Left: remembering Cecil Aubrey Lowes

Frances Fraser was guest of honour at the latest commemoration honouring Sedgefield's fallen of the Great War. May 25th marked 100 years since the death in action of her uncle Cecil Aubrey Lowes, at the Battle of Festubert in France. Sedgefield Local History Society and Sedgefield Veterans will hold the next ceremony at the Veterans' flag on Thursday July 23rd at 10.45 am, when we will remember Joseph Herbert Morrow. Please come along and support this moving tribute to another hero from Sedgefield's past.

Come to Sedgefield Show *so much to see and do!*

The 162nd Sedgefield and District Agricultural Show takes place on **Saturday 8th August** in the Robert Brown Show Field, West Park, Sedgefield. The event continues to grow year on year and the Show Committee anticipates a record number of trade stands, competitive entries and attendees in 2015.

Visitors will be able to enjoy a variety of activities, competitions and displays including agricultural classes for horses, ponies, vintage tractors and classic motor vehicles. The cattle, sheep and dairy goat classes make a return this year, along with the heavy horse category.

Why not enter one of the many competitions? You don't need to be a farmer! This is a chance to display the many talents of young and old alike, in Sedgefield and the surrounding rural area. There are categories for preserves, baking, fruit and vegetables, art and craft, flower arranging, photography and lots of classes for children ... Pick up a programme (details below) to see what category you could enter. The popular dog show returns including the dog agility competition. Why not bring your pet dog and enter it in the Novelty Dog Show (waggiest tail, longest ears, cutest puppy etc.)

There will be marquees with craft stalls, handicrafts, and horticultural displays including prize vegetables, home and farm produce and outstanding floral arrangements. The popular food hall, this year will be offering a vast range of local and regional delicacies. In the information marquee visitors can see demonstrations and pick up information on a range of rural activities. There will be a programme of live music to enjoy and musical horse riding performed by the pony club. For more family fun, Turners Funfair will be present, along with the latest concept for kids party fun - Go-Kart Party. A large number of trade and information stands are also expected, including the Police Crime Prevention Team, County Durham Fire & Rescue as well as local and national charities.

The Show Committee would like to thank the many supporters whose commitment allows unique events such as Sedgefield Agricultural Show to bring local people, industries and traditions together, continuing our rural traditions and supporting our rural economy.

Ian Mason, Show Chairman, says, 'This year the show is offering a great day out for everyone. I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their kind support and commitment.'

Gates open at 10am, marquees at noon and car parking is free.

Details of the competition programme, and how to enter, can be found at www.sedgefieldshow.co.uk or at the Town Council Office, Library, Village Stores and Tickety-Boo.

Any questions to Ian Mason 01740 621841 or ian@sedgefieldshow.co.uk or Donna Basham (Sedgefield Show General Secretary) on 01325 313129 or donna@sedgefieldshow.co.uk. Entries Close on Friday 24th July 2015

Local charity seeks volunteers

Nepacs runs the visitor centres at HMP Durham, HMP Frankland and HMP & YO1 Low Newton in Durham. The charity is seeking volunteers to help support 50,000 visitors a year.

They are looking for people who have a few hours to spare each week or fortnight, to volunteer in the tea bars, play areas and youth zones. The centres are open daily and the charity is particularly keen to find people who would enjoy volunteering at weekends, which is their busiest time. No previous experience is required.

Laz Szomoru, operations manager for Nepacs, said: "Visiting prison for the first time can be difficult and distressing. Our team of staff and volunteers provide a friendly place to chat, have a cup of tea and can help to answer any questions or concerns that visitors may have about visiting prison. We greet people from all walks of life, including many who have travelled a long way, so it's important that everyone is treated with respect, and feels welcome in a place and situation they may never have thought they would ever be in. Our dedicated volunteers have an opportunity to meet new people, be part of a team, learn new skills and gain valuable experience."

