

Sedgefield News

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By the Villagers for the Villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
May 2003 - First Birthday Issue



A big day for Sedgefield News

*So forgive us being all pink and frilly -
it's more than a rush of spring air to the head!*

It's a good feeling to have come this far, with Sedgefield News established and getting a lot of positive feedback from readers and advertisers. We hope we're providing the kind of information you need and features you like to read, but if there are changes you would like to see please get in touch - you know where we are, or if you don't you haven't studied the back page!

One issue we would like to tackle has to do with our age - One year old we are definitely NOT! To be fair, a paper produced by volunteers will inevitably have most of the work done by those with a bit of time to spare, perhaps retired or working part-time but maybe our age profile shows in our output. We want to include features written by or of value to young people. Suggestions please.

We tackled the issue of advertising a few months ago, in response to a reader's letter. It has its pros and cons of course, but one thing we are very aware of is that we must ensure the newsletter is financially sound, so adverts have their place. But our clients tell us they do actually work! Anything to sell?

Last but not least, the volunteers who bring in the copy, put the paper together and deal with distribution, are a dedicated crew. There's a deadline every month and it isn't always a piece of cake meeting it! Some of those who were in at the start have moved on but we want to thank them wholeheartedly. As for the rest of us - well, we hope you don't mind if we're just a bit pleased with ourselves. As this one goes to press we'll be popping a champagne cork or two - and they won't necessarily all be metaphorical!

1st Farmers' Market in Sedgefield to Coincide with Mediaeval Fayre

While you stroll round the village on May 17th, take a closer look at the patch of village green usually seen as the parking area in front of the Hope Inn. There you'll find fresh local produce on sale at the first of a series of experimental Farmers' Markets – an idea that has met with great success lately in towns all over the country. On this occasion, for obvious reasons, it has only been possible to invite producers who can provide their own stalls, but later markets will be more flexible. Supported by Northumbria Larders, who help regional producers bring their goods direct to the public, the idea is that Sedgefield should benefit from the availability of excellent regional produce, without having to travel. As well as finding out if the market appeals to the people of Sedgefield, it will be important to know which day of the week works best, so the rest of the 'pilot' markets have been marked down for **Thurs 10th July, Sat 20th September, Fri 17th October**, plus a date in November, to be decided.

The Tug of War Challenge

Mediaeval Fayre Chair, Wendy Gill has issued a challenge to local pubs and organisations to tug for the pride of Sedgefield! In recent years, visiting teams have done very well in the Tug of War, often winning the competition and Wendy says she would love to see the day won by a local team. She promises that the prizes donated by the Crosshill will be well worth the effort.

A special challenge is being made to women and young people and there's a trophy for the best pub team as well as the overall winners. Teams can enter on the day, but it would be helpful if you registered beforehand.

Ring John Robinson on **620042** to enter.

More on the Fayre on pages 6 & 11

Northumbrian Pipers celebrate 20 years piping in Sedgefield



Thirsty work! Real Ale goes down a treat with the pipers

Many of you will have heard the Northumbrian pipes on TV, radio and recordings, and some may have seen excellent professional pipers like Katherine Tickell and Pauline Cato, live in concert. But fewer will have seen ensemble pipes played in an informal, relaxed session style.

Here in Sedgefield we have the opportunity to listen to the pipes being played by local people on our door-step, with no distance to travel.

The Northumbrian Smallpipes are a melodious, bellows blown bagpipe, rather quiet by comparison with other bagpipes and normally played indoors, and the sound of the chanter has been likened to the singing of a lark over the buzzing of bees - the drones!

It is 20 years since the Cleveland Branch of the Northumbrian Pipers' Society was formed and the pipers celebrated recently with a concert at The Studio in Hartlepool - chosen because of its recording facilities. Fans will be pleased to know that a CD release is planned for 2004.

Regular monthly meetings used to take place in the Golden Lion, but eight years ago the pipers moved to Ceddesfield Hall and have not looked back. The very good acoustics here are ideal for playing and listening to these beautiful pipes.

Sessions take place on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, from 7.30pm and you are very welcome to come along to listen or play. To find out more, contact David Cook on **620098**.

**Sedgefield Town Council
wishes to appoint a**

Researcher

**to carry out research into
the Village Greens and
Rights of Access
in the village centre**

*The work will involve an audit
of existing rights of access
and way-leaves,
using existing documentation
in the Council Offices
and the Archives.*

