

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



Sedgefield NEWS

December 2007

A very Merry Christmas to all our readers and advertisers
and a Happy New Year to you all!

Remembrance Service at St Edmund's



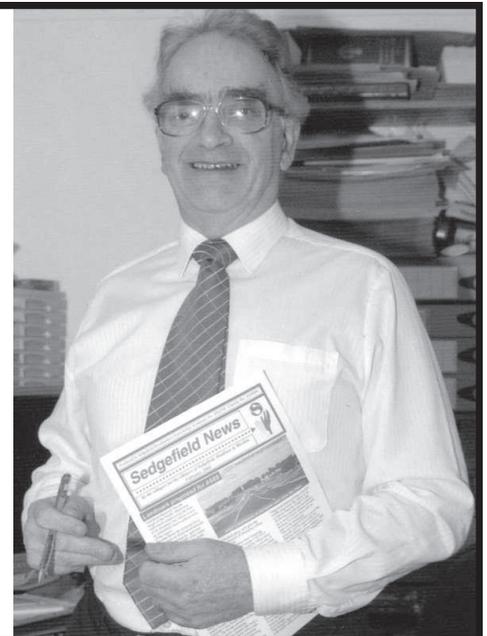
Among those who laid poppy wreaths at the Remembrance Service at St. Edmund's Church on Sunday 11th November were several local groups and leaders. In the front are Pam Royle representing The Lord Lieutenant, The Mayor and his consort Pat Buckley-Atkins, PC Keith Todd and Jeanette & Wilf Garbutt. There was also a similar service taking place at St. Luke's Church at Winterton Village at 2pm. This service was also attended by the Mayor Dudley Waters and Borough Councillors' Deputy Mayor John Robinson.

Photograph courtesy of Ken Saiger

ERIC BENSON 1936 - 2007

It is with deep regret we have to announce the death of the first editor of Sedgefield News, Eric Benson. He died on October 21, aged 71, at the University Hospital of Hartlepool after a nine-week battle with cancer. He leaves a widow, Sheila, and daughter, Lisa. Originally from Hartlepool, he moved to Sedgefield around the turn of the Millennium and became one of the team that launched Sedgefield News in 2002 when he acted as editor, facilitator and project manager and later with organising the distribution. He was invaluable in making contact with businesses and building up a good base of advertisers, without whom

Sedgefield News could not have survived. He and his family moved back to Hartlepool in 2004 where he was able to pursue his hobbies of raising fuchsias and photography. He was secretary of Hartlepool Horticultural Show for twelve years and was known across the country. He was also a member of the Hartlepool Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society. He was also a keen runner having once taken part in the Great North Run when in his 50's. Eric's funeral took place on Friday 26th October in St Hild's Church, Hartlepool.



Plea to Santa will soon be answered!

A Christmas Wish

We are very feisty pensioners
 We go to Stockton twice a week
 We stand frozen in the country
 There's no shelter there to seek
 Our trusty wooden shelter
 Was removed more than a year ago
 It was too old and rickety to shelter us
 The "Powers that be" should know
 So they've gone and left us with nothing
 Just wind, sleet and rain
 Plus the wonderful English weather
 You can say that again!
 We are now back in November
 With Christmas looming soon
 We've got cold and backache through standing
 (Sometimes the bus does not come)
 We have been promised a new bus shelter
 We've paid our dues and taxes online
 Please Santa – bring us a shelter
 Hope this does something this time
Merry Christmas to all our readers from the Frozen Travellers - see page 5 for latest news on this topic!

Christmas Light ceremony

Saturday 1st December "Christmas Light Ceremony and Dancing with Snowmen Parade" begins at 5pm on the village green when our new Christmas lights will be switched on.

Running alongside this event will be "The Night of 100 Candles Ceremony" around St. Edmund's Church (this is to raise funds for St. Edmund's interior lighting. Families are invited to purchase a numbered tea light for £1.00 from schools, the library and The Town Council. The winning number drawn will be the child invited to switch on the new Christmas lights on the village green. This is a Free Event.

