

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



Sedgefield NEWS

JUNE 2014

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Norma Neal is our Citizen of the Year for 2013

The selection of Norma Neal to receive this award could hardly be more richly deserved. She has had a remarkable record of activity in and on behalf of this community. What's more, shows no sign of letting up! Until recently Norma's 43 years in Sedgefield were very much marked by her talented presence on stage with Sedgefield Players, and backstage, organising the enormously successful Sedgefield Festival of One Act Plays, which brings the Parish Hall so vividly to life every September.

With the Local History Society, Norma has undertaken a major review of the wealth of materials collected since 1987, and her Snapshots of Sedgefield featured in these pages gave much pleasure and produced even more material. In 2012 when the Sedgefield 700 celebrations brought a visit from the Princess Royal, Norma produced excellent displays showcasing village activities. In 2013 she helped mount the very popular Coronation Exhibition, and now she is working with the LHS team to produce a fitting commemoration to Sedgefield people during World War 1. Her children's history of Sedgefield is due later this year.

With Sedgefield in Bloom, Norma's prowess at publicity, presentation and portfolio writing are matched by her skills in sponsorship development - to say nothing of litter picking, planting, weeding and all those other glamorous Bloom tasks! As a regular contributor to the local press, she is constantly blowing the trumpet for Sedgefield. And now in return, Sedgefield is blowing the trumpet for her. Congratulations from us all, Norma. Long may your words be read, your voice be heard and your enjoyment of Sedgefield life continue.



Norma is pictured with representatives of The Rotary Club of Sedgefield, Sedgefield Town Council and Sedgefield Development Trust, who jointly organise the Citizen of the Year awards.

Reducing gas & electricity bills next winter: update

Look out for the July edition of Sedgefield News for details of how to join the community energy switching scheme. Sedgefield Development Trust and our new volunteers have been seeking the best arrangements for getting competitive energy price deals for customers in our area for the coming winter.

Next month we expect to publish details of what information will be needed on your own power usage and how to submit it. Remember, by taking part you are not committed to any new supplier or tariff, it will be up to you take the best offer when you see it, or stick with your current deal. You will have all July to join in and submit your data but we must have everything done by early August.



SEDGEFIELD FARMERS MARKET
On the Green, First Sunday Morning Every Month.

Follow us on Twitter!
[@sedgyfarmmarket](https://twitter.com/sedgyfarmmarket)



Questions were asked last month when there were no musicians present at the market! But no such worry this time, as Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir will sing whilst you shop. Could music become a distinguishing feature of Sociable Sundays! The quality of the food on offer is having an impact on shopping in the village too, with bread and cheese from Rise Artisan and Parlour Made on regular sale at Number 4. Alongside the terrific producers of good local food, the charity at the Farmers' Market on June 1st is the Great North Air Ambulance. Please come and show them your support.



Geoff Clifford-Brown and Richard Garfield of Sedgefield Players prepare to take part in "Not in Sorrow But in Pride", a tribute on the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of war. Read more on page 7

Please help Sedgefield News by sending advertising copy, news & diary dates for the July edition by **Tuesday 17th June**

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Sedgefield Town Council IT Support

Over recent years all of the council's IT work has been carried out by Brian Whitehead. Brian has now decided to retire and we are looking for someone to take over IT support for computer/IT systems in the council offices.

This includes emergency call outs as necessary and also updating the town council website. The role will also be subject to a CRB check.

If you are interested, please forward your details to The Town Clerk, Council Offices, Sedgefield or email town.clerk@sedgefield.net.

Our sincere thanks to Brian for all of the time and help he has given and for getting things going again very quickly each time!

Butterwick Hospice Ladies Day Wednesday 11th June

Park Head Hotel, Bishop Auckland

Tickets £20 per head, in advance please.

Call **01388 660644** or

email lynnalbury@butterwick.org.uk

Legal Musings

Sadly, over the past few years I have seen an increase in financial abuse of the elderly. The most memorable case was of a lady in her 70's who was suffering from dementia and her neighbours, in their 60's, were driving her around to various cash points where she was withdrawing a few hundred pounds at a time and giving it to them. It took some months for her son to realise what was happening. When his mother was interviewed by the police not only did the mother fail to remember the withdrawals she also claimed that she had known her neighbours for many years, she had chosen to give them money and, that they were her best friends. The sad truth was that the neighbours had only lived next door to her for about a year and, would not fall within the definition of friendship, taking the elderly lady's savings from her.

The son came to see me desperate for the financial abuse to stop. Unfortunately his mother did not have a Lasting Power of Attorney, and because she did not have mental capacity (the ability to make decisions), it involved a long and arduous application to the Court of Protection seeking an interim order to investigate her financial affairs before a final order could be granted by the Court to enable him to manage her financial affairs.

There are two types of Lasting Power of Attorneys that a person can have: health and welfare or property and affairs. For the purposes of this article I am focussing upon the property and affairs Lasting Power of Attorney. A Lasting Power of Attorney allows you to appoint someone, known as an attorney, to make decisions on your behalf about your finances and property when you can no longer do so. I would always recommend that you have at least two attorneys whom you trust implicitly.