*For details please contact
Lesley Swinbank at:
The Council Offices,
Advice & Information Centre -
phone 621273*

or e-mail

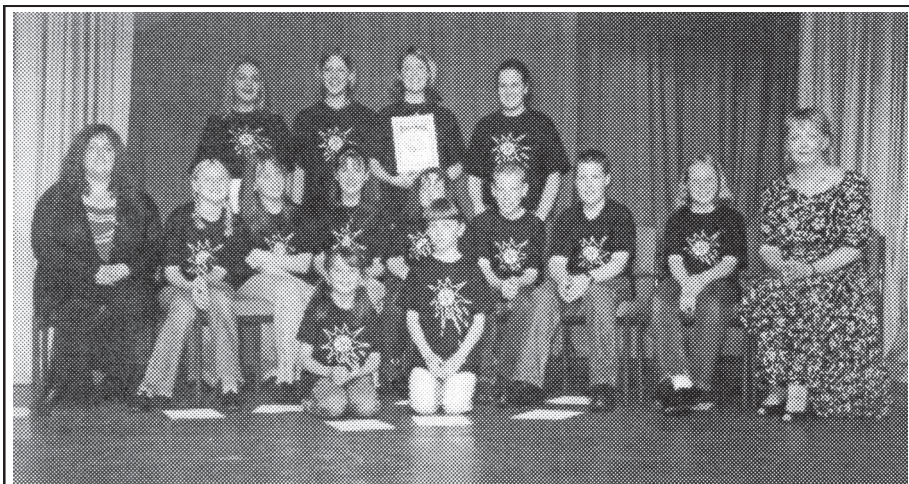
Lesley.Swinbank@sedgefield.net

In the Limelight with SEDGEFIELD PLAYERS

Formed by a handful of enthusiasts in 1970, Sedgefield Players have gone from strength to strength, developing into the award-winning group they are today. Productions Director Walter Howell has selected a wide range of plays, offering a variety of challenges to members, in terms of performance and staging, from open air Shakespeare in the grounds of Ceddesfeld Hall to traditional family pantomimes. They have mastered additional talents needed for particular shows, like tap dancing for 'Stepping Out', Irish step dancing for 'Dancing at Lughnasa' and aerobics for 'Gym and Tonic'.

The Annual Festival of One Act Plays has gained national recognition and the Players have won numerous awards at this Festival and others, including the Isle of Man Easter Festival, which takes place in the beautiful Douglas Gaiety Theatre. Sedgefield Players Youth Section (SPYS) has members from the age of 7 to 18, when they transfer to the adult group. Younger members are offered plentiful opportunities to develop their performance skills and to take part in productions as a youth group but also with the seniors.

We enjoyed particular success with productions of "Little



LAMDA coaches Sarah Atkinson & Jean Hewling with members of SPYS, after receiving their awards in July 2002

Women", Catherine Cookson's "The Fifteen Streets" and a musical play about a school children's strike at the turn of the century, "The Burstn Drum".

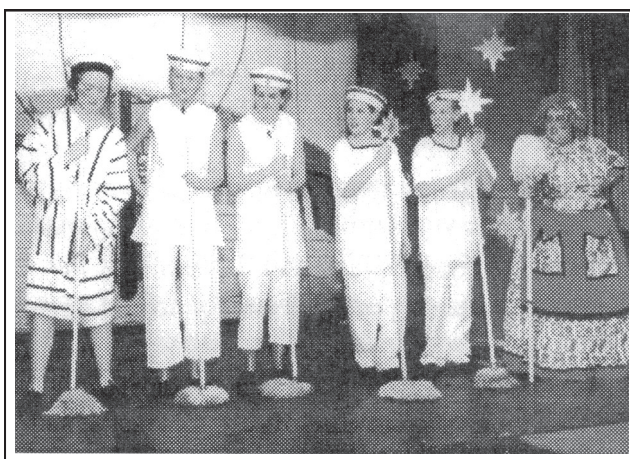
SPYS also receive coaching from adult members of the group, enabling them to take drama exams set by the London Academy for Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA). Many SPYS have received certificates and medals and their presentation evenings are a source of pride for parents and Players alike.

As well as the week long Festival of One Act Plays in September, involving drama groups from the region, the Players also produce a pantomime at Christmas and full-length plays in March, June and November.

Our March production usually crosses the sea to the Isle of Man Festival. Although we set ourselves very high, professional standards, we have a lot of fun putting on our shows. The hard work and camaraderie involved is very therapeutic, on stage, back stage or front-of-house. We welcome new members; no

auditioning is necessary. Just come along to our regular meetings in Sedgefield Parish Hall at 7:30 p.m. every Sunday and Wednesday. SPYS meet on Sundays at 6:30pm, also in the Parish Hall.

So if you'd like to act, make costumes, build sets, operate lights or sound, sell programmes or make coffee, join us - you'll have a great time! Or come to the Parish Hall to enjoy excellent live theatre on your doorstep. Look out for our eye-catching posters, or join our mailing list (call 620091) or access us on our website at www.sedgefieldplayers.org.uk
Norma Neal - Chairman



Some of the cast of Dick Whittington last Christmas

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'Blame It On The Rain' The Album Tour!

