



Sedgefield NEWS

October 2011



A dramatic success!

Tom Guest (2nd left) with the much praised members of the cast of "The Rumour"

Sedgefield Players scooped six awards at the recent Festival of One Act plays. Their production of *The Allotment* by Gillian Plowman shared the audience award with Saltburn 53's *Roman Fever* and also won the Ensemble Award and Best Set. The Players youth group, SPYS, won the Youth Award for *The Rumour*, written by Tom Guest, who won the Adjudicator's Award for writing two original plays. Conor Davies was judged Best Supporting Actor for his role as the teacher.

Overall winners were Statement Drama Group from Scarborough who also won Best Director (Aline Bliss) and Best Actress, the award shared by Sue Wilding and Rae Yaldren in '*Commencing*', a hard-hitting American play dealing with contemporary social issues. Saltburn 53 Drama Group won the runner-up award with *Roman Fever*, as well as awards for costume, technical presentation and Best Supporting Actress (Sue Pierce).

On their first visit to the Festival, The Outlookers, a group of actors with disabilities won the Ray Tate Award for Endeavour for Welfare to Work, a production devised by the group. Clare Sadler won the cameo award for her performance as Di Vulge, the benefits inspector. Best Actor was Jim Whitton of Osmotherley Village Theatre, returning to Sedgefield after a long absence with *Bookends* by Scott Perry. The award for the Best Thirty Seconds went to Jen Dodsworth of Cliffe Theatre for her expert custard pie flinging at the end of *Plaster* by Richard Harris. The award for the best performer under 21 was shared by ten year old Joe Casling of Moon in the Sky Theatre Group from Durham and Max Walker (14) of Richmond Amateur Dramatic Society. Adjudicator Jill Colby from Hertfordshire was impressed by the high standard of performance, the wealth of original material and the friendly festive atmosphere she found on her first visit to Sedgefield.

Foxy business

A fox spotted in the Beaumont Court area was un-phased when a householder opened the door to find it in the garden. This is not a "Beware of the Nasty Fox" campaign - just a note to interested residents that a fairly tame animal may be around your area. More wildlife sightings around the village are very welcome!

Sedgefield strikes gold

Sedgefield triumphed once again in Northumbria in Bloom, winning gold and the Federation Brewery Award for Best Small Town, at a presentation held at Saltburn Learning Campus in September. Judges were particularly impressed by our community spirit and respect for heritage, leading to the creation of a beautiful environment to be enjoyed by everyone.

The development of allotments and community garden at Winterton attracted specific praise. Commended for his horticultural skill, his eye for detail and insistence on perfection, head gardener Stephen Young won the Bob Woolley Award for outstanding contribution as a salaried person. Silver gilt awards went to the residents of Claremont Grove for their combined efforts and to Mr & Mrs Howard Allison of 50 Spring Lane for their beautiful front garden. The Dun Cow was awarded gold for its superb floral display.

Eileen Burn, chair of Northumbria in Bloom, praised the efforts of all the communities involved, whose hard work and dedication had helped to provide the cheer and uplift so badly needed in difficult times. Roger Burnet, Chair of Britain in Bloom, commended the unsung heroes of this great gardening project, encouraging everyone to continue taking responsibility for transforming their environment.

Sedgefield in Bloom chairman Ian Sutherland said, 'Our success this year, despite dreadful weather and staffing set-backs, is a tribute to the determined efforts of a great team of volunteers, excellent professional work from our gardeners, generous sponsorship by local companies and superb support from the people of Sedgefield. Heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped bring gold to Sedgefield once again.'

Volunteers are already busy raising funds for next year, and the Sedgefield in Bloom cookbook, postcards & DVDs are still on sale at the council offices. The next fund-raiser is a Hallowe'en coffee morning.

Details on page 11.

A very happy results day

2011 is proving to be a fantastic year at Sedgefield Community College. In a year that saw the college move into a £19m state of the art building, its year 11 cohort recorded the college's most impressive results ever. Last year's vast improvement in student attainment led Sedgefield Community College to be recognised as one of the highest performing Secondary Schools in County Durham as well as one of the most improved. We are delighted that our 2011 students continued the trend by surpassing last year's record breaking achievement!

The percentage of Sedgefield students achieving the attainment measure of 5+A*-C (with English and Maths) has now risen to 66% representing a huge 18% improvement over two years. This is not the only success in what is another consistently impressive set of results. The college makes considerable efforts to ensure that every student achieves their potential, and it is satisfying to see the proportion of students achieving the highest possible grades make another significant improvement, whilst at the same time middle and lower ability students yet again achieve above national averages. Headteacher Dave

Davies says this success is the most outward sign of the rapid pace of improvement at Sedgefield. He believes students are "buying into a tangible and distinct culture at the college. They understand that Sedgefield is about the highest expectations of students and staff and about finding enjoyable, creative ways to learn in an atmosphere of respect and personal responsibility." He continues, "I am extremely proud of our Year 11 cohort, who have ensured that Sedgefield maintains its place as one of the County's top performing schools. I hope their considerable achievements lead them to even greater success in the future".



Mordon & Bradbury Village Show

The Mordon & Bradbury Village Show was held on Saturday 20th August. Entries were once again of a superb standard, and all categories attracted some very impressive exhibits. Karen Einshoj was judging again and the winners were as follows:

Adults' 1st Prize, the Terry Blackie Memorial Plate, was awarded to Wendy Sayers for her outstanding contributions. First runner up went to Mavis Elders and second runner up was Ann Elders. The children's first prize of The John Parkinson Cup was awarded to Beau Sanderson (*pictured right*) for his superb entries. First runner up was Pippa Sanderson and second runner up was Georgia Peacock. The village hall committee congratulates all the prize winners on their achievements. Thanks also to everyone who entered into this year's show and to those who bid so generously in the auction. You invested in the finest home-made produce available and helped to raise £155 for the Village Hall.



