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Sedgefield NEWS

JUNE 2007

On the Road to Wimbledon



Meet 11 year old Chris Lowe, an up and coming tennis player from Sedgefield Community College, who has made it through to the regional finals of the annual **Road to Wimbledon** competition.

Chris, who is a member of the David Lloyd tennis centre, won the 14 and under category at the tournament hosted by David Lloyds on April 22nd. He won 3 hard-fought matches including a tie-break decider against Hutton Rugby's Harry Dodds and has now qualified for the County finals in June, which will be hosted at Sunderland.

Another win then would see him make it through to competing on the world-famous grass courts at SW19! The event is in its sixth year and is part of the All England Club's community investment scheme, aimed at getting youngsters into tennis.

Chris is now playing for Tennis World in Middlesbrough, a feeder club for County level players, as well as Sedgefield Tennis Club. This in itself is an honour for Chris and a huge stride in the right direction for a boy who has his sights set high. His ambitions are to be a tennis coach and a Wimbledon finalist when he is older. Definitely one to watch!

A truly magnificent Neptune about to regain his rightful place

As the picture shows, the statue of Neptune is almost complete and will soon be ready to be placed on his plinth in the Serpentine River at Hardwick Park.

Since the picture was taken, Neptune's dolphin has been added and the joins between the pieces finished off. The remaining part of the process is the surface 'patination' where the shiny surface is transformed into the dull grey/green effect seen on most bronze statues.

The statue will be unveiled by John Grundy on Thursday 14th June at 11:30am, in a ceremony beside the Serpentine. Also present will be the sculptor, Keith Maddison as well as a Trustee from the Northern Rock Foundation, which funded the project.



Delivering Sedgefield News

First, many thanks to everyone who helps to distribute Sedgefield News. Next, is there anyone out there who could deliver to

Wellgarth Mews & St Luke's Crescent on a regular basis?

Any volunteers to help in whatever capacity, please give me a ring on **620244** or e-mail

mail@toddshousefarm.co.uk.

Also, please let me know if anyone you know is not receiving their copy of the News. All complaints to me please - I will try to sort them out! Judith Edgoose

SISTER ACT: The new look News is in tune with the new look Sedgefield WEB

To see what your community website has to offer, go to www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk
To renew or add to your entry on the website, follow the 'Contact us' link

The end of an era

Tony Blair's announcement of the timetable for his departure from the role he has filled for 10 years marked the beginning of the end of both Sedgfield and Trimdon Village's place in the spotlight.

It has been a time marked by excitement, some pride and some controversy, but there's no doubt that it put us on the map, both geographically and politically.

Many thanks to Sheila Sutherland for her photographs, right and below, of what was, for the Prime Minister's local supporters, a rather sad occasion.



The lonely melodeon calling ...

... anyone, of any age, who plays an acoustic musical instrument.

Meet up with the afore-mentioned squeeze-box for a tune session in **Ceddesfeld Hall on Wednesday 6th June from 8pm.**

The idea is to see what the demand is, and the range of music we're interested in, with a view to setting up a monthly session.

So far, mention has been made of Northumbrian, French and traditional English music. Add Irish, Scottish, Scandinavian, Cajun - whatever - just bring a tune and anything that plays it, from a tin whistle to a double bass.

Walking Group Away Day

On Tuesday 24th April we enjoyed two walks - first from the top of Cod Beck reservoir into Osmotherly and second, a circular walk from nearby Swainby. We stopped for a breather at Whorlton Castle (pictured below) before retiring to Swainby for a pub lunch.

A thoroughly enjoyable trip! *photo - Ian Hunter*



PTFA playground puts smile on young faces

The first week back to school after the Easter Holidays saw the installation of a low level activity trail in the grounds of Sedgefield Primary School. It has proved a huge hit with the pupils who are allocated times to explore and have fun on the equipment. The noise bears testament to how enthralled the pupils find this activity! This is the second designated play area to be funded this year. The Early Years Outdoor Classroom was a popular addition in January to the infant end of school.

The PTFA (Parent Teacher & Friend's Association) of Sedgefield Primary School would like to thank everyone in Sedgefield who has supported its fundraising efforts over the last three years. Whether you've bought cakes at Mediaeval Fayre, chocolates, stationery, toiletries or plants at fundraising evenings, attended their Spring Fairs, sponsored abseilers or runners, skated, read the recipe book, dried with the Tea towel, donated raffle prizes, monies or time, the PTFA is very proud to have your support. You have made a huge difference to the pupils of Sedgefield Primary School. We hope you are proud of yourselves too.

Thank you!