MISSING from St Edmund's Church

For several years a black ring binder containing a detailed history of St Edmund's, was kept at the back of the church, specifically for the use of visitors and the Open Church Team. It has now been missing for most of the summer and we would like it back please. The file actually belongs to Miss Nicola Thorpe and the contents were researched by her as part of her college course, and subsequently were loaned to the church. So, does anyone know where it is now?

To return the file please contact either Mrs Joan Unsworth (621073) or Mrs Yvonne Dow (621079)

SEDGEFIELD PLAYERS

This year's panto is a traditional show for all the family.

GOODY TWO SHOES

by Paul Reakes

at 7pm on

Thursday 27th, Friday 28th,
 Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th
 and at 2pm on

Saturday 29th December 2007
 in

Sedgefield Parish Hall

**Tickets £6 (Concessions £5)
 are available from Selections in Sedgefield,
 or phone (01740 621 000 or 01740 620 091)**

The Parish Hall refurbishment is due to start in the new year so there will not be our usual March production but we hoping to do a show at some other venue. Back in the Parish Hall we are planning a show in May and a SPYS show in July. *Haydn Neal*

Wine, Cheese and Quiz Evening

A Wine, Cheese & Quiz evening will be held at Ceddesfeld Hall on Sunday Feb 3rd, 2008. This is a Friends' of St Edmund's fundraiser towards the expenses of the flower festival in July. Doors open at 7.30 pm, the quiz starts at 8 p.m. This will enable anyone who also wants to, to go to evensong.

Youth Football Fixtures

09 Dec (A) v Beechwood Youth
 20 Jan (A) v Aycliffe Youth
 27 Jan (H) v Great Ayton JFC
 10 Feb (A) v Eaglescliffe Elimentis
 17 Feb (H) v Ferryhill Town

24 Feb (A) v Grangetown YCC
 02 Mar (A) v South Park Rangers (b)
 16 Mar (A) v 21st Allstars (b)
 30 Mar (H) v Beechwood Youth

Kick-off times - 10.30 to 11.00am

Sedgefield Village Veterans



Did you attend our re-enactment in October?

Photos by Ian Hunter

What did you think of it? What could we have done better?

I hope you all enjoyed it! We intend to do it again and more, in 2008, However, to make it even better, we need more volunteers to take the pressure off individuals. Veterans, by the MoD definition, are people who have served in any of the armed services. However, relations of veterans can qualify. So if you would like to join us and you qualify by service, no problem. If you have a relative who was or is a serving member of the armed forces, then you are welcome to join us. Give us a ring on 01740 623654. If it's the answer phone, leave a message as well as your phone number & someone will contact you soonest.

Otherwise the date of our first meeting (AGM) in January 2008 will be published in next month's Sedgefield News. *David Hillerby Chairman.*

St Luke's War Memorial, Winterton Park, Sedgefield

Sedgefield Veterans held their second wreath laying ceremony on Sunday 11th November. There was a good turn out (double last year's). The Vicar of St Edmund's, Rev Michael Gobbett officiated and wreaths were laid by the Deputy Mayor of Sedgefield Borough and Cllr. Dudley Waters, Mayor of Sedgefield Village, Tim Spearey on behalf of the Veterans and Wilf & Jeanette Garbutt for Neighbourhood Watch. Thanks to everyone for their involvement and we hope to see even more people there, next year.

Get Active and Keep Fit

Over 50? Age Concern runs a variety of exercise and dance sessions, in local venues, that are suitable for all fitness levels and ability.

These sessions are open to anyone who would like to keep active in really informal groups and comfortable surroundings. Current members have reported that after just a few sessions they could not believe that fun exercising could improve general health and well being so quickly. Learning new steps and movements increases body tone and guarantees a few laughs with new friends, along the way.

Exercise to music venues

Fishburn Youth and Community Centre, **Monday 11 – 11.45 am**
Clarence Court Housing, Community room, Spennymoor, **Monday 1 – 2 pm**

Village Hall, Bishop Middleham, **Tuesday 1.30 – 2.15 pm**

Sedgefield Parish Hall, Sedgefield Village, **Wednesday 11.30 am – 12.15 pm**

Avon Court Community Room, Bunhill Way, Newton Aycliffe, **Friday 9.30 – 10.15am**

Dance Venues

Dianne White's, Academy of Dance and Fitness, Cross St. Shildon.