The Lasting Power of Attorney is prepared in advance, when you are able to make decisions, and in it you can restrict the attorneys' powers or place conditions on what they can or cannot do. For example, you can say that your attorneys cannot sell your house until a doctor has certified that you can no longer live there or that the attorneys cannot register the Lasting Power of Attorney until a doctor has certified that you can no longer manage your affairs. You can direct that the decisions the attorneys take are 'joint and several'. In other words, if you have more than one attorney, you can direct that they can make some decisions on their own but other, more important decisions, must be taken collectively. It would be sensible to allow an individual attorneys to make some decisions on their own. It would be too complicated and time consuming for all attorneys to have to agree on day to day purchases for you such as milk, bread etc. It is advisable to direct that all attorneys must take a collective decision on purchases over a particular sum of money. This would be up to the individual but some people are quite happy for their attorneys to take individual decisions on sums up to £100, £500 and even £1000.

The benefits of making a Lasting Power of Attorney are numerous:

It is reassuring for you to know that someone you know and trust will be making decisions on your behalf in the future.

If one has not been made it can be expensive and stressful for the family to apply to the Court of Protection for a similar power.

It will give you time to discuss your future planning with friends and family and give you an opportunity to put your wishes in writing.

I personally would recommend that everyone over the age of 18 should have a Lasting Power of Attorney and that it is not exclusively for the elderly. No one knows the future, but I realise that it is not a priority for younger people!

You can get the Lasting Power of Attorney forms from www.justice.gov.uk/forms/opg (Office of the Public Guardian).

If you are interested in learning how to complete your own LPA, then I am hoping to hold a few teaching sessions in the near future which will be free of charge. Please register your interest to discodevilx@sky.com.

Rebecca Hagan, Solicitor

First in County Durham

Sedgefield Primary is very proud to be the first school in County Durham to achieve the Equalities Award, which they were presented by Equalities Award Director, Chris Derrington, on 30th April. Impressively, it was two of the Year 6 children, Annie Pickard and Elise Cabanes-Bouvang, who organised the assembly for the invited guests, involving children from other year groups.

The Equalities Award is a national scheme which recognises schools who are passionate about equality for all, irrespective of disability, special needs, ethnicity, faith or religion, gender and socio-economic background. The staff and governors of Sedgefield Primary have given high priority to their provision and the children's awareness over the last few years.

Mrs Cox, Headteacher, said "Mr Sparrow, one of the senior teachers, needs a special mention, as collating all of the information to present for accreditation was a mammoth task! But, as always, it is our amazing children who deserve the recognition because of their excellent understanding and attitudes, which embody equality for all."

1974

Sedgefield Lyric Singers

40 years of singing together

2014

Sedgefield Lyric Singers was formed in October 1974, on the initiative of Derrick Lofthouse, with the aim that its members should gain pleasure and companionship from singing together, further their knowledge of music, of singing in particular, and give enjoyment to others through performances. The choir also set out to support charitable and worthwhile causes whenever possible. The first concert was in December 1974 under the musical direction of the late David Garood, and from the outset the choir clearly knew where it was going. The opening song was 'See the Conquering Hero Comes' from Handel's Judas Maccabaeus. They have been conquering ever since!

By the 1980s the choir numbered about forty, a level it maintains today. What's more, almost half of its members have sung with the choir for most of its forty years. Ten years after its inception, a junior section for young people aged 8 to 18 was created and when that had run for over twenty years, a small group of young men and women reunited to form Lirica, a group specialising in close harmony and a cappella singing. The children of Lyric Singers have sung in Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir, graduated to become members (and even Musical Director) of the adult choir, and in due course, seen their own children join the youth choir.

The Lyric Singers have sung at many venues throughout County Durham, including hospitals, care homes, churches and church halls, in parish and village halls, and at one time they sang regularly with the Billingham Silver Band. SLYC and adult groups have travelled to Hamminkeln, our German twin town, and in combination, have hosted visiting choirs from Germany and Sweden. The Lyrics' repertoire of over three hundred songs includes classical and sacred music, songs from musical theatre, traditional North Eastern ballads, folk songs from around the world, and of course, Christmas songs and carols. There are annual Christmas, summer and Mediaeval Fayre concerts here in Sedgefield, as well as invitation concerts across the county and beyond.

The Lyric Singers have nurtured considerable musical talent, and often perform pieces composed or arranged by members.

Concerts, some 'spectaculars' (remember An Edwardian Evening', 'Lyricsitania' and 'Down Memory Lane?') have raised money for numerous charities and good causes. In fact, over the last 40 years, in excess of £18,000 has been donated to local and national good causes. Charities as diverse as the Great North Air Ambulance, Butterwick Hospice, MIND and the Anthony Nolan Trust, and global charities such as WWF and Practical Action have all benefited. Some individuals have also been given a helping hand with grants to help further their musical ambitions.

The Lyrics 'family' is a very special thing!



Fun around the Christmas tree in the early days. L to R: Brian Fisher, Nancy Smart, Audrey Lofthouse, Carrie Murray, Eric Richards & Edith Davey



Present musical director, Kay Quinn, with previous holders of that post, Sandy Clubley, Eric Richards, David Jasper & Susan Coates.

