

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

April 2014



There's a FRESH & EARLY start at 8.30am on
Sunday April 6th for the re-launch of ...

SEDGEFIELD FARMERS MARKET

On the Green, First Sunday Morning Every Month.

So what will you find to buy?

Well, at the last count there should be at least **10** stalls across the Rectory Row side of the Green, including:

Shelly Bright: bedding plants & vegetable seedlings

I Love Pies Me: Handmade pies, pastries and cakes

Parlour Made: Handmade, artisan cheese

Manor Farm Kitchen: Cakes and baking

Patterson's Fish: Fish

Broom House Farm: Meat

Christine Hewitt: Eggs & sausages

A & D Mellanby: Fruit and vegetables

Granny's Kitchen: Cakes and savoury pies

Durham Venison & Game: Wild Game and poultry

Spicy Monkey: Pickles, pastes, marinades, sauces

There is a real possibility of locally produced beer too, if not this month, then very soon! All this, plus ...

A FREE community stall, music tent & health bus

The free stall is available to clubs and societies for promotion or fundraising. To take advantage of this fantastic opportunity call Roger Clubley: 01740 620609, email roger@clubleys.co.uk. The Friends of Sedgefield Harriers are using the stall this time, to raise funds and awareness. An NHS Drop-in Health Check Bus will be parked on Rectory Row and from a gazebo at the heart of the market, locally grown band, CeddesFolk will keep you entertained. We're all hoping for sunshine of course, but whatever the weather, the place to be on **Sociable Sunday** is Sedgefield Village Green. Hope to see you there!

Follow us
on Twitter!
@sedgyfarmmarket



Follow us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/sedgyfarmmarket



Sedgefield Development Trust

We are proud and happy to be leading the renewal of Sedgefield Farmers' Market, in partnership with Sedgefield Town Council, and hope it will be a very special, once-a-month event. Thanks to everyone who has worked towards the relaunch and given us advice, support and, occasionally, sheer muscle power! We are especially grateful to Neil Edmundson for his talent and generosity in providing the artwork. We have all sorts of ideas for using his delightful designs in the coming months.

Our next two priorities are to take forward the quest for a better deal on fuel for Sedgefield residents (detailed in February) and to find a new team to produce Sedgefield News.

Our editor since 2003 has given notice that next February's edition will be her last. If no-one comes forward, Sedgefield News will cease to exist, but that really doesn't have to be the outcome! It's an interesting, absorbing task that need not be carried by just one person.

Over the next few months, current editor, Sandy, Chris (sport) Matt (website) and John Fitzpatrick (SDT Trustee) will gladly talk to anyone with the enthusiasm to take Sedgefield News forward. Contact details are below.

sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com Text/call 07572 502 904

Visit www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk for Sedgefield News online (& much more)
and follow us on twitter @sedgefieldnews

Sedgefield Inner Wheel backs athletics track

A long established community group has offered its support to a project to build an athletics track in the town. The ladies of Sedgefield Inner Wheel teamed up with Sainsbury's to hold a cookery evening in aid of the Friends of Sedgefield Harriers (FoSH), the charity that is raising funds for the track. A cheque for £600 has now been presented to FoSH chairman Clive Crosby by Sedgefield Inner Wheel and regional district chairman Ann Knox.

Sedgefield Inner Wheel was founded in 1983 and is a ladies' community organisation with links to the Rotary Club. Nationally, Inner Wheel has over 19,000 members and undertakes activities designed to promote friendship and international understanding, while encouraging the ideals of personal service. Sedgefield Inner Wheel plays a very active role in the local community and has a busy schedule planned for 2014, including a charity breakfast, supporting the Rotary Club during the Mediaeval Fayre in May, and a series of days and nights out to the theatre and attractions such as Bowes Museum.

Beryl Swinbank, president of Sedgefield Inner Wheel, adds: "We are delighted to have been able to support the track project in this way. Our Sainsbury's evening was a great success. We noticed several Harriers in the audience, though I'm not sure that all the recipes would have helped them run faster! Our ladies work hard to contribute to a wide range of community projects and it was a pleasure to be able to raise funds for such a worthwhile cause."

Clive Crosby expressed gratitude for this generous donation. "It is fantastic that organisations such as this are prepared to get behind the Harriers' ambitious project, recognising the positive impact the track could have for all parts of our community. We have a long way to go to complete our project, but every contribution such as this is hugely appreciated. Not only does it take us closer to the finishing line, but it also keeps Back the Track in the public eye, which will help sustain and build momentum."

Sedgefield Harriers launched 'Back the Track' in 2013 and secured planning permission from Durham County Council for track and field events facilities to be located at Sedgefield Community College. They need to raise around £500,000 to complete the project and the charity Friends of Sedgefield Harriers was founded to help achieve that objective. Already, more than £70,000 has been pledged towards building the track and many other fundraising initiatives are in the pipeline. 'Back the Track' has also attracted support from high profile figures in the athletics world, including Daley Thompson, Steve Cram, Allison Curbishley and Chris Tomlinson. Sedgefield Harriers was founded in 2005 and now has over 200 junior and mini (under seven years old) members, plus over 100 senior members. In 2011, the club was crowned both England Athletics Development Club of the Year and UK Athletics Club of the Year, and now regularly fields senior and junior athletes in major track and field, cross country and road race events throughout the UK.

