

Produced by volunteers for the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury, Mordon and Fishburn
Published by Sedgefield Development Trust: Company No 4312745 Charity No 1100906

Sedgefield NEWS

MAY 2012



Sedgefield News
Produced by the villagers for the villagers
Issue 1, August 2002

The Sedgefield Development Trust is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a grant from the Sedgefield Development Trust to fund the production of a new local newspaper for the village of Sedgefield.

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Issue 1, August 2002

Sedgefield Junior Citizen of the Year
The Alan Barclay District was named the Junior Citizen of the Year for 2002. Alan Barclay, 10, was named Junior Citizen of the Year for 2002. Alan Barclay, 10, was named Junior Citizen of the Year for 2002.

Sedgefield News
Produced by the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
April 2006

Spring is spring and all's well with these new arrivals!
The new arrivals at Sedgefield Community Hospital are doing well. The new arrivals at Sedgefield Community Hospital are doing well.

Sedgefield News
Produced by volunteers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
April 2006

Be one of the first to walk the trail
Sedgefield's new Heritage Trail is ready for launch. The new Heritage Trail is ready for launch.

Sedgefield News
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November 2005

Vote for Sedgefield in the People's Millions!
Sedgefield is invited to participate in the People's Millions lottery. Sedgefield is invited to participate in the People's Millions lottery.

Sedgefield News
By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
December 2001

Have we got a carolling... upon the village greens...
The village greens are the perfect place for carolling. The village greens are the perfect place for carolling.

10 years ago, the first edition of Sedgefield News dropped through your letterboxes, so we're celebrating with full colour on front & back pages. A nostalgic peek at some old front covers starts with Issue 1, top left, and you'll find all this month's photos on the back page.

So here's to

... the heroes who trudge the streets through hail, storm and heat wave to bring Sedgefield News to your door
... our printer, Elaine Bramfitt, a star! With us from day one
... the advertisers who make publication possible by paying for space. It gladdens our hearts to know that we can help local businesses to grow or simply to keep going in difficult times
... our readers, for the hundreds of diary items, photos and articles which have arrived on the editor's desk over the decade, and for the encouragement we get from your comments and feedback

... the board and trustees of Sedgefield Development Trust, without of whom Sedgefield News would not exist.
... the small team that produces the News; it can be hard going sometimes and we would welcome help. None of us had much relevant experience, so we all had to learn on the job. We can promise that new volunteers would get lots of support.

Finally we would like to say that, although it's not always straightforward, we try hard to uphold our founders' initial principles of independence and fairness. Keep us right, dear readers!

Sedgefield News
By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
May 2002

Green Shoots of Recovery at Bradbury
The village of Bradbury is showing signs of recovery. The village of Bradbury is showing signs of recovery.

Sedgefield News
By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
May 2002

Happy Birthday!
Sedgefield News celebrates its birthday. Sedgefield News celebrates its birthday.

Sedgefield News
By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
July 2002

Sedgefield remembers VE Day
Sedgefield remembers the 60th anniversary of VE Day. Sedgefield remembers the 60th anniversary of VE Day.

Sedgefield News
By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
September 2003

Local children bring the past alive
Local children bring the past alive through their projects. Local children bring the past alive through their projects.

Sedgefield News
Produced by volunteers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
February 2007

Santa's collection hits new high point
Santa's collection hits a new high point. Santa's collection hits a new high point.

Sedgefield News
By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
March 2003

Recognise anyone in this montage?
A montage of local people and events. A montage of local people and events.

Sedgefield NEWS
February 2010

Congratulations
Congratulations to the winners of the competition. Congratulations to the winners of the competition.

Sedgefield News
By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
July 2003

Sedgefield Post Office moves
Sedgefield Post Office moves to a new location. Sedgefield Post Office moves to a new location.

Sedgefield News
By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
September 2003

Local children bring the past alive
Local children bring the past alive through their projects. Local children bring the past alive through their projects.

Sedgefield NEWS
October 2008

Tour of Britain sweeps through Sedgefield
A Tour of Britain cycling team visits Sedgefield. A Tour of Britain cycling team visits Sedgefield.

**For our anniversary edition we splashed out on full colour for the outside covers.
To make best use of our birthday treat, all this month's photos are on the back page**

Jubilee street parties

Communities Minister Eric Pickles has declared that bureaucracy relating to events will be relaxed in this year of the Queen's Jubilee, so you are free to organise street parties on or around June 5th. You will not be required to fill in reams of paperwork or submit to health and safety checks, so long as you use that valuable commodity - common sense. In accordance with the Queen's wish that people around the country celebrate on or near the actual date of her coronation 60 years ago, the Town Council plans to host a Big Lunch in Ceddesfeld Gardens on Sunday June 3rd. Everyone is invited to come along with their own picnic and enjoy a traditional village get-together in celebration of this important occasion. Further details will be available nearer the time.