Another successful Folk Festival

The sixth annual Sedgefield Folk Festival held over the first weekend in September once again turned out to be a huge success and was described by many as the best ever. Three sell-out concerts in the Parish Hall, singarounds in Ceddesfeld Hall, a concert in St Edmund's Church, various music workshops and other events all received excellent feedback from people who attended from all over the north-east and other parts of the country. The festival goes from strength to strength and is receiving increased recognition both locally and nationally.

There were so many highlights over the weekend, ranging from the wonderful humour and versatility of the London Philharmonic Skiffle Orchestra to the ever popular World Spoons Championship. Special mention must also be made of the performances of Hardwick Junior School Choir and Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir at the Saturday afternoon concert. This was a memorable occasion for Sandy Clubley as it was her last performance as conductor of S.L.Y.C.

As one of the organisers of the festival I would like to thank everyone for all of their magnificent support. We are already planning next year's festival for which it is hoped that additional funding will enable us to add extra events to the festival and make it bigger and better still.

Joan Edmundson

DIDO members enjoy fabulous flowers

DIDO were entertained in September by a very creative and talented young man, Adam Prest. Adam lives locally but his work takes him nationwide. He has recently moved back to Sedgefield from London and has been extremely busy working in hotels such as Wynyard Hall, Rockcliffe Hall and many others.

He specialises in all aspects of floral art and decoration, particularly bridal bouquets, arrangements and displays which are tailored to each individual client, including the latest, most up to date technique of sensitively incorporating a lot of natural garden flowers and foliage into his work, rather than synthetically coloured ones. His arrangements showed what beautiful displays of colour and artistic design can be achieved by using flowers which are readily available in English country gardens.

Adam & DIDO member, Sheila Corbett, with arrangements done on the day

Get active with Age UK

Weekly activities for all, but particularly those aged 50+

Mondays: Fishburn

Youth & Community centre

9.30am - Exercise to Music

Tuesdays:

Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am - Tai Chi

Wednesdays, Parish Hall

11.30am Exercise to Music

12.15pm Pilates

For information on these or sessions in other local villages, please phone

01388 720064



Snapshots of Sedgfield

A wealth of Sedgfield history lies behind this super family snapshot, kindly supplied by Les Butler, showing some very familiar Sedgfield faces in younger days. Mr. Butler, whose phenomenal memory for times past is a wonderful asset, tells us that in May 1933, in order to take over the running of the South Durham Hunt, Captain Ramsden and his wife arrived at Sedgfield Station, along with all his staff and servants of the hunt. Given the choice between Hardwick Hall and Sands Hall, both vacant at the time, he chose to live at Sands Hall, overlooking the racecourse.

The photograph shows the grand children of his servant, Charles Pavitt, who was Kennel Huntsman and looked after the hounds.

Charles lived in a tied cottage between the kennels and Hardwick Hall with his wife and four children, Philip, Winifred, Marjorie and Doris, who later became well known for her nursing at Sedgfield Hospital.

Winifred married Joe Davison, whose van is shown in the photo, signwriting beautifully done by Les Butler himself.

The tall girl on the left is the Davison's daughter, Anita, a familiar face until recently in Theakstons' shop. Les Butler was stationed at Sedgfield army camp during the war, when he met Marjorie Pavitt at a camp dance. They married on September 25th 1943. Their daughter Elaine, the happy little girl in the front of the photo, also worked at Theakstons' after, according to her Dad, 'running the post office for Norman Walker for 32 years.' Her older sister, Pam, with the pony tail, worked for Marjorie Purvis on a fruit stall in the main street in Sedgfield. Leaning against the van with his arms folded, Derek Pavitt, also well known to customers, is the son of Philip Pavitt and wife Lily, nee Pengilly. Now aged 90, Les remembers hard times after the end of the war when overcrowding meant that some families resorted to squatting in army Nissen huts alongside Sedgfield Racecourse, formerly occupied by the Royal Ulster Rifles. The council fitted the huts out with appliances to make life a bit easier and, when new homes were built in 1952, people living in the huts were given first choice of moving in to the smart new houses around Elm Avenue, where Les still lives today.



"Lyrical Notes"

The senior Lyrics first rehearsal since the summer break had a poignant start, as we sang a fond farewell to our conductor and friend Jean Whittaker, who died last month. Jean made a huge contribution to the choir and will be fondly remembered. The choir gave a donation to the British Lung Foundation in her memory. From such a poignant start, we finished the rehearsal on a high note. Lyric singer and deputy conductor Kay Smith Quinn was formally invited to be our new conductor and we were delighted when she accepted. Senior Lyric rehearsals are on Friday nights at 7.30pm in Ceddesfeld Hall. All are welcome to join us - tenor, bass and baritone singers are especially welcome. Join us too for Christmas concerts which will feature carols especially composed for the choir by two members of SLYC and the senior choir. It should be a musical night to remember!

Tennis Club Success

Sedgfield Tennis Club has completed a highly successful season. Both the mixed and men's B teams won their respective divisions, the men's A team finished a terrific 3rd in the Cleveland Tennis League division A, and the ladies also finished 3rd in division B. Congratulations to all who took part this year. If you'd like to become a part of a winning team next year, contact us at sedgfieldtennis.co.uk for more info.