CHARITY EVENTS

Friends of Hardwick School Hardwick school choir

will perform at a coffee morning at the Methodist Church Hall on Saturday June 9th at 10am, and everyone will be very welcome.

Thank you for supporting Hardwick School's stall at the Mediaeval Fayre, where the **sweetie tombola** proved as popular as in previous years.

Sedgefield Primary School PTFA Family Ceilidh on Saturday 30th June (times & ticket details p 11)

All welcome, from Junior age upwards, to join us for a lively and enjoyable evening. Don't worry if you haven't tried a ceilidh before - the caller will explain all and it's guaranteed fun for all!

There's a break from dancing for a home cooked supper to refresh and refuel (please bring your own drinks although some soft drinks will be on sale if you forget).

All proceeds to the current PTFA fundraising project to enhance the school lives of our children.

Only a limited number of tickets available so don't delay.

Broken Beads & Jewellery Junk

Please help with our latest fundraising project. We are collecting jewellery and related items, which will be recycled and turned into cash to be spent on the pupils of Sedgefield Primary School.

We want your jewellery, in any condition, wearable or otherwise, odd earrings, broken chains, stopped watches, foreign or old coins, lapel badges, key rings, and costume jewellery. Let us relieve you of all that clutter - anything from that old tiara to snapped, plastic party beads! Donations to the Post Office, school office or via school pupils. Please clear out your jewels before Friday June 15th.

For **FREE PUBLICITY** send details of local Charity events to **snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk**

Easter Bunny Trail

Many thanks to all who took part in Hardwick School's Easter Bunny Trail around the village during the Easter holidays. The winners were chosen in an assembly at school, and were given a chocolate bunny!

The winners were Gemma Hill, Year 3; Daniel Lumsdon, Year 2 and Thomas & Calum Dunlop, Years 3 and 5. We raised £51 for Hardwick School. **THANK YOU!**

Community SAFETY

PC Todd's report

This month I would like to appeal to the young people of the village. We all understand that you like to meet up with your friends, especially on a Friday evening. I would ask that when you do meet up with your friends, and this includes friends from other villages, try not to gather in large groups. Also please show respect and consideration to nearby residents. Recently, young people have gathered in the Winterton play park, and unfortunately, litter, obscene graffiti and damage to the old church windows have been the result. This will not be tolerated. Anyone found committing these offences will be prosecuted. The very few crimes reported this month include:
West End; wing mirror damaged Chestnut Rd; theft of manhole cover
Salter's Lane; theft of a large shed
Front Street; graffiti on church wall
Until next month,
Keith

Pub Watch

A recent meeting was held in Ceddesfeld Hall. No incidents were reported in member premises. All members agreed that plastic glasses should be used if drinks were taken outside.

*If you feel you could make an interesting contribution to our Community Safety page please get in touch.
Our contact details can be found on page 12, bottom right.*

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood Watch Shed and Allotment Security Alert!



Many people take a great deal of trouble securing their house and the property within it whilst at the same time leaving valuable property in a shed which is either unlocked or so old and run down that it would prove no obstacle to the thief. During the summer months in our area we see an increase in the number of incidents of thefts from garden sheds.

What can you do?

1. Ensure that your shed is in good condition
2. Fit a good lock on your shed door. The fitting should be bolted through the door of the shed and reinforced at the back with a steel plate. The hasp should have concealed screws or coach bolts fitted. Don't forget the hinges should be secured also with non returnable screws or coach bolts. The padlock itself should not be less than 2.5" in width and made of hardened steel. It should be a closed-shackle type which will reduce the risk of the lock being forced or bolt-cropped.
3. Fit any shed windows with a grill.
4. Security mark property such as lawnmowers, garden furniture etc.
5. Never leave items unattended even if you are just popping into the house. You may only be gone for a minute but they may be gone forever.
6. If you leave items such as pedal cycles in your shed ensure they are security marked and secure them to the superstructure of the building.
7. Install a 'Dusk till Dawn' security light to illuminate your garden. They cost less than a penny a night to run.

Alarms

Readers may well remember from last month's issue that at the April Neighbourhood Watch meeting Crime Prevention Officer Neil Langthorne demonstrated to members a very useful small alarm consisting of a wireless PIR and alarm unit.

These units are very versatile. Not only can they be used as a straight-forward shed alarm: they can be placed inside a car and act as a car alarm (going off inside the house) but they can be set to chime and can be used to detect entry through a door into the house.

The price of the unit is £27.00 and anyone interested should contact Neil or Sarah for purchase, see tel. nos. below.

