

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

October 2012



"And the winner is..."

There are winning stories on almost every page this month - from sunflowers to sport (*below & in Sports Update*); from drama festival (*page 5*) to those doughty gardeners who just keep on winning (*page 3*) & last but by no means least, 2012's exceptional achievements at Sedgefield Community College (*see below*). There's been a feast for music lovers, with yet more to come (*pages 2 & 3*) and a truly astonishing performance at Harbinson House! It's a real pleasure to report on it all.

Sedgefield District Sport & Physical Activity Awards

Sedgefield was well represented in the shortlist for these Awards, but huge congratulations are due to the team behind the Sedgefield Village Games, who won their category and now go forward to the County Durham awards on 12th October. *More detail on page 7.*



Emily, Evie & the Giant Sunflower

Down on The Leas it must have been possible to spot the Legender sisters' tallest sunflower from a fair old distance! It had reached 2.62metres by the last week of August, when it was judged by Sedgefield in Bloom to take this year's prize. Other fine examples were grown by Richard Flanagan, Sophie Richardson, Mhairi & Owen McEloney and Brett McCabe.



College tops education league table

Students and staff at Sedgefield Community College are celebrating outstanding examination results, which once again single it out as one of County Durham's top performing schools. The college has attracted acclaim for its teaching standards, culminating in it becoming one of only two schools in the North of England to achieve 'thinking school' status. *See p 2*

And finally, the editor's "Quirkiest Feel-good Factor Award" goes to ...

The 2012 Flu Campaign!

Going through the front door at Harbinson House can be a despondent affair (no reflection on the staff - it's just that you're often feeling a bit ropery). But last Saturday we were greeted by brightly smiling nurses in fabulous t-shirts and ushered through reception (itself clad, astonishingly, in yellow bunting). With cries of "Roll up your sleeves" & "move on up the bus please" they piloted us through an incredibly efficient, fear-defeating operation and we were out in no time, never so happy to have been on the receiving end of "a sharp scratch". (By the way, I made that up about the bus!) Experience it for yourselves between 9am & 11am on Saturday 13th Oct at the second session. Details from the surgery on 620300.

To contact Sedgefield News
call or text 07572 502 904
or email
sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Our “Thinking School”

Sedgefield Community College is committed to providing students with the tools that they need not only to achieve outstanding examination results, but also to be outstanding thinkers and learners. This commitment to providing students with the skills that they need to think deeply and for themselves is seen in an approach to learning called ‘The Sedgefield Learning Box’.

Last term, the effectiveness of the Learning Box approach resulted in the school becoming only the second secondary school in the region to be awarded ‘Thinking School Status’ through The University of Exeter’s Cognitive Education Centre, is a highly prestigious award. In the words of Professor Bob Burden, who leads the project, schools can only achieve it if they have a commitment to ‘both students and staff learning how to think reflectively, critically and creatively’. A school visit is the final step in becoming a Thinking School and the report of this visit notes that the school is focused on, ‘raising the quality of achievement for all learners’ and that there is a ‘growing culture of excitement about thinking’.



Students become skilled in using a number of tools that help them to think more deeply. Amongst these tools, the school uses De Bono’s Thinking Hats, Thinking Maps created by David Hyerle and Art Costa’s Habits of Mind amongst a range of other approaches. These approaches to better learning are put into the Learning Box and, as one student states in the Thinking School report, it encourages them to ‘think about things you wouldn’t have thought of before’.

More details about the approach can be found on the school website at www.sedgefieldcommunitycollege.co.uk. Students, parents and staff all appreciate the potential of these tools and their impact can be seen in many ways, including the record-breaking examination results achieved by the school this summer.

Since launching ‘The Sedgefield Learning Box’ in 2010, the impact on learning has been recognised not only through Thinking School accreditation being achieved, but also by a number of other schools in the region, who have worked with Sedgefield Community College to identify how they might also use the approach. Upon achieving the award, Headteacher Dave Davies commented, “I am delighted that the success of our methods have been recognised. The award is testimony to the quality of learning experience that we provide our students. An approach that goes beyond merely teaching the skills needed to pass examinations, but actually teaches students how to approach and dissect problems through the application of the thinking skills. I have no doubt that this will place our students in a significantly advantageous position as they move into further education and employment”.



The fact that the school has become one of the highest performing schools in the North East was not lost on the media.

Indeed, students became stars for the day on ‘results day’.

Above: Olivia Alderson & Chloe Thomas are interviewed for BBC Look North

Below: Kerrie Bournier & her father are interviewed by STAR radio.



“Loved the new look”
“best concert”
“really enjoyed it”

Sedgefield Lyric singers received rave reviews for their Jubilee summer concert. Solos, duets and audience participation combined with a mix of contemporary and classic songs to contribute to a jubilant party atmosphere.

It was a great night to remember, so don’t miss the choir’s Christmas concerts on

Friday & Saturday, 7th & 8th December.

