

Produced by volunteers for the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury, Mordon and Fishburn
Published by Sedgefield Development Trust: company No 4312745 Charity No 1100906

Sedgefield NEWS

December 2010

Merry Christmas!

See our **December Diary** for lots of **Party Nights**, the **Players' Panto** & live music from the **New Yorkers**, the **Lyrics Choirs**, **Headrush** & the **Cricket Club**.

You'll find other event dates scattered through the paper - see below and pages **3, 7 & 12** for more **Charity Events** and the **Sedgefield Blues Club**

Let the very wonderful
1st Sedgefield Scouts
Explorer Unit

deliver Christmas Cards to
your Sedgefield friends.

Pop them in to 'Number 4' for
collection, but please remember to
address envelopes fully

Happy Christmas from
Sedgefield Round Table

Bring the kids to see

Santa on the Green
on Sunday 12th

and join us round the tree for

Carols on the Green
on Friday 17th at 6.30pm

New Year's Eve Dance

There are a few tickets left
£18 from the Town Council office

Visit the glorious
Christmas

Farmers' Market

on December 12th

Stock up for Christmas and enjoy
mulled wine & mince pies
served at 10am, courtesy of
Sedgefield Town Council

Sedgefield Harriers
invite you to join in the

Fancy Dress

Christmas Fun Run
starting on the Village Green
at 10am on Farmers' Market day

Call Scott Hydon on
07883 886 305 for details
(prizes for best fancy dress)

Greet the New Year

with fireworks & friends at
Midnight on the Village Green

Very best wishes for 2011,
from the Sedgefield News team

Snapshots of Sedgefield

Thanks to Derrick Lofthouse, Bernie Ruecroft and Dorothy Anderson (nee Waller) who identified some of the November nurses at Hardwick Hall. Front centre is Matron Victoria (Vicky) Duffy, who later married the head gardener at Hardwick, George Hutchinson. Back row second left is Hannah Peacock who lived in Boynston Grove. Married to Reg, a gardener cum gamekeeper at Hardwick who later became an ambulance driver. Two to the left of Matron Duffy is Mrs Ducker. Her husband was an asylum attendant, as they were styled in those days. They lived in the 3 storey house on Front St with children Brian, Brenda, Pamela and Keith, sadly killed in a motorbike accident. To Matron's right is Sister Dorothy Carter. Later married to Billy Holmes, handyman at the Hall, she was an early member of the Lyric Singers. At the beginning of the war the Hall became a maternity home for pregnant mothers evacuated from Byker. Before that, it was a rehabilitation home for young men, run by Durham County Council.

As a young lad, Derrick delivered groceries with his father to the Hall, as well as to Ivy House and prisoner of war camps. His three daughters were born at the Hall, as was Julie Latheron. Her neighbour in The Lane, Emily Bowes was a midwife at Hardwick Hall and Vi Humble of Whitehouse Drive, a WI member for many years, also worked at Hardwick. Derrick remembers the Matron refusing to have the bumpy drive leading to the Hall improved, as it greatly helped the delivery process! Visiting was restricted to fathers only and new mothers stayed at the hall for a fortnight after the birth. The labour ward was on the first floor and, as there was no lift, Billy Holmes carried the mums down to their beds in the wards. A handy man indeed!

Our December snapshot is kindly supplied by Lindy Webster. It shows Sedgefield Church Women's League Dramatic Society outside Ceddesfeld Hall, then the rectory, in the 1940s.

On the back row, second right, is Lindy's great aunt Florence Booth, known as Florrie. Mother to Chrissie Booth, of fond memory, Florence was born in Ivy House, back in the days when there was no stigma to beginning life in the workhouse.

If readers recognise anyone else in the photograph or can supply more details, we'd love to hear from you. Call me on 620091 or email norma@neal.myzen.co.uk

Bloom notes

Volunteers have already planted bulbs in Ceddesfeld Hall & Durham Road woods, and tubs & flower beds in the village centre.

Teacher and farm manager at Sedgefield Community College, Chris Young, is looking for farm machinery; ploughs, pig troughs, chicken feeders, to restore & plant up. They would even tackle an old tractor. If you have something to donate, contact Chris at the College or call the council offices on 621273.

Allotments at Winterton are flourishing, but Sedgefield in Bloom needs a volunteer allotments officer to organise the community garden for use by children, youth groups and older residents.