Citizen of the Year 2011

Time once again to remember the extraordinary service that some of our fellow citizens willingly give to this community.

The Citizen of the Year award is made for 'exceptional contributions to Sedgfield', mainly focussing on recent time. If you think one of your friends or acquaintances deserves to be considered, please complete the enclosed nomination form.

Sedgfield Blues Club

Those at the Blues Club in June went home with the memory of a true genius. Ainsley Lister truly lived up to his reputation as one of the best guitarists in the world. For nearly two hours we were mesmerised by a brilliant showcase of the master at work with nothing but guitar, a small Fender amp and his voice: truly a night to remember. Good support too - the extremely talented Smokehouse boys from Northumberland featured top harmonica player, Lynden Anderson. Our October event is headlined by Oli Brown and his incredibly talented blues band. Oli is a talent who is due for a meteoric rise in popularity. This is a real coup! There isn't space for all the accolades here but...

2010 British blues awards, Male Vocalist of the year & Young Artist of the year 2011 British blues awards, Best Band & best album - and still just 21 years old! Support is local as always; this time, The Mentulls from Guisborough. You wouldn't believe these musicians are kids; they play with a talent way beyond their early teens. Be prepared to be amazed by a fourteen year old guitar player who is destined for great things.

So, with another great night on the cards, why not come along and see what great stuff is happening on your doorstep. I hope all our regulars get tickets, as enquiries were made as soon as we appeared on his website, in amongst the international touring, so go to the post office now! With a bar at giveaway prices and all proceeds going to local Round table charities, it doesn't get much better than this. **Details on the Diary page.**



Sedgfield
Community
College

Community College Year 6 Open Evening

Tuesday 4th October 2011 6pm – 8pm

Prospective students and their parents are warmly invited to meet Headteacher, David Davies, staff and current students.

If you are unable to attend or would like a follow up visit, please contact Sandy Baird (Deputy Head) on 01740 625300

www.sedgfieldcommunitycollege.co.uk

Hawthorn Road, Sedgfield, TS21 3DD

Community SAFETY



Reports from Sedgefield N/H/Watch Panel Meeting 9th August 2011

Treasurer gave out account details & advised that there was outstanding expenditure of approx. £200 to be taken into account yet.

Secretary gave details of correspondence received & issued.

Key items:

1. *Dog bye law request.* Town Council (TC) replied they have difficulty introducing & enforcing a new bye law; they are trialling 4 signs at Ceddesfeld Hall.
2. *Warden use in Sedgefield.* TC is in full agreement having written and discussed issues with DCC to no avail. TC urges residents to tel. complaints direct to DCC via Help desk.
3. *Police Nos. & local policing.* MP Phil Wilson written to; he has replied positively; replies also from Durham Police Authority & Nick Herbert Minister for Policing & Criminal Justice.
4. *Exchanges with DCI Dutton* responsible for "Altogether Forward" re-organisation & South Area Command unit, who confirmed no change for Sedgefield Police reporting / management from Aycliffe under Inspector Andy Neil. Details of e-mail discussed with members & guests. PC Keith Todd also confirmed that the beat team in Sedgefield will not change.

Crime Prevention Officer: Keith Lownds has retired; his replacement is not yet in post.

Community Liaison Officer: Neil Langthorne gave facts & figures regarding recorded crime in our (larger) area; how pleasing it is to note that the reductions continue. Neil is putting a 5yr. plan together promoting NHW with Police support, in Durham. He spoke about his "Challenge 100" competition that ran during National N/H/Watch week.

C/man Ken Saiger welcomed the (3) persons from the recent Winterton development to our meeting & hoped they would join our Village NHW scheme.

Police: Keith Todd circulated his report and discussed the crimes recorded, remarking that thankfully we are experiencing very low levels. There were two incidents that members felt should have appeared on the report, first, damage to a vehicle which Police did attend, second, the helicopter tracking over the village accompanied by a vehicle taken away on a low loader. Keith knew nothing about either incident.

Keith also informed members that a dog bite on private property is not a reportable crime.

David Hillerby, Co-ordinator & Street contact for Boynston Grove, thanked Police for their prompt and effective response to secure a temporarily unoccupied house, which he had reported to them. He had been contacted by a concerned resident about the security risk. David remarked that this is another example of how our NHWatch continues to be effective in the village for the benefit of residents.

Alan Sowerby Citizenship Award:

Secretary gave details of successful awards at Primary Schools in July. Stating how important these awards are to schools & pupils, he remarked our NHWatch can feel proud of these activities. David Hillerby will organise the Community College award later in the year.

Durham Community Wardens:

Mark Farren, Education & Enforcement Officer (South) who is responsible for managing our Wardens, attended the meeting to respond to the Panel's complaints regarding the (lack of) use of Wardens in Sedgefield. Mark informed the meeting that he has 24 Wardens to cover an area from the Cumbrian border in the West to the East Durham Corridor and from Darlington in the South to Chester le Street in the North. Consequently there is no possibility of Sedgefield having one permanent Warden. Wardens work in teams and respond to priority cases with the focus on calls from residents. **There had been only 4 calls from Sedgefield in the last month.** C/man stated he had been told he could not report on behalf of other residents (who were unwilling to report in person). Mark said that this was not correct he should be able to do so. Mark is keen to have Wardens attend PACT meetings, rather than one off N/H/Watch meetings. He defended the attendance of two Wardens (at evening meetings) under the DCC policy of adhering to Health and Safety requirements. This was challenged by several members as being unnecessary and wasteful of resources.