Gig List for May
- all starting at 8pm

- 4th - The Golden Lion, Sedgefield
- 7th - The Princess Alice, M'bro
- 10th - Masons Arms, Easington
- 14th - Tap & Spile, Guisborough
- 18th - The Princess Alice, M'bro
- 25th - The Normanby Hotel
- 26th - The Cooperage, Bowburn
- 31st - The Tut & Shrive, Bishop Auckland

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

PC Todd reports

Spring has seen the return of the opportunist thief. Gardens and garages in the new Winterton housing development, Spring Lane and North End have already been targeted. Ornamental garden pigs and a planter made from half a beer barrel have vanished! Metal up-and-over garage doors have proved to be vulnerable and easily bent from the floor upwards to gain entry, but there are bolts on the market so you can combat this type of crime. Hardwick Country Park too, has had a return of its problems. A number of vehicles have been forced open and handbags, radios, etc. stolen. So please be careful when out with your family or walking your dog. The Pub Watch Committee has taken the decision to ban a female person of the village from all their premises for a period of 12 months, after an incident in one of the licensed premises. Finally I'd like to wish Sgt Kevin Blakey all the best for his move, and welcome Sgt Simon Trotter to Sedgefield.

See you next time -

Keith.



*Sergeant Kevin Blakey.
Read his farewell letter on page 12*

Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch

At the April meeting, Matters Arising were limited to **Consumption of alcohol in public places.** A letter of strong support for the local Police initiative has been sent. Hopefully a bye-law will be introduced soon.

Control of Fireworks. Letters of support with signatures for their petition sent to Institute of the Blind. Commitment to further support this important issue.

Difficulty with approvals to post notices at the new Winterton site finally resolved by Sarah Norman.

PC Keith Todd presented a table of reported crime for last two months - Burglary 4, Property Damage 5, Theft related 8, Vehicle related 7. He gave further details & answered questions.

CPO Neal Langthorne gave an end of year précis of Burglary in the Borough. Much success in reduction and detection in other wards of the Borough, but unfortunately lately, a rise in our village area, although still very low. He informed us of new training for Village Constables enabling improvements in communication between them and our Street Contacts. They can now put out relevant information & messages during their shift rather than waiting for trained day staff. A most welcome improvement sought for some time by our Panel.

NHW Coordinator Sarah Norman gave details of the Spring issue of Watch News, which has practical advice on crime prevention measures. Copies given to those present (numbers limited so no general issue).

The Chairman highlighted a major benefit of our scheme. Asked by a member of the public to help curb teenage vandalism he contacted Neal and Keith. Subsequent actions resulted in 2 people being arrested and bought to book. Hopefully this sends a message that bad behaviour & vandalism will not be tolerated here.

One member further urged reporting of bad behaviour and litter to the school/governors & pointed out that we now have a Warden appointed by the Borough who can issue litter fines.

Members are requested to provide the Chairman with questions/issues in writing for the Chief Constable (attending August meeting) by the next panel meeting (10th June) at the latest. **The raffle** raised £16.00

Victim Support for Sedgefield District

Many people who suffer from criminal damage feel the incident is a personal threat to them and worry that the offenders may return. Some can be quite seriously affected.

Victim Support is a registered charity, established to offer help and support to people who have become victims of crime. Working closely with local police, our trained workers offer all kinds of support.

Sometimes all that is needed is a listening ear and some practical advice and information, but we will also accompany a victim to court and liaise with the police to help access information.

If you have been a victim of crime and require any kind of assistance, contact us on 01325 319263

Arthritis - joint repairs

Although around 200 diseases come under the general arthritis heading, osteoarthritis (OA) and rheumatoid arthritis (RA) are by far the most common, affecting more than 3.5 million people. There have been significant new medications, but improvements to established forms of treatment have been just as important recently.

Joint repair is improving. At least 80% of artificial hip joints now last 15 years or more; knee joints at least 10. You can also get elbow, ankle, wrist and finger joints replaced. A team at Leeds University is working on longer lasting knee joints for younger patients. Surgeons and bio-engineers in Stanmore are developing a shoulder joint that never wears out. In some centres patients with less advanced arthritis can even have a knee replacement using keyhole surgery, so they can leave hospital after just two or three days.

Surgery with a longer lifespan

Younger, more active people who have hip replacement, know the chances are they will need a second or third one later in life. Over time, artificial joints can loosen and become unstable and second and subsequent replacements may last only five to ten years.

Nowadays, hip resurfacing is a real alternative. Instead of replacing the whole joint, the surgeon removes the diseased cartilage and replaces it with a new lining comprising a metal head and cup-like implant. The resurfaced joint is extremely durable and if something goes wrong a repeat operation is simpler and easier than a full replacement. It is recommended for people who need a replacement but are likely to live longer than the artificial joint will last.

For further information call the Arthritis Care Help line on 0808 800 4050 or visit www.arthritiscare.org.uk

Road Safety Group not waving, but drowning!

Rubbish! Do you ever feel we are drowning in the stuff? Paper, polystyrene containers, plastic bags fill every lay-by and virtually obliterate the grass on roadside verges and broken glass hidden in the grass is a danger to children and animals. Councils clean it up regularly but it flows on - a never-ending stream. Some comes from passing cars but pedestrians are hardly blameless!