Photomontage by Ciaran Jasper

Thank you for the music

We are fortunate to have had a small number of very dedicated musical directors and accompanists since 1974. Four former musical directors will join Kay Quinn in June for two 40th Anniversary concerts (see p6), when all three choirs will celebrate in what is partly a retrospective, but which will also, in the finest tradition of the Lyric Singers, include new and contemporary pieces.

If you would like to be part of this happy group of music lovers, join up in September and be in at the start of the Lyrics' next decade!

And do remember, we cater for all ages from age 8 upwards. For the Lyric Singers, contact Avril Hannon on 01640 622512, and for the Youth Choir, Kristen Peacock on 07572 121



Below, the Lyrics Singers perform in St Edmund's Church at the Mediaeval Fayre last month, alongside their new accompanist, Arthur Kay, left.



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



Many people take a great deal of time and effort to secure their house and the property inside yet they forget their 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? First, Ensure your shed is in good condition.

Fit a good substantial lock to the shed door. The fitting should be bolted through the shed door and reinforced at the back with a steel plate. The hasp should have concealed screws or coach bolts fitted. Don't forget, hinges should also be secured with non-removable screws or coach bolts. The lock should preferably be 2.5" in width and made of hardened steel. It should be a closed-shackle type which will reduce the risk of it being forced or bolt-cropped.

Fit shed windows with a grill and cover (internally) to prevent prying eyes.

Security mark property like lawnmowers, garden furniture, even tools. Never leave items unattended, even to pop into the house. You may only be gone a few minutes, but they might be gone forever.

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.

Install a "Dusk to Dawn" or a "PIR" Security Light to illuminate your garden.

Install one of the many low-cost security alarms available and readily useable in a shed location, all readily available from local retail sources.

A clearly visible deterrent in place really does help to deter the casual thief, who will usually move on and try elsewhere.

Flask in the Fridge - Reminder

Please remember to update your data sheet inside the flask, following any change to either your medication or to your health. It is vital that if the Emergency Services are called and refer to the information that it is accurate & up to date, it is for your benefit only. A simple method is to put your most recent medication script in the flask (as long as it has all your current medication on it). Flasks are still available free from Library and Town Council Offices.

Finally, please report to Police on 101, out of place or suspicious vehicles and persons who cause concern. This will help make our village & homes even safer.

Sedgefield Residents' Forum notes from May meeting

The May meeting was still held despite it being a Bank Holiday; it proved too difficult to change the date. Once again there was no update or information from County Council representatives but Sedgefield Mayor attended with Town Council and Area Action Partnership information.

A report was given on the recent licensing hearing for the Hardwick Live license application. Whilst everyone wants local businesses to be successful those present once again agreed this should not be at the expense of residents having peaceful life. Concern was expressed that there seemed to be a reluctance on the part of the Local Authority to accept that sound levels caused a considerable nuisance to some residents and also that the Authority seemed to have a much lower number of complaints than had actually been made by residents. The Licensing authority recommended that there be meetings between Hardwick Hall, local residents, Town council and County officer in an effort to address issues.

There was, of course, discussion on the ongoing threat of extensive housing development in the village and residents await further information from the Neighbourhood Plan group.

CLlr Carr reported on funding available from the Area Action Partnership for improving health initiatives and welfare reform implications; he emphasised that it is important that Sedgefield tries to access the funding.

There was a comprehensive update from the GP Patient Panel representative including information on interesting initiatives in the surgery reception area i.e. appointment self check in and a self service blood pressure monitor.

Discussion took place about the soon to be submitted EON application for wind turbines at Bradbury and the Isle. It was agreed that the Forum would object to the application and all felt it 'criminal' for anyone to contemplate erecting 24 huge turbines on such a lovely open expanse of fields.

Comment was made that dog fouling seemed to be on the increase again in several areas of the village, residents are reminded to report all incidents as that is the only way to get the attention of the Authority to address the issue.

A question was asked about the change in colour of some street lights. It was confirmed that eventually all street lighting will be changed from the orange lights to the white lights as they are more environmentally friendly and can be dimmed. However, in some communities there have been complaints that the white lights do not light an area as effectively as the orange lights therefore leaving some vulnerable dark areas.

There was no police report at this meeting. PACT (Police & Community Together) meetings will take place at the bi-monthly Neighbourhood Watch meetings. Next Forum meeting, July 7th; 7pm, Fletcher Room, Parish Hall. But over the next weeks there will be Town Council meetings where everyone is welcome to attend and don't forget we have a new Town Clerk. Welcome to Jane Ayre. And of course the Neighbourhood Plan Group continue to want input from residents, so do get involved - why not have a look at their website?

From PC Keith Todd ...

The Winterton estate has been the target for overnight thieves recently. On two separate occasions a number of garages were forced open and searched. It would appear that very little had been taken other than a road push bike and set of golf clubs. Could it be that they were looking for more profitable items such as Quad bikes/motor bikes? Please review the security on your garage doors and help prevent any further crime. Other crimes reported to police include the theft of electric gates from Sands Hall and wooden gates from the Winterton area. A vehicle windscreen was smashed by two males in Cragside and paint stripper damaged a vehicle in Beaumont Court. Also a 12" stone 'Buddha' was stolen from a garden in The Garth.