Secretary stated he felt any Wardens attending *meetings* should be familiar with local issues & should as a minimum be provided with a brief from their Office for that specific meeting. Asked why a report could not be sent to the NHWatch C/man for issue at the meeting instead of sending persons unfamiliar with local issues, Mark said he wanted Wardens to be able to talk directly with residents. He stated all Wardens sign on and off duty at Chilton & they are now on the Police Airwaves radio system. He gave details of Fixed Penalty notices &

Littering Notices issued this year & last, stating that this demonstrates that Wardens are being effective. Regarding Anti-Social Behaviour in Sedgefield he said there were no reports in June, 1 in May & 1 in July. Mark concluded by reminding everyone that they need to ring in about all problems if they wanted action from his department, no phone call = no action. He also added that the Wardens, who are limited in number, will always be tasked to the (higher) priority jobs. C/man Ken Saiger thanked Mark for his attendance and his frank responses.

Telephone numbers

Local Police: **0345 60 60 365**

Durham County Council Wardens:

0300 123 70 70

Police Crime Prevention Officer:

01325 742714

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

PC Todd reports

Crime again remains low in Sedgefield, with only a few reported incidents. A bike was stolen from Dunelm Court and a wooden bench taken from a garden in the Winterton area. Number plates were taken from Winterton and used to obtain fuel shortly after being stolen. A privet hedge was damaged in Wellgarth Mews and a work hut on the old school site was broken into. Youths have started to congregate in the garage block area of The Garth, where minor damage is being caused and litter left behind. Anti-social behaviour in this area will not be tolerated. Residents living nearby do not want to see or hear the groups of youths in the garage area until late at night or the mess left behind.

P.A.C.T.

At a recent Residents' Forum meeting it was agreed that the Police Beat Teams will focus their attentions on the garage block in The Garth area for the reasons stated above.

Pub Watch

There was no meeting in September. The next meeting is arranged for 12th October.

Durham Police Authority

wants to gather your views on policing priorities this autumn. They will be using both face to face and online methods, and the public will be able to vote, between Nov 14th & Dec 1st, for their top policing priorities. The Authority will hold a workshop for stakeholders on 25th November, followed by a Forum for the public on November 28th. Details to be announced soon.

Jottings from Sedgefield Residents' Forum September meeting

We had an update on issues ongoing from the last meeting held in July and some new issues were raised for the Forum to consider.

High on the agenda is the issue of wind turbines. Spring Lane/Foxton lane proposed turbines should be going to planning committee for a decision in the near future, watch out for information and remember you can attend the meeting. The proposed huge wind farm for The Isle (Bradbury area) will not be considered locally but will be decided by central government. This would be the country's largest wind farm if it is given permission, make sure you give your views on this, sign the petition against this proposal and help protect our countryside.

Another high on the agenda item is the County Durham Plan and the proposed additional housing for Sedgefield (equivalent to the size of Winterton estate). The community's views are being considered at a meeting organised by the Together Group and the Town Council on September 19th. However, residents have made the point that not everyone can get to that meeting so as this is such an important issue that needs a comprehensive view from our community the Residents' Forum have requested that a survey questionnaire goes to every home in the village to give all an opportunity to give their view.

Sedgefield Borough Homes (sbh) are also asking tenants of their homes what they would like to see in the area. Sbh offered to come to the Forum to speak to people but we have suggested it may be more appropriate for them to attend the meeting on September 19th. We will report on that meeting at our October Forum meeting.

A new issue which can have a potential impact on the village is that the Racecourse is applying for a licence variation which will allow them extend times to have outdoor (marquee) events with music until 2.00am for large numbers of people. Licensing conditions were previously imposed to protect the village from noise disturbance experienced at such events, we must make every effort to protect what peace and tranquillity we have left, make sure you give your views.

Residents raised the issue of unpleasant smells across the village. It is recognised that this is a rural area and at this time of year 'muck spreading' is essential. However there is concern that some of the spreading is using 'human sewerage' resulting in a very unpleasant smell as opposed to the accepted 'country smells'.

Jottings continued... The above are just some of the issues discussed at the Forum. As we have said before it is really important that there is a wide view of opinions gathered from our community. Please don't leave it up to other people to do this for you. We realise that not everyone has the time or wish to attend meetings but it would be very helpful to hear from you as to how people feel about their views being gathered and represented. You can do this by writing to the Sedgefield News letters page or if you don't want your letter in the News please address your envelope to; Residents' Forum, c/o Sedgefield News, 55 Whitehouse Drive, Sedgefield, TS21 3BU. On this occasion Sedgefield News is kindly allowing Forum correspondence to their address, though they stress that none of these issues are Sedgefield News campaigns. The next Forum meeting is on October 3rd at 7pm in the Fletcher Room.

The Spring Lane Action Group has submitted the item below:

DON'T LET OUR LOVELY VILLAGE BECOME INDUSTRIALISED AGAIN

We are encouraging residents of Sedgefield to show their support against the proposed wind turbines being granted planning permission by Durham County Council. We have political support on this NO campaign from both the Town Council and our MP Phil Wilson, so please don't stand by and let outsiders who have no interest in our village spoil what we all enjoy - THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO ACT!

Sedgefield has already played its part in helping Durham County Council exceed the Governments renewables targets for 2016 and currently 22% of our energy needs in the County comes from renewable sources. As you know Sedgefield already has two wind farms (Walkway & Butterwick) but this application will see them much nearer our village making them overbearing and dominating our landscape.

IF THE TURBINES GO AHEAD, BE PREPARED FOR MAJOR DISRUPTIONS TO VILLAGE LIFE!