To donate, send a message to friendsofsedgefieldharriers@gmail.com and for more about Sedgefield Harriers, visit www.sedgefieldharriers.com or follow @SedgeHarriers on Twitter.

Below, L-R Lucy Hutchinson, Ann Knox, Clive Crosby, Beryl Swinbank & Margaret Phillips



And from **Your Letters ...**

On behalf of the Friends of Sedgefield Harriers (FOSH) can I say a big thank you to everyone who helped support the Sedgefield Calendar 2014. In total, with the help of match funding from the Sedgefield branch of Barclays Bank we raised well over £2,000. We are particularly grateful to Ken Saiger, Geoff Hill (Senior) and Chris Lines for helping with the photography, to Sedgefield Bakery, Sedgefield Post Office and Tickety Boo for selling the calendars - and to all those who purchased them. A great effort all round!

Back the Track!

Jonathan Wallace

Bishop Auckland Music Society's new season of concerts begins on **Friday 4th April** at Auckland Castle.

The Primrose Quartet

perform works by Mahler, Schubert and Brahms. More details & tickets from Brian Varley; **01388 606075**



The Sedgefield Plan

Shaping the future of our area

Many of you attended the two public meetings in the parish hall at which we informed you of all that we know about new housing developments in Sedgefield. They were a great success and it was important to get lots of feedback through questions and post it notes.

The developers have now submitted their proposals for Eden Drive to Durham County Council, so please register your view with the planners within the next 21 days.

We now start the process of drafting 'The Sedgefield Plan' and will be asking you to put forward your views as we do. Alternative sites will be important so please let us know your views. info@thesedgefieldplan.co.uk.

Town Council Surgery

The Town Council will hold a surgery in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall on **Monday 7th April**, the purpose of which is to consult everyone on the application from Story Homes to build 113 dwellings on land at Eden Drive. Councillors will be present 10.30am-12.30, 2-4pm & 6-8pm

Sedgefield Primary leading the way in enterprise



Sedgefield Primary School Council and Headteacher, Andrea Cox, receiving Centre of Excellence Award from Alison Wilkinson, Young Enterprise.

Sedgefield Primary School has become a Centre of Excellence for 2014 with help from Young Enterprise. The school has participated in Young Enterprise programmes for three consecutive years in order to qualify. Young Enterprise is the UK's largest enterprise education charity, helping 250,000 young people learn about business and the world of work. The fun and educational programmes encourage children to think about the world outside school, work together and understand the relevance of education to their future.

Andrea Cox, Head of Sedgefield Primary said: "We hope that we are helping to create enterprising individuals, who understand the value of working and aren't afraid to think with ambition. The programmes encourage the children to talk to each other about the world of work and realise that a good career can enable them to live the life they want. It reinforces the messages we give about the importance of education, working hard, being resilient and collaborating in order to achieve more. We feel education must be about much more than test results. We aim to help the children become skilful, confident and articulate young people, who are well prepared for the future."

Sedgefield in Bloom

Northumbria in Bloom judges visit Sedgefield on Thursday 10th April, and again for the summer judging, on Thursday 24th July, both at 10am. Britain in Bloom judges follow on Monday 4th August at 9 am. Many of you have passed very encouraging comments about how lovely the village looks. The spring sunshine helps too, but there is, of course, a great deal of work to be done to keep up the standard which has repeatedly brought us gold and Best Small Town plus the ultimate accolade Best Overall Entrant in Northumbria in Bloom 2013.

The council gardeners and Bloom volunteers have already been out in force. Fallen leaves cleared from the churchyard and village centre are now creating valuable compost in wooden leaf cages in Ceddesfeld Hall grounds (*photo*) Wykes Close wildflower garden, a blaze of colour last year, will gain an area designed to attract pollinators like bees and butterflies, an RHS theme for 2014. The year marks 50 years of both Britain and Northumbria in Bloom, so the golden theme will also be important, as well as the commemoration of the beginning of World War 1.

Bloom volunteers meet every Wednesday at 10am and are always happy to welcome new members. In the lead up to judging, everyone can help by ensuring that their own little patch is tidy, litter free and if possible, blooming beautifully. Or come along to one of our fundraising events, vital in raising cash for Bloom projects additional to those financed by the council. See the diary page for a dance this month and on July 4th, Sedgefield in Bloom host a **Gardeners' Question Time** evening with three RHS national judges. Further details soon.



Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel

PACT meetings: At the March Residents' Forum meeting PC Keith Todd informed residents that the Police are returning to the bi-monthly meeting format to hold their PACT (Priorities for the Beat Team) and this will be, as previously, at the Neighbourhood Watch Meeting. So please come to the April meeting with your priority for the local Police to adopt for the following two months. If you can't attend and have a burning issue, please contact Keith direct (tel.101 and ask for him – check his duty roster first with the call centre operator) or contact your N/H/Watch contact.

