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SEDGEFIELD NEWS

September 2017

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

The Alan Sowerby Citizenship Awards 2017, presented at the Village Primary Schools by Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel

Leavers' ceremonies took place at Sedgefield Hardwick & Sedgefield Primary Schools in July this year. The much-valued award of Citizen of the Year has been presented to a most deserving young person at each school before the whole school at each of these ceremonies since 2002.

To be selected as the Citizen of the Year each school must judge which pupil has "consistently shown kindness, care & consideration to fellow pupils, to all staff at school and for showing similar standards of behaviour outside of school." They will be the one who gives a helping hand spontaneously; someone who is recognised by their peers as well as their teachers as a truly good person; one who regularly puts others' interests before their own, who sees someone in need and provides that support without direction from a teacher or an adult.

On the 20th July at Hardwick Primary Citizen of the year 2017, a departure from previous years occurred, when the award was made to two unsuspecting pupils – Chloe Larke & Jasmine Platts.

Year 6 Head teacher Nathan Steel described Jasmine and Chloe as being not only superb ambassadors for Sedgefield Hardwick but superb ambassadors for a future generation.



Jasmine, on the left and Chloe, on the right), joint Sedgefield Hardwick Primary School Citizens of the Year 2017, pictured with their families.

They are both incredibly mature and sensible pupils; always willing, always available to provide assistance to staff and their peers. Their positive attitudes are infectious, influencing those around them for the better. By their actions they have earned the respect of fellow pupils and staff, right across the school. They have an inclusive outlook, doing their very best such that everybody around them feels valued and involved; traits that are so very important in the modern world. Importantly, it is not just within the school setting that this positive impact is seen. They have been active in the community over the course of the year, representing the school and externally entirely of their own accord; they raised funds for Cancer Research at the school's Christmas Markets and more funds for the same charity again outside of school. Working together within the Guides, the girls have taken part in other fundraising events which have had a direct impact on their local community. Nathan concluded by stating that it would have been impossible to present this award to one girl and not the other; their positive attitudes and helpful manner are to their great credit, and are an indicator of the mature, thoughtful and kind young people they are.

Well done Chloe & Jasmine, joint Sedgefield Hardwick Primary Citizens of the Year 2017.

On July 21st at Sedgefield Primary School, secretary of Neighbourhood Watch Joe McKenna, in presenting the award, reminded everyone that the intention is to recognise a truly special person. At this school that person is Lucy Heslop.

The photographs taken after the awards were made, show how very proud the winners' parents are - and justly so. Many congratulations.

Head Teacher Andrea Cox had informed us that throughout her time at Sedgefield Primary, Lucy Heslop has been the kind of girl who has just quietly got on with things.

Lucy doesn't like a fuss, or to be the centre of attention, however is always there when something needs doing. She is very helpful, exceptionally caring and totally reliable. Lucy has helped at so many school functions they are too numerous to recall, and has happily helped to set up, clear away and run stalls at a variety of the school's events. Kindness, care & consideration are Lucy's trademark; this year she has taken on the role of Head Buddy and Deputy Head Mrs Smith, who oversees the KS2 Buddies, says that she is the best Head Buddy the school has ever had! Lucy has ensured each of the Buddies fulfil their duties without being bossy, calmly sorting out issues in a thoroughly mature way and always taking into consideration other people's thoughts and feelings.

Lucy has contributed a lot to Sedgefield Primary and we know she will continue to be a good citizen of Sedgefield in the years ahead.

A truly special person. Lucy Heslop is Sedgefield Primary Citizen of the Year 2017



Pictured with her parents, Lucy Heslop, Sedgefield Primary School Citizen of the Year 2017

Steve's Nature Diary *The natural world month by month:* September



Red Tailed Bumblebee. Photo, Jon Hawkins

Late summer is a good time to look for wild bees that may be visiting your garden. This year, Wild About Gardens, a partnership between The Royal Horticultural Society and The Wildlife Trusts, is calling on people to bee-friendly in their gardens. Our gardens have immense value for wildlife. Each patch is part of a network of 15 million gardens that criss-cross the UK, which, put together, cover 667,000 acres – an area seven times the size of the Isle of Wight.

With honeybees often stealing the show, the campaign wants to draw attention to the plight of the wide range of solitary and bumblebees that also need help. And of course, helping out our pollinators helps us too, with the work of bees indirectly providing us with every third mouthful of food we eat.

Late summer is the time when most bumblebees begin to behave in unusual ways that may seem alarming. Instead of simply feeding upon flowers, they can now be seen mating, digging holes to hibernate in and slowly feeding upon flowers and dying en masse. When the queen has mated she will go into hibernation. She will burrow into soil and hibernate through the winter, using fat reserves to keep herself alive. Queens can survive temperatures down to minus 19C by producing a kind of 'antifreeze' in their bodies.

