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Sedgefield Development Trust: Company No: 4312745 Charity No: 1100906



# Sedgefield NEWS

## January 2010

A Happy and Peaceful New Year to all our readers

### Sandy is our Citizen of the Year for 2009

When the name was announced it certainly surprised our editor as she waited to capture a picture of the latest award winner.

It had been a very well kept secret .

Fortunately, Peter Dixon was on hand to relieve her of the camera.

*Report page 3*

*Photo  
Angela Simpson*



### Sweet Chiming Christmas Bells



December is always a busy month for **Sedgefield Handbell Ringers**.

This year has been no exception. They are raising funds for various charities and entertaining several groups. The first Christmas entertainment was for the Bingo players in Ceddesfeld Hall.

At the time of going to press the next engagements are playing for passing shoppers in Tesco Supermarket, Newton Aycliffe to raise money for the Children's Butterwick Hospice; entertaining at the Masonic Hall in Sunderland; ringing at a charity fund raising evening at Mary Magdalene Church Trimdon and for Spennymoor Rotary Club's Christmas Message.

*Rosemary Burnip*

**Sedgefield News sends warmest best wishes to Joan Seymour**  
for her medical team visit to India, starting on January 2nd. We look forward to your reports Joan!

## School on Trial

Children at Sedgefield Hardwick Primary School found fellow pupil, Jake Lennox, guilty of theft, resisting arrest and being drunk and disorderly on 26<sup>th</sup> November.

The mock trial was the culmination of work with magistrate, Harry Fletcher. He had visited the Y6 class to teach them about the consequences of breaking the law, then left them with a script to work on.

Class teacher, Joanne Gowland, held auditions for the roles and was very pleased with the way in which the children responded to the challenge. 'The children certainly gained a lot from the two sessions, especially the mock trial,' she said. The class made up the members of the court together with some of the parents of the children involved in the mock trial.

The children learned a great deal but also thoroughly enjoyed it. Jake Doyle said, 'I learned that at age ten you are at the age of criminal responsibility and that ten year olds can be imprisoned.'

Eleven year old Francesca McMillen said, 'the magistrates thought that it was outstanding and all of the parents thought that it was really good... it was interesting and fun.'

We hope that this excellent link with the community will continue next year. The magistrates, who also took part in the trial, felt that it was the best presentation of the trial that they had seen.



## Scenes from the courtroom



*Ellie Gaines (above) was the solicitor for the prosecution*

*As in real life, the classroom magistrates (left) take their work very seriously indeed*

Sedgefield News readers do seem to enjoy finding out about what goes on in the village schools.

If your class has an exciting event, why not write to us about it?

Send it to

**[sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com](mailto:sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com)**

(with your teacher's permission, of course!)

*In December's article on the Grain of Wheat album, reference was wrongly made to the CD being made by a "professional recording company". The correct reference should have been to a "professional production company". Editor*

## A Grain of Wheat - Part 2

The story continues... many thanks to everyone who has already purchased our CD to raise money for The Little Way Association's 'Fund for Needy Children'. As you know, this project was inspired by our love for our children.

The second part of the story is about a son's love for his mother. Anthony Robb's time and dedication to this project, manifest in the hours he spent recording and mastering the CD, was done as a special tribute to his parents, Lily and Joe Robb.

It was his generous offer to use their legacy to foot the entire bill that allowed us to increase our fundraising target tenfold to £10,000.00.

**CDs are still available from 01740 629909**

**[interludesing@aol.com](mailto:interludesing@aol.com), or listen and buy online at [www.robbpipes.com/HookyMatRecords.html](http://www.robbpipes.com/HookyMatRecords.html) .**

**Happy New Year!**

*Right: Anthony's mam, Lily, pictured with his daughter, Deci.*



## Citizen of the year award, 2009

We take our hats off to Sandy Clubley for the many talents which singled her out to become Sedgefield's Citizen of the Year for 2009.

The Mayor of Sedgefield, Cllr. Sheila Sutherland, described Sandy as one of those quiet people who get on and make things happen, before presenting her with an illuminated certificate and engraved glass decanter, at the Mayor's Wine & Cheese Reception after the Ecumenical Carol Service.

Sheila commented on the many and varied activities Sandy had been involved in since moving to Sedgefield, but particularly spoke of her love of music, which had led to the blossoming of many talented young performers.

