

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



Sedgefield NEWS

June 2009

Sedgefield Mediaeval Fayre 2009

Another success story

Despite some heavy showers the 39th Mediaeval Fayre was, as usual, great fun for all our visitors and hard work for all our helpers.

The sun shone on the Flower Queen, Ellen Gowland, and her attendants, resplendent in their white carriage for the parade. Both local primary schools did us proud with their tableaux, Hardwick School narrowly winning the trophy from Sedgefield Primary School. Joshua Tinkler won the Fancy Dress and the Tug-of-War caused much cheering and hilarity as usual. It was great to see so much enthusiasm from all age groups.

As usual, thanks to generous Sedgefield residents, our second hand goods stalls were well stocked and business was brisk. Our expected profit is £5800, which goes towards the running of Ceddesfeld Hall, so all the efforts paid off - well done everyone.

Looking ahead, May 15th 2010 will be the 40th Mediaeval Fayre; we plan something special.

Are you aware of the Sedgefield Charities?

The Sedgefield Charities provide help to people in Sedgefield and the surrounding villages, and the trustees of the charities are able to make financial awards to assist with the provision of equipment or services, outright or on loan.

Help is available to people suffering financial hardship or infirmity or coping with a disability. For example, assistance with the provision of special furnishings, medical equipment and mobility aids.

The charities also support people who are entering training or education at an advanced level, with small grants to help with the purchase of books etc.

The Trustees make grants to organisations working in the area supporting residents suffering from illness, disability or hardship, by providing training or services which improve the quality of life.

Assistance is available to qualifying residents of Bishop Middleham, Bradbury, Cornforth, Fishburn, Mordon, Sedgefield and Trimdon.

Applications are invited from anyone who may be able to benefit from assistance as described but who are unable to provide it from their own resources. They should be sent to: **John Hannon, Clerk to the Trustees, East House, Mordon, Sedgefield, County Durham, TS21 2EY**
Telephone: 01740 622512 e-mail: east.house@btinternet.com

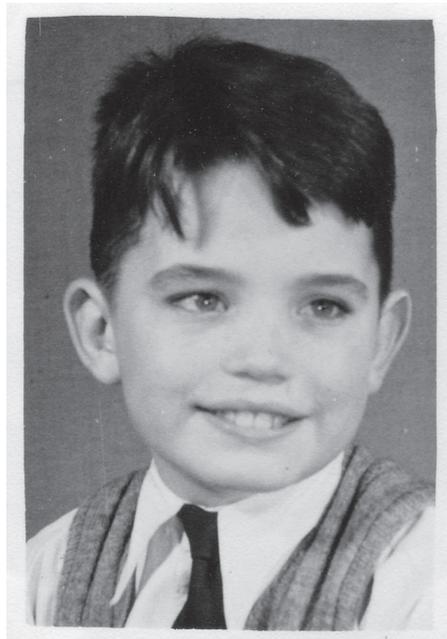
Charity donations at end of mayoral year

Local youth organizations were amongst the lucky beneficiaries when retiring Mayor Councillor Tim Jeanes and his wife Anne awarded donations from the Mayor's Charity Fund at the recent annual town meeting in the parish hall. Prostate Cancer Research and the Butterwick Children's Unit also benefited from the mayor's charity, which raised £7,000, through various activities including a civic ball at Hardwick Hall, Indian magic evening at Ministers restaurant, annual quiz in Ceddesfeld Hall, an evening of music & comedy, and a garden party.

Councillor and Mrs Jeanes gave cheques to the Community Hospital, Scouts, Guides, youth football and junior cricket teams, Sedgefield Harriers, the junior squash club, Sedgefield Players Youth Section, Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir and Lirica (who performed at several of the fundraising events).

Thanks were also given to the twinning association and family and friends who had helped with events. Councillor Jeanes said he had enjoyed his year as mayor and he paid tribute to his wife Anne, who had given tireless support. In turn, the couple were thanked for being excellent ambassadors for Sedgefield during their term of office.

Mystery photograph



Do you know this boy?

His photo was found in one of the books donated to Mediaeval Fayre - The Russell English Dictionary. It was inscribed on the flyleaf, "Barry Hutchinson, 42 Oakdene Road, Fishburn, Stockton-on-Tees". It doesn't go on to say Co. Durham, England, United Kingdom, The Earth, The Universe, as lots of books did back in the 50s, when I think it originated! The photograph is inside a Christmas folder, the kind you would hand out to aunts, uncles and grannies. I'm sure lots of people reading this will recognise the very thing. Anyway, if it's yours and you would like it back, please contact Norma Neal on 620091.

Guiding news

September 5th this year sees the launch of the Guiding movement's 100 year celebration. Celebrations in County Durham will start here in Sedgefield and a huge programme of events is planned to take Guiding into the next century. But there's already been one very big change at 1st Sedgefield guides... see page 7.

Send your news & views to
sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

It's "All aboard the Teesside Princess" for lucky DIDO members

Once again we are nearly at the end of a second year for DIDO. Time really flies by when you are having fun, and that is what DIDO is all about, fun and friendship! After a fabulous demonstration of hats from our local milliner Catherine Hart, a talk given by Friends of Hardwick on progress in the Park, and another interesting speaker from Butterwick Children's Hospice, the Spring Programme culminated in a trip on the Teesside Princess, and as you can see from the picture, right, we had a brilliant day. The bar was open and the food was excellent. This trip was chosen by the members themselves, supported by their own fundraising efforts last year. They hope to have another coffee morning this year so look out for the dates when it is finalised.

If you would like to join DIDO please come along and see for yourself what we do. The age range is from around 58 yrs up to 100!