Library campaign report

Many of you have signed the petition to keep our library open for more hours, so thank you for your support. We also had a contribution from primary school children, who have written letters and drawn pictures. Phil Wilson, MP has agreed to raise the issue with the Durham county and also Parliament, saying "The Government told Durham County Council to make over £125 million worth of cuts. As a consequence, the council is consulting on cuts to library services. Unlike many other local authorities, Durham County Council has kept open all libraries in the county, but at reduced hours. Sedgefield is facing one of the biggest reductions in opening times, from 39 to 20 hours. I know how important the library is to local people and I am therefore talking to the council about what further can be done to prevent such a drastic reduction in opening times." Mr Wilson will present our petition to parliament to lobby the government for more money for libraries.

Sedgefield in Bloom

Once again, Sedgefield is a finalist for Britain in Bloom and the regional competition and much work already been done. Sedgefield Community College students transformed a rusty old plough donated by tutor Chris Young into a horticultural feature (*see back page*). The vintage equipment had seen active service on his family's farm for generations. Beautifully restored, the plough now takes pride of place near Beacon Avenue, alongside the vintage seed drill, a previous college project. In keeping with this year's theme, furrows taken out behind the plough blades have been planted with mats impregnated with wild flower seeds. A wild flower meadow has been planted at the corner of Wykes Close, near the old rectory wall and primary school pupils planted wild flower seeds at Winterton Community Garden.

Both judges thoroughly enjoyed their spring visit on April 12th. After lunch at the Dun Cow, they joined members of our group in Ceddesfeld Hall for coffee and scones and an introductory chat about plans and projects. Seasoned judge Liz Lazenby from Morpeth was joined by new boy Derek Forrest of Billingham. A keen golfer as well as a very experienced gardener, Derek is always impressed when he drives through Sedgefield on his way to Knotty Hill golf course. After a walking tour of the centre of the village judges were taken on the driven route, which included the plough, Hardwick Park, Netpark and Winterton allotments. At the end of the visit they gave very useful feedback, support and advice for our efforts.

The actions of a tiny minority took the shine off a brilliant judging day when, next day, we discovered plants ripped out of tubs near the council offices and beside the church wall in Rectory Row. Of course they were immediately replaced and the matter reported to the police, who take the incident very seriously. Incensed by the events, Chairman Howard Smith said "Council gardeners and volunteers spend a lot of time and effort to make the village look so good. This kind of mindless destruction is not only anti-social but is classed as criminal damage." Anyone with information which may help find the culprits should contact the police on the non-emergency number 101. The Bloomers, alongside council gardeners Stephen and Roy, continue undaunted. Thanks to the generosity of Phil and Linda Smith, photographs of work in progress can be seen in the window of Animated Closet.

The sponsor board on the front of the parish hall also carries information about future events, important dates and details of how to support Sedgefield in Bloom. New volunteers are very welcome to join the ever-growing band. Liz and Derek will be back for summer judging on Tuesday July 10th, followed by Britain in Bloom judges on August 1st. Let's all pull together to keep Sedgefield blooming beautiful.

Leo highlights prejudice on the big screen

Changing Faces, the UK's leading disfigurement charity, recently launched a campaign for Face Equality on Film, calling for balanced portrayals of people with disfigurements.

Over a million cinema goers have been challenged about their assumptions in a short film starring Downton Abbey actress, Michelle Dockery, and Leo Gormley from Sedgefield who, as a young lad, suffered severe burns in an accident. A YouGov survey has found that bad teeth, scars, burns and other facial conditions face are viewed as the most common indicators of an evil or villainous character in a film, and that other minorities are thought to be portrayed in more diverse ways than those with disfigurements.

We're so used to seeing someone with disfigurement portrayed as the villain, that it may be hard to imagine they could play a friend, a Dad doing the school run to pick up his kids, the US President, or a lover. On the contrary, an atmosphere of fear and revulsion or a portrayal of evil is regularly often created in the film industry by applying a scar or prosthetic eye socket.

For those who actually do have facial scars or whose faces are asymmetrical as a result of cancer, strokes or birth conditions, the way that people react in the cinema can spill over into everyday life.

Freddie Krueger, Scarface and Two-Face are just some of the names they are called at school, on the street and at work. They have to put up with ridicule, people recoiling, running away or staring in disbelief that they can live a normal life. Changing Faces hopes that the film industry will think harder about how disfigurement can be portrayed in a more balanced way. See the 60 sec movie for yourself at

www.facebook.com/ChangingFacesUK

No more "legs eleven"

After 19 years of Saturday night fun, it has been decided, with much regret, that there will be no more monthly Bingo sessions at Ceddesfeld Hall.