But what happens to the rest? Unfortunately, it's the end of the road for the them: the old queen, all her workers, and all the males die at the end of summer. You may have seen some bees clinging lifelessly to flowers, only raising a sorry leg in defence when you get close to them. This is all part of the bumblebee lifecycle. The best thing we can do to help bumblebees now is to have the right plants for the final few queens to feed upon, and be vigilant when we are turning compost or digging soil - there might be a queen bumblebee whose hibernation could be disturbed. Here are a few ideas for helping bees:

Plant pollinator friendly flowers. Examples can be found on the RHS Perfect for Pollinators web page www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/encourage-wildlife-to-your-garden/plants-for-pollinators. Even if you don't have a garden, many of these plants will survive just as well in a pot.

Put out shallow dishes of water, filled with pebbles, to provide easy drinking places for thirsty bees.

The wild bee-friendly gardening guide, 'Get your garden buzzing for bees', is free to download and contains lots of facts about the different species of wild bee, their lifecycles and how they nest, as well as practical steps gardeners can take to help them. Download at wildaboutgardens.org.uk/

Enter our Bee Creative photo competition! Gardeners, gardening groups and schools are encouraged to share how they've welcomed wild bees into their gardens by posting a picture on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram – using the hashtag #wildaboutgardens and the category being entered – of their bee-friendly area, whether that be a tailor-made bee home, a flower-packed border or a wall that bees have made their own.

A list of wildlife gardening events can be found at wildaboutgardensweek.org.uk/events.



Sedgefield Business Network

SBN is open to anyone in business in Sedgefield or the local area, or anyone living in Sedgefield with business interests further afield.

You are warmly invited to the next networking breakfast, on Tuesday 12th September from 8am until about 9.30am, in the newly refurbished Fletcher Room in the Parish Hall. The speaker will be Calum Baker of the Business Energy Efficiency Project (BEEP) and the support package for County Durham SMEs funded by the European Regional Development Fund.



Business breakfasts continue to be free to attend, thanks to sponsorship, this time from Sedgefield Town Councillors Allan Blakemore and Chris Lines.

However, **please do register** before 7th September, so that we can cater appropriately. Thank you. We look forward to seeing you on 12th!

Advance notice: the next breakfast is planned for 14th November, kindly sponsored by Kyle Cannings Ltd.

Up to £350 to help improve your broadband speeds

Following the Government's commitment to provide access to a minimum of 2 megabits per second (Mbps) download speeds, a broadband subsidy scheme was launched to help eligible residents. Part of the eligibility criteria is that you're unable to access download speeds of 2 Mbps or more, and are not in any fibre current fibre broadband rollout plans.

You can apply for a voucher worth up to £350 towards the hardware and installation costs to get connected to alternative broadband technologies such as satellite, 4G and wireless. You would still be required to pay any additional costs such as the monthly service charge which starts at £10.

The scheme is open to both residents and businesses. Applications need to be submitted by 21 December 2017. Further information and the application form are available at www.digitaldurham.org/better-broadband

If you're unable to complete the application form online, please email digital.durham@durham.gov.uk or call 03000 261160, leaving a short voicemail about your request.

Transitional Treasures

First of a new seasonal feature

The latest fashion trends are brought to you by Image Consultant, Elena Degnan of Jayne Fashions. Let's start with the Autumn 2017 trends, and it's time to get excited about all the cosy knits and snuggly coats for autumn/winter.

Autumn is a great time to inject new life into your wardrobe and try new trends. Layering is now a very British obsession, and there's a major move towards having pieces in your wardrobe that you can wear year-round, but style in different ways. The Coatigan is a great example - perfect for layering, worn with polo neck in winter and T-shirt in April.

Colour experts, Pantone made Greenery their colour of the year, but it hasn't quite made the expected impact. In my experience, people just aren't brave with green. The safest green will always be one with a hint of teal to it, light olive shades, making it easy to pair with a soft white T-shirt. But if there's one hue that does scream Autumn & Winter this year, it's red - which happens to be the most flattering colour on all skin tones, so a win-win.

And speaking of win-win, midi skirts with a chunky jumper will be a fail-safe combination this season. Don't forget to add a pair of decorative, crystal-laden shoes to finish the look off. They are a perfect pick-me-up for any casual outfit.