Flask in the Fridge: Please remember to update your data sheet inside the flask, following any change to either your medication or to your health. It is vital, if the Emergency Services are called and refer to the information, that it is accurate & up to date, it is for your benefit only. A simple method is to put your most recent medication script in the flask (as long as it has all your current medication on it).

Garden Thefts: Don't become a victim of this regular easy pickings crime - don't leave tools and equipment lying around unattended; lock them away - out of site. Do mark your valuable gardening items with your post code (using a simple UV pen). Think about installing a low-cost security alarm for your shed & please keep it locked with a decent lock.

Report suspicious activity: Please try to report on tel.101, all out of place or suspicious vehicles and also persons that cause you some concern. From these reports we will make our village & our homes even safer.

Next N/H/Watch Meeting – 8th April in Fletcher Room

Sedgefield Residents' Forum

Jottings from March meeting.

A good turnout of residents at March meeting, obviously many wanted to discuss the various proposed housing developments. With that in mind the agenda was changed to enable matters arising from previous meeting to be dealt with very quickly and feedback from Councillors delayed until after residents had sufficient time to have discussions on housing developments. Obviously there is great concern across the community on the scale of proposed building development. Much discussion took place and information was given on Neighbourhood Plan meetings taking place on March 10th & 11th. Both those meetings saw the Parish Hall filled to capacity, a great turnout from residents.

At the March 10th & 11th meetings Neighbourhood Plan representatives gave information on the results of the community survey which confirms all that was expected that residents of Sedgefield want their quality of life in their established community to be protected. Information was also given on the submission of the County Durham Plan and the process for submission of our village Neighbourhood Plan (too involved to explain the process here). But bottom line is that our community, as we know it, is at great risk of being spoilt if not destroyed.

The developers of the Eden Drive site (that preferred by Durham County Council (DCC)) Story Homes and Diocese have submitted their planning applications they can be viewed on the DCC planning website. The application reference numbers are: **Story Homes:** DM/14/00261/FPA **Diocese:** DM/14/00263/FPA. This application will be dealt with through the ordinary planning process so comments can be made by letter or on the website but importantly watch out for information on how our community is responding to the application i.e. petitions, meetings and please get involved. Evidence of the volume and strength of feeling of residents is needed in the process of any response.

Other updates: The meeting continued with Cllr. Lumsdon giving an update of County issues (Cllr. Robinson could not stay for the meeting so has promised to send a written report but the Forum has not received any previously promised reports from him). Town Councillors present also gave updates.

PC Todd gave crime reports and held the PACT meeting (Police and Communities Together). He informed the meeting that PACT meetings would in future be bi-monthly instead of monthly and would take place at the Neighbourhood Watch meetings.

The next Forum meeting is scheduled for May 5th at 7pm in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall. But watch out for public meetings about housing developments etc. As we have said it is essential that our community demonstrates its views and it needs everyone to do that, because everyone will be affected in some way by the proposals.

PS The Forum Agenda and minutes have always been put on the notice board in the Library for residents to view. The information will still be in the Library but on the window ledge or shelf (please ask staff). DCC have decreed that only DCC information can go on the notice board!



From PC Keith Todd ...

The sewage works near the Travel Lodge roundabout may not be the most exciting place to visit but over the last few weeks has suffered from thefts of copper cable and more recently theft of 200 litres of red diesel. Workers would only be on site during daytime working hours, so, if you see anyone hanging about give the police a call.

Damage was caused to the glass in the bus shelter outside of Barclay's Bank on the day of the Ball game but this was not connected to the game. The male responsible was transported to hospital with severe cuts to his hand.

I note that spring flower tubs are now being displayed around the village by green fingered residents. Please take time to mark or secure any garden ornaments before someone takes a fancy to them. Around the County a large number of mountain bikes have been stolen. To help prevent any local residents becoming victims we are holding a "Bike Marking" day at Sedgefield Police office on Saturday 12th April between 9am - 3pm. We will mark and register your bike free of charge.

Pub Watch

A meeting was held recently at the Hardwick Arms. No incidents were reported which required further action from members. The Ball game had passed without incident and the majority of customers welcomed the use of plastic containers in use for the day.

P.A.C.T. meeting

The Pact priority remains the speed of traffic coming into Sedgefield along Salters lane/B1278 road between Fishburn and Sedgefield. This is a 40mph road which is used by residents of Winterton. Please take care and slow down.

Local Police - 101
CPO Duncan Gill 01325 742714
Neil Langthorne 01325 742755
Parking Shop 0191 3846633



Not many can resist the ballgame!
Thanks to Studio 8 photography

Rural Crime Network

A new National Rural Crime Network endorsed by many of the UK's Police and Crime Commissioners has been set-up to help tackle rural crime more effectively in England and Wales.

