

A very Merry Christmas to all our readers!

Sedgefield News

*By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
December 2004*

Insert
logo

Open Evening at No 58

You're invited to look in at
58 Front Street on
**Thursday 9th December from
3pm to 8pm**
to meet the people who
organise Learning in 'the
Zone', edit and produce
**SedgefieldWeb & Sedgefield
News** and who run the
**Sedgefield Development
Partnership**. Enjoy a glass of
mulled wine & a mince pie
with us and take the
opportunity to find out who we
are and what
we're trying to achieve.



Peter and Geoff getting a sponsor for their last expedition!

**Don't forget to look out
for Santa who Cares
While you're busy with your
shopping in the Co-op over
the Christmas period.
Be as generous as you can,
because all the money
collected will go to
The Baby Unit
At North Tees
University Hospital**

Anthony Nolan Trust Expedition to Kilimanjaro

After 450 miles cycling across Mexico for the Anthony Nolan Trust in 2002 Dr Peter Jones and Geoff Hughes are planning another expedition on behalf of the Charity. In March of next year they aim to climb 19,000 feet to the top of Africa's highest mountain. The climb takes about 6 days and only one third of climbers make it to the top. The ascent is physically demanding involving long days in extremes of heat and cold with perhaps the greatest problem being altitude sickness.

The expedition is to raise funds for the Anthony Nolan Trust (a registered National Charity – number 803716) one of the charities also being supported by the mayor of Sedgefield this year. The Trust exists solely to save the lives of those suffering from leukaemia and other bone marrow related illnesses; at least two people in the local community could potentially benefit from its work. These people have reached a stage when ONLY a bone marrow donor will save their lives. It costs £70 to tissue type each donor alone and add to the register of potential donors. **No lottery funding** or government support is given towards tissue typing or the research into these potential fatal diseases. In order to increase the register, financial support has to come from the general public and through fundraising events.

Peter and Geoff aim to raise as much money as possible towards the charity in addition to their own commitment of £1000 towards the trip. Two years ago as a result of the Mexico cycle ride they successfully raised over £10,000 towards the Trust and they hope to achieve even more this time.

**If you would like to make a donation please make cheques payable to
"The Anthony Nolan Trust" and send to
Geoff Hughes at 36 Spring Lane, Sedgefield, TS21 2DG.**

**Exclusive scoop
Following persistent
snooping, the Sedgefield
News team can now reveal
that "Abbracciare" at
number 10 High Street will
be open before Christmas.
Find out the real destiny of
this mysteriously named**

'Wet' your appetite and cook for life

Sedgefield woman, Louise Robinson, has whipped up a tasty treat by compiling a cookbook to raise funds for WaterAid.

When you start cooking, what do you usually need? Well, ingredients, utensils, a cooker all help of course, but what about access to a clean water supply for cooking and cleaning? **Just imagine how you would manage without it!**

Today 1.5 billion people in the world lack access to safe water and 2 billion lack access to adequate sanitation. Every 15 seconds a child in the developing world dies from water related disease. By the time you have finished reading this article five children will have died. **WaterAid** is the UK's only major charity dedicated exclusively to the provision of safe domestic water, sanitation and hygiene promotion to the world's poorest people. Louise is a keen supporter and she has always wanted to write a cookbook, so this seemed an ideal opportunity

to realise an ambition and help save lives. The sale of just one book will provide someone with safe clean water for life. The book features over 100 recipes, many from celebrities and sports personalities, including Spike Milligan, Joan Collins, Prunella Scales, Stirling Moss, Cliff Richard, Joanna Lumley and Robson Green. It also contains contributions from her colleagues at Northumbrian Water.

'Cooking for Life' costs just £10 plus postage. If you would like one, please send a cheque made payable to WaterAid, adding postage costs: £2.56 for 1 book, and £4.94 for 2, to **Louise Robinson, Northumbrian Water, Head Office, Abbey Road, Pity Me, Durham, DH1 5FJ.** **For more information please call Louise on 0191 3016789 or email louise.robinson@nwl.co.uk.**



Rolf Harris is one of the host of celebrities who donated recipes. The much loved & missed **John Peel** sent this

Cheese & Wine Fondue

"I'm not a cook but I'm a (too) avid consumer of food. Sheila wrote out details of my favourite meal.

Hope this is OK."

Ingredients

*A good lb. of Jarlesberg cheese
2 cups of dry white wine
¾ of a clove of garlic
Plain flour
2 tablespoons of brandy*

Method

Put the wine and garlic into a heavy fondue dish.
Dredge the grated cheese with a few tablespoons of flour.