Wednesday 10 – 11am

Village Hall, Bishop Middleham, **Wednesday 1.30 – 2.15 pm**

Spennymoor Leisure Centre, **Thursday 1.30 – 3.30 pm**

Tai Chi

Sedgefield Parish Hall, Sedgefield Village **Tuesday 10.30am – 11.30pm**

For more information on any of these sessions please contact, June, Age Concern, 01388 720064, or just come along on the day.

Community SAFETY



Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crimewatch Panel Winter Nights – Household Security

With the dark nights comes the Burglar & Sneak Thief's greatest opportunity. Take the time and trouble to prevent **you & your family** providing them with their *free Xmas Bonus*:

Don't leave your house unlit after dark – use light timers, and draw your curtains.

Don't leave valuable items or Xmas presents on show - in your home or your car.

Lock your doors even when you are at home.

Don't leave your keys where a thief can see them or where they can be hooked and retrieved via the letterbox.

Make sure your garden shed is securely locked, with ladders and other burglar friendly tools locked away and **out of sight**.

Tell a "trusted" neighbour of any extended periods of absence and ask for their help to push all letters and papers **fully** through the letterbox (& why not complain to the culprits who leave them sticking out in the first place?). Report any suspicious persons or out of place vehicles to the Police 0845 60 60 365 you might just be surprised at how effective this information is at securing convictions and crime prevention.

Door Bars are a simple and effective deterrent to the sneak thief or unwelcome visitor; these are available from our local Community Warden **Tim Spearey** who will also fit same if required (to contact Tim see details below or you can contact N/Hood Watch C/man **Ken Saiger** on **621896**). Visible burglar alarms make burglars think twice and usually they go elsewhere, similarly good exterior lighting usually deters thieves; for advice on these items and other security aspects contact **Neil Langthorne** our local Crime Prevention Officer on **01325 742714**.

N/Hood Watch are able to provide door/window stickers stating "No Cold Calling" and also a self adhesive label to attach to your phone, with the Police & Warden telephone numbers detailed on it; please contact Ken Saiger or your Neighbourhood Watch Street Contact for supply.

PC Todd's report

Despite the run up to Christmas being a busy time for the active thief and burglar, crime reported to the police remains low. However the following have been reported:

In St Luke's Crescent a garage was broken into and an electronic game taken from the car inside; a car was stolen at the racecourse whilst the owner was exploring the Boot Fair; during the re-enactment weekend an old soldier accidentally dropped his plastic toy gun only to witness a youth pick it up and run off with it.

Damage was caused to the lights of a vehicle in Belsay Court and to a wing mirror on The Square; windows were smashed in West Park Garth and Maple Grove (2 people have been arrested for these) and damage caused to windows on Rectory Row and Front Street – we still require information to catch the perpetrators.

Anti-social behaviour amongst young people still remains a concern, especially at the weekend; we will continue to deal with inappropriate behaviour. That's all until the New Year!

Keith

Pub Watch

No incidents requiring further action were reported at a meeting held recently in the Nag's Head. All Pub Watch members wish you a happy and safe Christmas time and invite you to celebrate by enjoying a drink or two in the pub or club of your choice.

Telephone Numbers

Community Warden Tim Spearey at Sedgefield **623654**
or via Chilton Control Room: **01388 721351**
Local Police: 0845 6060365 -

to report concerns, seek advice or pass on information to the Police
(it may be prudent to keep a note of details of any conversation & to obtain an incident number).

For advice/assistance, call CPO Neil Langthorne on 01325 742714
or Neighbourhood Watch

Co-ordinator Sarah Norman, on 01325 742755

The Sedgefield Charities

[Registration nos: 230395;
230409]

The Sedgefield Education Foundation

[Registration nos: 527317]

Appointment of Clerk to the Trustees

The Clerk acts as both Secretary and Treasurer to the Trustees of The Sedgefield District Relief in Need Charity, Howle Hope Estate and The Sedgefield Educational Foundation.