For more information call **0191 332 3810**, email volunteering@nepacs.co.uk or visit www.nepacs.co.uk



Your Letters

Christian Aid Week 2015

Once again the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon responded with generosity when the Christian Aid envelopes dropped through their letter box during the May. We are delighted to announce that a total of £3,912.13 was collected. This will be increased by approximately £400 as a result of the completed Gift Aid declarations, and by a further £119.50 given at the Good Friday Procession of Witness.

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. Thank you also to our team of dedicated collectors, who gave their time and effort to this very worthy cause. After delivering the envelopes our collectors endeavour to call back twice, however it is not always possible to catch everyone when they are at home. We are sorry if your envelope was not collected. Thank you to the people who brought their envelope to their collector's address or our home afterwards.

Margaret & David Glass

Can you listen?

If anyone is interested in joining Sedgefield Bereavement Support Group as a listener, I am arranging a Listening Skills course in July.

Please contact me on 01740 620909 or at pandppighills@btinternet.com.

Panny Pighills

1st Sedgefield Scout Group

In 2016, 1st Sedgefield Scout Group will celebrate its 50th birthday. Generations of Sedgefield's young people have benefited from their involvement in the Scout movement, learning skills that have gone on to serve them well throughout their lives. 1st Sedgefield became one of the most successful in the North East and maintains very high standards in everything it does, thanks to the commitment of volunteers, and there have been many over the years. Already gearing up for its celebrations, the group hopes to announce a big event soon and are keen to get in touch with as many former members as possible, so that they can be part of the celebrations.

If you would like to know more, please email SedgefieldScouts50@gmail.com. New volunteers will also be very welcome, to ensure that the group can continue its good work for another 50 years.

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch

Update from the meeting held on 9th June

PC Keith Todd could not attend as he was called away at the last minute for operational needs, but the newly appointed Police Liaison Officer, PCSO Lauren Wray was able to attend.

Lauren introduced herself, outlined her role and her extensive geographic area, and gave an update on the messaging system (no longer available to us) and of the replacement plan in place by Durham Police.

Lauren spoke on the Safer Homes scheme and is to follow up the slow response (none so far) to a member who had requested assistance / advice under the scheme, several weeks ago.

She also spoke about the Police Junior N/H/Watch scheme that is run in Durham and of the intention to follow up the request from our Chairman Ken Saiger, to introduce this into our local Primary Schools if it can be arranged.

Lauren was asked to take back to the Police our members' continued dissatisfaction with the lack of contact and inadequate communications from Police. Several incidents were cited that they may have been able to assist with if they had been made aware.

The Secretary reported on progress to date regarding the N/H/Watch request (09/04/2015) made to DCC asking for improvements in pedestrian Safety, Traffic Congestion and Verge Damage in the areas of the Hospital Roundabout and the access road into the Trading Estate.

Two meetings on site have been held with DCC Officers and a group of 4 residents representing N/H/Watch. At the meeting of 17th April residents' safety issues for pedestrians crossing the road were listened to and recognised as valid concerns, but they did not give rise to meeting Government criteria that would require DCC to take remedial actions (as was requested) for controlled crossings or other measures; therefore no action is to be taken.

At the meeting of 15th May the DCC Officer agreed to make a proposal to restrict parking from the bus stop to the roundabout (entering the village) and on both sides of the road from the roundabout to the Sainsbury entrance and he was sympathetic to including no unloading or loading.

Since that (15th May) meeting, County Councillor John Robinson has held a meeting with the officer and now N/H/Watch are awaiting written details from Councillor Robinson & the DCC Officer of the actual proposed restrictions to be applied to the roadways.

Following the meeting, crime figures provided by local Police for the period 11th May to 8th June showed **9 recorded crimes**.

There were 3 burglaries, & residents are reminded that there is a rise across the country in shed and garden crime at this time of the year. Sedgefield is no exception; please lock valuable tools bikes etc. away and out of sight and don't leave unsecured items lying around. Insurance is unlikely to pay out. Fit a shed alarm if possible (consider using the Safer Homes initiative.)

