



# SEDGEFIELD NEWS

## AUGUST 2018

### Game Boy

Former Sedgefield Community College student and Sedgefield resident Thomas Robson recently emerged from a field of thousands of entries to reach the finals of The BAFTA Young Games Designers awards, a competition which is designed to inspire young people to create, develop and present their new game ideas to the world. Thomas succeeded in becoming one of ten finalists in the 15 to 18 years old age group of the Game Making Award category. Thomas describes his game, entitled 'All Alone', as an atmospheric 2D platform game "exploring the struggles that come with mental illness through metaphors and ambiguity". In the game, players must navigate through a dark, mysterious forest all the while taking care to avoid numerous hazards such as enemies and "pits of dark mist".

Thomas has played video games for as long as he can remember, from his first pre-school v-tech machine to the present day. At some point, he remembers wondering, "How do they make these things"; a query which quickly became, "how would I make one?" Having researched his question Thomas began using his new found knowledge to potter about with code, initially using it to modify aspects of existing games. "It's how a lot of people in the industry start out", he explained. He continued developing his skills independently and was delighted to discover that at Sedgefield Community College he was able to enrol in their Computer Science course. Clearly showing an aptitude in this area, Thomas and his family began to look to the larger community to discover if there were any voluntary organizations working in this sphere. It was then that they discovered Coderdojo, a global movement with the aim of encouraging young people to code and to help with their coding development. Initially attending the nearest branches of Coderdojo in Tyneside, the family, together with other interested local



Thomas Robson, finalist at the BAFTA Young Games Designers awards

people, set up a Branch themselves closer to home. Thomas continues to work as a mentor for Coderdojo in that Durham Branch and has begun to take on some of the management and organisational duties there. Thomas first learned of the BAFTA Game Designer awards when he attended Sunderland College, but it was not until the Christmas Parents' Evening that he learned that The College was keen for him to put himself forward for the competition. Thomas had chosen Sunderland College as their course was the most specialized and offered more opportunity for him to test his limits. He also knew that the college had strong links with the gaming development industry; a connection which gave him the chance to spend a fortnight of work experience with a game development company. It was for these opportunities that Thomas chose to

make the daily forty mile round trip on public transport. He feels validated in this decision after his BAFTA adventure. Despite not being selected as the overall winner, Thomas is delighted to have made the finals. He feels that the whole experience has helped him develop his game making skills, given him invaluable insight into the process of game making at this level and has substantially improved the content of his portfolio and the depth of his CV. And, into the bargain, he now has contacts with like minded peers and people in positions of influence within the industry. So, what next for Thomas? University is a possibility. Abertay University, in Dundee offers a range of well respected Computer Science courses, but Thomas is inclined to complete his course at Sunderland, then to test the strength of his portfolio and CV to go directly into the industry. Whichever path he chooses, I have a feeling he'll be ok. After all, who better to level up successfully than a BAFTA Game Development finalist?

Tony Magee

See Coderdojo Durham details on p.3



### SDT PROJECT VOLUNTEERING

If you ever glance at the SDT News on page 6, you'll know that we run all sorts of projects that people can get involved with. Well, not everyone wants to plant trees, learn to sew or edit a newspaper, but possibly the most important volunteers are those who distribute this paper every month! Without them, our projects would not take off at all. Now, our distribution "Tsarina", Judith is looking for new volunteers, so we can ease the load of our longest serving volunteer. These rounds will start with the October edition.

**Round 1 50 copies on The Lane.**

**Round 2 delivers 53 copies as follows -**

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Can you help? Please contact Judith on

**07899 984 464**

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**The DEADLINE for SEPTEMBER is WEDNESDAY 15th AUGUST**

All the contacts you need can be found at the bottom of page 2

## Steve's Nature Diary AUGUST

When I did a site visit the other day to Bowesfield Nature Reserve and was confronted by two people dressed in white suits and masks, I thought I had changed planets or entered a film set. It was only when realised it was two colleagues I realised what was happening – they were dealing with the dreaded **Giant Hogweed** (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*). During the summer, several members of staff have to try and deal with this foreign invader which can be found on our nature reserves, especially those close to the Tees.