It costs only £2 per year for membership and you can also join our line- dancing group if you are feeling really energetic. They have their own programme and meet in the Parish Hall regularly. They are always looking for new members.

Our next meeting, on June 8th in the Parish Hall is the



DIDO BIRTHDAY PARTY
Days In Days Out is a project of
Sedgefield Development Trust

A trip to the seaside

Once again the Town Trip - the annual senior citizens outing to Redcar - has been able to continue with the support of Sedgefield Charities and we are very grateful to them for their generous donation to the Trust. The trip will be on Wednesday 15th July and if you would like to go, please add your name to the list in the post office. Alternatively leave your name with Margaret Stewart or Billy Cooper, by Sunday 12 July at the latest. The cost will be £2 per person.

or 2 country towns?

The Town Council is running a Coach trip to Carlisle & Hexham on Wednesday 10th June. The coach leaves the Parish Hall at 9.00 am, returning from Carlisle at about 5.30 pm. Tickets are £9, from the Town Council Offices, Tel. 621273.

Apology

It's so good to have all your news flooding in but it has meant that the typeface has had to be reduced in size this month. I hope that this does not cause problems for anyone. We hope to be able restore the usual size print next month. *Editor.*



Whose bear dares?

Sedgefield Primary School PTFA, in conjunction with the Friends of St Edmund's, will hold another Teddy Bear Extravaganza from 4pm on Saturday June 20th, which means there's another opportunity to let your intrepid teddy bear parachute off the tower of St Edmund's Church, hopefully in better weather! Last year was so wet - but we have it on good authority this summer can only be better....

There is no age limit for teddies or owners but only brave bears should attempt the jump*! Parachutes, harnesses and encouragement will be provided. We hope Teddy Aid won't be necessary. It will cost £2.50 for the first attempt and £1.50 for subsequent drops - there's no limit to the number of tries. Why not get all the family to send their favourite teddy and see which one has the best style?

There will be a variety of other stalls and activities to entertain all the family, teddies included. A Treasure hunt, face painting, games and also refreshments will be available.

Why not bring along a picnic so your teddies get the chance to make new friends and tuck into tasty treats. Proceeds will be shared between the new lighting fund for Friends of St Edmund's and the play equipment fund for the PTFA.

We are most grateful to Specsavers, Stockton who have once again been so generous in their sponsorship. To register in advance for a reduced fee of £2 or for more information call Alison Etheridge on 622839 or send your money to Alison at 1 The Orchard - cheques payable to Sedgefield Primary School PTFA please.

**We cannot accept responsibility for traumatised or otherwise damaged bears!*



LICENSING ACT 2003

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Sedgefield Community Association applied to Durham County Council on 21st May 2009 for a premise licence at Ceddesfeld Hall, Rectory Row, Sedgefield TS21 2AE for the retail / supply of alcohol / provision of regulated entertainment / provision of late night refreshment during the hours of 09.00 to 00.30, Monday to Sunday inclusive.

Representations should be made in writing to the Licensing Section, Environmental Health Department, Durham County Council, Council Offices, Spennymoor, DL16 6JQ by 18th June 2009.

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 9.00 - 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 £5000.

Dated: 21st May 2009

Something to talk about

Sedgefield Players' May production of "Some People Talking" was very well received by small but appreciative houses in the parish hall. Initially set in a bar, the play brings to the stage a multitude of characters, all played by the same four actors, pictured left to right; Viv Jacobs, Geoff Clifford-Brown, Norma Neal, Terry West.



Through them, and in a variety of simply evoked settings, we saw the joy, disappointment and desolation that comes to us all the minute we enter relationships.

Writer Sue Wilding is well known to Sedgefield audiences from her award-winning appearances in the festival as a member of Statement Theatre Company from Scarborough. She has written several full length and one act plays and was delighted with the Players' performance, which she saw on the Friday night alongside Statement's director, Aline Bliss, another old friend of Sedgefield Festival and very talented herself. Both were very impressed with the versatility, professionalism and sensitivity of the performances. Director Walter Howell paid tribute to the way in which all four actors and the technical team who supported them had risen to the challenge of this very complex play.

The production was dedicated to the memory of Margaret Bell, a founder member of the Players in 1970 and staunch supporter throughout her long and active life dedicated to the community. The play goes on to Wakefield Festival, where it will be performed in the Theatre Royal on Thursday May 28th. The Players did well on their first visit to Wakefield last year, when Norma Neal and Jean Hewling shared Best Actress award as sisters in John Godber's "Salt of the Earth". Several supporters of the Players will be with them in Wakefield, including Players' President Barry Jackson and his wife Pat. Let's hope we have something to talk about when we come back. We'll keep you posted and hope to see more of you at our next event, the Drama Festival in September.

Sedgefield in Bloom

Sedgefield schoolchildren will be brightening up the Village Green by helping with the Tub Planting on the morning of Thursday 11th June. If you're passing give them a cheer!

Join our Centenary Celebrations!

**Sedgefield Primary School invites everyone to an
Open Day on Thursday 4th June
from 9.30 - 11am and 1.45 - 3.15pm**

Enjoy displays of old photographs & registers, of school & personal memorabilia and many items to jog your memory of 'the happiest years of your life'.

There's still time to contribute, so if you have stories, memories or anecdotes to share, please contact Mrs Lesley Haley on 623075.

We want to hear about all aspects of school life – good, bad, and in between – and we are full of questions. Let us know about the dinners, the rules, the classrooms, their furniture and equipment. Were you at school for the Coronation? What about other festivals, visitors and special events?

We are looking forward to seeing everyone, whether you have just left school, or remember it in the 'good old days'.