Pub Watch

At the time of writing this month's Pub Watch meeting has not taken place yet. However, there has been no complaints made to police but I will give a full report in next month's News Letter.

P.A.C.T. Meeting

Members decided that the Neighbourhood police team's priority for the next month would be dealing with youth Anti-Social Behaviour in the Spring Lane/Willows area.

Until next time, Keith

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Neil Langthorne 01325 742755

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Dental fun at the Fayre

The team of Sedgefield Dental Practice were in full swing at Sedgefield Medieval Fayre to promote National Smile Month, the UK's largest oral health campaign and to promote three key messages:

* Brush your teeth for two minutes twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste * Cut down on how often you have sugary foods and drinks * Visit your dentist regularly, as often as they recommend.

The aim of the month long campaign is to improve the dental health of the nation. The team raised awareness of the importance of diet on oral health and had many freebies of smiles on sticks, balloons, pens and sugar free sweets to hand out to the everyone. There was also an amazing prize draw where a life size bear was the prize. The winner was Max Wanless, pictured above with his Mum and a giant bear. We hope Max and his mum were able to get the bear home safely! National Smile Month organised by the British Dental Health Foundation and runs until 19th June. To find out more about dental health, please feel free to call into Sedgefield Dental Practice at any time.

The Sedgefield Plan

We continue to make good progress with the development of The Sedgefield Plan. Writing it is a task that requires research and technical input but we hope to be able to discuss it with the community towards the end of June to mid-July and to submit it to Durham County Council by the end of July.

Thanks to all the residents who have responded to the 'Site Preference Survey' as I write we have received over 250 completed responses and I anticipate more by the end of the month. The results are very interesting and will be available for all to see on the front page of the website

www.thesedgefieldplan.co.uk

We will use the outcome of the survey to guide policy decisions in the draft plan.

Late April saw the submission of the ESRG planning application to build 210 houses and a care home off Beacon Lane adjacent to Beacon Avenue. The developer will also submit an outline planning application for a further 200 plus houses on land off Salters Lane, which will also include business premises.

It is clear that Sedgefield is a community under siege - clearly demonstrated by the map on the Site Survey. It is therefore important that the community is represented at the 'Inspection in Public' of Durham County Councils Draft Local Plan to express our concerns and to broadly support the plan for the development and growth of Sedgefield in a controlled manner that does not diminish the character or the 'village' environment that makes it such a great place in which to live.





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Home Visits

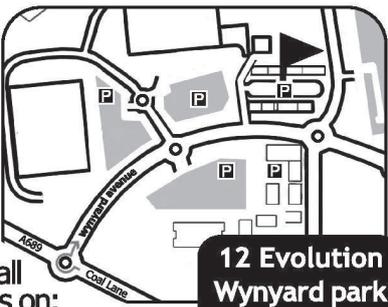
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June Events Diary

Sunday 1st

Sedgefield Farmers' Market from 8.30am on the Village Green. Good local food, plants, music & community stalls. Come out for a Sociable Sunday morning!

Monday 2nd

Local History Ceddesfeld Hall, 7.45pm. Philip Nixon. "A portrait of Durham"

Tuesday 3rd

Chair-based Exercise Class Parish Hall 11am.

Sedgefield Garden Club 7.30pm in Ceddesfeld Hall. Orchid Hunting in Mala by Chris Bland. All welcome

Wednesday 4th

Sedgefield WI Parish Hall 7.15pm Slideshow, David McKnight, HMS Trincomalee through the eyes of the people. Members' Comp, Nautical Ornament. Visitors welcome

Friday 6th

The Longest Day Sedgefield Village Veterans invite everyone to the service of Commemoration at the War Memorial at 10-30 hours. Last Post and Silence at 11. A Coffee Morning is taking place in the Parish Hall until 12noon, for refreshments.

Sedgefield & District U3A 2pm Parish Hall. Members Free; Guests £3 at door. Marilyn Anderson - Convicts to Australia. For more information call Brenda; 629574

Gardeners' Question Time 7pm in the Parish Hall. Sedgefield in Bloom present a panel of RHS experts. Tickets £5 include a glass of wine or soft drink. Available from Bloomers or council offices.

Saturday 7th

Teddy bear tower jump See opposite page

Monday 9th

Methodist Wives & Friends AGM & Supper. On 16th June - Summer meal out

Tuesday 10th (& 24th)

Ladies' Club Last events of the season.

Thursday 12th

Sedgefield Show Meeting at 8pm in the Nag's Head. All welcome

Friday 13th

Country Market Parish Hall 10-11.30am. Home baking/Jams/Cards/Plants/Crafts

Saturday 14th

Sedgefield Rock & Blues Club See opposite page

Monday 16th

Meditation Group In St Edmund's Church. 7 - 7.30pm. All welcome.

Sedgefield Family History Group (branch of CFHS) 7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall. Harry Moses - The Fighting Bradfords; 4 brothers who, between them, won 2 Victoria Crosses, 2 Military Crosses & 1 Distinguished Service Order. New members always welcome. For more information visit www.sedgefieldfamilyhistory.org.uk

Tuesday 17th

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club Parish Hall at 7.30pm. Sasha Gallagher, North East demonstrator; "Summer Dreams".