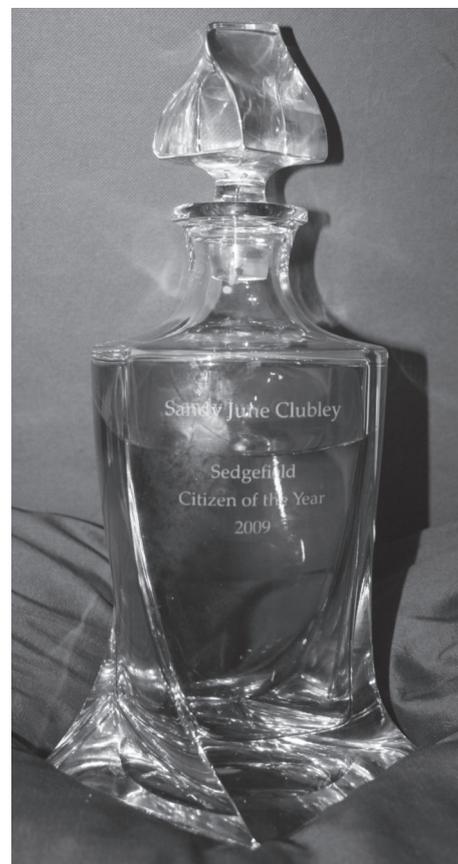
Countless young people have sung with Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir (SLYC) since 1985 and during this time the choir have won festival prizes and two Performing Rights Society awards, realised many ambitious performances, performed in many fundraising concerts and twice visited Hamminkeln to sing there.

Co-founding a local WATCH Group (introducing children to wildlife), she united WATCH and a very young choir in a world premier performance of 'Woodland Genesis' in Sedgefield Parish Hall, featuring David Bellamy. A visit to Channel 4 television followed with a small group of children, to sing on their Saturday morning breakfast show, "Whack-a-day".

For several years she also conducted the Lyric Singers and ran a junior choir for the youngest children. Former youth choir members travelled far to take part in recent reunion concerts (the inspiration behind Lirica). Now Sandy's growing interest in folk music has seen the founding of the CeddesFolk Session and Band, showing innovation and willingness to put her energy into opening up new opportunities for local people.

Sandy has been our very own editor for a number of years, a vocation that takes long hours and exceptional diplomacy. Her quest for perfection has made Sedgefield News an eagerly awaited publication, handling thorny issues with objectivity and sensitivity. She has developed great technical expertise as well as the very necessary skills of people management, always trying to be diplomatic and keeping in the background herself.

*John Fitzpatrick*



***You're absolutely right!*** I am taking advantage of my position as editor, but I have been overwhelmed by smiles and kind words since the moment this award was announced a few days ago. Thank you all so much. It's a real honour and I would like to thank everyone involved in the award. I must also say thank you to the support teams I have at Sedgefield News (John Fitzpatrick, Sheila Swanson and Judith Edgoose) and at Youth Choir (Rob Guest and Kristen Peacock). I couldn't do it without your help. Copy is a bit thin on the ground for the January edition so there is space to show you the trophies which were awarded on your behalf; a lovely engraved decanter (two matching glasses are included and it is already in use!) and a beautifully written, framed certificate. There is even a spare unframed scroll in case I want to take it around and show it off. My granddaughter's presence in the Parish Hall absorbed a lot of attention, which helped me to calm down, on the surface at least! She makes a pretty picture too, but then, I'm biased.

*Sandy*

## Blocki's boys do it again

Blocki's boys - formerly '6 of the best' - have won the Bishop Auckland town quiz again, scoring 151 points out of a possible 167. In 2007, '6 of the best' were joint winners of the prestigious trophy and they finished 2nd in 2008. This year the team won again in a very close finish, despite being without their holidaying captain, Mike Blocki. The team comprised of Brian Lowes, John Race, Andrew Cannings, Tony Bland, Chris Hancock and new member, Graeme Oram. Mike Blocki and all 6 members of the team are from Sedgefield. This is the first time Mike has missed the quiz in 12 years. Can he get back onto his own team for next year? £1054 was raised for a local cause.