There was 1 serious assault on a cyclist by the driver of a blue Ford estate vehicle on 2nd June; this took place in Rowan Oval.

We continue to urge members & residents to report (to the Police tel.101) all out of place or suspicious vehicles and also any persons or activities that cause you *any* concern.

Next meeting, on Tuesday 13th October, will be the AGM, followed by an ordinary meeting.

PC Todd's report

An unpleasant crime was committed recently when a male riding a bike along Salters Lane was stopped by a male driving a blue Ford Escort. The rider was then punched in the face and kicked when on the ground. This was an unprovoked assault and we are seeking any witnesses who may have seen the incident on Tuesday 2nd June at about 7pm.

Other crimes reported include a burglary at the Cricket Club and a burglary at the Hardwick Visitor Centre. A shed was forced in Chestnut Road where two high value bikes were taken and the Temple in Hardwick Country Park became the victim of graffiti criminals who have defaced this iconic monument by scribbling on a wall. Two youths have been interviewed so far, with others to come. *Keith Todd*

The Sedgefield Plan

Shaping the future of our area

As you will have noticed in previous bulletins much has been happening and it is time to bring the community up to date with the current status of the plan and to let you know what we know in regard to DCC's progress with the judicial review that they seek to challenge the inspector's interim report. The inspectors rejection of key elements of DCC Local Plan has left this community exposed to unwanted development.

We have already had an application refused for the three cornered field on Stockton Road for 35 houses that may yet go to appeal and we have a new application for 315 houses on Eden Drive, submitted by Story Homes and the Diocese, that includes the partial closure of Stockton Road.

These sites are outside the 'Built up area boundary' that has been defined in The Sedgefield Plan and both are located on the 'Green Wedge' that is in the saved policies of Sedgefield District Council. None has taken account of the inspector's call for new housing here to be reduced and dispersed to neighbouring communities.

We have arranged two public meetings to take place at 7pm on 29th and 30th June in the Parish Hall.

Please do come along to participate in the discussion and to hear what you can do to help protect our village it is under a real threat which makes it imperative that the plan is submitted to DCC to commence its progress through independent inspection as soon as possible.

David Bowles

Pub Watch

At a meeting held recently at the Dun Cow, a male was handed a 3 month ban for causing damage in a member premises.

Local Police 101

CPO Duncan Gill 01325 742714

Parking Shop 0191 3846633

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Sew Easy

This new project will be getting started later this year. Anyone who is interested, or who earlier expressed an interest and has not heard from me, please call me on 01740 622447. If you need to leave me a message, please include your telephone number so that I can call you back. *Gloria Wells*

Website - Sedgefield News online

www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk will be a different destination from July 1st! Refreshed and responsive, it's undoubtedly the go-to place for all things Sedgefield. We have a terrific new offer for local companies on the front page this month.

Farmers' Market : Sunday 7th July

Occupying our community stall this month will be the Darlington Beekeeping Association (DBKA). Bees are in decline nationally and the DBKA is doing all it can to promote areas suitable for keeping bees and advising us how to encourage bees to our gardens. Find out more at the market. For music this month we're delighted to welcome 'Hokey Folk', a folk group from the village. They will give us some fine entertainment. Come along to the Farmers' Market and enjoy shopping to the music!

Energy Switch savings now pass £40,000!

Sedgefield residents continue to show interest in the Energy Switching scheme run by SDT in conjunction with icoosr. A further 60 households registered for the last auction, bringing the total to 389 households since the scheme began last August. We will continue our support of this initiative, so that more people can register and potentially benefit from the same level of savings that others have already enjoyed. The next registration period commences on 4th August (more details in the next edition) and our volunteers will be at Sedgefield Show again this year. We will continue to advertise the initiative over the next few months, but if you would like further information please call our Helpline on 07980 134 594.

