# SEDGEFIELD NEWS APRIL 2018

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#### No, you're not seeing things!

The June 2002 edition you see here marked the beginning of a very special relationship; one which has remained true over nearly 16 years. Yes, it was in Issue 2 of Sedgefield News that we first read a letter from PC Keith Todd. This is what he said...

"Recently I was asked if I would be willing to contribute to the newly established Sedgefield News. With this in mind I thought it would be appropriate for me to briefly introduce myself and my role, to the residents of Sedgefield.

In future issues I will cover crime and incidents that have recently occurred! My official title is "Community Beat Officer" or Village Bobby, as the older generation prefer to call me. This return to community policing has become a high priority over recent years and I am proud to say that I have been part of it since my post was created, nearly 3 years ago!

My role is to focus on local community issues, whilst providing high visibility foot patrol in Sedgefield; and also in my other area of responsibility, Fishburn. This also includes the surrounding rural area. I am grateful to Sedgefield Motor Co., for the donation of my Skoda motor vehicle, which most of you will have



Sedgefield News At last, a really local newspaper! Produced by the Villagers for the Villagers.



Issue 2. June 2002

We hope that everyone enjoyed reading last month's "First Edition" of the newsletter. It went to 2,200 addresses in our area. Hopefully

#### seen, in and around the Village. If you would like to speak with me, regarding any police matters, or just a general chat, please just stop me in the

general chat, please just stop me in the street. Though, as a Manchester United fan, the topic of why we failed to win a trophy this year is not a subject for open discussion- you'll have to ask (Sir) Alex! You can also contact me at Sedgefield Police office:- Tel: 620272 or at the newly opened, part-time Police office located in Fishburn. Tel: 621989. Finally, I would like to wish this newsletter every success and look forward to making my own contribution to it, each month.

Please note, my sponsors will need to do their own advertising in future!"

Sedgefield News has had very good value from our "Village Bobby" since his debut contribution to these pages, but Keith retires on the 11th of this month. We're promised one last letter for the May edition. We will miss his advice, his turn of phrase and his sense of humour, but mostly we'll miss the knowledge



that PC Todd is out there, taking care of this, his patch - and ours. We wish you a very happy retirement, Keith, and thank you from the whole Sedgefield News team. *"Until next time!"* 

See page 3 for some of the highlights of Keith's time in Sedgefield.

Woodland & Wildlife project volunteers dig in for a great result! Report on p6



## Steve's Nature Diary April

As I write this, the memories of those snowy days are still fresh in my mind, but I hear that both a Sand Martin and a Swallow have been seen, Blackbirds and Song Thrushes have started to sing, and the daffodils are about to erupt into a golden host: how nature moves on!

In the snow two species of birds were a pleasure to see; one was in my garden the other was at Bishop Middleham. Whilst working in the study, reading the

@Teeswildlife twitter feed, several people were getting excited over seeing Fieldfares in their gardens - and lo and behold, I had my own flock just outside my window. About 30 of these rather smart looking thrushes, winter visitors from Scandinavia, were in the trees and coming down into the garden looking for berries, insects and seeds.

The Fieldfare is a large thrush - just a little smaller than the Mistle Thrush - with very

bold plumage. The male has a blue-grey crown, nape, and rump; chestnut brown back; black tail; and a buff breast with black streaks that also extends to the flanks. Were you lucky enough to have them as garden visitors?

Another bird that turned up in large numbers this winter, including a party of at least six seen on and off through January and February, around the church and along the lane to Castle Lake at Bishop Middleham, was the Hawfinch. These delightful birds are normally difficult to see but not this winter. The Hawfinch is a large, heavily built finch with a large head, "bull-neck" and a powerful, conical shaped bill.

The back is a rusty-brown, the breast and belly are buff, and the head is orange-

brown with a black bib and grey neck. The wings are glossy blue-black with a broad white wing patch. They are often seen around hornbeam and yew trees feeding on autumn fruit.

The Hawfinch is a scarce breeder in Britain, with an estimated 500 to 1,000 pairs. Although small numbers of migrant Hawfinches are noted every autumn from early October onwards, single birds and even flocks are beginning to be observed well away from traditional breeding sites and coastal watchpoints. The remarkable invasion of the bird this year – which is the

UK's largest, rarest and most elusive finch - has been attributed to poor seed crop yields in other parts of Europe, notably in the bird's main winter-feeding grounds of Germany and Romania. Their loss is our gain, well worth a trip to see, but you might now have to wait until next winter!

As a footnote to last month's diary, it is possible to have nature friendly housing developments when good partnerships are forged -

http://www.kingsbrook-aylesbury.co.uk/community/pioneering-wildlife-friendlydevelopment-wins-award-for-best-partnership.