Friday 20th

Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning, Parish Hall 9.30-11.30am Meet friends over tea, coffee, scones & cakes.

Thursday, Friday & Saturday 19th - 21st June

Not in Sorrow, But in Pride 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. See opposite page.

Friday & Saturday 27th & 28th June

Thank you for the Music 7pm at Sedgefield Parish Hall. Details on page 2. Tickets £5(£4 u16) from Tickety Boo, members of Lyrics or Connie Spring on 623075.

Saturday 28th

Sedgefield Community Hospital Garden Party See opposite page

Regular Meetings

NECP Concertina Workshop
Every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 1pm in Ceddesfeld Hall. Contact 01642 588197

Eddies@4

4pm, Welcome Room, St Edmund's. Informal service for 2-6 yr olds. 621125

Bridge Club

Sunday & Tuesday, 7.30pm, Ceddesfeld Hall. Beginners welcome. Jen 620434

Sedgefield Players

Parish Hall, 7.30pm Sundays & Weds. SPYS: 7-17 yrs Sunday 6.30pm. 620091

Ceddesfeld Hall Pre-School

Mon, Wed & Fri mornings; Children invited from 2+years. Tel 620934

Sedgefield Playgroup

Methodist Church, Mon-Thurs 9:15-11:45. Spaces for 2+yrs. Call 620923

Fishburn Art Group

Youth & Community Centre, Butterwick Rd. 9.30am -12 noon, Mondays

Community College Bowls

Mons 6-8pm. Carpet Bowls/Short Mat Individual coaching. No age limit. 623198

Sedgefield Mags

1st Monday of month in Nag's Head at 8pm. Contact 07966029434

Sedgefield Carpet Bowls

Ceddesfeld Hall. Tues & Thurs mornings 8.30-12 Beginners welcome. 622532

Sedgefield Pop In Club

for elderly & disabled. Ceddesfeld Hall Tues 9.30-12 Wed 10-12.30 Thur 1-3.30

Sedgefield Art Group

Methodist Church Hall 6.30-8.30pm Tues. Tuition. New members welcome

Craft Club

Swinhoe Rm, Ceddesfeld Hall, 2nd/4th Tues 7.30-10pm. 620656. All welcome

CAB Advice Sessions

Sedgefield Advice & Information Centre Fortnightly Wednesdays 10am-1pm

Sing for Health

Methodist Church Hall, fortnightly on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays from 1 - 2pm

Toddler Club

Wednesday term time 1.15 to 3pm, Ceddesfeld Hall. Joan Brennan, 622385.

Sedgefield Handbell Ringers

Wed 7.45pm Ceddesfeld Hall (Mon 1st wk of m'th) Beginners welcome. 621292

Rotary Club of Sedgefield

Wednesdays, 7.30pm. Contacts, Bob, 07831270892 ; Mel, 07530315331

Sedgefield Acoustic Evenings

Ceddesfeld Hall, 8.30pm 1st Fri & 4th Wed. Informal singaround, all welcome.

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays. New members welcome. Contact Carl; 07775644598

Ceddesfeld Hall Art Group

Small friendly group 10am -12 Thursdays

Café@St Catherine's

Friendly chat & Fishburn gossip! Fridays 9.30am-12noon: Tea/coffee/toast/chat!

Lyrics Choirs

Fridays in Ceddesfeld Hall. SLYC 6pm Adults 7.30pm New members welcome.

Sedgefield Library

03000 269521

Opening Hours

Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Thursday 10am - 6:00pm

Friday 1pm - 7pm

Saturday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Craft Club from 10am-12 noon on

Thursdays 5th & 19th June

Teddy bears jump again

Sedgefield Primary School and the Friends of St. Edmunds are having a teddy bear

parachute jump from the church tower Saturday 7th June 1-3pm. Prepaid jumps are £2 for the first jump and £1.50 for subsequent jumps or to pay on the day, £2.50 for the first jump and £2 for subsequent jumps. There will also be refreshments and a range of stalls and activities. Parachutes will be provided; you just need to bring a teddy.

For more information or to book jumps please contact Becky Rowe Tel: 629068.

9th Annual Sedgefield Folk Festival, 4th - 7th September

Tickets go on sale from 1st June. Please avoid disappointment and order tickets early from the Festival Office at 48 Station Road, tel 621347.

An extra event this year, on Thursday evening in the Parish Hall, is an Old Time Music Hall targeted specifically at the housebound and disabled. It is free for these groups of people, with transport and refreshments provided. Weekend ticket holders can also attend. An excellent line up of guests makes up the rest of the festival, including Benny Gallagher Trio, Prelude, Charlie Dore and Julian Littman, Young 'Uns, Kieron Goss, Jez Lowe and the Bad Pennies, Izzy Burns Band, John Wrightson Band and many others. Of course there will be the usual workshops, singarounds, Durham traditional song writing competition, World Spoons Championship and story telling session for the young with Sean Cooney. More information at www.sedgefieldfolkfestival.co.uk

New Generation Church

Sundays, 11am, 1st & 29th June in Sedgefield Parish Hall and 8th, 15th & 22nd June at Community College. All welcome

South Durham Boxing Club

The next show is on **June 13th at Hardwick Hall Hotel**. Frank Warren is the guest of honour. £40 including 3 course meal. £15 stand only. Call **07861226986** for tickets, both for this show and for **Rampage** on June 7th at the **Metro Arena** (see page 10).