The Development Trust feels that we could achieve even greater levels savings if we could make contact with more residents. There are many active groups in the village and if you invited us to come along to one of your meetings, we could provide more detailed information than we have done via the Sedgefield Website or in the News. If your group would be interested, or if anybody has ideas of how we might communicate the information more effectively, please contact the Helpline. Finally, for those who have already switched using this scheme and are wondering what happens when you get to the end of your contract in October, we will provide information in future issues of the News and on SedgefieldWeb.

Ceddesfeld Hall

SCA Home of Sedgefield Community Association SCA

The SCA would like to say a huge thank you to the many volunteers who gave up their time to support this year's Mediaeval Fayre. In the weeks running up to the day, SCA members are busy planning in order to ensure that all parts of the day will run smoothly. This involves liaising with various companies, community groups and organisations in order to ensure everyone remains safe, whilst being entertained and enjoying the day.

The children from both primary schools were absolutely fantastic. The Alice in Wonderland parade was vibrant and colourful and got things off to a great start. The May Queen and her attendants led the way beautifully and the dancing from some of the younger children, later in the day, was excellent and hugely entertaining.

Thanks must also go to local businesses for the sponsorship provided year on year.

Did you enjoy the Mediaeval Fayre?

What went well? What could we do better? The SCA is keen to know your views and would welcome feedback.

A review meeting is scheduled at 7.45pm on **Thursday 9th July** at Ceddesfeld Hall.

Please feel free to join us, or drop us a line with your comments.

Just to remind you, our next big event is Ceddesfeld Beer Festival on Friday and Saturday 3rd and 4th July. We look forward to seeing you then.

For more information contact Wendy on 620206, Pat on 620607, Sarah on 622185 or visit our website - www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk

Regular Events, Meetings and Get-togethers

Acoustic Evenings 1st Fri & 4th Wed. Ceddesfeld Hall 8.30pm All welcome.

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

Bridge Club Ceddesfeld Hall Sunday & Tuesday 7.30pm Beginners welcome. 620434

CAB Fortnightly Advice Sessions Wed 10am-3pm Advice & Information Centre

Café @St Catherine's Friendly chat & Fishburn gossip! Fridays 9.30-12.00

Ceddesfeld Hall Art Group Small friendly group 10am-12.00 Thursdays

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

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

Craft Club Swinhoe Room, Ceddesfeld Hall, 2nd & 4th Tues 7.30-10pm Tel: 620656

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

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

Fishburn Taekwondo Tues & Thurs 6pm, Youth & Community Centre. 07743455065

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

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

New Generation Church Every Sunday 11am at the Parish Hall. All welcome.

Rotary Club of Sedgefield Wed 7.30pm Bob 07831270892 / Mel 07530315331

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

S'field Art Group Tuesday 6.30-8.30pm Methodist Church Hall. Tuition, all welcome

S'field Carpet Bowls Tues & Thurs 8.30am-12 Ceddesfeld Hall. Beginners ✓ 622532

S'field Handbell Ringers Weds 7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall or 1st Mon of month 621292

S'field Mags 1st Monday of the month at the Nag's Head, 8pm. Tel: 07966029434

S'field Players Parish Hall, 7.30, Sunday & Wednesday. SPYS Sunday 5.30. 620091

S'field Playgroup Methodist Hall, Mon, Wed & Thursday 9.15-11.30. 620893

S'field Pop In Club C'feld Hall Tues 9.30am-12 Wed 10am-12.30pm Thurs 1-3.30pm

Tai Chi Tuesdays, Parish Hall, 10 -11am

Toddler Club Wed term time 1.15 - 3pm, Ceddesfeld Hall. Tel: Joan Brennan, 622385

Sedgefield Folk Festival

Held over the first weekend in September, the festival is now in its tenth year and arguably, has its best line up so far, having secured two of the hottest acts around the folk circuit.

BBC Radio 2 Folk Award female singer of the year, Nancy Kerr (*right*) with James Fagan, will perform on Saturday afternoon (5th) while the Young 'Uns, winners of the national best group award, will be in concert that night.