### Mayor's "Final Fling" Fundraiser

The Mayor of Sedgefield, Cllr David Brown will be the host at Sedgefield Cricket Club on Friday 20th April. David and his wife Elizabeth, or Libby as many readers know her, are very involved in the local community and take part in various groups. Many of you will know the difficulties Elizabeth faces with her eyesight, which is why the Macular Society was chosen as one of the main charities to support as well as the Great North Air Ambulance Service, which any one of us could need.

David and Elizabeth have enjoyed meeting people at the various functions and events they have attended during the Civic Year and are delighted with the support they have received. They look forward to their Final Fling and hope as many people as possible can share this evening with them. *All the details are on page 12.* 

#### **Walking Football**

One of the latest crazes in the football world, this is an activity that gives those that have given up, the chance to get back into the sport they love. As has been proved lately, women enjoy football too; both men and women are welcome here.

As you've guessed, Walking Football involves a lot of... well... walking! It carries all the same rules as everyday football, except that you can't pick up too much speed. It provides a sociable, fun and safe environment for those looking to be a little more active in their spare time.

If you are interested, please contact Penny Walmsley. Tel: 01740 617777 email: p.walmsley@sedgefield.cc

#### Foodbank helps local families

Seven hundred people living in Sedgefield, Fishburn, Bishop Middleham and the Trimdons were supported by Foodbank last year and, say Sedgefield Area Churches Together, caring locals donated 1793 kgs of foodstuffs through collection points in the churches, Co-op stores and St William's School. Organisers have praised the generosity of local residents for helping families currently battling the region's challenging economic situation. In 2017, the Foodbank initiative run by the Durham Christian Partnership fed 14895 people (4855 of them children) across the county with 109320 kgs of food donated by members of the public. For more about the foodbank, contact Michael King on 01740 620910.

# Saffire: the shares club on your doorstep

Saffire was established over 20 years ago by a few Sedgefield residents to hold equities in joint ownership of its members and to pool their knowledge to make joint investment decisions. The club meets monthly at Ceddesfeld Hall and holds occasional dinners for members and guests - the social element is as important as the investments - and above all, to improve our investment performance. Present members come from varied backgrounds and have a wide range of experience. We are proud of our performance over the years when compared with the FTSE 100. If you would like to know more, and perhaps attend one our meetings, see what we do without obligation, contact Chris Rowsby on 01740 621125 or email candjrowsby@gmail.com.





#### A bit more about PC Todd ...

**Sedgefield Community College scores a World Book Day goal.** The recent bad weather failed to freeze proceedings at Sedgefield Community College as World Book Day celebrations were merely postponed until Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March, with a host of literacy themed events taking place throughout

The English department dressed up as a raft of literary characters for the day, while local author Tom Palmer (@tompalmerauthor) ran workshops entitled "The Reading Game" with around 200 of the school's students

Through a theme of football, Tom

talked about reading and writing, emphasising the importance of communication, as students embraced

the sessions with a variety of questioning, quizzes and games. Students were given the opportunity to enter a penalty shoot-out by virtue of answering quiz questions, with the

winning student claiming a commemorative trophy.

each other.

English lessons had a strong theme of World Book Day running through them while a current focus within the school library is promoting staff and students to share their reading experiences with

the day.

from Year Seven.

In helping me to compile this article, PCSO Amy Jorgenson noted that Keith takes part in nearly every event that takes place here, and it's true! From Royal and Presidential visit visits to his annual Christmas Card competition at our Primary Schools, the Ball Game (has he really only missed one?), Mediaeval Fayre, Sedgefield Day, the Snow Parade, New Year's Eve, patrolling the Village Green on Friday nights? - he'll be missed there for sure!

Some time ago, PC Todd was instrumental in recovering £200,000 worth of stolen car parts from Trimdon. Alerted to a suspicious vehicle at a barn/garage in Trimdon, Keith checked the vehicle and found that it was stolen. He waited for the suspects, who returned with a trailer to remove the vehicle. When they did, both males were arrested. Inside the barn were stolen car parts from all around the country.

Along with a female Police Officer, Keith received an award from a National newspaper for his response to an incident in which two men were stealing a vehicle. When the driver of the car badly injured Keith's colleague with a wrench, he came to her aid and administered first aid. The culprits ran off, but were later arrested, by Keith, his Sergeant and his Inspector.

