

Sedgefield News

LOGO in white

Produced by volunteers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon

September 2006

Animal Waste Incinerator turned down

A controversial planning application by the George Bolam Meat Company to build an animal waste incinerator at their premises on the Industrial Estate was turned down almost unanimously at the Durham County Council committee which considered the application. The company has 6 months within which to appeal against the decision.

A number of local people made impassioned representations to the planning committee concerning the implications for the health and wellbeing of nearby residents and patients at the Community Hospital, if the proposed scheme went ahead.

One of the speakers was Paul Easton, who attended the meeting with his very young son. Paul had spent some time going round the houses nearby, talking to people and gathering opinions. He also collected 100 signatures on a petition, which was presented to our local county councillor and to officers at Durham County Council. Paul wishes to pass on his thanks to all those who gave him their time and support.

Also present was Julia Bowles from Sedgefield Village Residents' Forum. Her notes are on page 5.

We're very grateful to the person who has been delivering Sedgefield News to ELM AVENUE

but we now need a new volunteer to take over. Please ring Marcus or Becky on 629068 if you can spare a little time to make sure that we reach every letterbox by the beginning of the month. Thank you.

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2007 Calling all the Heroes

Do you know a group of volunteers who make a difference in your community; who devote their time to helping others?

To celebrate her Golden Jubilee in 2002, the Queen announced a new annual UK National Honour to recognise outstanding voluntary activities by community groups.

It's easy to nominate
via the website

www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk
email
queensaward@volunteeringengland.org
Or call 0845 000 2002

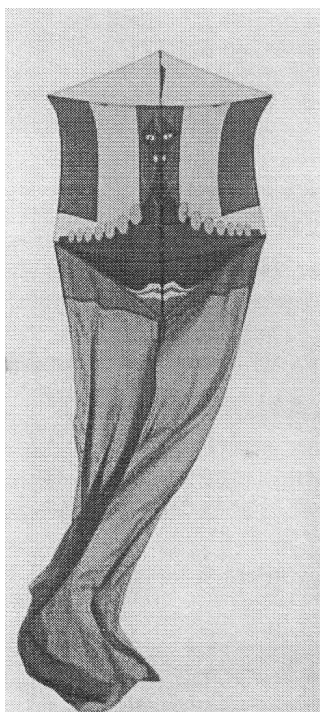
Nominations by 30/9/2006

New Year's Eve Dance
Tickets (£16) will be available from the Town Council Office from Monday 4th September.

Open Meeting - Local Improvement Programme
Local groups and organisations, as well as the Town Council, are eligible to apply for funding through the Borough Council's Local Improvement Programme. An open meeting has been arranged for **Monday 4th September** at 7pm in the Parish Hall. The regeneration officer from Sedgefield Borough will be there to offer information and advice.

The Sedgefield KITE Festival

What a great idea!
Thanks to Robert Swanson for these reminders of a brilliant day on the Village Green.
Can we do it again next year?



Setting a good example

Turn to page 4 for news of Jack Theakston & Lauren Addison; two very impressive young citizens

Champions of sport

All your sports news on pp 6 & 7

New Windfarm Proposals

Details of exhibition on page 9

Australia's fair for the Blakey family

I have lived in Sedgefield most of my life, as has my father Sonny, and my late grandparents Gladys and Bill. I trained at Winterton Hospital and worked as a nurse for the mental health trust since 1987. I was quite well known around the village and thought people might like to know how life has been since we left the village for a new life in Australia, last year. There were many reasons why my wife and I with our two young children decided to move to the other side of the world. Although we had a decent quality of life in Sedgefield, there were things about living in England that we found unpleasant, and decided to take the plunge in search of greater happiness. After months if not years of research, we left friends and family on 30th October 2005, with many tears and lots of sadness. Coupled with that was a sense of excitement of course, at the 'adventure' that lay ahead. After a night at Heathrow, we flew to Brisbane via Singapore on our wedding anniversary, landing in a very hot Queensland on November 1st. We spent 3 days in Brisbane which we found to be a beautiful city, after which we headed down to New South Wales to our 'new home' in Grafton. We were a little naive to think that we could go and live the rest of our lives in a town we had never visited before, but we had good recommendation, some friends to stay with and a job lined up with the community mental health service.

It became clear to us once in Grafton that it was not the place for us. 'Why' is a difficult question to answer, but it just didn't 'feel' right, too 'old fashioned', almost going back in time if that's not too harsh. So we decided to go back to Brisbane, a) because we liked the city, b) I had been there some years ago, and c) I knew someone there who happened to work in mental health. We stayed in motels for a couple of weeks until we got sorted with a rental house in Redland Bay, and talk about timing, our furniture arrived in Brisbane 2 days after we got the keys. I was fortunate to get a job also, and was made very welcome by the other staff. It was quite a stress sorting out schools, finances, utilities, health care etc etc, but it needed to be done. A lot different from the UK!!

To be fair we had a great few months in Brisbane, but it was always going to be a 'stop gap', while we decided where we wanted to be. We had some good times and I was fortunate that my good mate Johnny Waller (Mrs Waller's son) came over from New Zealand with his wife to spend a few days with us.