If you’d like to join in the singing, the choir rehearses on Fridays from 7.30 – 9pm in Ceddesfeld Hall. For more information, please contact Joan Green on 01325 317039, or email joan.green6@tiscali.co.uk

Sedgefield 700 "Big Sing" - HANDEL'S MESSIAH

To mark the 700th Anniversary of the granting of Sedgefield's Market Charter many activities are taking place in the town throughout 2012. One of the Highlights will be a performance of "Messiah" in St. Edmund's Parish Church, with Arthur Kay as Musical Director, on the evening of Saturday the 17th November at 7pm. The music scores to be used will be the Novello - Prout version. Accompaniment will be by Alex Ord, organ, and a small string orchestra.

Individual singers and members of all choirs in the area are warmly invited to take part in this special "Concert from Scratch", with a full rehearsal at 2pm on the afternoon of the performance. A prior rehearsal has also been arranged for as many singers as are able to attend, on Saturday 13th October at 2pm. There will be a nominal charge of £5 per person (to include drinks) to participants and audience, to offset costs. Any profits will be donated to St. Edmund's Church lighting appeal.

Expressions of interest in this event would be most welcome, to Derrick Lofthouse, 42, The Meadows, Sedgefield. TS21 2DH
Telephone: 01740 620625 or email: ederricklofthouse@talktalk.net

Success for Sedgefield in Bloom

At the recent Northumbria in Bloom ceremony in Spennymoor Leisure Centre, Sedgefield triumphed once again, winning a gold medal and the Federation Brewery Award for Best Small Town for the fifth time in succession. The Sedgefield in Bloom team, consisting of gardeners Stephen Young and Roy Cairns, ably supported by the devoted band of volunteer Bloomers, were delighted with their success. Judges described Sedgefield as outstanding, awarding 193 points out of a possible 200, particularly commending the 700 bed, the Bloom Beacon and the planting around the new market cross. They also applauded the careful rebuilding of the church wall, minimising disruption to the planting underneath, and were impressed by numerous residential gardens and brightly decorated business premises. They found conservation and environmental responsibility evident throughout Sedgefield, especially at Hardwick Park, Netpark and Winterton Allotments. They reserved particular praise for community involvement, awarding Sedgefield 100%. This is a tribute, not only to the efforts of the Bloomers, but to all the people of Sedgefield who offer support, ideas and encouragement, as well as sponsorship and by attending fundraising events. Marianne Foster, former TV presenter, who compered the awards ceremony with great flair, pointed out that over 200,000 volunteers contribute to Bloom projects nationwide. Northumbria in Bloom Chairman Eileen Burn described that dedicated band as 'gems', because 'they shine, make the world more beautiful and are very valuable'. Sedgefield in Bloom chairman Howard Smith said, 'We are very proud to have done so well in such a strong field, in contention with six other gold medallists in the Small Town category. Sedgefield is a great place and our aim is simply to make it even more beautiful. The community spirit we have seen this year has really spurred us on and we're pleased to have made a contribution to the success of this very special year.'

A group of five Bloomers will attend the Britain in Bloom awards ceremony in Guernsey on October 6th. Results will be made public as soon as possible after that date.

Bloomers with the trophy outside Aubergine, a favourite spot for refreshments after completing Wednesday morning Bloom tasks.



Another successful Folk Festival

The seventh annual Sedgefield Folk Festival held over the first weekend in September once again turned out to be a great success. Four sell-out concerts in the Parish Hall, singarounds in Ceddesfeld Hall, a concert in St Edmund's Church, various music and dance workshops and other events all received high acclaim from the hundreds of people attending from all over the north-east and other parts of the country and further cemented the festival's reputation in the folk scene, both locally and nationally. The festival began with a musical narration entitled 'She's Fired' about the 1880 Seaham Mine Disaster, which evoked many memories of pit life amongst the audience, many of whom were from a mining background. The production received so many favourable comments that it is likely to be repeated at other locations throughout the region. There were many highlights during the weekend with wonderful performances at the concerts by Stony Band, Jez Lowe, Elbow Jane, Bernard Wrigley and many others, while the young dancers from the Irish Centre at Newcastle proved very spectacular to watch in their vibrant costumes.

As one of the organisers of the festival I would like to thank the numerous people who supported the festival and the magnificent team of helpers without whom the festival would not have been such a success. *Joan Edmundson*

OASISJAM

Well known Sedgefield band 101 has been recently playing a series of gigs under the name OASISJAM - Greatest hits of Oasis and The Jam. This sees the usual 101 line up adding an additional guitarist / keyboard player for the OASIS set.

The band makes its home town debut at The Black Lion on Friday 19th October at 9pm. Also making a special guest appearance singing vocals for the Jam set is Dave Pratt from England Screaming. It promises to be a very popular night so get there early!

Anniversary weekend

The North East Concertina Players enjoyed a remarkable weekend to celebrate 25 years of music making. Treated to expert tuition from folk legend, Dave Ball, the players went away buzzing with ideas for the next 25 years!