Music, Music, Music

At a recent concert held in St. Edmund's Church, singing groups Lirica and Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir raised £643 for church funds. The richly varied programme ranged from Handel, Rutter and Bruckner to Aaron Copland, Duke Ellington and Paul Simon. There were traditional songs from England, Scotland, Ireland and North America too, and accompaniment from guest musicians Matthew Roberts on organ and Heather Robb on violin, as well as regular pianists Rob Guest and Kristen Peacock. Kristen had a very busy night, making her debut as a conductor for one of SLYC's songs and playing folk harp along with Heather on fiddle and Ciaran and Tim Jasper on flute and cello.

Two weeks later, Lirica appeared in a concert to raise funds for the Methodist Church, along with CeddesFolk, The New Yorkers (who filled in at the last minute for the illness stricken Barber shop quartet), Sebastian Reichel on guitar and Jim Briggs' wonderfully entertaining trio "34U". £575 was raised for church funds and the musicians were assured that some of it would be used to extensively overhaul the rehearsal piano in the church hall!

CeddesFolk will be playing on the Saturday night of the Ceddesfeld Hall Beer Festival.

SLYC is taking part in **Songlines** - a project which aims to link towns from Barrow-in Furness to Hartlepool in song. A special ballad is being composed 'along the line' and it can be heard at a **FREE concert** on Wednesday 1st July in Sedgefield Methodist Church.

Sedgefield Lyric Singers' Summer Concert is set to go with a real swing when they are joined by special guests The Alex Ord Trio. Alex is the organist at St Edmund's Church, but it's an open secret that his first love is jazz. This threesome is really worth tapping your toes to! The dates for your diary are Friday & Saturday 4th & 5th July, starting at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, and tickets are available from 'Selections' on High Street, or you can contact Audrey Lofthouse (621625) or ask any member of the choir.

Finally, congratulations to Ciaran Jasper, who has won a place in the National Youth Choir of Great Britain. Having worked hard at her first residential course during the Easter holidays, there's another to look forward to in August. Ciaran is grateful to Billingham and Sedgefield Rotary Clubs, Lyric Singers, Players and Round Table for assistance with the costs involved. She is currently rehearsing for Carmel's production of The Sound of Music, playing the part of Marta Von Trapp.

Community SAFETY



A Vintage Summer Evening Fair

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood & Crime Watch Panel Shed & Garden Equipment - Security Alert!

Many people take a great deal of time and effort to secure their house and the property within whilst at the same time neglecting the valuable property in the shed or around the garden. Often the shed is unlocked or so "insecure" and run down that it would pose no problem for even the amateur thief. During the summer months our area regularly experiences an increase in thefts from garden sheds and also the garden itself. **So what can you do?**

1. Ensure your shed is in good condition.
2. Fit a good substantial lock to the shed door. The fitting for the lock should be bolted through the door of the shed and reinforced at the back with a steel plate. The hasp should have concealed screws or coach bolts fitted. Don't forget the hinges should be secured also with non returnable screws or coach bolts. The lock should be 2.5" in width and made of hardened steel. It should be a closed-shackle type which will reduce the risk of the lock being forced or bolt-cropped.
3. Fit shed windows with a grill and a cover (internally to thwart prying eyes).
4. Security mark property such as lawnmowers, garden furniture, even tools.
5. Never leave items unattended, even to pop into the house. You may only be gone a few minutes, but they might be gone forever.
6. If you leave items such as cycles in your shed make sure they are security marked and secure them to the shed's structure, just as you would if you were leaving your cycle in a public place.
7. Install a "Dusk to Dawn" or a "PIR" Security Light to illuminate your garden.
8. Install one of the many low-cost security alarms available and readily useable in a shed location. CPO Neil Langthorne recently demonstrated, at the Neighbourhood Watch meeting, very useful alarms including a wireless PIR/alarm unit and a unique "alarmed" lock both available at reasonable cost.

For details/orders anyone interested can contact N/Hood Watch Chairman Ken Saiger on 621896. Also, Ken has **"for Free"** to anyone who contacts him this month, one brand new colour printer cartridge **T0052** & one black ref. **T050**; recipient must collect in person.

Sedgefield Police Community Consultative Group

The spring meeting was held on Monday 11th May @ Ferryhill; as has been said before these are open public meetings chaired by Durham Police Authority at which very senior Police officers along with local officers are there to report to and be questioned by the local public.

As regards reporting, the key messages were that crime is down over the year however there has been a recent & unwelcome trend of increasing crime, in particular car related and in house burglary; also "our" police are taking a very proactive and vigorous approach to drugs/dealing in South Durham.

Additionally the key message to the public is, if you have any concern or issues, **Report it/Ring up/Get in Touch** because if you do not the Police remain in the dark and cannot help, they need information from you!

The Police Authority expressed concern about lack of attendance by the general public. Meetings tend to see local councillors or groups like N/Hood Watch, rather than a wider audience. This meeting was an excellent one in terms of openness & dialogue between those attending and the Police (who included Superintendent Graham Hall, Community Inspectors Bill Bentham & Andy Neill). Especially as Sedgefield's Community Inspector Andy Neill informed us that we in Sedgefield will be seeing a 2nd PCSO very soon; this will be a most welcome addition to the Sedgefield beat team. Following Monday's meeting, Durham Police Authority has provided your Neighbourhood Watch with details of the following meeting in our Village;

Your Police, Your Say' Session

Durham Police Authority is committed to consulting and involving the community to help inform and shape the direction, priorities and plans of policing in County Durham and Darlington. The Police Authority is inviting you to attend our 'Your Police, Your Say' session on Friday 5th June 2009, starting at 9.30am, at Sedgefield Community College, Hawthorn Road, Sedgefield, County Durham, TS21 3DD. At 9.30am there will be the opportunity to discuss local policing issues and priorities with Members of the Police Authority and the Chief Constable and his staff. The meeting of the Police Authority will be held at 10.30am and a warm invitation is extended to you to attend the open session of the meeting when the Police Authority discusses its general business. The meeting is open to Young People of the Sedgefield Community College.