Why the suits? Giant Hogweed stems and leaves contain toxic chemicals called furocoumarins, which react when exposed to sunlight causing weals, blisters and eczema-like rashes on human skin. For this reason the plant is listed as a threat to human health, and under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is illegal to introduce it into the wild. The plant was introduced by the Victorians for its garden architectural splendour and when you see it in full flower with stems that can reach 5 metres high, you can see why! The plant, initially from the Caucasus, was first found in the wild in 1828, can produce 100,000 penny sized seeds and is now a widespread problem, now naturalised around Britain and has so far resisted efforts to control it. It does attract pollinators and can look impressive but if you are out and about keep an eye for this triffid like plant and avoid it.

This is just one of the jobs that Wildlife Trust staff (not volunteers) have to do to ensure our reserves are safe and accessible. But we have lots of other tasks that we must do and involve our many volunteers in doing them. Both Tees Valley and Durham Wildlife Trusts have various opportunities for volunteers and we can't really survive without them. From charity trustees to data in-putters, from butterfly surveyors to litter pickers, from dry stone wallers to footpath builders - they all play their part. Volunteers not only help the Trusts to achieve their aims they also gain as well. Research has shown that volunteers benefit in a number of ways; from making new friends, working as part of team and the opportunity to spend some time outside enjoying nature. If you are interested in getting involved why not contact your local trust and see how you might help.



*The scale that's possible when Giant Hogweed becomes established!*

### POSITION VACANT: PARISH HALL CLEANER

Sedgefield Town Council seeks to appoint a Parish Hall Cleaner to work 6 hours per week in Sedgefield Parish Hall. Hours will be scheduled flexibly around Parish Hall bookings on Saturdays and Sundays. Additional hours Monday to Friday will occur when cover is required for the Parish Hall Caretaker & Cleaner.

**Payment will be £7.83 per hour.**

If you are interested in this position and would like further information please contact the Town Clerk - address below.

Applications must include names & contact details of two referees. Send in letter form to Dr Jane Ayre, Town Clerk, Sedgefield Town Council, Sedgefield TS21 3AT or email [town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk)

**Closing date for receipt of applications is 12 noon on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018.**



Sedgefield and District U3A covers Sedgefield, Morden and Bradbury, Bishop Middleham, Fishburn and the Trimdons. We currently have 114 members, all retired or semi-retired. The central premise of the U3A is to Live, Laugh and Learn; all equally important in leading a full, happy and worthwhile retirement. There is really no need to be bored and lonely at home when there are all these wonderful opportunities on the doorstep. You could visit a wide variety of venues across the North through our Lunch Group, our Theatre Group, our Science and Industry Group, our Homes and Gardens Group. You could learn to take superb photographs or to have written work published. Our Wine Appreciation Group regularly samples a selection of wines from around the world. The monthly Speakers cover a wide range of topics - some serious, some humorous, some of local interest, some of wider appeal – but all interesting, entertaining and informative. Do visit our website, <https://u3asites.org.uk/sedgefield> for lots more information and particular details about Groups and events.

Our monthly meetings are held on the first Friday of each month from 2 - 4pm, usually in the Parish Hall.

However, the first meeting of our new Year will be held at Ceddesfeld Hall. Do join us there on September 7th when Ollie Burton will describe 'How to Build a Cathedral'.

We look forward to welcoming you to Sedgefield and District U3A.

### SEDGEFIELD NEWS CONTACTS

**News & Advertising: 07572 502 904**

email: [sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com](mailto:sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com)  
Post - 55 White House Drive, TS21 3BU.

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[sedgefielddartsandevents@outlook.com](mailto:sedgefielddartsandevents@outlook.com)

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**Facebook:** Sedgefield News & Sedgefield Farmers' Market.

**Twitter:** @sedgefieldnews & @sedgyfarmmarket



*Joshua Wilson and Anna Haycock*

## New Head Boy & Head Girl appointed at Sedgefield Community College

Eight students were recently nominated for the role of Head Boy and Head Girl at Sedgefield Community College.

Following a formal interview, which mimicked the intensity of a professional job interview, the selection panel, which was made up of the Headteacher Mr Davies, and Assistant Headteacher, Mrs King.