The Clerk is responsible for the calling and recording of all meetings of the Trustees and sub-committees; for the maintenance of the register of Trustees; for the maintenance of the bank accounts and investments; for the preparation of the Annual Report and Accounts; for the preparation of requests for assistance for consideration by the Trustees; for relationships with the Charity Commission and for all correspondence. Additionally the Clerk is a member of the Management Committee and is Secretary and Treasurer of the Pop-In Club [SCA].

The regular pro-forma letters and lists and financial accounts are maintained with Microsoft Word and Excel; they are, as far possible, automated for the preparation of the Annual Accounts. The Clerk would be free to change or enhance the current system.

The post is salaried; the post holder is responsible for self-reporting to the Inland Revenue. The salary will be negotiated with the Appointments Committee.

It is proposed that the appointment will be made as from 1st February 2008, scheduled meetings are in March and October.

Applications should be made to

The Chairman of the Sedgefield Charities
c/o 13 North Park Road
Sedgefield
TS21 2AP

**Closing date for applications:
31 January 2008**

If you would like to discuss the work with the current Clerk, telephone 01740 620009 to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Sedgefield Residents' Forum

Speakers from North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust gave a brief outline of the 'Momentum Pathways to Healthcare' i.e. how health care will be delivered to us after the review. There will be further ongoing consultations so watch out for events and have your say on what will affect us all.

Updates on village issues were given by a Town Councillor. Good news – the new bus shelter for Stockton Road has been ordered so will hopefully soon be in place before the really bad weather – can't imagine why it has taken so long. Other good news, it looks as if we will get a 'safe crossing' island on North End. However, there is a single objection to the scheme so that may delay things.

The two major issues which will affect us all were of course discussed i.e. the proposed Holiday Park at Brakes Farm and the proposed animal by-product waste incinerator at Bolams.

The planning meeting to consider the Holiday Park is probably going to be held on December 7th but confirmation of the date will only be given 5 days before the event by the Borough Council, work is on-going on presenting the communities' objections. After the meeting there was some media coverage on this issue and despite the unhelpful statement made by our Mayor we are pleased to say that we have had confirmation that the Town Council are totally against the development and will be presenting that opposition at the planning meeting.

The Appeal Inquiry on Bolam's proposed animal by-product waste incinerator will take place on January 16th 2008 in the hospitality suite at Sedgefield Racecourse, we will give times when we have them.

These are two major issues which have the potential of a tremendous negative effect on our community and the majority of residents have already expressed their opposition. But now is the important time – **both the planning meeting on the Holiday Park and the appeal inquiry on Bolams incinerator are open to the public attending and it is important that we continue to show our views by attending these meetings** – after all I'm sure we would all be complaining if the meetings were held 'behind closed doors'; so please do make every effort to attend. Further information on times/venues etc will be on the notice board, the library and emailed via the contact list.

The Forum have agreed to change the meeting date to the 1st Monday in each month instead of the 4th. This will mean that after the AGM and November meeting on 26th November the next meetings would be December 3rd and January 7th but please watch the notice board and e-mailings for any changes to these.

Volunteering isn't just good for the soul. It can put you on track to improving your career - and your bank balance. People who give their time gain experience that can help them beat the competition in today's tough job market. Whether you are returning to work after a career break, in between jobs or looking to enhance or change your career you should consider volunteering.

Some of the benefits of volunteering include:

*Valuable work experience to enhance your cv for people who want a career change, volunteering gives you the opportunity to learn about the sector you are interested in and gain relevant work experience. - *An up to date professional reference.- *The opportunity to undertake relevant training.- *The opportunity to develop skills and build confidence. - *A chance to meet new people and try something new. - *Put something back into the community – most voluntary groups could not exist without the help of volunteers.