Heat the wine (do not allow to boil), and add the floured cheese.
Stir on a gentle heat until smooth and then add the brandy.

Serve with any of the following:

Chunks of French bread
Cauliflower florets, Cherry tomatoes,
Button mushrooms,
Celery,
Baby new potatoes

Shops at the bottom end of Sedgefield... a sign-writer remembers

Where Theakston's is now, during the war and before, belonged to Mrs Gaffney (and the extended bit next to it was a house where a family lived). If you wanted to book your seat for the Savoy Cinema, you just called there, and it saved you a long wait outside. Then Ray Icton came out of the forces (like myself) and he bought it, and one night I called to him and told him to get ready the upstairs room for decorating the next day. On doing so he swept the chimney and left a bag of soot at the back door. Of course this set fire to the shop, and after that the whole front downstairs and shop was modernised! I put his name on the shop and some years later when he retired I did the same for Mr Maddison.

Coming along to No 58, the door to the passage went along to a small cottage at the back. We had one the same at the back of our house on West End, with a small glass window. The family that lived there was Paddy Lyle, his wife and two daughters. He got me to glaze some of the windows. I guess when Mr

Maddison had his DIY Shop, that cottage would come down, giving him a bigger yard. I think Mrs Lyle, who still lives in the village, could tell of a lot of happenings. In your history of No. 58, one person was left out - Fred Watson who was the Chemist after Mr Smith left. I'm not sure when, but I lettered his name on the front, like I did others.

Way back there had been a fish shop where today's is, and when I came out of the army the building was in such a mess, it was taken down and rebuilt as it looks today. Then, where the Chinese takeaway is, M Bell is lettered in cement above the shop window, under the Chinese sign. Mrs Bell let her sister Mrs Hyatt live there with her two daughters. I did all the decorating there also. The youngest daughter had the little shop next to it selling wools and patterns, long before it was a carpet shop. The family retired and went out to live in South Africa, near a place called Sedgefield. The shop on the end, which is now

a house, had double bay windows showing groceries and other commodities. This belonged to the Croft family.

Round the corner in Cross Street was the candle factory, opposite Joe Icton's Blacksmiths shop (which is now the Pottery).

When they took the Co-op down - it was opposite the Golden Lion, where Crispin Court is today, they left the Co-op bank, then Billy Cooper, Landlord of the Golden Lion, had it for a short time as a betting shop.

Later, bookmaker Kenny Mann moved into No 58 from his previous premises.

Joe Davison the butcher at No 26 was my brother in law. Next door to his slaughter house was a solicitor, then Austin Green had the shop next to the Alms Houses and a small one on the end was Jayne's shop before she moved next to the Dun Cow. I also lettered all these shops.

We'd like to thank Mr L. Butler for these fascinating musings. They will surely provoke memories in people who have lived here for many years.

This may be page 3, but some of the wilder speculation about "Abbracciare" has proved somewhat wide of the mark!

First of all, if you haven't rushed for the 'Collins Concise Italian', it translates as 'Hug' and as for how to pronounce it - try something like 'Abbracciare'

But most importantly, we now know what it's going to sell! As you can see in the advertisement below, Linda Smith, proprietor of the highly successful "Number Four Teashop & Patisserie" is to add designer children's clothing and other childhood luxuries and necessities, to our local shopping experience. It will be something completely different for Sedgefield, and that should be a major boost to the future economic viability of the High Street.

Even before the windows are dressed, the refurbishment of the building enhances the scene. It has been a rather dismal block for years and the Smiths are to be congratulated for changing the view. They met some pretty sizeable planning and building challenges as the job got under way but now, not only has the structure been modernised and made safe, but its future in the conservation area has been assured for many years to come. Opening the shop in time for Christmas will certainly be a big relief after two exhausting years of work.

With a range of exclusive party wear, baby gifts, educational toys and playroom furniture as well as clothes, parents and grand-parents will find that they don't always have to travel to the big towns or shopping centres when something a bit special is called for. Our food shopping has been improved with the Fanners' Market and Katie's Kitchen, not to mention the amazing cakes at Number Four! **Here's another good reason to shop locally!**

Sedgefield Learning Borough

Crafts for Christmas

Yes, it's that time again... so come along and get into the Festive Spirit with some fun craft sessions in your area!

Ring and tell us what you would you like to do and the days & times that would be best for you and let's get 'Crafty'!

Need help with your computer?