Safety

- Construction traffic will pass close to the school entrance & crossing point for children
- The small amount of existing, seasonal farm traffic will be dwarfed by what is expected, for a full year at least, when construction starts
- There is greatly increased potential for accidents in icy and snowy conditions
- Noise and vibrations from heavy vehicles has already been experienced by residents of East End during construction of the new school
- Construction traffic for the turbines will be greater. More people and homes will be affected as many of the older houses in Sedgefield have no foundations and are built on sand
- Disruption does not end when construction finishes because when a turbine breaks down everything has to be removed again.

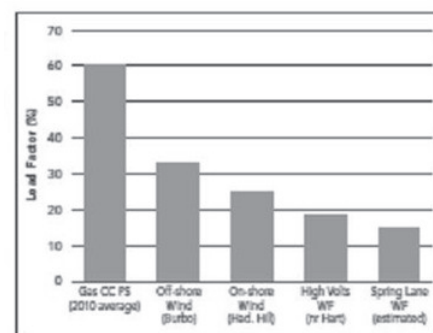
Trees, Hedgerows and Wildlife

- Over 50 trees at risk in order to get the turbines to their destination down Spring Lane
- Vital hedgerows will have to be removed to allow the proposed passing places to be installed.
- The turbines are a major threat to the resident bat population. Bats do not fly into turbines, their lungs implode due to turbulence.

HOW EFFICIENT WOULD THE SPRING LANE TURBINES BE?

The wind industry dismisses discussion of wind farm efficiency as "unhelpful". This is because the outputs from wind farms, especially in our area (East Durham), is very low as you can see from the chart. Industry experts have concluded that lowland wind farms such as that proposed for Spring Lane are a poor use of resources that could be better spent elsewhere, but still they go ahead due to the government subsidy. If this wasn't available they wouldn't be built.

In the documentation submitted by the applicant, Wind Prospect they make claims that the Spring Lane turbines will have a efficiency (load factor) of 28%, however current live data from other operational sites close by suggest that this estimated figure would be far lower and somewhere in the region of 16%, which backs the argument that this is not an effective way of solving our energy problems.



Please show support by coming to the Public Meeting in the Parish Hall on Friday 30th September at 7pm. Join us at the Durham County Council Planning meeting at County Hall; Tues 4th Oct. Time to be advised.

SPORTS UPDATE

Send your sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com

Well, that was a fleeting summer! Traditional autumn sport is already well into its stride and if long range weather forecasts are even slightly accurate we might get the chance of some proper winter activities around Sedgefield before too long (for a taste of what was possible in Northumberland less than 12 months ago, see <http://bit.ly/gPxs7C> - fantastic footage). But before we wave a final farewell to summer, such as it was, we should pay tribute to some great sporting performances. With the Olympics in mind, the likes of Mark Cavendish, Mo Farah, Jessica Ennis, Jodie Williams, Rebecca Adlington and Dai Greene continue to offer much cause for optimism, while the England cricket team is developing into a formidable force in all forms of the game (though it will be interesting to see how they fare on the sub continent). Other stars have emerged or continue to shine, while closer to home this month's update highlights some outstanding performances from Sedgefield's own sports teams and individuals, especially in cricket and athletics.

Cricket

Summer 2012, after more than 120 years of cricket at the Station Road ground, saw Sedgefield Cricket Club play at its highest ever level, in the North Yorkshire & South Durham Premier League. SCC recently guaranteed promotion, and almost certainly the first division title, with the demolition of fellow promotion candidates Thornaby. After winning the toss, Sedgefield skipper Phil Heslop invited Thornaby to bat and less than 22 overs later, the opposition had been dismissed for a mere 48 runs, with Jonathon 'Nobby' Clarke and Luke Metcalfe taking four wickets each. This score was passed very quickly by Sedgefield batsmen & a shell-shocked Thornaby team left soon afterwards, while back in the clubhouse the party started. Congratulations to Sedgefield Cricket Club. It's been an excellent season, which I will review next month.

Sedgefield Harriers

There was the usual great turn out from Sedgefield at the **Great North Run**. Star performer for Harriers was 17 year old Jonathan Baines, making his debut in the half marathon and finishing 104th in 1:19:03. He had intended to run the event solely for the experience but got carried along with the atmosphere. Chris Lines was second Harrier home in 1:29:42. A number of Harriers made improvements on previous times, notably Amanda Edge who beat her 2 hour target finishing in 1:57:20, Vicki Weatherspoon (1:48:38) and Christine Hearmon (1:49:37). 19 year old Gemma Varley debuted in 1:54:38 and Kate Parsons completed her first Great North Run in 2:29:16. Well done to other Harriers and non-Harriers from Sedgefield who took part, especially to 20 year old James Askew who finished 35th in 1:10:49, running for Durham City Harriers. Also, a special mention to Ean Parsons who completed his 29th (yes you read that correctly) GNR in a very good time of 1:33:02. Ean was too modest to mention his own achievement in the Harriers news that he sent me!