MEDIAEVAL FAYRE 2012

9.45a.m. - 3.30p.m. on Saturday 19th May
on The Village Green and at Ceddesfeld Hall

Organised by Sedgefield Community Association, Ceddesfeld Hall, Charity No. 519953

The Mediaeval Fayre

Flower Queen 2012

is Jenny Walker, aged eight.
Her attendants are
Robyn Taylor, aged five,
Jasmine Platt, aged five and
Jessica Darnton, aged seven
Jenny & Robyn are pupils at
Sedgefield Rectory Row School
and Jasmine & Jessica are pupils
at Sedgefield Hardwick School
They were all chosen during the
Easter Picnic at Ceddesfeld Hall
on Easter Monday.

On The Green

Walking Parade, Fancy Dress
Tug-of-War, Morris Dancing
Falconry Flying Display
Craft Stalls, Fun Fair
Country Dancing
Dawn of Chivalry

In Ceddesfeld Park

Punch and Judy
Birds of Prey
Mediaeval Crafts
Bucking Bronco
Tai Chi, Bouncy Castle
Ducking Stool

In Ceddesfeld Hall

Bar, Morning Coffee & Lunches

The event starts with a parade of children's tableaux led by the Flower Queen and her attendants in a delightful horse drawn carriage. Punch & Judy and fancy dress competitions add to the host of side shows, stalls and entertainment in the arena.

Mediaeval Fayre DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTIONS are on Monday to Thursday 14th -17th May, from 6 - 8pm, as follows:

Monday 14th	Kerr Crescent etc, Pine Ridge etc, Mitford Court etc, Hardwick Road etc, Durham Road & North End.
Tuesday 15th	Whitehouse Drive etc, Hawthorn Road etc, The Lane etc, St Edmund's Green & East End etc.
Wednesday 16th	West End, Station Road etc, Spring Lane etc, Queen's Drive etc & The Meadows etc.
Thursday 17th	Eden Drive, Thurlow Road etc, The Orchard etc, Stockton Road, Rectory Row and Village Centre

Winterton Residents, please leave items at 17 Winterton Avenue, Monday – Wednesday 6 – 8 pm

Please support the Fayre by donating groceries, toys, books and bric-a-brac etc.

Articles can also be left at Ceddesfeld Hall each evening 14th to 17th May after 7.30 pm

PLEASE, no Clothes, Shoes, Bikes, Medium/Large pieces of Furniture, Hi-Fi or TV

Ready Steady JUMP!

As New Year resolutions go, jumping out of a plane at 14,000 feet is up there in the category of impressive, but, to get nearly 20 people to do it with you... now that's a feat! 32 year old Stephen Halliday from Sedgefield ([photo, back page](#)) is the man behind the multi-jump, due to take place from Shotton airfield in Peterlee on 6th May. As well as having one of his brothers alongside him, Stephen persuaded two of his specialist nurses and even the landlord of The Black Lion (where the jumpers will watch and celebrate their dives after the event) to jump. Valuable financial support comes from Fittleworth, a company which provides an invaluable continence advisory service to people with MS and other neurological conditions.

Stephen aims to raise over £10,000 for the Butterwick Hospice in Bishop Auckland, which provides hands-on medical facilities for people suffering with a range of neurological conditions and disabilities, as well as support for their families. He explains, "In September 2008 I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, an incurable condition that attacks the central nervous system. I have muscle weakness that makes it difficult to walk, and suffer from muscle spasms, occasional paralysis, and a whole host of other symptoms. Butterwick has been invaluable in offering me both physical and mental support as I learn to live with MS. I decided it was time to put some positive elements back into my life. Supporting Butterwick Hospice is my way of saying thank you as well as raising awareness of the work they do."

There are still five places left, so if you are interested, please contact Stephen on **07832 978028** or email stephen-halliday@hotmail.co.uk
Donations to help Butterwick expand its neurological day-care are very welcome and can be made at www.justgiving.com/stephen-halliday3 or direct to Butterwick via www.butterwick.org.uk.

The Sedgefield Easter Jarping Olympics

Members of Sedgefield Social Club proved that old traditions never die - they just become competitive sports! Thanks to the artistic talents of Les Mitchell, who provided the elegantly designed Olympic pace eggs, five doughty competitors lined up to show their prowess in the Sedgefield Easter Jarping Olympics. Skills honed since childhood came to the fore when Les met up with Peter Fairhurst, Steven Cooper, Alan Hodgson and Lukey Anderson on Easter Sunday for the final showdown. Sadly, the competitors were so filled with admiration for the beautifully crafted eggs, that they could not bring themselves to jarp them at all. Consequently, no medals were awarded and the contest was declared a draw!

Ian Spring captured the image of the intrepid finalists ([see back page](#)) just before they began to celebrate yet another Sedgefield sporting first.