To contribute recipes based on garden produce for a Blooming Lovely Cook Book, call at the council office or email angela.simpson@sedgefield.net The recent coffee morning raised £298. See p.11 for details of the next one.

Sedgefield in Bloom DVDs cost £4, available from the council offices or the Christmas Farmers' market.

New helpers are always welcome. Call 620091 or email norma@neal.myzen.co.uk



Blues for sale

The last Round Table Blues night was an outstanding success, raising nearly £1100 for local charity (the bands kindly did a reduced rate for us). Apologies to anyone who couldn't get a ticket - demand came from as far away as Rotherham and Newcastle - but we hope to remedy this by putting tickets for our foot-stomping party night on sale in the Post office on December 1st, before promising them to people out of the village. The band to be on

Saturday 18th December is Mojo Hand & the Smokehouse Boys

Sedgefield Veterans

Pie & Pea Supper

in the Parish hall on

Friday 3rd December

to help raise funds for our 2012 assignment. The guest speaker is Captain Richards of the 201(N) Field Ambulance, TA, on

"A day in the life of a nurse in Afghanistan"

It is open to all. Tickets at £4 each are in short supply, so order soon - it's first come, first served.

Contact David Hillerby on **621343**

A Glitzy Spectacular

The ever popular New Yorkers bring their annual Christmas Spectacular Showtime to Sedgefield for the fourth year on December 17th. Last year, despite being on the first night of the 'Snow Blitz', over 60 people made it and thoroughly enjoyed a fantastic evening.

George Wilkinson and Rosemary Jones, popular residents of Sedgefield, are two of the New Yorkers, other members being Dennis & Enid Gale from Ferryhill and Wendy Church from Woodham. Sound and lighting is by John and Sue Hays from Aycliffe.

Their shows are full of hits - Elvis to Abba, Chicago to Oklahoma - with lots of laughter and glamorous costumes designed and made especially for each number.

The New Yorkers recently appeared in a sold out show at Bowburn Hall and by popular request they will be back there in January. They provide entertainment at functions every week over the Christmas season, with their dedicated charity, the Great North Air Ambulance, receiving a donation from the proceedings of each function. Lots of fun in a very good cause - check the Diary page for details.

Sing, Choirs, Sing!

An appropriate title, as, for one night only, the Lyric Singers, Youth Choir (SLYC) and Lirica join together in St Edmund's Church for their Christmas concert. There is much to sing about, as the concert will showcase home-grown "Lyrical" talent. Elaine

Thomson, of the Lyric Singers, has composed words and music for a beautiful new carol, 'Bethlehem', while Tim Jasper of SLYC has expertly arranged four part harmony for it.

So we warmly welcome you to join us for this very special Christmas concert, when this beautiful carol will receive its world premiere.

Dates & details on page 11.

Making it a brighter world in more ways than one!

The 2,000 purple crocus bulbs planted recently by Sedgefield Primary school children, at St Edmunds' Church will certainly add to our enjoyment of next Spring.

Headmistress Andrea Cox and mayor Allan Blakemore were on hand to help the children, along with members of Sedgefield Rotary Club, who provided the bulbs to celebrate the 25 year campaign by Rotary Clubs to eradicate polio worldwide.

This important international campaign provides immunisation in developing countries, where polio continues to infect and paralyse children.



Community SAFETY



Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch

Citizenship Award 2010 Sedgefield Community College

Each year since 2002, we have presented the Alan Sowerby Memorial Citizenship award to one selected pupil from the whole of the school at each of the village's Primary schools; that pupil being judged as most deserving recognition for their attributes as a good citizen.

On learning of this award, recently appointed Head Teacher Mr. David Davies was very keen to re-establish its place at the Community College and to recognise the qualities it demands of the recipient. Neighbourhood Watch are delighted, and the Award has now been presented to one of the village's Senior pupils. The award is emphatically not an academic one but one that essentially recognises the qualities we all aspire for in our children as they grow and develop: *putting one's self second & others first; being aware of others needs and helping them; providing consideration for others; modesty; being supportive of the bigger group (class/team/society); being reliable and consistent; showing integrity and honesty; being trustworthy and respectful* - some of the criteria by which the award is judged.