Skerne Medical Group Flu Campaign 2017

The ever popular flu vaccination drop in clinics return again this year and we would like to invite our patients to attend these clinics on the following days;

Saturday 23rd September between 9am & 11:30am at Harbinson House, Sedgefield and Beveridge House, Fishburn

Saturday 30th September between 9am & 11:30am at Harbinson House, Sedgefield and Carroll House, Trimdon Colliery

The free flu vaccination is available to the following:

- Patients who are 65 years & over, including any reaching age 65 by 31st March 2018
- Pregnant women
- Patients aged 6 months to less than 65 years with a serious medical condition, eg:
 - chronic (long term) respiratory disease, e.g. severe asthma, COPD or bronchitis;
 - chronic heart disease, chronic liver disease, chronic kidney disease at stage three, four or five;
 - chronic neurological disease such as motor neurone disease or Parkinson's disease; diabetes, splenic dysfunction, or a weakened immune system due to disease or treatment;
- those with a learning disability
- people living in long stay residential care home and carers.

No appointment is necessary. We aim to make having a flu vaccination a quick & efficient experience and are proud to say there have been no long queues at these sessions over the past two years. If you haven't attended the "drop in" clinic before, why not give it a try? We look forward to welcoming you at one of our sessions.

We are also able to extend the seasonal influenza programme to all children who are aged 2 and 3 (but not 4 years or older) on 31 August 2017 (i.e. date of birth on or after 1 Sept 2013 and on or before 31 August 2015) and we are planning dedicated sessions in October to offer this vaccination to eligible children. Details will be advertised locally, on our website www.doctorsnhs.co.uk and in our surgeries.

The vaccine available to children, unless contraindicated, is in the form of a nasal spray rather than an injection, which we are sure will please the children!

If you have any questions or queries please ring your surgery and we will be pleased to assist you.

Age UK Survey

Age UK County Durham would like to talk to people in our area who are aged 50 or older, to find out how you shop, cook and eat.

We are currently consulting with older people to discover the gaps in services with a view to expanding our prizewinning Come Eat Together project. Questionnaires can be completed by post, over the phone or with a personal visit at home.

If you would like to find out more, to complete a questionnaire or to have a discussion with a member of our EngAge team, please call Clare on **0191 374 6567** or email engage@ageukcountydurham.org.uk.

All participants will be entered into a prize draw for a £25 shopping voucher of their choice.

SEDFIELD NEWS

Deadline for October edition

Friday 15th September

Contact us -

News & Advertising:

07572 502 904

sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

55 White House Drive, TS21 3BU

Sport: chrisjlines@aol.com

Arts & Events:

sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com

Diary:

diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Website: www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk

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Sedgefield Village Action Group: Important Information for Residents

As most people may now be aware, the appeal by developers to build 100 homes on the old General Hospital site between Sedgefield and Fishburn has been approved. This development is on brown field land and some of the £106 monies will go towards the reinstating of street lights which have been removed by DCC. The removal of street lighting on Stockton Rd however is still on the agenda. SVAG intend to raise concerns at the full DCC Council meeting on 20th September relating to DCC's Energy Reduction Policy with specific reference to public consultation and the removal of street lighting in vulnerable areas. The result of the Public Inquiry on Avant Homes development for 150 homes on Stockton Road/Beacon Avenue will be known on August 25th. The Public Inquiry for the appeal by ESRG for the large development behind Sainsbury's around to old Beacon Lane has now been withdrawn. A new application would be necessary if they wanted to resurrect their proposals in the future. No further news regarding Sedgefield's Neighbourhood Plan has been forthcoming from DCC.

SVAG was formed at the behest of local residents who attended the Sedgefield Plan consultation events. The remit was to inform local residents of upcoming housing applications and appeals, with the aim of trying to limit overly large scale housing development and protect the green fields and rural aspect of the town. Once the ESRG Public Inquiry is finished, the role (for the foreseeable future anyway) will be finished and the group in its current format will conclude.

Contact SVAG representative on 07523 457584 or email SedgefieldVAG@gmail.com

Call 101 to contact Local Police

& report concerns, seek advice or pass on information. It is advisable to keep notes of the conversation & obtain an incident number.

Police Community Liaison Officer

Faye Callan can be contacted on 101, extension 742317 or you can email her at Faye.callan@durham.pnn.police.uk

Letter from PC Todd

Crime remains low this month with only 6 crimes reported. On the domestic front a wheelbarrow, some tools and a set of aluminium ladders were taken when a shed in Maple Grove was forced open and four wheelie bins were stolen from one property on Winterton Estate. In Bradbury, damage was caused to a farmer's gate by persons on a quad bike and in Mordon, an attempted burglary of a farmer's outhouse was foiled when the alarms sounded.

Two commercial properties in Sedgefield were targeted. A water bowser was stolen from the Stockton Road building site and damage was caused to a number of recovery vehicles in a compound in Salters Lane.
Until next time, Keith.