Mr Peter Thompson, Chairman of Durham Police Authority said "We are currently looking at a variety of ways we can consult even further with you and propose to hold most of our meetings in the community that we represent. As local tax payers, you invest in the police services for County Durham and Darlington, so we feel that your views should be taken into account when we make our decisions. We have already held meetings in Durham and Darlington and we are open for other suggestions for meetings to be held out in our wider communities."

For further information about 'Your Police, Your Say' Session please contact Durham Police Authority, County Hall, Durham, DH1 5UL. Telephone: 0191 3835511. Email: durham.pa@durham.gov.uk www.durham-pa.gov.uk

Telephone Numbers (if you don't contact them, Police/Community Force don't know a problem exists)

Community Warden Tim Spearey at Sedgefield ring 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**

For advice / assistance: Crime Prevention Officer Neil Langthorne, 01325 742714 Community Liaison Officer, 01325 74275

Sedgefield Village Evening Fete on Tuesday 16th June is once again featured in the vintage and classic vehicle enthusiast's calendar for the summer exhibition of nostalgic vehicles.

From 5pm onwards, the village green becomes a focal point for the gathering of every type of transport conceivable. Polished to perfection by their very proud owners the vehicles from a bygone era are exhibited and show how they have been lovingly restored.

Amongst the displays are tractors, trucks, motorbikes, war and military vehicles, Austins, Morris Minors, to name but a few. The annual trophy will be awarded to the best vehicle on show at the end of the evening.

Throughout the evening there is traditional family entertainment on the village green with numerous craft stalls fairground rides, bouncy castle, Butterwick Tombola as well as refreshments.

If you have a classic /vintage vehicle that you would like to enter then please register no later than June 10th by telephoning the number below to request your application form.

Entry is just £2 with all proceeds going towards maintaining the high quality care given to patients of Butterwick Hospice.

Any one wishing to exhibit or have a craft stall at the Sedgefield event please contact Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland, Tel 01388 603003, for a registration form.

Please note that although there will be a temporary road closure on Rectory row from 5.00pm, access for residents living on Rectory Row and the adjoining streets will NOT be restricted.

They will be issued with appropriate access signage that should be displayed either on the windscreen or dashboard of their vehicle.

PC Todd returns next month

Jottings from the meeting of Sedgefield Village Residents' Forum,

4th May '09. Despite the meeting being on a Bank Holiday evening there was a good attendance from interested residents.

As usual many topics were discussed and updated in particular issues about the caravan park application. There are still great feelings of anger and injustice in the community regarding the granting of permission for 330 caravans. A letter received from our MP Phil Wilson was discussed and disappointment expressed at his opinion that nothing further can be done and that in his opinion the process had been without fault. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Phil Wilson asking him to seek information on outstanding, unanswered questions raised by residents, and to also give a date when he and Ian Wright MP, who apparently is the Minister responsible for such matters, can attend a meeting to clarify points with residents. Copies of the correspondence have been circulated to the residents' email list but for those not on the list a copy will be in the Library and Town Council Offices for reference.

An update was given on the Area Action Partnership (AAP) event held at the end of April. A name was chosen for our area we are to be part of the East Durham Rural Corridor AAP. There was opportunity to express interest in being part of the Board, it is anticipated that the full Board (21 people) will be in place by early June with the first Board meeting being at the end of June; then the next Forum meeting will be in September – watch out for further information.

The Residents' Forum no longer has a place on the Sedgefield Together Steering Group since to have a place would mean having to represent other groups, of which we are not members or have affiliation. The other option would be to have an individual from a different group represent the Forum; neither of these options is acceptable to the Forum. Whilst it is understood that any group/individual can attend the Together Groups 6 monthly open meetings, the Forum believes the makeup of the Steering Group too prescriptive and not necessarily representative and democratic.

Other concerns discussed were the dreadful and dangerous state of many of the village footpaths – this has been again passed to the Town Council. And following the ongoing request from both the Residents' Forum and Neighbourhood Watch Group to the Town Council to implement some controls on alcohol drinking in some public areas the Town Council have replied saying *"At the moment there is not the evidence to change the overall policies of all concerned. As and when this changes the Town Council policy will be reviewed."* A disappointing response since so many other areas in the County are implementing such schemes and showing reductions in anti-social behaviour. We will continue to press for action in our village.

As usual minutes and agenda for the next meeting will be in the Library or Town Council Office at least one week before the next meeting which is on June 1st at 7pm in the Fletcher Room. Everyone is welcome.

Dyslexia Action to help local families

Dyslexia Action, the experts in helping people with dyslexia, literacy and numeracy difficulties, will give local people extra help in May & June. Full assessments are carried out by consultant educational psychologists who can diagnose dyslexia, and make practical recommendations about help which can be given to family, school, employer and specialist teacher. Assessments are usually £435, but to help local people, assessments booked in May & June will only be £375. To find out more please call Bev or Marilyn on 01325 283580.

Do you know any volunteers who deserve special recognition?

CAVOS is looking for nominations for 'Volunteer of the Year' and 'Organisation of the Year' awards which will be presented at their Volunteer Thank You and Awards Evening on Thursday 4th June at Spennymoor Town Hall. Tickets for the evening, which includes entertainment and pie & pea supper, are free for anyone who volunteers or works with volunteers in Sedgefield Borough. For tickets or nomination forms contact Sharon Vasey on 01388 811115.