Congratulations also to all junior Harriers who took part in the Mini or **Junior Great North Run** events on the Saturday, notably Abie Hearmon who finished 6th in the 15-17 age race and Joe Worley who had a good run in the same age group. It was great to see so many of a new generation of runners from Sedgefield participating in the Saturday events and getting the Great North Run bug. Sedgefield Harriers staged their 5th **Sedgefield Serpentine** Trail Race on 11th September, organised by race director Matthew Jones. The race is run over a challenging 6.5 miles route through Hardwick Park and out along trails past the motor cross circuit to Bishop Middleham and returning via the golf course to Hardwick Park and the cricket club. 124 entered this year and it is fast becoming a popular fixture with local clubs. This year it was won by local athlete James Askew in 35:58, running for Durham City Harriers, who beat three time winner Terry Wall from Morpeth Harriers into 2nd place. First woman was Tracey Waller from Hartlepool Burn Road in 42:54. First Sedgefield Harrier was Jonathan Baines (6th overall) in 38:43 followed by Gary Hetherington (7th) in 39:18 and Ben Hetherington (12th) in 41:40. First Sedgefield woman was Janet Raper in 50:23 followed by Vicki Weatherspoon in 53:21. Full results on the Harriers website. Sedgefield Harriers are grateful for the support of Toni and Alf Walton who, through Quad Sport Leisure & Hardwick Moto-X, sponsored the event with trophies and cash prizes.

Well done to Gary Hetherington, who took part in the **Outlaw Triathlon** in Nottingham in July, over 'ironman' distances of 2.4 miles swim, 112 miles bike ride and 26.2 miles run. Gary finished in 11hr 18 min, 4 secs as the first competitor aged over 50 to complete this national event.

For more about the Harriers for racing & training (senior & junior) should contact Ean Parsons at ean.p@sedgefieldharriers.co.uk or call 07771 828 568.

Squash

The squash season recommenced at the beginning of September, with the traditional club team handicap competition, which at the time of writing is still being played (results to be posted next month). Internal leagues have started again

and the club will field three men's teams, a ladies' team and a ladies' friendly team, in the Durham & Cleveland squash leagues.

Junior coaching is on Saturday mornings for everyone from complete beginner to county standard players. Anybody is welcome to come and give it a try. You can also play racketball, which can act as a great introduction to squash, or an alternative for those who prefer a bit more bounce in the ball (therefore a little less running!) Visit www.sedgefieldsquashclub.co.uk or contact Chris Rowsby, 621125.

During the close season, there was still plenty of activity for those who wanted to remain sharp ahead of the new season. August saw an inaugural pairs competition, held over the course of an evening. It was a great success, with pairs being put together on a seeding basis to make for an open competition. This format will no doubt be repeated in the future.

August competition results were:
1st Peter Redshaw & Anthony Wilson;
2nd Malcolm Bell & Marie Prest;
3rd Chris Rowsby & George Peden.

Basketball

Sedgefield's newest sports team is eagerly anticipating the new season. Durham Cougars Basketball Club moved from Spennymoor Recreation Centre to Sedgefield Community Sports College over summer and players are well into pre-season training, awaiting their first competitive fixture. The Cougars play in Durham County Basketball League, and hope for great things after a 2nd place finish last season.

As part of their active recruitment programme they made a number of new signings for the season, including local prospect, 19 year old Dan Bowden, who came through Durham Wildcats youth programme and is a great prospect. Senior player Mark Johnson, who lives in Sedgefield, has also resigned for the Club. Mark's return, after a year's absence, will complement the Cougars' front line and add inside strength to their game in the coming campaign. Look out for more on the Cougars in future issues.

Football

The hotly anticipated derby match between Sedgefield NetPark FC and Sedgefield Social Club FC previewed last month was a 'typical' derby - scrappy, short of quality, but full of passion. In the end the sides were separated by the game's one piece of genuinely classy football, when Wayne Richards chipped a sublime finish to give Sedgefield Social Club a win that they probably deserved. No doubt the return fixture will be just as keenly fought.

That's all for this month. Please send sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com.

a remarkable raffle*

in aid of



with remarkable prizes

England Football Shirt dedicated to the winner & signed by David Beckham

Signed, framed photo of Coe, Cram & Ovett in Olympic action

Tennis racket signed by Andy Murray

Signed copy of "The Mountaineer" by Sir Chris Bonnington

Box for 10 at a Newcastle race meeting

£50 voucher for Marks & Spencer

Berghaus clothing & equipment

Bottle of House of Lords whisky

Tickets for next season's Twenty20 matches at Durham

Bottle 12 yr aged Glenlivet single malt

plus more - full list from

07971 868329

or chrisjlines@aol.com

tickets £1.00 each

Draw to be made on Saturday 29th October

Registered in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 with Newcastle City Council - registration no. 146 (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Village Olympics

Volunteer Support

A project is underway to celebrate the 2012 Olympics with a Village Olympics in Sedgefield next July.

A volunteer is needed to take on a support role, administrating the project and coordinating & organising initiatives. It will also involve liaising with voluntary groups and local schools.

The reward for the role is the satisfaction of being a key individual in the delivery of a high profile community initiative that will leave a lasting memory for the young people of Sedgefield.

Sedgefield Harriers are currently leading on the initiative, so could anyone interested please contact ean.p@sedgefieldharriers.co.uk

Sedgefield District Rugby Club

October League Fixtures

(3pm kick off)

1st October: Seghill (away)

8th: South Tyneside College (home)

22nd: Prudhoe & Stocksfield (away)

29th: Jarrovians (home)

Coming to Sedgefield

BODY LANGUAGE

BOOT CAMP

Outdoor Military Style Training

With over 10 years experience in the fitness industry, I offer full support for any fitness level, so you can reach your goals

To book a place, call Rachel Hall on

07765 406 784

More Letters

Many thanks...

...to all who attended, and donated to the Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning on 16th September in the Parish Hall. The hard work by 'the team' resulted in us making £180.

Carole Morgan.

Holiday dog swap anyone?

I am one of many dog owners in Sedgefield and am sometimes in a dilemma when it comes to what to do with our dog when we are away. We aren't so lucky as to have family on the doorstep, and usually have to take our dog away, which sometimes means our hound sleeps in the car. Wondering if there is anyone interested in looking after our lovely year old golden lab for a weekend, or week and we look after yours?