Telephone Numbers

Community Warden Tim Spearey at Sedgefield 623654 or via Chilton Control Room: 01388 721351

Local Police: 0845 6060365 - to report concerns, seek advice or pass on information to the Police (*it may be prudent to keep a note of details of any conversation & to obtain an incident number*).

For advice/assistance: **CPO** Neil Langthorne: 01325 742714

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator Sarah Norman: 01325 742755

Jottings from Sedgefield Residents' Forum

The Forum did not hold the standard meeting in April: instead we hosted an open meeting for residents to meet those standing to be Town and Borough Councillors. There was an excellent turn out from the candidates with only a few apologies; the attendance by residents was a little disappointing with only about 40 people there. However, it proved to be a very informative and interesting session and we would like to thank everyone who attended.

The format of the meeting proved to be very useful and we will obviously consider repeating the

process for any future elections, other areas across the Borough are also considering replicating our idea for the future so that their communities have a better opportunity to know who is standing as their representatives. Anyway, we now have a new Town Council, the Borough representatives remain the same people – the Residents' Forum will continue to work with the Councils and enable resident issues to be shared and addressed.

Meetings are always on the 4th Monday of each month at 7pm in the Fletcher Room of the Parish

Hall – everyone is welcome so do come along.

There are several really important issues affecting our community Wind Turbines, Secure Mental Health Unit, Animal Waste incinerator, extension to Bishop Middleham quarry plus of course the proposed imposed changes to our local authorities.

Minutes and agendas are available on line by giving your email address to Jane at the Town Council, on the village web sites, in the Library and an agenda will be on the village notice board.

Annual Senior Citizens outing to Redcar

This year the trip is on **Wednesday 4th July**. If you would like to go, please add your name to the list in the Post Office, or leave your name with Mary Hodgson or Billy Cooper by Monday 2nd July at the latest.

Days In Days Out

DIDO is a new project we are running here in Sedgefield Village, for older people. We are having an **'OPEN AFTERNOON'** on **Monday June 18th** in the Parish Hall, starting at 1.30pm and ending around 3.30pm.

The programme includes entertainment, Bingo and refreshments. A small charge of £1 will be made.

We hope you can come along and join us.

Please let as many people know about this as possible!

For more details please contact Gloria on 01740 623001 or look for the posters around the village.



Supported by

The National Lottery®
through Awards for All



**Sedgefield
Development
Trust**



Do you know of a volunteer who deserves special recognition?

CAVOS is looking for nominations for the **'Volunteer of the Year'** award, which will be presented at their Volunteer Thank You & Awards Evening on Thursday 7th June at Spennymoor Town Hall. Tickets for the evening, which includes live music and a pie & pea supper, are free for anyone who volunteers or works with volunteers in Sedgefield Borough. For more information, tickets or nomination forms contact Sharon Vasey or Vicky Walker at the Volunteer Centre on 01388 811115.

Volunteer Speed Matching

Find your ideal volunteering opportunity in an event based on speed dating - in just 3 minutes you can begin to make a real difference!
Tuesday 19th June at Spennymoor Town Hall at 11am, 2pm and 4pm.

Volunteering can help you as well as the projects you support, so why not give it a try? Just book a slot on one of our speed matching sessions and give 20 local organisations 3 minutes each to impress you. Anyone already familiar with the idea of speed dating will know how this works. If it's a new idea to you, please don't worry, because help will be on hand.

On offer will be information about helping other local people and helping in conservation projects. Organisations taking part will include those helping the young and not so young, people with physical and learning disabilities, homeless people, victims of crime, or experiencing mental distress, and people in hospitals, hospices and day centres.

Maybe you have managerial, marketing or financial skills, in which case you may be interested in finding out about becoming a charity trustee, or a school governor. If your interest lies in counselling, supporting or advising then there will be opportunities for you to find out more about that too.

We guarantee there will be something of interest for you - no matter what your interests, passions or time commitments. You won't have to sign up on the day; taking on a voluntary job is not something to rush. Our event is a fun way of getting people interested.

Booking essential as numbers on each session will be limited to 20. Contact Sharon Vasey or Vicky Walker on 01388 811115

Sedgefield Village Veterans

The Committee is sad to report that we have cancelled two events - the sponsored walk on the 9th June and Church service on Veterans' Day, 27th June, due to lack of support. However, we are pleased to acknowledge that we have a new secretary, Colin Hewgill, which will enable us to organise ourselves better.

Happily, the Junior Schools Sponsored Walk at the race course on Friday 29th June is still on.