Make a splash at your local fire station!

The Fire Fighters Charity

Sedgefield Fire Station Car Wash & Open Day

Saturday 16th September, 10am-4pm

Let's face it, washing the car is nobody's favourite job, so why not take the hassle out of it and head down to Sedgefield fire station for the National Car Wash League.

On 16th September, fire-fighters up and down the country will be on hand to make your car sparkle, and your valued donations will go towards The Fire Fighters Charity, the leading provider of support and rehabilitation to the fire and rescue community.

Fire fighting can be dangerous, stressful and traumatic. When fire-fighters are injured, they can be in pain and unable to work for months. Dealing with life or death situations every day often takes its toll emotionally too. The Fire Fighters Charity is here for all of the UK's serving members of fire and rescue staff – and their families. No other organisation provides such a full package of health and wellbeing support, exactly tailored to the needs of fire-fighters. We also give lifetime support to retired fire-fighters and their families. They've risked so much for us and in return, we provide help and support when they are in real need.

It's a great chance for you to get your car washed, meet some of your local Fire-fighters, have a look around our fire appliance and fire station - and help raise money for the charity.



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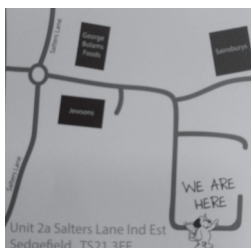
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The Trusty *News from Sedgefield Development Trust*

Sedgefield Energy Switch

The current registration period closes 9th October, with the Auction on 10th October. Personal Offers are sent from 23rd October and Acceptance closes on 28th November. All the information is at www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk. If you need any other assistance, please call the Sedgefield Development Trust Helpline on **07980 134 594**.

Sedgefield Farmers' Market - Sunday 3rd September

email farmersmarket@sedgefieldweb.co.uk.

At the Farmers' Market on Folk Festival weekend, Ceddesfolk take the early slot in the music tent, followed by Alter Ego. Our own Bees at Hardwick take one of the Community Stalls, to answer your questions on beekeeping and if the weather has been kind, the bees will have produced some local honey to sell. Some wax products may also be available. Also hoping to join us on the 3rd are The National Trust. Come along for a sociable morning and meet our brilliant producers - who may Talk of Many Things. Of Cabbages and Kings? **Yes! Rumour has it that the Veg are back!**



Join us in September for light refreshments, discover projects already going on in the community, some ideas for future activities, get involved – and bring your own ideas!

Sedgefield Development Trust is a 'not for profit' charitable company that brings you:

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CITIZEN OF THE YEAR (with the Rotary Club and Sedgefield Town Council)

THE BEES AT HARDWICK • SEW EASY • & MUCH MORE...

The Discovery Event is free to attend and everyone is welcome.



Sedgefield
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Community regeneration for Sedgefield, Bradbury, Mordon and Fishburn

Caroline Found, the speaker at our Discovery Event, will talk briefly about her experience of overseas projects and of co-ordinating volunteers with the RSPB and other organisations. **AND FINALLY - we'll be entertained by Sedgefield's very own HOKEY FOLKIES!**



Ceddesfeld Hall *SCA*

**Home of Sedgefield
Community Association (SCA)**

On Friday 1st September we support Sedgefield Folk Festival, with Stockton to Darlington Ukulele Express hosting a 'Ukulele Kanikapila', a fabulous evening of happy music and popular songs. Tickets are £5 from Lol on 621729. The same evening, a musicians session will be held by Joe Childs in the Oldham room. On Saturday from 10.30 to 11.30am we have a musicians products stall and workshops for ukulele, guitar, spoons and Northumbrian pipes. From noon to 2.40pm there are Durham traditional music and song competitions in the upstairs rooms and from 12.30 to 3pm, a singaround in the main hall. The World Spoons championships begin at 4pm and Saturday culminates in an Open Mic night featuring the Old Age Travellers - a free event. Evening events are 7.30 to 11 pm and the bar is open from 11.30 am until 5 pm, then 7 to 11pm on Saturday. The festival finishes with a final singaround led by Ernie Gilchrist on Sunday from 11am to 3pm. More details on the website.

In support of Durham Book Festival, (Friday 29th September to 6th October) SCA are organising several 'fringe' literary events. As well as workshops in creative writing, improvisation and journalism, we have book signings, sales, children's activities, and events with local authors, playwrights and poets. Final arrangements are to be confirmed so look out for posters.

On Saturday 30th September, 8 - 11pm there is an evening in celebration of Bob Dylan, who recently won the Nobel prize for Literature for his poetry and lyrics. The evening will include some of his work as well as other 'story telling' songs, poems and readings linked to the main theme of literature. We're hoping for an interesting evening! it's a free event and there will be a raffle. If you think you could contribute to the evening, please call Sarah on 622185.