Stringent views on wrongdoers have been a frequent feature of our "Letters from PC Todd" and many a rogue has felt the power of Keith's wrath, but at the same time, his care and interest in people's welfare is genuine; and as for his efforts for charity... He completed the Coast to Coast cycle route from Whitehaven to Sunderland for Cycle for Heroes; ran the London Marathon in aid of the ABF Soldiers' charity; did the Quadrathon at Sedgefield Race Course, also in aid of the ABF Charity and has even taken part in an 'It's a Knock Out' obstacle course - for charity of course.

On a more serious note, following the attack at the end of the Ariana Grande concert in Manchester, Keith was part of the team who gave reassurance to the public at the 'One Love Concert' which was staged last June.

Reassurance - a very good word to apply to our Bobby on the Beat. Editor

#### DEADLINE FOR MAY EDITION Monday 16th April

News & Advertising: 07572 502 904 Email: sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com 55 White House Drive, TS21 3BU. P7: sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com Sport: chrisjlines@aol.com Diary: diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com Web: www.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.co.uk Facebook pages for Sedgefield News & Sedgefield Farmer's Market. Twitter @sedgefieldnews & @sedgyfarmmarket

### In brief... 'A Carol for Christmas' in the shape of a tree?

Christmas may still be ten months away but one group in Sedgefield is already hard at work planning a major festive attraction for the town – a repeat of the highly-successful Tree Festival first staged in St Edmund's Church two years ago.

Much more on the six-day charity event as the plans take shape...



Above: English Department staff in disguise. Below: Tom Palmer enthrals his Year 7 audience.







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#### Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel Meeting Feb 2018

#### **Police Communications:**

The secretary recorded NH Watch thanks to the police, and specifically to PCSO Lisa Hall, for the recent, major improvements in contacting the public via "In the Know / Alert" emails to residents, most noticeable from early December.

#### Sedgefield Crime Report:

PC Todd introduced our **Crime Prevention Officer**, **Rona Stocks**, who gave a brief introduction about crime prevention measures, mentioning a new property marking method. Rona stated that she wished to work with members of the community to prevent crime and was available to visit and give advice as required.

PC Todd then issued his Crime Sheet which detailed 23 separate crimes. However, the consensus was that discussion of this report be passed over as the major concern of people present was ongoing antisocial behaviour activities that blights their lives. **Anti-Social Behaviour:** 

Despite atrocious weather the room was packed by residents at the end of their tether, driven by a desperate need to seek help from the police to stop the behaviour that occurs in Sedgefield almost every weekend; behaviour that damages their lives. These residents listed the areas directly affected as: Rectory Row, Burton Mews, Ceddesfeld Hall & Gardens, The Church & graveyard, The Green, The Pottery in Cross Street, Wykes Close, High Street & Stockton Road.

Residents stated that over the past 6 months matters have turned more sinister and despite them being reported to the police and despite the police's proactive "local" attendance, things are getting worse. Several very serious and specific examples, including alcohol abuse, drug related activity and organised fighting, were reported to the three police representatives in attendance at the meeting.

Residents were advised to keep their own record but also to report **every** incident/ offence to the police. This information is imperative if resources are to be committed to a problem.

#### Next Panel Meeting is Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018

**Call 101 to contact Local Police** to report concerns, seek advice or pass on information. You are advised to keep notes of the conversation & obtain an incident number. Below are the up-to-date police contacts. Please make a note of any you may need, as we may not always have space to publish them all every month.

Crime Prevention Officer: rona.stocks@durham.pnn.police.uk

**Police Community Cohesion Officer:** Faye Callan; Telephone 101 Extension 742317. Email <u>Faye.callan@durham.pnn.police.uk</u>

**For LOCAL Police information** use the link below then select Sedgefield Ward: <u>https://www.durham.police.uk/Your-Neighbourhood/Newton-Aycliffe/Pages/</u><u>default.aspx</u>

To contact RON HOGG Crime Commissioner for Durham:

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### **Letter from PC Todd**

This month Lead Theft continues to be a problem for residents, as properties in Woodland View and Kerr Crescent have discovered to their cost. It appears that the persons responsible are walking around between 2am – 3am. Please report any suspicious persons as we would like to catch these lowlife! Other crimes reported include a burglary at the building site in Eden Drive where a container was entered and tool compressor and generator were taken. In NETPark, recently laid ground cables were stolen from the roadside. A burglary occurred overnight at the Black Lion where the gaming machines were attacked and money stolen. In Cross Street the small windows of the pottery were again broken on two separate occasions. In Eden Drive a Ford Fiesta was forced open and attempts made to steal it before they gave up only to find another Ford Fiesta in South View where they managed to steal the vehicle. This was later found burnt out in the Bowburn area.