Sedgefield Rock & Blues Club

Your local 'rock n blues' club have certainly put Sedgefield on the map. Three gigs so far this year and all complete sell outs. We now have the cream of the blues scene knocking on our door. All of this year's acts have sent messages of thanks and gratitude for Sedgefield's hospitality and rate the Parish Hall (with the help of a dozen volunteers) as one of the best small venues in the country along with the Dun Cow Inn as a great place to stay and eat.

Next up in the gig diary on Saturday 14th June, is the best unsigned Blues Rock band in Britain, The Idle Hands with local talent filling the support slots; Jodie Nicholson from Darlington returns after a stunning first appearance as recently as January and Sunderland's brilliant singer songwriter Paul Liddell completes the bill with his unique guitar style and songs. Tickets can be bought online at www.sedgefieldblues.com or by telephone on 07957104434. Come and see what the music community is talking about. Voting is currently taking place for the British Blues Awards and we are sponsoring the category of 'Best Album'. Please take a look, www.britishbluesawards.com. Honorary club member and local Hollywood Award winning act, Trevor Sewell, is up for best album. We have also been busy supporting local groups by becoming a Platinum sponsor of Sedgefield In Bloom plus donating to several other charitable 'projects'.

Not in Sorrow, But in Pride

Sedgefield Players have created a moving compilation of drama, poetry, song and dance to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of World War 1. Seasoned performers, new members and SPYS from the youth section will come together in tribute to those who lived – and died - through those years. The performance will be in cabaret style, with pies and peas served in the interval and a bar available before and after the show. Director Walter Howell said, 'We hope to honour the memory of those dreadful days, both in serious and more light-hearted mood. The Players have relished the opportunity of pulling together a production with lots of different strands. We urge the people of Sedgefield to come along and celebrate with us the bravery of our forbears from a hundred years ago. Tickets £8 (£7) from Tickety-Boo or call 620091

Community Hospital Garden Party

You are invited to our local hospital's annual event on Saturday 28th June, with a brass band to entertain you, and plenty to keep the kiddies happy while you browse the stalls. There's afternoon tea too. The organizers are appealing to the gentleman who came last year to sell garden plants to contact Julie on 654696. **They have lost your contact details and are keen to have you at the garden party this year!**

Sedgefield Social Club

June events

Sat 7th: Rose, Vocalist

Sat 14th; Danny Ocean, Guitar & vocals

Sat 21st; Debbie, Vocalist

Sat 28th; Mark Thomas, Guitar & vocals

Cover charge £1.50 per person

Members and Guests Welcome

Country Night, Mon 16th:

Nadine Stephenson. Cover charge £3pp

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Sports UPDATE with Sports Editor CHRIS LINES

The domestic football season is over and it has been the usual "rollercoaster ride" for clubs in the North East. After all that, they will all remain in the same leagues and none have had to find room in the trophy cabinet for new silverware. So, we move on. The World Cup is just a few weeks away, so the boys (and girls) from Brazil had better get those stadia finished, then we can all hopefully enjoy a feast of great football, watching the very best players on the planet doing their stuff on the grandest stage of them all. Expectations for England appear to be refreshingly realistic at the moment, though the fairly youthful squad has been met with general approval. I'm simply hoping to enjoy the sport, whichever team is playing, though I fear that might mean I'll be keeping some fairly unsociable hours for a few weeks. chrisjlines@aol.com

Cricket

So far the season has been tough going for Sedgefield Cricket Club's senior teams due to injuries and unavailability, but on a positive note, the first XI have already secured one comprehensive win against Marske first XI. As player availability improves, the team should be able to deliver some more victories to help climb the table. Their cup campaign starts at the end of May, which should have a knock on effect for the second XI who have also suffered. They are still searching for their first league win but after recent strengthening this shouldn't be too far away. They have already reached the semi-final of the Readman Cup. Opponents will be publicised as soon as they are known. The third XI have had some great results so far, including a notable victory over Darlington CC. The team is generally used for youth development and the future looks very bright for the club on the back of this. The U17s have just started their league campaign with a win and a very narrow loss. They have just moved into the next round of the Junior Plate and will be hoping to go all the way to the final. The U13s and U15s have also started well with some strong performances. The teams have generally been involved in cup games at the start of the month so there's plenty of time to charge up the tables in the league programme. The U11s also had a great start to the season, securing a win already against Barnard Castle. There's an abundance of talent and a lot of junior players are showing real potential to become great players. June and July will be really busy with the Bernard Musgrave Memorial Trophy and the John Walker Captains Cup so keep checking the website, mobile apps or follow @SedgefieldCC1 on Twitter for news, events, fixtures and results. If you need help, want to play for the club or have any other enquiries, email sedgefieldcricketclub@hotmail.co.uk.