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel



At the August 14th meeting, PC Keith Todd's Crime report was circulated on his behalf by Chairman Ken Saiger. Neil Langthorne, Community Support Officer, provided extensive data on crime reduction and activities over the last year. *These confirm how relatively crime free Sedgefield is.* However, following the meeting, the following message was issued on August 21st, to N/H/Watch and persons registered with the Police to receive Police contact information:

This is a message from Sedgefield Neighbourhood Police Team

Over the last 2 weeks items have been stolen from inside 3 vehicles whilst parked unattended in Sedgefield. At least 2 of these vehicles were left unlocked, allowing the thief easy access to the property inside the vehicle. Don't make yourself an easy target for opportunist thieves;

- Always ensure your vehicle is locked and secure when leaving it unattended
- Remove any valuables from inside your vehicle.
- Valuables that you need to store in your vehicle should be placed out sight, preferably locked in the boot.

Please report any suspicious activity to Durham Police on 101. In an emergency always use 999.

So the message is clear.

Don't make it easy for thieves. Think – and take some basic simple steps to make your car and your property (including your home) secure.

Service to visually impaired

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood

Watch provides CDs of

Sedgefield News, Sedgefield

Extra & Durham County News,

for the Blind and partially sighted.

If you know of anyone who needs this service, please contact

David Hillerby: 01740 621343

Telephone contact numbers

Local Police: 101

Durham County Council Wardens:

0300 123 70 70

Community Liaison Officer,

Neil Langthorne: 01325 742755

Crime Prevention Officer,

Mark Pheasant: 01325 742714

Sedgefield Town Council: 621273

Community Lawyers: 07899 022 133

Jottings from September Residents' Forum meeting

There were updates from the Town/County Councillor and from correspondence sent after the last meeting. August tends to be a quiet time for most organisations but is still no excuse for correspondence not receiving a reply. 1 letter sent from the Forum by Royal Mail Recorded delivery had been lost in the Royal Mail process so that is being chased up.

The multiple short electricity cuts, which we have been experiencing for some time, was again raised and letter from Northern Power Grid read out. The letter explained that the cuts were due to a problem on the overhead lines which Power Grid is trying to identify. The interruptions to supply cause some residents problems in having to re-set electrical settings every time. It is requested that residents make sure their burglar alarms are operating properly and cutting out after 20 minutes, as is required; some are causing a nuisance by sounding continually after power cuts.

Concern was again expressed by residents about noise from entertainment venues in and around the village. More marquee events are planned at some venues for the future with a potential of ongoing problems. Residents are urged to report any noise nuisance to Environmental Health Department (03000 261001) and keep a record of the date and time etc. The Forum has requested that the Town Council look at measures to address the problems.

The big issue for our community is the proposed housing development outlined in the County Durham Plan, which has huge implications for our village.

Comments have got must be back to Durham County Council by Friday 2nd November. DCC are holding an exhibition of the Plan in Ceddesfeld Hall on 16th October, 4 – 8pm. But more importantly Sedgefield Together Group and the Town Council will hold an open meeting in the **Parish Hall on October 9th** for our community to hear information and give views on developments which affect us. It is really, really, important that people get along and give their views – do it then before it is too late.

It was very pleasing to hear of the exam success of the Community College. The College has improved tremendously in recent times and congratulations were expressed to pupils, staff & Governors. Your hard work is much appreciated. And of course congratulations to our Sedgefield in Bloom gang and everyone involved in Sedgefield once again winning the Northumbria in Bloom Small Town award. The weather made it a difficult year for gardeners but the Bloom Gang maintained a fantastic display in our village – thanks again to all concerned. The next Forum meeting is on **Monday 5th November** at 7pm in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall. It is your opportunity to hear updates on community issues and give your views.

PC Todd

Can I remind everyone who owns a vehicle to make sure you lock it when leaving it overnight. Recently, residents in Wellgarth Mews & The Meadows have reported items stolen from their insecure vehicles.

After all the publicity surrounding theft of lead from buildings we are still receiving reports of lead thefts. Two commercial properties on Front Street have been the latest victims. Please report suspicious persons, especially during the night.

Other crimes reported include 4 tyres slashed on a vehicle in St Luke's Crescent, theft of two scarecrows off a roof in Cross Street, two children's bikes taken from a garden in Turnpike Walk and Portacabins in Hardwick Park broken into, with a quantity of tools and bikes stolen.

P.A.C.T. priorities

Parking around the zebra crossing on High Street has been selected as this month's priority for the local Neighbourhood beat team to focus on. Please respect the law and park in designated areas or you may find an unwanted £30 parking fine on your windscreen.

Pub Watch

No meeting was held this month due to unforeseen circumstances. The next meeting will be held in the Crosshill in October.

Change at Royal Mail

Over the next few weeks, mail posted in the TS postcode area will cease to be processed at the current site at Cannon Park Way in Middlesbrough, going instead to a newly refurbished and extended processing centre in Gateshead. It's part of the Royal Mail's effort to modernise, in response to the decline in the volume of posted mail. The introduction of the latest technology to sorting centres and the expansion of the Gateshead site are part of a drive to improve efficiency by making the best possible use of buildings, machinery and resources.