Stop Doorstep Crime TRAINING COURSES

Durham County Council Trading Standards Service offer a free training package to try to prevent Doorstep crime. Built around a video for showing to older people, the training package recommends having a presenter (eg carer, volunteer) to engage with the older people, keep their attention and encourage them to get involved as the video is played.

We seek to involve a wide variety of organisations to deliver this material in their own communities.

The aim is to empower older adults to deal effectively with doorstep cold callers.

The package contains background information on distraction burglary and doorstep crime and 2 videos - **BEWARE THE BOGEYMAN**, to show older people what they can do to keep out bogus callers and **BEAT THE BOGEYMAN**, to raise awareness of doorstep crime among professionals and volunteers who work with older people. There are notes to help with presentation of the older people's video, to encourage involvement and improve learning & remembering; and a commentary to run right through the package so the presenter understands the psychological triggers that underpin the package and the importance of sticking to this format.

Training takes approximately one and a half hours and once trained you can train others in your organisation who in turn can give talks to individuals or groups.

The next course is to take place on Friday 15th June from 2 - 4pm in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham.

There will be another course on Wednesday 10th October.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact Debra Newton on 0191 3834240.

Diane Carr Advert

SPORTS UPDATE

with chrisjlines@aol.com

Tug of War

The Mediaeval Fayre was graced by Sedgefield's most hotly contested sports event of the year so far. The annual tug of war on the village green was at times titanic, at others controversial, but always entertaining. First up was a contest between the Beavers unit from 1st Sedgefield Scout Group and Sedgefield Youth United, and the advantage gained by pulling down the hill came into play immediately. Winning the toss can be important in a game of cricket, but that's nothing compared to how vital it is at the Mediaeval Fayre tug of war. The captain of the Beavers called correctly and reaped the rewards, as his team was successful in the first 'pull' (is that the technical term?). Sedgefield Youth United levelled the score, but the Beavers took advantage of the slope again to secure a hard fought 2-1 victory. Next up were the Cubs and Brownies. Last year, the Brownies were victorious and the Cubs were determined to make amends. This was a tense, controversial contest. At one point during the three pulls, the Brownies snuck an extra person onto the rope and umpire Peter Hinde was forced to award the contest to the Cubs, who in the end ran out 2-1 victors. Over two years, honours are now even – we could see some real fireworks in 2008.

Then we were treated to a first in Sedgefield. The Girl Guides took on a team of Girl Scouts. This was another hard fought contest, with both sides giving their all. However, the Girl Guides eventually won the day. I have since learnt that this was quite a grudge match, as many of the Girl Scouts apparently used to be Girl Guides and their defection had caused much controversy.

After such a bonanza of entertainment from the younger generation, it was always going to be difficult for the adult tug of war event to match such excitement ...and it didn't. A scratch team from the Round Table was unable to deal with the power and size of Sedgefield Rugby Club, who in turn were soundly beaten by a very effective and experienced team representing Crosshills Hotel. Overall, the tug of war really seemed to grab the imagination of the public and commanded a big crowd. Well done to Peter Hinde for his firm but fair umpiring and

congratulations to all who took part for providing a great spectacle. Next month – an in depth analysis of the skills needed to succeed at the coconut shy.

Sedgefield Cricket Club

Your local club has started another season, with three senior teams and four junior teams competing in the North Yorkshire and South Durham League. The first eleven were promoted last season to the first division and we are hopeful of consolidating their position in this very competitive league.

The club, with the help of income from the bar and other sources, including sponsorship from local business, has been able to improve its facilities during the winter. A new roof was required, the tea hut was replaced, improvements were made to the beer cellar equipment and bar, and internal and external decorations were completed.

Thanks must go to Carlsberg / Tetley, Mr. John Walker and the late Mr. RP Burton for their continuing financial support, as well as a new sponsorship arrangement with Mr. Ed Lowe (a local chartered accountant, specialising in Tax Advice to small businesses).

The club continues to strive to develop and has improved the cricket facilities and the grounds in recent years. All income is reinvested in the club, which relies on the support of its membership and the community at large to maintain its financial position. The bar facility is available for use to non-members and the club welcomes new faces, especially those who wish to follow and support the teams throughout the summer. Fixtures will be printed in Sedgefield News each month so get along and support them if you can.

Sedgefield Harriers

Six young Harriers recently took part in a North Yorkshire and South Durham Track and Field League meeting staged at Darlington's Eastbourne Sports Complex.

A strong U13 girls' team of JT Fanelli, Cori Sinclair and Abigail Greaves represented the Harriers. JT Fanelli had a successful evening collecting 3 bronze medal positions. These came in the 100m in a time of 15.7 seconds, the long jump with a leap of 3.05m and the shot putt with a put of 5.31m.