On November 10th, David Hillerby, Vice Chair of N/Hood Watch accompanied by Chairman Ken Saiger, visited the College to present this year's award to deserving pupil Kyle Harrison. Kyle has put his heart and soul into school activities, is well acknowledged for his consideration for others, reliability and general helpfulness all round. He more than meets the criteria required to become this year's worthy recipient and his modest nature is such that the award was made away from the glare of a full stage presentation - instead being carried out in the Head's study,

with David Davies and Joanne Mills present.

David Hillerby congratulated Kyle on achieving the award and presented him with an engraved trophy, a framed certificate and wished him every success for the future - hopefully achieving his ambition to become a fire-fighter.



Remembrance

The month of November is especially important to those who have served in conflict and for the loved ones who have lost family in the service of our country. Neighbourhood Watch in Sedgefield have for many years proudly supported this important day in the lives of many members by providing wreaths at the Cenotaph on the Village green and also at the Cross at Winterton. On Remembrance Day, David Hillerby laid a wreath on behalf of Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch Members at Winterton Cross, then, on Remembrance Sunday, at the St. Edmund's Cenotaph, wreaths were laid by Phyllis and David Hillerby on behalf of members. *(Photos opposite page)* Chairman Ken Saiger found it very rewarding to have been present at both ceremonies, to have seen once again the input to the community from local youngsters and the ceremonies carried out with such dignity.

Christmas Special

With dark nights comes the Burglar & Sneak Thief's greatest opportunity so take the time and trouble to minimise the risk of giving them an early Xmas Present. Don't leave your house unlit after dark - use light timers and draw your curtains. Don't leave valuable or desirable items on show and lock your doors, even when you are at home. Don't leave your keys (including your car keys) where a thief can see them or where they can be hooked and retrieved via the letterbox. Lock your car and do not leave valuables inside it, even on your drive.

Tell a "trusted" neighbour of any extended periods of absence and ask them to push all letters and papers fully through the letterbox (maybe complain to the culprits who leave stuff sticking out in the first place). Better still if you have a trusted neighbour ask them to draw curtains, remove mail / newspapers from view and keep an eye on your home whilst you are away. Report any suspicious persons or out of place vehicles to the Police on **0345 60 60 365**. The Police want us to do this, as it is a major source of crime detection & prevention.

PC Todd reports

An 'test purchase' was carried out recently in various on & off licensed premises in Sedgefield. The method was to use a volunteer between the ages of 14 & 16 years, to attempt to buy alcohol. Congratulations to the Black Lion and the Nags' Head, who refused to serve the under age customer.

I am disappointed that so many failed the test, including the Coop, Sainsbury's, Theakstons, Hope Inn, Dun Cow, Crosshills and Golden Lion. A member of staff from each of these premises received a fixed penalty fine of £80.

I advise all legal aged drinkers who still look younger than 21 (in pubs) or 25 (in shops) carry some form of ID to avoid embarrassment when asked their age.

Crime reported recently includes theft - of lead (twice) from Ceddesfeld Hall; of alloy wheels from Eden Drive and Meadow Hill; a vehicle broken into at Winterton and damage to shipping containers on the Industrial Estate; also vehicle damage and a broken house window on Lambton Crescent.

Pub Watch.

No incidents were reported at the recent meeting at the Nag's Head. The results of the test purchase were discussed.

P.A.C.T.

The meeting was held after the Resident' Forum meeting. Yet again, parking issues were of concern. At the time of writing, 4 fixed penalty fines, of £30 with 3 points added to their licence, have been issued to vehicles parked on the Zebra crossing. The bus stop outside Theakstons and parking around Sainsbury's are also targets for the beat team - so be warned. *Season's greetings and a safe Christmas and New year to you all. Keith.*

Phone numbers

Council Neighbourhood Warden

Tim Spearey at Sedgefield: **623654**
via Control Room: 01388 721351

Local Police: 0345 60 60 365.