Athletics

Junior Sedgefield Harriers added another 10 North East Counties medals to its impressive haul at Gateshead International Stadium recently, including four golds; this in addition to 10 county medals secured during the winter indoor season. Jasmine Sharp and Kate Carmichael added outdoor shot put titles to their indoor titles in the U13 & U15 girls categories. Also in the shot, Clifford Cansfield took the U15 boys title and for good measure added a silver in discus. The fourth gold medalist was Aimee Barlow in the U13 girls long jump, a title she adds to indoor high jump and indoor pentathlon titles. All-rounder Aimee also came away from Gateshead with bronze medals in the shot and 800m. Also on the track, there were bronze medals for Hannah Scarborough in the 75m hurdles, Emily Robertshaw in the U17 women's 3,000m and Abie Hearmon in the U20 women's 1,500m. Some great personal best performances and club records were achieved by Tom Hearmon, Tom Collins, Oliver Harriskitt, Joseph Dredge, Max Howell, Michael Chilvers, Max Pentith, Kieran Walker, Hannah Featherstone, Samantha Glaister, Rebecca Hall and Ella Maxwell.

Sedgefield Harriers will host this year's Hamsterley Marathon, a three lap route in the forest, on Saturday 28th June. The event has been expanded to include 11 mile (1 lap) and 18.5 mile (2 laps) trail races, so it is accessible for most experienced runners. Finishers of each race will receive a technical t-shirt and the satisfaction of having completed a beautiful, but challenging course, including a steady climb to the highest point and then a long descent. To find out more and to secure a place, contact Gary Thwaites on 07917 891 786.

Squash

The Sedgefield Squash Club season came to a close with the finals of the Club Closed Competitions. Some great games were played over two nights, ranging from under 11s to Over 60s. A packed balcony watched all the finals, and demonstrated again the need for a third court with a better viewing area. For the first time, the presentation evening was held in the Parish Hall, and proved a success with the hall filled with members and families.

In the main competitions the mother and son double act of Jean and Chris Gillespie once again took the honours for the Ladies' Closed and Club Closed. Because of lack of space here, the full roll of honour and the "DAFTA" awards are published on our website, www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk - as well as the results of the Durham & Cleveland awards, where Sedgefield was disappointed not to be awarded Club or Small Club of the Year (awarded to Yarm and Bedale), given the club's achievements over the season. However, next season again promises much with the long awaited return of our 1st team into Division 1, and the other teams all look to build upon last season's results.

Football St. Edmund's FC has had a disappointing season after last year's success, finishing mid-table in the premier league, while losing to Kelloe WMC in the Ramside Cup Final. On a positive note, the team reached the quarter finals of the County Cup, narrowly losing 4-3 to Greenside after extra time. The management team of Neil Marley and Steve Marshall hope to strengthen the squad this summer in preparation for next season. If any players would like to play in the Durham District Sunday Premier League for Sedgefield St. Edmund's FC, they should contact club secretary Phil Shann on 07944 501708. Meanwhile, Sedgefield NETPark FC has resigned from the Durham District Sunday League (after a decent finish to the season, which saw the team retain its Division 1 status). From next season, the club will play on Saturdays, in the Durham Alliance League. Pre-season training starts at 6:30pm on Wednesday 4th June at Sedgefield Community College, and will also be held on Saturday mornings at 10:30am. NETPark FC is currently seeking sponsors who would benefit from reaching an audience throughout Durham. The club has various packages and options to suit requirements. Contact Ryan Davey on 07446 980831 or David Ryder on 07515 020766. For more about Sedgefield NETPark FC visit www.sedgefield-netpark-fc.co.uk.

LATE NEWS: Boxing

Rampage: Saturday 7th June

It's confirmed that Sedgefield's Bradley Saunders will fight Ville Piispanen of Finland for the WBO Inter-continental light welterweight title. A chance like this is unheard of for a boxer with only 9 professional fights and a win could propel the hard hitting Saunders into the WBO top ten world rankings. Current form, huge local crowds at the MetroArena and home advantage could play a big part for the unbeaten Co Durham star. **See page 7** for tickets & news of another big night of boxing



Quiz the gardening experts

Sedgefield in Bloom are delighted to have acquired the services of three Britain in Bloom judges for a Gardeners' Question Time evening in July. Members of the Royal Horticultural Society, all three are well known to the Sedgefield in Bloom team and can be relied upon to give expert advice.

Local lad Andrew Jackson has been a great help and support to Sedgefield, through his work for Durham County Council. Expert daffodil breeder Rae Beckwith has worked for Gateshead Parks and Gardens and at Houghall College. He gave Sedgefield Gold in Britain in Bloom 2012. RHS Chairman Roger Burnett from Scarborough regularly fronts the Britain in Bloom awards ceremony. All three are widely travelled to all parts of the country as RHS judges. They are looking forward to some taxing horticultural questions from the audience. Tickets will have a tear off strip for questions for the experts, who will not know what's coming up. It should be a great evening, raising funds for Bloom projects. Further details on the diary page.