Fly tipping is another cost to us all and it damages the environment. Picking up and disposing of old chairs, beds and other rubbish is time consuming and costly. The scale of the problem is huge. The Environment Agency estimates about 50,000 incidents of fly-tipping each year, at a cost of up to £150 million, all paid for by you and me. New regulations will help local authorities to find and prosecute fly-tippers, who could be subject to an unlimited fine or two years in prison. So what can we do to avoid the pain?

Well, we can dispose of our rubbish responsibly. If you're out & about, take your rubbish home or use a litter bin. For larger items, Sedgefield Borough Council (**01388 816 166**) has a special collection service which will take up to 6 household items per month absolutely free, including 'white goods' such as fridges and microwaves.

It's a problem we have to deal with, this 'built-in obsolescence' but at least we do have this safer, cleaner, environmentally sounder option.

The NHS in Action

Not yet a year old the new Sedgefield Community Hospital has already gained an excellent reputation for the provision of services to local people. The staff and management are determined to build on this positive start and the Primary Care Trust will continue to encourage more NHS services to use its modern facilities. To find out more about the hospital and its services, contact Sedgefield PCT on 0191 301 3820 or e-mail

heather.inglis@
sedgefieldpct.nhs.uk

Healthy 'Yorkshires'

If you're on a low cholesterol diet but still hanker after Yorkshire puddings with Sunday dinner, don't despair! You can still use your old recipe, but leave out the egg yolk.

***You'll be surprised how good
they'll be - just as good
as the original!***

Knights in armour, birds of prey and all the fun we've come to expect, on May 17th - the 33rd Sedgefield Medieval Fayre

*Come rain or come shine, this great day goes from strength to strength. This year the Round Table starts a packed programme with a **Balloon Race at 10am**, as the Float Parade makes its way to the village green. but before all that;*

The Door To Door Collections

These will take place during the evenings of the week beginning Monday 12th May. Members of the community association, recognisable by their printed t-shirts or sweat shirts will call to collect any donations you can spare, of bric-a-brac, non perishable foods, books, toys, raffle and tombola gifts. Sorry no clothing taken, though these can be recycled through the collection point in the parish hall car park. Please donate whatever you can as these items play a vital part in our fund-raising efforts for the community association. If you miss the collection van, or need something collecting later, contact Peter, Maxine or John.

Cash Payout for Winners!

It's impossible to imagine Mediaeval Fayre without the procession of floats, and this year the parade will set off at 9.45 once again led by the Flower Queen, and with music provided by the Cleveland Police Band. Though the route has been shortened a little over the years, so that young children don't get tired, the happy atmosphere it creates hasn't diminished at all.

Floats will pick up cash rewards sponsored by Pepperpot Dolls' Houses, and Master in Charge of the parade, Ray Barron is hoping for new entries to give even greater pleasure to the visitors.

Local groups, schools, play groups and businesses are all invited to enter a float. **For more details ring Ray on 621166.**

Please note: **Floats assemble at Queens Drive by 9.30am.**

So What's On & Who's Where?

For a start there's the very welcome return of the **Knights of the Black Phoenix**. They will be in the arena on the Cross Hill, demonstrating horseback battle and combat techniques, as well as jousting and you can try your hand at removing Excalibur from the Stone. Other events in the arena include **Taekwondo** and flight and skill demonstrations of birds of prey from **Ridgside Falconry**. They will also have the birds on display in Ceddesfeld Hall grounds where you can also see Mediaeval Living History in action at the Knights' camp! There will also be **Punch & Judy** shows on the terrace throughout the day. Inside Ceddesfeld Hall there's Coffee, delicious home made lunches and an all day bar - voted **CAMRA 's Best Club in the Region**, all at competitive prices. On the Green, side shows and stalls with an abundance of crafts; **dancing** with Tyneside Morris, Black Sheep Morris, Palatine Clog Morris and Sedgefield County Junior School.

Expect stiff competition this year in the Tug of War as the pubs and local groups go head to head.

Fancy Dress & Flower Queen presentations take place in front of St. Edmunds lich gate.

It wouldn't be complete without rides and games at the **Funfair** - it will be in the usual place.

The **Grand Raffle** is drawn at 3pm - some exceptional prizes can be won and there's an elegant dolls house being raffled on the Pepperpot stall, proceeds going to the Fayre.

Harry Potter versus the Tweenies?

Childrens' fancy dress contests always make for difficult decisions for the judges! We've had Bill & Ben, George & the Dragon, fairies, animals, jesters, even Cogsworth from Beauty & the Beast! Hayes Travel is donating special prizes for the children, so come on mums & dads; thinking caps on. **Let's have the best competition ever.**

In St. Edmund's

The Hand-bell Ringers, the Lyric Singers & Lyrics Youth Choir will perform and if you're feeling energetic, take a trip up the tower for an amazing view of the area - good training if you're thinking of the Abseil Challenge!

Contacts Numbers

Chair, Wendy Gill **620206**
Secretary, John Robinson & Publicity/Sponsorship,
Maxine Robinson **620042**
Treasurer, Chris Young **620014**
Collections, Peter Hinde **621923**

Proceeds from the Fayre go towards the upkeep of Ceddesfeld Hall and assist in funding Sedgefield Community Association's activities.