We have a dog friendly house with a fully enclosed long garden and will look after your dog like she's our own. We could potentially have 2 dogs (I think!) and know our dog will be a lot happier in a dog friendly house. The only stipulation would be that the dogs get on ok and your dog is good with kids. Anyone interested please call 01740 629839 and we can get the dogs together; could be the start of a doggy friendship!

Katy Andrews

October Events Diary

Bingo @ Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 1st October

Eyes down 7.30pm

Quiz Night @ Cricket Club

Saturday 1st October

8pm start. Quizmaster, John Bryant

"Musicality"

for Breakthrough Breast Cancer

Saturday 1st October

Parish Hall. £12. Call 621183

Supper incl. Bring your own drink

Eddies@4

Sunday 2nd October

Informal service for 2-6 year olds

4pm, Welcome Room, St Edmund's

Contact J Rowsby, 621125

New Generation Church

11am services in the Parish Hall on

Sundays 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd

October, & at the Community

College on the 30th. All welcome.

Residents' Forum

Monday 3rd October

Fletcher Room, Parish Hall at 7pm

Come along & have your say!

Local History Society

7.45pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

Monday 3rd October

Margaret Hedley

"Women in the Victorian Pit Village"

New members welcome

Give Blood

at Sedgefield Racecourse

Tuesday 4th October

Sedgefield Gardening Club

Tuesday 4th October

7.30pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

"Plants for Autumn Colour"

Howard Leslie

Everyone welcome

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 5th October

7.15pm, Parish Hall: Alison

Hodgson: "Safari in Tanzania"

Members' competition;

a holiday souvenir.

Visitors always welcome (fee £2.50)

Farmers' Market

Sunday 9th October

NECP Concertina Workshop

Sundays 9th & 23rd October

1pm, Ceddesfeld Hall. All levels

welcome. Contact 01642 588197

Neighbourhood Watch

Tuesday 11th October

A.G.M., normal Panel Meeting, then

PACT. 7pm, Fletcher Room

All Welcome

Sedgefield Veterans Meeting

Thursday 13th October

7pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

Country Market

Friday 14th October

Parish Hall

Live Music Night

7.45 pm at Sedgefield Cricket Club

Saturday 15th October

Main guest Jez Lowe

Also featuring Colin Holt,

Broadband, John Weighell &

John Wrightson Band.

Admission £10, inc buffet.

Tel 621347

England Screaming / 101

at Sedgefield Cricket Club

Friday 14th October

Tickets in advance from Matthew

Jones' Barbers **£2** or **2.50** on the

door. Doors open 7.30pm

Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 17th October

7.45pm at Ceddesfeld Hall

Norman Welch

"What did they do for a living?"

Details from S Hall on 620367

sedgefieldfamilyhistory.org.uk

Visitors always welcome

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District

Flower Club

Tuesday 18th October

7.30pm in the Parish Hall

"A Change of Seasons"

Jan Faulkner, Northumberland &

Durham Demonstrator

All welcome

Coffee Morning & Market

Thursday 20th October

10 am - 12 noon in the Parish Hall

to raise funds for DIDO

A variety of stalls + refreshments

Coffee Morning

Friday 21st October

10am - 12 noon Fletcher Room,

Parish Hall, to raise funds for

Sedgefield Village Veterans

Bon Appetit!

Saturday 22nd October

7pm Ceddesfeld Hall

Lavish French themed dinner and

entertainment, all for £16

Call 620607 or 620206

Sedgefield Blues Club

Saturday 22nd October

Tickets £12 from the Post Office

Doors 7.30-11.30pm

A FREE service to non-commercial organisations

Hallowe'en Coffee Morning

Sedgefield in Bloom

Friday October 28th

10am in the Parish Hall

Delicious homemade cakes &

scones. Tombola, raffle,

crafts & book stall

Sedgefield Library Events

Tickle Time

Mondays 10th, 2.15-3pm

Rhyme Time

Wednesday 12th, 10-11am

Craft & Chat Group

10-12pm Tuesdays 4th & 18th

Support, coffee & chat for all those

interested in making things. All

abilities & interests welcome.

Half term activities for children:

please contact Library for details

Regular Events

Winterton Wayfarers

Walking Group - Weekly Sunday

walks, between 5 & 10 miles.

Contact 620034 or 620434

Café@St Catherine's

Friendly chat & latest Fishburn

gossip! Fridays 9.30am - 12noon

Tea, coffee, toast & conversation

Sedgefield Playgroup

Methodist Church

Mon-Thurs 9:15-11:45. Spaces for

children 2+ years Contact 620923

Sing for Health

2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 1pm in

the Methodist Church Hall

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable

events. New members welcome

Contact Rob on 629079

Rotary Club of Sedgefield

Wednesdays 7.15pm

Nag's Head: new members

welcome, call 629070 or 620562

Ceddesfeld Art Group

Small, friendly group: 10-12 noon

on Thursdays in Ceddesfeld Hall

Lyrics Choirs

2 Community choirs welcome new

members. Ceddesfeld Hall, Fridays.

Age 7-18yrs, 6pm: Adults 7.30pm

Looking ahead

Sedgefield Show AGM

Thursday 24th November

Please send Diary dates & details to

sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Your Letters

Re A Grave Situation

25 years ago, my husband reserved a double grave in Sedgefield Cemetery. On the day of his funeral, December 14th 2010, I and my family "found out" that those plans were not honoured.

