

Sedgefield News

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By the villagers for the villagers of Sedgefield, Bradbury & Mordon
June 2005

Response to the Hardwick Park supplement was extremely positive, not least from Catherine Grezo, Durham County Council's Hardwick Park Project Officer (she can be contacted on 0191 3833615). She has asked us to mention the sponsors and financial contributors. In addition to Heritage Lottery Fund, County Durham Environment Trust, English Heritage, Ramside Estates, DEFRA and the Forestry Commission all gave very welcome help. **If you are inspired to join Friends of Hardwick, please contact John Fitzpatrick on 621431 or go to www.friendsofhardwick.org.uk**

A welcome snack from young Max Howell ...



...but please don't be *too* generous when there are young ducklings at Hardwick Park. The young birds will not have the experience to know when they have had enough. They tend to eat too much bread because they love it; unfortunately it can cause discomfort and make them very ill. They also enjoy grain and it is better for them. If you do feed them bread, just a little each please. **A sad footnote:** there was delight when the male swan returned with a new partner. 4 eggs were laid, but the venture failed when the adults departed, leaving the eggs behind. There is a strong suspicion that human interference was the cause.



Mediaeval Knight & beautiful May Queen, two of the 'Faces of the Fayre'.

We have posted many more images on our website. You can order prints from



The 2005 Directory of Community & Voluntary Organisations and Businesses is now available from Library, Post Office, Selections & SDP at 58 Front Street. **Price £2**

A Sponsored Abseil Challenge

takes place on Saturday 25th June, the profits to be shared between the Parkinson's Disease Society and the Friends of St Edmunds. To take part, raise a minimum of £50 in sponsorship and pay a registration fee of £5 to cover the cost of expert tuition. Details from Brian Mutch - **622302**

www.sedgefieldweb then you will have a super memento of the day, and we will be able to add to the funds raised at the Fayre to support the SCA and our community centre.



Easington Colliery Band provided a stirring start to a successful and enjoyable day.

Sedgefield Learning Borough

If you want to brush up on your **Maths and English** achieve a level 2 qualification, then the 'move on' course is for you! This FREE course is on **Tuesdays from 12.30 - 3.30 in the Zone** at 58 Front St. There'll be a friendly and supportive tutor from Bishop Auckland College to help you out.

As the first OCN Basic Computer course and City and Guilds Introduction to the Internet come to an end at 58 Front Street, we're now looking for some new recruits!

The **OCN Basic Computer** course is intended for newcomers to computing and will provide a general introduction to the 3 most common applications - word processing, spreadsheets and databases. Cost £30

The **City and Guilds Introduction to the Internet** course will cover connecting to the internet, locating information using a search engine and using basic email via the internet. Cost £24.50

Don't forget, if you're claiming a means tested benefit (income support, job seekers allowance, housing benefit, etc.) the course will be free and if you're over 60 years, the course will be half price.

If you can't fit in a full course, try a **FREE 5 week beginner course** on - **IT for the Terrified – for complete beginners to computing**

Introduction to Digital Photography

Introduction to Counselling

Introduction to designing a Web Page

If you're interested in any of these courses, please contact us on **657493**.

Introduction to Italian - Summer Taster

Jetting off to Italy? Don't miss our 5 week course. It costs £15 and starts on **Tuesday 7th June, from 7 – 9pm at Ceddesfeld Hall**

Places are limited, so call Rana now on **621097** to book a place

If you'd like to find out about other courses in the area, get some help writing or updating your CV, or if you'd like to speak to a Careers Adviser,

contact Zoe or Maggie in the Zone at 58 Front Street between 9.30am and 12 noon, alternate Thursday mornings (2nd, 16th & 30th June) or call us on 657493

GREAT CHANCE to WIN FREE SWIMMING PASSES

A complimentary pass to Splash (Stockton), Billingham Forum Pool and Thornaby Pool is being RAFFLED by Sedgefield Primary School PTFA.

The pass is valid for entry to the above pools for a family of four for a period of twelve months.

Tickets are just £1 each and the raffle will be drawn on Friday 24th June 2005 at the Junior Sports day. They can be bought at both the Infants and Junior Sports day events or by applying in writing to: Swimming Raffle, PTFA, Sedgefield Primary School, Rectory Row, TS21 2BJ.

Please enclose contact details as well as number of tickets required and ensure all are in a SEALED envelope. Make cheques payable to Sedgefield Primary School PTFA and print your name and address on the back. **Applications MUST be accompanied by payment.** Enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you do not want your tickets to be entrusted to the PTFA until the draw.

1 YEAR ICE SKATING PASS to HIGHEST BIDDER

A complimentary pass to Billingham Forum Ice Rink is being offered to the highest bidder, by Sedgefield Primary School PTFA.

The pass is valid for a period of twelve months, for entry to the rink and skate hire for a family of four.

To obtain this voucher, send a WRITTEN BID including: Name, Address, Telephone No and the amount you wish to bid, in a sealed envelope to: Skating Bid, PTFA, Sedgefield Primary School, Rectory Row, TS21 2BJ.

Please note, this pass has a reserve price of £95.00.

No bids will be accepted after Friday 1st July 2005.

One year and growing!