Sedgefield Mediaeval Fayre is staged in association with Linpac Filmco, Carpets & Curtains at Home, Pepperpot Dolls Houses, WCL Construction, Crass & Co, The Dun Cow, The Black & Golden Lion, and the Cross Hill Hotel, as well as other local businesses. A huge 'Thank you' to them all!

The Parkinson interview: *When Bob & Sue....were on the Box!*

JP *We were watching the Family Relationship quiz on television on Saturday when the camera panned round to the section showing the Silver Wedding Couples. There in front of our very eyes were Sue and Bob Harris, as large as life! What we would all like to know is how on earth did you get there?*

Sue In February we celebrated our Silver Wedding Anniversary. We renewed our vows in church and invited 25 friends to a party at the Crosshills, which was wonderful. One of our friends had seen an article on the net - Talent TV were looking for couples who had just celebrated their Silver Wedding. So

unbeknown to us, he sent our names in and when we returned from holiday in Paris, there was the application form.

Bob We filled it in but didn't send it off but a few days later received a phone call asking us to send it in with passport photograph and driving licence. On the Friday we heard we had been selected and our train tickets and hotel reservations were in the post.

JP *So you were going by train, but where to?*

Bob Wembley. The studio was just opposite the tube station, next door to our hotel.

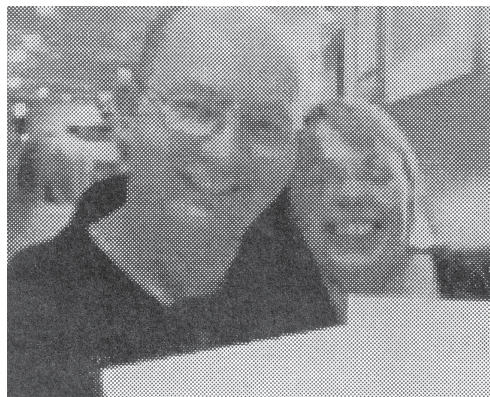
Sue We had to be in the studio by 3 o'clock, television ready, which presented a bit of a problem for the ladies. The show didn't start until a lot later, which meant having to sit about for 4 hours in our make up!

Bob We were called to a briefing for the groups we were in, then it was a case of waiting about until we had our meal. There were plenty of soft drinks, but no alcohol!

JP *Phillip Schofield is a natural, but how did you find Ann Robinson?*

Bob She actually came over as a very nice person but if she got flak from the single men she gave just gave it right back!

JP *Give me some impressions of the studio. Any amusing incidents off camera?*



Sue I was amazed at the amount of stuff in the roof - it was packed with lights and cables and scaffold poles. And also just how incredibly hard everybody worked. They were running about all the time behind the cameras, and never seemed to stop!

Bob Each cameraman with the camera on his shoulder has a gopher with him to carry the cables etc., and on one occasion the cameraman went one way and his gopher went the other. That was very funny when the cable went tight.

JP *What happened during the newsbreak in the middle?*

Sue They came in with bags of crisps, soft drinks and glasses and

glasses of wine, which all had to be consumed in 20 minutes but by this time everyone was bursting to go to the loo! We were asked only to go if we were desperate, as there were only three loos and it took 35 minutes to get us all seated. It could have been a problem.

Bob They encouraged us to have a drink as they wanted an animated second half, but we were all having such a good time they would have got it anyway. You had to be careful what you were saying as there were microphones everywhere and they picked up all your comments.

JP *At home we were very impressed by the experts - they were very knowledgeable.*

Bob The experts were good, their comments were relevant - down to earth and interesting.

Sue All the groups hit it off very well, but when the police came in they kept to them selves! The whole thing was a wonderful experience and such fun to do. We were very well looked after.

JP *The last thing is - what did you score? I'll tell you ours so you won't feel out on a limb! Bett got 178 and I got 176. They reckoned over 170 was acceptable.*

Sue I got 184. **Bob** And I got 179.

JP *A fascinating insight into the world of television. Thank you for making my job so easy.*

Lifelong Learning

New projects being planned: **A hands-on approach to gardening.**
A sewing club or a basic Sewing Course. If you're interested please contact me on 629011. Look out for the posters dotted around the village advertising Adult Learners Week activities in the Library and Young Persons Learning Week from May 27th, as well as the up-coming computer courses.

Have Fun! Bob Harris

Sedgefield Ball Game Winners Board

The missing names have now been filled in, the history seems to be complete & you can see the results in the Hardwick Arms. Landlord, Peter Hamilton would like to thank everyone who helped.

First Swallow of Summer?

Julie leads the way to Jobs Bonanza



Julie Watkinson's new job makes her the first local person to land a job at Sedgefield's new NetPark.

Julie has started as a Consultant Engineer with the Agility Group, a Durham University venture moving into the NetPark Institute building when it is complete in March next year.

Julie joins the nine strong Agility team to bring the University's

European funded consultancy services to local companies, particularly small to medium sized enterprises.