Royal Mail assures us that this change will not affect our mail deliveries, although recipients of our mail may notice a different postmark on mail sent from the TS postcode area.

There are robust training plans in place to ensure that collection teams are completely familiar with the new arrangements and every effort will be made to prevent any disruption to the service.

To find out more, go to www.royalmail.com/modernisation.

Drama Festival report

Sedgefield Players had plenty to celebrate on the final night of their production of 'Blue Suede Blues' by Diana Raffle won awards for costume and the ensemble playing of the team. Thomas Guest's performance as dastardly Derek Columbo earned him the cameo award, while his jilted fiancée Pansy (Jacqui O'Meara) was judged Best Supporting Actress.

Jean Hewling and Viv Jacobs

were both nominated Best Actress for their portrayals of Lily and Grace, two old ladies so fed up with life in the nursing home that they decided to kidnap the care assistant and hold her to ransom. Terry West, responding to their demands for cigarettes, gin and a budgie, was nominated Best Supporting Actor. The Players Youth Section SPYS also excelled in Lee Mattinson's 'Jonathan Likes This', dealing with Facebook communication and the response of a group of young people to the death of their friend. Adjudicator Ian Sarginson, commending the entire group, awarded them the Peter Young Quach for Youth. Singled out for particular praise, Luke Maddison and Janine Yaxley won the Simon Whiteley Awards for individual performers under 21.

Statement Drama Company from Scarborough also scooped seven awards with two outstanding productions, both monologues set in America. In 'Here I Am' by Joyce Carol Oates, Sue Wilding won Best Actress for her performance as a woman damaged by life. The play, with very simple staging, also won the award for Best Set and the runner-up award, two points behind Statement's 'The Devil and Billy Markham' by Shel Silverstein, which also won the Audience Award. A tour de force performance by Steve Johnson assured him the award for Best Actor, while Aline Bliss, responsible for both productions, carried off the award for Best Director. The company hope to return to the parish hall with both plays later this year. Anyone who missed them at the festival should take this opportunity to see two superb productions by a very talented group. Details will be publicised as soon as possible.

'Bananadrama', also of Scarborough, won the Ray Tate Award for Endeavour for their two productions, both written by members of the group. Other original material came from Deborah Hugill of Allerton Players, whose Andrew McMirrin won Best Supporting Actor as the narrator in 'Finding Goddard'. For Moon in the Sky Theatre, Durham writer Tom Casling's 'Jumpers' won the award for Technical Presentation, the projected images and soundtrack bringing the audience ever closer to the Tyne Bridge, where Tom himself played the character threatening to jump. Newcomers to Sedgefield, Leyburn ADS won the Best 30 Seconds and the Adjudicator's Award for the brilliant pair work of the married couple escaping from their mundane life into fantasy in 'Orca the Goldfish'.

Adjudicator Ian Sarginson, on his first visit to Sedgefield, praised the organisation and friendliness of the festival, as well as the warm welcome he had received throughout his stay here.



Your chance to comment on the County Durham Plan

The County Durham Plan will guide development and change in County Durham over the next 15 to 20 years. It is an ambitious Plan that focuses on driving economic growth and therefore makes important, and sometimes difficult, decisions and choices about how and where new development should be located.

There are clearly implications for Sedgefield and the rest of the area.

For residents to learn more and allow them to have a say, there's a

Sedgefield Together Partnership Open Evening

on October 9th (see Diary page) and

Exhibition & Public Consultation

on Tuesday 6th October from 4 - 8pm in Ceddesfeld Hall.

Comments and completed response forms should be received by

Friday 2nd November, online at

[www.durhamcc-consult.](http://www.durhamcc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning)

limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning

via Email to

CDPconsultation@durham.gov.uk

or address letters simply to **FREEPOST Spatial Policy**

For other enquiries, and to request copies of the document, including in an alternative format such as large print, Braille, audio cassette or an alternative language, please call

03000 026 0000.

SPORTS UPDATE

with Sports Editor, **Chris Lines**

Summer must be over because the cricket season has just finished (in the UK at least). At one stage, Durham County Cricket Club sat at the bottom of the first division of the County Championship and were destined for relegation. Then Paul Collingwood was appointed captain and the team went on a fantastic run, winning five of their last six matches (the other one ended in a draw) and ending the season mid table. Meanwhile, Sedgefield Cricket Club enjoyed a fantastic (if a little wet at times) summer – more of that to follow. Also this month, we have news about wheelchair rugby in Sedgefield, very timely after the fantastic spectacle of the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

Cricket

After a very wet summer, the cricket season came to a very successful conclusion for all three senior teams at Sedgefield Cricket Club.

A late season victory over Guisborough and a last day nail biting draw at the Station Road ground meant that ECB Premier League cricket has been secured for another season by the first team. Professionals Steve Naylor and Mohammed Zahid topped the batting and bowling averages, but significant contributions were made throughout the season by a number of players including; Justin Preston, Chris Gillespie, Mal Dickenson, David Cross, Nick Hughes and James Bell.