Joshua Wilson was chosen as Head Boy and Anna Haycock as Head Girl, both having demonstrated that they have the qualities that are required to represent the values and ethos of the college.

### Coderdojo

Following on from the Game Boy article on Page 1, the coding development club mentioned - Coderdojo, Durham - meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month from 10am - noon at Claypath Library in Durham.

There's more info at [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/coderdojo-ne-durham-clayport-library-tickets-47884829815](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/coderdojo-ne-durham-clayport-library-tickets-47884829815)

## "It's still a lovely old church"...

... was the comment when Bill and Jan Blackie from Adelaide, Australia, visited St Edmund's Church recently.

This was a very special trip down memory lane for the couple, being 22 years ago to the weekend when they were married in the church by the Revd. Martin King. Jan had needed special permission for the ceremony from the Bishop because she was Australian.

They have been staying in the district with Bill's friend, local farmer Robert Elders, and his wife, Anne. The two men worked closely together when Bill lived in Mordon and was chairman of the Parish Council at the same time Robert chaired the Parish Council at Bradbury.

Churchwarden Brian Mutch helped the couple revive their special day memories by showing them around St Edmund's.



## Workshop

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club held a very successful workshop on 17th July for their Members' Evening in the Parish Hall. Valerie Guest took the workshop, which was entitled 'Exotic'. Twenty four ladies took part; some very experienced flower arrangers, some not quite so much and others who were complete novices. Everyone was thrilled with their arrangements! It proved that, with some guidance, anyone can arrange flowers! Val kindly presented Kathleen Edmenson (chairman) with the arrangement that she had demonstrated. Afterwards we had a delicious "faith supper" for our all our members, including those who just wanted to spectate.

The committee sends its thanks to Val and everyone who joined us to make it such a memorable night.

**Flower club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Sedgefield. We'd love to welcome along new members .**



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## Paralympian champion supports efforts to tackle Hate Crime in County Durham

Practitioners across County Durham and Darlington were planning their future work together for tackling hate crime at a conference held in Newton Aycliffe earlier this month. Over 100 delegates attended the conference, which was hosted by Ron Hogg, Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner (PCVC) on 4th July.

Mr Hogg said: "I am pleased that good progress has been made towards tackling hate crime locally. However I recognise that there is still much to do. I note that the number of recorded hate crimes has risen, and am pleased this appears largely to be because victims are increasingly confident to report incidents to the Police. People in this area continue to show higher levels of confidence in policing than in many other parts of the country."

Delegates were delighted to hear from their keynote speaker, the Paralympic Gold Medallist, Stephen Miller, pictured right.

He said, "It was great to be back to address the Hate Crime Conference today, and whilst there is always more to do, it was good to see what has already been achieved. It is so important that we continue to address this big issue. I often remind people that respect is the highest currency we have. I believe events like today help to strengthening the message that hate crime won't be tolerated."

The conference heard four brave hate crime victims share their stories, to show the positive and negative aspects of their experience. In addition a video was shown which highlighted the prejudice which a Syrian refugee family faced after being housed and settled in the North East. These presentations showed that despite a low number of reported incidents across county Durham and Darlington, hate crime is happening within our communities and that victims need support.



**Call 101 to contact Local Police** to report concerns, seek advice or to pass on information. You are advised to keep notes of the conversation & obtain an incident number.

**Crime Prevention Officer Rona Stocks:**  
[rona.stocks@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:rona.stocks@durham.pnn.police.uk)

**Police Community Cohesion Officer**

**Faye Callan:** Telephone 101 Extension 742317. Email

[Faye.callan@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Faye.callan@durham.pnn.police.uk)

## Sedgefield Village Action Group Update

**The Wimpey signs** – Wimpey have applied for permission to keep the large sign in the field to the left as you leave the village. The application is scheduled to go to planning committee on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

**The Sedgefield Neighbourhood Plan** – the Town Council (TC) continue to work on the required wording updates. SVAG have been told that there may be a special meeting for the Council to approve it – but no date has yet been arranged.