Improve your

Word Processing skills

Surf the net!

Email a friend

Make a Christmas card

Update your CV

Set up a spreadsheet or database

You can learn all the basics pop into 'the Zone' at 58 Front Street,

Street,

on Thursdays

from 9.30-12noon

For more information contact

Katie, Maggie or Zoe on

01740 656953

For designer clothes for children from birth to 8 years, visit

Abbracciare

Opening soon at Number 10 High Street

Exclusive Christening wear & Baby Gifts

Fancy Dress & Party Clothes

Essentials & Accessories

Educational Toys & Playroom Furniture

Community Safety

Sedgefield Village N/Hood Watch Executive Panel Annual Report, Year Ending September 2004.

Issued by Panel Chairman, Ken Saiger

Once again I am very proud of the fantastic amount we have achieved during the past year; each year we are building on the foundations put down by Allen Sowerby.

This year we again successfully awarded the **Allen Sowerby Memorial Shield**, Good Citizenship Award to Sedgefield Primary and Sedgefield Hardwick schools. We have an agreement to initiate this award in the year 2003/2004 at Sedgefield Community College and have made all the necessary preparations; however we still await the school to implement the scheme.

We applied for, and were awarded funding to supply and fit **Carbon Monoxide Detectors** to nine partially sighted residents of Sedgefield Village. As a result of careful spending and Tim fitting them at no cost we have approximately £200 remaining from the grant; we subsequently applied and received permission to spend this remaining sum to buy and fit more Detectors to similarly disadvantaged persons.

Door Bars – we appear to have saturated the requirements of our village for these; but have members noticed that Sedgefield Borough Council are now supplying and fitting door bars free (contact Tim for details)?

We continue to security-mark property, and when requested photograph valuable items for residents.

Audio Tapes of Sedgefield News, for partially sighted residents are going from strength to strength and thanks must go to David for this. Tapes issued have also included tapes and extracts from: - Marks & Spencer Magazine, Country Wide, Sedgefield Extra and many other publications. I wish to record my thanks to all those who have provided material and permission to issue this.

Insurance Cover for our Panel is now resolved, cover being provided free from National Neighbourhood Watch, however we are required to pay the £500 excess of each claim; Sarah has come to the rescue by confirming in the event of our Panel not having adequate funds she will fund the excess – thank you Sarah.

I wish to record our Panel's thanks to Linda Maddison for the work she has done in Sedgefield, and the very kind donation to our Panel from her Mayor's fund, thank you Linda. Thanks also go to John Robinson for all the behind the scenes work he has done for us, especially his part in making it possible for Tim Spearey to have accommodation in our village whilst on duty. Once again my sincere thanks go to the following: - David, Cassie, Joe, all the members of this year's Executive Team, Sarah, Neil, Keith, Brian, Tim and last but by no means least – all of you the very loyal Members, for your efforts in building and holding together Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch; for without you Neighbourhood Watch would not exist, and our village would be a much poorer place to live in.

Unfortunately I must have my moan and a gripe before I conclude my report; so often my attention is drawn to the many excellent and expensive glossy publications issued to us as residents, praising the efforts and support given by the Police, Borough Council, Pub Watch, Town Council and many other groups, but very disappointingly there is no recognition given to our Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood Watch. I do feel these bodies do a very good job indeed, but I also feel we play a tiny part too.

Finally I look forward to your continued commitment to Neighbourhood Watch in the year ahead, thank you. *Ken Saiger*

A mostly optimistic look back on last month, from PC Todd

I'm very pleased to be able to tell you that there has been a drop in crime over the last four weeks, with only 4 crimes reported. The most disturbing of these was the opportunist theft of a handbag from Ceddesfeld Hall. For want of a more appropriate name, this male low-life entered the building during the morning whilst events were taking place and removed the handbag from the kitchen area. Shortly afterwards he tried to obtain cash from the bank. The handbag was found abandoned minus its purse the next day. Can I ask that you think of this incident next time you think of leaving a bag anywhere – and report anyone you think is acting suspiciously. If we all use a little 'Bounce-Back-Ability' (ask a sporting fan!) we can reduce crime and remove some of the fear of crime we seem to suffer from. It must be said also that the majority of young people in the village – mainly on a Friday night – are behaving themselves, but I'm keeping an eye on those who don't!

Pub Watch

There were no reported incidents at members' premises, but concerns were raised about the behaviour of customers and others outside and in streets nearby to the Hardwick Arms, as evidenced by the report of a window broken at Jaiz Hairdressers.