CPO Keith Lownds: **01325 742714**

Police Community Liaison Officer
Neil Langthorne, **01325 742755**

Blood Donor session times

have reached us too late for publication recently, but now we have a means of finding out the Sedgefield dates and will publish them in future. Meanwhile you can find other venues at the website

blood.co.uk

Jottings from November Residents' Forum meeting

The Forum AGM was held prior to the monthly meeting. It was again highlighted that many issues are still on-going and it is increasingly hard for everyone, residents, organised groups, elected Councillors, Town Council and private individuals to get responses from Durham County Council (DCC). There had been no submissions to change the committee so it was proposed and agreed to elect as the previous year. In recognition of comment from residents that there are so many meetings and different groups and confusion as to who should do what, the Forum agreed to seek a meeting with the Together Partnership to try to establish a comprehensive communication group for Sedgefield. We will report progress next month. The general Forum meeting, as usual, prompted lively discussion and covered many issues. Cllr Brown is endeavouring to get to the bottom of footpath repairs in the village and we hope to have some information for next meeting.

It was very disappointing to hear from PC Todd that after an exercise in the village to test the off licences and pubs challenging under age drinkers *only* the Black Lion and the Nag's Head actively challenged the undercover, underage drinker. Well done and thanks to those two pubs and a plea to the others to actively address this very worrying situation.

There was discussion on the SHLAA, that is the land that DCC have identified as available for building homes in the village. It was agreed to send a letter objecting to any further building in the village and refer DCC to the comments made by our community on the same issue and same areas of land in 2007, which seem to have been ignored!

Next meeting of the Forum: December 6th at 7pm in the Fletcher Room. Everyone is welcome and all views and opinions are acknowledged.

Crime detection up

Members of Durham Police Authority are pleased to announce that Durham Constabulary has the best crime detection rates in the country, with falling crime rates and good crime detection rates across County Durham and Darlington. The recent review shows that the crime detection rate has increased by over 15% in the last year. This means that between April and September this year, 41% of all crimes have been detected. Police Authority Members welcomed the reduction in overall crime in the Force area, which is now at the lowest recorded crime rates since the 1980's. All recorded crime fell by 14.9%, equating to 3,266 fewer crimes and members were pleased to see reductions in burglary, vehicle and all violent crime, plus drug related incidents and criminal damage.

Remembrance Services

Services were very well attended this year, both at Winterton (right) in Sedgefield (below).

Sunday was a lovely clear morning and a record number of poppy wreaths laid, led by deputy lord lieutenant, Pam Royle. The church service was a fitting tribute to all and included young people as well as local groups and organisations.



Kromek scanner should boost airport security

A Sedgefield company has received official EU approval for its liquid scanner machines to be used in all European airports. The scanners can tell the difference between water and liquid explosives. It is thought the development by Kromek, based at NetPark, could mean the end of the liquid ban for passengers at airports by 2013.

Diabetes fundraiser

A craft & gift fair organised by Diabetes UK at the Pioneering Care Centre, Newton Aycliffe, raised over £400. The money will be used to support research into a cure for Diabetes and to help improve the lives of 2.6 million people currently living with the condition in the UK. For further information on Diabetes UK Northern & Yorkshire region, call 01325 488606 or email northyorks@diabetes.org.uk.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENCING ACT 2003.

Christine Moore applied to Durham County Council on 22/11/2010 for a licence to use the premises at St. Luke's Church, St. Luke's Crescent, Winterton Park, Sedgefield, Co. Durham TS21 3EH for the sale of retail alcohol, provision of regulated entertainment and provision of late night refreshment Monday to Sunday from 07.00 hours to 24.00 hours.

Representations should be made in writing to, Durham County Council, Licensing Section, Council Offices, Spennymoor, DL16 6JQ by 14/11/2010. Persons wishing to inspect the Licensing Register may do so at the above address between the hours of 09.00 - 17.00 Monday to Thursday and 09.00 - 16.30 Friday. It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application which carries a maximum fine of £5,000. December 1st 2010.

I watched the Wayne Rooney transfer saga play out with dismay, but no surprise. That a player (or his agent) thinks he's worth £250,000 a week is scandalous enough, but to then treat his club and its fans with such contempt in order to secure that pay packet is unforgivable. But that, I'm afraid, is what football at the top level has become. It's so far removed from its roots and from the 'real world' that it seems to have lost its soul. At the heart of the English game is a symbiotic relationship that is hugely interdependent and dangerous. The Premier League needs the Sky TV billions and Sky TV needs the Premier League content to keep/gain customers. Should one go belly up, the other will follow. If that happens, perhaps the game can find a way of starting from scratch and living within its means. Hope springs eternal...