Tickets went on sale on 1st June and Saturday evening, featuring the Haley Sisters, Young 'Uns, Whiskey Dogs, Babs Thow and Bobby Surgeoner, quickly sold out. At the time of writing there are still a few tickets available for Friday evening and Saturday afternoon.

Friday evening in the Parish Hall features The Coal Porters, Flossie Malavialle (pictured), John Weighell and the John Wrightson Band. At the same time in Ceddesfeld Hall we have the Stockton and Darlington Ukulele Express, Ceddesfolk and Lol & Maxine Crallan (tickets from Lol or at the door) and in the Social Club, Broadband and the Pot and Glass Folk Club are hosting a singaround.

On Saturday afternoon in the Parish Hall, with Nancy Kerr and James Fagan, also features Marske Fishermen's Choir, Pete Abbott and Broadband and, although this concert is sold out, there is an alternative, a singaround in Ceddesfeld Hall hosted by the Old Age Travellers.

We have the usual free workshops in Ceddesfeld Hall on Saturday morning for ukulele, Northumbrian pipes and spoons, while the ever popular World Spoons Championship and traditional song writing competition also take place that day. There's music and dancing on the village green on Saturday too, while on Sunday morning, local musicians and singers will entertain Farmers' Market shoppers.



Lyric Singers Update

It has been a busy couple of months for Sedgefield's three Choirs, the Lyric Singers, Lirica and SLYC, with concerts and shows aplenty.

First the Youth Choir, SLYC, under the direction of Rob Guest and Kristen Peacock, performed Peter Rose and Anne Conlon's 'African Jigsaw' to a sell out crowd. The show was performed to commemorate 30 years of the choir with present and past members alike taking part.



SLYC performing 'African Jigsaw'

The Lyric Singers then performed as part of the Sage Gateshead's 10 year anniversary in their 'Sing the Living' Concert in Hall 1. Choir leader Rob said, 'It has been an excellent event, giving us an opportunity to perform at a world class venue alongside other choirs from around the region. If you wanted to hear some of the music that was performed at the Sage concert you might be in time to catch it at the Lyrics joint concert with Lirica, 'The Two of Us' on June 26th and 27th. Both choirs will perform a range of classical, popular, folk and gospel music. The Lyric Singers and SLYC will stop for the summer holidays soon but will be back in September ready and raring to go, and as ever looking for new members.

If you are aged between 7 and 18 and love singing, get in touch with the Youth Choir Directors on 07572 121 443, or if you are a little older and fancy a sing, call the Lyric Singers secretary, Avril Hannon **01740 622512**. Rehearsals take place on Fridays in Ceddesfeld Hall from 6pm.

Big BRASS Bash

An outdoor extravaganza for all the family comes to Trimdon Village as part of Durham's annual BRASS festival.

Big BRASS Bash, which takes place on Wednesday 15 July between 6pm and 9pm, will see Leeds-based Hope and Social and Yorkshire's New York Brass Band (*right*) perform at Trimdon Community College Association, Trimdon Junior School, as part of the Big BRASS Bash tour.

They're also planning to premiere a very special song at the event as the two bands look to write a new song everyday to add to their sets. Completing the line-up are boundary-pushing Italian street band Bandakadabra, and Les Traine-Savates who will bring a little funk to the party all the way from France.



Bring a picnic, some deckchairs and prepare to party at this fantastic free event!

'Neighbourhood Watch'



The Players' summer production of Ayckbourn's dark comedy 'Neighbourhood Watch' was a huge success. The recent invasion of gnomes into the village, and the mystery surrounding them no doubt encouraged audiences to come and see this wonderful show to find out what has really been happening!



The cast of 'Neighbourhood Watch'

Norma Neal and Tom Guest, provided comic relief as Dorothy and Rod, with Sarah Legender playing the seductive Amy, wife of the somewhat inadequate Gareth, portrayed by Richard Garfield. Rebecca Garfield and Ian Thurgood played husband and wife Magda and Luther, who are dealing with relationship issues of their own.