Volunteering is extremely flexible and you can commit to as much or as little time as you like. There are a wide range of volunteering opportunities available in areas such as administration, advice work, befriending, care work, catering, counselling, driving, educational, environmental, event organising, gardening & DIY, health, information technology, management, mental health, retail, sports, teaching, and youth and community work.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering in your area you can contact Volunteer Centre Sedgefield Borough on 01388 811115, or come and talk to us at our outreach sessions at Newton Aycliffe Community Learning Shop, 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month between 10am and 12noon, Shildon People's Centre, 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month between 10am and 12noon or Trimdon House, 1st Wednesday of each month 10am – 12noon. If you can't make these sessions but would still like to talk to someone, appointments can be arranged in other areas.

1st Sedgefield Scout Group's Christmas Postal Service

Once again members of 1st Sedgefield Scout Group and the St. Edmund's Explorers Unit will be delivering Christmas cards within Sedgefield village during December.

If you would like to use this service, please take your cards to Number Four on Front Street and deposit them in the box that has been placed there.

Any donations for card deliveries will be gratefully received and help 1st Sedgefield Scout Group to provide great activities and skills to youngsters in the area.

It's been another busy month on the sporting front. After getting over the disappointment of the Rugby Union World Cup Final, the nation turned its focus on the England football team's stuttering quest to get to the 2008 European Championships. As I type this, Steve McClaren and his squad should all be writing gushing thank you letters to the Israeli Football Association, but the job isn't quite done yet. By the time you read this, England will have played Croatia, so either the hype will have started about the team's chances next year or the media will be hanging the manager and players out to dry. And if it's the latter, someone will also be calling for the return of the Home Internationals to fill a gap in the fixture list next summer (and keep the commercial merry-go-round going!). Never a dull moment.

Sedgefield Harriers

Sedgefield Harriers held their second annual dinner recently at the Dun Cow. During the event, the club's Runner of the Year award went to Marie Walker. Marie took up running regularly earlier this year with the aim of competing in the Great North Run. She began running with the Harriers' Monday session before moving to more serious training sessions on a Wednesday as she gained confidence. In October she achieved her goal of running the Great North Run in under 2 hours - a great result for a first attempt at the distance. The Club Member of the Year award went to Matthew Jones for organising the Sedgefield Serpentine Race which was such a success. The men's and women's club captains for the forthcoming year were announced as Gary Hetherington and Andrea Gough. Gary and Andrea will be encouraging Harriers to enter races during the year starting with cross country races during the winter as well as fell races, relays and road races. Three juniors represented Sedgefield Harriers at the Gateshead International Cross Countries on Saturday 10th November. In the Under 15 boys' race promising prospect Jonathan Baines was 25th in a time of 16:14 behind the winner, Daniel Mills of Nuneaton Harriers who ran 13:07. In the U13 boys' race Scott Kippen ran 13:20 to finish 22nd and Andrew Lawson ran 15:11 to finish 28th behind winner Callum Short of Bolton United Harriers who ran 10:59. This was a prestigious international event with many well known runners in the senior events. The Sedgefield trio acquitted themselves well in good company, suggesting a lot of promise for the future. Last month, I mentioned that the Harriers' own

Scott Hydon had been awarded the accolade of Volunteer Coach of the Year in the Durham Sports Awards. In fact, Scott picked up two awards at the same event, held at Ramside Hall Hotel in October. Scott already knew that he had been chosen as Male Volunteer Coach of the Year for Sedgefield Borough, but the second award came as a huge surprise. Sports clubs, schools and councils from across County Durham were represented at the event, which celebrated the best in local sport. There were six nominees for Male Volunteer Coach of the Year, all district winners from their own parts of the county, so when the gold envelope was opened the level of expectation around the room was matched only by the look of surprise on the face of Scott when his name was read out.

The citation said, among other things, that Scott had taken the junior section of Sedgefield Harriers from a membership of six to over 40 in the past twelve months, led athletics sessions in local schools and generally encouraged young people to take part in athletics. Scott was chosen for this coveted honour ahead of coaches in all sports from across the county. Everyone at Sedgefield Harriers is rightly proud of Scott's outstanding achievement. I am sure that the rest of the village shares that pride, not only in these awards, but also in the great strides that the Harriers have made in developing and growing into such a successful club.