To send in your stories  
& pictures,  
& email  
**sedgefieldnews@  
hotmail.com**  
or write to  
**58 Front Street,  
Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ**

# Community SAFETY



## Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel Minutes of Meeting held on December 8th 2009

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting, 13/10/2009: were accepted and approved as a true record.
2. Matters Arising:
  - 2.1 Alcohol Ban in Public Places (Sedgefield Village): - Secretary reported that Exec members had requested clarification of actual proposal in Res. Forum letter (to Pub Watch) and this will now be discussed at Jan. 2010 Exec. meeting prior to report back to Feb. Panel meeting.
  - 3b) Sec. Report: Details of letters of thanks to Neil Langthorne & Keith Lownds were given, along with the confirmation sent to the Community College of the Panel's willingness to support another start for the Alan Sowerby Citizenship Award this year.
4. Representative Reports:
  - a) Community Force: Tim Spearey gave a comprehensive report providing feed back on the incidents referred to him for action at last Panel meeting (principally Vehicle taxation/unworthiness, dog fouling and Community Coll. School children issue). Keith informed members that in the New Year all College students out of school at lunch time will need to have a pass which Tim is to actively police.
  - b) Crime Prevention Officer: Keith Lownds gave brief details of his visit and talk to out patients attending the Community Hospital in November, and of the intended follow up for a second visit. He described the effectiveness of the Winter Nights campaign being run as a major crime prevention measure by Durham Police, and brought along several items to aid security in the home for members to look at after meeting business concluded, when he would be available for discussion.
  - c) Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator  
Neil Langthorne gave details of the new "voice connect" system which is now operational and of the ability the Police now have to send crime/update messages out in e-mail form also.  
Neil made a commitment to members to have a new dedicated number for our area to allow anyone to ring in and leave details of any matter of concern/observation/intelligence they felt would benefit the Police but on which they did not want any follow up back to themselves. This was greeted by much appreciation from members. Regarding messages to the Police a member gave details of such a call when the response had been apparently one of dismissal by the call handler. However Keith Todd actually knew (from reading the Police logs) that there had been Police follow up and he gave details; the member thanked Keith for this.  
Meeting Closed (next meeting 09/02/10) & PACT opened  
Police Crime report for 2 months Oct-Dec 2009. There were 8 Recorded Crimes comprising 2 Thefts & 6 of Damage to property & vehicles.  
There were 210 calls to the Police in this period (many not crime related)  
PACT Priorities requested by residents for ensuing period: -  
Speeding vehicles in Elm Ave. & Hawthorn Rd. at school times.  
Youth nuisance in Church Yard - evenings.  
PACT closed at 07.45pm  
Post meeting the members and guests present enjoyed a pleasing glass of wine and food provided by C/man Ken Saiger and wife Bel with their kind wishes to all, for a Happy, Healthy Christmas and New Year.  
Ken & Bel's consideration & kindness is greatly appreciated by members. The free N/H/watch & crime prevention items from Neil & Keith were also greatly appreciated.  
Finally, N/H/Watch Bus Trip to York took place on Wednesday 9th December. The day was sunny and the trip thoroughly enjoyed by all. For all who enjoyed it the day was only tarnished in so far as it is known that **Durham County Council appear determined to withdraw this service - the Carelink Bus from our community. Doing so not only disadvantages the N/H/Watch group but many other groups throughout the old Sedgefield Borough & these are usually the elderly and less able members in our community.**  
So if you are affected or even concerned at Durham's intention to disadvantage us (despite assurances that the change to Unitary status would not do so) why not pick up your pen and complain about the loss of this much valued service?  
It might just make the difference!

## PC Todd reports

I would just like to remind both adults and young people that it is against the law to ride a bicycle on a footpath, or at night without lights. After Christmas and into the New Year there are sure to be many shiny new bikes around. Please be considerate to pedestrians and other road users. We had reports of a few near misses recently. Crimes reported include damage to a car window in Eden Drive and windows damaged in both Hadleigh Close and Cross Street. I hope you all had a good festive holiday. Until next time  
*Keith*

## PACT Meeting

The December meeting was held immediately after the Neighbourhood Watch meeting. Priorities for the Beat team for the next few weeks include: St Edmund's Church grounds - anti-social behavior, litter and damage caused by the few youths who choose to gather inside the main gate. Speeding traffic along Elm Avenue, mostly parents taking children to school in the morning, and other parents not having their children restrained by seat belts. Any offenders caught will be prosecuted.

## Pub Watch

A meeting was held recently in the Hardwick Arms. No incidents were reported which required further action by members. Mr Trond Moore was welcomed as manager of the Crosshills pub.