*Lastly, on behalf of all the police officers at the Sedgefield office, I'd like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable Christmas & New Year.
More from me next month.
Keith*

Pick up the Poo, not a £50 fine!

No 1 in a series of 'Timothy's Tips' from Neighbourhood Warden Tim Spearey

Should this junction be closed?

Following the deaths of a motor-cyclist and his pillion passenger last September at the junction of Stockton Road and the A689, Teesside coroner Michael Sheffield has expressed his concern about the number of accidents on the dual carriageway since alterations were made in 2003. He will recommend to Durham County Council that the junction be sealed off.

The council's strategic transport team is looking into the situation and it is normal practice to record crash statistics for three years before drawing any conclusions. But Mr Sheffield is calling for this time period to be shortened in light of the nine recorded accidents between the date the alterations were completed and May this year.

Councillor Ken Manton said that he had wanted the junction closed for some time and had called for a new junction to be created at the large A689/A177 roundabout, with a connecting road built on a section of green land near Stockton Road. However, some difficult choices about how to fund such a scheme will have to be faced.

Durham County Council will be conducting a consultation exercise in conjunction with Sedgefield News in January.

Bradbury Methodist Chapel closes

It is with deep regret that the formal closure of the chapel is announced with immediate effect.

The efforts of the officers of the chapel which had started to bring more local people into the congregation and had generally raised awareness, have proved to be insufficient to satisfy the requirements of the Methodist Church at circuit level and above, and support for any further expenditure on the building was withdrawn.

In view of the state of the electrical installation, defective windows and the work required to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act, this effectively closed the Chapel.

The new organ donated to the Chapel earlier this year has been passed to a new rehabilitation unit at Hartlepool. A **final service will be held on Sunday 5th December at 3pm.** The stewards would like to thank all those who have supported the Chapel over recent months.

The Reverend John Bower adds:

From a minister's point of view, naturally there is a great deal of sadness and hurt at the closure of any church. We all want to thank and give support to all who have been involved both now and in the past, at Bradbury Chapel. Representatives from other churches in the area also wished to express their support.

Christmas services at St John Fisher

Friday 24th December: **Christmas Vigil Mass**

Carols at 8pm: Mass at 8.30pm

Christmas Day Mass at 10.45am

at Sedgefield Methodist Church

Sunday 19th Dec 10am **Junior Church Carol Service**

6pm **Carol Service**

Christmas Day 10am **Family Service**



Halloween at Hardwick

From damp & doubt to spooks & fun!



A **very big thank you** indeed to all who shared in the Halloween evening at the Country Park. Your support & enthusiastic participation made all the planning & effort, to say nothing of a soaking earlier in the day, more than worthwhile. Many staff colleagues & Volunteers from the County's Countryside section shared in the work of preparation, & the doubts when the rain began to fall & appeared set to continue! However either the weather forecasters 'got it right' or someone found a spell that worked! By the end of the evening more than double the number of last year's visitors had supported the event - & stayed dry! Thought is already being given to the possibility of running the event again next year & visitors' comments on this year's event & suggestions for next year will be most welcome. Reply paid cards were given out on the night - please do return them. In spite of the dry weather the evening would have been a 'wash out' without the support of so many, to each & everyone of whom we once again say "THANK YOU".

Mark Rothery,

...and at St Edmund's Parish Church

Thursday 16th December 7pm **Civic Carol Service**

Sunday 19th December 4pm **Christingle**

Tuesday 21st December 7.30 **Carol Service**

Christmas Eve 11.30pm **Midnight Eucharist**

25th December 10am **Family Service**

Sports Update - with Chris Lines

It's back to football this month, but we also have news of an opportunity for anyone who is interested, to get involved in sport in Sedgefield.

The Sunday league football season is now well underway and teams from Sedgefield are experiencing mixed fortunes. We'll bring you updates from the Black Lion, Cross Hills and St. Edmund's teams over the next few months, but this issue will focus on the Golden Lion.

The team started the season with a lot of new faces and is now making steady progress. Although it is fair (and indeed accurate) to say that the club has lost more games than it has won, recent weeks have seen some encouraging performances and a couple of deserved victories. Two league wins over Quarrington Hill have seen the team reach the landmark of 10 points, which puts it 12 points better off than at the end of last season (don't ask!), and the club management is confident that a surge up the league table is on the cards.

The players certainly talk a good game in the Golden Lion after each game, so if form on the pitch can match that in the future, then the optimism could be well founded. By the time this newsletter lands on your doormat, the team will have played its first derby game, against the Cross Hills, currently higher in the league. That should be a real test and we'll bring you news of the outcome next month.