In Division 3, the club's second team went through the season with a 100% winning record and ensured the title with victories over Maltby, Bedale, Yarm, Preston and Wolviston in the final month of the season. Mal Dickenson led the batting averages, followed closely by Pete Ravis and Luke Henderson. John Cavanagh narrowly won the bowling honours, ahead of Phil Heslop and Johnathon Clark.

The third eleven, superbly captained by Adam Harris, also capped off a great season by gaining promotion to Sunday Division 1, losing only one game all season. James Kemp, with an average of over 100, was top batsman, and Steve Rixon was the leading bowler.

The club continues to go from strength to strength and all three senior teams are filled with players who have come through the club's thriving junior section. Nets will start early in 2013 and all new players will be welcome.

Wheelchair Rugby

You may not be aware, but the North East Bulls Wheelchair Rugby Club, the only wheelchair rugby team in the region, trains in Sedgefield twice a week. This year, the club is celebrating its 10th anniversary and is holding a tournament to both mark that and raise the profile of the sport in the area. Wheelchair rugby is the fastest growing wheelchair sport at the moment and was one of the highlights of the Paralympic Games. It's fast moving and in some forms can be brutally competitive (it's also called murderball, with good reason if these clips are anything to go by - www.youtube.com/watch?v=NKjFlpuBy0c!).

The North East Bulls players are predominantly spinally injured, having suffered high level (broken necks) fractures, while others have cerebral palsy and one has suffered from meningitis. The team has representatives from around the region, including Jack Smith from Sedgefield, who suffered his injury while playing rugby union (and who has featured in Sedgefield News before). Mike Kerr, who is a Bull, is also vice captain of the Great Britain team.

The 10th anniversary tournament is being held on 13th and 14th October at Sedgefield Community College. The North East Bulls will be playing host to the Caledonian Crushers (from Glasgow) and The North Wales Dragons. There will be three games on Saturday 13th (10.00am – 4.00pm) and a final to decide the winner on the following day (between 11.00am and 2.00pm).

Beyond that event, the Bulls train at the college on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 6pm and 9pm and are always on the lookout for potential wheelchair rugby players. Admission to the tournament is free. To find out more about the event and the club, call 07968 827064 or visit www.thebullswrc.com.

Squash

Sedgefield Squash Club was well represented at the recent North East Regional Junior Closed Championships. The NE area encompasses clubs from Humber to the Tweed, with some very strong junior sections, so provided a very tough competition. In the Under 17 category Robert Pearce came 6th overall, while in the Under 15s Oliver Walls achieved 9th place and George Peden came 13th.

Additional players from Sedgefield across the age categories are expected to compete in the forthcoming Durham & Cleveland County closed competitions.

At a domestic level, the new season started in the now traditional way with the team handicap competition, which fielded 35 participants, dusting off the closed season cobwebs or putting into practice what they had learned during summer coaching. The final results were very close (a moral victory for the handicappers!), but the winning team was Robert Pearce, Peter Redshaw, Simon Hill, Jean Gillespie, Gareth Maloney, Rory Varley and Sharon O'Donnell. The club managed to secure an exhibition match on September 30th with world number one ranked squash player James Wilstrop visiting Sedgefield. He has also agreed to take on some club members. Report and photos in next month's Sedgefield News.



Cycling

Stockton Wheelers is the local British Cycling 'go-ride' club for the Sedgefield area. It is an active and social club that welcomes new members. The club runs youth cycling training events on Saturday mornings at the new Prissick cycle centre in Middlesbrough. All ages of cyclist and types of bike are welcome, including those just starting to learn to ride.

The sessions are at 9.45am for the younger riders, usually aged from 5 or 6 upwards, and 10.45am for older more able riders, and each session lasts about an hour. They are run by qualified British Cycling coaches, including Sedgefield resident Jayne Woods. For those who want to progress to racing there are also youth races.

There are also regular Sunday club rides with long and short routes. The short ones take about two hours and are often organised by Jayne. She also organises occasional women's rides through the club, for those ladies who want to give group riding a try.

All details are on www.stocktonwheelers.org.uk, where you can send an email to the club. You can also contact the Wheelers' Facebook page.

For an insight into the life of an aspiring professional cyclist, it's worth following the progress of former Sedgefield resident Matthew Woods who moved to Italy last year to try out the cycle road racing scene there. After a successful season as an amateur he signed for a semi-pro U23 team and has spent this season racing Italian national U23 and international races. These included the U23 version of the Giro d'Italia. He has now started a blog which can be found at <http://woodsyl992.blogspot.co.uk/>, for those interested in what life as a full time racer is like.

Junior Football

Fishburn Community Football Club is looking for male and female players for the club. If you would like to be part of a group and keep fit in a friendly atmosphere, this could be club for you. In particular, Fishburn is hoping to introduce girls' teams into the club, so if you have a daughter between the ages of 7 and 11 who loves playing football, or if you would be interested in a running or coaching a team, then please call Andrew on 07867 800394 or Nicola on 07933 477559 to find out more or register your interest. You can also find the club on Facebook or follow @FishburnCFC on Twitter.