A graduate of Durham herself, Julie brings her own speciality, which is in process and manufacturing improvement - to the team. She is very much looking forward to developing the team's work in the area, particularly because it is aimed at helping local businesses to improve and prosper.

With ventures like this, and the great prospect of up to eight hundred more jobs to come, there is hope that Sedgefield and the area around about can regain much of the prosperity lost when Winterton Hospital closed.

Julie has another local connection too. Her partner Mark Swinbank was born and raised in Sedgefield and the couple now live locally.

If you think your company could benefit from very good low cost/high value advice, why not get in touch with Julie?

You can contact her at Julie.Watkinson@durham.ac.uk

CAVOS Volunteer Award Evening

on Thursday 5th June at Spennymoor Town Hall

Organisations are asked to nominate volunteers for specific categories. The winner of each will receive £50 for their charity/organisation and £250 for volunteer of the Year.

Nominees will be invited to the evening, which includes dinner and entertainment.

To nominate someone contact Sharon Vasey at CAVOS

New contact details:

Block 2, First Floor, St Cuthbert's House, Durham Way North
Newton Aycliffe Industrial Park.

Tel 01325 313930

Fax 01325 312696

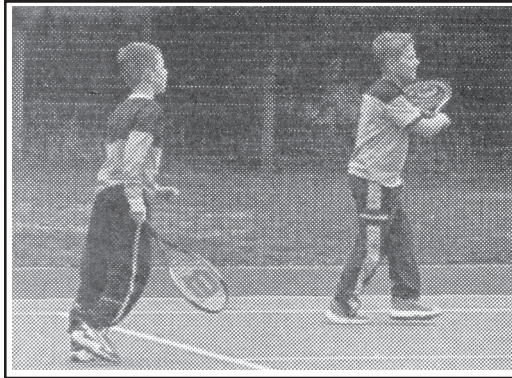
E-mail: sbvb@freenet.co.uk

Website www.cavos.org

NB. Community Empowerment Network - Tel/Fax 01325 307219

"Anyone for Tennis?"

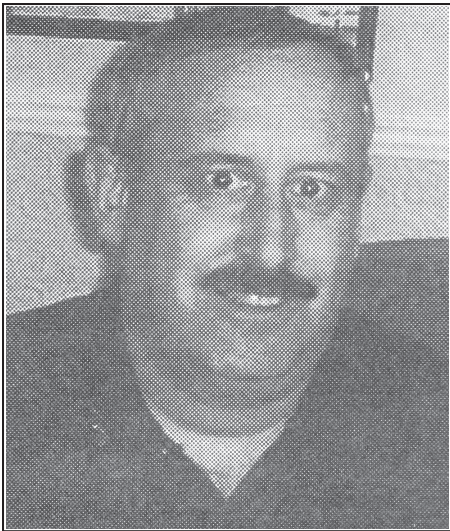
The covers were off at Sedgefield Tennis Club as the season got under way on a rather chilly Sunday at the beginning of April. As you can see from our photos the club attracts enthusiastic players from the very youngest upwards. If you fancy dusting off that old racquet or maybe trying the game for the first time, there's a welcome for you at Sedgefield Tennis Club.



Speaking after the Open Day, Chairman Ian Taylor thanked everyone who braved the cold and said "it was nice to see some old faces and plenty of new ones as well. We hope you enjoyed it and that you come and play again. All six courts were full for much of the afternoon and the hot drinks went down particularly well. There was a chance to see the clubhouse for the first time and everyone seemed impressed with the showers and disabled facilities."

For anyone who missed the open day or is interested in playing tennis, please contact membership secretary Chris Edson on **620143** for details of what the club can offer.

Profile

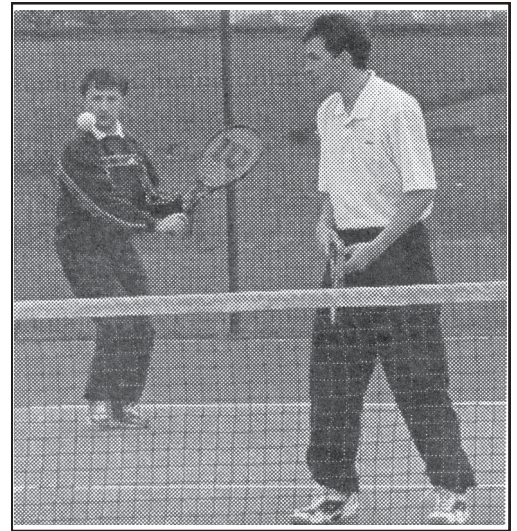


Meet Paul Matthews, aged 45 and currently Fire Station Commander for Sedgefield Retained Fire Station as well as for Spennymoor and Wheatley Hill. Paul lives with his two teenage children, Kathryn and Richard. After joining Durham County Fire brigade in 1973 as a Junior Fireman, he became an operational fireman in September 1975, serving at Seaham and

Fencehouses until promoted to leading Fireman in 1983 and Sub. Officer, Watch Commander in 1986. He remained at Fencehouses until the station closed in 1997, when he was posted to Durham Fire Station. For the next few years he served as a Temporary Station Officer, eventually being promoted to station Officer in June 2001.