Sponsorship and other forms of support are just as vital in grass roots sport as they are in the professional arena. Many of the clubs in and around Sedgefield would not survive without the support of businesses and individuals from within our community. That's a theme that runs throughout this sports update. I know that all of that assistance is hugely appreciated by the various sporting organisations and during an era in which it's going to be very difficult to secure grants and the like from the public sector, that help is going to be more important than ever.

Cricket

As promised a couple of months ago, I now have an end of season report from Sedgefield Cricket Club (thanks to Mike Ridley for this). The first and second teams both recorded their best finishes since joining the North Yorkshire and South Durham league (NYSL) six seasons ago. This improvement was helped by star performances from Martin Lower who scored 780 runs (including two centuries) and took 52 wickets. There was also a vast improvement from the junior set up which also greatly contributed towards the senior teams winning games, with under 17 captain Tom Young scoring over 800 runs in all competitions and 14 year old leg spinner James Bell taking 88 wickets, including 9 for 77 in a third team game. James' performances earned him the NYSD under 17 bowling award. The second team also won one cup and were runners up in another, under the captaincy of Nick Hughes. The junior section continues to flourish, with between 50 and 60 children attending coaching on a Saturday morning, most of whom then go on to play for the club's four junior sides – under 11s, 13s, 15s and 17s, which all help to showcase Sedgefield in the very best of lights.

Off the field, the clubhouse has been greatly extended and modernised over the last year, thanks to a lot of effort by committee members, in particular by Ray Lower and David Icton. It is available to hire for parties by contacting Debbie Hughes on 01740 629889.

Football

Sedgefield NETPark FC have continued their excellent progress of the last three seasons. Now managed by Marc Dickerson (Pulla) and Jamie Spencer (Spanna), the club plays in the second division of the Durham District League, following back to back promotions. So far, the season has gone pretty well. The club has a strong squad – although a few players departed in the close season, new arrivals such as Martin Lower, Dan Pilling, Ryan Boardman, Todd Young and Paul Tierney, have brought with them experience, ability and commitment. None of these qualities were lacking before, but it's always good to have an abundance of them and there has been tough competition for every place in the starting line up.

Everyone in the squad has raised their game this season and that's starting to be reflected in NETPark's results. The club is still competing in several cup competitions and has just reached the quarter finals of the JD Taxis Cup, thanks to an excellent performance in a 3-1 victory over the leaders of the first division, Houghton Comrades. Meanwhile, in the league, NETPark FC is sitting in second place at the time of writing this report.

None of this would be possible without the support of the backroom team, led by David Ryder, main sponsor NETPark and the team's base, the Crosshills. Everyone in the club is very grateful for the support that has been given by Salvo Pinna from Salvo's Bistro at the Crosshills, which has included kitting out the full squad in NETPark FC polo shirts.

Racket Sports

Sedgefield Badminton Club urgently needs new adult players, of all ages, as numbers have dropped considerably over the past few years. The club plays at Sedgefield Community College and in the new year will have new facilities. The main club night is Monday, from 7.15-9.15pm, at £2 per night and with an annual membership fee of just £10. If you would like to try out badminton with the club call 01740 622711. Contact numbers for the other racket sports available in Sedgefield are: tennis – 620367; squash – 621125.

Rugby

Another month on and Sedgefield Rugby Club continues from strength to strength. Thanks to in house coaching from Ian and Chris, the team's game has been transformed and even the top teams worry about playing Sedgefield. With everything to play for and bonus points coming often the club is in very good shape. On match days, there is a regular turnout of 20 players, that number rising to 25 for training sessions – all very positive signs for the smallest club in the league. Sedgefield now sit fifth in their division and confident of a strong finish to the season. The lease for the club's pitch is now signed off and work on that will start very soon. In the next few weeks, rugby posts will be erected behind the cricket club and the site of the pitch will be fenced off.

A big opening day is planned for early in 2011. Building company Bovis Lease has sponsored the club, allowing for the purchase of a scrum machine, which the forwards can't wait to use. Amec has donated a container for the storage of equipment, which Neil and Julie at the Nag's Head have let the club store in the bottom of their car park. Hocks Butcher's from Spenny-moor now provides a meat draw for every home game and is the team sponsor for every away match. There's also a great deal on match day food from Hocks, who by all accounts make a great steak pie! Finally, the Club is grateful to the cricket club for hosting its very successful Halloween Party, with great music from Lee, Andy and Steve, and some very creative fancy dress costumes that can be seen on the website. The club is always looking for sponsors, players and help in any way.