Hello all you art lovers ...

Have you heard of artist Eric Thompson - a local lad whose watercolours are extremely popular? He is well known for landscapes and street scenes, and his paintings of historic buildings, churches and topical events hang in many civic buildings within our area. We hope to stage an exhibition of his work past and present later in the year, with the artist on hand to meet you and to give advice to any budding artists. Eric has agreed to support this charity fundraising event. We are looking for volunteers to help on the day but also to allow us to display any paintings and prints which you have bought from Eric in the past. If you feel you could help or would be willing to display any pictures please let us know on Sedgefield 622447 or leave a message with the Trust; tel:629011.

May Jottings response

The Jottings from the Residents' Forum in May edition of the News included 'how the £47,000 of unexpected money received by the Town Council will be spent'. It's assumed that this refers to what is called Section 106 monies and which is administered by the principal authority - now Durham County council. Just to clarify what this is; Section 106 (S106) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 allows a Local Planning Authority (LPA) to enter into a legally binding agreement or planning obligation with a landowner in association with the grant of planning permission. The obligation is termed a Section 106 Agreement.

This agreement is a way of delivering or addressing matters that are necessary to make a development acceptable in planning terms and are increasingly used to support the provision of services and infrastructure, such as highways, recreational facilities, education, health and affordable housing. The scope of such agreements is laid out in the government's Circular 05/2005. Matters agreed as part of a S106 must be:

- relevant to planning
- necessary to make the proposed development acceptable in planning terms
- directly related to the proposed development
- fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the proposed development
- reasonable in all other respects.

A council's approach to securing benefits through the S106 process should be grounded in evidence-based policy.

After several attempts and finally a Freedom of Information request to Sedgefield Borough Council - the Town Council ascertained that there remains £47,000 identified from the recent development at Cunningham Court which has now been passed to Durham County Council.

The monies are ring-fenced for Sedgefield, but have not and will not be passed to the Town Council. DCC will need to take into account the above when deciding how to spend the money, and the Town Council continue to press for direct consultation on this.

Lesley Swinbank (Town Clerk)

Butterwick Hospice

Bishop Auckland.
Anniversary Dinner to celebrate last year's achievements and to look forward to next year takes place on Wednesday 10th June at Bishop Auckland Golf Club.
Tickets: £9 from the fundraising department on 01388 603003

Lots to fit in, so I'd better dispense with a rambling introduction!

Football

The Sunday league season has now come to an end and Sedgefield's teams enjoyed mixed fortunes in the Durham and District League. The Black Lion had a poor campaign and finished second from bottom of division one.

St. Edmund's, who had a great start to the season, had a disappointing end to their premier division campaign, losing in two cup semi finals and finishing mid table in the league. This was largely due to only being able to field weakened teams for mid week games. Andrew Beamson and Carl Hodges, both in their first year of senior football, did extremely well for St. Edmund's. Andrew scored 28 goals and Carl produced some great performances, and has also won a scholarship to study and play soccer in the USA. Congratulations from the St. Edmund's management to Carl, and to all of the players for their efforts during the season.

Crosshills FC concluded the season on a real high, on and off the field. Playing in the fourth division, the club had to contend with a catalogue of injuries throughout the season and faced a tough and congested run in, at one point playing five games in just eight days. Despite these challenges, the team put together a great sequence of results, with every member of the squad contributing. Crosshills rounded off their campaign with a convincing 4-1 victory over Shadforth Plough FC, a team that at one point looked destined to grab third spot in the league. Instead, that victory put the seal on Crosshills' most successful season to date, confirming a top three finish and, hopefully, promotion. Meanwhile, off the field, the club secured a new three year sponsorship deal with County Durham Development Company and will play as Sedgefield NETPark FC next season. The club has also moved its base and will be linked to Sedgefield Social Club.

The club's management is very grateful for the support of the new sponsors and would like to thank the Crosshills for its backing over the last few years. News from the club's annual awards night next month.

Taiji in Switzerland

Last month saw five taiji exponents from the Sedgefield Taiji Group head off to Switzerland for eight days of intensive training with world respected teacher Patrick Kelly. They were part of a gathering of around 80 practitioners from all over Europe invited to attend the course. Joe Harte, who is based in Sedgefield,

has been a student of Patrick Kelly since 1995 and runs the Northern School of TaijiQuan. Joe comments: "I was deeply honoured to be asked to bring along a few students from our school. We have a number of students who have been working away consistently for quite some years now and it's great to be able to give them the opportunity to train with a true master as well as meet others training in the system from all over Europe".

Taiji is often misunderstood as a martial art as it requires a fundamental shift at a deep level within people. This is where the often quoted idea of meditation in motion comes from. The main focus in the early years of training is learning to loosen the residual tensions within the muscles and accurately align the structure of the body, while developing a clear use of mind intention (Yi) and deepening awareness (Ting Jing). Taiji is not an aggressive art and tends to appeal to either experienced martial artists who are able to see the depth of the training, or those who are interested in developing their potential as human beings. To find out more, visit www.communigate.co.uk/ne/taijiquan or www.patrickkellytaiji.com.

Sport Universities North East England Volunteer of the Year Award.