## Telephone Numbers

Community Warden  
**Tim Spearey 01740 623654**  
or via Chilton Control Room -  
**01388 721351**

To contact **Local Police** to report any concerns, seek advice or pass on information to the Police, call

**0345 60 60 365**

*(It may be prudent to keep a note of details of any conversation & obtain an incident no.)*

**For advice & assistance**

Crime Prevention Officer  
**Keith Lounds 01325 742714**

Community Liaison Officer  
**Neil Langthorne 01325 742755**

## Snapshots of Sedgefield

### A new series

Thanks to Dave Nicholson of Fishburn, Sedgefield Local History Society now has copies of lots more photographs of Sedgefield to add to its collection.

Each month, we plan to feature something from the collection and hope that you lovely readers can help us to fill in some of the missing details.

We thought we'd start with this one, showing a bunch of happy lads and lasses, presumably on a day out somewhere, as they all look pretty dolled up. I'm sure everybody will recognise young Billy Cooper, jovial as ever in the middle of the back row. We can already identify quite a few others, too.

Kneeling at the front are Derek Ferguson and John Neadham, with Gerald Neadham standing.

The boys on the fence are, from the left, Ron Blakey, (?) Alan Edmundson, Billy Cooper, Ron Murray, Tom Ferguson and Frank Fisby.

The girls are Mary Pendlebury, Audrey Kell, (?) Joan Davison, Norma Quinn, (? - just a face visible), Sheila Dargue, (?) and Iris Blakey.

In the little group of three, we think on the left the lad standing smart for the camera is Bill Blakey, but who are the other two?

If you are on the photo, remember the day out in question, can fill in the name gaps, or correct any we may have got wrong, I'd love to hear from you.

Just give me a ring on 01740 620091 or email [norma@neal.myzen.co.uk](mailto:norma@neal.myzen.co.uk)

## Jottings

### from December meeting of the Sedgefield Village Residents' Forum

The Residents' Forum last meeting of 2009 was on December 7th. As usual many issues were updated and several new issues raised. A comprehensive written report from Cllr Robinson raised some confusion and further questions. Answers will be sought & reported at the next meeting.

Christmas events are now taking place and after many years of noise problems from Hardwick Hall Hotel, the much appreciated work of the hotel management to address the problems seems to be working (fingers crossed!) Many thanks to John Adamson and his team for their work in seeking to solve the problems, but should anyone have any concerns please contact the hotel and if necessary the environment department at Durham County Council (DCC.)

Village and estate footpath repairs were once again raised as a concern, Cllr Robinson's written report asked for 'suggestions' for 2010. Residents identified areas in need of repair but it was agreed to ask for the relevant DCC Officer to attend in February to give a clear understanding of the planned schedule for our village.

We have been asked to alert everyone to some problems as a result of various types of rubbish being burnt, causing acrid smoke and smells. One problem area is on Foxton Lane. If anyone sees or experiences problems please report the activity to the Environment Agency on 0191 203 4234.

The Forum will continue to press for actions requested by residents & hope residents will engage in any consultations to give our community views.

The Forum will continue to meet on the first Monday of each month but there will be no Forum meeting in January (too soon after New Year's Eve); the next meeting will be February 1st. Watch the village notice board for additional information. Reminder of February meeting will be on the notice board and in the Library. Minutes of the December meeting will be in the library & Town Council Office before the middle of January and of course will be circulated to the email list.

We wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year and look forward to helping our village prosper in 2010.



# SPORTS UPDATE

Send your sports news to [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com)

As 2009 draws to a close, the usual mix of end of the year sporting reviews in the media has been supplemented by retrospectives of the whole decade. I'm not going to dwell too long on a similar theme here (there's nowhere near enough space), but simply point to six 'noughties' British highlights (in my humble opinion): Steve Redgrave's fifth consecutive gold medal in the Sydney Olympics; England winning the Rugby Union World Cup in 2003 (and in such dramatic fashion); England's cricketers winning the Ashes in 2005, for the first time in almost a generation; Phill 'the Ferryhill Flyer' reaching the final of the BDO Darts World Championship in 2007; and the performance of the Great Britain cycling team during the Beijing Olympics last year. I could, at a push, whittle that list down to five (perhaps leaving out the Ashes or the Rugby Union World Cup?).