Sedgefield Squash Club

The squash season has commenced, with Sedgefield Squash Club entering three men's teams into the Durham & Cleveland Leagues. Unfortunately, due to lack of numbers the ladies' team has had to be withdrawn, despite having been promoted last season. So if there are any ladies out there with an interest in taking up squash, please get in touch with the club (details below), as new members are always welcome.

Back to the Durham & Cleveland Leagues. The 1st team reside in the 4th division, the 2nd team is in the 5th division and the 3rd team in the 6th division. All teams started with promising results, which have continued. At the time of writing this the 1st team has played five matches, winning four and losing the other, the 2nd team has won three matches and lost two, while the 3rd team has started the season well with five wins and one defeat. The Durham & Cleveland Leagues run from September through to March with a short break over the winter in December. The club holds competitions throughout the year.

The season started in September with the team handicap competition, which saw Stephen Rowsby's team victorious, comprising Gary Hetherington, Gordon Peden, Emma Larcombe, Matthew Peart and Robert Pearce. The club is currently looking for fundraising support through way of sponsorship. Companies can commit to placing an advertising sticker on either court, for an annual fee of £100. If you are interested please contact Mick Carr on (01740) 621139.

If you would like any information about the squash club, please contact Chris or Julia Rowsby on (01740) 621125.

Dinghy Sailing

On Sunday November 4th the first RYA Onboard North East Inter Club Regatta was held on the River Tees at Stockton. There were four clubs competing against each other; Tees and Hartlepool Yacht Club (represented by Sam and Michael Jones of Sedgefield and Shaun Heron of Hartlepool), Castlegate Quay (Stockton), Scaling Dam and Derwent Reservoir. The regatta was held in bright sunshine but with only a very light breeze and consisted of four races. The racing was close but after all the results were added up, Shaun Heron was first, Michael Jones was second and the Tees and Hartlepool Yacht Club team took the inaugural Inter Club trophy. Congratulations to Sam and Michael who are both pupils at Sedgefield Community College.

Sedgefield Juniors FC

Ryan Towler has a further update and request:

"We have lost a few matches this month - 7-1 to Grangetown, 5-1 to Ferryhill and 3-1 to Barnard Castle (cup match). Then at last we got back on track with a 5-0 win against Darlington All Stars (it sounds like Sedgefield Juniors were the 'stars' in that game!).

"One of our goalkeepers, Tom Ducker, has left us to concentrate on his rugby - thanks and good luck to Tom. Meanwhile, Ryan Brown broke his wrist while we were training so we hope it mends quickly and he's soon back with us. Thank you to Sedgefield Round Table who gave us £200 towards equipment.

"Last but not least, does anyone have a trophy that we can adopt? It may be one that has been left in a cupboard gathering dust. If you can help please call (01740) 620033." That's all for this month. As ever, send any sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com.

A Wonderful Halloween at Hardwick Park



We were blessed with good weather for (most of) the Halloween event at Hardwick. Over 1000 people enjoyed such diverse entertainments as the scary walk (and less scary walk for the little ones), badge making, spider making, pumpkin carving, finger puppets, fire

juggling, story telling, apple bobbing, bran tub, box of horrors and bats on sticks. With a gentle and favourable wind, the floating lanterns on the lake were a magical sight. Thanks must be given to Maria Murphy and her happy band of Rangers and volunteers who put in so much hard work to make a memorable evening. The few showers near the end failed to dampen spirits and everyone said they had enjoyed it and looked forward to next year's event.

Pictures courtesy of Tom Stubbs

Sedgefield Racecourse Jump Racing

Tuesday 11th December

First Race 12.50pm Last Race 3.20 pm

Boxing Day, Wednesday 26th December

First Race 12.25pm Last Race 3.20 pm

December Events Diary

A FREE service to
non-commercial organisations

Bingo at Ceddesfeld Hall
Saturday 1st December

Cricket Club Quiz Night
Saturday 1st December
Starts 8pm
Quizmaster John Bryant
All Welcome

Days In Days Out (DIDO)
Christmas extravaganza!
Monday 3rd December
Parish Hall at 1.15pm

Local History Society
7.45pm at Ceddesfeld Hall
Monday 3rd December
Robert Cooper – photographer
"An Illustrated History of Holy
Island"
Followed by mince pies and
mulled wine
All welcome