#### **Pub Watch:**

At a meeting held recently in the Golden Lion, no incidents were reported requiring further action by members. *Until next time, Keith* 

#### Manor House, Sedgefield Bar staff required

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# Ceddesfeld Hall SA

### Home of Sedgefield Community Association (SCA)

Ceddesfeld Hall's Easter Egg Hunt (under 12's) is on Easter Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. As well as a hunt for Easter eggs hidden in the grounds, there are prizes for different age groups and an Easter bonnet and decorated egg competition. The afternoon begins at 1.45 pm in the main hall with the selection of the Mediaeval Fayre May Queen and her attendants (raffle ticket draw). The egg hunt begins at 2pm. This is a free event, sponsored by SCA and the Mediaeval Fayre committee. The bar is also open.

Another fund raiser for the Mediaeval Fayre is St George's Dinner which takes place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April. The evening starts with a drinks reception at 7pm, followed by a meal of vegetable soup, steak pie, dessert, cheese and biscuits and coffee or tea to finish.

Entertainment is provided by the Push Button Band. At a very reasonable price of just £18, tickets are going fast. To book a place please contact Pat on 01740 620607 or John on 01740 620042. Preparations for the 48<sup>th</sup> Mediaeval Fayre (Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May) are well underway. We're looking forward to a range of new craft stalls to complement the community stalls, as well as the usual popular attractions and activities which include mediaeval displays, Living History, Tug of War, Birds of Prey, face painting, Punch and Judy and much more on the green and in the grounds of Ceddesfeld. The event begins at 10 am with a walking parade of local school children. The fayre is a long standing community event which draws people to the town and provides an opportunity for a great family day out. There are refreshments and the bar at Ceddesfeld Hall and of course it's also a busy day for the local pubs and businesses, several of which sponsor the event.

Many local groups do help out and any support from volunteers who can offer time in the run up with collections or on the day would be very beneficial. Please get in touch or add your name to the rota lists in the foyer at Ceddesfeld. All volunteers this year will have an opportunity to take part in a free prize draw. We're looking forward to a great day!

For more information, contact Wendy: 01740 620206, Pat: 620607, Sarah: 622185 or visit our website www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk

## SDT Projects News from Sedgefield Development Trust

You can contact SDT via individual project phone numbers & email addresses, or email us at sedgefielddevelopmenttrust@hotmail.co.uk

Sedgefield Energy Switch will be back with a report next month.

#### **Homework Help**

Homework Help continues to grow steadily, with more students and helpers getting involved (thanks to you all!) Following an item in mainstream media regarding parents helping their children with homework, Sedgefield Homework



Help's co-ordinator was interviewed live on BBC Radio Tees on 12th March. The programme is available on the BBC iPlayer for a little while longer, if you are interested in hearing it:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p05y4h81 (the Homework Help part starts at about 1:37:25 and continues until about 1:42:05).

If you'd like to know more about the initiative, either to request help or to offer it (regular or occasional) please e-mail homeworkhelpsedgefield@gmail.com or find us on Facebook. We are always on the lookout for more helpers - the more helpers, the more students we can help.

### Sedgefield Farmers' Market Sunday 1st April - EASTER SUNDAY

Following the unfortunate cancellation of last month's market we hope to put on a really grand market on such an important day in the calendar - and we certainly won't be April Fooling anyone into staying away! News of stallholders is still coming in as we go to print, but we can tell you that Mellanby's vegetable lorry will be making its last appearance until the autumn, and that you may want to bring a wheelbarrow to take advantage of Durham Tees Valley Compost & Woodchip's stall! The Spring/Summer season of the Farmers' Market Live Music tent opens with lively tunes from Ceddesfolk to shop by, so if the weather is kind, enjoy a few moments with us on the village green.

### Woodland & Wildlife Big Planting Day! Despite the worst efforts of the #beastfromtheeast2, WE DID IT!



All 840 trees were planted over a day and a half, by a fantastic band of all-weather heroes and heroines, whose ages ranged from pre-school to beyond 70! It was painfully cold *(see below)* and the badly overgrown ground was hard to work on, but if you took the time to look up now and again, the progress was so amazing that it inspired you to dig in. With so many people coming together with a common aim, it felt as though we were creating a new community as well as a woodland. All in all, a wonderful experience.

Of course, this was just the start. There will always be things to do, so if you weren't able to get involved this time, please do stay in touch. Check out the Sedgefield News Facebook page and Twitter feed for Woodland related posts, and if you would like to add your name to the group, please text 07803 269956 with your name (including surname please) and email address if you have one.



## Tom Guest's ARTS & EVENTS UPDATE sedgefieldartsandevents@hotmail.com

#### **Players' latest success**

Photographs by Tom Guest and Hilary Yeoman

The Sedgefield Players most recent production, Gail Young's 'Bothered and Bewildered' has been another success with excellent audiences in attendance. The poignant and sad story of Irene, beautifully portrayed by Jean Hewling, and her ongoing battle with dementia, brought a tear to many an eye.