As I write this, Ryan Giggs is still recovering from the shock of being crowned BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2009. I was surprised too – I fully expected motor sports or boxing fans to mobilise as usual to crown Jenson Button or David Haye. Personally, I'm glad that they didn't succeed, though rather than Giggsy, my vote went to cyclist Mark Cavendish, for both his phenomenal performances in this year's Tour de France and his 'spiky' character. Last year, the achievements of Durham County Cricket Club in winning the County Championship for the first time earned the briefest of mentions during the programme. This year, the club retained the title in style and continued to provide a production line of players for

England, but neither the team nor outstanding coach Geoff Cook apparently deserved a name check during the 'definitive' sports review of the year. Instead, we were treated to the site of former Formula One team owner Eddie Jordan playing the drums. And I thought that the X Factor was an example of the 'dumbing down' of TV!

By the time you read this, we will know whether Sunderland and/or NewcastleGateshead have been chosen as host cities in England's bid to host the FIFA World Cup in 2018 or 2022. I think that there's a good chance that both cities will be selected and, if England do manage to win the right to host the tournament, that offers a mouth watering prospect for North East England in a few years. However, before that, we have a packed 2010 to look forward, internationally, nationally and of course here in Sedgefield.

## Rugby Union

Sedgefield Rugby Club has had mixed fortunes in the league in the run up to Christmas. After victory against Washington, the team continued its winning ways, beating Hartlepool Athletic 36-5 in a hard fought match. Sedgefield then drew against the Stockton third team in a friendly game. However, December has proved to be proved a tough month, starting with a match against Hartlepool BBOB on a rather cold Saturday afternoon.

Sedgefield were slow to warm up and the winning run was cut short.

Following that defeat, the team faced a difficult challenge with a home game against third in the league Whitby. Under the watchful eye of Sedgefield's new coach Ted Woods, the backs demonstrated some fluid running, unlocking the Whitby defence on more than one occasion. However Whitby proved too strong in the end, with a final score of 29-50 to the visitors.

Overall, Sedgefield's performances have been improving and they have shown they can compete with the best in the league. Anyone interested in finding out more about the club please visit the club website

[www.sedgefieldrugby.co.uk](http://www.sedgefieldrugby.co.uk).

## Sedgefield Harriers

The Harriers enjoyed some good results at the North East Counties Cross Country Championships on 12<sup>th</sup> December. A good senior ladies team of Gail Bell, Amanda Hetherington, Marie Walker and Diane Baines finished seventh. Nine senior men competed, with the first six to count in the team competition. Gary Hetherington was first home for the Harriers, followed by Ian Blakemore, Richard Bayles, Dave Greatorex, Gareth Dixon, Ean Parsons, Graeme Addison, Matthew Jones and Jonathan Wallace. The men **finished** 10<sup>th</sup> overall out of 21 teams taking part.

For the juniors the U17 boys were seventh; the team was led home by



Jonathan Baines in an excellent ninth place. In the U15 boys, Ben Hetherington was strong throughout, working his way through the field to finish eighth with Jack Snowden in 13<sup>th</sup>. Rory Varley, George Pilkington and Joe Potts competed for the U13 boys and acquitted themselves very well. These results represented another big step forward by the Harriers as they establish themselves on the North East athletics scene, rubbing shoulders at the North East Championships with the traditionally bigger clubs such as Gateshead Harriers, Elswick and Morpeth Harriers. The juniors are improving year on year and there is a strong progression in the club through the age categories.

On 6<sup>th</sup> December the Harriers organised the route for the Santa Run in Hardwick Park which raises funds for Butterwick Hospice. The event and the beautiful setting attracted 282 fun runners, exceeding the number in the first race last year.

The Harriers are staging the winter version of the Gerry Kearsley Memorial Handicap on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January over the traditional 6.5 miles course from Fishburn and around Bishop Middleham. For more information contact Ean Parsons on 07771 828 568 or ean2005@hotmail.co.uk.

That's all for this month, and for 2009. Here's to a packed, exciting and varied sporting year in 2010.

As ever, if you have any sports news send it to

**chrisjlines@aol.com**

### *Santas and helpers in serious training for Christmas Night*



## **Santa comes to Christmas Market**

The chilly December day - thankfully dry - and the fast approaching Christmas Season made us all even more appreciative of the delicious mince pies and mulled wine provided by Sedgefield Town Council. As is the Sedgefield tradition council staff gave up a lot of their time to ensure that all attending the market felt welcome and included in the seasonal atmosphere.

Sedgefield Harriers' fun-run meeting started on the village green with reindeer, Santas and fairies amongst the runners, providing a lively, colourful spectacle.