The Players meet every Sunday and Wednesday from 7.30 and are always excited to welcome new members.

www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk



'The Snow Queen'

The SPYS next production is Ron Nicol's 'The Snow Queen'; details are on Page 12.

Over 40 SPYS will take to the stage in this fantastic production which tells the tale of Gerda, a little girl whose friend Kai, is taken by the Snow Queen. She travels across many lands, and meets friends and enemies alike who help her to reunite with her friend.

The production, directed by Sarah Atkinson, is the SPYS first full scale production.

Arts & Events

Over the next few months I hope to develop the arts and events pages of Sedgefield News to fully represent the variety of activities and groups that we have to offer. If you are involved in an event or an arts-based group, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am particularly interested to hear from any Fine Art, Crafts, Pottery or Photography groups, to highlight their work.

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We have reached the half point of the year – it's flown by as fast as a Ben Stokes boundary shot. Talking of Mr Stokes, he's had a good start to the international cricket season with England, as has his fellow Durham player Mark Wood. The tests and one day international matches against New Zealand were hugely entertaining, with some excellent cricket on display. The games were played in great, but very competitive, spirit by both teams, and the turnaround in England's approach to the one day game has been astonishing. To use a cliché, cricket was the winner.

But of course, this was just the aperitif. A few days after this issue of Sedgefield News is delivered, the Ashes will get underway. Winning the five test series against Australia remains the primary objective for every England team and after the squad's performances against New Zealand, we can probably afford to be a little more optimistic about prospects for the rest of the summer. Meanwhile, here in Sedgefield, the sport is relentless.

Cycling

Sedgefield is the home of a senior North East champion. Cyclist Ben Hetherington recently won the region's road race title, held over an 89 mile course (eight laps of around 11 miles each) near Richmond in North Yorkshire. Ben edged to victory after being part of a break-away group that stayed clear of the rest of the field for much of the race. Along with his team mates from Achieve Northside Skinnergate, Ben was in contention from early in the race. Together, they controlled the closing stages.

Ben takes up the story: "My team-mate Ben Rowe attacked with about one kilometre to go, and lined it out. I was about fifth man and attacked with 500 metres to the finish. It went really well, and my team-mates did superbly to help me get the win."

The victory was just the latest in a string of good performances by Ben, who has won or been placed in numerous other races this year. He has competed in the UK and abroad, and is continuing to make excellent progress.

Sedgefield Village Games

When the Sedgefield Village Games (SVG) initiative was started in 2012, the organisation focused a lot of effort on arranging events that showcased and promoted sport in the community. Ever since, SVG has continued to bang the drum about sport and has actively supported individuals and clubs with bursaries and grants. The games team also works with those clubs to put on events and recently arranged a series of displays during the annual Sedgefield Day.

Despite the unhelpful weather, the event was a great community celebration and there was some excellent enthusiasm to be seen on the village green, courtesy of Sedgefield Youth FC, Sedgefield Squash Club, the Sedgefield Harriers' minis section and Newton Aycliffe based dance academy Kdanz. There was also the opportunity to try archery in Sedgefield Primary School playing field thanks to 1st Sedgefield Scout Group, as well as have a go on a mobile climbing wall on the turning circle and use a variety of sports equipment in the grounds of Ceddesfeld Hall. Sedgefield Village Games is now looking ahead to 2016, the next Olympic year, and will be starting to plan events soon. The organisation is always keen to hear from anyone who would like to get involved and support the work of SVG, and continues to offer bursaries to talented young sportspeople (including Ben Hetherington) and to local clubs.

Visit www.sedgefieldgames.com to find out more.

Below: Sedgefield Youth FC in action on Sedgefield Day



Squash

Sedgefield Squash Club's efforts off the court were rewarded recently at the Durham & Cleveland presentation evening, when the club was crowned Club of the Year. This award recognised how well the club is managed, and how it strives to cater for existing members at all levels, and promote the game within the community. Additionally, individual awards were presented to Chris Gillespie, for his county team performances throughout the season, and to Robert Pearce in recognition of his service to the junior county teams. Congratulations to everyone at Sedgefield Squash Club on these well-deserved accolades.