Rugby Club Training

Tuesdays from 7.30pm at Fitness First, Stockton & Thursdays at 7.30pm at Sedgefield Community College. All levels are welcome, from age 17+. Contact the club on 07578316499 or see www.sedgefieldrugby.co.uk

Athletics

Sedgefield Harriers held their annual dinner on 12th November at the Dun Cow. The guest speaker was John Mayock, European Indoor 3,000m champion and Olympian at Atlanta, Sydney and Athens. English 800m champion Stacey Smith was also a guest. John regaled members with anecdotes ranging from rooming with Linford Christie to training with distance legends like Hicham El Guerroj of Morocco.

Awards were presented to the winners of the Summer Time Trial series - Gary Hetherington and Gail Bell - and the winners of the Summer Grand Prix series - Susan Smith and Graeme Addison. The club showed their appreciation to three members of the committee who stood down at the AGM in October, secretary Jo James, treasurer Rosie Warnett and committee member Matthew Jones - all were presented with inscribed plaques commemorating their service.

During the evening, members voted from a short list of nominations for the awards of Club Runner of the Year and Club Member of the Year.

Marie Walker was once again a deserved winner of Club Member of the Year for the work she puts into junior coaching and latterly as a committee member, and Roger Whitehill was voted Club Runner of the Year for his 10k performances. Susan Wallace was recognised as Supporter of the Year. Club Chair Ean Parsons commented that the number of people nominated for the awards demonstrated how much commitment there is to the success of the club.

With the festive season nearly upon us, the Harriers will once again be adding an athletic flavour to the fun and games, through a number of events. See opposite column for 'Run Santa Run' on Sunday 5th on behalf of Butterwick Hospice. There will also be a Christmas fancy dress fun run at the Christmas Farmers' Market on Sunday 12th December, with prizes for the best fancy dress.

That's all for this month. As ever, please send any sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com. Next issue, I can guarantee that I will mention darts. Double Yellow, on the oche...

Important notice to former members of GYMSTERS in Fishburn

The old Gymsters at Fishburn has now been replaced by the Gym and is now under new management.

We have found that a number of people are still paying old Standing orders into the old Gymsters account. Unfortunately the previous owner did not hold addresses for these people and as a result we have been unable to contact them directly.

We believe it unfair that people are paying monies into an account no longer attached to The Gym and that their money is effectively being wasted.

Whilst I do have a list of names without addresses, can I ask your readers that if they were formerly members of Gymsters they should stop their payments immediately? The Gym at Fishburn is completely separate and independent from the former Gymsters.

You can contact me on 01740 629800 or 07930 557982.
Gail Goodrick, Proprietor, The Gym



Run, Santa, Run!

Scores of Santas braved the freezing cold last year for the Santa Run, and Durham County Council's Events team has been flooded with entries for this year's event, which takes place on

Sunday 5th December

All ages are invited to run, walk or stroll the idyllic 2.6-mile course around the recently restored Hardwick Park and lake.

The last official date for registration is November 30th, but Sedgefield News has arranged a special dispensation for readers.

Call **01913 729196** to register a late entry. You will need to collect your suit or Santa hat at the registration desk on the morning of the event. Entry is £10 for adults, including a complete Santa suit (one size fits all) and for under 14s, £5, including Santa Hat.

Runners receive a Santa Scroll of Honour for completing the course, and juniors will be presented with a Santa Run Medal.

All junior entries under 8 years must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Staff and marshals from Sedgefield Harriers will supervise the route.

Proceeds from the event will go to the Butterwick Hospice.

Sedgefield Development Trust Community Lawyers

If you would like to access our Legal Clinic please ring and leave a message on **629011** and we will contact you. Clinics are usually arranged to suit individual needs.

December Events Diary

A FREE service to non-commercial organisations

Sedgefield in Bloom Meeting

Wednesday 1st December
10 am in the council offices

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 1st December
7.15pm, Parish Hall.