The brass band's carols were very enjoyable and added to the Christmas atmosphere of the final Farmers' Market of the year. It will however run as usual next year on the second Sunday of the month.

Stallholders had a wonderful day and would like to thank all customers new and old for their support. Richard and Joan Crawford of "Pickled Pink Preserves" are retiring this Christmas and add their special thanks to customers. Happy Christmas and New Year!

## **'Ground-breaking' news**

Sir Plants-Allot Garden Centre in Billingham were 'rooting' for BBC Breathing Places, who teamed up with Guinness World records in a nationwide challenge to break the world record and plant as many trees as possible within a single hour. At 11am on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December everyone was invited to join in and do 'one thing for nature' by simply planting a tree to help celebrate National Tree Week. As well as distributing the trees, Julie Turner and Alan Brown, partners in the Garden Centre, organised tree planting events with local schools in Billingham and Stockton.

In a recent survey for The Woodland Trust, 86% of people asked said they would like to see more trees being planted in their local area. Over 70% said if they had a wood within walking distance it would encourage them to exercise. This attempt to unite the nation in a mass tree planting will provide a lasting legacy for communities across the UK for many years to come, and by encouraging people to plant the right tree in the right place, BBC Breathing Places are delivering a very special learning opportunity.



*Julie and Alan, ready for the mass tree planting*

# January Events Diary

A FREE service to non-commercial organisations

## Sedgefield Gardening Club

No meetings in January or February

### Bingo @ Ceddesfeld Hall

**Saturday 2nd January**

Eyes down at 7.30pm

### EDDIE'S @ 4

**Sunday 3rd January**

4pm service for 2-6 year olds in the Welcome Room at St Edmund's

### Sedgefield WI

**Wednesday 6th January**

7.15pm in the Parish Hall

**Daphne Hadfield**

### "Hearing Dogs for Deaf People"

Members' competition - an unusual keyring

Visitors always welcome (fee £2)

### The CeddesFolk Session

Ceddesfeld Hall from 8pm

**Wednesday 6th January**

All acoustic players welcome

### Cricket Club Quiz Night

**Saturday 9th January**

Quiz presented by Chris Hancock

Bar open 7.30

Everyone welcome

### Farmers' Market

**Sunday 10th January**

From 9.30 - 1.30 on the Green

### NE Concertina Players

**Sunday 10th January**

at 2pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

### Sedgefield Methodist

**Wives & Friends**

**Monday 11th January**

Carrier Bag Sale -

Margaret & Dessa

New members always welcome

### Local History Society

Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45pm

**Monday 11th January**

Alan Morgan

### Newcastle - from tropical swamp to modern city

All welcome

### Ladies Club

8pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

**Tuesday 12th January**

Allan Smart -

### Coal Dust to Casework, Part 2

New members welcome

## Sedgefield Show

**Tuesday 14th January**

8pm in the Nag's Head

Everyone welcome

## Sedgefield Village Veterans

**Annual General Meeting**

followed by Monthly meeting

**Thursday 14th January**

7pm Fletcher Room, Parish Hall

New members always welcome

## Mobile Movies

In the Parish Hall

**Friday 15th January**

Commencing 6.30pm

All ages welcome (under 8s need accompanying adult)

Refreshments on sale before film.

For more details call 620042

## Live Music Night

8pm at Sedgefield Cricket Club

**Saturday 16th January**

Main guest: Stony

Also featuring: Sonic Fruits,

Anna Shannon &

John Wrightson Band,

Admission £9 including buffet

Tel 621347

The Cricket Club is available for hire for private parties, christenings, etc. Call Jane on 620090

## Friends of St Edmund's Cheese, Wine & Quiz night

in Ceddesfeld Hall

**Saturday 16th January**

Doors open 7pm

Quiz starts 7.30pm

Tickets £6 incl. first drink, from

Friends committee members

or call 620424

## Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.45pm

**Monday 18th January**

Colin Wilkinson

"Inter-war Whitby"

Visitors always welcome. For more information please ring 620367

## Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club

**Tuesday 19th January**

Parish Hall at 7.30pm

**Annual General Meeting**

All Welcome

## Burns Supper

at 7pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

**Saturday 23rd January**

Tickets £22, to include

4 course meal & entertainment.