All of the Sedgefield Sunday league teams use the Sports College as a base and there's usually at least one match there on a Sunday morning. Games kick off at 10.30am and all support is very welcome.

The college itself actually supports sport in Sedgefield in numerous ways, as does the School Sport Co-ordinator programme and Sedgefield Community College Association. For younger enthusiasts, the primary schools are setting up Fit for Fun Clubs and offer after school football, netball and tennis sessions, while for older children and adults the Sports College runs a huge range of activities, from school sports teams

to Tae Bo and fitness sessions.

Meanwhile, the very active Association operates a wide programme that includes badminton, pilates and carpet bowls.

To maintain such a high level of activity and to even consider expanding it further, more volunteers are needed to help out at various times. You do not need to be a super sports person or even a qualified coach, just willing to help.

Interested? If so, then the college is planning to run a course early in the new year that can help you to help the community. Called the Community Sports Leader Award and based at Sedgefield Community College, the course lasts 12 weeks, and the first session is from 5-7pm on Wednesday 12th January. To find out more and to enrol, contact Rana Coates on 01740 621097.

Talking of the college, the facilities there include an excellent astro turf sports pitch, with floodlights for the winter months. Steve Morrell contacted Sedgefield News, in a quest to find a few five-a-side footballers to join his group. Steve and friends use the pitch for an hour from 9pm on Tuesday evenings and could do with a few more players to join them. If you are interested, please call Steve on 07789 483603.

As ever, if you have any sports news please send it to chrisjlines@aol.com. We are particularly keen to hear any news whatsoever about motor-grass racing, as yet again we (we being Chris) have failed to come up with the goods. Next stop Google!

Vision that CAN be realised

Optometrist Elizabeth Maw, in co-operation with our local Catholic churches, is collecting old or unwanted spectacles, on behalf of Vision Aid Overseas. The charity was set up to tackle the problems of poor eyesight in parts of the developing world where access to optical care is severely restricted. Over 1000 pairs of spectacles were received in just 2 weeks after recent publicity and now preparations are in hand for Elizabeth to spend two weeks as a volunteer in Kenya, testing and fitting spectacles to people with poor eyesight in rural areas. She will take boxes of spectacles sorted into different prescriptions by trained prisoners 6 UK prisons.

It is almost inconceivable that we should go without spectacles when we become shortsighted or find difficulty reading, and it's difficult for us to imagine life without this simple privilege.

The difference made by Vision Aid's work is best illustrated by a couple of examples: **a boy of 14** who had stopped going to school because he couldn't read the blackboard: **a 24 year old hair-dresser** forced out of work because she couldn't see more than a few centimetres in front of her. Without glasses unemployment and poverty would be her lot.

You can help Elizabeth & Vision Aid by parting with unused specs, doing some fundraising or being a member.

Contact David Jasper on 621771, or Vision Aid on 01293-535016.



All change for David

"The Department is probably the best stocked in the province. Both textbooks and equipment are in abundance, a Maths teacher would definitely enjoy working in this school"

"The houses are relatively new, the school just having been opened in 1991. There is, however, a problem of water in the school. The pump broke down and the one working is too small to pump water the whole day. Both water and electricity come on for 30 minutes in the morning and 30 minutes in the evening"

Extracted details received from Mambwe Secondary School in Zambia, where I will teach mathematics for the next two years. Perhaps slightly different from my last job in Wymondham College, Norfolk, where school dinners were always followed by a generous selection of cheeses.

Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) arranged this job. They are a British charity partnering volunteers (mostly from Britain, Canada and the Netherlands) with employers, in some of the world's poorest countries. The two thousand volunteers presently employed work towards VSO's six key goals: education, HIV/AIDS, disability, health and social well being, secure livelihoods, and participation and governance.

Since University I have hoped for the opportunity to work where my mathematical skills would be most needed – VSO has provided me with this chance. Stockton Rotary Club also helped by part-sponsoring my placement. As VSO is a charity, its existence depends upon such generosity. Anyone able to offer further support please call me on 01740 621049 or VSO direct on 0208 780 7300.

Many people, hearing about my placement, have told me that they would have loved to do such-like, but missed the opportunity. They are surprised to hear that the average age of VSO volunteers is 35, with many over 60. Anyone interested should browse the job opportunities on the website www.vso.org.uk
David Swanson

Sedgefield News
will be keeping in touch with David Swanson during his time in Zambia.