There is a common perception that rural crime is less significant than in cities and towns. The impact of rural crime is becoming an increasing problem as austerity bites and as police resources are stretched thinner. There are also strong links to serious organised gangs in relation to some classifications of rural crime, for example, theft of agricultural plant and machinery as well as the availability of drugs alongside more conventional issues such as wildlife and heritage crime.

Durham PCC, Ron Hogg heard about this initiative last year and was keen to get involved, as County Durham and Darlington is predominantly rural. Once established the Network will provide an online resource for police, community safety practitioners and others.

Ethical alternative for livin tenants' purchases

The local homes and communities business has signed up to a scheme to provide tenants with an affordable solution to expensive weekly payment stores. The Smarterbuys Store offers an affordable, ethical way of buying household goods, including TVs, white goods & furniture with payments up to 40% cheaper than other weekly payment stores.

Philip Pollard, livin's head of financial wellbeing said: "Times are hard for our tenants and the risk of them buying goods or borrowing from less affordable sources could see personal debts become unmanageable.

Tenants can browse for items at www.livin.sbstore.org and apply for the weekly payment option.

Payments are lower than other high street payment stores and the 25p minimum 'save as you buy' payment is automatically added, so customers can save without having to think too much about it.

April Events Diary

Tuesday 1st

Chair-based Exercise Class Parish Hall 11am.

Sedgefield Garden Club 7.30pm in Ceddesfeld Hall. Herbaceous Plants & Borders by Alan Chalk. All welcome

Wednesday 2nd

Sedgefield WI Parish Hall, 7.15pm "Doodling in 3D" Shona Duthie, woodcarver & musician. Members' competition - a small bunch of garden flowers. Visitors always welcome; fee £3.50 inc. refreshments

Friday 4th

Sedgefield Village Veterans Easter Fair. Parish Hall, 9am to 12noon. Various trader stalls, Easter bonnet competition, cake stall etc. All welcome. 01429 882571

Sedgefield & District U3A 2pm Parish Hall. Roger Barrell: Royal Protection Service (Roger completed 17 years Royal Protection Service at home and abroad)

Live Music Night at Sedgefield Cricket Club, 7.45 pm. Main guest, Paul Tilley & Tom Townsend; also featuring Robson Field, Danny Robinson & John Twist, John Weighell and John Wrightson Band. Admission £10, includes buffet. Tel 621347

Saturday 5th

Cricket Club Quiz Night presented by John Bryant Start 8pm .Last in the series

Sunday 6th

Sedgefield Farmers' Market from 8.30am on the Village Green. New traders today and music while you shop.

Monday 7th

Sedgefield Community Bowls Club Free evening, Monday 7th April 6pm to 8pm at the Community College. You are invited to come and try carpet bowls and short mat bowls. For more information contact John Kinghorn on 623198

Local History Society

Ceddesfeld Hall, 7.45pm. Robin Daniels " The medieval town of Hartlepool"

Tuesday 8th

Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch & Crimewatch Panel 7pm in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall. Everyone welcome

Ladies' Club Mediaeval Fayre Fundraising (No meeting during Easter holidays)

Friday 11th

Country Market Parish Hall 10-11.30am. Home baking, Jams, Cards, Plants, Crafts

Blood Donor Session 14:45 to 16:00 & 16:45 to 19:00. Sedgefield Racecourse
Please call 0300 123 23 23 to make an appointment

Saturday 12th

Sedgefield in Bloom fundraising dance Remember When: 50s,60s, 70s music in Parish Hall, 7.30pm Tickets £9 inc. pie/peas, from Council office. BYO drink & glasses.

Tuesday 15th

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club Parish Hall at 7.30pm. Open evening. Susan Maddocks, North East Demonstrator "Spring". All welcome. £7.50 -non members, £5- members. Easter Bonnet competition - please come along and join in.

Monday 21st April

SCA May Queen & attendants' selection 2pm @Ceddesfeld Hall, followed by **Easter Egg Hunt** 2pm - 4pm. Dyed and decorated egg and Easter bonnet competitions. Free events for the under 12s

Monday 28th

Meditation Group In St Edmund's Church. 7 - 7.30pm. All welcome.

Methodist Wives & Friends Gardening & Plant Sale

Regular meetings

New Generation Church

Service on Sundays, 11am, Parish Hall

NECP Concertina Workshop

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 1pm in Ceddesfeld Hall. Contact 01642 588197