To conclude the Book Festival fringe events, on Saturday 14th October, SCA are holding a 'Writers, Words and Wit' Dinner. The tickets cost £18 and the evening begins with a drinks reception at 7pm, followed by mains and sweet courses, cheese board, coffee & mints.

Tickets & other information from

Pat, 01740 620607, Wendy, 620206, John (620042) or the Town Council offices or visit the SCA website -

www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk

Drama Festival Line Up Revealed

This year's annual drama festival of one act plays will take place at the Parish Hall from 11th September. Over 5 nights, 10 companies perform 13 plays, all of which will be adjudicated by Paul Fowler of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators, an experienced and articulate judge. On the final night of the Festival, Paul will give out the usual awards (in Sedgefield's version of the Oscars), with further entertainment provided by the groups. The variety of plays this year is wide with several original pieces, classic texts from Chekov, Brecht and Poe and contemporary plays recently performed in London and further afield. Tickets cost £7 per evening, or a season ticket for the whole week is £30, including the final night buffet. Contact the Players on 07763 257846 or purchase from www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk or Tickety Boo.

Monday 11th

Sedgefield Players Youth Section - 'Remote' by Stef Smith
Unison Theatre Company - 'The Last Act' by Thomas Guest

Tuesday 12th

Matchbox Theatre - A trilogy of short plays by Tom Casling
'Ten Minutes to Reach Inside', 'The Muse' and 'Mankind'
Shoestring Theatre Company - 'The Ladybirds' by Tony Layton

Wednesday 13th

Statement Drama Company - 'Verbatim' by Albi Gorn
Sedgefield Players - 'A touch of Rose Madder' by Jim O'Connor

Thursday 14th

Sedgefield Players - 'The Jewish Wife' by Bertolt Brecht
Nunthorpe Players - 'Acting, it's not plumbing...' by Cheryl Barrett

Friday 15th

Cliffe Theatre - 'The Tell Tale Heart' by Edgar Allan Poe
Bananadrama - 'Soul Mates' by Shari Gledhill
Richmond Amateur Dramatic Society - 'The Proposal' by Anton Chekov



Raise Your Voice!

From Wednesday 27th to Saturday 30th September, Ferryhill Stage Society will perform the Musical adaptation of the Whoopi Goldberg film 'Sister Act', at their usual venue Mainsforth and District Community Centre in Ferryhill Station. The story of lounge singer Delores Van Cartier, who witnesses her mobster boyfriend commit a murder and is sent to a convent by the witness protection program, is a hilarious and heart warming comedy with music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Glenn Slater, book by Bill and Cheri Steinkellner and additional book material by Douglas Carter Beane. Performances start at 7.15 with a 2.15 matinee on the Saturday and tickets are available from Ticket Secretary Joan Harker on 01740 652551

The Mayor's Charity Quiz

On Friday 27th October at Cuddesfeld Hall from 7.30 pm, the annual Mayors Charity Quiz will be taking place. Tickets are £6 and available from Council Offices on 01740 621273 or email jane@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk A Pie & Peas supper is included. This year the quiz is raising money for The North East Air Ambulance Service and the Macular Society plus other local good causes.



Fri 22nd – Sun 24th September

With free entry and 16 real ales to choose from, Sedgefield Cricket Club's 3rd Beer Festival is looking to follow on from last year's very successful event.

There will be an indoor and outdoor bar, which also includes a wine bar from Yalumba wines. Beer token cards will again be used for the outdoor bars. Sedgefield Rugby Club are playing two games on the Saturday afternoon. Saxons v Northallerton kicks off at 12pm and the 1st team play Acklam at 3pm.

Food is on offer throughout the weekend with hog roasts on Friday and Saturday from Robinson's of Wingate and hot carvery sandwiches on Sunday.

This year the Club are ending the Festival with local band 101 who will be playing live from 8.30pm on the Sunday evening. There will also be an outdoor inflatable laser quest and bouncy castle for children over the weekend. With free entry and beers priced at a very reasonable £2.50 a pint and £1.25 a half, the Club expects a very busy weekend but have plenty of beers available and their selection will cater for all tastes and palettes. The beers on offer over the weekend are all sourced from local Breweries, selected with the help of Three Brothers Brewing Company, a local brewery from Stockton, now familiar to Farmers' Market shoppers.