After more research, we decided to check out Melbourne, somewhere I never even considered when doing my original research. We heard lots of good reports, and decided to pay a visit, and we were not disappointed. My wife Joanne has owned and worked with horses all of her life and the Mornington Peninsula is a horse haven. We decided this was for us, and after securing a job, we drove the 1700 km from Brisbane down to Melbourne in 3 days. What a trip, never seen so many kangaroos....dead and alive!!

That was March, and here we are nearing the end of July. We are settled in a rental house, I have good job with peninsula health, the kids are sorted in 'kindy' with Anna starting full time school in January. (They don't start until age 5 here). We have recently bought a block of land in nearby Mount Martha, and hope to start building soon, once we sort the decent builders from the cowboys! This has got to be one of the most beautiful parts of Australia, miles of beautiful beaches, clear blue seas, an abundance of golf course and wineries, and the city of Melbourne, with all its attractions, within an hours drive away. Have a look on the net for Mornington, Victoria; that's where we are.

I've just really skimmed the surface of what has been a great adventure, stressful and worrying on occasion, but great fun also. I've kept a bit of a diary to show the kids when they are older. We really miss our family, and also our friends, some of whom we were very close to. But we are happy (so far, touch wood!) with where we are at, though somehow I don't think the adventure is over!

Spare a thought for my parents, Rita and Sonny, who booked up to fly to Sydney to visit us in New South Wales. They had to change their itinerary and get an additional flight to Brisbane, but had to leave early as we were travelling to Melbourne, so they had to change plans again. Later this year they are coming out again, but this time we have promised not to move! Love to hear from friends, who could keep us up to date with Sedgefield gossip until we come back for a holiday in 2008.

Our email is - the.blakeys@hotmail.com

Paul, Joanne, Anna and Joe Blakey

Despatches - from a soggy village green - August 13th

Farmers' Marketeers rarely allow the weather to stop the show. 2006 has seen Sedgefield Farmers' Market fully functional in snow, freezing temperatures, high winds, rainstorms and today, squally showers. Customers joked today that they knew the Farmers' Market was due because of the change in the weather! Seriously though, our co-ordinator Nigel Ing, of Ing's Nurseries, wishes to record a vote of thanks to customers who braved the capricious English summer weather to support the market.

"Many customers have insisted on assuring me that they will support us whatever the weather, and we want them to know that we really appreciate their attitude and thank them", said Nigel.

As always, those hardy customers had the opportunity of buying superb local farm produced beef, pork, poultry, cheese and vegetables, as well as fish, home-made cakes, fudge, preserves and soups plus Nigel's excellent extensive range of plants. All these producers and more will be in attendance on the next 'second Sunday' - September 10th. The eagerly anticipated return of vegetable farmers David and Anne Melmerby will be especially welcome. Visit their stall for a range of top quality vegetables *and* superb value.

We are so lucky in Sedgefield to have the lovely village green, well watered by the August rain, as home for a truly top quality Market, whatever the weather!

Cooks' Corner - Plum & Almond Cake

175/6oz SR flour, 175/6oz softened butter

3 eggs, 5 Victoria plums, halved stoned & chopped

25g/1oz flaked almonds, Heaped tsp baking powder

175/6oz caster sugar, 1-2 tbsp milk
100g/4oz ground almonds, 2 tbsp

Demerara sugar

Pre-heat oven to 180°C/Gas 4. Grease and line 8 inch round cake tin. Sift flour and baking powder into large mixing bowl. Add butter, sugar, eggs and milk and beat with electric mixer 2mins. Toss plums in ground almonds and stir into cake mixture. Spoon into tin and scatter flaked almonds over with Demerara sugar. Bake approx. 1 hr, test with a skewer. When it comes out clean leave cake in tin to cool.

from Sedgefield Primary School's
"What's for Tea Tonight"

COMMUNITY SAFETY Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood Watch



Alan Sowerby Citizenship Awards 2006

Presentation Days at Hardwick Primary & Sedgefield Primary Schools



Jack Theakston
Hardwick Primary School
Citizen of the Year

On 14th July a special assembly arranged by Headteacher Linda Johnston allowed Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood Watch to present their annual Citizenship award to the pupil who has consistently demonstrated the qualities and attributes the award recognises. As in previous years pupils had no idea who might be chosen.

Police co-ordinator Sarah Norman had kindly agreed to present the Alan Sowerby award and after asking the children questions on citizenship she finally announced what had been a most difficult choice for the teachers (several pupils were eligible and deserving) by asking Jack Theakston to step forward. It was clear from the spontaneous round of applause from that not only was Jack the teachers' choice, he was the pupils' choice too. Known for his very positive outlook on life, Jack is always cheerful, friendly and helpful. He relates to adults and children equally well, with a well-developed sense of humour always used appropriately and is always courteous. Jack is a credit to his family and school, where he has been acting as a "buddy" helping others at school during breaks.

Well done Jack!