This time it's SedgefieldWeb. Yes, www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk - your community website, celebrates its first year on 15th June. The baby was officially launched just a year ago, but 'Oh boy' how it's grown! From just a handful of pages it has now reached more than 200. Over 130 groups, organisations and events are represented - each with their own page - from the Agricultural and Horticultural Society to the Zone; from rock music to all the fun of the fayre. The calendar page shows future events, at least three months ahead, and most are linked to further details. More than 300 photographs illustrate reports of happenings in Sedgefield, Bradbury and Mordon. SedgefieldWeb is updated regularly so that you can see photographs and reports of events, often within 24 hours. The recent General Election result was displayed within minutes. You can also find -

- where to get prescriptions out-of-hours.
- links to maps of Sedgefield.
- local businesses.
- help with computer problems.
- photographs from other surfers.
- links to transport providers.

Is there anything missing? If you think so, please tell us. Contact your webmaster at Sedgefield Development Partnership by any of the methods on page 12, or call in at 58 Front Street on a Monday morning and meet me face-to-face! **Tim**

Yoga for Anyone?

An ancient but increasingly popular discipline, yoga offers one of the most complete forms of exercise, promoting weight-loss, improving strength, concentration, balance, posture, sleep and energy as well as giving an instant feeling of enhanced wellbeing - just one class is enough to feel a difference.

Yoga is ideal for pregnant or post-natal women, people with injuries, improved sports performance or anyone wishing to shed the stresses, aches and pains of working life. Ten interested people would be enough to get a regular class together in the village. **Interested?**

Call Maggie or Zoe on 657493.

Celebrating Ten Years of Fun!

Sedgefield Out of School Fun Club is ten years old this summer, and staff and children celebrated at a party with a birthday cake and bouncy castle!

The club leases a building situated in the grounds of Sedgefield Primary School but takes children aged from 3-14 from all schools in the village. It was one of the first 'before and after school' clubs in the area and was set up by a group of dedicated parents and teachers who raised a significant amount of money to get the club off the ground. The charity is still run by parents who couldn't manage their busy working lives without it. Paula Shotton and her team, Mary, Vicky, Ruth, Jason and Karina ensure the children's time there is full of fun; games, crafts and trips out in the holidays are all part of the experience. Here's to another ten years!

All Change. Vicky and Paula are both going off on maternity leave in May and June respectively and we



wish them well! Joanne Tinkler is joining us as the temporary manager and we welcome her to the club.

Book now

Book now for the summer holidays; it doesn't matter if you want half a day's fun or the whole seven weeks (yes seven weeks!) It doesn't matter if your children don't go to school in Sedgefield; all are welcome.

Phone the club on 623565 for information. Places are available now for some term time evenings and mornings. Irregular patterns or one offs are catered for. We would like to hear from school new starters in September who need childcare; come and see what we can provide. We collect from and drop off to all Sedgefield Schools.

Sedgefield Players 'Dead Guilty' in the Isle of Man

Sedgefield Players met with success again at the Isle of Man Drama Festival this Easter, when they took their chilling production of *Dead Guilty* by Richard Harris to the stage of the beautiful Gaiety Theatre. An intriguing thriller, full of twists and turns which kept the audience guessing right to the end, the play had already been very well received by Sedgefield audiences in March. Set in Julia Darrow's small Victorian house, the play deals with the aftermath of a fatal accident and its effects upon the survivors. John Haddrell has died at the wheel of his car, but the woman by his side is not his wife but his lover. John's wife Margaret appears to know nothing of the affair, but events take a sinister turn when she begins to visit the lover Julia, recovering from injuries sustained in the crash. As the lives of the two women become entwined, they find themselves locked in deadly combat. Viv Jacobs in the role of Julia was nominated for the Best Actress award and Terry West as her handyman Gary was



*Jean Hewling & Viv Jacobs
on stage in 'Dead Guilty'*

awarded Best Supporting Actor by adjudicator Scott Marshall from Northern Ireland. Also appearing were Jean Hewling as the vengeful wife Margaret and Geoff Clifford-Brown as counsellor Andy Bennett. The play was directed by Walter Howell and the very attractive set

created by Richie Parry and Garry Jacobs. Sheri Parry provided sound effects and Michelle Cooper manned the lighting board. Rosemary Jones and Annette Lawson completed the backstage team.

Don't miss the chance to see your local award winning drama company in their next production – a totally different kettle of poisson! We invite you to come to Café René in war-time France to say Allo, Allo! to René Artois, his wife Edith and their wayward waitresses. You will also meet Herr Flick of the Gestapo, the lovely Helga, and a motley assortment of Germans, Italians and English. So listen to Michelle of the Resistance – she will say this only once! Come along to Sedgefield Parish Hall on June 23-25 and enjoy a fun-filled evening at Café René. The hall will be transformed into a French café and you will be able to enjoy your drinks while watching the show. Come dressed for the occasion if you like – a beret and a string of onions would do!
Norma Neal, Players' Chairman

Community Safety *Neighbourhood Watch, Police & Community Warden reports*

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crimewatch Panel - Minutes of Meeting held on 12th April 2005

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of 08/02/2004 were approved.