In June 2002, without hesitation he took the opportunity of a temporary posting as Retained Station Commander for Barnard Castle and Middleton-in-Teesdale. Recognising the importance of the retained Fire Fighter in the service, and having worked alongside them for 27 years, he hoped to share his experience and passion for the job.

Then in September last year he moved into his present position, aiming to provide the area with the best Fire and Rescue service possible. His work is much appreciated.



Photographs by Peter Reeve



Sponsored Abseil Challenge 2003 Saturday 14th June

*Bounce down the full height of
St Edmund's Church Tower!*



**Raise pots of money for
Macmillan Cancer Relief & Macmillan Nurses
and help the Friends of St Edmunds too.**

*Find £50 (minimum) sponsorship and pay
£5 registration fee, for expert training
& supervision from 'Keko Experience' -
specialists in outdoor based training.*

Enjoy the thrill of a lifetime!

*For sponsorship forms & further details
contact Brian Mutch, on 622302*

Mordon & Bradbury Diary

May 2nd & 3rd North Of Watford Theatre presents
An Evening with Oscar Wilde & Brendan Behan

May 24th at 6.30pm - Film Night. **Spy Kids 2**

June 21st at 6.30pm - Film Night. **Treasure Planet**

Sedgefield Twinning Association Invites you to a Wine Tasting Evening

on **Saturday May 24th at 7.30** in Ceddesfeld Hall.

Sample 5 or 6 different German wines,
presented by expert Christopher Wells.

Tickets priced **£6 include a buffet supper** as well as
your glasses of wine - excellent value for money!

For further details and tickets contact

Sheila Pinder, (621730)

Keith or Nancy Wells (620467)

or any member of the Twinning Committee.

WI Market in Sedgefield Parish Hall

Friday mornings 9.30-11am during school term

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

Tea & coffee served. We would love to see you!

Heavens Above!

Raise your eyes to the skies

Did you see the International
Space Station flying over on the
2nd of April?

In Mordon we had a spectacular
view at just after twenty past nine
as it passed overhead shining like
a bright planet. It was high in the
sky, coming from the west travel-
ling towards the southeast. The
sighting lasted about four minutes
and the skies were clear enough
for a perfect view, although the
clouds were forming from the
west as it moved out of sight.

If you are interested, details of
future sightings may be found on
www.heavens-above.com All
you have to do is enter the name
of the town or village to find the
co-ordinates of your location.

John Parkinson

Joking Apart! *A woman smart
enough to ask a man's advice is
rarely dumb enough to take it!*

Your Views Sought on Rural Transport Grant

The Countryside Agency is
inviting local Town and Parish
Councils to apply for grants to
their Vital Villages scheme.
There is up to £10,000 available
for 'Parish transport' and this
grant could fund:

- Replacing lost bus services
- New bus shelters
- Transport information
- Car sharing
- Driver training
- Cycling and walking schemes
- Travel vouchers
- Community transport
- Other small scale transport solutions

This is all in the process of being
discussed by the Town Council,
who are looking at the possibility
of new bus shelters, perhaps
providing cycle ways or a taxi
voucher scheme that entitles
residents to the cost of taxi travel.
However, before the Council
makes a decision, we would

welcome your views, as residents
of Sedgefield on what you would
like to see.

We have already been successful
in obtaining a grant of £3000
towards transport/ Parish
information and you will soon
receive an information sheet.

It is worthwhile therefore to take
advantage of the grants available
for the town, at the same time
giving assistance where needed,
**so please let us have your views
as soon as possible.**

Are you getting your drive re-surfaced?

If so and you no longer want your
old paving slabs, the Town
Council would be very grateful to
acquire them for various works in
the village. We can arrange to
have them picked up.

Please contact Jane Young at the
Town Council Offices – **621273.**

May DIARY

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

Sedgefield Players

are proud to be hosting the

**North East Division Final
of the
All England Festival
of One Act Plays**

*Winners from festivals at
York & Hull compete with
Sedgefield Players production
'The Trial' -
winner of the 2002 Sedgefield
Drama Festival - for a place in
the Northern Final
on **Saturday 3rd May**
in Sedgefield Parish Hall
Support your local group & enjoy
an evening of quality drama*

Sedgefield Garden Society

Tuesday 6th May at 7.30pm

My Garden

A talk by

Mr David Goodchild

in Ceddesfeld Hall

and

Tuesday 3rd June

a trip to

Beamish Clematis Nursery

with a talk on propagation by

Mr Colin Brown

Meet Ceddesfeld Hall

at 6.30pm

*Transport is by car, and lifts are
available so all are welcome*

Enquiries

Christine Wass - **621504**

The Tyne-Tees Vehicle Run

takes place on
Sunday 1st June, leaving
Stockton Market Place
at 9.30 am,
they pass through
Sedgefield

en-route to South Shields

*Over 200 vehicles take part
this year – give them a wave
as they pass through*

Sedgefield Mediaeval Fayre

presents the
Flower Queen Disco
in the County Primary School
Rectory Row
Sat. 3rd May
from 7 – 9pm