Your Letters

Welcome home

I am sure many people would like to join me in welcoming (Capt) Marie Richards back to Sedgefield after her four month posting to Afghanistan where she has been serving on Operation Herrick with the 201 (Northern) Field Hospital in Camp Bastion in the Helmand region. Marie is due to return to Sedgefield at the end of April and I know that the efforts of Marie and all of her colleagues in the unit are very much appreciated. Their skills have helped to save the lives of many of our wounded soldiers.

Stephen Gilmore

Reflections on an old friend

Last time I wrote, it was about Wilf Garbutt's wife, Jeanette; now, sadly, he has passed away. Wilf was born in Rose Cottage, (the name was changed to Badgers Green in the late 50s), next to the Nag's Head. During the war, he was in the RAF; ground staff, like many others. Never looked upon as heroes, these lads maintained and armed the planes flown into action by heroic pilots, in a sense giving the men who flew into battle their finest hours. Being in the army, my company was flown into action by Dakotas, and relied upon air drops for arms and food, so here's to those boys in all branches of flying – even the Yanks who flew us.

L.J. Butler

Sedgefield in Bloom

I would like to thank Sedgefield in Bloom volunteers for the work they have done and are doing for everyone. I was a 'bloom volunteer' for a lot of years so I understand just how much time, planning and effort goes into the work. The spring flowers have been magnificent this year, with Crispin Court border, Rectory Row, the Beacon Lane box and the extra bulbs planted, outstanding. So thank you all for the pleasure you are giving. I'm looking forward to the summer displays.

Ann Oliver

Hardwick Park

I had the absolute joy of visiting Hardwick Park on Mothering Sunday and the following Saturday. The weather was beautiful, especially for March, and it was a pleasure to see so many people enjoying the Park and using its facilities. People of all ages from tiny babies to some very mature adults were walking round the lakes, playing in the clean, tidy play area, enjoying a

snack or an ice cream at the lovely café, walking dogs correctly on leads, or just talking in the atmosphere. The joy of a little boy who had found a frog and who by simply holding it carefully for a few minutes before returning it to the lake, had his female older relatives running scared, brought back memories of long, long ago. The car parks were busy, the clean toilets appreciated and generally everybody was happy to be in such a wonderful place.

There is a rumour that our illustrious County Council are once again considering charging for car parking at Hardwick Park. The pleasure of the many people seen there over the last week wouldn't be there if they had to think of the cost of parking. The beauty of our local park is that it is free, always available (within reason) and that there is something for all ages. Before the excellent restoration of the park it was free, and it should remain free for all, thereby guaranteeing the viability of the café.

If the Council gets its way the benefit of the park will be lost, people will either park on the A177 causing a safety hazard, or in the hotel grounds, causing a nuisance. I recently heard a programme on Radio 4 about the procurement of supplies and services by central and local government in the UK, the example quoted being Durham CC, who had rejected the lowest tender for our new shiny blue wheelie bins from a British firm in order to accept a tender costing £250,000 more from a French firm. The reason (excuse) given was that the bins were on a longer delivery.

When embarking on an exercise like buying a quarter of a million bins, changing vehicles and staffing it is a good idea to find out delivery times before committing to a date, not when you have gone to tender. Would a delay of a few weeks have made such a difference anyway? The rubbish would still be there!

Now this same council who have just wasted £250,000 of our money (not theirs!) want to save some funds by charging for entry to the best leisure facility in Sedgefield, the green lung of our community.

I say "HANDS OFF" and hope many others will do the same by contacting their local councillors and forcefully expressing their views.

John Burrows

Book Sale & Coffee Morning

Many thanks to all who supported and helped at the recent event in aid of the Blind & Partially Sighted. £188.50 was raised.

Connie Spring

A nostalgic grumble

When I came to live in Sedgefield in 1953, it was a lovely old village. It's an old fashioned word, but in my mind, it is a charming place to live. In 1956, when I was offered promotion which entailed leaving Sedgefield, I thanked the boss for the opportunity but declined. Much to my surprise, he said, 'I know just what you mean. I worked in the area when I was young. Sedgefield still is a great place to live'.

In those days there was an army camp, a few homes on Durham road, and others on The Lane, Boynston Grove, Chestnut Road, Lilac Avenue, Hawthorn Road, Beech Oval, Maple Grove, and the new Rowan Oval and Cherry Tree Drive. Elm Avenue came along around 1956.

At the opposite end there was West End, Station Road with Spring Lane and Cragside, which had about 10 homes. The centre of the village consisted of North End, Church View, High Street, Front Street, Rectory Row, Cross Street, Stockton Rd and East End with The Parade on the west side.