Meanwhile, Abigail and Cori matched each other throughout the evening recording the same time of

17.5 seconds in the 100m with a photo finish revealing that Abigail had just claimed 4th place ahead of Cori in 5th. It was the same story in the long jump, both girls recording a best leap of 2.23m.

This time Cori claimed the bragging rights to clinch 5th place from Abigail in 6th by virtue of a better 2nd best jump. In the shot putt Cori again finished 5th with a putt of 4.79m whilst Abigail was 6th with a best of 3.98m.

The Harriers' boys were not to be outdone by the girls. Andrew Lawson in his second season with the Harriers recorded a personal best in the U13 age group with 14.5 seconds for the 100m carrying him to 3rd place. Andrew also broke the 6-minute barrier for 1500m for the first time taking 5th place with a time 5.53.7.

Remarkably, as with the U13 girls, the Harriers had two U15 boys that could not be separated on the clock over 100m. In separate races both Jonathan Baines and Jordan Swales recorded a time of 14.9 seconds leaving spectators wondering who might have prevailed had they both been in the same race. Jonathan and Jordan then went on to cap a fine evening's athletics by recording strong personal best performances in the 1500m, registering new marks of 5.04.2 and 5.29.8 respectively.

Sedgefield Harriers' juniors train on Wednesday nights, meeting at 6:30 at Sedgefield Community College.

If you would like any further information please contact Scott Hydon on 07790418188 or email scotthydon@yahoo.com.

Girls' Nights Out

Running solo is often not an attractive idea for many women, especially on dark nights and quiet paths. Getting out of the door and running takes a deal of self-motivation for the novice or keep-fit runner and often the thought of running solo is the hurdle that finally puts the breaks on any thoughts of getting fit. It's such a shame because running can be one of the best ways to get trim and generally feel better. Running not only burns calories but also tones muscles and builds self-confidence. Running in company makes the miles go quicker and is great socially.

Last year Sedgefield Harriers introduced a Monday night running session specifically aimed to

Sedgefield Squash Club's marathon effort

It's not quite certain who first raised the suggestion of fundraising, but we knew we needed to increase our funds. It was also felt an event could promote an increased interest in squash at the same time. But how best to achieve this goal. Several suggestions were proposed and what at first was laughed at, ultimately was accepted. This could have been something to do with the London marathon, which was due to happen shortly - in fact it turned out to be that weekend.

You see, we were to have a sponsored ALL NIGHT LONG series of squash matches! These would run from 6pm on Friday evening until 6pm on Saturday evening.

Over 20 juniors and 20 adults took part. The more energetic, (or perhaps craziest), were to play the most matches in the 24-hour period. As I recall, Ben Hetherington took on the longest number of hours, totalling 11 hours in the 24-hour period. I think it's worth noting that several members gave up a night's sleep, some spending no less than 6 hours at the courts (not necessarily on them). Let's be fair, it was fun, but for some it was also hard work.

Our two objectives: fundraising - necessary for our very existence - but of equal importance, a constant supply of new blood to ensure our club's continuity. And the burning question - "How much was raised during the period of the 24-hour marathon?" - a grand total of approximately £350!

The committee would like to express their thanks to those who backed this fund raising event. It could be that there were many people that were not aware that this event was going to take place and therefore were unable to contribute. Perhaps this is where we fell down, but maybe, next time (if indeed there were to be another time) we should promote the fundraising side to a greater advantage.

Peter Redshaw (mini squash coach)



overcome some of these issues and *Sports Update Continued...*

to give women the opportunity of taking up or returning to running. As a 'village' club the Harriers avoids taking an elitist approach, instead encouraging runners of all abilities to participate. It is especially so on Mondays when the pace is easy and the distances shorter.

The session starts at 7.30pm at the Community College and finishes approximately 30 minutes later so it is not too big a time commitment for those with a busy day. Monday also avoids conflict with social commitments, which tend to be later in the week. Nor is the session specific to women. Monday nights are a great introduction to the club and runners can see how they get on before maybe committing to coming along on Wednesdays or Fridays. Anyone wishing to 'give it a go' can call Susan Wallace on 01740 629 194, e-mail jonsuswallace@aol.com or come along at 7.30pm on Mondays.