Lauren Addison
Sedgefield Primary School
Citizen of the Year

On the last day of term, at Sedgefield Primary School Leavers' Service, the Secretary of the Village Neighbourhood Watch presented Lauren Addison with the Alan Sowerby Good Citizen of 2006 Memorial award, which is awarded each year to the pupil who has made the most contribution to school life as a good citizen.

Headteacher Philip Irving reminded everyone of the background to the award, the importance of the values required by a pupil to enable them to be selected for it and surprised some that this is already the 5th award at the school, before announcing this year's winner as Lauren Addison.

Mr Irvine described Lauren "as a reliable and responsible pupil whose trustworthy character has made her a real asset to the school. Lauren has truly been a good citizen and her qualities have made a real difference throughout our school community".

Continued right...

Notes from Panel Meeting

With Keith Todd on annual leave (so no crime figures available) Crime Prevention Officer Neil Langthorne did an excellent job of fielding members' questions & complaints for the Police. He gave comparative details of crime in our village and others locally; of note is that across our Borough recorded burglary & violent crime continues to reduce but there is a rise in anti social activities and disturbances.

Members' main complaint is still with contacting and communicating with Police - clearly communicated to Neil, for onward transmission. Examples were: Lack of local (Police) knowledge when contacting Police - a major problem to them & the public: Call centre scheme was frustrating, costly in time (to the caller), a real barrier to contacting their local police officer and a put off to contacting the Police now: Crime figures locally are nowhere near accurate as many crimes are not reported: Crime Figures often don't record significant crimes that have been reported / taken place.

Neil had brought along several excellent crime prevention devices (alarms, locks etc) that were of exceptional quality but also exceptionally cheap, many of which were snapped up by members after the meeting (some still available).

Tim Spearey gave details of successful actions taken in regard to dog fouling and littering. He has already had complimentary feedback from a number of residents to which our C/man Ken Saiger added, giving his and members' thanks for his ongoing good work. Tim is asking for details of anyone riding small motorised scooters/bikes in the village, as they are a potential danger to themselves as well as the public and their actions are illegal.

Any information can be provided anonymously if wished. Leave details on Tim's phone; see page 5.

Reminder for 'Flask in the Fridge' users, carers and families

Please remember to keep medical details in the Flask & in the Fridge. When you need help, it needs to be easily found by the medical team.

As usual the award comes as a complete surprise to the pupil as well as a last minute one to the pupil's proud parents. It was obvious not only to a very proud mum but to all present, that Lauren was everyone's first choice too.

Well done Lauren!

Jottings from Sedgefield Village Residents' Forum

July's meeting reported on issues from Borough Residents' Federation, Borough Area 3 Forum meeting and discussed updates on ongoing issues raised by residents. More detail on all items in the minutes, available on the village websites, from the Town Council Offices and in the Library. There's no August meeting (holiday break). Next meeting - 25th September at 7pm in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall. There should be several further results to report at that meeting. In the mean time it has come to our attention (August 8th) that Durham County Council (DCC) are progressing the application for the 'animal waste' incinerator at Bolam's. The Forum immediately sent a letter to DCC expressing considerable concern. We wrote to DCC in January of this year expressing concern at the lack of information given to the local community and the need for consultation with the community. Progress on the application then seemed to 'stall', however, DCC did explain that the Forum and anyone else who had written to them on the issue would be contacted when DCC had gathered further technical information. The Forum received no information from DCC and suddenly, in the August break, there is a site meeting followed by a planning meeting to decide on the application. The DCC report is on their website (not easy to find) but we are entitled to have public information and discussion on such an application, which could have considerable impact on the whole village.

16th August 2006 Postscript to July jottings:

I have just returned from the planning meeting which considered the Bolam's application for an animal waste incinerator, and I am pleased to report that the application has been refused. I and other residents made presentations to the committee and credit must go to those residents (who live in close proximity to Bolam's) who gave professional and convincing presentations.

The planning committee recognised the lack of consultation and the potential detrimental and possible dangerous impact such an incinerator could have on our whole community (let's remember the whole community could have been affected). All but one County Councillor on the planning committee voted against and our thanks must go to them - I will leave you to guess which County Councillor voted in favour!

Bolams have the opportunity to appeal against the refusal so we need to remain aware and make sure we are consulted on further developments.

Julia Bowles

More than a few tips - from Tim Spearey

Organisations which leave bags at your home for you to fill with clothes, books etc, may be genuine charities or they may be businesses making money from your gifts. Such businesses may or may not make a donation to charity from their profits. If you wish your surplus items to benefit a charity, you may prefer to take them directly to a charity shop.

Shortly before the start of the summer holidays I spoke to a group of lads who were sitting, near the chip shop, with some litter around them. I was pleased and impressed when, not only did they clear up the mess but then encouraged some of their mates to do the same.

It worries me to see so many impressive gadgets left on display in cars. Satellite navigation devices, mp3 players and mobile phones are useful and fun to use but they are equally attractive to thieves. Please keep them out of sight or you may have need of a crime number and someone else may end up enjoying your latest toy!