'A fabulous performance by all and well worth going to see this heart warming production' - Nicola Brister.

The pathos is offset as Irene has visions of the world famous writer Barbara Cartland (Elizabeth Flanagan). Barbara's often hilarious interruptions help Irene to cope in world where everything is changing and she is beginning to forget who she is. Past memories of the boy she loved and the child she gave away (played in memories by Sarah Legender and Tom Guest) come back to haunt her and her biggest secret is never fully revealed. Her daughters, Beth and Louise (Sarah Atkinson and Jacqui O'Meara) have the difficult decision of deciding their mother's care and the scenes between the two actresses are beautifully played. Granddaughter Shelley (Jessica Sadler) can't understand their decision to put her Nan into care, until she spends an evening looking after her and realises how difficult she has become. The cast is rounded off by Rosemary Jones, Sue Hutchinson and Ian Thurgood as the efficient but caring NHS consultants, doctors and police officers that Irene comes into contact with.

'I have just been to another brilliant production by Sedgefield Players - anyone living anywhere near who has the chance to go - please do!! Laughter and tears in equal measure, and so well acted. Well done all- an amazing production on a topic dear to my heart - dementia.' - Judith Edgoose

The production has been a pleasure from start to finish with laughs a plenty, and the odd shiny eye, in the rehearsal room. Set design by Garry and Viv Jacobs brought the different areas of the difficult staging to life while the lighting and sound designed by Adam White was perfect for the changing sequences and the fast pace of the play. Operators Richard Flanagan and David Jasper were excellent on the night, keeping the show running alongside the ever important (though rarely used!) prompt Annette Lawson. Many thanks too to all who helped front of house and on the bar for making the production run so smoothly.

The players next outing will be to Richmond in April to compete in the first round of the All England Theatre Festival with their production of Bertolt Brecht's 'The Jewish Wife', which won a number of prizes at the Sedgefield Festival in September. The play is part of a larger play 'Fear and Misery of the Third Reich', which the Players will be presenting in June, with a new and experimental twist to the space at the Parish Hall, which is sure to be interesting. Tickets will be available soon and the Players hope to see you there.

### Music at Sedgefield Folk Club & Sedgefield Folk Festival

We are coming to the end of our winter season at Sedgefield Cricket Club, and the final event will take place on Friday 13th April. It is a fund raising night for the Festival featuring many local artists such as Broadband, Pipe Dream, John Wrightson Band, Trish McLean, Ann Lamb, Ray Thom and Trevor Bond.

Another fund raising night will take place at the Parish Hall on Friday 18th May with a welcome return visit of Kieron Goss, the wonderful entertainer from Ireland. Support will be provided by John Wrightson Band and John Weighell. Tickets are £12. The Festival this year during the first weekend in September promises music for all tastes and features Marty Craggs and the Unexpected Visitors, Los Capitanes, Whisky and Wine, John Wrightson Band, Marske Fishermen's Choir, Grannie's Attic, Jack Burness, Jez Lowe, Goat Roper Rodeo Band,, Ray Thom, Stony and Real Time. All the usual supporting events will take place, apart from the World Spoons Championship which will no longer be held because our main man, Bert Draycott, sadly passed away last year. We will honour his memory with a special event led by Ray Thom and there will also be a memorial to a very special funny man, Martin Nesbitt, led by Michael James Ward. The whole event will be co-ordinated by Ernie Gilchrist and Alterego. Festival tickets go on sale from 1st May. Please order from the Festival Office on 621347. *Joan Edmundson* 

#### Call out for articles!

If you have an event, performance, recital, evening of entertainment, or anything that you would like to see on this page, please email me as above. The more articles that come into me, the more diverse this page can be, and we can highlight more of the groups, performances and events that happen in our thriving village. *TG* 



### SPORTS UPDATE wi

with Chris Lines

#### email: chrisjlines@aol.com

Mica McNeill and Mica Moore didn't secure a medal at the Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, but they did record the best ever result for a British women's bobsleigh team, which was a great achievement given the circumstances of their participation. Elsewhere, Team GB hit its medal targets in both the Winter Olympics and Paralympics, which was good to see. Meanwhile, back in the UK, our own winter weather has played havoc with grass roots sports fixtures. Assuming that spring does finally make an appearance, it's going to be a big challenge for teams and officials to complete some seasons. Hats off to all of the volunteers who put in so much time and effort to make it possible for so many people of all ages to participate in the sports that they love.