We also plan to bring a first hand account of Elizabeth Maw's journey to Kenya with Vision Aid. We wish them both well.

A Cow for Africa Appeal

Following the successful fundraising event held at Bradbury in October, which raised over £600 on the night, it is pleasing to be able to report that donations from the Rotary Clubs of Sedgefield and Newton Aycliffe brought this up to £1050.

Matching grants have now been obtained from Rotary International to bring the final figure up to £3500. This will be passed to the 'Cow for Africa Appeal' in the next few weeks and will form part of a £30,000 scheme to supply cattle and the appropriate training to a village in Kenya. Once again, many thanks to all concerned.



Brownie Birthday Celebration (photos left & right)

1st and 2nd Sedgefield Brownies all gathered together at Hardwick Hall primary school on 16th November, to celebrate the 90th birthday of the Brownies. Several important visitors came to our party, including the Mayor of Sedgefield, Jim Wayman, Division Commissioner, Jane Vaslet and several former brownies and leaders who came to share their memories with us. Our visitors were welcomed by Megan Till and Laura Foakes of 2nd Sedgefield, and were entertained as each pack taught the other pack one of their favourite games. 1st Sedgefield played Three Star Chase and 2nd Sedgefield played The Giant's House. Tea followed, provided by the Brownies, and a huge chocolate birthday cake provided by Number 4 teashop. After a sing song of Brownie favourites, the party ended with the enrolment of 3 Brownies from 1st

and 4 from 2nd Sedgefield.

The Brownies were started by Lord Baden-Powell in 1914 and were originally called Rosebuds but he bowed to public opinion when the girls said they didn't like the name. As well being well established in the UK, the Brownies are also international and we celebrated both with Brownies dressed in uniforms from days gone by (I'm sure there are plenty of 30 somethings who remember the A-line dresses, brown belts, white socks, neck ties and woolly hats) and one in an Australian uniform. We also had a display of memorabilia including scrapbooks, photographs and camp blankets decorated with badges. As part of the national celebration of the 90th birthday a new yellow Brownie rose has been bred and it was launched by the Countess of Wessex at this year's Chelsea Flower Show. As a final celebration

of the 90th birthday, 2nd Sedgefield Brownies have bought a Brownie Rose and will plant it in the garden at Hardwick Hall primary school in the spring.

Brown owls Joanne and Sandy would like to thank the Brownies and their visitors for helping to make the 90th birthday an event to remember.

Here's to another 90!

Local Nursery receives glowing Ofsted report

Cherry Tree Children's Nursery had its combined nursery Ofsted inspection in September, and has received positive feedback and an excellent report. The inspection found the provision acceptable and of high quality.

The nursery was rated 'very good' in the provision of nursery education and was found to provide a high stimulating learning environment. Ofsted also found that Cherry Tree Nursery provides good care for children. Safety is given high priority, hygiene is very good, with a range of stimulating activities available, a comprehensive range of policies and procedures in place and very good relationships formed with parents/carers. The Nursery, which opened in June 2001, caters for 28 children aged 0-5 years per day.

Cherry Tree Nursery also achieved Investors in People last year and is working towards NDNA Quality Counts where they hope to be assessed early next year.

Proprietors Jane Thompson and Steve Hitch and all the nursery staff are extremely delighted with the report, which reflects the hard work and high level of commitment they put in.

PTFA News - for one night only - Community College is Chocolate Heaven!

Sedgefield Community College has invited Thornton's Chocolates to college on **Tuesday 7th December**. There will be a display of chocolate gifts in the main foyer from 6.30pm. Chocolates can be sampled, bought or pre-ordered. There will also be a raffle of Thornton's goods and other items, proceeds to SCC Music Department, who are holding their annual Christmas Concert and Panto in the Main Hall at 7.30pm the same evening. Everyone is welcome.

If you would like to pre-order chocolates before the event, brochures are available from Sharon Rhodes 01740 623963. This is an ideal opportunity to "try before you buy!"

Renewable energy a step closer

Sedgefield Borough could be set to host its first Wind Farm now that plans have been submitted by wind energy developer Wind Prospect for the Walkway Wind Farm. The application went ahead after independent studies confirmed Wind Prospect's own assessment that the area was suitable for a wind energy development. Feedback from exhibitions held in Sedgefield, Fishburn and Trimdon helped to finalise the plans for the project and the application is now for 7 turbines rather than the originally envisaged 8. The revised layout gives around 100 metres greater distance from the nearest houses to the nearest turbine.