Sedgefield Cricket Club is a not-for-profit organisation and run largely by a team of dedicated volunteers who put together the Festival. All of the Beers at the Festival are sponsored by local companies and all profits raised from the weekend help fund the running of the Club and maintenance of clubhouse and ground. Times of opening are:

Friday 6-11pm and Saturday and Sunday 1pm – 11pm both days.

Entry is free all weekend and everyone is welcome.

It was the end of an era in athletics in August, when both Usain Bolt and Mo Farah bowed out from major track and field championships in London. The World Athletics Championships didn't go quite according to script, but of course that is the beauty of sport. Nevertheless, both men won medals (including yet another gold for Farah) and the fans in the stadium gave them a wonderful send off. Athletics is one sport that has been terribly tarnished by drugs and, in various ways, that shadow loomed over London. Nevertheless, the championships proved to be hugely popular, both in terms of spectators in the stadium and viewers/listeners on TV and radio. There were a few North East athletes in competition, including Laura Weightman (1500m) and Aly Dixon (marathon), and the event saw another legend from our neck of the woods bow out, when Brendan Foster hung up his microphone. If you get chance, check out 'A Life in Athletics' on the BBC iPlayer, for a fascinating and entertaining profile of Foster. It should still be available at www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0903prs until around 11th September.

Duathlon

Congratulations to James Oldfield, who recently represented Great Britain at the Duathlon World Championships in Canada. James had qualified as an age group competitor (30-34) and put in a great performance at the sprint distance, which involved a 5K run, followed by a 20K cycle, and then finally a 2.5K run. James completed the course in 1:05:26 and here's what he said immediately after the race: "Well that was no playground! The competition was awesome, with serious athletes. I learned a lot, but when you have athletes over 40 who are running sub-17 minute at 5K, it's another level. I came 11th in my age group and was fourth GB competitor home out of 30. The experience has been amazing and that's because of so many kind people who helped with funding. Thank you."

Photograph on page 12

Rodeo

Another talented Sedgefield resident who has been performing on the international stage is Jessica Darnton. Jessica secured 88th position, out of 850, at the National Barrel Horse Association's (NBHA) youth world championships in the USA. The sport, which is part of rodeo, tests the rider to complete a route around barrels in the fastest time. Although Jessica just missed out on the finals, she achieved her top 100 ranking with a time of only 16:78 seconds.

Speaking to the Northern Echo after the event, Jessica's mum Clare Darnton said: "We're so proud of what she achieved. Nine countries competed and all the different counties across America too. She was just out of placing [the final] by a split of a second. She did England proud." Like James in Canada, Jessica also did Sedgefield proud. Well done!

Squash

September marks the start of the new squash season, and Sedgefield Squash Club is making final preparations. Junior coaching recommences on

Saturday mornings from 9th September with qualified coaches offering sessions for all ages from four upwards, and for all ability levels. This is available on a 'pay as you go' basis and spaces are available. Check out the junior section at www.sedgefieldsquashclub.co.uk or contact Simon Hill on 01740 629417. Membership fees are now due, and new members are warmly welcomed with trial period memberships available. Courts still cost only £1.50 per player to book, making it far cheaper than other local facilities, and the courts are maintained to a high standard. Anybody interested in joining can contact Sue Smith at curlietailz@aol.com. Members are reminded that to retain access to the online court booking system, subs must be paid by 15th September. The first competition of the season is the 'Team Blitz' on Saturday 2nd September. Quite different from other formats and great fun, the Blitz involves multiple, short timed matches where the aim is to score as many points as possible against players of equivalent standard. Add your name to the list at the club or contact Stephen Rowsby at rowsby10@gmail.com.

On Sunday 17th September at 7.00pm, an interactive marking and refereeing evening will be held for club members. The mysteries of the let and stroke laws will be unravelled and explained - to some committee members for the first time and for others, not before time! Again, a list will be on display in the club for members to add their names to if they want to attend.

Look out for monthly updates from the club here throughout the autumn and winter.

Ironman Triathlon

Last month, I asked if there were any more ironman triathletes in Sedgefield and it turns out that there is at least one. Lopez Ugur Eken completed Ironman Bolton in 2015, raising money for Scope. Lopez also regularly competes in other much shorter distance races, but is planning to tackle

another big challenge for charity next year, either a second ironman triathlon or a 100 mile ultra marathon. Talking of which...