2. Matters Arising: There were none.

3a) Treasurer's Report: Details of Bank accounts were read out. **3b) Secretary's Report:** Correspondence: Received from - Town Council, CAVOS, Durham Police, Sarah Norman, Neil Langthorne, Community Force, Carelink, and Durham Social Information Centre. Issued to - Town Council, Trading Standards, Chief Constable, Inspector Andy Neal, Sarah Norman, and Neil Langthorne.

4. Representative Reports: 4a) Village Constable: PC Keith Todd tendered apologies from Sgt. O'Connor due to his attendance at a Trimdon meeting. Keith provided copies of the Crime Report for period 8th Feb – 11th April. There were 18 crimes recorded, consisting of 1 Burglary, 4Thefts, and 13 Damage (to Property & Cars). Keith expressed his concern over the repeat damage being caused by local youths, particularly to the school. He informed members that Police are to install covert cameras and will bring the persons responsible to book! Keith confirmed he would investigate why letters were stored over night in the "temporary holding" post box that was vandalised and report findings at next meeting.

4b) Crime Prevention Officer: Neil tendered apologies due to work commitments. He will present his video covering a 24hr period of a Sedgefield Borough Police Officer, at the next meeting. **4c) Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:** Sarah Norman reminded us that "when summer comes out, sneak thieves come in!" and discussed measures the public should adopt as second nature to prevent the sneak thief. Sarah also reiterated that crime prevention equipment and advice is available from her on 01325 742755

4d) Community Force: Tim Spearey was not able to distribute copies of Task log for our Village as previously due to internal constraints. He gave details of 9 events that had been responded to by the Force. Tim has issued 3 people with written warning regarding littering offences; next time it will be a fixed penalty. Tim informed us that the age which a person can be individually charged for Littering &/or Dog Fouling is now 10 yrs. **Parents please take note.** Tim is obliged to warn once and fine on the second occasion. The ongoing litter problem from school children during lunch break was raised, & specific details given to Tim, who confirmed he is aware and actively involved with College and children to improve the situation (there are measures in place to achieve this).

5 Schools – Citizenship Schemes: **5.1** C/man proposed to extend this activity by involving the groups of Scout based & Guide based children that are very active in the village and who have indicated their desire and willingness to participate. C/man gave details of potential costs and advised he would seek initial funding from SPARC – approved unanimously. **5.2** Vice C/man reported that accompanied by Tim Spearey he will hand over the replacement Shield and establish scheme implementation at the Community College next week; Sarah Norman will present the initial award later in the year.

6 Ring Round: Secretary gave members an update of contact to and from the Police, following his letter to the Chief Constable in January. Matters of significance are; Inspector Andy Neal is the Responsible Officer for progressing our concerns/needs; he has already had all (local) beat officers trained to use Ringmaster; he is keen to make it work and concurs with our views / needs; use by Keith has already taken place

and would have been effective but for Police problems at Central Comms; secretary is to act as the point of contact between Police & Members on this, so he **needs members** to give views on **both** good & bad experience of Ringmaster & Telephone Contact with the Police; members and public have had serious problems in trying to contact the Police by telephone, now acknowledged (by the Police); secretary has provided initial feedback to Insp. Neal. Keith Todd confirmed the above and spoke of recent positive experience at a one-day "workshop" involving a broad cross section of Durham Police Officers confirming our problem is common in other areas too. Keith believes communications/initial contact will be improved.

7 Bus Trips: David Hillerby reported that there are to be two trips this year, the first one will be to Keswick on Weds 6th July; the second to York (details yet to be arranged). There is a charge of £2.00 per seat to cover bus costs. Please contact David on 01740 621343 to book a place.

8 AOB: 8.1 Community Hospital: C/man requested (retrospective) support for funding for a printer (£39.95) to present to the Hospital to help them in a current activity with patients, outlining his proposal to raise publicity in the N. Echo for our Panel from this – the proposal was approved unanimously.

8.2 Postage: C/man sought approval to purchase a sheet of stamps; this was approved. **8.3 Police Community Safety Officer:** PC Todd suggested we invite the officer, Helen Holme to a Panel meeting to allow her to explain her role as well as meet members; this was agreed – C/man to arrange.

8.4 Crime Reduction: C/man circulated two sets of crime figures 11th Jan. 2002 v 11th Jan. 2005 and gave his sincere thanks to the members of Sedgefield Village N/Hood Watch for their most significant role in achieving this reduction in our village and went on to say that he also acknowledged that the Police, Community Wardens, Sarah & Neil have all been part of our success.

C/man stated it was extremely important our members do not underestimate the importance of their role in this beneficial trend and that it is acknowledged in other circles, even though it is seldom seen in any published material. Thanking members again, he emphasised continued need for participation in N/Hood Watch and in activities to reduce crime and anti social behaviour in our village (as seen above 18 crimes in 2 months is 18 too many). **Raffle** Held after the meeting raised £14.00

PC Todd reports

Crimes reported over the past few weeks include 3 vehicles parked in West End having their wing mirrors smashed on the same night (no doubt the idiot responsible was suffering from alcohol poisoning). On the same day in North End, a hanging basket was damaged. In North End two persons made off without payment, they were later arrested. A front door was damaged in Crispin Court, a window smashed at St Edmund's Church and a drain pipe was pulled off in Rectory Row. Also, a handbag was stolen when it was left unattended in a pub. The bag was found nearby and returned to the owner, only for her to discover that her car keys were missing and so was her car. The vehicle was later found on the A19 near Wolviston.