**County Durham Plan** - The Action group will be making a response to the County Durham Plan, we have several questions which need clarification, about the contents in the Plan on issues affecting Sedgefield. The Plan is a lengthy document (it is on the DCC website) but it is your opportunity to make comment. Comments must be in to DCC by August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The meeting between the Hellens Group developer (they have an option on the land between Old Beacon Lane and Butterwick Lane) and Sedgefield Town Council did not take place as expected in July but is now scheduled for 6.15pm September 10<sup>th</sup>.

For over a year now members of the Action Group have requested that the TC have more contact and information sharing with the community – it has been suggested that a quarterly open public meeting could give people the opportunity to engage more with the TC and hear what is going on. There has also been repeated requests made that all TC minutes and agendas should be on the TC website for members of the community to access should they be interested. SVAG have been told that the TC are still considering these points and, in their Sedgefield Extra, have asked for feedback on what residents would want on the TC website.

You can contact SVAG by email on [SedgefieldVAG@gmail.com](mailto:SedgefieldVAG@gmail.com) or on 0752 3457584.

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The 26<sup>th</sup> **Ceddesfeld Hall Beer Festival** was well attended, with visitors enjoying the fine selection of beers and ciders as well as the evening sunshine within the beautiful surroundings of Ceddesfeld lawns. Special thanks must go to the volunteers who helped with organisation and ensured that the event ran smoothly. SCA would also like to thank Robinsons of Wingate, Manor House Weddings, Select Financial Solutions, The Bailey Group, Fleet Recruitment, Three Brothers Brewery, Daleside G&P and LWC Suppliers for sponsoring the event. Their contribution makes a huge difference.

Friday August 31<sup>st</sup> sees the start of **Sedgfield Folk Festival**. Details of the weekend's events at Ceddesfeld Hall were given in last month's edition. Things begin with an evening of ukulele music, featuring the Stockton to Darlington Ukulele Express, Ceddesfeld Ukulele Band and Lol and Maxine Crallan. Tickets are £5 and can be obtained from Lol Crallan on 01740 621709 or from behind the bar at Ceddesfeld. A free Open Mic Night follows On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September starting at 7.30 pm, featuring The Old Age Travellers. All proceeds from the raffle go to the festival.

Sedgfield's own literary festival, **Sedgfield Book Ends** begins on 29<sup>th</sup> September with an evening in celebration of Lennon & McCartney and the Liverpool Poets. The theme for the festival is **'Lines of Life'** and we are looking forward to a month of very varied events and activities to suit all ages. Find details of the events (which include talks and workshops by local authors and illustrators, photographic and art exhibitions, musical events and a special celebratory dinner celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first voyage of Captain Cook and the Endeavour), on the special Book Ends insert in September's edition or visit 'Sedgfield Book Ends' Face Book page or the SCA website for more information. Festival information boards will be at Ceddesfeld Hall and in the library, as well as posters around town.

**For more information on Ceddesfeld Hall events, regular activities, room hire and bar opening times, contact Wendy on 01740 620206, Pat on 01740 620607, Sarah on 01740 622185 or visit [www.sedgfieldscs.org.uk](http://www.sedgfieldscs.org.uk)**



Sedgfield Development Trust will be at Sedgfield Show on Saturday, 11th August. Visit us in the community marquee and find out more about us, who we are and what we do. It could be to your advantage.

And sticking to the Agricultural theme,

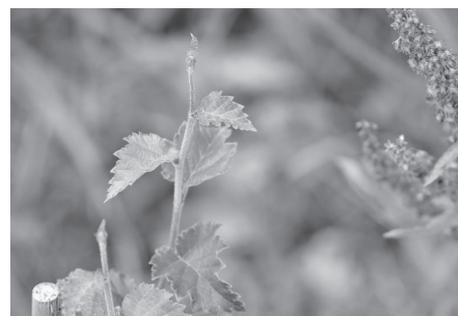
### Sedgfield Farmers' Market

Why not have a stroll round the stalls and chat with some of the very interesting and committed people who care so much about the quality of the food they produce. The Woodland Trust will be taking the Community Stall this month, and there's live music from The Northumbrian Pipers. If you like what you hear, the Northumbrian Pipers' Society Cleveland Branch meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday evening at Ceddesfeld Hall, and they will happily help beginners to get to grips with the complexities of these lovely instruments. Talk to them at the market or contact Dave Cook on 01325 310114, email [dcook0@talk21.com](mailto:dcook0@talk21.com).