### **Rugby Union**

The Sedgefield District RUFC first team have built on results reported previously with some good performances in a run of home fixtures. They edged a hard-fought battle against Sunderland 33-27 thanks to tries from Adam Grieve (2), Rob Wade, Kyle Sutcliffe and Josh Hetherington. This was backed up by a good first half performance against a promotion chasing Hartlepool side, with scores coming from Adam Grieve (2) and Rob Wade for Sedgefield. However, Hartlepool moved up a gear in the second half to inflict a 24-44 defeat. Sedgefield soon returned to winning ways as they ground out an important 27-19 victory against Winlaton Vulcans, thanks to tries from Phil Dawson (2) and Kyle Sutcliffe. Sedgefield will be looking to maintain this form through their final run of fixtures of the season to finish in the top half of Durham & Northumberland Division 2.

The Sedgefield Saxons have only had one outing to report on. A good performance against Hartlepool BBOB ended in a 20-24 defeat, despite a brilliant score from Doug Wardle.

The April home fixtures are: 1st XV: 7th vs Bishop Auckland, 21st vs North Shields; Saxons: 14th vs Bishop Auckland III, 28th vs Horden & Peterlee III.

#### Squash

It's been a busy start to 2018 for Sedgefield Squash Club. In January, several members entered the Durham & Cleveland County Championships, which for the first time held graded events alongside the main draw.

Chris Gillespie was narrowly edged out in five games by the defending county champion in the semi-final of the main competition. In the graded event, James Knowlson was runner-up, but not before he'd defeated Simon Hill in an all-Sedgefield semi-final. Well done to all from Sedgefield who took part.

In the county club leagues, the men's first and second teams are enjoying solid seasons in the top two divisions. The ladies' team has continued their early season good form and look on course for a high league finish. It's been a tougher ride for the men's third and fourth teams, who are both hoping for some late season victories to build momentum into the next campaign. I will report the final league positions next month.

Currently, the club championships are in full swing, with the finals to be played on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> April. Look out for a full report on that next time. The club is also delighted to be continuing to welcome new members who are helping to build the development and success of a thriving local sports organisation. Coaching is available for beginners, novices, lapsed players and anyone else who wants to get involved in the sport. Visit <u>www.sedgefieldsquashclub.co.uk</u> for contact details.

#### **Bowls**

Last month, I included a piece about Fishburn Bowls Club. If you are interested in joining, a single full annual membership costs £17. For more information, call the club secretary on 07930 592929 or the club treasurer on 07989 201342.

#### **Junior Football**

Not only does the Sedgefield Youth U8 team go from strength to strength in competition (two wins out of two in the latest league that they have entered), but one of their players stepped out at Old Trafford recently. James Glass was a Manchester United mascot for the Champions League game against Sevilla. Here's hoping he and his Sedgefield colleagues continue to perform so well – maybe one day some of them will get to play at the 'Theatre of Dreams'!



Sedgefield District RUFC's Kyle Sutcliffe rampages through the Sunderland defence

#### **Athletics**

It was mission accomplished on 17<sup>th</sup> March for the senior men's team from Sedgefield Harriers in the North East Harrier League. As reported in previous updates, the men earned promotion in this cross country running competition last season. Competing in Division 2 this time around proved to be challenging, but the men went into the last fixture in Alnwick with a good chance of retaining their position in that league.

On a very chilly, windy afternoon with frequent heavy snow showers, the seven runners from Sedgefield finished sixth on the day in their division and thus avoided relegation. It was a great result - during the season, the squad had been depleted as a result of injuries and other commitments, but the club is building good strength in depth and the senior men will go into next season with confidence. Meanwhile, the senior women have also demonstrated their potential at times during the winter and will hope to field full teams for fixtures in the future and push for promotion. In other cross country news, Harrier Kieran Walker secured a top 30 result in the English National Cross Country Championships in London recently, running very well in a high class men's U20 field on the iconic Parliament Hill course on Hampstead Heath. Meanwhile, indoors, 13 junior Harriers competed in the North East Regional Sportshall Competition for U11s, U13s

Sedgefield Harriers' senior men after their successful run in Alnwick



and U15s in South Shields, representing County Durham. The youngsters put in some excellent performances and the team claimed second place in all age categories. Well done to everyone who took part.