Athletics

As usual, Sedgefield was well represented in the Great North Run. Plenty of Sedgefield Harriers, and other runners, tackled the half marathon, joining a record number on the start line in Newcastle. The day before saw the Mini Great North Run and Junior Great North Run. Both events are getting more popular every year and again Sedgefield sent up plenty of young runners to tackle 1.5km and 5km courses around the NewcastleGateshead quayside. Sharon Stapleton and Sharon Roberts deserve a particular mention. Both joined Harriers just two years ago after attending a beginners' group session, having never run before. Sharon and Sharon are over 40 and finished their first Great North Runs in 2hrs and 36mins – great performances! Meanwhile, another first timer was Alike Skerratt, a runner showing great potential, who completed the course in 1:45. Well done to everyone who ran during the weekend.

The week before the Great North Run, Sedgefield Harriers held its annual Serpentine event, a 10km cross country run that started and finished behind the cricket ground. The race attracted its highest ever number of entries and 136 people completed the undulating course on a hot morning. Local runner James Askew, of Durham City Harriers, won the men's race, and ran within one second of Morpeth Harrier Terry Wall's course record, in a time of 35:40. Gary Grounds of Billingham Marsh House Harriers finished second (36:31) and three-times winner Terry Wall of Morpeth was third (37:29). In the women's race, Jane Wistow of Hartlepool Burn Road Harriers was first in 46:53 ahead of Linda Bone of South Shields Harriers in 47:27 and Helene Rusby of Crook AC in 48:51. Once again, the event was generously sponsored by Quad Sport Leisure and Hardwick Motor-X, providing 24 trophies and cash prizes that were presented on the day.

Sedgefield parkrun has just passed a milestone. The event has now been up and running for six months, during which time over 750 different people have participated and over 150 have volunteered, to make sure that each week's parkrun can be held. Every week, new runners of all ages and abilities turn up to get involved in the event, which follows a course around Hardwick Park and starts at 9.00am each Saturday morning. There are now over 600 people who have registered as Sedgefield parkrunners at <http://www.parkrun.org.uk/register>, which is really impressive in the short time that the event has been going and highlights the continued growth in popularity of running.

Finally this month, hot off the presses are the results of the Sedgefield District Sport and Physical Activity Awards. There were several nominees from the village: Sedgefield Harriers junior throws coach Tim Dredge (coach of the year); Sedgefield Squash Club (sports club of the year); Robert Pearce of Sedgefield Squash Club (junior sports person of the year); and of course, the Sedgefield Village Games (contribution to physical activity).

As ever, if you have any sports news, please send it to chrisjlines@aol.com.

October Events Diary

This service is free to non-commercial organisations

September in the Library

'Using computers for everyday life'
- in association with Age UK
Thursdays, 10:30am - 12:15pm
Drop in & drop out learning for over 50s & carers. Please book your session.
Call the Library on 01740 620103
Craft Club 10am-12 noon,
Tuesdays 2nd, 16th, & 30th
Rhyme-Tickley Time
Wednesdays 10am-11am
Half term children's craft
Monday 29th 10am-11am
Children's October Competition

Methodist Wives & Friends

Monday 1st October
Chain Reaction Jewellery
Monday 13th October: Orchids

Local History Society

Monday 1st October
7.30pm, Ceddesfeld Hall. Chris Clennell
on "Dilston Castle & its ghosts"

Sedgefield Gardening Club

Tuesday 2nd October
7.30pm at Ceddesfeld Hall
"Every flower tells a story" - Phil Gates
All welcome

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 3rd October
7.15pm in the Parish Hall
"Autumn Feasts"
Cookery demonstration by Jan Wilson
Members' competition -
an unusually shaped veg or fruit
Visitors always welcome - fee £2.50
includes refreshments

Sedgefield & District U3A

Friday 5th October
2pm in the Parish Hall
"Tyneside Monologues"
by Margaret Pringle
Visitors Welcome. For details, phone
Ray Manning - 629276

Cricket Club Quiz

Saturday 6th October at 8pm
Quizmaster...John Bryant

Sedgefield Farmers' Market

Sunday 7th October

Eddies@4

Sunday 7th October
Informal service for 2-6 year olds
4pm, Welcome Room, St Edmund's
Contact J Rowsby, 621125

Neighbourhood Watch

AGM & Panel Meeting

Tuesday 9th October
7pm, Fletcher Room, Parish Hall
All Welcome

Open Meeting

on the County Durham Plan
Tuesday 9th October
Parish Hall 7-9pm

Ladies' Club

Tuesday 9th October
Whickham Hermitage Community
Garden, with Dave Peacock
Tuesday 23rd October
Lillipad Jewellery: Laura Vayro

Country Market

Friday 12th October
Parish Hall 9.30 - 11am
Tea, Coffee, cakes, cards, gifts & plants