So, will Sedgefield play its part in meeting the UK's contribution to the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol? Despite the arguments surrounding this scheme and wind turbines in general, the figures are impressive. The proposed scheme would supply, on average, as much clean green electricity in a year as is used by around 11,700 homes, whilst preventing emissions to the atmosphere (when compared to fossil fuel powered generation of the equivalent energy) of around 55,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year, as well as

850 tonnes of SO₂ and 200 tonnes of NO_x.

Wind Prospect say their goal is to work in partnership with local communities to find the right balance between the global benefits of wind energy and the impact of wind farms on the local environment. Development Engineer Tim Matthews says wind energy is the cleanest and lowest cost form of renewable energy available. He also reminds us that the UK is no longer self sufficient or secure in its energy generation capability.

They also stress the benefits of a Local Trust Fund financed from a proportion of the revenue generated by the proposed wind farm. The Trust Fund's objective would be to provide a locally controlled community resource to help fund local energy efficiency/sustainability projects and general environmental enhancement projects. If there is sufficient interest there may also be an opportunity for people to invest in 'green' energy by purchasing shares in a proportion of the proposed development.

Robot winners

Sedgefield Primary and Hardwick Primary Schools visited "Netpark" recently and entered a competition to build a Robot. The winners each received a cheque from Councillor Ken Manton for £50, to be spent at Durham Learning Resources, on Books for their school. Hardwick Primary School children report:

"After the visit to the Netpark, 4 children from year 4 class went to County hall to spend their £50 cheque on books. They got a tour of the ground floor and got a photo taken with Peter Burns (Childrens' Librarian) and Councillor Manton. After, they got bags with interesting things in and went back to School."

December DIARY

Announcements on this page are free to non-commercial organisations

Tiny Steps at St Edmund's
Wednesday 1st December
 at 1.30pm. Singing & Stories for
 pre-school children & carers
All welcome

Sedgefield W.I.
Wednesday 1st December
 Parish Hall at 7.15pm
"Margaret Walker Singers"
 Members competition - a home
 made Christmas Tree decoration
New members always welcome

Wynyard Woods
Planetarium Show
 What's up in the Sky this month?
Friday 3 December
 Best to book a seat,
 ring 01740 630544

Sedgefield Cricket Club
Saturday 4th December
QUIZ NIGHT
 presented by John Bryant

Town Councillor Surgery
Monday 6th December
 from 6.30 - 7pm
 in the Council Offices

Local History Society
Monday 6th December
 Gerald Martin - former monk, on
Life behind the
Monastery Wall
 7.45pm at Ceddesfeld Hall
 Mulled wine & mince pies.
January's meeting
Monday 10th
 Alan Whitworth
Yorkshire Oddities!
Guests & new members welcome

Sedgefield Garden Society
Tuesday 7th December
 at 7.30pm in Ceddesfeld Hall
Christmas Party & Quiz
All Welcome

The Lyric Singers &
Lyrics Youth Choir
 present
Festive Voices
 in St Edmund's Church at
 7.30pm on
Fri 10th & Sat 11th December
Tickets £4 / £3 concessions
 from Selections, choir members
 & Audrey Lofthouse (620625)
For your comfort, there are now
cushions on the pews!

Sedgefield Christmas
Farmers' Market
Sunday 12th December
 9.30am to 1.30pm
 with Seasonal Entertainment
Local traders always welcome
 Please contact Bob Harris on
07977 231815 for details

Sedgefield Borough Council
Countryside Events
Winter Wonderland
 5 mile circular guided walk in
 South Sedgefield & Mordon on
Sun 12th December 10am-3pm
 Mince pies and mulled wine
 along the way, but bring a
 packed lunch!
Meet at St Edmund's Church.

Santa Claus Trail
Sun 19th December from 11am
 Follow the clues to Santa's
 Grotto where you'll meet Santa,
 then get creative,
 turning natural & recycled
 objects into decorations.
Meet at the entrance to
Ferryhill Carrs,
opposite Wood Lane

Santa's on the Green
 with Sedgefield Round Table
on Sunday 12th December

Sedgefield Races
 December meetings
Tuesday 7th - 1st race at 12.50
Friday 31st - 1st race at 1pm

 **Carols on**
the Green
 Come cloud or starlight, hail
 or snow, **Fishburn Silver Band** will
 be on the Village Green on Friday
 17th December at 6pm
 So join the happy throng to sing
 your favourite carols round the
 Christmas Tree
 Then get together again at Midnight
 on the 31st, **to enjoy the fireworks**
 and bring in the New Year
 among friends
Carols are sung at Mordon
 on Monday 20th at ???
 All your favourites to get you in the
 mood for Christmas