Please be careful with your property whilst still enjoying your night out. You don't know who is watching you! Don't give them an easy ride home, let them pay for a taxi like everyone else.

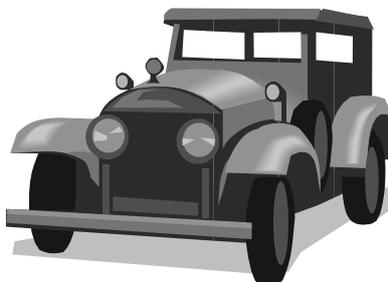
Until next time, *Keith*

Can you support your Community Hospital Garden?

Day Unit staff at Sedgefield Community Hospital find they are somewhat short of plants for their outside garden area. Almost any plants will help but bedding plants would be especially welcome. If you can help, I can arrange

Sedgefield Village Classic & Vintage Evening Fete

The evening of Tuesday June 21st will again see the Village buzzing with activity as Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland stages the annual Fête. Vehicles will be exhibited around the entire perimeter of the village green from 5.30pm and will be a spectacle, if last year is anything to go by; the record entry then included numerous classic and vintage favourites. There was a Ford Model T and a vintage Rolls Royce; there were tractors, a penny farthing, army vehicles, kit cars, bubble cars, trucks, motor bikes, traction engines and even the bus from the TV series Heart Beat. The Green will be a hive of activity, with craft stalls, plant stalls, tombola, face painting, refreshments and fairground rides - something for all the family and definitely worth a note in your diary.



Tim's Tips

A gentle reminder that it is not acceptable in Sedgefield for people to leave litter behind or to allow their dogs to foul the pavements.

The age for a fixed penalty has been lowered to the age of 10, so if I see you dropping litter, I will issue you with a fixed penalty. But at the same time, I am working with police and the college to encourage **good citizenship**, so if we see a student of the college putting litter into a bin, we will give them a ticket to hand to their Form Teacher. The college will then make an award to the student. I assure you that of the two, I would sooner hand out award tickets than fixed penalties! **I would like to thank** a group from the College who helped someone home after they had been taken ill. They did not leave their names but they will know who they are. It's nice to remind people that that not all kids are wayward - and we were all young once!

Finally - to motorists who delight in parking on yellow lines - I will issue Fixed Penalties for that offence and others.

Community Warden Tim Spearey can now be contacted direct (tel. 623654) when on duty, or you can leave a message on his answering machine. He will respond as soon as possible.

Hair today, GONE tomorrow!

"Sedgefield Winkers" normally meet to play football on Thursday nights, but on Monday 13th June, courtesy of "Evolution", several of them will meet for a different purpose - to sacrifice their flowing locks to raise money for Leukaemia Research! Volunteers include Jonah Jones, Chris Stephenson, Steve Chaytor, Steve Nadim, Philip Jackson, Kevin Foakes, Duncan Woods, Colin Lowe, Roy Chowns-Smith, and David Etheridge (who is also having his beard shaved off.) If you would like to sponsor these brave lads or, indeed, join them - you do not have to be a Winker - phone Chris Stephenson on 622396. The venture was inspired by 14-year old Bethan Jones, who was recently diagnosed with leukaemia and is receiving treatment at the RVI in Newcastle. One in 700 children get cancer and the most common form is leukaemia, but thanks to expert specialist centres like the one at the RVI, the recovery rate is very good and improving all the time.

One of the less pleasant effects of the treatment is hair loss, so Bethan is looking forward to going along to watch the lads lose their hair too - especially as her Dad is one of the volunteers!

'Have I got it?'

Young people across the area are being encouraged to ask themselves 'Have I got it?' - Chlamydia, that is. A campaign launched by County Durham & Darlington Chlamydia Screening Programme tells young people about the risks of Chlamydia & directs them to new screening services. The programme is targeted at people aged under 25 years, who are at greatest risk of infection. Screening services, treatment and advice on sexual health are being offered in clinics where young people access sexual health services. A simple, self taken test is offered in sexual health clinics or by requesting a postal testing kit (telephone Central Screening office on 0191 587 6016). Or you can log on to www.haveigotit.org.

The Central Chlamydia Screening Office will then offer free treatments and partner notification to any person testing positive. The new campaign has been launched in partnership with Galaxy 105-106 radio.

Chlamydia is now the most common, curable sexually transmitted infection in people under 25 in England and Wales. The infection is most common in younger sexually active adults, especially women aged under 19 years and men under 25 years. Chlamydia is easily treated with antibiotics but a large number of cases of Chlamydia infection remain undiagnosed and untreated as most people do not have symptoms. It is important that young people find out as soon as possible if they have Chlamydia as it may have serious long term consequences, including pelvic inflammatory disease, ectopic pregnancy and infertility in men and women.