Sedgefield Social Club

Sat 13th Oct: Jessie Woods, vocalist
Sat 20th Oct: Jimmy Moon, vocalist
Sat 27th Oct: Stu Holland, Vocalist
Saturday cover charge £1.50 per person
Members & guests welcome
Wed 24th Oct: Folk night
Singers, Musicians, Members & their
guests welcome: No cover charge
Mon 22nd October: Country Night
with Donna Wild. Cover charge £3 pp.
All welcome. Concert Room available for
functions. Tel: 01740 620591 to book

NECP Concertina Workshop

Sundays 14th & 28th October, 1pm
Ceddesfeld Hall. Contact 01642 588197

Family History Group

(branch of CFHS)
Monday 15th October
7.45pm in Ceddesfeld Hall
"Location, Location, Location - where
exactly did they live?" by Norman Welch
Visitors always welcome. Info: 620367 or
visit www.sedgefieldfamilyhistory.org.uk

Ferryhill, Sedgefield &

District Flower Club

Tuesday 16th October
7.30pm in the Parish Hall
"Out of Africa" - Dorothy Pearson,
Northumberland & Durham demonstrator
All welcome

Sedgefield Village Veterans

Thursday 18th October Bi-monthly
meeting, Ceddesfeld Hall 7pm

Coffee Morning

Sedgefield Village Veterans
Friday 19th October 10 - 12noon
Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

Live Music Night

Sedgefield Cricket Club at 7.45 pm
Friday 19th October
Regulars Night with Scratch Band,
John Wrightson Band, Leo McCormack
& friends, Broadband & John Weighell
Admission £8, includes buffet
Tel 621347

Trafalgar Dinner

Saturday 20th October
Ceddesfeld Hall, 7pm for 7.30 pm
Drinks, choice of main courses & puddings,
cheeses & biscuits, coffee & mints;
entertainment. Tickets, £16 from
620607, 620206 or Town Council Offices

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 25th October
7.45pm Parish Hall. Details TBA.
Contact Steve Ashton, 01287 636382
sashton@teeswildlife.org. All Welcome

Coffee Morning

Sedgefield in Bloom
Friday 26th October 10-11.30 am.
Parish Hall Home made cakes, scones,
books, crafts, gifts, raffle & tombola

Regular Events

Bridge Club

Meets every Sunday & Tuesday at 7.30pm in
Ceddesfeld Hall. Beginners welcome. For
more information call Jen - 01740 620434

Winterton Wayfarers

Walking Group - Weekly Sunday walks, from
5 - 10 miles. Contact 620034 or 620434

Community College Bowls Club

Meets Mondays, 6 - 8pm. Carpet Bowls or
Short Mat. Individual coaching available. No
age limit. Contact, J. Kinghorn, 623198

Sedgefield Carpet Bowls Club

Meets every Tuesday & Thursday mornings
8.30 - 12.00 in Ceddesfeld Hall. Tea, coffee,
conversation & healthy exercise. Beginners
welcome. For more info call Sheila on 622532

Sedgefield Pop In Club

for the elderly & disabled at Ceddesfeld Hall
Join us for Tea or Coffee and biscuits on
Tuesdays 9.30 - 12; Wednesdays 10 - 12.30
Thursdays 1 - 3.30

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

Sedgefield Handbell Ringers

Wednesdays 7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall
(First week of month - Monday)
Beginners welcome, contact 621292

Rotary Club of Sedgefield

Wednesdays 7.15pm, Nag's Head
New members welcome.
Call 629070 or 620562

Round Table

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

Ceddesfeld Hall Art Group

Small, friendly group: 10-12 noon, Thursdays

Café@St Catherine's

Friendly chat & Fishburn gossip! Fridays
9.30am-12noon: Tea/coffee/ toast & chat

Ready Steady Grow

At Sedgefield Methodist Church., term time
Fridays, 9.30-10.30am. For Parents, Carers &
Children. Crafts, Songs, Bible stories,
Refreshments. Call Margaret Glass; 621618

Lyrics Choirs

Both choirs welcome new members
on Fridays in Ceddesfeld Hall:
Youth Choir, 8-18yrs at 6pm; Adults at 7.30pm

YOUR Letters

New Year's dismay

It is a profound disappointment that once again the New Year's Eve Dance in the Parish Hall will not take place. This dance has taken place for many years, on the night people taking their own drink, etc.

The difficulty of selling tickets is such a lame excuse - beyond belief. The Town Council consists of 15 Councillors, a Town Clerk and a Community Officer. Could they not put their heads together and just have the dance without any catering? May I take this opportunity to thank Mrs M Stewart and her helpers for the wonderful catering presented on all the past New Year's Eve dances. A big thank you to Margaret and also to the John Wrightson Band and Jonny Gunn.

T. Ruecroft

Return to the old ways!

As a young lad in 1976, my family moved to this lovely village from Newcastle. It was quiet and a lovely place to live. For twenty years I enjoyed going to the village for a quiet pint with good landlords such as Albert & Ann Kerbison, who had the Hope in the 1990s, and Wendy & Ed Charlton, who had the Black Lion in the same decade.