To find out on a day of such poignancy was not only shocking but extremely upsetting.

Name and address supplied

Wind resistance

Can I please make residents aware of the need to sign the petition if you oppose the new wind farm proposals which will be sited on the south side of Sedgefield - the isles wind farm - which is for 45 turbines along with the Foxton Lane site's 3 turbines and the other 3 sites proposed in the same area which brings the total to 66 turbines (this may increase as the isles was initially for 10 but is now 45). This would constitute the largest onshore wind farm in the UK without taking into account the existing wind farms already operating in County Durham, which are visible on the north and west of Sedgefield.

All our local councils are opposed to the scheme as they think the county has more than fulfilled its share of this "green" invasion of our countryside and think it's time other areas of the country took their share. Unfortunately, because of the size of this development the decision will go direct to parliament to grant planning permission and our local planning departments will have no say in the outcome.

This is the reason our MP, Phil Wilson is involved in raising the petition which he will present to the government, so they are made aware of the overwhelming opposition of Sedgefield residents to any more turbines around our homes. To this end I have been canvassing my area of the village to collect signatures on the petition as it is sited in the council office adjacent to the doctors surgery but no one was aware of this so if I have missed people, can you please make time to visit the office to sign up. Thank you for your support.

Mike Dea

Dogs on leads

The restriction in Hardwick Park was implemented on 1st April for several reasons including unacceptable levels of dog fouling; particular problems for children's woodland activities; disturbance & damage to wildlife and widespread concerns by visitors about dogs being out of control. It was a 6 month trial to ascertain the effectiveness of the restriction, after which it would be reviewed and amended if necessary. It has been an overwhelming success with a very significant reduction in dog fouling, increased populations of waterfowl and very many fewer complaints from visitors about dogs being out of control.

However, as a dog owner myself, I appreciate comments from responsible dog owners who we rely on to support the Park. Over the 6 months, my staff have collated comments for and against, and listened to all suggestions made. An overwhelming number of visitors support "dogs on leads" and a relatively small minority have stood against it since introduction. However, I believe that it is important that compromises should be made where there is tangible benefit to all and little or no dis-benefit, irrespective of numbers.

Of the 20 complaints received, 75% suggested that the majority of our concerns could be covered by introducing a curfew system when the Park was quiet. Most suggested it would be reasonable to be allowed to have their dog off a lead between 6pm & 9am. I believe that, subject to appropriate conditions, this is a very acceptable compromise. My Service Management Team has accepted it, subject to the development of a Code of Conduct requiring dog owners to control dogs off lead, not allow them to disturb wildlife and clean up wherever they may foul.

As recognised by several people who made the suggestion, the curfew will not apply during bird nesting season; obviously an extremely sensitive time of year when it is not appropriate for dogs to be running around in the Park. As nesting season will vary slightly each year, we will clearly sign to advise when the curfew is withdrawn and when it is again introduced at the end of the summer. Although there may be periodic grazing in one of the fields in East Park, the majority if not all the area, will be available for dogs to be exercised off lead. I propose to introduce the curfew system from 1st October. New signs and a Park Code of Conduct will be displayed informing all visitors of these changes.

Finally, I would like to stress that this sensible compromise to the policy has been suggested by people who complained about the "dogs on lead" requirement and all stressed that, as responsible dog walkers, they do not allow their dogs to contribute to the problems that saw its introduction. I sincerely hope that I can rely on their complete support to ensure the curfew system is a success. Monitoring will take place over the next few months and I will report to my Service Management Team in spring.

Sara Fortune, Hardwick Park Manager

Footballing loud-mouths

My wife and I were enjoying a leisurely walk at Sedgefield Community College recently, when our attention turned to a game of football on the playing fields. As avid watchers of the beautiful game, we crossed to have a closer look. On close observation, one team and more importantly supporters on one side of the pitch were creating a loud racket, which became increasingly offensive, including much berating of the poor referee. I asked a spectator on the other side of the pitch what the fracas was about and he replied that it was a local derby between The Social Club and NetPark, and that the latter team making all the noise, were considered the 'Noisy neighbours'! Indeed they were a most disgusting motley crew, team and supporters alike! We stayed long enough to see a goal worthy of premiership standards by the much better mannered Social Club side, which was followed by the chap carrying the linesman's flag on the NetPark touchline throwing his flag to the floor and jumping up and down screaming obscenities like a demented chimpanzee! Suffice to say enough was enough for me and my poor wife. I'm thankful that I learnt later that the good fellows of The Social Club won and will finish by saying Sedgefield should have no place for 'Noisy Neighbours' of the likes of NetPark!

Name and address supplied

MORE LETTERS ON PAGE 7

Contact details

for Sedgefield Development Trust & projects

Corporate & Business Mail

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

**Community Lawyers & DIDO:
07899 022 133**

**Hare Hills Lodge, Sedgefield,
TS21 2EG**

Advertising Rates

The popular 6 x4cm box is £21 (£26.50 out of area).

Other prices are pro rata.

Delivery of own insert is £150/£185

For more details, email

sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Contractual Statement

The person or organisation placing an advertisement in Sedgefield News shall pay to Sedgefield Development Trust Limited (SDT) the total of the agreed charges for setting, printing & distribution of the Advertisement (the Service) within 30 days of receipt of the SDT's invoice. SDT may issue an invoice at any time after the provision of the Service.

15th October is the Deadline

for November's News. Email copy to
sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

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

Opinions expressed in Sedgefield News are not necessarily those of the publisher: we strive to be impartial & independent.

We reserve the right to edit copy & will not publish letters of unknown authorship. Please send contact details with correspondence.