### Sunday 5th August

### Woodland & Wildlife Project

The dedicated group who have been struggling to keep the weeds (*top right*) at bay and watching the trees respond to the drought, were mightily relieved when we had some rain last week. Rudolf Reichel posted "Visited the site this morning. What a difference the rain has made. And heart-warming to see how "our" little trees have responded! Some have taken a beating and a few may have died, but overall it is looking good." *Fresh growth, bottom right*. Again, on the positive side, we are finding a huge variety of flowers and insect life on the site. Tim Dredge embarked on a bird and butterfly survey just a few days ago and has already reported finding Peacock, Red Admiral, Meadow Brown, Wood White and Tortoiseshell butterflies, and Goldfinch, Linnet, Long -Tailed Tit, Chaffinch, Magpie, Blackbird, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Pied Wagtail, Swallow, Sand-Martin & best of all BUZZARD!



**If you would like to get involved, visit 'Woodland & Wildlife – Sedgfield' on Facebook, or call or text 07803 269956.**

### Sedgfield Energy Switch: Come along and talk to us at Sedgfield Show

Although energy costs have continued to rise this year, our scheme has helped to minimise the increases by producing market leading energy tariffs at each of the three auctions held this year. The outcome has resulted in savings by Sedgfield residents, of £48,000. If you would like to know how you could benefit from our scheme, come and talk to us at Sedgfield show on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August. SDT continues to believe that this scheme offers the best opportunity for reducing energy bills and so we will continue to promote it for another year. For those whose contracts come to an end before the end of the year and for anyone wishing to join for the first time, the key dates for the next registration period are: Registration Opens on 14<sup>th</sup> August and Closes 9<sup>th</sup> October. The Auction is on 10<sup>th</sup> October and Personal Offers will be sent from 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Acceptance closes on 27<sup>th</sup> November. **Registration can be achieved in one of two ways:** If you are happy to register on line yourself, go to [www.sedgfieldweb.co.uk](http://www.sedgfieldweb.co.uk), open the ENERGY SWITCH section, click on the **GREEN 'REGISTER NOW'** button, then the **'SIGN UP TODAY'** button. Then simply fill out your details. If you prefer to register and receive information through the post, or need any help, call **07980 134 594**, Sedgfield Development Trust's Helpline and we will be more than happy to help or complete your registration for you. **Registering for the scheme commits you to nothing and you will not receive any of those pestering phone calls (guaranteed).** You can also talk to us at the Farmers' Market



**Almost certainly the biggest event on Sedgefield's calendar bursts into life on August 11th on the Robert Brown Showfield - and it's a real celebration of Agriculture and Country life.**

The many competitive classes represent the skills and aspects of life in the local community and country-side. Animals, machinery and husbandry are exhibited, as are produce, handicrafts and artistic items entered by people of all ages from the local schoolchildren onwards.

Many other attractions will draw you into spending the day there! They include Trade stands, a Food hall (sample local delicacies!) a Beer tent and Fun-fair rides for all. There really is something for the whole family.

#### **Ticket Prices**

Adults - £7

Children - £5 (under 5's go FREE)

Concessions - £5

Family Ticket - £18

(2 Adults and up to 3 Children)

**Gates Open at 10am**



### **Ay Ay Me Hearties!**

On July 20th & 21st the SPYS performed their annual spectacular, this year, Robert Louis Stephenson's 'Treasure Island' in a new version by Phil Wilmott.

The script, in a step away from usual productions and versions, contains several female characters, but the story remains intact. Delighted audiences followed the story of Jim Hawkins, played admirably by Kieron O'Donnell, as he, Lady Trelawney (Ella Rose Barnfather), Miss Lucinda Livesy (Emily Legender) and Captain Obidiah Smollett (Cameron Andrews) pull together a rag tag group of misfits and pirates to sail to Treasure Island and find the fabled Captain Flint's mountains of buried gold. Of course, it's not all smooth sailing and the villainous Long John Silver (Joshua Wilson, performed expertly on one leg!) goes out of his way to cause problems and steal the treasure. The production featured all three Levels of SPYS in a spectacular production featuring song, dance and sword fighting galore.