But in the last couple of years I have come back to Sedgfield with my family, and the village is completely different. There is fighting every week, blood on the pavement outside the Black Lion, the Hope Inn, etc. So I am calling on people to stop acting like thugs and let us get our nice village back to how it was like before. *One of the original bus stop boys*

Parking fine

Following my letter in September, I should report that I have been refunded my £25 parking fine from Hardwick Park. Needless to say I won't be forgetting to pay again! *Judith Edgoose*

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

You'll find enclosed a nomination form for the 2012 award. If you know someone who should be singled out this year, make sure your idea counts and submit the form in good time!

Noise pollution

There have been many music events in and around Sedgfield over the summer which have caused some nuisance to residents. A common theme of recent conversations with various people in Sedgfield is that when wanting to complain, the overriding problem seems to be that people are not sure of the best course of action.

Villagers have rung the police and councillors, and although this may be worth doing, the most important action, is to follow up with a written complaint to Durham County Council. Only by doing this will DCC have evidence to assist in the control of events in the future.

The Christmas party season is just round the corner and outdoor events (marquees etc) that are in the pipeline, tend to be a source of noise pollution, which nobody enjoys. It is very important that if people are disturbed by these outside events, they complain in writing to: pollution.control@durham.gov.uk People who don't like to email should write to: Pollution Control, Durham County Council, PO Box 617, Annand House, John St North, Durham, DH1 9HZ.

Marian Cant

Malcolm & Sheila Tooley made many of the same points, also saying...

Due to unseasonal weather this summer, people had limited opportunities to enjoy their outside space... it was most frustrating that when we did have pleasant weather, on July 15th, our area of Sedgfield was "blasted" with music from a Summer Ball at Sedgfield Racecourse from early afternoon until 11pm (the noise increasing even more in the evening). County Environmental Health Dept received several complaints, as did the Police and a Town Councillor.

Environmental Health investigated the complaints, and verified the increased noise levels. The Racecourse are obliged to monitor and keep noise volume within permitted levels under Licensing Regulations, so what message does this incident say about the organisers compliance with County Council regulations? ...at a Family Fun and Games afternoon on the 8th July at the Cricket Club, entertainment was provided and broadcast by Bishop FM Roadshow. The sound levels were particularly extreme, really incredibly loud. It is incomprehensible why these events are unable to have a pleasant afternoon without annoying surrounding residents with prolonged, extreme sound levels. We feel that some organisations in Sedgfield are becoming somewhat indifferent to the disturbance they cause when hosting events. We are not against the events as such; we are against the noise and continuing lack of consideration.

The Environmental Health Dept. is obliged to investigate complaints, even after events have taken place. Complaints can be recorded via Lyndsey Cairnes on 03000 260995, Email: lyndsey.cairnes@durham.gov.uk. Police (101) will issue a crime number, investigate and report back to complainant.

Poppy crosses - an idea from Sedgfield Veterans

I received a Poppy Cross through the Post yesterday, from Royal British Legion. I am sure a lot of other people did, too. If anyone would like to donate them to Sedgfield Veterans for our Remembrance Garden, which we are having again this year, please pop them through my letterbox at 10, Boynston Grove, or leave in the Council Offices. The Remembrance Garden will be in front of the War Memorial again from Saturday 3rd November until Wednesday 14th and will be bigger and more poignant than last year's. We hope you will all call to see it.

David Hillerby

A running sore?

I was very interested to hear that the Sedgfield Joggers have secured some funding for their running circle from the Food Storage development in the village. Does anybody know what sort of food they intend to store in it? It always pleases me when one of those tiny minority interest groups gets a reward for their efforts, despite the lack of wider support. The joggers are so very lucky aren't they, having such a lovely area to run in.

Of much more interest to the people of Sedgfield though, is the windfall from the new Sainsbury's Supermarket development, which is expected to go to the long proposed bowling green we have needed so badly. Could I make a plea for a little splitting of the funds though, and beg that the dormant Sedgfieldweb website is brought out and dusted off, as the potential for the site is terrific and could add another dimension to village life. Bowling green and website. So inclusive, don't you think? When will we know? *Name and address supplied*

SEDGFIELD

DEVELOPMENT TRUST:

Company Secretary, SDT:

7 Melgrove Way,

Sedgfield, TS21 2JN. email:

sedgfielddevelopmenttrust@hotmail.co.uk

Sedgfieldweb: email John Fitzpatrick

@sedgfieldweb@hotmail.co.uk

DIDO: 07899 022 133; Hare Hills Lodge,

Sedgfield, TS21 2EG

Sedgfield Development Trust

is a member of the

Development Trusts Association

OCTOBER 15th is the DEADLINE for the NOVEMBER edition

Email: sedgfieldnews@hotmail.com Call: 07572 502 904

or write to: The Editor, 55 White House Drive, Sedgfield, TS21 3BU

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