Please continue to dispose of your litter with care and consideration and ensure that any 'litter' left by your dog is cleaned up promptly.

Telephone Numbers Community Warden Tim Spearey at Sedgefield - 623654 or via Chilton Control Room - 01388 721351

Local Police To report any concerns, seek advice or pass on information to the Police, ring 0845 6060365 (*Keep a note of conversation & obtain an incident no.*) For Crime Prevention Officer Neil Langthorne or Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Sarah Norman, ring 01388 742755

FUNDRAISING WALK FOR VETERANS' DAY

Tim Spearey and David Hillerby propose to do a sponsored walk from Sedgefield to Durham to raise funds for the proposed Veterans' Day event (see right hand column). The date is to be arranged but sponsors can contact them on 621343, email david_hillerby@onetel.com

PC Todd reports

The number of crimes reported to the Police remains low again this month. Of the 5 crimes reported the most disturbing is the burglary which took place at a fast food shop in the village. A witness has suggested that two males seen running from the premises towards a small red vehicle parked nearby may be responsible. Enquiries continue with CCTV.

Other crimes involve damage to a motor bike in West End, theft of a child's bike in Winterton, later found abandoned, two windows broken in White House Drive and a shoplifter caught on the Industrial Estate. Until next time, *Keith*

Pub Watch

At a recent meeting held in the Social Club, members welcomed new licensees of the Black Lion, Philip and Rebecca Parker, to the group. During the meeting an appeal was heard from a male who had previously been handed a 5 year ban for possession of an illegal drug. It was decided that the ban would remain in force. This is a timely reminder that illegal substances will not be tolerated in any members' establishments.

Are You a Veteran?

Did you serve in HM Forces before and during World War II or after (up to 31st December 1959)? If so, you are eligible to receive the Veterans' Badge. You should apply to the Veterans' Agency, freephone 0800 169 2277. You will need to provide details of your service including service number, plus your National Insurance number.

In Sedgefield we are trying to hold a "**Veterans' Day**" event. Officially "Veterans' Day" is 27th June, but celebrations may be carried out at other times, so 21st October 2006 has been chosen for our first one! We are hoping to raise a grant to help us pay for it.

We hope the programme for the day will include a Re-enactment Team, Army Recruiting team, a Forces Exhibition of Memorabilia, Naval Hornpipe Dancing and more, subject to cash availability. Further details in the October edition of Sedgefield News and other local media, so please watch out for it.

Anyone who is interested in helping organise Veterans' Day, please contact Angela Simpson, Community Development Officer, Sedgefield Town Council, Advice & Information Centre, Front Street, Sedgefield, TS21 3AT. Tel 621273, or David Hillerby 621343

Sports Update with chrisjlines@aol.com

Cricket

Sedgefield Cricket Club's 1st XI is enjoying a great season in the North Yorkshire and South Durham League, Division 2. At the time of typing this, the team had played 17 games and been beaten only once. They had won four more games than any other team and were sitting at the top of the table, 34 points clear of their nearest challengers. If their good form is maintained, they should be crowned champions in a few weeks.

As well as success in the league, the team, under the captaincy of Martin Lower, has reached two cup finals. In the first of these, they came up against an outfit from Marske. The match was dominated by the bowlers, but one decent innings made the crucial difference and Marske prevailed. The second cup final will have also taken place by the time you read this, against a team from Barningham. I will bring you news of the outcome of that match next month.

Roller Skating

Sedgefield can now boast that it has the best young inline roller skaters in the country, which is quite something. Edward (15) and Peter (12) Hammond took part in the British Roller Skating Nationals at Haywards Heath in July and came first and second respectively. Edward and Peter took up inline roller skating when the Billingham Forum ice-rink was closed for renovations just over a year ago. They are now ranked 1 and 2 in the country and Edward has been selected to take part in 'The Cup of Europe' (effectively the European championships) in Paris at the beginning of November. Congratulations to both lads and I look forward to hearing how Edward gets on in Paris later in the year.

Both boys attend Sedgefield Community College where they practice before school, but I am assured that they don't use their roller skates to get around from lesson to lesson! For the next issue, I will try and find out a bit more about what disciplines are involved in competitive inline roller skating.

Sedgefield Harriers

Following 24 hours of heavy rain the sky cleared and the sun shone on Sedgefield Harriers' first summer handicap race. A respectable field turned out on the

evening of 3rd August to tackle a scenic and undulating six and a half miles around Fishburn and Bishop Middleham. The course was full of surprises, using little known tracks and taking in the old railway route from Fishburn, various local lakes, the old track from Mainsforth past Middleham Castle and a part of Bishop Middleham itself. Off road trail races are growing more popular because of just such variation and runners had to negotiate gates and styles along the way.

First home was Andrew Lowes, an unattached guest runner from South Shields with a handicap time of 44:44 (own time 39:44). The handicap was age category based and Andrew overcame a 5 minute penalty over the first veteran starters. Sedgefield Harrier Mike Leakey, 47:04 (own time 44:04 + 3 min handicap) a Veteran 45 runner was 2nd with Roger Whitehills in 3rd place (own time 43:02 + 5 min handicap). John Haycock of Sedgefield Harriers was 4th and David Connolly of Durham Fell Runners 5th.