Sedgefield Harriers is preparing to host the Neptune Relays in Hardwick Park on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April. The event is now very well-established on the region's grass roots athletics calendar and attracts entries from all over the North East and Yorkshire. The Neptune Relays are open to teams of four runners of men, women or juniors (13+ and U17). There are trophies (and prizes of fruit!) for club teams and corporate/non-club teams (composite club teams will be regarded as club teams non-club teams must include at least one unattached runner). Each leg is roughly 1.7 miles and follows a route on trails and paths around the park, starting and finishing in the temple field. Prize categories include seniors, juniors, MV50, FV45, and non-club. Entry costs £8 per attached team (£10 for unattached) and is on the day only, with registration opening at 4:00pm in the visitor centre. The races start at 6:45pm and the event is a great spectacle for watchers as well as participants. For more information find 'Sedgefield Harriers Events' on Facebook, or contact Ean Parsons on <u>ean2005@hotmail.co.uk</u> or 07771 828568.

That's all for this month. If you have any sports news, send it to <u>chrisjlines@aol.com</u>.

#### **News from NETPark: Spotlight on Photonics**

Photonic technologies use light for a range of healthcare applications including therapies, diagnostics, imaging and surgical interventions.

The Centre for Process Innovation (CPI) and Durham University have joined forces in a new project, which was launched at CPI's printable electronics facility at NETPark, Sedgefield on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. The Spotlight project will commercialise photonics and other emerging technologies through localised innovation infrastructure and commercialisation services. The project will run for three years, supported by the European Regional Development Fund.

CPI has also just opened its new National Formulation Centre.

Formulation involves the creation of multi-component, often multi-phase products, which are abundant in markets such as healthcare, food, drink and personal care.

CPI will guide companies through the steps needed to take their next -generation formulated products to market with reduced risk on their decisions or capital investment plans. This unique centre will create an environment for innovation that will allow businesses and academic partners to collaborate to develop, prove and commercialise innovative products and processes in formulation science, and be more efficient in the use of resources to generate further value for the UK formulation industry.

The new building is home to world-class laboratories and accompanying expertise focusing on measurement, high-throughput formulation, process chemistry, process technology, complex particles, nanomaterials, composites, and chemistry and dispersions. Exciting times for our highly successful technology park.

### Letters & thanks

**Team Johnson** would like to share their thanks and gratitude for the local community's support during their youngest daughter's battle with leukemia. Rosa Johnson was diagnosed with ALL in November 2015 and in January of this year they finally heard the words that she is now in remission. We could not have got through these dark times without the support of the local people, businesses and Sedgefield Primary. The love and generosity has been amazing.

Our journey has now taken a different path. We still have a way to go but things are looking a lot brighter for our family. Thank you so much - it means the world.

Love Danielle, Colin, Jasmine and Rosa xx

Below: Team Johnson celebrates!



#### **Helping hands**

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who rushed to help my husband on Wednesday 6th March when he fell in the street opposite the bank. 2 men ran from a van to help him up and a lovely lady (Christine?) brought her car and took us to the surgery. She waited with us until a nurse was available to dress his bumps and bruises.

I then took him to North Tees and they confirmed that nothing was broken. Once again, thank you all so much. *Mrs Janet Malin* 