Sedgefield Mags
Monday 3rd December
8pm in the Nags Head
*'Sedgefield Mags' run a bus to all
Newcastle United home games*

Sedgefield Garden Society
Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.30pm
Tuesday 4th December
Christmas festivities

Sedgefield Town Council
Trip to Leeds
Wednesday 5th December
£8 per person
Still some seats left. Tickets
available from the Town Council
office

Sedgefield W.I.
Wednesday 5th December
"Spot On" Entertainment
by Vivian Slack
7:15pm Parish Hall
Followed by a pooled supper
Members' competition – a
Handmade Christmas Fairy
Visitors welcome (fee £1.50)

CeddesFolk Traditional
Acoustic Session
at Ceddesfeld Hall from 8pm on
Wednesday 5th December
Join our line up of fiddles,
whistles, squeezeboxes,
guitars, ukuleles ...

Sedgefield Farmers' Market
Sunday 9th December
on the Village Green

Sedgefield Civic Trust
No meeting in December

Christmas Craft Fair
Sedgefield Parish Hall
Sunday 9th December
10am-4pm

Homemade cakes and pies, cards
and gifts, jewellery,
photography, woodturning and
more
Free admission with light
refreshments available

**Sedgefield Lyric Singers,
Lirica & the Youth Choir's**
Christmas Concert
"Christmas Cheer"
Friday 14th & Saturday 15th
December at the Parish Hall
Admission is by ticket: Adults £5.
Concessions £4 (which includes
refreshments)
Tickets available from "Selections",
Audrey Lofthouse (tel. no. 620625)
or any choir member

Family History Group
(branch of Cleveland FHS)
Monday 17th December
Members' Christmas Social

Ferryhill, Sedgefield &
District Flower Club
7.30pm Tuesday 18th December
Parish Hall

Members' Christmas Party
Night with Faith Supper

Sedgefield Cricket Club
Live Music Christmas Party
Saturday 22nd December
8pm

Main Guest: Scratch Band. Also
featuring John Wrightson Band,
Huggins and Muggins, Martin
Nesbitt, John Weighell and Carols
with Norton Silver Band
£8 with Christmas Buffet
Telephone 621347
NB The Cricket Club is available for
hire for private parties, normally
free of charge. To book, call Jane
on 629616

Residents' Forum
Probably no meeting in
December but see Holiday Park
notices on notice board

St Edmund's Church
NB - There will be no surgeries (re
Baptisms and Weddings) on
Thursdays 13th and 20th December

Sedgefield Wildlife Group
No meeting in December

Sedgefield Show
No meeting in December

Sedgefield Players Present
"Goody Two Shoes"
By Paul Reakes
A traditional show for all the family
Performances at 7pm
on Thursday 27th, Friday 28th,
Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th
December
and at 2pm on Saturday 29th
December
Sedgefield Parish Hall
Tickets £6 (Concessions £5)
Available from Selections
(or telephone 621000/620091)

101 Gigs in December
22 - Morpeth Leisure Centre
23 - Ye Olde Horseshoe, Crook
24 - Station Hotel, Redcar
26 - Ox Inn, Stanley
28 - Stags Head, Esh Winning
30 - O'Neils, Durham City
31 - Princess Alice, M'boro
Happy Christmas and best
wishes for the new year to all
our fans, followers, mates etc .

Round Table
1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays
Sporting, social and charitable
events - new members welcome
Contact Rob on 629079

Ladies' Circle
2nd & 4th Thursdays
Sporting, social and charitable
events - new members welcome
Contact Viv on 629079

Country Market
Friday mornings 7th & 14th
December in the Parish Hall.
Country Markets will re-open after
Parish Hall refurbishment.