Then the builders arrived and new estates were erected on the old Army Camp (Mitford, Matfen and Milbourne Courts and Wallington Drive); opposite The Lane (Hardwick Road with North Park Road, Hall Lea and Boyne Court); then Pine Ridge Avenue and Rosedale Close on the other side of the Durham Road. The Orchard plus Orchard Close, Beaumont Court and Beacon Avenue sprung up off Stockton Road, and down Spring Lane, Lambton Crescent, Queens Drive, Hornby Avenue, Hadleigh Close, Melgrove Way, Claremont Grove, Hazeldon Grove. Off Spring Lane in the other direction there's The Meadows, The Leas and the enlarged Cragside. This lead onto Eden Drive, Naylor Road, Thurlow Road and Thurlow Grange (Sheltered accommodation), then in more recent years, St. Edmund's Green along Butterwick Lane, The Gables and Cunningham Court. I've no idea how many houses have been erected on the Winterton Hospital grounds over the past few years. I may have omitted some 'new' homes - not intentional, just a failing memory!

Frankly, I say 'enough is enough' and to pot with the planners, as they sit on their seats, deciding what is good for us. I don't have the energy to count the number of homes there were when I first came, and no inclination to walk the post war estates. Just stick a notice up saying 'full up!'

K. Wells

If you have something you just have to get off your chest, send it to

Anyone for tennis?

Sedgefield Tennis Club's new season has begun. It's a lovely way to spend time outside in the sunshine, so why not give it a try?

Coaching is on Monday evenings, with LTA licensed coach Carl Brough; juniors from 6pm & seniors from 8pm. Call Carl on 07940424648 for more information and to reserve a place. The cost is £3/hour/person.

Equipment is provided all ages/abilities are welcome.

Social nights are on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm - it would be great to see some new faces coming to the excellent new floodlit courts at Sedgefield Community College, to enjoy a hit.

Teams Sedgefield Tennis Club has 3 men's teams, a ladies team, and a mixed team in the Teesside league, but you don't need to be brilliant or highly competitive to enjoy coming down for a social hit.

We're always interested in new players of all abilities.

Our website - www.sedgefieldtennis.co.uk has loads of information, or contact club membership secretary, Chris Edson, on **620143**.

**The Friends of
St Edmund's
invite you to a
Strawberries
& Champagne
Afternoon
on Sunday 27th May
from 2 - 6pm at
6 The Lane, Sedgefield
with Raffle, and
all weathers catered for!**

Tickets £10
from the Town Council Offices,
Jimmy Seymour, 629142
Alison Hodgson, 620912
or members of the committee

**Proceeds in aid of the
Church Lighting Fund**

sedgefieldsquashclub
Free Coaching

Places available for beginners
and racketball

Open to non-members

Sunday mornings commencing 6 May

Contact Chris Rowsby on 621125 for
more detail

www.sedgefieldsquashclub.co.uk

Contact Sedgefield News on
07935 447 455 or email
sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

By the time you read this, there will be just three months until the opening ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games, with the Paralympic Games following soon after. In true British style, a recent survey about the games found plenty of naysayers, with 68% of the country's population stating that they don't believe the event will benefit their local area.

I'm not a naive, blinkered apologist for everything related to London 2012, but for a little while at least, I am going to put my cynicism away and simply embrace the good 'stuff' that the Olympics brings with it to our shores. And, for me, at the heart of that is the potential that London 2012 has to be a catalyst, inspiring young people to get involved in sport. If the only legacy achieved is that loads more kids take up a sporting activity or two, then in my opinion, it will have been a great success (and worth every penny).

Here in Sedgefield, we are certainly using London 2012 as an inspiration to do something special and the Sedgefield Village Games

(www.sedgefieldgames.com & www.twitter.com/sedgefieldgames) from 17th June to 11th July are going to be the centrepiece of our own summer of sport. Our challenge will be to sustain the interest that the Village Games garners, to fundamentally inspire a generation and instil in them a lifelong love of sport. Knowing the people who are behind Sedgefield's plans, I am certain that we will succeed, and if that kind of approach and attitude is being employed in communities all over the country, then the Olympics genuinely will leave a legacy of which the whole country can be proud (and which does, in one way or another, benefit every location in the UK).

Boxing

Since the turn of the year, South Durham Amateur Boxing Club has continued its success both locally and on the national stage. The club has two boxers performing at the Royal Albert Hall in the semi-final of the ABA Senior championships. The first, in the 86kg weight group, is Declan Fusco, who is gaining a reputation for himself and deserves to take his chance at this level. Jeff Saunders fights on the same bill, and if his determination is anything to go by, he already has the belt around his waist.