Eddies@4

4pm, Welcome Room, St Edmund's. Informal service for 2-6 yr olds. 621125

Winterton Wayfarers

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

Bridge Club

Sunday & Tuesday, 7.30pm, Ceddesfeld Hall. Beginners welcome. Jen 620434

Sedgefield Players

Parish Hall, 7.30pm Sundays & Weds. SPYS: 7-17 yrs Sunday 6.30pm. 620091

Sedgefield Playgroup

Methodist Church, Mon-Thurs 9:15-11:45. Spaces for 2+ yrs. Call 620923

Fishburn Art Group

Youth & Community Centre, Butterwick Rd. 9.30am -12 noon, Mondays

Community College Bowls

Mons 6-8pm. Carpet Bowls/Short Mat Individual coaching. No age limit. 623198

Sedgefield Mags

1st Monday of month in Nag's head at 8pm. Contact 07966029434

Sedgefield Carpet Bowls

Ceddesfeld Hall. Tues & Thurs mornings 8.30-12 Beginners welcome. 622532

Sedgefield Pop In Club

for elderly & disabled. Ceddesfeld Hall Tues 9.30-12 Wed 10-12.30 Thur 1-3.30

Craft Club

Swinhoe Rm, Ceddesfeld Hall, 2nd/4th Tues 7.30-10pm. 620656. All welcome

CAB Advice Sessions

Sedgefield Advice & Information Centre Fortnightly Wednesdays 10am-1pm

Sing for Health

Methodist Church Hall, fortnightly on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays from 1 - 2pm

Toddler Club

Wednesday term time 1.15 to 3pm, Ceddesfeld Hall. Joan Brennan, 622385.

Sedgefield Handbell Ringers

Wed 7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall (Mon1st wk of m'th) Beginners welcome 621292

Rotary Club of Sedgefield

Wednesdays, 7.30pm. Contacts, Bob, 07831270892 - Mel, 07530315331

Sedgefield Acoustic Evenings

Ceddesfeld Hall, 8.30pm 1st Fri & 4th Wed. Informal singaround, all welcome.

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays. New members welcome. Contact Carl on 07775644598

Ceddesfeld Hall Art Group

Small friendly group 10am -12 Thursdays

Café@St Catherine's

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

Lyrics Choirs

Fridays in Ceddesfeld Hall. SLYC 6pm Adults 7.30pm New members welcome.

April at Sedgefield Library

Opening hours: Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm Thursday 10am - 6:00pm
Friday 1pm - 7pm Saturday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Events for adults: Craft Club Thursdays 10th & 24th 10am-12 noon

In association with Age UK: Thursday 24th 10.30 - 11.45am, Stay Safe online.
Great advice for 50+and carers on web security. Places are limited so book early!

Thursday 24th 11.45am - 12.30pm, Shopping & banking safely online.

Practical advice & guidance and your questions answered.

Thursday 24th April, 1 - 3pm. Hand massage

Easter holiday events for children

Mad hatter colouring sheets & masks (free, ongoing)

Maddest hat competition (free entry, Easter egg for the winner)

Mad hatter craft, Thursday 10th 2:30 – 3:30pm (£1 per child, 10 places available)

Mad hatter tea party craft, Thursday 17th 2:30 – 3:30pm (£1 per child, 10 places)

Ask at the library for details. Call **03000 269521**

Sedgefield Social Club

April Entertainment Guide

Saturday 5th: Leanne Lawson, Vocalist

Sat 12th: Ben Dillon, Guitar Vocalist

Sat 19th: Courtney Paige, Vocalist

Saturday 26th: Terry James, Vocalist

Cover charge £1.50 per person

Members & Guests Welcome

Country Night on Monday 14th: Wilf

Cover charge, £3 pp

Concert Room available for functions.

Tel: 01740 620591 for bookings

Sedgefield Country Market - now opening at 10am

The Country Market takes place every 2nd Friday of the month in the Parish Hall for sales of Home Baking, Jams, Seasonal Plants, Cards & Crafts. Tea, coffee, scones & cakes are available to anyone wanting to meet friends, and you will always find a warm welcome. Just a reminder then - starting on April 11th, opening time changes to 10am and we close at 11.30am.

TICTAC - things are happening

The Isles Communities Turbine Action Campaign are holding important update meetings at Mordon and Bradbury Village Hall, Mordon, TS21 2EY, on the NEW Isles Wind Farm Application by EON. Your presence and support are vital. Please come to our Open Meeting on Wednesday 23rd April at 8pm or the Drop In Session Saturday 26th April from 10am-12 noon. Refreshments provided.

Sedgefield Village Veterans

On Saturday 26th July, Sedgefield will receive a visit from the Boundary 500 Motorcycle Group, who are being "sent off" to the WWI Battle fields of France & Belgium by The Veterans and the people of Sedgefield. We hope as many people as possible will gather on the Green to see them off, starting at 9-30am. Boundary 500 have offered to take a wreath from Sedgefield Veterans to place at the Menin Gate memorial on Monday 28th July, 100th anniversary of the start of the War (though Britain didn't enter until 4th August.) This we have accepted. They have also volunteered to carry 100 Poppy Crosses from Sedgefield, arranged in bundles of 10 and lay these (tastefully), a bundle at a time, at various memorial sites during their tour of the Battle Fields. They will also take a photograph of the site before moving on.