The Bloom team would like to thank residents for kind donations of plants, cash and materials. If you are busy lifting and separating spring flowers in your own garden, we'd be grateful for any you can spare. Just drop them in to the council offices and we'll find them a home. Next judging dates - July 24 and August 4.

A splashing swimathon was had by all!

As in previous years, the Rotary Club and The Tigers organised a Swimathon at Newton Aycliffe, with half the proceeds going to Rotary/Tigers charities and half to a charity of the swimmers' choice. This year the Sedgefield Splashers chose Parkinson's. We clocked up 131 lengths in 1 hour - by no means the best, but not so bad for a team mostly consisting of pensioners!



Father Caden Memorial Garden

At the end of April, the League of Friends dedicated a memorial garden at Sedgefield Community Hospital to the late Father John Caden MBE. Longest serving chaplain in the NHS, Father Caden founded the League, serving as Roman Catholic Chaplain from 1967-2013 at Winterton and Sedgefield Hospitals. Father Shaun Swales presided at the ceremony, attended by hospital staff, matron Sue Day, STC Chairman Chris Lines and members of the League.



With its own constitution and banking account, the League held charitable status from 1988-2008, giving invaluable service visiting patients, providing gifts and organising events. All had to undergo police checks and were insured for carrying out charitable work. When Winterton's closure was announced, the League bought the chapel's stained glass window. They were delighted when Rev Martin King obtained permission for it to be mounted in the North Transept of St Edmund's church.

Three members have been awarded MBEs for their work with the League - Ruth Lee, Margaret Horn and Father Caden himself. Other stalwarts include Iris Forsyth, Jean Ogden, treasurer Vera Icton and Judith Tulip, Supervisor of the Voluntary Services Department. Secretary Betty Amlin is very grateful to all who helped the League over the years and to two gentlemen who funded the buffet served at the garden's dedication ceremony.

Plans to rename the hospital in Father Caden's memory were shelved, partly as the hospital building is a rented property. A petition to retain the existing name organised on behalf of the hospital's catchment area had no bearing upon the decision. The garden, as its plaque declares, will be a lasting tribute to 'A Loyal Servant and Friend'.

World Cup Football

Come and watch all the England games at **Sedgefield Cricket Club** where we have 2 large screens, seating for 120+, reduced prices & promotional offers, half time hot buffet & raffle and spot prizes to be won. Arrive early to guarantee a seat. **07572 428 383** or **01740 621531**
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Your Letters

From our long serving Town Clerk

Sincere thanks to everyone who sent their good wishes to me when I retired at the beginning of May. I was absolutely overwhelmed by the number of cards, gifts and flowers which I received and also appreciated very much everyone who popped into the Council Offices to say goodbye. I'm now looking forward to working just the one day each week in a new post and spending the rest of the time enjoying the hot summer we are promised and catching up with old friends.

Lesley Swinbank (Now the ex-Town Clerk!)

Rhesus negative? Positive? Type 'O'?

An appeal to all blood groups! To sustain the level of visitor experience we wish Hardwick Park to offer, we seek an infusion of new blood to swell our ranks. During the past three months, volunteers have undertaken a wide range of tasks such as...

Winter maintenance of shrub beds: Site patrols to keep the park tidy & report any concerns: Planting a large number of whips, shrubs & plants for the long term

Erecting stock fencing: Maintaining the appearance of both cascades

Manning the front of house & shop: Removing brash from Serpentine Lake

Assisting with a wide range of fun educational activities: Talking with visitors:

Assisting at events: Path maintenance

There are opportunities to assist in the very popular Tower café too. Our activities reflect our pride in the park which remains, in part thanks to our contribution, the second most visited County Durham attraction after the Cathedral. Our concern is that faced with the likelihood of dwindling County resources, without additional support, we will be unable to avoid a steady haemorrhaging of standards. So whatever your blood group, whether it's been circulating for 18 or 80+ years, we invite you to explore the individual or group volunteering opportunities offered here? Contact Richard (Ranger) on 07833483528 or ritchiebell2@durham.gov.uk.

Methuselah.

School place denied

My grandson goes to Sedgefield Hardwick Junior School. He is the only child in his class who has not been given a place in the Senior School in September. The appeal has been turned down. How can the council allow this to happen? He is an outstanding pupil. What further steps can be taken?

Margaret Murphy

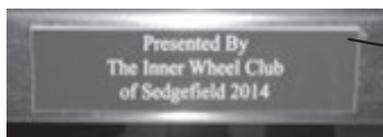
Extra to Diary page ...

National Care Home Open Day, Friday 20th June

Willowdene Care Home on Lizard Lane will open its doors to the public to allow them to meet residents and staff and get to know what life is really like in a care home. 10:30am-4:30pm

Gift to hospital

On Thursday 15th May, the Innerwheel club of Sedgefield presented a stainless steel tea trolley, inscribed as below, to the Fransiska Willer ward at Sedgefield Community Hospital as part of their "wheels project" for the year.



President of Sedgefield Club, Beryl Swinbank, Ward Sister Angela Taylor, with members, Margaret Phillips and Ann Carr.



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Sedgefield News is published by Sedgefield Development Trust and printed by The Print Factory, 01429 264777.

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