Up next is the drama festival in September; keep your eyes peeled for the full line up in the next edition. *(Photographs by John Finlayson)*



*George Nott (Captain Flint), Joshua Wilson (Long John Silver), Kieron O'Donnell (Jim Hawkins)*



Well that FIFA World Cup was entertaining! However, plenty has already been written about it and I've got loads of local sports news to share and limited space, so...

## Cycling

**Sedgefield road cyclist Ben Hetherington keeps delivering some excellent performances at the highest level.** Ben, now a senior rider for the Memil CCN Pro Cycling team, recently competed in the 2018 British Road National Championships, this year held in Northumberland. Contested over 185.6km on loops from Stamfordham, the event is one of the premier races of the year and has been won in the past by the likes of Bradley Wiggins. Ben was in contention near the front of the field throughout and achieved a fantastic sixth place finish, comfortably riding among the elite of his sport. At the time of writing this, Ben is racing in the Tour of Qinghai Lake in China, and I look forward to sharing more news of his achievements in the future. **Right: Ben in action in Northumberland**

## Athletics

I've written about talented Sedgefield athlete Kate Carmichael before. Kate continues to make great progress and recently joined a squad from Teesside to compete in the 2018 British Throwers Decathlon Championships in the Midlands. The throwing decathlon comprises the four Olympic disciplines (javelin, discus, hammer & shot), plus one-handed hammer, heavy hammer (isn't the standard one heavy enough?!), grenade, stone, slingball and kugel-shocken. The U20 competition saw Kate break six separate throws records to be crowned British Champion. She also recorded the highest overall points score in all ladies' age groups to win Female Performance of the Championships Award. Congratulations to Kate for such a great result. Kate was also recently selected for the third year running to represent County Durham Schools in shot put at the English Schools National Finals in Birmingham.

**In other athletics news, a large contingent of 27 Sedgefield Harriers tackled the Prince Bishops Durham City 10K on 18<sup>th</sup> July.** The race follows an undulating and challenging two lap route around the city of Durham and attracted a big field of nearly 2,000 runners. The first Sedgefield runner across the line was Justin Cox in ninth place (second V40), in an impressive time of 37:33. First Sedgefield lady was Lisa Darby in 45:14 – Lisa was first in the women's V45 category. On the same night, a few Harriers also ran in the Durham City 5K. Juniors Ciaran Lines (19:36 and 15<sup>th</sup> overall) and Callum Darby (22:23 and 50<sup>th</sup> overall) were the first two Sedgefield athletes to finish.

**The following evening, Sedgefield Harriers held its summer handicap race for Gerry Kearsley Memorial Trophy.** The club hosts winter and summer handicap races and this was the 25<sup>th</sup> event. The multi-terrain six-mile route follows a course from just outside Fishburn along tracks and trails to Bishop Middleham and back. Working back from a base time of 60 minutes, runners are given a handicap based on their fastest 10K time in the previous 12 months (so, a 40-minute 10K time gives a 20-minute handicap), meaning that most participants finish within a few minutes of each other, making for an exciting finale. The overall winner was Simon Russell of Stockton Striders, who, running off a handicap of five minutes, finished in 45:35. The first male Sedgefield Harrier to finish was Ciaran Lines (42:06) and the first female Harrier was Georgina Letts (57:41). The fastest man and lady on the night were, respectively, Justin Cox (38:07) and Lisa Darby (45:54), both continuing their excellent form from the previous evening in Durham. The handicap event is free to enter and only made possible thanks to the hard work of many volunteers. The club is also grateful to Fishburn Club for hosting event registration and the presentations afterwards.



## Boccia

**Sedgefield boccia star Lee Maddison has been excelling on the international stage.**

In late June, Lee was in Slovakia representing England in an event called the Tatra Cup. He competed in the pairs competition with Rich Amos, coming fourth, and then took the bronze medal in the individual competition, against players from Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia. Lee has a new assistant, Chris Foster, who went straight onto court and into the competition after only two months of training. Well done to Lee and Chris!