Sport & Physical Activity Awards for County Durham

Nominations are now open for the Sport & Physical Activity Awards for County Durham. The awards seek to recognise the talent and commitment of individuals, coaches, volunteers, clubs and schools for their contribution over the past year. Sedgefield has enjoyed a lot of success in these awards over the years and in 2014, Sedgefield Cricket Club's Dave Iceton won in the Volunteer of the Year category, while Sedgefield Harriers was named Club of the Year. Boccia player Lee Maddison was also a runner up in the Sporting Achievement of the Year category.

There are 13 categories and anyone can submit a nomination on the County Durham Sport website http://www.countydurhamsport.com/Be_involved/awards_scheme

The nominations will not be assessed based on the quantity received for an individual or club, but based on the quality of the information provided. The closing date for nominations is Friday 31st July 2015.

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

Does your home need a cat?

Did you know there is a small 'cat rescue' in your area? Being small means we really know our cats so their personality and your situation can be considered when re-homing. Our aim is successful permanent homes, not a quick turnover. We aren't a business or linked to any other charities. We love cats! If you can give a cat or a kitten a loving, 'forever' home please contact: Sue: 07864124858

Fay: 07765026732

A home check/ vet check will be required. If you can't give one of our cats a home, but would like to help, donations of food (even odd tins that your cat has decided they don't like) are always welcome.

You can find a box in the waiting room at Clifton Lodge Vets Sedgefield.

Sue Wears

Vintage Car and Bike Show

The annual enthusiasts event on behalf of Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland, took place recently at Hardwick Park, and it was a great night, good weather, good cars and bikes and plenty of supporters.

Best Car was 1990 TVR 450 SE (Wedge) from Hartlepool.



Best Bike was 1979 Honda CBX 1,000, from Peterlee.



Thanks go to the judges,

Eddie Atkins from Fishburn who judged the bikes, Bob Theakston President of the Rotary club of Sedgefield, and Mel Carr, club secretary who judged the cars.

Many thanks also to the Rotary Club of Sedgefield who provided the awards and to Beryl Anderson for organising the event.

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Sedgefield & Hamminkeln celebrate 33 years of Twinning

When Sedgefield Twinning Association welcomed 19 visitors from Hamminkeln in June, we were blessed by fantastic weather for the entire week – the only downside was that of the 13 who arrived at Newcastle Airport, only one had any baggage! The conveyor belt at Dusseldorf had broken, and thousands of cases were left stranded in Germany. But our friends borrowed or bought everything they needed, and it did not seem to dampen their high spirits. We had an action-packed week, with trips to Robin Hood's Bay via at Danby, and to Ampleforth Abbey, but plenty of enjoyable free time with families too. There was a day in Newcastle too, when some people had a guided tour of Newcastle United Football Stadium, while others had a guided walk around the city. In the afternoon we had an excellent guided tour of Ouseburn, a former industrial area re-invented, with a town farm, equestrian centre, craft workshops, and the wonderful "Seven Stories" centre for children's books. Those who had not been to Sedgefield before had a tour of Durham cathedral and a chance to view Durham on Regatta Day, and some of the visitors enjoyed watching a cricket match in Sedgefield. Several expressed delight that they can now explain cricket to their friends, having had an excellent explanation!

With happy welcome and farewell meals at each end of the week, everyone agreed that it had been very successful and we all look forward to our return visit next year. Twinning very definitely has a lively future - we were very pleased to welcome younger people this year, both visitors and hosts. If you are interested in what we do, please contact Judith Edgoose, secretary; 01740 620244; mobile 07899 984464; e-mail edgoose@f2s.com.