Rachael Watson from Sedgefield has been rewarded for her commitment and endeavour towards the SUNEE volunteering scheme at the University of Teesside's Sports awards dinner. She was presented with the award at the 20th annual awards dinner. A partnership project between the five North East universities (Durham, Newcastle, Northumbria, Sunderland, and Teesside), SUNEE aims to enhance students' employability by providing sport volunteering opportunities, giving them experience to help them achieve their dream career. Rachael has excelled in her volunteering roles and has gone above and beyond what was needed. Her positive attitude, commitment and dedication all contributed towards her being chosen above 70 other SUNEE volunteers to win the award. Rachael was delighted to accept the honour: "Although I was hoping to win I never expected it to actually happen. The other nominees had also worked hard so to win the award made me so happy. Ten of us were nominated as we met the criteria for the award. It was judged over the course of the year, taking into consideration our commitment, organisation and passion for volunteering. Just to be nominated was a great boost of confidence. I felt

appreciated for the hard work I'd put in throughout the year, but to win the award has capped it all off." Among her achievements with SUNEE, Rachael secured £200 from the university's volunteer department, VolunTees, to provide children with food and prizes at a launch day event that hosted a range of activities including trampoline, 'streetcheer', boxing and football. Not only this, but she has also significantly developed her skills and achieved qualifications that could be used in a future career. Aside from strengthening community engagement with sport, Rachael believes the rapidly growing SUNEE project will stand her in good stead for when she graduates and urges others to join the scheme for the benefit of themselves and others: "It creates an opportunity away from your academic work and looks great on your CV when you can talk about invaluable practical experience of working in these environments and working with hard to reach groups. More and more students are getting involved and that has balanced the work load of other volunteers. Obviously the more who volunteer the better as then SUNEE can continue to progress and make a real difference within the local community."

Congratulations to Rachael on what sounds like a very well deserved award. If you are a university student and would like to get involved in SUNEE please contact Vickie Todd on v.todd@tees.ac.uk or 01642 342267.

Sedgefield Harriers have been as active as ever recently, but we've run out of room, so look out for more from them next month. I will just squeeze in the fantastic news that Junior Harrier Scott Kippen became Sedgefield Harriers' first North East athletics champion when he won the U15 boys 400m at Gateshead on Saturday 9th May. Scott finished in a superb time of 55.8 seconds, ahead of Chris Waite (57.3) and Alex Parr (58.8), both of Gateshead Harriers. Congratulations!

And early notice that the Harriers will stage their increasingly popular summer handicap race for the Gerry Kearsley Memorial Trophy on the evening of Thursday 9th July, over a great 6.5 miles course starting in Fishburn. It's open to all. Anyone interested can get more details from Ean Parsons on 07771 828 or email 568ean2005@hotmail.co.uk.

Squash correction

The Sunday racketball coaching session commences at 10am, not 11.20am, as stated in the last edition of Sedgefield News. Much more squash news next month. That's all for now. As ever, send your sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com.

Time to step down

Surrounded by flowers, guider extraordinaire, Jackie Postgate, pictured right, basked in the appreciation of her present and former colleagues, as she hung up her uniform for the last time. Reaching her 65th birthday in May, Guide regulations meant that Jackie could no longer fulfill her role as chief guider at 1st Sedgefield Guides. Jackie takes up the story:

"It was a great surprise when several of my former guides came along to our meeting that night with flowers and gifts to wish me well on my retirement. We had a great time laughing at the photo albums and lots of reminiscing of when we were young! I became a guider in March 1976 having previously been brownie, guide and young leader. At the age of 16 I took over a brownie unit and assisted as a guide leader with North Ormesby guides where my love of travel within the movement began 1st with a holiday to Lorne in Ireland and later a week camping on the Isle of Wight. After a break to train as a nurse, marry and have family I returned to guiding and during the last 33 years I have been fortunate to meet some fantastic and dedicated guiders, have had the pleasure of seeing young girls develop into mature young women and now have the privilege of seeing their children come into guiding. Indeed the next generation has started to enter the chain as rainbows. 10 of the current Guiders in Sedgefield were in my guide unit and are now keeping the movement alive in our Village. We have had 11 Queen's Guides and 15 Baden Powell awards in our unit (this is the highest achievement within the Guide section).

I was camp advisor for Sedgefield and helped many Guiders gain their Camping permits and I was also International advisor for Durham south for 8 years, sending many girls all over the world to represent England at their countries' jamborees, and camps. Over the last 10 years we have been skiing, climbed, been horse riding, tried diving, have fundraised for many charities, taken part in lots of conservation projects, camped, youth hostelled, visited London, attended the Scout Centenary camp in Essex, and last year joined 10,000 Scouts and guides to celebrate 100 years of scouting in Dublin. It was a huge honour to be presented with Unsung Hero award for service to youth by Durham County Council - a memory that will last a lifetime.

My grateful thanks go to Janice Burnip who assisted me for many years as we camped extensively in the north of England, travelled to Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Capri and attended the 75th year jamboree in Berlin together.

Heartfelt thanks also to my present guiders Janet Holt, Fiona Holt (Salty), Joanne Dunn, Joanne Thompson, and most of all to my family Julie Towler and Steven Postgate in carrying on the tradition as Guider and Scouter here in Sedgefield, and my husband Ernie, who has been my greatest support during all of these years.

I will still keep in contact with guiding, in a supporting role, when there is a shortage of leaders, and helping with organisation of events. Once a Guide always a Guide!! Jackie Postgate



Thanks to library staff and readers

Katie Burkhill, an MS sufferer working at Sedgefield Library organised displays at Sedgefield, Trimdon and Wingate libraries to promote the MS Trust's Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week 27th April - 3rd May. Katie managed to persuade colleague Niall Wallace, an assistant at Wingate library to go the extra mile and have half his hair and beard shaved off for the cause. The damage was done at Wingate library, the clippers wielded by Niall's manager, Elaine Coulson from Trimdon.