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# DIARY: April 2018

### Submit your events to diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Date	Event
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sedgefield Farmers' Market: On the village green from 8.30am. New Generation Church: These services take place on each Sunday of this month in Sedgefield Parish Hall @10.30am.
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sedgefield Local History Society: Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45pm. AGM
Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sedgefield Gardening Club: Ceddesfeld Hall 7.30pm. 'Our Garden' by Marjorie Goodchild. All welcome.
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield WI: Parish Hall 7.15pm. Open Evening to publicise our WI and its centenary/Craft Displays. Members' Competition – A photo of the North East. Craft Café: Sedgefield Methodist Hall, 2 - 4pm.
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	<ul> <li>Sedgefield Veterans' Coffee Morning: Parish Hall, 10am to noon.</li> <li>Sedgefield Library: Easter crafts activity session. 2 – 3 pm. Ask at the library for details of this and the "Decorate an Egg" competition (judged on April 14<sup>th</sup>).</li> <li>U3A: 2pm in the Parish Hall. Prof Jim Edwardson: "Mindfulness: Aid to Wellbeing or Passing Fad?" Members free, Visitors welcome, £3 at the door.</li> </ul>
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Drop in Surgeries:</b> Cllr John Robinson. 9 – 9.45am Bradbury & Mordon Village Hall; 10 – 11am Sedgefield Library; 11.15 – 12 pm Fishburn Community Centre.
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Methodist Wives and Friends:</b> Methodist Church Hall 7.30pm. Christine Steptoe speaking on her recent visit to Uganda working in an orphanage.
Tue 10 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies' Club: Ceddesfeld Hall, 8pm. "Blood Bikes". A talk by Nigel Barlow. Neighbourhood Watch Meeting: Parish Hall. 7.30 pm. The Fletcher Room.
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield Country Market: Parish Hall 10am to 11.30am. Home baked produce, Crafts, Jams, Cards, Plants, Refreshments. For information call 629441. Live Music Night at Sedgefield Cricket Club. 7.30pm. Locals' Night; Folk Festival fund raiser with Broadband, Pipe Dream, John Wrightson Band, Trish McLean, Ann Lamb, Ray Thom & Trevor Bond. Admission £11, includes buffet. Tel 621347.
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Sedgefield in Bloom Dance:</b> Dance to Mark Thomas. 7.30 pm Parish Hall. Tickets, £10 from the council offices. Pie and pea supper. Bring your own drinks.
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield Family History Group: The Methodist Church Hall, Sedgefield @ 7.15pm. A talk by George & Jackie Baker. "Over the Hills and Far Away".
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Café: Sedgefield Methodist Hall, 2 - 4pm.
Tue 17 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield, Ferryhill & District Flower Club: 7.30pm @ Sedgefield Parish Hall. Demonstrator, Val Guest. "Natural Elegance" Members £5.50, Non Members £8
Thu 19 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield Memory Café: 10.30 – 12pm @ Sedgefield Fire Station
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Macmillan Cancer Support: Coffee Morning @ The Parish Hall. 9.30 to 11.30am. Sedgefield Blues Club: A night with Sean Webster + Stoney Broke. Doors 7pm. Tickets £15. Visit <u>www.sedgefieldblues.com</u> or the club's Facebook page for contact details and further info.
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Sedgefield Local History Society and The Village Veterans: World War 1 commemoration of George Roper 19 <sup>th</sup> DLI. 10.45am at The War Memorial. Methodist Wives and Friends: Methodist Church Hall 7.30pm. Talk by Dorothy Emmerson, shepherdess.
Tue 24 <sup>th</sup>	Mordon and District Ladies Circle: 7.30 @ Mordon & Bradbury Village Hall. "Living with Looking Different" by Leo Gormley. Enquiries - 01388 720502.
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield, Ferryhill & District Flower Club: Coffee Morning @ Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10 to 11.30am. All welcome.

### Mayor's Final Fling Hog Roast Supper - April 20th

7.30 to 11pm at Sedgefield Cricket Club. Quality Raffle. Light Entertainment. Tickets £10 from STC offices, 01740
621273 or call Cllr David Brown 01740
622894. All proceeds to Great North Air Ambulance Service & Macular Society

## One Step Forward

Bereavement Support Group One Step Forward is a group offering mutual support after bereavement. We meet every Thursday from 3 pm to 5pm in The Welcome Room in St. Edmund's Church. Further details from Panny

Pighills: 01740 620909 / 07443 423113

#### Sedgefield Library

#### Tel: 03000 269521 Opening Hours:

Wednesdays: 9:30am-12:30pm

 Thursdays: 10am-6pm
 Fridays: 1pm-7pm

 Saturdays: 9:30am-12:30pm

 Thursdays 10:30-12:30: Basic
 computing, tailored to your needs.
 Thursdays 2.15pm: 'Boogie Beat'

 Pre-school session. Booking essential.
 Craft Group: 1.30pm 2nd & 4th Fridays

 Book Circle: 2pm 3rd Friday

 Fitness Classes @The Hub

at Sedgefield Community College Zumba with Emilia Tue 6.30-7.30pm & Thu7pm - 8pm Pilates with Donna Tue 8 - 8.45pm & Wed 6.15 - 7pm Metafit with Donna Wed 7.05 - 7.35pm Performing Arts: Sat 10am - 1pm Chi Taekwondo: Sat 10.30am - 11.30 Call 01740 617882 for all enquiries .

#### Sedgefield Social Club Entertainment in April

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>: Jimmy Moon. Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>: Ben Dillon. Monday 16<sup>th</sup>: Country Night, Dave Weston. Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>: Alec Blackwood. Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>: Kara Morgan. Telephone Number: 01740 620591

#### Sedgefield Tea Dance

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 1pm - 3pm in the Parish Hall Ring Ann, 629070 or Joyce, 622601.

#### Youth Club

Monday Evenings in Term Time Parish Hall. Juniors (50p) 6-7pm, Seniors (£1) 7-8:30pm. Table tennis, Xbox, Playstation, tuck shop and more. For info, email natalie@Sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk

#### Sew Easy

Thursdays, Parish Hall Boardroom from 7pm to 9pm. For more information call 01740 622447

#### Fishburn Art Group

Fishburn Art Group is looking for new members. The group meets every Monday from 9.30am till noon. Anyone interested is welcome to visit to see what goes on and meet members. For further info call Julie Underwood on 07770 972 988 or email <u>underlogs@talktalk.net</u>

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