Athletics

Members of Sedgefield Harriers have been very busy over the summer, at all sorts of track and field, road, and trail events. There have been too many great performances to list here, but one of particular note was by Gary Thwaites. Gary took part in the renowned Lakeland 100, which saw him running for over 25 hours in hugely challenging Lake District terrain, covering a distance of 105 miles and almost 7,000 metres of ascent. 360 competitors started the event and only 223 completed the race. Gary finished in a hugely impressive 13th place overall – a fantastic result in an extremely gruelling event that attracts some of the best ultra-runners around. Sedgefield Harriers will host its biggest race of the year on Sunday 17th September. The Sedgefield Serpentine starts and finishes at the cricket club and follows an attractive route on paths and trails, taking in Hardwick Park and the countryside between Sedgefield and Bishop Middleham. The race is staged with the generous sponsorship of Parsons Containers, Greig Cavey Commercial and Start Fitness, and with the support of many volunteers. The Serpentine is a well-established and popular event on the regional race calendar and usually attracts some of the best club athletes in the region. This year, a group of runners from Sedgefield's twin town Hamminkeln will also take part during a visit to the area. Entry in advance is £10 for those attached to a club and £12 for unattached runners, and £2 extra on the day (subject to the event not having reached capacity). The course is suitable for all abilities. For more details visit www.sedgefieldharriers.co.uk/sedgefield-serpentine.

That's all for this month. As always, please send any sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com.

Letters & Thanks

Inconsiderate parking

I would like to draw attention to some very thoughtless drivers who think it is ok to park across footpaths in the village.

Last week someone left their car across the front of the disabled spaces outside Aubergine cafe, so that my husband, on his mobility scooter, and a lady with a pushchair and several small children, could not get past without going into the busy road. My husband had to reverse up to the crossing as there is no lower pavement between.

I am a driver myself and know it's difficult to find a space sometimes. Heaven help us when the new houses are built! Please, all we ask is a little thought and consideration to other road and pavement users.

Mrs Janet Malin

From curtains to Kenya...

Hello. My name is Harry Brown. I am 18yrs old and have recently completed my A levels. I am planning to take a year out before heading to university, to travel to Kenya to volunteer in a deprived rural school for 16 weeks. The school is situated in the south east corner of Kenya and I will be teaching primary aged children in classes of up to 60. I will be living in very basic accommodation with no electricity or running water.

To undertake this trip I need to raise a substantial amount of money. So far I have held cake stalls, car boot sales and am selling stuff on eBay. I also work in the Dun Cow and I will be abseiling from the Transporter Bridge.

I am also collecting second hand clothes, shoes, bags, soft toys, bedding, towels and old curtains. I then am able to weigh these in with a company called Bags2School in return for money towards my trip. I would be extremely grateful if anyone had any of the above items that I could collect from their homes, or, I live at Hopper House Farm on the Racecourse Road if anybody would prefer to drop them off.

My phone number is 07876547446 and I am able to collect bags at a time convenient for you. If you require bags I am also able to drop them off or you are able to just fill bin bags. I will be collecting until Christmas and I thank you in anticipation.

Kind regards, Harry Brown



Thanks 1

The Pop In Club would like to thank Lakota and Katie and the team from Sedgfield co-op for organising a wonderful afternoon "Tea with a twist" on Thursday 27th July in the Parish Hall. Everyone had a lovely time and the food and entertainment were excellent. *Wendy and The Pop In Club. Happy photos right!*



Thanks 2

Please could we thank everyone who supported and helped with our Charity Dance in July, for C.H.U.F. and Prostrate Cancer.

The sum raised was £560, with £280 going to each of the above Charities.

Angela and Ron Bannister.

Look out for our next Charity event in October. We would love to see you all there.

Supported by DIDO, a Sedgfield Development Trust Project.



A response to Phil Wilson MP's article in our August edition, on Sedgfield Community Hospital

I have a relative in Sedgfield hospital. The ward is excellent, staff highly skilled, they treat a range of patients and do an excellent job. It should be saved. It looks after many from around the area, not just Sedgfield.

I have been told that two care assistants have to either share a job, or one must go, and others will be moved, but there may actually not be as many posts as is made out in your article.

I work in a large government organisation that has to outsource so much, and it's a false economy. Hospitals care for people, and care homes do too, but there is a huge range of difference between them. If our tax money is spent at a rate of 115 or so billion pounds a year on hospitals then that's where it should be spent, not on dumping people into private care provision, with most of the money being profit for those companies. The tax was willingly paid by the nation to be spent on care of the nation, free at the point of use, not taxed again and again to obtain your own care. It's a false economy, as I have found to the cost of my own health and that of my loved ones, pushed into the private care system only to find it sadly lacking.

The system is trying to get to a point where they only provide care in acute settings, the rest being done either at home in the community, or in a private care provider's facility

Cared for by the NHS in the right setting, people can thrive. But to being cared for by other providers, funded by NHS is simply not the same. The quality of care is so variable. Two care facilities in the same area - one NHS and one private - I know which one I would want to be in.

Sedgfield community hospital needs to be saved. If it's closed it will be forgotten what the standard was, and the next standard down, you really don't want.