Party Night with Pooled Supper
Lol & Maxine Crallan sing & play
Members' competition:
a wrapped Christmas parcel
Visitors welcome; fee £2.50

CeddesFolk Session

Ceddesfeld Hall

Wednesday 1st December

Beginners 7 - 8pm upstairs
All comers, main hall from 8pm

Blooming Good

Coffee Morning

Friday 3rd December

10am in the Parish Hall
Homemade cakes, scones & biscuits
Festive & floral gifts
Grand raffle

Sedgefield Village Veterans

Pie & Pea Supper. See page 2

Friday 3rd December

Christmas at Hardwick Park

Saturday 4th December

Make a Wooden Reindeer
with natural materials from the
Park. 1 - 3pm. £6 per reindeer.
Book in advance on 621505

Sedgefield Community

Hospital Xmas Fair

Saturday 4th December - 2pm

Stalls, Raffle, Tombola & Santa!

Bingo @ Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 4th December

Eyes down at 7.30pm

Residents' Forum

Monday 6th December

7pm; Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

Local History Society

Monday 6th December

Ceddesfeld Hall, 7.45pm

Eve Gamblin:

Christmas in Germany

Mince pies & mulled wine

All welcome

Sedgefield Gardening Club

Tuesday 7th December

7.30pm, Ceddesfeld Hall

Christmas Party with Faith Supper

Headrush Gig

at the Golden Lion on

Thursday 9th December

Sing, Choirs, Sing!

Lyric Singers, SLYC & Lirica

Friday 10th December

7.30pm in St Edmund's Church

Tickets from Tickety Boo or call

Audrey Lofthouse: 620625

Live Music Christmas Party

Sedgefield Cricket Club, 8pm

Saturday 11th December

Main guest: Happy Cats, Also

featuring Lawrie & Maxine Allan,

John Wrightson Band &

the Billingham Silver Band

Admission £10, inc. Xmas buffet

Tel 621347

Christmas at Hardwick Park

Sat & Sun 11/12th December

Santa's Workshop

11am-3pm. £3 per child, adults

free. No booking necessary

For one weekend only Santa uses our

Visitor Centre for his workshop!

Farmers' Christmas Market

Sunday 12th December

9.30 - 1.30 on the village green

Sedgefield Methodist

Wives & Friends

Monday 13th December

Christmas Carols with

ginger wine & mince pies

Neighbourhood Watch Panel

Tuesday 14th December

7 pm, Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

ALL Welcome

Ladies' Club

Ceddesfeld Hall, 8pm

Tuesday 14th December

Christmas Social & Buffet

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District

Flower Club

Tuesday 14th December

Parish Hall at 7.30pm

Members' Night with Faith Supper

The New Yorkers'

Christmas Spectacular

Friday 17th December

at 7pm in Sedgefield Parish Hall.

For tickets (£5) call 620807

Sedgefield Players

present ALADDIN by John Morley

in the Parish Hall on

Monday 27th December at 2pm

& at **7pm on Monday 27th,**

Tuesday 28th, Wednesday 29th,

& Thursday 30th December

Tickets £6 (Concessions £5) from

Tickety Boo, Council Office

or call 620091 or 621771

10% discount for parties of ten or more

By kind permission of Samuel French Ltd

Sedgefield Library Events

Tickle Time Christmas Party

Monday 6th 2.15-3pm

Rhyme Time Christmas Party

Wednesday 8th 10-11am

Book Circle

Wednesday 15th 2pm

Library closes

Friday 24th December at 1pm

and re-opens Tuesday 4th January

Cupcake Café

You are invited to

Sedgefield Community College

between 10am - 12 noon on term-

time Fridays, for tea, coffee,

homemade cakes & biscuits

All profits will go to charity

Café@St Catherine's

Friendly chat & latest Fishburn

gossip! Fridays 9.30am - 12noon

Tea, coffee, toast & conversation

Ceddesfeld Art Group

Small, friendly group: 10-12 noon

on Thursdays in Ceddesfeld Hall

To join us, just call in or phone

Malcolm Scott on 622871

Country Markets

Please note: once only this month

Friday 17th December

Rotary Club of Sedgefield

Wednesdays 7.15 - 7.30pm

Nag's Head: new members

welcome, call 629070 or 620562

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable

events. New members welcome

Contact Rob on 629079

www.sedgefieldroundtable.org.uk

Sedgefield Playgroup

Methodist Church. Ofsted inspected

Mon - Thurs 9:15 - 11:45

Spaces for children 2+ years

Contact 621071 or 620572

Sing for Health & Fun

Methodist Church Hall

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 1 - 2pm

Winterton Wayfarers

Walking Group - Weekly Sunday

walks, between 5 and 10 miles.