101 Gigs in June

4th - The Wheatsheaf, Spennymoor
10th - The Cleveland Hotel, Redcar
11th - Ye Olde Horseshoe, Crook
17th - The Spot, Hartlepool
18th - The Station, Redcar
21st - Elgins Bar, Redcar
22nd - The Lord Nelson, Stockton
25th - The Ox Inn, Stanley
26th - The Normanby, Normanby

Sports Update with Chris Lines

We round-up the football...

The **Black Lion** finished runners up in Division 4 in their debut season in the Durham District Sunday League, with 22 wins, one draw and three defeats. If the team hadn't lost the first two games, they would have won the league! There were some good cup results against higher division opponents and the season ended with a 14 match winning run, including a hard fought away victory against eventual champions Burnside WMC. Consistently good form, won the team much deserved promotion; congratulations to all involved. The club would like to thank Ian Parsons of Parsons Containers Ltd and Eddie and Wendy from the Black Lion for their sponsorship and support.

The **St. Edmund's** team has been a fixture in the upper divisions of the Durham District Sunday League for many years now and continues to perform well up in the Premier Division. The team has had another solid season, ending up fifth in the league and enjoying some good cup runs, ending with a final against Hetton Lions in the League Cup. It was a close game and St. Edmund's had their chances, hitting the woodwork twice. In the end Hetton edged it 1-0 and silverware eluded the grasp of the Sedgefield team.

Meanwhile, the **Golden Lion** had a season of ups and downs but on balance, it was a big step forward from the year before. In 2003/4, the club finished bottom of Trimdon and District Division 2, losing all but their final game, which they drew. The 2004/5 season saw the two divisions merge, meaning that the Golden Lion faced generally tougher opposition than the year before. Although suffering some big defeats and poor runs, the team showed great bounce-backability at times and managed four victories, including a crucial "six pointer" on the last day of the season against Trimdon Dovecot. The Golden deservedly won that away game 2-1, securing a third from bottom final league position – a massive improvement on the previous season. There are changes afoot for 2005/6 – watch this space.

...and bring on the cricket

Sedgefield Cricket Club moved to the North Yorkshire South Durham league during the close season and both 1st and 2nd XI teams have quickly got into the swing of the new season.

23rd April Sedgefield 1st XI started well in their first ever NYSD game. After winning the toss, home team Preston 1sts were asked to bat on a very soft and unpredictable wicket. Some excellent fielding and bowling saw the innings end with Preston 42 all out. The pick of the bowlers was Martin Lower with five wickets; the others were shared between Jon Clark (2) Ryan Boardman (2) and Steve Brodrick (1). After a nervy start by the visitors chasing such a low score - at one point they were 2 for 2, skipper Malcolm Dickenson steered the team to a comfortable 7 wicket win with a confident 22 not out. Sedgefield 2nds had an even more decisive 10 wicket victory at home to Preston 2nds. Ivor Reynard and Peter Brown shared the wickets bowling the visitors out for just 13.

30th April Sedgefield 1st XI v Northallerton. Sedgefield won the toss and put Northallerton into bat on a damp wicket at the Station Rd ground. The home team had the visitors at 75-7 at one point, but Northallerton chanced their arm and finished on 168 all out. Martin Lower was the star man with the ball, taking 4-44. In reply, an undisciplined Sedgefield batting performance soon saw them at 35-5. Captain Malcolm Dickenson came to the rescue with a drawn out 46 in 36 overs to see his side cling onto the draw with 91-9. The seconds made it two out of two against Seaton Carew 2nds. Batting first, Sedgefield scored 186 (Simon Hughes 52) then bowled the opposition out for 175, Peter Brown taking 4 wickets.

Mon 2nd May Sedgefield 1st XI v Wolviston. Batting first, Sedgefield took advantage of the glorious bank holiday weather and set a total of 206-5, with Marc Jemmeson scoring an unbeaten 62. Sedgefield bowlers, Jon Clark, Martin Lower and James Forster worked tirelessly for 50 overs but were let down by fielders

who managed to spill eight chances and in a thrilling finish Wolviston managed to scrape a draw.

10th May Sedgefield 1st XI travelled to Richmond in their second division game. Winning the toss Sedgefield decided to bat, on a low slow wicket. Early casualties followed as Richmond took advantage. Peter Elwell battled hard for 35 in 30 overs, but captain Malcolm Dickenson once again shone with the bat, scoring an unbeaten 66 to see his side through to 174 for 9 at the end of the 50 overs. A tight opening spell from Jon Clark and Martin Lower put Sedgefield in charge as Richmond looked to chase down the total. Half way, Richmond were three wickets down and well short of the required run rate. Sedgefield crowded the bat but Richmond hung on to reach 123 for 7. Wickets were shared between Jon Clark, Steve Brodrick and Richard Brown. Sedgefield seconds also had a winning draw against Bishop Auckland thirds. Scoring an excellent 206 they restricted the visitors to 160 for 6, and remain unbeaten.