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JULY DIARY

email diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Date	Event
Wed 1st	Sedgefield WI 7.15pm, Parish Hall. Floral Demonstration by Wright's Stems. Members' Comp. a floral brooch. Visitors always welcome, £3.50
Fri 3rd	Sedgefield U3A 2pm, Parish Hall. AGM followed by cream tea. All welcome. Sedgefield Village Veterans Coffee Morning 10am - 12 noon, Parish Hall
Fri 3rd & Sat 4th	Ceddesfeld Beer Festival 14 Real Ales to sample - and on Saturday there will be music from Lol & Maxine Crallan
Sun 5th	Farmers' Market 8.30am - 12.30 on the Village Green. Sedgefield Open Gardens 1-5pm Tickets £3.50 (children free) from the stall beside St Edmund's Church lych gate
Mon 6th	Local History Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45pm. Barbara Leo; Sedgefield through old photographs.
Tue 7th	Ballroom & Sequence Dancing 1 - 3pm Parish Hall, £2.50 inc refreshments Gardening Club Members' trip to Martin Fishes Garden
Fri 10th	Country Market 10 - 11.30 am, Parish Hall. Cakes, produce, crafts, cards & plants. Enjoy refreshments with friends.
Mon 13th	Family History Group 7.15pm Ceddesfeld Hall. Margaret Hedley; The Coal Owners of County Durham. 620367 or www.sedgefieldfamilyhistory.org.uk
Fri 17th	Coffee Morning in support of Macmillan Cancer Support, 9.30—11.30, Fletcher Room, Parish Hall.
Fri 17th & Sat 18th	Sedgefield Players' Youth Section 'The Snow Queen' 7.30 in the Parish Hall. Tickets £6 from Tickety Boo, www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk or call 621771
Tue 21st	Ballroom & Sequence Dancing 1 - 3pm Parish Hall £2.50 inc refreshments. Dance is then closed for the Summer and will restart in September. Ferryhill, S'field & District Flower Club Parish Hall at 7.30pm. Members' night
Thu 23rd	Sedgefield Show Meeting 8pm, Nag's Head. All welcome
Fri 31st	Sedgefield Rock & Blues Club 7pm. Dani Wilde Band; support, Tabitha Smith. Details at www.sedgefieldblues.com

Fitness Classes @The Hub

Sedgefield Community College Activities

Mondays

6.00 – 6.30pm	Metafit
6.30 – 7.30pm	KO Combat
7.30 – 9.00pm	Karate

Tuesdays

6.00 – 7.00pm	Zumba
7.30 – 8.15pm	Kettlercise

Wednesdays

5.00 – 8.00pm	Polka School of Dance
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Thursdays

6.30 – 7.00pm	Metafit
7.00 – 8.00pm	Pilago

Saturdays

10.30 – 11.30	Chi Taekwondo
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Sedgefield Social Club

Events in July

There will be entertainment in the Social Club every Saturday evening

Members & their guests are welcome, with a £1.50p cover charge.
To book a room for a party or concert, please call 01740 620591.

U3A July Events

For information contact
Maxine Patterson on 01740 620905.

Wed 1st	Visit to Thornton Hall
Wed 8th	Durham Oriental Museum Trip
Thu 16th	Book Group, Methodist Church

Hardwick Hall Hotel

Friday 7th August

Decades Disco

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Friday 14th August

Night Fever at 70's Disco

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Friday 11th September

Jeff Dingle as Bruno Mars

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Fridays	1:00pm - 7:00pm
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The last word -

written in response to the mystery of the gnomes that appeared on the village green and in other locations around the village.

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Sedgefield must help the harmless little homeless,
Otherwise sadly we will end up Gnomeless.
Look after the little folk and give them a home,
Be kind and caring, take good care of your Gnome.

The Unknown Poet 2015

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 8th August - Sedgefield Agricultural Show. Details on page 3
Friday 4th - Sunday 6th September - Sedgefield Folk Festival. See page 7
Monday 7th - Saturday 12th September - Sedgefield Drama Festival

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