11 years and under

Entry £1

Children's refreshments on sale,
& for the adults, visit Ceddesfeld
Hall Bar - *CAMRA's regional
Club of the Year*

Film Nights in the Parish Hall

Friday 23rd May at 6.30pm

Spy Kids 2

*& coming up on June 20th -
Disney's **The Treasure Planet**
Don't miss it!*

Both films 'U' certificate

Entrance **£1.50**

Sedgefield Community Association & Rotary International present

A Millionaires' Night

Fri 9th May @ 7.30pm
in Sedgefield Parish Hall

All proceeds to the
**New Parish Hall Fund &
Eradicating Polio Worldwide**

Tickets £7.50 including
supper & some casino chips,
from SCA,
Sedgefield Post Office,
Carpets @ Home
or phone 620042

Try your hand in the Casino!

Sedgefield Family History Group

Monday 19th May

at 7:45pm

at Ceddesfeld Hall

Mrs Margaret Hedley on

**The Role of Women in
the Pit Village**

Guests welcome

Ferryhill & Sedgefield Flower Club

Tuesday 20th May at 7.30pm

Sedgefield Parish Hall

'Seasonal Inspiration'

A demonstration by
Susan Hall of Saltburn

Guests welcome

A Fresh Start for Kevin

It is with sadness that I leave my post as Sergeant for the Sedgefield Section Police area. My time at Sedgefield has been the most rewarding time in my career to date and I have enjoyed the many challenges that the role has given me. I have had a very good team of dedicated and hard working officers, who I know will continue to provide a quality level of service to the community.

I must pay special thanks to my two beat officers, Keith Todd and Charlie Huxley, who have become an integral part of the communities that they serve. Their assistance, knowledge and advice on local problems have been very helpful.

Also I would like to thank the Town Council, for their help and assistance in tackling many local problems. Sedgefield has a good Town Council, who work very hard to improve the local area.

My new role takes me into Police Headquarters to work on the re-organisation of the Communication Centres within the Force area. This will help to release more officers back to the beat to tackle local problems and to reassure the community. I will keep a keen eye on events at Sedgefield and hope that I will return in the future in some capacity.

I wish the new sergeant, Simon Trotter, every success in the role and know that he will be keen to become involved in local issues and problems. I am sure that he will receive the excellent assistance from the community that I have had during my time at Sedgefield.

And finally, keep up the good work with 'Sedgefield News', it is a superb local information bulletin.

Kevin Blakey

Hardwick Country Park

May I express my thanks to the children who made our first such event, the Treasure Hunt & barbecue held in the Country Park on the 16th March, such a success. The 50+ children who attended the Treasure Hunt were ably supported by parents & siblings, who must have come close to trebling this number.

Their support was greatly appreciated, as was the kindness of those who facilitated the advance publicity.

We hope the next event will receive even wider publicity & so be enjoyed by more participants, especially from the Sedgefield News circulation area.

For those unable to share in the first event or who would like a 'second bite of the cherry', a Badge making, Treasure Hunt & Barbecue will be held on 24th May starting at 2pm at Causey Arch Picnic Area, West side of A6076, 2 miles North of Stanley. Pre-booking is NOT necessary.

Mark Rothery
Countryside Ranger

Asking your help during Christian Aid Week 11 – 17 May

By the time this edition of Sedgefield News arrives with you, arrangements for the house to house collection should be well underway.

In past years our collectors have been well received by the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury and Mordon. Once again the collectors, who give freely of their time, will be calling at your door during the week and we ask you to give generously.

Every year Christian Aid Week raises vital funds to fight poverty around the world. We live in an area with many comforts and it is a privilege to be able to give something in response to the needs of others.

Finally, a counter's prayer. 'Please may all the coins *not* be copper!' Thank you in anticipation of your kind gift.

Margaret & David Glass

From the Editor

Please Note - because of Bank Holidays, this month's Deadline is earlier than usual - Monday 12th May. Send your copy to snews.sdp@sedgefield.net or to Sedgefield News

Advice and Information Centre, Front Street, Sedgefield, TS21 3AS or telephone **629011**

We wish to make it clear that views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the publisher.

The Typographical Error

or - An editor's heartfelt cry!

The 'typo' is a slippery thing and really rather sly. You can hunt it 'til you're dizzy but it somehow will get by Until the item's off the press; it's strange how still it keeps.

It shrinks down in the corner and it never stirs or peeps –

That typographical error, too small for human eyes –

'Til the ink is on the paper, when it grows to mountain size.

The writer stares in horror. She grabs her hair and groans, While the reader simply sighs awhile, then shakes her head and moans.

The remainder of the item can be clean as clean can be

But the typographical error is the only thing you'll see!

Acknowledgements to Cleveland FHS