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September 2017 DIARY

email diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

| Date | Event |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 st - 3 rd | Folk Festival. For information and tickets phone 01740 621347. |
| Fri 1 st | Sedgefield & District U3A. Ceddesfeld Hall, 2pm. "HMS Trincomalee" with Clare Hunt. Members free. Guests welcome, £3 at the door. |
| Sat 2 nd | Drop in Surgeries. Cllr John Robinson. 9 – 9.45am Bradbury & Mordon Village Hall; 10 - 11am Sedgefield Library; 11.15-12 noon Fishburn |
| Sun 3 rd | New Generation Church. 10.30am @ Sedgefield Parish Hall Sedgefield Farmers' Market on the Village Green from 8.30 am. |
| Tue 5 th | Sedgefield Gardening Club. Ceddesfeld Hall @7.30pm. 'Carnations' by Kevin Mastajlio. |
| Wed 6 th | Sedgefield WI. Parish Hall 7.15pm. Crafter's Companion Demonstration. Harvest Bring and Buy. Members' Competition - A handmade greetings card. Visitors are always welcome |
| Thu 7 th | Sew Easy. Parish Hall Boardroom 7pm - 9pm. Call 622447 for information. |
| Fri 8 th | Sedgefield Country Market. Parish Hall 10am to 11.30am. Home baked produce, Crafts, Jams, Cards, Plants, Refreshments. For information call 629441. |
| Mon 11 th | Sedgefield Drama Festival begins. All details of the week long programme are on page 7. |
| Tue 12 th | Sedgefield Business Breakfast. 8 am, The Fletcher Room, Sedgefield Parish Hall. Guest speaker Callum Baker of the Business Energy Efficiency Programme. See article on page 2. |
| Sat 16 th | Sedgefield Fire Station. Car Wash and Open day. 10am - 4pm. See p4 |
| Sun 17 th | New Generation Church. 10.30am @ Sedgefield Community College. |
| Mon 18 th | Sedgefield Family History Group. Ceddesfeld Hall, 7.15pm. Speaker Lyn Lamport – "An 18 th Century Audience". |
| Tue 19 th | Sedgefield, Ferryhill & District Flower Club. Parish Hall, 7.30pm. Members free; Non Members £5. |
| Thu 21 st | Sew Easy. Parish Hall Boardroom 7pm - 9pm. Call 622447 for |
| Fri 22 nd | Sedgefield WI Coffee Morning. Parish Hall (Fletcher Room) from 10 - 11.30am |
| 22 nd - 24 th | Sedgefield Cricket Club Beer Festival. Article on page 7 |
| Sun 24 th | New Generation Church. 10.30am @ Sedgefield Parish Hall |
| Tue 26 th | Mordon and Bradbury District Ladies' Circle 7.30pm @Mordon Village Hall. First meeting of 2017/18 calendar. 'Harvest Home' & 'Bring and Buy' stall. For information contact 01388 720 502 or 01740 621000. Tue 26th SDT Discovery Event: Informal evening in the Parish Hall at 7.45pm. Refreshments. Details on page 6 |
| Fri 29 th | Macmillan Charity Coffee Morning. Willowdene Care Home. 10am-12noon. Macmillan 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning', featuring a selection of cakes and refreshments with all donations going to Macmillan Cancer Support. For further information contact Angela on 01740 771310. |

Sedgefield Library

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Fridays 1pm - 7pm

Saturdays 9.30am - 12.30pm

Thursdays 10.30-12.30 Basic computing, tailored to individual needs

Thursday afternoons

Pre-school session 'Boogie Beat' starts at 2pm. Limited places and high demand mean booking is essential.

Fitness Classes @The Hub

Sedgefield Community College

Clubbercise with Sharon: Tues 6 - 7pm

Zumba with Emilia: Tues 6.30 – 7.30pm & Thursday 7 - 8pm

Chi Taekwondo: Sat 10.30 – 11.30am

For tennis, wheelchair rugby & other sports, call the Hub on 01740 617882

Sedgefield Social Club

Saturday 2nd September: Ray.

Saturday 9th September: Kevin Royale.

Saturday 16th September: Becca.

Monday 18th September: Country Night with Dave Cash.

Saturday 23rd September: Rose.

Saturday 30th September: Alan Stevens.



James Oldfield (right) with fellow competitor Bret Wilks, after completing their Duathlon World Championships race.

Report on page 8

Opinions expressed in Sedgefield News are not necessarily those of the Publisher or the Editor. We strive to be impartial & independent. We reserve the right to edit copy & will not publish letters of unknown authorship. Please send your contact details with correspondence.

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