That's all for this month. As ever, if you have any sports news, send

Cricket Club home fixtures in June

Friday 1st at 6pm

Saturday 2nd at 2pm

Sunday 3rd at 10am

Sunday 3rd at 2pm

Saturday 9th at 2pm

Sunday 10th at 10am

Sunday 10th at 2pm

Monday 11th at 6pm

Saturday 16th at 2pm

Sunday 17th at 10am

Sunday 17th at 2pm

Saturday 23rd at 2pm

Sunday 24th at 10am

Sunday 24th at 2pm

2nd Team v YARM

1st Team v BARNARD CASTLE

Under 11s v HARTLEPOOL

3rd Team v GREAT AYTON

1st Team v B'HAM SYNTHONIA

Under 13s v DARLINGTON

3rd Team v REDCAR

Under 17s v NORTON

2nd Team v GREAT AYTON

Under 13s v NEWTON AYCLIFFE

1st Team v YARM

1st Team v MIDDLESBROUGH

Under 15s v WOLVISTON

3rd Team v RICHMONDSHIRE

Celebrate 100 Years of Scouting

with 1st Sedgefield Scout Group

2007 sees the Scout Movement celebrating its 100th anniversary, which is being commemorated by events throughout the year. Following its own successful 40th birthday barbeque last year, 1st Sedgefield Scout Group has decided to mark the movement's centenary with another gathering, on **Saturday 30th June**. The event will take place at Heley House Farm (on the road to Foxton), starting at 5.30pm. Along with a barbeque, there will be a traditional camp fire, and the chance to catch up with old Scouting friends and colleagues. **If you would like to find out more or order tickets (priced from £4.50), call Chris Lines on 623090 or Gary Hetherington on 621214, or email sedgescoutsbbq@aol.com.**

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Changes in Local Government

You may recall in the December 2006 edition of Sedgefield News that we published the indicative timetable for consultation on the proposed changes to the structure of local government in County Durham. Presently, County Durham is governed through what is known as the 'two tier system', whereby some services are provided by the County Council and some by the local District or Borough Council.

The consultation exercise is now underway and the Government is asking for the views of key stakeholders about the pro's and con's of abolishing the seven District /Borough Councils and the County Council, and establishing one Council to cover the whole of the County.

The Government's Tests are:

Affordability, Support, Strong, effective and accountable leadership, Neighbourhood empowerment and Value for Money. These have been considered in the Governments' preliminary views in support of a single authority.

The County Council proposal can be viewed by visiting their website on www.durham.gov.uk. If you are interested in responding to the consultation, which runs until 22 June, you can either send your responses to your local Borough Council who will forward them on to the Government or you can send them to:-

**Unitary Structures Consultation Team,
Zone5/E8, Eland House, Bressenden Place, London, SW1E.5DU
or e-mail structures@communities.gsi.gov.uk**

GREENING our lives

A big green idea - on May 1st, a town called Modbury, in Devon officially became the first town in the British Isles to stop issuing plastic shopping bags when goods are purchased.

Traders in Modbury have joined together with residents and business organisations to try to make sure that from now on there will not be a single plastic shopping bag available in the entire town. Here are just a few of the facts about plastic that inspired their action.

A plastic bag can take between 500 to 1000 years to break down.

In the UK at least 200 million plastic bags end up as litter on beaches, streets and parks every year. Much of that litter enters the sea.

Many marine animals mistake plastic bags for food and swallow them, with painful and often fatal consequences. An estimated 1 million seabirds choke or get tangled in plastic nets or other debris every year.

We can all help by carrying a shopping bag or basket, or MAYBE EVEN RESURRECTING THE DREADED SHOPPING TROLLEY! But could our Sedgefield traders help us jump on the Modbury bandwagon? Let's ask the Co-op, which prides itself on its ethics, and Sainsbury's; they have had a trial attempt in some of their big shops so why not Sainsbury's at Bells? And - let's give credit where it's due - Selections and many other shops give us *paper* bags, if we need one.

**Got a green bee in
YOUR bonnet?**

**Contact us at
snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk
or write to
Sedgefield News,
58 Front Street,
Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ**

Bookworm

"Marley and Me" by John Grogan has a cover which must surely attract any dog-lover, particularly one who has or has had a quizzical golden Labrador pup. There is something about that expression which says "look at me", or in this case, "read me"!

John Grogan is an award-winning journalist and the Pennsylvania columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Marley was his dog and this is the story of their relationship, of Marley growing up with Grogan and his wife, and throughout the births of their children; of city life and country life, but primarily of the effect a dog has on its owners.

It is an easily read book which describes a "mad" dog whose antics are incredible and yet who wins hearts and is devoted to his family from beginning to end. This is not a classic! It is a gentle, tender account which made my husband smile and say "You should read it - you'll really enjoy it!" I did, thoroughly. I found "Marley and Me" humorous and poignant; I laughed and I shed a tear at its inevitable conclusion; a lovely, simple story of a good man, his family and Marley. *MM*

If you have enjoyed a particularly good read, why not share it with the rest of us? Send your review to Sedgefield News, 58 Front Street, Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ or email snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk.