Contact 620034 or 620434 for

further information

Sedgefield Family History

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

No Meeting in December

Next meeting Monday 17th January

For more information

call S. Hall 620367

Your Letters

Distribution Appeal

Could you deliver the News to the left hand side of Winterton Avenue, Turnpike Walk & Fairfield Manor - 88 in total. If you can help, please phone Judith on 620244 or e-mail mail@toddsousefarm.co.uk.

Double coverage

Why do we have Sedgfield News and the Town Council Newsletter coming through the door within days of each other? Sedgfield News seems to me to do a great job of keeping residents up to date with what is going on, to which the Town Council publication adds 'not a lot' apart from various pictures of men in gold chains! Surely in these austere times there is much to be said for one publication which covers it all? It would save on paper, time and money having to write and read one version of news of, for example, Sedgfield's Britain in Bloom success. It would also save duplication of effort in distribution. Can't we just have a Town Council page in Sedgfield News and do without the pictures of men in chains?

Geoff Hughes

We agree that both front pages covering Sedgfield in Bloom news was unnecessary. We will consult STC and adjust coverage next time.

Thanks for 25 years singing

A thousand thanks to all my old friends who came to the Sedgfield Lyrics Youth Choir reunion. We had a wonderful, exhausting weekend, talking, singing and partying until we were ready to drop! If the concert on Sunday evening was somewhat ragged it was hardly surprising, but the heartfelt singing won the audience round. They stole my heart years ago, but I had no idea how moving it would be to stand in front of them all again! Altogether, we've had a great year down memory lane, realising what a range of music we've shared over 25 years, not to mention quite a lot of delightful nonsense, as some astounding video footage revealed. One ex remarked to today's choir "watch and be grateful"! But teenage hens dancing the cancan notwithstanding, you can't get away from the fact that it was thoroughly good fun and Sedgfield had never seen the like before! Let's hope the singing never stops.

Sandy Clubley

Sedgfield Development Trust is a member of the Development Trusts Association

HOORAY! Our first Mini rant provoked the short and very stylish response below - enjoyable for both the editorial team and our readers. If you have an opinion you are bursting to express, channel your thoughts into just 140 characters (I know - it's a challenge), mark it **Mini Rant of the Month** and send to **sedgfieldnews@hotmail.com**

Sir - Chivalry is not dead

I leap to defend the honour of the "wood nymph".

- 1) Her guardians in Hardwick Park see her as elegant and sophisticated.
- 2) A young man was photographed in a passionate embrace with her.
- 3) She willingly enhanced the fear factor at the Halloween party in Hardwick
- 4) She wishes to be nominated for the Turner Prize.

Roy Smeeton

Charity Night invitation

I work on the Franziska Willer Unit at Sedgfield Community Hospital and I am hosting a Charity Night at the Hope Inn (thanks Leanne!) from 7.30pm on **Thursday 9th December**. My sister, Sarah Legender (Sarah Jay) is guest vocalist and all funds raised will be donated to the Franziska Willer Unit. There will be a raffle on the night, and all donations of prizes will be very gratefully accepted. There's no entry fee - just a minimum £1 donation. All welcome! Thank you.

M. Wilkes

A Tribute to Norman Willis

Members of Sedgfield in Bloom heard with great regret of the sad death of Assistant Gardener Norman Willis on Monday 8th November. Quiet and unassuming, Norman was a vital member of the team which achieved such success both this year and last. Our gratitude goes to Norman, pictured second left with other proud members of the team, and the delightful topiary horse on Racecourse Road. Norman greatly enjoyed his job with the Town Council and appreciated being part of our gardening community. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered. Our thoughts are with his wife Roslyn at this sad time, and she wishes to thank everyone who showed their respect for Norman and who attended his funeral service. Roslyn finds comfort in the affirmation that Norman was well regarded in the village.



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Early deadline! Please send in articles, letters and advertising copy for the January edition of Sedgfield News by **Monday 13th December** to

sedgfieldnews@hotmail.com

or to **58 Front Street, Sedgfield TS21 2AQ: tel 01740 629011.**

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Please send contact details with correspondence.

Sedgfield News is printed by AZTEC COLOURPRINT Tel: 0191 417 8001