16th May Sedgefield 1st XI came up against a strong Marton team at the Station Rd ground, but made light work of it. The visitors were asked to bat and got off to a good start and at one point were 73 for 2, but Sedgefield were soon back on top and dismissed the Marton side for just 110. Martin Lower claimed 4 wickets, the others being shared between Jon Clark, Steve Flockett, James Forster and Steve Brodrick. Sedgefield got off to a shaky start batting and were 22 for 3 after 12 overs. Then opener Eddie Johnson got on top of the bowlers and raced to a tremendous 55 and with Malcolm Dickenson making a steady 23 not out, they eased home to a six wicket victory in just 24 overs. In division 3, Sedgefield 2nd XI amassed a huge 276-6 at Bedale with opener Colin Hartshorn top scoring with 88. The Sedgefield bowlers failed to break down the Bedale batsmen and the game fizzled out into a draw with the home team scoring 140 for 4 in their 50 overs. Both teams remain unbeaten at the top of their leagues.

Continued on next page...

sport continued... **Racecourse goes to the Dogs!**

No, that's not a printing error - Sedgefield Racecourse did stage its first ever greyhound racing card during its Bank Holiday Monday fixture on May 2nd and although a cause of some controversy, the departure from the usual equine offer proved popular, as can be seen from the photograph, left.

General Manager Jim Allen grew up going to the greyhound racing in London. "Every Saturday night as a kid I could be found at Catford, Walthamstow or Wimbledon. I have always wanted to bring greyhounds to the racecourse and was very excited about this particular event." No news yet on whether a repeat performance is planned – we'll let you know if and when there's news on that front.



As ever, please send any sports related news to me at chrisjlines@aol.com.

Balloons provide floataway finale to a very successful Fayre



Photograph, Marie Walker

Sedgefield Primary School PTFA would like to thank everyone who made their Spring Fayre, held 9th April, such a big success. The Fayre was formally opened by Barbara Nicholls, the recently retired lollipop lady, who welcomed people to over 40 stalls and activities, all of which were run by pupils, parents and staff of the school. ROK, a North Eastern building company, sponsored the closing event when pupils released nearly 200 balloons into the Sedgefield skies in a balloon race. Even the local fire brigade turned up after a call out, and delighted youngsters by allowing them into the cab to try on helmets

and set the sirens off. Thanks lads! The fun-filled afternoon raised an impressive £1,104.56, which will be used to help fund an Early Years Outdoor Play Area.

STOP PRESS! Cameron Storey was the delighted winner of the balloon race. His intrepid balloon was found on a military base in Belgium by a soldier who sent the news to the school and received £20 for his reward. The runners up had flown impressively, but not across the Channel! Cameron won a huge hamper of groceries for his family and a cuddly bear for himself!

CONGRATULATIONS to Hardwick Primary School on yet another success in the Yellow Pages sculpture competition.

Who was St Kilda? *Judith Edgoose reports on a journey through another 'local' history*

I have to admit, when my cousin suggested I accompany him on a trip to St Kilda, I really didn't know who or what St Kilda was. Well, it turns out there never was a St Kilda. The name is thought to come from the old Norse "skildir" meaning shields, and is the name for an archipelago in the North Atlantic approximately 50 miles west of the Outer Hebrides – in other words very remote! Formed by volcanic activity millions of years ago, the islands were inhabited as far back as 600 BC (however did they find their way out there in those days?) and more recently, a thriving community lived there until well into the 20th Century - but it dwindled and the few remaining inhabitants were evacuated in

August 1930, leaving behind a ghost village with a moving history.

We left Oban on a 75 foot ex-Norwegian rescue vessel, the Elizabeth G – an intrepid band of 10 holiday-makers and 3 crew. As the weather was a little inclement we moored the first night at Tobermory on Mull, setting off the next day in a force 7 gale! The idea was to go straight to St Kilda, but in view of the weather we decided to spend the first night on Canna, which was an absolute delight. We climbed to the top of the nearest hill to view the two beautiful islands of Canna and Sanday (also two sea eagles). Canna boasts a coffee shop/pub run by two of its 6 inhabitants; the islands together have 14 inhabitants, and share a school, with one teacher and 6 pupils.

The next day we travelled as far as Harris, again in a gale; it was like a four hour fairground ride! By the following morning the wind had died down and the tides were in our favour so we set off early and arrived at St Kilda for a late lunch at about 2.30. (Our cook, Mark, produced wonderful 3-course meals from a tiny galley and we ate extremely well all week). The circular top of the ancient volcano hides a sheltered bay apparently surrounded by rounded hills, but they are only "half-hills". On the far side the cliffs drop away sheer, home only to millions of seabirds.



On the Elizabeth G, approaching Boreray - a petrified monster of a St Kildan island!

The St Kildans had sheep and a few crops on their island but were dependent on the birds for their survival – their staple diet was fulmar and puffin, and they used puffin oil and feathers for a variety of purposes. They built storehouses out of the very plentiful stone - the entire island is peppered with "cleits" or stone huts roofed with turf. These were used for anything from storing dried puffins to hanging their Sunday suits away from their smoke-filled "black houses".

In 1727 the population was devastated by an outbreak of smallpox. One of the inhabitants had visited Harris, caught the disease and died, and one of his friends carried his clothes back to St Kilda. 94 people died, leaving a population of 4 adults and 26 children. St Kilda was repopulated with families from Harris and in the mid 1800s 16 new cottages were built, the remains of which can be seen today alongside the old "black houses". However, in 1852, 36 of the inhabitants accepted an invitation to emigrate to Australia, and this was the beginning of the end for the little community. Its demise was not helped by the traditional custom of treating the umbilical cord of new-born infants with a mixture of puffin oil and cow dung! Many healthy babies succumbed to infantile tetanus.