JUNE Events Diary

Announcements **FREE** to
non-commercial organisations

Wynyard Planetarium & Observatory

Fridays 1st June & 15th at 3pm
"Wonders of the Universe"
Adults £3.50, concs £2, family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) £7.
For further information contact Dr. Ed Restall on 01740630544

Bingo at Ceddesheld Hall

Saturdays 2nd & 30th June
Doors open 7pm - Eyes down 7.45
Cash Prizes. Bar open. Welcome!

Local History Society

7.45pm at Ceddesheld Hall
Monday 4th June
Tony Nicholson from the Dept of History at Teesside University,
"Secrets of the Attic"
All welcome

Sedgefield Garden Society

Tuesday 5th June
Visit to Durham Botanical Gardens
Meet Ceddesheld Hall 6.30 pm.

Sedgefield W.I.

Wednesday 6th June
Parish Hall, 7.15 pm
Maria Lawson on **Teenage Mums**
Members' competition -
a favourite baby's photograph
Visitors welcome (fee £1.50)

Sedgefield Farmers' Market

Sunday 10th June
on the Village Green

Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch & Crimewatch Panel

Tuesday 12th June 7 pm
in the Parish Hall. *ALL Welcome*

June at Sedgefield Library

Rhyme Time

Songs, stories, rhymes for under 5's
Wednesday 2nd 10-11am

Book Circle

Wednesday 20th from 2pm

Tickle Time:

songs & rhymes for babies & carers
Monday 11th & 25th 10-11am

Rhyme Time

Wednesday 13th & 27th 10-11am

Toy Library

Wednesday 6th & 20th 5-6pm.

Book circle

Wednesday 16th 2-3pm

Silk Painting

Wednesday 6th June, 1.30-3.30pm

Jewellery Making

Wednesday 13th 1.30-3.30pm
places limited on above 2 courses:
advance booking essential.

Friends of Hardwick

Bill Grundy will unveil the
new statue of Neptune on
Thursday 14th June at 11.30am
in a ceremony beside the
Serpentine in Hardwick Park

Sedgefield Civic Trust

The next meeting will be held on
Thursday 14th June
at 7pm in the Parish Hall
Everyone welcome

Sedgefield Show Meeting

Thursday 14th June at 8pm
in the Nag's Head
All those interested welcome

Days In Days Out

New activities for older people.
Open Afternoon in the Parish Hall
Monday 18th June

1.30 - 3.30pm

Entertainment, Bingo, &
Refreshments. Entry £1

Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)
Monday 18th June at 7.45pm
in Ceddesheld Hall

Carol Cook on Whitby Jet

If you are new to Family History,
why not join us at one of our
meetings? New members are
always welcome

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club

Tuesday 19th June at 7.30 pm
Open Meeting in the Parish Hall
Olive Dalrymple,
Northumberland & Durham
Demonstrator

Through the eyes of a Child

All welcome

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 21st June
Outing to
Bishop Middleham Quarry
Meet at Parish Hall car park
to leave at 6.30pm
More details from Steve on 620559
Everybody welcome

Sedgefield Players

"The Importance of being Earnest"
by Oscar Wilde
Thurs - Sat. 21st - 23rd June
at 7.30pm in Sedgefield Parish Hall
Tickets from Selections or
members of the Players

Residents' Forum

Fletcher Room, Parish Hall
Monday 28th May

Lirica & Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir

present a delightfully mixed
programme of songs
in the Parish Hall on

Friday 29th June at 7.30pm

Tickets from Selections or
members of Lirica and SLYC

Sedgefield Primary School PTFA - Family Ceilidh

Saturday 30th June
7-11pm in the Parish Hall
Tickets: Adult £8.50,
Child £5.50, Family £25
from Alison Etheridge - 622839

101 Gigs in June

- 1 Washington Football Club
- 2 The Ox Inn Stanley
- 3 The Station Hotel Redcar
- 9 The Princess Alice Middlesbrough
- 10 The Foresters Coundon
- 16 The George Washington
- 17 The Normanby Hotel Normanby
- 20 The Quaker Darlington
- 22 Manhattans Stockton
- 23 (Wedding)
- 29 The Lord Nelson Stockton
- 30 The Sportsman Eaglescliffe

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays
Sporting, social and charitable
events - new members welcome
Contact Rob on 629079

Country Market

Friday mornings in the Parish Hall

Coming up in July

Sedgefield Garden Society

Tuesday 3rd July - Visit to Beamish
Cottage Gardens

Annual Senior Citizens Outing to Redcar

Wednesday July 4th. Details page 5

Trip to Skipton & Holmfirth

Wednesday 11th July
Tickets from Town Council - £8

Sedgefield Lyric Singers Summer concert

with guest baritone Eddie Gratton
"Songs Old and New"
Sedgefield Parish Hall 7.30pm.
Friday 13th & Saturday 14th July
Tickets: Adults £5 Concessions £4
including refreshments.
from Selections, Audrey Lofthouse
620625 or choir members.