Three boxers entered the North East junior championships with high hopes - Jack Cogan, Lee Milburn and Tom Nesbitt, and their results will be published in the next issue. The club's current representative in the minors' national title at 52kg is Clyde Best - all the best to Clyde. Having won his first professional fight, former club member Gary Fox is taking on his next challenge around the time Sedgefield News is delivered, in a bout at the Royal Albert Hall. South Durham Amateur Boxing Club is a relatively small club compared to most others in the sport and its coaches deserve great credit for the work they do. Wins by boxers at the pinnacle of the sport, at the Royal Albert Hall, will offer all the recognition they need.

The holds its own show on Friday 11th May at Hardwick Hall Hotel, with a number of title fights, including James Archer defending his North East title. Further information and tickets from Tracy on **07861 226986**.

Cricket

This season sees Sedgefield Cricket Club play at its highest ever level, the ECB North Yorkshire South Durham Premier League - one of the top leagues in the country.

It's been a busy winter at the Station Road ground with several of last year's division one winning squad departing for pastures new. Chairman David Icton and captain Phil Heslop have brought in some real quality to plug the gaps with Richard Hawthorn, Mohammed Zahid, Steve Naylor and David Cross all arriving with plenty of premier league experience.

It isn't all change though, as captain Heslop still has local lads Jon Clark, Keiran McAdam, Justin Preston, Tom Young, Mal Dickenson, Chris Gillespie, Eddie Johnson and Adam Randall to call upon. 2nd team captain Nick Hughes will expect to fight it out at the top of division three after last year's surprise relegation. With the strengthening of the first team squad, the seconds will have some real competition for places, which will include several ex players returning to the club, including opening batsman Peter Elwell. The same can be said for the 3rd team who will hope to build on a great season last year and could be a real threat in the Sunday division two under the captaincy of Adam Harris.

As always the juniors at all levels will be very competitive in all competitions. This is an exciting year for Sedgefield CC, so do get along and support your local teams.

Squash

The squash club ran a number of events over the **Sport Relief** weekend in order to raise money for the charity. Junior coaching was replaced by a "squash blitz" competition where all participants were put into teams with the idea being to score as many points as possible within a continuous 10 minute spell on court. The adults contributed by changing the format of the club afternoon to a wooden rackets session, a taste of the 1970s, complete with towelling grips (but thankfully not 1970s sports wear!). Compared to today's light rackets with large sweet spots, the older rackets felt more akin to wielding a club. Those who were old enough to remember playing with them originally did struggle to comprehend how they had ever managed to hit a ball with any degree of power or accuracy.

Following this session, members were just able to muster enough strength to lift a pint or two in the Nag's Head for an evening social and quiz.

The following weekend a group of eight juniors undertook a 24 hours sponsored "squashathon", ensuring continuous play on court for the full period, which meant that each individual played for an average of eight of the 24 hours. With sponsor money still coming in, the club has so far raised over £300 for Sport Relief. *Photo on back page.*

The end of the season in the Durham and Cleveland County leagues returned mixed fortunes for Sedgefield Squash Club.

The ladies team came a very impressive second in the ladies division one, especially notable given it was their first season in this division. With a good core of existing players, and other players, both new and experienced, likely to join the club next season, the club plans to field a second ladies team in the leagues.

In the men's leagues, both the 1st and 2nd teams were relegated from divisions two and three respectively. Having lost a number of key players at the end of last season, it was always going to be a challenging year, but both teams will be looking to regroup next year and push for promotion again. The 3rd team finished a comfortable third in division five and again are in a strong position to push for greater things next year.

Cycling

For the third year running, the Halfords Tour Series is returning to Durham, where some of the UK's best cyclists will compete on a 1.5km city centre circuit which takes in a cobbled climb on South Street. The race, featuring ten teams of professional cyclists will be in Durham on the evening of Thursday 17th May (it has 7pm start, although the riders will be warming up on the circuit from 6pm), with highlights screened the following evening on ITV4. The event proved a big hit with spectators last year. Full details can be found at www.tourseries.co.uk.

Football

I'll have a full end of season report from Sedgefield's Sunday league teams for next month. For now, here's an update from the leading club in the village, St. Edmund's FC. This season, it has become apparent there is a fine line between success and failure, particularly in cup competitions. In the semi-final of the County Cup, with five minutes of extra time to play, a poor decision from the referee deprived the team of a well deserved penalty shoot out against eventual cup winners Sunderland Plains Farm. The club also reached the final of the Heart Foundation Cup, which again went to extra time. Opponents Brandon deservedly won on the day, but St. Edmund's John Cook hit the inside of the post before they got the winner. Meanwhile, a fine win against Pelton in the semi-final of the League Cup set up a final with Hetton Lyons. Then, three days before the game, Hetton decided that they could not field a team, even though the club has over 70 players signed on. After discussions with the league and Durham FA, the cup was awarded to St. Edmund's. It is, as they say, a funny old game.