If anyone would like to book a Cross, put a message onto it, no more than 10 words, please contact me in writing, as soon as possible (David Hillerby, 10 Boynston Grove, Sedgefield TS21 3BD) with an offer of cash, a minimum of £10 per Cross as a starting point. No one can stipulate which site they would like the Cross to be laid. For an extra £5, a photograph of the site will be supplied showing your Cross and its site, upon their return. The first 100 requests will be the lucky ones, so place your offer ASAP and good luck! After expenses, all profits will go to Sedgefield's WWI weekend in August, details of which later.

Advance dates for your diary: **Thursday 8th May, a VE Day Service** at the War Memorial on the green in Sedgefield starting at 10-30am with the Last Post sounding at 11 o'clock. Please do come along and support us.

Saturday 10th May Parish Hall 7.30pm. A delightful evening with the brass, woodwind and percussion sections of the Darlington Community Wind Band. Tickets £5 from Town Council/at the door. Tea coffee & biscuits during interval.

More live music in Sedgefield

Tickets go on sale on 1st June for the 9th annual Folk Festival to be held during the first weekend in September (5th-7th). Many of the performers this year are of international acclaim and include Jez Lowe and the Bad Pennies, Young 'Uns, Prelude, Izzy Burns Band, Seasonal Singers, Ray Thom, John Wrightson Band, Kieron Goss from Ireland, Charlie Dore & Julian Littman (hit single 'Pilot of the Airwaves') and the very well known Benny Gallagher Trio - Benny is one half of the legendary Gallagher & Lyle.

In addition there will be the usual workshops, singarounds, the Durham traditional song-writing competition and World Spoons Championship.

To help finance the festival, a concert at the Parish Hall on Friday 16th May will feature the Happy Cats as main guests, supported by Jack Burness, Bertie Draycott and John Wrightson Band. Tickets are £11 and include a buffet.

Another successful season of live music nights at Sedgefield Cricket Club comes to an end before the summer recess on Friday 4th April with Paul Tilley & Tom Townsend and the brilliant teenager Robson Field, plus usual support. More information at www.sedgefieldfolkfestival or call Joan Edmundson on 621347.

Sports UPDATE with Sports Editor CHRIS LINES

There's loads to get through this month, so there's no room for any waffle from me...

Senior and Junior Cricket

Sedgefield Cricket Club has been busy preparing for what promises to be another exciting season in the North Yorkshire South Durham League. On the playing side, 2014 brings with it some changes in personnel. Steven Naylor, Rich Hawthorne, David Cross, Nisal Randika and Martin Lower will be playing at various other clubs and Sedgefield wishes them all the best.

Meanwhile, the club welcomes back James Davidson who will captain the first team. James played for Sedgefield as a junior cricketer and has most recently represented Newcastle CC in the North East Premier League. Also joining from Newcastle is opening batsman Niall Penfold who will add further strength and experience to the line up. The club's English professional this year is Mark Davies of Kent CCC, an exceptional talent with the bat and ball who will bring some much needed fire power to the bowling attack. Overseas pro will be Sri Lankan, Sachith Pathirana. The 25 year old is an all rounder, a left hand bat and left arm orthodox bowler who claimed nine wickets in his last first class match earlier this year. Australian David Miller is also playing this year as an overseas amateur. The first team will compete once again in the Premier Division, one of the toughest amateur leagues in England.

Thanks to an excellent junior set-up, there will be plenty of young local talent featuring in the senior teams, many of whom are involved with Durham CCC and proving to be great prospects for the future. The club is grateful to all of the coaches and managers who give up their valuable time to help develop the juniors.

The second team will this year be pushing hard for promotion from Division Two, skippered by John Cavanagh. The team is largely unchanged from 2013 and should provide stiff competition for all visiting teams. The third team will play in Sunday Division One and will continue to help develop the juniors who are playing senior cricket for the first time. New players are always welcome to the club.

The life blood of the club, the juniors, will be taking part in a busy programme of league and cup fixtures. Sedgefield runs teams from under 11 right through to the under 17 age group and has full club mark accreditation. The junior section is a thriving part of Sedgefield Cricket Club and goes from strength to strength each year. Supporters are very welcome whenever the teams are playing.

Off the field, the clubhouse has been further extended to include a new kitchen facility and a decking area will soon be added to the rear of the building so visitors will be able to enjoy that late evening sun (here's hoping!) The club is also about to change brewery to bring in some additional hand pull beers, fresh new lagers and ciders to choose from, and lots more.

The club will hold its annual NatWest Cricket Force weekend on the 5th and 6th April, starting each day at around 9:30am. This is an initiative designed to help the local community get involved in their club. If you can help, take along a brush and get involved – there will be plenty of painting and jobs to do before the season begins. The bar will be open all day for refuelling and Sedgefield will also host Stowmarket CC from Suffolk over the weekend. Weather permitting, they will play Sedgefield on 5th and Bill Quay on 6th, from around 2pm each day.