Katie said "The whole event has been a huge success. Our initial target was to raise £50 for the MS Trust but so far I have banked about £400 and still counting. We've been delighted with the response and support we've received from the public and work colleagues and Niall's been a great sport".

Katie is keen to say thank you, through Sedgefield News, to all the Sedgefield library staff, readers and borrowers, for their generosity.

Round Table

A small notice about the Round Table has appeared on the inside back page of *Sedgefield News* for a few years now, but I thought the time was right for a slightly longer piece. This last month has been a quiet time for us in terms of community service and for fundraising events. Spring is the time for speeches and fellowship, as we see the end of one



Chairman's year and the beginning of another. The handover of the Chairmanship is traditionally celebrated by a black tie dinner in early April and, in keeping with another Table tradition, it took place this year on the 3rd of May. This was the 38th such dinner since Sedgefield and District Round Table was founded in 1972. Last year's Chairman Steve Ayton handed over his chain of office to the 2009-2010 Chairman Carl Arnott (see photo). We also officially welcomed our newest member, Eric Hemmings and of Howard Leigh-Firbank who has just joined us from Hinkley Round Table. The new Chairman has planned a programme that should ensure they have a fantastic first year as members. An excellent evening was had by all, thanks not only to the superb food in the Dun Cow, but also to the witty and entertaining speeches. If you want to know more about us visit our website at www.sedgefieldroundtable.org.uk or see the notice on the inside back page. Rob Moran



Asked what he thought at the loss of his hair Niall said "It was a scary experience, I was sweating buckets but it's for a good cause and I was happy to support Katie. My girlfriend is not going to be pleased though". However - brave man - Niall did keep his new hairstyle for a week.

June Events Diary

A FREE service to non-commercial organisations

Residents' Forum

Monday 1st June

Fletcher Room, Parish Hall at 7pm

Local History Society

7.45pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

Monday 1st June

Gary Green

Marine archaeology in the North East

All welcome

Sedgefield Methodist Wives & Friends

Monday 1st June

Summer night out

New members always welcome

Sedgefield Gardening Club

Tuesday 2nd June

Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.30 pm

'Late Perennials' by Louis Ruffle
All welcome

The July meeting is a trip - for details contact 01429 882250

The CeddesFolk Session

Ceddesfeld Hall from 8pm

Wednesday 3rd June

Join our fiddles, whistles,

squeezeboxes, guitars, ukuleles ...

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 3rd June

7.15pm in the Parish Hall

Sue Orton, of

The Princess Royal Trust for Carers

Members' competition -
a Pretty Ring

Visitors always welcome (fee £2)

Bingo @ Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 6th June

Eyes down at 7.30pm

May Farmers' Market

Stallholders and customers alike were too busy with the market to pay much heed to the mallard wandering about on the village green or the newly returned swifts' aerial acrobatics and piercing calls. Maybe they were trying to warn us of the gloomy clouds coming our way. Rain and hail stopped play about noon. However the morning reminded us all of what a superb Market Sedgefield can be. Public interest in good food has rarely been greater and the wide variety of farm-reared or home-made produce did not disappoint. Stallholders were very pleased with such staunch support from old and new customers and send their thanks. We all look forward to meeting again on June 14th.

EDDIE'S @ 4

Sunday 7th June

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

Sedgefield Town Council

Meeting - 7 pm Council Offices

Monday 8th June

Neighbourhood Watch Panel Meeting

7 pm, Fletcher Room - Parish Hall

Tuesday 9th June

ALL Welcome

Sing for Fun

A lighthearted singing session for all, from 1 - 2pm on

Wednesdays 10th & 24th June

Methodist Church Hall, North End

Sedgefield Show

Thursday 11th June

8pm in the Nag's Head

Everyone welcome

Sedgefield Civic Trust

Thursday 11th June

7.30pm at 28 White House Drive

All welcome

Proms in the Park

In Ceddesfeld Hall grounds on

Saturday 13th June

Featuring Fishburn Colliery band;

Irish band, Steam Radio; rockabilly band, Sour Mash; soul band, Smokin' Spitfires; and the John Wrightson Band.

Traditional style finale

with fireworks over the lake.

Tickets £16 from

Town Council 621273 or Peter Hinde 01429 881502

Farmers' Market

on the Village Green

Sunday 14th June

NE Concertina Players

Sunday 14th June

at 2pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

(Tutor group meets at 1pm on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month)

Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 15th June

Ceddesfeld Hall, 7.45pm

"Ghosts and Grisly Death in Durham City"

David Butler

Visitors are always welcome

For more information please ring Sylvia Hall 620367

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club

Tuesday 16th June

7.30pm in the Parish Hall

Demonstration by Wendy Smith

Northumberland & Durham

Demonstrator

All welcome

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 25th June

Meet in Parish Hall Car Park

at 6.30pm for a visit

(details to be arranged).

More information from

Steve Ashton on 620559

All welcome

June @ Sedgefield Library

Tickle Time

Monday 8th & 22nd, 2.15-3pm

Rhyme Time

Wednesdays 10th & 24th, 10-11am

Toy Library

Wednesday 3rd & 17th, 10-11am

Book Circle

Wednesday 10th, 2pm

Junior Reading Group

restarts Monday 8th, 5-6pm

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable events - new members welcome

Contact Rob on 629079

www.sedgefieldroundtable.org.uk

Country Market

Friday mornings, Parish Hall

101 gigs in June

05 - Daisy Hill, Sacriston

06 - Hardwick Hall, Blackhall

07 - The Royalty, Sunderland

13 - The Pelaw Inn, Gateshead

14 - Town Hall Hotel, Richmond

17 - Tap & Spile, Guisborough

18 - The Swan, Billingham

20 - Camels Hump, M'brough

25 - The Gold Medal, Low Fell

26 - Station Hotel, Redcar

27 - The Railway Arms, Brotton

28 - Normanby Hotel, Normanby

Coming up in July

SLYC 'Songlines' Concert

7pm in the Methodist Church

Wednesday 1st July - FREE

(read more on page 3)

Ceddesfeld Hall

Beer Festival

14 real ales to sample!