When in 1930 the 36 remaining inhabitants were evacuated to the mainland, many were found jobs in forestry – ironic as until then they had never seen a tree! Some returned the following year to bring sheep back to the island to keep the grass under control, staying from May until August from 1931 until war broke out in 1939.

The islands were sold to the Marquis of Bute who ran them as a bird sanctuary and on his death in 1956 they were bequeathed to the National Trust for Scotland. Around the same time an RAF tracking station and Royal Artillery naval station were built there. These very ugly buildings are still there adding nothing to the beauty of the place, but they are part of its history. The National Trust for Scotland has restored some of the old houses and a warden and several volunteers are there throughout the year, monitoring the seabirds and the rare Soay sheep. There's a museum, a shop and a very cheap pub, the "Puff Inn". St Kilda has been declared a National Heritage Site and, despite its remoteness, is visited by birdwatchers, divers, fishermen and sailors. An elderly couple we had seen on Harris in a small yacht caught up with us on St Kilda, to our amazement! I for one can't wait to go back to the Outer Hebrides for more island-hopping!

N·E·T P A R K

Developing science and learning in Sedgefield



Local Knowledge:

County to be marketed as science park. In a bid to develop a knowledge-based economy, Co Durham Development Company (CDDC) aims to harness the research strengths of the region's universities and technology-based businesses, to give the county a competitive edge in attracting investment. Mark Lloyd, MD of CDDC and the county council's new chief executive, says this is critical to future success, as some parts of the manufacturing sector reduce. "We will continue to promote the area as a location for all types of business but to develop a knowledge-based economy, we will present the entire county as a science park." CDDC will develop its links with universities to encourage capital and intellectual investment from the UK and abroad, to locate at sites such as NetPark.



NetPark company stars in new campaign

The campaign, developed and led by One NorthEast, will harness our best assets to position the region as a great place to do business, live, work, study and visit. This is the first appearance of a new brand for the region and highlights people behind innovative businesses based here. While studying for his PhD at Durham University, Dr Arnab Basu (featured above) collaborated with scientists carrying out groundbreaking research, which persuaded him to stay in North East England and fulfill his dream of running a high tech business. Durham Scientific Crystals, based at NetPark, specializes in producing semi-conductor single crystal wafers used in the healthcare, security and space technology sectors. They already work with several blue chip organisations including the European Space Agency. The NetPark incubator unit provides Dr. Basu and his team with exactly the right environment to expand and innovate. "Passionate People, Passionate Places" will appear in national newspapers, in-flight & rail magazines, at airports, railway stations, on taxis and on the London Underground.

A multi million pound national campaign to raise the profile and improve the image of NE England was launched in May, and a NetPark based company features in one of the adverts.

Thinking of starting a business? Then this is for you!

A4e Consult (Business Support Services North East) have secured funding* to offer FREE awareness and information workshops for people who are interested in starting and running their own business.

These workshops are obligation free, informal and encourage everyone to become involved. They take place at their new offices located at:

Office 14 (Suite 4), Tursdale Business Park, Tursdale, Co. Durham, DH6 5PG

Anyone wishing to attend can book a place by contacting **Rachel on 0191 3779888**

Confirmed Dates in June

1 st	Thinking of Starting a Business – Advice and Information
8 th	Thinking of Starting a Business – Advice and Information
13 th	Marketing Tips and Techniques
15 th	Thinking of Starting a Business – Advice and Information
22 nd	Thinking of Starting a Business – Advice and Information
29 th	Thinking of Starting a Business – Advice and Information

and in July

4 th	Marketing Tips and Techniques
6 th	Thinking of Starting a Business – Advice and Information
13 th	Thinking of Starting a Business – Advice and Information

*Supported with funding from the Phoenix Development Fund

June Diary

Announcements on this page are free
to non-commercial organisations

Sedgefield & District Round Table

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

Sedgefield W.I.

Wednesday 1st June

7.15pm Parish Hall

Mrs Kenyon on

The Lighter Side of Life

Competition for Members -
A Pretty Powder Compact
Visitors welcome - £1.50

Wynyard Planetarium

The Wonders of the Universe

3pm on Sundays June 5th & 19th

Adults £3/Concs £1.50

Unlimited family ticket £6 - to book
seats ring John McCue 630544

Town Councillor Surgery

Monday 6th June

6.30 - 7 pm; Council Offices

Local History Society

Monday 6th June

Lilian Groves from the Friends of
Durham Cathedral

"Guiding in Durham Cathedral"

Further details on 620244

Everyone welcome

Sedgefield Garden Society

Tuesday 7th June

Meet 6.30pm, Ceddesfeld Hall
for visit to **Westwinds Perennial
Nurseries, Horden**

Tues 5th July (Programme change)
Ornamental Grasses - Angela Kirby
All Welcome

Tiny Steps at St Edmund's

Wednesday 8th June at 1.30pm

Singing & Stories for
pre-school children & carers.