In the ladies' race Gail Bell of Sedgefield Harriers ran well to

finish a clear first in 50:28 (own time 47:28 + 3 min handicap). Christine Hearmon was 2nd in 56:53 (55:53 + 1 min) and Jeanette Ives 3rd in 57:39 (56:39 + 1 min). The Harriers plan to use the course again for a winter handicap and other clubs will be invited to take part. The date will be on www.sedgefieldharriers.com when it is available, which is also where you can find all of the latest news from the club.

Football

It seems like last season has barely finished, but already Sunday league football is up and running again. All three Sedgefield teams are now playing in the Durham District League, but in different divisions. St. Edmund's remain in the Premier division, while the Black Lion won promotion last season and start their campaign in the third division (I think!). The Crosshills' team have just joined the Durham District League and so have to tackle the fourth division. Good luck to all of the Sedgefield teams for the new season.

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

Boxing News

The Beehive at Fishburn was wall to wall full, both inside and out in the garden, for South Durham Amateur Boxing Club's end of season presentation night, plus barbecue, karaoke and disco for all. It has been another good season, both locally and internationally.

The Awards were as follows:

1. Special award for Kyle Harrison
2. Special award for Jonathan Norman for reaching the semi-finals of the Golden Belt
3. Special award for Karl Thomson for reaching the semi-finals of the boys' clubs.
4. The Best Attendance award went to Tony Kenny.
5. Robbie Collins for the award for Most Dedicated. Robbie has received this 2 years consecutive - an excellent achievement!
6. Best Junior Prospect was Jack Turner. He'd had 12 bouts and 2 losses and won a North East title.
7. Best Senior Prospect, Rob Johnstone was kept back for the Novice Championships, missing out on 2 or 3 bouts, only to break his knuckle when he was due to box.
8. Jeff Saunders took the award for Best Junior
9. Brad Saunders won Best Senior for his outstanding International and club shows. Bradley goes to the qualifiers for the Beijing Olympic Games 2008 at the end of August.
10. The last award went to Jeff Saunders, receiving both Best Junior and Best Overall. Jeff has represented England on 3 occasions and reached the finals of the Golden Gloves, losing by 1 point.

The club's thanks go to all the coaches; Colin Richardson, Barry Warnett, Brad Saunders, David Cook and Craig Ayre (Craig has recently also passed his Officials course) head coach Jeff Saunders, who has just passed his Senior Coaches course, and Tracey Saunders, Club Secretary. Last but not least, thanks to parents and sponsors for their support.

Sedgefield Show - and a good day was had by all

At the recent 153rd Sedgefield Show two local riders, a junior and a senior, had an exceptionally good day.

Allana Kennerley aged 6, (right) riding her pony Holly, won the Erica Williams Trophy for best rider in the seven years and under class. Allana has only been riding for five and a half months. She is a pupil at Durham High School. It was Allana's first time in Sedgefield show and winning "at home" was a great delight and achievement.

Thanks to all who made it happen.

Gayle McDonnell from Fir Tree Farm livery in Sedgefield won the novice show jumping on Diktalex. She then went on to win the open show jumping on her other horse The Collaborator. Gayle, who instructs locally, has only been in the village for three years and is a promising event rider. The support shown by villagers and friends was greatly appreciated.



For more coverage of sporting and other local events go to your community website **www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk**

Send your own photos too. Webmaster Tim Randall is an enthusiast and will be delighted to display your masterpieces.

email them to tim@sedgefieldweb.co.uk

A Sedgefield Thai Boxing Club celebrates its second national title

In July, Darren Langthorne, coach of the Pol Prapradang Muay Thai Camp, won the A.K.A. British Middleweight title in Manchester in a gruelling five round bout against up and coming fighter Ashley Glennon. Darren won the English Middleweight title four months ago.

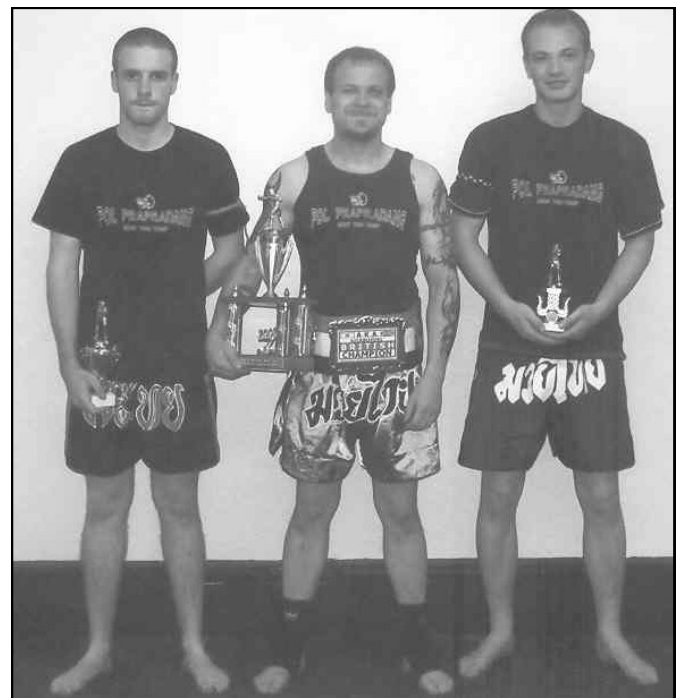
Rory Greirson from Sedgefield won his first ever fight with a superb T.K.O. decision in the third round.