Family History Group
 Next meeting January 17th

Sedgefield Players present
CINDERELLA
 by Alan Frayn
 in Sedgefield Parish Hall
 at **7pm** on Monday, Tuesday
 Wednesday & Thursday
 27th -30th December
 And at **2pm** on Tues 28th Dec
Tickets £5/£4.50 (Concessions)
 from Selections & members of
 the Players (620 091)
10% discount for parties of
 ten or more
By kind permission of Samuel French Ltd

Country Market (WI) Fridays in the Parish Hall 9.30-11.00am
Closed Christmas Eve & all of January. Re-opens Feb 4th

Please note early copy date for next edition - items for January by Monday 13th December

Your Letters

Open letter to Sedgefield Borough Council

Is the Council really proud to boast of spending £283,177 of Council Tax money on facilities West of the A1(M), when East of the said road there are none? The cost of buying their 'luxury Alexander Rose Teak Steamers and Sprung Flooring' could have gone towards building a swimming pool adjacent to the Community Hospital, which would benefit everyone living in the East of the Borough. There have been numerous letters and petitions asking for - nay, DEMANDING - equal treatment this side of the 'Motorway Wall'. I wonder why we pay our Council Tax! I for one am...

Totally Disgruntled!

Name & Address supplied

Max's cycle ride

Just a note to let everyone know that Max did his sponsored cycle ride on 25th October 2004. He managed really well. We went on the Castle Eden Walkway from the new bridge at Wynyard to Thorpe Thewles and back again (approx. 6 miles).

We both thoroughly enjoyed it, the walkway is beautiful at this time of year. Max particularly liked freewheeling through the big puddles!

I have been touched by the generosity and support of the people of Sedgefield. He has raised £177.00 so far and the money is still coming in. The Fun Club are thinking about buying a DVD player and some up-to-date children's DVDs with the money.

If you would still like to offer your support, we are still able to accept sponsor money. Please ring 01740 623565 for details. *Eileen Blackett*

Sedgefield Learning Borough

Drop in to 'the Zone' at 58 Front Street on Thursday mornings from 9.30 - 12.30 with your IT & Computer problems
We'll be here to help!

A note of thanks

Margaret Mowat would like to thank all who attended the concert on October 22nd at Sedgefield Methodist Church in aid of the National Children's Home. **We raised £220.**

December BANDSTAND

101 Gigs

- 03 - Dr. Browns, Middlesbrough
- 04 - The Sun Inn, Newbottle
- 11 - Ye Olde Horseshoe, Crook
- 12 - The Normanby, Normanby
- 14 - Private Party
- 16 - The Gold Medal, Low Fell
- 17 - Old Liberty's, Middlesbrough
- 18 - The Wheatsheaf, Spennymoor
- 22 - The Lord Nelson, Spennymoor
- 27 - The Ox Inn, Stanley
- 31 - Princess Alice, Middlesbrough

Nirvada Gigs

- 05 - Garricks Head, North Shields
 - 10 - The Spot, Hartlepool
- Other local bands are welcome to use the Bandstand. Send us your info by mid month - see below for contact details.

When it comes to New Year's resolutions, it's all too easy to be over-ambitious, so this year, why not resolve to do something that will be easier to keep up?

Sedgefield News is looking for volunteers to add to our list of distributors, partly to fill in when one of the regulars is unwell or on holiday, and partly to spread the load a little more. It would be great to have someone from every street in our patch, so why not phone the office on **629011**, or Marcus on **629068**, and make just one little resolution!

If you deliver Sedgefield News, even if it's only a few copies, we'd like to meet you and thank you in person.

You're invited to call in at 58 Front Street on December 23rd at about 2pm, for seasonal refreshments and to collect your copies of the January edition.

Any NEW VOLUNTEERS are WELCOME TO JOIN US

Naturally, if you can't come, your copies will be delivered to you in the usual way.

Sedgefield News is grateful for the support of the Community Empowerment Fund & the County Durham Foundation. Sedgefield Development Partnership is a member of the Development Trusts Association.



Copy for the January issue by December 13th please, to 58 Front St, Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ

snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk or 01740 629011

Views expressed in Sedgefield News are not necessarily those of the publisher. We strive to be impartial & independent. Sedgefield News will not publish letters of unknown authorship.