Sedgefield Show Meeting

Thursday 26th July 8pm

Parking

Is it time to have a campaign of some sort about the vogue for parking cars on pavements, effectively driving pedestrians onto the road? One example is Spring Lane: I came down the road today to find a digger and a JCB occupying most of the pavement area at the top of the road. I have a particular concern for young parents with buggies and toddlers who either slalom across from side to side of the roads to keep safe on the pavement or have to navigate round obstacles in the face of traffic.

Margaret Lines

Hardwick Park

Following two recent visits to Hardwick Park in as many weeks I found that the park is expanding greatly and not all to the better. On both occasions ducks and swans were nesting on the sides of the pond/lake, unfortunately also on both occasions stupid uncaring people allowed dogs to run around chasing the birds from the nesting sites, the island the birds used to nest on is no longer available. Can anyone who is doing alterations to the park advise if the birds will have a "people free area" where they can nest in safety. I was also quite annoyed to see dog owners allowing their dogs to do their jobs on the grass and not bothering to clean it up. Even more annoying is the fact that on our second visit the park warden was present and all we saw was the vehicle moved from space to space and the dogs still ran around without anything being said to them, so please also let me know what is the warden actually for.

Mrs May

Open Church

It was our second Thursday morning of Open Church @ St Edmunds. Our stint was almost finished (10am till 12-30) when we received our first visitor of the day. "Isn't this a beautiful church" the visitor began "I've just taken a photograph of the west view as I have been searching for this church for some time now."



**DEVELOPMENT
TRUSTS
ASSOCIATION**

the community-based regeneration network

**Sedgefield Development Trust is a member of the
Development Trusts Association**

YOUR Letters

He then went on to explain that some years ago a friend, Eddie Pickering had given him a photograph of the Master of Foxhounds and 2 outriders posing in front of a church, with the pack. He hadn't been told where the picture was taken, but had assumed that it was somewhere in Middlesbrough as Eddie Pickering had lived there. All he did know was that the Master was Col. Cyril Pickering (centre of photo), left (facing) was son Eddie Pickering and right was, he thought, called Major Petch.

He then introduced himself as Albert Elliott, who lives in Castleton, North Yorkshire. He helps produce a magazine called "Voice of the Moors" for the North Yorkshire Moors Association. His task each quarter is to produce a photograph, entitled "where on earth" and people are asked to identify the place. In the Spring / Summer issue of 2006 he had inserted the mystery photograph. Usually he knows the location; this time he didn't.

No one came forward with the answer until he visited his dentist, who practices in Borough Road, Middlesbrough. "I know where that is" said the Dentist "It is Sedgefield Church and the South Durham Hounds. I know because I live in Sedgefield".

So Albert visited Sedgefield at his first opportunity and lo and behold, took a photograph of the same view as showing on the original - without the Hunt, I might add.

David & Enid Hillerby

Family History query successful

Thank you very much for passing on the census information from Sheila Swanson (of the Family History Group). I can't believe how lucky I have been and how kind you folk up there are. Please will you pass on my thanks to Sheila and the others who helped. I really appreciate it, especially as I only had the 1881 census information. I seemed to lose the family going back from then on and now I have them all the way back to 1841! Once again, thank you very, very much to all concerned.

Dorothy Keys



Voice of the Moors mystery solved

Sedgefield Blooms Again

The Northumbria in Bloom judges pay their second visit to Sedgefield this year on the morning of Thursday 12th July. The Sedgefield in Bloom volunteers would welcome any and every assistance early on the morning of the day itself, to litter pick and generally tidy up the village.

We need everyone's help for Sedgefield to do well this year. Well-maintained gardens and public spaces and the absence of litter, graffiti and dog fouling all help in keeping the village in peak condition.

If you would like to help in any way or volunteer for future projects aimed at improving your local environment, please ring Sedgefield in Bloom member Maxine Robinson on 620042.

*The deadline for the July
issue of Sedgefield News is
June 15th*

Contact us at 58 Front St,
Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ:
phone 01740 629011 or email
snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk.

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