James Stubbs, also from Sedgefield, took a fight for a vacant English title at very short notice and put up a valiant effort, losing in the third round by T.K.O.

The camp has several more competitions lined up for the rest of the year and hopes are high for further National and International titles.

For information about the Pol Prapradang Thai Boxing camp, contact Darren on 0778407665.

Pictured from left to right are Rory Greirson, Darren Langthorne & James Stubbs



September Sayings

"Eat a goose on Michaelmas day; want not for money all the year!"

Michaelmas (29th September) was a quarter day, when rents were due and bills had to be paid. By then the harvest had to be completed and a new cycle of farming would begin. On the day after Michaelmas, agricultural labourers presented themselves, along with their tools, at the nearest market town. There they offered themselves for hire for the coming year.

Michaelmas Day is the feast of St Michael the Archangel, who threw Lucifer (the Devil) out of Heaven for his treachery. Superstition has it that the Devil landed on a blackberry bush and cursed it, which is why it is thought to be unlucky to gather these fruits after this date!

"If St Michael brings many acorns; Christmas will cover the fields with snow"

September comes from the Roman word Septem (seven) as it was the seventh month, March being the first. They believed that September was looked after by the god Vulcan.

Anglo Saxons called it Gerst Monath (barley month) and Haefest Monath (Harvest Month).

If you know anything interesting about October, let us know at snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk

the Bookworm

Our regular book column doesn't appear this month, because we have had no new reviews. If you have enjoyed reading the column, please consider sending something in yourself. This is a publication that relies on readers to provide the copy - obviously both a strength and a weakness!

Would you like to volunteer & learn new skills?

East Durham Play and Community Network is a registered charity set up in 1990 by volunteers concerned with the lack of play facilities. Based in a shop in Trimdon Grange, we provide arts/craft materials, toy libraries, childcare training, Toy library training, mobile creche provision; and hire equipment - bouncy castles, fancy dress, sports equipment, training equipment. We are looking for volunteers on our Management Committee and also a volunteer treasurer. Call Margaret for more information on 01429 882241 or Email: margaretgirvan@edpcn.com Visit our website at www.edpcn.com

More of Your Letters

Admission Charges shock at Sedgefield Show

I had to comment on the shock of the prices for this year's show. I live in Thornaby and have attended the show for over 20 years.

This year after building up the event and getting them excited I brought my children to Sedgefield. I couldn't believe the pricing. At the gate I was asked for £10! £4 per adult and £2 for my eldest child age 6.

Needless to say on principle of the outrageous cost we about turned and visited Ropner Park in Stockton instead. I understand that for events of this kind there is a cost associated to them but £4 per adult is extremely high. Needless to say we will not be returning next year. This is a real shame because like I mentioned, this has been an annual event for years.

Steve Boyes

Are you dancing? Because Age Concern is asking!



There used to be a long waiting list for the dance at St Luke's Church in Ferryhill, but after 20 years in the same venue they would love to see some new members; and the dancing it isn't the only attraction! A team of dedicated volunteers ensure that the afternoons are a great success. Not only do they dance to live music from John Fox Croft or his son Michael at the organ, they also arrange bingo, a raffle and a very welcome cuppa at half time. There are a couple of enjoyable days out each year too - they have just returned from a great day out in the lakes. It matters not one jot how well you dance - just drop in and enjoy yourselves. The sessions run from 1 to 3pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays and there is a £1.50 charge. Some choose to come to both sessions, it's so good! The choice is yours and everyone's welcome.

CARELINK recognised for quality service

Staff at Sedgefield Carelink have now achieved compliance with the Telecare Services Association Code of Practice for Social Alarms Services.

The organisation offers a range of 24 hour 7 day a week community alarm services to over 8000 people across the Sedgefield Borough and other parts of South Durham, providing support to potentially vulnerable people and helping them maintain their independence in the community.

Customers are mostly elderly, but also include a growing number of people of all ages. A simple to use pendant alarm system means that assistance is readily available, 24 hours a day. At the touch of a button, customers are connected to one of the Carelink response centre staff, who will offer support which can include contacting a family member or friend, if necessary providing support at home via a Carelink Mobile responder or alerting the emergency services. For more information, contact phone 01388-721351 or e-mail carelink@sedgefield.gov.uk

Butterwick Moor Wind Farm Proposal

Public Exhibition in Sedgefield Parish Hall

Thursday 21 September 12.00 – 20.30
and Friday 22 September 09.30 – 16.00

The Proposal

E.ON UK, the company that runs Powergen, is looking to submit a planning application to develop a ten turbine wind farm north of the A689, east of Sedgefield and next door to the consented Walkway Wind Farm.