Sedgefield Harriers

Sedgefield Junior Harriers kicked off the 2012 track and field season at the Cyril Elliott Open meeting in fine style. The meeting, hosted by Mandale Harriers at Middlesbrough on the 15th April, saw 13 athletes represent Sedgefield. All the athletes performed admirably for the club in this early season opener, coming away with a haul of 14 medals. Harriers won three sprints, three middle distance, three jumps and five throws medals, as well as picking up four 4th places. All the athletes won medals or achieved personal bests on the day.

It was a day of heavy sleet and fine margins. Harriers took 2nd, 3rd and 4th place in the U13 boys shot, with only 2cms separating Adam Playle, Jake Tomys and Joseph Devine. It was a similar story in the U15 girls shot and discus, with Megan Devine and Zoe Dobson performing well in both events. Megan and Zoe made Harriers history by being the first Junior Harriers to compete in the discus. Both girls threw well in the middle of heavy hailstones, with Megan taking silver and Zoe just missing out on a medal. Both girls are showing a great aptitude for the throws and should take heart from a very good first showing at this event. Lucy Robertshaw, like Megan and Zoe, is also a previous medal winner in the throws events for Harriers and added to her tally by taking bronze in the U13 shot. Look out for more about the development of the Sedgefield Harriers throws group in next month's sports update.

Abbie Hearmon, Hannah Featherstone and Rebecca Mott again won medals with fine performances in their respective categories in the 1500m. In the sprints, Robbie Till and Aimee Barlow won medals in the U11 60m, with Jake Tomys taking bronze in his first ever 200m in the U13 category. The club's most improved sprinter, Joseph Dredge, achieved a new personal best, shaving a whole second of his 100m time.

Harriers struck gold in the long jump thanks to the two youngest Harriers on the day - David Budd and Aimee Barlow - who won their respective U11 categories, with Robbie Till also taking his second silver of the day.

Given that Sedgefield were up against young athletes from 15 other clubs, and some were performing at their first track and field event, this was a truly remarkable performance by all of the Junior Harriers concerned and demonstrates the strength in depth the club is developing.

On 15th May, the Harriers will be holding a volunteers event in Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.30pm. All senior members, parents, coaches and anyone else who might be interested in the club, are welcome to attend and find out more about Sedgefield Harriers and how to get involved.

That's all for this month (quite right too - there's been a lot!). As ever, if you have any sports news, please send it to chrisjlines@aol.com.

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel



Pointers from meeting held on 10/4/12
Before the meeting, Acting Chair David Hillerby paid a moving tribute to a dearly missed member who passed away in March. During a minute's silence for Wilf Garbutt, I am sure that most of us thought of both Wilf & Jeanette, always together, such a lovely couple; they are sorely missed and not just by N/Hood Watch.

CCTV at Winterton estate was the only 'matter arising'. Member Alan Greener has liaised with Councillor John Robinson, who is brokering a meeting for Winterton residents with Net Park to further this issue. Our Mayor, Allan Blakemore, has kindly awarded us a grant to assist with the year ahead, for which members extend sincere thanks.

Sedgefield Charities have generously supported our CDs (was tapes) for the Blind in Sedgefield with a grant to purchase CDs. Members are truly grateful for their support for our endeavours, which now involve students from the Community College.

Beat Officer Keith Todd was not able to attend, due to attending a road traffic accident at Fishburn. However, 3 PACT priorities were established with the help of CPO Mark Pheasant. They were; Footpath Parking; Visible Police Presence (when on duty) of Village Green 'activities' - and Speeding. Mark Pheasant gave details of crime prevention measures relevant to shed burglary which is increasing due to lighter nights and had various leaflets giving guidance in this and other crime prevention measures. Mark will come out to any resident and provide assistance regarding home security or any other such matters. Contact him on the number below and please leave a message if he is out of the office. *Full (unapproved) minutes of this meeting are on the NHWatch Notice board outside the Police Station, including the crime figures, obtained after the meeting.*

Useful telephone numbers

Local Police: 101 (Try to keep notes & obtain an incident number).
 Calls cost 15p

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

May Events Diary

This service is free to non-commercial organisations

May in the Library

Craft Club: Tuesday 1st, 15th & 29th, 10-12pm. Bring something along and have a chat!

Rhyme Time: Wed 9th & 23rd, 10-11am

Tickle Time: Monday 21st, 2.15-3pm

Hardwick Park in May

Wetland birds

Hardwick Park to Bishop Middleham

Tuesday 1st May, 10am-2pm

£4 adults, £10 Family, under 5s free

6 mile walk with local bird expert.