Available from Council Offices

## 101 at the Black Lion

**Sunday 24th January**

with special guest Laura Wilkinson

## Sedgefield Methodist Wives & Friends

**Monday 25th January**

New Zealand - Nora Fisher

New members always welcome

## Sing for Health & Fun

Methodist Church Hall, North End

Next meeting 1 - 2pm

**Wednesday 27th January**

and every **2nd & 4th Wednesday**

All are welcome

## Sedgefield Wildlife Group

7.45 in the Parish Hall

**Thursday January 28th**

Craig Best on Hedleyhope Fell -

Past, Present & Future

## January @ the Library

**Tickle Time**

Monday 4th & 18th, 2.15-3pm

**Rhyme Time**

Wednesday 6th & 20th, 10-11am

**Toy Library**

Wednesday 13th, 10-11am

**Book Circle**

Wednesday 20th, 2pm

## Café@St Catherine's Fishburn

Drop in for friendly chat and the latest gossip, each Friday morning, 9.30 till 12 noon.

Tea, coffee, toast & good conversation.

All are welcome

## Round Table

**1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays**

Sporting, social and charitable events - new members welcome

**Contact Rob on 629079**

www.sedgefieldroundtable.org.uk

## Coming up in February

**Residents' Forum**

Next meeting February 1st

## The Bag is back! Pick up your FREE bag @ Sedgefield Library

Why not call into the Library and pick up some books and a free bag.

New members will receive a new style library ticket complete with matching bookmark and a handy mini ticket which can be attached to a key ring. New members borrowing 3 books will receive the new "Bag" and existing customers simply need to borrow six books to receive their free "Bag".

If you haven't joined the Library yet why not make a point of calling in and taking advantage of this offer.

## There's hope yet!

Noses for blowing  
 Snowballs for throwing  
 Thick woollen raiment  
 Winter fuel payment  
 Hot soup - what's nicer?  
 Anti-freeze and de-icer  
 Make a list for Christmas shopping  
 Roasted chestnuts popping  
 Comfort food - weight gained not lost  
 Icy roads - Cheers Jack Frost!  
 Wild ducks slide on frozen lakes  
 Children delight in falling snowflakes  
 The elderly greet them with a cringe  
 As aging joints start to twinge!  
 Hot water bottles, woolley hat  
 Gas bill's up - can't pay that!  
 Coughs, colds & sneezing  
 Temperature's below freezing  
 Short days - long nights  
 Thick woollen tights  
 High winds & gales  
 Flooding in Wales  
 Football fixgtures  
 Bronchial cough mixtures  
 Firelight glowing  
 Hey it's stopped snowing!  
 Snowdrops break through  
 Buds appear too  
 Birds start to sing  
 Winter turns to Spring!  
*Vee Cooper, Crispin Court*

## Your Letters

### Our postal address

Following Kit Fletcher's letter in your December issue, I am also Durham born and bred. I lived in Murton which was given a Seaham post code as the Post Office sorted and delivered from there. Those who cared simply omitted to put Seaham on our addresses and all our post was still delivered as long as we inserted the post-code; note it is their code, for their purposes.

So, when in October 07, I moved here, I was told my address was Stockton etc. which appears on my official papers. However, remembering my earlier experience, since 2008 I have simply ignored the Stockton, Cleveland part and follow Sedgefield with good old Co. Durham (incidentally the only administrative area in Britain to use "Co." for county). We are not in Cleveland - whatever that is supposed to mean!

The new Unitary County reminds us further that we are in Durham. If, as far as the P.O. is concerned it is more efficient for them to deliver from Stockton - so be it - let them get on with it!

I deal frequently with companies on-line and have "Co. Durham" as my address. I have no trouble with deliveries, as long as one uses the POST CODE!

*Arthur Kay*

### Deadline January 15th

**for articles, letters or adverts in the February 2010 edition of Sedgefield News. Please send your copy to [sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com](mailto:sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com)**

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

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## The League of Friends, still caring for our local hospital

*Pictured right, members of the League of Friends, ready to put up the Christmas decorations at Sedgefield Community Hospital and presenting cheques for Christmas treats at Hardwick Ward.*

The League of Friends was formed 42 years ago, when it was discovered that 3 out of 4 patients at Winterton Hospital never had visitors. The Friends formed themselves into a team of visitors so that no patient would go without a visit.

Eventually, Winterton Hospital and Sedgefield General Hospital were closed and replaced by the Community Hospital, which provides geriatric, psychiatric and palliative care for local people. The League of Friends continue their good work there.

They raise funds for the hospital as well as continuing their other activities for the benefit of all the patients.