Friday 3rd & Saturday 4th July

Drivers please ... a plea from Bradbury

I write as a very frustrated resident of Bradbury who is sick to the back teeth of what could be a picturesque village being used as a glorified car park.

Anyone who passes through each day on what is an increasingly busy road will see the mass parking of cars & vans, some quite local, just all parked up, blocking the pavement at the entrance to Bradbury. And then we have all and sundry parking their cars in front of people's houses and just leaving them there for long periods of time; all we ask is that we be able to come home and have half a chance to park our cars. It's getting to be a total joke. We think that drastic measures may be called for and we are going to explore any avenue to try and improve this blight on our village. We will be lobbying local councils, the new Durham council and even contacting a private parking firm to see if we can sort this out. We are sick of it and are going to fight back; it needs sorting and we will do it soon. Watch this space.

Name & address supplied

Observer Corps role clarified

I read with interest your recent front page article about Sedgefield Social Club. There seems to be some doubt as to the role of the Observer Corps in Sedgefield. The Observer Corps was established in August 1940 and all members were issued with Air Force Blue uniforms and official identity cards with photographs. I have my father's card and it is stamped "August 1st 1940 - Royal Observer Corps Northern Division". My brothers were also members and were later called into the services. The O.C. station was situated behind the cemetery and was manned in 3 hour shifts, day and night by 2 men, whose duty it was to report all sightings of any aeroplanes, and to report to other Observer posts in the surrounding area. They were all trained in aircraft recognition. It was mentioned in the article that they patrolled the streets at night; this in fact was members of the A.R.P and not the Observer Corps. The "Eyes and Ears" of wartime Sedgefield would have been amazed to know that 69 years later they would be replaced by such advanced technology!

Mrs D. W. Cant (née Roper)



**Sedgefield Development Trust is
a member of the Development Trusts Association**

Your Letters

The Wasp "he is no fun"

The Wasp he is no fun,
This time of year he thrives.
Scavenging and scaring,
He is an annoying part of our lives.
Nothing like our Honey Bee,
Who is clever and works hard.
The Wasp is mean and lazy,
I wouldn't send him a Christmas card.
Buzzing round your curtains,
Can't find his way back out.
His black and yellow jacket,
Roll up this SN and give him a clout.
You never know with Wasps,
Never know where they will be.
They get into your packets and jars,
Sometimes difficult to see.
If wasps made marmalade,
Then that would be fine.
No such luck there then,
As they steal your lemon and lime.
Now Bees won't sting,
If they do they don't survive.
A design fault I'm sure,
Because they should be kept alive.
As we move into our summer,
Away from our spring.
Remember this poem,
As you nurse your Wasp sting.
To close, I still wonder.
I appeal to you all.
Does any Sedgefield News Reader,
Know what on earth Wasps are for?
Happy summer.
Anon. (Name & address supplied)

Mediaeval Fayre - just brilliant!

Having missed the last few Mediaeval Fayre days because of another commitment, we were forced by a misbehaving car to stay at home this year. Aside from the sheer pleasure of sharing my grand-daughter's first roundabout ride, I was reminded how hard it used to be, dashing from the heat of a hot dog stall to staging concerts, a stint on the bar and on through the day to the litter picking! Last weekend as I saw the organisers going about their work with a cheery greeting for all, despite all the effort, the weather crises and all those little and large problems which inevitably crop up, I thought I would take this opportunity (editor's perk!) to thank them for working so hard to keep this great village tradition alive.

Sandy Clubley

Deadline June 15th

For July edition please send copy to sedgefield news@hotmail.com or to 58 Front Street, Sedgefield TS21 2AQ: tel 01740 629011
Opinions expressed in Sedgefield News are not necessarily those of the publisher: we strive to be impartial & independent. We reserve the right to edit contributions & will not publish letters of unknown authorship. Please include contact details in all correspondence.

Sedgefield Racecourse - expansion of events

As a rural racecourse, Sedgefield is not particularly pretty; perhaps its big plus is that the roadside hedges are kept trimmed and the litter is picked after each race event.

Sadly, however, the racecourse is losing its identity, being now known as the 'Sedgefield car boot fair', and we will all have noticed that the abysmal traffic management causes congestion not only along Racecourse Road but even as far as creating tail-backs to the roundabout junction with the A177 and beyond, affecting all the by-pass roads.

More recently, the extension car park at the racecourse, to accommodate even more badly managed vehicles, has been used on Sundays (the day of rest and peace) as a helicopter landing site for pleasure flights. Surely this is outside any local authority permissions granted to use a grass area as an overflow car park? As a commercial venture, putting their profit margin before local feelings, the Sedgefield Racecourse continues to seek to expand its income sources and apparently may be in the process of looking to extend the 2 days per week boot sale to include a 3rd day for an auto-jumble type of day. What next?

Let Sedgefield Racecourse make an acceptable living from its core business, but we, as residents who in no small way support the races, should all say NO to pleasure flights, boot fairs and auto jumbles. Send a letter to Sedgefield/Durham Council and tell them, enough is enough!

Name & address supplied.



and finally, thanks to Joanna Wells for sending in a super set of photos of Mediaeval Fayre. These two likely lads certainly look ready for action!

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