**Lee Maddison and Chris Foster in Slovakia**  
Sports update continues opposite, on Page 9

## Cricket

As the cricket season passes the halfway mark, Sedgefield's senior teams remain in real contention for promotion from their divisions in the North Yorkshire & South Durham Premier League. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI sit in the second promotion spot in Division 2, playing consistently well in their battle to avenge narrowly missing out on promotion last season. After a high scoring draw against table topping Middlesbrough, at the time of writing this, the team was preparing to play their next match against third placed rivals Newton Aycliffe, knowing that a win would give them some breathing space in their promotion campaign. Meanwhile in Division 4, the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI currently sit in third place, but with a game in hand against all their closest rivals, meaning that promotion is still a real prospect. Player numbers and availability have now reached the point where the club is planning to resurrect a senior 3<sup>rd</sup> XI for the 2019 season.

As for the juniors, Sedgefield's youngsters have been rewarded for their successes with an invitation to perform the players' 'guard of honour' at the Durham v. Leicestershire T20 clash on 8<sup>th</sup> August at the Emirates Riverside, Chester-le-Street. A sizeable contingent of juniors and parents are due to descend on the county ground for what should be a great evening.

On the social front, on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August, the club will hold a Caribbean Curry-oke & Cocktails Night. Tickets cost £5 and are available from the clubhouse. Home games will continue at Station Road every Saturday afternoon until early September. The bar will be open and spectators can enjoy both on the on-field action along with televised sporting events inside. After packing the bar during the FIFA World Cup, the club hope to continue attracting visitors for the rest of the year.

Looking ahead to the Bank Holiday weekend, on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August, the semi-finals and final will take place in the John Walker Trophy (universally known as the Captain's Cup). Spectators can expect the usual melee of ex/non-cricketers doing battle in a competitive but friendly eight-a-side format of the game. Heckling from the balcony is a near certainty!

To keep up to date with everything else going on at the club, find the Sedgefield Cricket Club Facebook page or Twitter feed.

## Squash

Preparations are well underway at Sedgefield Squash Club for the new season. The first competition will be the Blitz which is to be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. This is a timed version of the game which is frenzied but fun, and never fails to remove cobwebs from any members who haven't played as much as they'd planned over the summer. The event is open to all members – they just need to put their name down at the club or let organiser Stephen Rowsby know that they want to be included.

Junior coaching will resume on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September, and from Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September the junior coaching staff are trialling a 'Junior Club Afternoon' initiative which will focus upon matchplay. Parents will shortly be receiving an email with more details about this and coaching in general for the 2018-19 season.

And all of this is to take place as the Sedgefield Squash Club launches its new club shirts, with the help of new three-year sponsor Story Homes. The club would also like to thank its previous shirt sponsors (Reef Salons & Andalucia Gift & Coffee Shop) for their support. The club's thriving atmosphere is in no small part down to support from local businesses, and to that end gratitude is also extended to the on-court sponsors U Hold The Key Storage and LED Expert. Membership enquiries can be sent to Sue Smith at [curlietailz@aol.com](mailto:curlietailz@aol.com).

**That's all for this month. As always, please send any sports news to [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com).**



## Your Letters

### Concern about security guards

On Friday, 20th July, I walked up Front Street at about 10pm towards the Post Office in order to post a wedding anniversary card to my daughter.

As I passed the new Corner House pub, there were 2 "security guards" on duty (we would have called them bouncers in my day).

One of them said "That looks like an important envelope you're carrying." I replied "No, it's just an anniversary card."

Then he said "Any money in it?"

So I said "No, not at all"

Then he said "Any cheques?"

So I replied "No, I never send money or cheques in the post". And I walked past him. But I was sufficiently disturbed by the encounter that I took a different way home.

Perhaps the management of the Corner House can explain why their security staff ask such intrusive financial questions? I would love to know their response!