The proposed wind farm would be up to 25 megawatts (MW) and could generate electricity to equal the demand of approximately 8,500 households, over four times the number of homes in Sedgefield. It would also reduce carbon dioxide emissions by approximately 35,000 tonnes annually.

The wind farm could significantly benefit the local area with investments of about £7m directly benefiting the local and regional economies and a community fund of over £500,000 over the life of the scheme to support worthy local projects.

We would like you to join us at the public exhibition where information about the proposal will be on display and the E.ON team will be on hand to answer any questions. **We do hope you can attend.**

If you have any queries regarding the public exhibition please contact Alex Fornal on 02476 183572 or email alex.fornal@eon-uk.com.

e-on

September Diary

Announcements in the Diary are free to non-commercial organisations

Wynyard Planetarium

What's up in the Night Sky this month?

Fridays 1st & 15th September
at 7:30p.m.

Adults £3.50, Children £2
Family ticket £7

Bingo at Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 2nd September

Doors open 7pm - Eyes Down 7.45
Cash Prizes, Bar open
Everyone welcome

The Local History Society

In Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.45pm on
Monday September 4th

Jane Pigney

"Putting down roots"

How newcomers to Britain got involved in their local history
All welcome

Sedgefield Garden Society

Tuesday 5th September

Talk and slides by
Dianne Nichol-Brown

Slugs and Snails

Ceddesfeld Hall 7.30 pm
All welcome

Sedgefield W.I.

7.15pm Parish Hall

Wednesday 6th September

A talk on the local area by

David Williams -

and a Harvest Bring & Buy

Members' competition -

A local post card from the

19th or early 20th C

Visitors welcome

Library Events

Rhyme Time - stories, songs & rhymes for under 5's

Wednesday 6th & 20th Sept
10-11am

Community & Local History Month at the Library

Displays on Hardwick Park & the Roman site at East Park

Wednesday 13th September
from 2-3pm

Anita Thompson of Clayport Reference Library on Family & Local History research

Thursday 21st September
from 6-7pm.

Dr David Mason, County Archaeologist: the Roman site
All events are free

Thursday 28th September
Macmillan Coffee Morning
from 9.30-12 noon

Card Making Sessions start late Sept. Contact library for details

Trimdon Comes to Sedgefield Music Festival

Saturday 9th September 2pm

in the Rafters Bar, Hope Inn

World Championship Spoons Competition

Junior & Senior Competitions

Hosted by the **Scratch Band**

and **Peter Hinde (MC)**

Also appearing - **Bertie Draycott**

Event followed by a **Singaround** -

prizes for best performances

Everyone welcome

Sedgefield Farmers' Market

on the Village Green

Sunday 10th September

9.30am - 1.30pm

Family History Group

(A branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 18th September

7:45 pm Ceddesfeld Hall

'Everything stops for tea'

by Norman Kelly

All welcome

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club

7.30pm Parish Hall

Tuesday 19th September

Susan Fairhurst

NW Area Demonstrator

Textile Treasures

All Welcome

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Fletcher Room, Parish Hall at 7.45

Thursday 21st September

Speaker to be confirmed

For more info call 620559

All welcome

Sedgefield Cricket Club

Live Music Night

Saturday 23rd September

Main Guest -

Stony with Tom Townsend

Also featuring Katy Docherty and

the John Wrightson Band

Tickets **£8** including Buffet

Tel 621347

NB The Cricket Club is available for private parties free of charge

Residents' Forum

Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

Monday 25th September

Please come - your opinion counts!

St Edmund's Church

Baptisms & Weddings can be

booked in the church on Thursdays

from 6.30 - 7.30pm

Sedgefield Drama Festival of One Act Plays

in Sedgefield Parish Hall

Tuesday 26th to Saturday 30th

September at 7.30 pm

Season Ticket - £20 / £17

Nightly Ticket - £6 / £5

Adjudicator - Russell Whiteley

Tickets available from Selections

and members of The Players

or ring (01740) 620091

Wynyard Planetarium

Friday 29th September

7.30pm - 9pm

The Telescope Club

It's free and aimed largely at youngsters aged 10-14,

accompanied by an adult - other adults are also welcome.

Bring your telescope to see the night sky (weather permitting).

A chance to use the Wynyard

Observatory's large reflecting

telescope and put your

observations into the Telescope

Club's own magazine!

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable

events - new members welcome

Contact Rob on 629079

Country Market

Fridays in the Parish Hall

Great value home baking, eggs, garden produce and crafts

101 Gigs in September

01- The Station Hotel, Redcar

08 - The Black Horse, Billingham

09 - The Tut & Shrive, B'p Auckland

10 - The Royal Oak, Wrekenton

12 - Elgins Bar, Redcar

16 - Dr. Browns, Middlesbrough

20 - Tap And Spile, Guisborough

22 - Guide Post, Springwell Village

23 - Redcar Citizens Club (Private)

24 - The Normanby, Normanby

28 - The Vic, Saltburn

29 - Shafto's Bar, Stanley

30 - The Commercial, Winlaton

Next Month ...