Ahead of the season, Sedgefield Cricket Club would like to express its thanks to Sedgefield Rugby Club. Over the past few years, the club has gone from strength to strength and has been a great organisation with which to share facilities. The players and great supporters they bring are always welcome and help sustain a valuable sporting site for everyone. Also, without its volunteers and sponsors, the cricket club would grind to a halt so many thanks also go to Edward Lowe Accountants, Nick Stafford's Hambleton Ales, Identitag Engraving Ltd, Motif8 and many others for their continued support. To keep up to date with news from Sedgefield CC visit the website www.pitchero.com/clubs/sedgefieldcricketclub or download the club's mobile/tablet app from www.teamapp.com/app. You can also follow @SedgefieldCC1 on Twitter for regular information or email sedgefieldcricketclub@hotmail.co.uk to get in touch. The club looks forward to welcoming new friends and old during 2014.

Biathlon

Twins Carla and Kate Abel, from Sedgefield Primary School, and their older sister, Sadie, from Sedgefield Community College, have qualified to take part in the English Schools Biathlon Championship. The event is held over the weekend of 5th & 6th April on the Olympic Park in London, and will be the first competition to be held at the Olympic venues when the park re-opens to the public that weekend. The swim element will be held in the Olympic Aquatics Centre and the run will take place on the concourse in front of the Olympic Stadium. Look out for news of how Carla, Kate and Sadie get on next month.

Squash

Sedgefield Squash Club's teams had another very successful season in the Durham and Cleveland County leagues, two of the men's teams securing promotion. Having been promoted into Division 2, the 1st team have won the division and will be playing in the top flight next season. At the time of writing, with two games remaining, Sedgefield remain unbeaten and Stephen Rowsby, Robert Pearce and Oliver Walls all sit in the top five of divisional points scorers, with Stephen and Robert battling for divisional player of the season. The third team were also crowned champions of Division 5, in what turned out to be a competitive and closely matched league. George Peden was comfortably the division's top points scorer, ahead of 2nd placed Simon Hill, and should be a certainty for divisional player of the season. In the same league, the club's fourth team secured fourth spot, and with the emergence of a number of players within the club this season, should be in a good position to push for promotion next season.

The second team had been promoted into Division 3 for the season, and despite a slow start, finished in a comfortable sixth, and again will look to build on this next term. 2014/15 certainly looks to be an exciting season for the club, and with the county's best players visiting Sedgefield, first team nights are likely to be very well supported.

In Ladies Division 1, the club's first team repeated last year's second place behind a very strong Yarm team. Anne Holmes and Marie Priest were first and second highest divisional points scorers respectively, while the ladies' second team look set to finish mid-table in Division 2, with two games left to play. The Durham and Cleveland annual presentation evening will be held in May, and like last year, Sedgefield expects a strong turn out and to secure a good haul of silverware to bring home.

Athletics

Like most athletics clubs in the UK, Sedgefield Harriers receives club places for the London Marathon each year. The draw for the places takes place at the club's Christmas social event in the Nag's Head and this time around the 'lucky' winners were Stephen Foreman and Daniel Probart. In December, April seems a long way off but in no time at all the London Marathon is around the corner. Soon, Stephen and Daniel will be heading south, training done and club vest pressed ready for the start line in Greenwich. Joining them this year will be Jane Spink who is taking on the challenge once again after a break of a few years.

Spring being a traditional time for marathons, others are also in the final stages of preparation when talk of 20

mile training runs and tapering become common currency. David Sawyer begins an epic year of five marathons (he's never done one before), five half marathons, five 10k races and five 5k races; starting with the Brighton Marathon on 6th April, he finishes in Berlin in autumn, running throughout in aid of a breast cancer charity. Gary Thwaites, who completed 16 marathons in 2013, is now focusing on quality over quantity and heads for the Milton Keynes Marathon in May. After the experience of Boston a year ago, Ean Parsons runs closer to home this year, Rotterdam on April 13th.

Others, including Justin Cox who recorded 2:52 in York last year, are heading for the increasingly popular Manchester Marathon and Edinburgh Marathon, also in May. Doreen Huxley, Diane Baines and Tracy Brown are running the tough Allendale Challenge over 28 miles in April, while Diane Baines, Suzanne Tait and Clive Crosby are training for the York Marathon in October. The draw for Sedgfield Harriers' 2015 London Marathon places will be open to anyone who has been in the club for over 12 months.

Sedgfield Harriers' Neptune Relays in Hardwick Park takes place on Wednesday 23rd April at 6.45pm. This is a fantastic event and involves teams of four tackling a 1.7 mile 'figure of eight' lap, one at a time. In 2013, 100 teams took part, with Morpeth Harriers winning the men's race and Durham City Harriers the women's. There is also a non-club category so that corporate teams or groups of friends can enter with the chance of winning a trophy. For more details visit www.sedgfieldharriers.co.uk or call Ean Parsons on 07771 828 568.

Junior Athletics

The junior Sedgfield Harriers enjoyed a very successful indoor track and field season over the winter. 15 Harriers competed in the five meetings of the Gateshead Winter Grand Prix; only the home club turned out more athletes. Sedgfield athletes won three Grand Prix trophies. There were runners up trophies for Rory Fletcher in the U15 boys category and Jasmine Sharp in the U13 girls. Jasmine lost out only to overall category winner, club colleague Aimee Barlow. Just outside the trophy placings this time were Joseph Dredge, Robbie Till and Kate Carmichael in the U15 categories, and Max Pentith in the U17 category.