Sedgefield Mother &
Toddler Group@ Methodist
Church
Mondays from 1.15 - 2.45 pm
Tea, coffee and a chat whilst your
children play. Term time only.
For further information call 620572

Coming up

Residents' Forum
Monday 7th January
7pm, Fletcher Room, Parish Hall
All welcome

Mobile Movies
A film for all the family
Friday 11th January
N.B. Rectory Row Primary School.
Entry £1.50 all ages
No need to book but under 8's need

Your Letters

Veterans re-enactment

My friends and I wondered if through the Sedgefield News we could congratulate the Veterans and everyone involved in the re-enactment weekend for such splendid displays. Lots of hard work must have gone into the organisation of all the events – well done – you did a splendid job. Congratulations also to the management and staff of the Crosshill Hotel, what a great effort these lovely people made, all of the staff and management got dressed up for the occasion. How refreshing it was and it most certainly took us back quite a number of years. Thanks again to everyone, your wonderful efforts were greatly appreciated.
Vera, Marjorie, Rita, Lindsey, Sheila and Peggy.

Shame on

We are members of the junior Badminton Club that has been running for at least ten years on a Friday night at Sedgefield Community College. Unfortunately, it seems that it will be disbanded as the Community Association are no longer able to keep it going - it doesn't make a profit. We thought that the college was a COMMUNITY college, with facilities for the COMMUNITY - and what else is on offer for us on a Friday night?
Sarah McGuinness

Traffic Calming

People are saying the traffic calming measures on Durham Road are needed because of the extra traffic in the village these days. Well can I just say that people who have lived here for a little while can remember when Durham road was a main road with tankers, low loaders, and every other sort of vehicle heading north to south through the village. The bypass that was built was supposed to be the traffic calmer. The so called traffic calmers that are there now are a hazard, most people approaching them have to pause and think as to whether they have the right of way or not and I would

Dear Editor

To clarify any possible misunderstanding surrounding the position of the Town Council regarding the planning application for the Holiday Park development. The Town Council is unanimously against the proposal and have engaged the services of a Planning Consultant who has now lodged the Council's written objections to the whole development and who will represent the Town Council at the Planning Committee. This is the first time the Council has taken such action and is indicative of their total opposition to the application.
*Yours sincerely
Lesley Swinbank
Town Clerk*

bet that a large percentage get it wrong causing frustration if not near accidents. The traffic calmers should be removed, speed bumps should be put in their place and a 20 mph speed limit strictly monitored with speed cameras should apply throughout the whole of the village. that way we might have a chance to keep our villagers (especially our children) safe.
Ken Jones

Foul Play at the Flowerbed!

Witness what amounts to an "orphaned" and "unadopted", informal flowerbed (previously an abandoned rockery) sited under the trees, by the steps on the pedestrian way Rectory Row to the Meadows, etc. Someone now seems to have "adopted" this flowerbed, tidying/cleaning it up about twice yearly. Just last week, seasonal attention, two bags of dead vegetation and leaves. Also a few bottles and cans removed, some spring-cleaning, bulbs planted (thank you Council gardener), - so what? Quite. Enter, the considerably less

pleasant: canine excrement of degree a kilo or so (from such a small area), the "adopter" reckoned, which at the outset required picking up and removing to where the dogs' owners should have removed it in the first place, i.e. the publicly provided doggie bin nearby, one of many such across the village environs. The "adopter" rests his case. Locally some red earlobes (and I don't mean from the cold!) as well as socially responsible action should be welcomed and appreciated
E Murtagh

Thank you

I would just like to say a huge thank you to Sedgefield Round Table, Ladies' Circle, Sedgefield Players and the Mayor, whose generous contributions made it possible for me to attend the National Youth Theatre course during October half term. I had an amazing week, and I hope I can use everything that I learnt on the course when I work with Sedgefield Players. Thanks again,
Sarah McGuinness.

Public Footpath

Some weeks ago concern was expressed by residents about anonymous notices which appeared on the footpath from the A 177 to it's junction with the road giving access to Kerr Crescent. The notices declared that the strip of land was not 'a right of way' and that 'Trespassers will be prosecuted'. Coincidentally similar notices appeared in 1992 prohibiting trespass. Complaints from local residents at that time resulted in the County Council, the authority with primary responsibility for Public Rights of Way, publishing proposals to register the footpath. Following due consultation it was confirmed on 24 January 1995 as a Public Footpath and recorded under the Highways Act.
Name and Address supplied.



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