Bingo at Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 7th October and
Saturday 29th Oct (for November)

Butterwick Hospice

Tuesday 17th October

Charity Antiques Valuation

Roadshow at Ceddesfeld Hall

More details next month

A wonderful afternoon

On behalf of the lucky people, my wife and self included, who managed to get tickets for the Senior Citizens' Afternoon Tea in Ceddesfeld Hall on Saturday 5th August, I would like to take this opportunity to thank John and Maxine Robinson and their team from the SCA, including our Mayor, for a most wonderful spread. Thanks also for the time you spent on the Bingo Session and raffle. It was a most enjoyable afternoon!
David Hillerby

Forty Years On

Sedgefield Playgroup is 40 years old this year and we are planning a special celebration during October half term holiday, to be held in the Methodist Hall during the morning of Wednesday 25th October. Over the years many children have attended the group and some have even returned to bring their own children. If you have ever been associated with the playgroup we would like to hear from you. Pencil the date in your diary and look out for more details during September. We are looking forward to seeing some 'older' friends again.
Margaret Glass

Hunter's Great North Walk

Sincere thanks to the minimal group of people that supported me in my efforts to raise cash for the Durham Society for the Blind and Partially Sighted. The walk turned out to be a painful hobble after four miles due to a long-standing Achilles tendon problem, but I did finish in 3.5 hrs. This problem and failing sight has brought a close to an active long distance running and walking career but I am happy that I've helped those less well than myself and that Sedgefield has benefited BT (*Before Tony*)! Sedgefield Town and Borough have been very supportive of my efforts over the years and I would have been lost at some events without the Support of the Rotary Club of Sedgefield, and many individuals too numerous to mention. In this 25 year career my wife has been the cornerstone of my success, being always there at the right time and place with her support at all times. Thanks pet!
C. Brian Hunter



**DEVELOPMENT
TRUSTS
ASSOCIATION**

the community-based regeneration network

Your Letters

Wanted - needed - a concert venue for the future

Having recently discovered Sedgefield I plan to become a permanent resident in October this year. I am very aware that my views could easily be dismissed as belonging to an interfering newcomer who does not understand the situation but nevertheless I offer them in good faith.

For 27 years I lived in north Northumberland and had the privilege of being Chairman of Whittingham Show and serving on the village hall committee. A hugely important part of village life was the vibrant traditional music scene and many talented locals would meet and play in local halls, houses and inns.

Thanks to the hard work of Whittingham resident Alistair Anderson steps were taken to share and teach this music across the whole region from Berwick to Darlington and across to the Lakes. A base was established south of the Tyne at the Caedmon Hall and library in Gateshead and, more recently, at The Sage. This is the jewel in the crown of UK music performance venues but for me its success and importance lies in the hundreds of people involved in ongoing music education events held in its Music Education Centre. The people's music is being returned to the people on an increasing scale and I would submit that a concert venue with so many limitations on it as this Parish Hall is an embarrassment to such a thriving community as Sedgefield. I would like to think that our community leaders are in the vanguard of community development, with an awareness of the trend away from synthetically produced music towards live music in all its many varied forms. Surely they should be persuading residents that a vibrant community needs a fully operational concert venue and is well worth whatever costs are involved.

Anthony Robb

Dear Sir,

For many years now the Town Council has been made up of basically the same people, give or take the odd exception and in effect they conducted the Parish Hall enquiry from start to finish. In that time they have overseen council investigations, conducted public meetings, arranged independent studies, discussion groups etc in their attempts to gauge public opinion and resolve the matter. Despite all evidence to the contrary, they tried time and again to force upgrading Ceddesfeld Hall (at the tax payers' expense) on us, even to the extent of employing engineers and planners to prepare a submission to the Borough for planning permission.

The Referendum result clearly demonstrates how out of touch and misguided they were, with only 10% of those who voted agreeing with them.

Are they embarrassed? No, they now take full credit for setting up the referendum, proclaiming themselves delighted to have a 'clear mandate to get on and carry out the major repairs needed'. Surely what we need to hear from them is a fulsome apology for being so completely wrong for such a long time; for having ignored the clear wishes of the people of Sedgefield and for having wasted many thousands of pounds. Perhaps they could let us know if the moneys are to be repaid by the Ceddesfeld Trustees? Of course we will not hear anything like this. As far as they are concerned they have nothing to be ashamed of and will simply carry on regardless. Had they a shred of honour or respect for the voters they would resign now, their incompetence and self interest having been displayed so plainly, but don't hold your breath. Just bear it in mind come the next election.

A Mowat, The Gables

**More of Your Letters
on page 8**

Please send your copy for the October edition of Sedgefield News by 15th September to 58 Front St, Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ: phone 01740 629011 or snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk

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