Bring Packed lunch

Track & Field

Saturday 5th May, 1-2.30pm

£5 per child, adults free

Hunt & identify tracks and make casts

Teddy Bears Party

Sunday 6th May, 11am-3pm

£4 per child, adults free

Photography Walk

Tuesday 8th May, 10.30am-12.30pm

£4 adults, £10 Family, under 5s free

For more activities call 621505 or pick up a full programme at the Visitor Centre

Sedgefield Gardening Club

Tuesday 1st May

7.30pm at Ceddesfeld Hall

Gardeners' Question Time with

Simon Croft: All welcome

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 2nd May

Parish Hall 7.15pm

AGM and Bring & Buy -

your spare seeds, seedlings & plants

Members' comp. photo of Co. Durham

Visitors always welcome - fee £2.50

Racecourse Charity night

for Momentum brain injury rehabilitation

Saturday May 5th 7.30pm - midnight

Tickets £5 from Jewson in Sedgefield

or call Pauline on 07766 763390

Sedgefield Farmers' Market

Sunday 6th May

Eddies@4

Sunday 6th May

Informal service for 2-6 year olds

4pm, Welcome Room, St Edmund's

Contact J Rowsby, 621125

Residents' Forum

Monday 7th May

7pm in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

Local History Society

Monday 7th May

7.30pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

Tony Smith: Reawakening of the

Sleeping Beauty

Ladies Club

Tuesday 8th May

Graham Barker: The Shaw Trust

Tuesday 22nd May

Chris Lloyd: Darlington Civic Theatre

Sedgefield Show

Thursday 10th May

8pm in the Nag's Head

Live Music Night

Fundraising for Sedgefield Folk Festival

Saturday 12th May

in the Parish Hall at 7.45pm

Bertie Draycott MC, + Haley Sisters,

Tom Mitchell & the John Wrightson Band

Tickets £11 (includes buffet) from

Joan Edmundson on 621347

NECP Concertina Workshop

Sundays 13th & 27th May

1pm Ceddesfeld Hall. All levels welcome

Contact 01642 588197

Methodist Wives & Friends

Monday 14th May

Butterwick Hospice

Monday 28th May To be announced

Ferryhill, Sedgefield &

District Flower Club

Tuesday 15th May

7.30pm in the Parish Hall

Kathleen Gibson, Northumberland &

Durham Demonstrator

"Inspirational Moments"

Everyone welcome

Mediaeval Fayre

Saturday 19th May

Family History Group

(Branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 21st May

Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45pm

"A ramble round the Registry Office"

Barbara Dixon

For details call S Hall on 620367 or see

www.sedgefieldfamilyhistory.org.uk

Visitors always welcome

Family History Group

Monday 21st May

7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall

"A ramble around the Registry Office"

by Barbara Dixon

Visitors welcome. For more details see

www.sedgefieldfamilyhistory.org.uk

or call S. Hall - 620367

Summer Taizé Service

Sedgefield Methodist Church at 10am

Sunday 10th June

People of all faiths or none, and

seekers of faith are welcome

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

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 & latest Fishburn gossip!

Fridays 9.30am - 12noon

Tea, coffee, toast & conversation

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

Cupcake Café

Sedgefield Community College, 10am-12,

term-time Fridays. All profits to charity

Lyrics Choirs

2 choirs welcome new members. Ceddesfeld

Hall, Fridays. 7-18yrs at 6pm; Adults 7.30pm

Sedgefield & District U3A

Next meeting, 2pm in the Parish Hall on

Friday 15th June

An informative and entertaining talk on

"Magistrates in the Community".

This will be followed by the AGM.

15th MAY is the DEADLINE for the June edition of the News

Email: sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com Call: 07935 447 455

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

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Please send your contact details with correspondence.

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DIDO: 07899 022 133; Hare Hills Lodge, Sedgefield, TS21 2EG

Stephen Halliday, about to jump 14,000 feet from a plane! Story p.3



The latest Olympic sport? Les Mitchell with Peter Fairhurst, Steven Cooper Alan Hodgson & Lukey Anderson. Story p 3.



Squash club's sponsored "squashathon" participants raise over £300. Report p 6



Sedgefield Development Trust is a member of The Development Trusts Association

SEDGEFIELD NEWS FLASH
HURRY ALONG & BUY ONE NOW!

Ceddesfest **PROOF 700**

PROOF **PROOF**

"A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF 700 YEARS OF SEDGEFIELD"
 in the grounds of Ceddesfeld Hall
 Saturday, 28th July, 2012
Strictly no admission before 2.30 p.m.

Tickets £20

This year's hot ticket , on sale from May 1st at the Post Office, Ceddesfeld Hall, the Town Council Offices or from organiser, Garry Jacobs.

There's something for everyone - some surprises too - in a full programme covering medieval, baroque & classical music, jazz, swing, contemporary folk, rock n' roll, blues, pop & rock!



Chris Young with some of the SCC pupils who helped restore this vintage plough for Sedgefield in Bloom. See p 2.



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