Rory, Jasmine, Aimee, Kate, Joseph, Max and Emma Maxwell also all competed at the North East Counties Indoor Championships on Feb 15th and 16th. Harriers enjoyed particular success on the field events day, winning eight medals, including four golds, and taking more field events medals in the U13/U15 categories than any other club. The four North East champions are: Jasmine Sharp (U13 girls shot put); Aimee Barlow (U13 girls high jump); Kate Carmichael (U15 girls shot put); and Rory Fletcher (U15 boys triple jump). Aimee also took two silvers in the long jump and shot put, Rory also taking a high jump bronze. Winning the fourth shot put medal of the day was Joseph with a bronze. Out of the medals but with personal bests were Max Pentith in the high jump and long jump, and Ella in the 60m, where Aimee also recorded a PB.

A hugely successful indoor season for the junior athletes is hopefully the prelude to much more good news in the outdoor season. By next month, the cross country season will be over and I will have a review of the muddy highlights.

Sedgfield Ball Game

This year's Sedgfield Ball Game was, as usual, a lively affair. Started this year by Dot Anderson, at the appointed hour of 1.00pm on Shrove Tuesday, the game followed the classic pattern that has become familiar over the years. There was plenty of energy on show, while brute force was mixed with the occasional moment of skill. As always, there were one or two breaks in play, allowing participants and spectators to get their breath back and/or seek refreshment, but the ball stayed in the centre of Sedgfield for most of the 3 hours after the game began. It was initially taken down to one of the alleys too early (and not successfully passed through the bullring on its return), but the second time, it was taken by Joe Fanelli, who completed the finale and was declared the happy winner.

Congratulations to Joe.

For more photos, mainly of the ball game, see www.sedgfieldweb.co.uk.

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



Your Letters

Windfarm

After 3 years of talking about it, e.on are now set to formally submit their proposal for building the largest wind farm in the County on the Isles just outside Sedgefield. The Isles Communities Turbine Action Campaign have arranged a meeting for anyone who is interested in finding out more about our campaign and how this development will affect the many communities that will border this site. At a weekend drop in session people can get specific advice on how to submit their objections. (*Details on the diary pages, Ed.*)

Even if residents are not sure how they feel about these proposals, we hope that they will come to the meeting to find out more. County Durham now has the highest density of operating wind turbines in England. When the current batch of turbines that have been granted planning permission are built, Sedgefield will effectively be surrounded. There are many concerns about e.on's plans for the Isles, not least the intention to build a significant number of these structures on flood plains. Please find time to come along on the 23rd to find out more.

Susan Fox on behalf of TICTAC

Digs for cricketer

You may remember reading in last month's edition that we were looking to find accommodation for an Australian couple. Well there is now only one person! David Miller is coming over alone and is looking for somewhere to stay for 5 months and would expect to pay for his accommodation. He will play cricket for Sedgefield on a Saturday afternoon and will also be spending time working while he is here. Please get in touch if you know anyone who may be interested in taking in a 'lodger' for a few months.

David Iceton - 07790335202

Heartfelt thanks

On behalf of the Ellen Timney foundation I would like to thank Michelle and Ann Barron for their extremely kind donation of £197.

Michelle contacted me after her dad had sadly passed away and said she would like to donate the collection fund from his funeral to a local charity. She told me her mam had known my mam years ago and had heard about our charity and the work we do for local children. This kind and thoughtful offer totally overwhelmed us and we would like Michelle and her mam to know how grateful we are to them in what must be an extremely difficult time for them. All of the money that we raise goes towards supporting sick and underprivileged children in our area.

Love and thoughts, Jane Morgan and the Ellen Timney Foundation.

A fashion farewell

It was with a heavy heart that I straightened the coat hangers for the last time on February 28th 2014. It has been a wonderful 30 years being the proprietor of Jayne's Fashions and the longevity is in no small part due to the wonderfully dedicated staff; Margaret Stevenson from the outset to her retirement 16 years later, followed by Jean Davies, Anita Kirkup and Pauline Parkes. I thank them for their support. To my loyal customers, many of whom have become friends, I would like to say thank you for the memories and good times we had together.

Jayne Fashions was an institution in Sedgefield and my family and I are extremely proud to call it a true family business.

Although naturally I feel a sense of sadness, retirement will afford me the time to socialise with my children and grandchildren both here and in Australia, and with my many other good friends.

Jayne will continue to trade under new management. The new owner is Elana Degnan and I am sure you will support her in the future.

Once more, many, many thanks for the enormous support and friendship you have all shown me over the years.

Fondest memories, *Mavis Wayman*



And finally ...

We have run out of space to cover this last story, but if you go to www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk you can catch up with **Elizabeth Lawson**, who is back from her visit to India with the Development project which we featured a few months ago.

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