*Name and address supplied.*

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*Below - a beautiful arrangement made at a Flower Club Workshop. See page 3*



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# DIARY: AUGUST 2018

Submit your events to [diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com](mailto:diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com)

Date	Event
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sedgefield WI: Parish Hall @ 7.15pm. "The History of Handbags" by Susan Howard. Members' Competition: A pretty purse. Visitors always welcome (£3.50).
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sedgefield Veterans' Coffee Morning: Parish Hall, 10am to noon.
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup>	Drop in Surgeries: Cllr John Robinson. 9 – 9.45am Bradbury & Mordon Village Hall; 10 – 11am Sedgefield Library; 11.15 – 12 pm Fishburn Community Centre.
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield Farmers' Market: On the village green from 8.30am. New Generation Church: Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10.30am
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Sew Easy: In The Parish Hall from 6:30-9:30pm. Call 622447 for information.
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	Sew Easy: In The Parish Hall from 10:30-1:30pm. Call 622447 for information.
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield Show: To be held in the Robert Brown Showfield, West Park Lane. Gates open to the public at 10am. Please support your local show.
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	New Generation Church: Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10.30am
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Sew Easy: In The Parish Hall from 6:30-9:30pm. Call 622447 for information.
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sew Easy: In The Parish Hall from 10:30-1:30pm. Call 622447 for information.
Thu 16 <sup>th</sup>	Memory Café: 10.30am to 12 noon @ Sedgefield Fire Station. Sedgefield Mayor's Afternoon Tea & Flower Demonstration: by NAFAS demonstrator Valerie Guest @ The Parish Hall from 2pm to 4.30pm. Tickets (£12) from Sedgefield Town Council Office 01740 621273 or Cllr. Mavis Wayman 01740 620337. Funds raised in aid of the Mayor's Charities - Diabetes UK, Prostate Cancer UK, local groups and organisations.
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield, Ferryhill and District Flower Club: Open Garden, 2-5 pm. £4 per person. For more details phone 07533752870.
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	New Generation Church: Sedgefield Community College, 10.30am
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	Sew Easy: In The Parish Hall from 6:30-9:30pm. Call 622447 for information.
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sew Easy: In The Parish Hall from 10:30-1:30pm. Call 622447 for information.
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	New Generation Church: Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10.30am
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup>	Sew Easy: In The Parish Hall from 10:30-1:30pm. Call 622447 for information.
Thu 30 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgefield Racecourse Ladies and Gents Evening. Gates Open 2.50pm & Last Race is 7.50pm. Live tribute entertainment from Lady Gaga, Pink, Freddy Mercury & The Stone Idols straight after last race on the outdoor stage. Tickets start from £15pp. To book visit website or call the office.
Fri 31 <sup>st</sup> to Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Folk Festival: Events throughout the weekend in The Parish Hall, Ceddesfeld Hall, The Social Club and on The Village Green. For further information visit <a href="http://www.sedgefieldfolkfestival.co.uk/programme">www.sedgefieldfolkfestival.co.uk/programme</a>

## Sedgefield Folk Festival

The festival is almost upon us and as usual we have an extraordinary line up of artists and musicians. Most evening events are now sold out but there are plenty of activities for families and adults to get involved with.

Workshops throughout the day at Ceddesfeld Hall include Ukelele, Fiddle and Guitar, and Northumbrian Pipes. They start at 10.30am on Sat 1st Sept, with the Durham Traditional Music and Song Competition later. Apalachian Clog Dancers 'Step This Way' will perform on the village green throughout the day. Anyone unable to get a ticket to one of the performances, why not come along to the Open Mic night at Ceddesfeld on Saturday evening? *Details right.*



**Sedgefield Library**  
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- Saturdays: 9:30am-12:30pm

**The Summer Reading Challenge has started! 'Mischief Makers'.**  
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 Certificates and Medals will be presented to children who complete the Summer Reading Challenge at a Story Event on Saturday 2nd September.

**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**  
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 Tue 6.30 - 7.30pm & Thu 7 - 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 10.30 - 11.30am  
 Call 01740 617882 for all enquiries.

## Sedgefield Social Club

Saturday 4th August: Bobby Joe  
 Saturday 11th August: Mike Adams  
 Saturday 18th August: Elaina Morris  
 Monday 20th August: Country Night  
 Saturday 25th August: Kimberley C  
 Telephone Number: 01740 620591

## Sedgefield Tea Dance

1st & 3rd Tuesdays  
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