Sedgefield Farmers' Market

Behind the Hope Inn
from 9.30am - 1.30pm on

Sunday 12th June

Please contact Bob Harris on
07977 231815 for details

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood Watch

Tuesday 14th June at 7pm

in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall
Everyone Welcome

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 16th June

Meet 6.30pm, Parish Hall Car Park

A Walk round Bishop Middleham

with Jonathan Elmer -

Countryside Officer

Contact 620811 for details

All Welcome

Family History Group

(part of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 20th June

Visit to Crook Hall, Durham

Cleveland FHS are holding a Family

History day on **Wartime Ancestors**

on **Saturday 11th June** in Stockton

Baptist Tabernacle 10am - 4pm

£15 inc lunch & refreshments

Contact Sylvia Hall for details of

both events on 620367

Vintage & Classic Car Rally & Evening Fête

In aid of the Bishop Auckland

Butterwick Hospice

Tuesday June 21st from 5.30pm

on the Village Green

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club

Tuesday 21st June

7.30pm in Sedgefield Parish Hall

"Accent on Style"

with Irene Parker

NE Area Demonstrator

Everyone Welcome

Sedgefield Players

invite you to **Café René**

Enjoy a drink while you watch

'Allo 'Allo

by Jeremy Lloyd & David Croft

in Sedgefield Parish Hall at 7.30 pm

on **Thursday 23rd, Friday 24th**

and Saturday 25th June

Dress for the occasion if you like!

Tickets £5 (Concessions £4.50)

from Selections, members of The

Players or call 621 000

By kind permission of Samuel French Ltd

Sedgefield Lyric Singers & Lyrics Youth Choir

Sing For You

at their Summer Concert in the
Parish Hall at 7.30pm on

Friday 1st & Saturday 2nd July

Tickets from Selections, Audrey
Lofthouse (620625) or any member

Sedgefield Darts & Dominoes League

Senior Citizens' Outing to Redcar

Wednesday 6th July,

leaving Parish Hall at 12.15pm

Ladies 60+ and Gentlemen 65+

are all welcome

Please register your name at the

Post Office after 20th June

or contact Bill Cooper on 620057 or

Mary Hodgson at the Pop-in Club

Country Market

Fridays in Parish Hall

from 9.30-11am

Home baking, fresh eggs,
garden produce, crafts.

Tea & Coffee served

Positive Youth Project Film Nights

will re-start in September

Thank you for your support

Forward Planner

July

1st & 2nd **Beer Festival**,
Ceddesfeld

16th **Treasure Hunt** with an
historical flavour! 6.30pm
Ceddesfeld Hall. Tickets 621028

August

13th Sedgefield Show

September

26th - Oct 1st Drama Festival

October

15th Round Table Autumn Fayre
22nd Trafalgar Day, Ceddesfeld

November

5th Fireworks Display, Ceddesfeld
19th St Edmund's Church Fayre

December

9th & 10th Lyric Singers' Concerts

**For up to date changes and new
events go to www.sedgefieldweb**

Generous June - seasonal food & drink *with Meg Clubley*

June is one of the most bountiful months in the British food calendar, all the more so in the north east where we must wait a few weeks longer than southerners. The sun may be letting us down (it certainly was, at the time of writing) but nonetheless, it's time to think positively and banish heavy red wines to the under-stair cupboard! Stock up on pinks, whites and light chill-able reds and keep some in the fridge in readiness for a spontaneous Saturday lunch in the garden should a fleeting moment of warmth occur at the right moment!

I always think it one of life's nice serendipities that, just as my thoughts are turning to Sauvignon Blanc (as they do at the first glimpse of spring sun) its twin soul mates, British asparagus and peas in the pod, arrive in the shops. Now is also the time to make the most of young and tender broad beans (try them in a risotto), rainbow-trout and early baby courgettes, with their flowers, if you grow your own. Strawberries and early cherries are also on their way, crowning this as the ultimate season of good health and pure luxury. And to think that people still query why June should be my favourite month!

Wild Garlic Gathering and using wild food has a smug-

ness factor that is second to none, but many free foods (mushrooms, berries etc.) come with inherent dangers. One that is safe, plentiful and easily spotted is wild garlic, also known as ransoms. People do notice it but stroll by, pausing only to inhale a whiff of its distinctive fragrance, perhaps unaware that it is one of the most easily used of wild foods. Our woods are swathed in it at the moment and if its garlic-and-chive smell isn't identification enough, you can spot it by the broad, long leaves and dainty white flowers. Gathering wild food should be done responsibly; pick just enough leaves, from a wide area, rather than decimating individual plants. So now, what to do with it?

After washing, roughly tear it and throw (at the last minute) into creamy pasta sauces or risottos; shred into cheesy sandwich fillings - try goats cheese and parmesan for a truly posh alternative to the "cheese savoury"; slip it into the flesh of a joint of lamb before roasting, or use with your usual herbs if roasting a chicken. In short, use it anywhere you would garlic or chives, and enjoy the thought of your ancestors pride in your hunter-gathering credentials!

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Copy for the July issue by June 15th please to 58 Front St, Sedgefield, TS21 2AQ - snews@sedgefieldweb.co.uk or 629011

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