



Produced by volunteers for the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury, Mordon and Fishburn

SEDGEFIELD NEWS



JUNE 2018

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Sedgefield's new Citizen of the Year

Congratulations to Sheila McMillan, Sedgefield's Citizen of the Year for 2017. Sheila was presented with the award, along with a scroll and crystal decanter, during Sedgefield's Annual Town Meeting in the Parish Hall. Organised through a partnership of Sedgefield Town Council, Sedgefield Rotary Club and Sedgefield Development Trust, residents were invited to nominate candidates and then a panel of judges (including the immediate previous holder of the award) selected the winner. The judges chose Sheila McMillan for the wide range of work that she does through her involvement in various community groups.

Photo: Sheila in the centre with, left to right, Councillor Mel Carr, Councillor David Brown, Mayor of Sedgefield, John Fitzpatrick SDT and Roger Clubleby, SDT.



Sheila and her husband Jim moved to Sedgefield in 2004 after retiring from their farm in Walworth. They had farmed together since their marriage in 1964 and have two children - Helen who also lives in Sedgefield, and Ian living in Weymouth, and four grandchildren. Sheila has been involved with the Inner Wheel organisation for many years, having held many club and district officer positions and has organised several charity functions. She joined Sedgefield WI when she moved here, attending meetings and helping out at and organising social events. When the position of Chairman of the WI Country Market in Sedgefield became vacant a couple of years ago, she took the reins and is still holding them.

Sheila is a weekly helper at the Pop in Club at Ceddesfeld Hall, where her scones are very well received! She is also one of the team of ladies who organise the handicrafts marquee at Sedgefield Show, and as a congregational member of St. Edmund's Church, together with a friend she has arranged charity functions for church funds, in addition to supporting coffee mornings and the Annual Church Quiz.

Keeping a secret like this is difficult in a small place like Sedgefield but Sheila was kept completely in the dark. She attended the evening event to receive a cheque on behalf of the Pop In Club as **Wendy Easton ?** was on holiday, and was surprised to see her daughter and son in law there, but they didn't give the game away as they were there to receive cheques on behalf of Sedgefield Junior Harriers and Sedgefield Scouts respectively. When they started to read out her commendation the penny finally dropped. Sheila was completely overwhelmed and was shaking like a leaf when she received her framed certificate. She said, "Things like this don't happen to people like me. I will endeavour to continue to be a good citizen and help people in whatever way I can. I have made many friends through being involved in Inner Wheel and the WI and get a great deal of pleasure helping out at the Pop In Club."

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Ali does it again! Story on page 9

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Edwin Derrick Lofthouse, 1928 - 2018: an appreciation

Derrick was a member of St. Edmund's Church from boyhood to his death. He often recalled times, when he was a choir boy, of playing in what is now Ceddesfeld Hall, then the Rectory. In those days it had 56 rooms to explore. Derrick went on to hold various offices in the Church: Church Warden, Lay Chair of the Parochial Church Council; he chaired the group that created the Welcome Room and helped to raise the funding for it; he sang in the choir and would often take part in services by doing Bible Readings. He loved Evensong and would use his lovely voice to harmonise the responses. Derrick made an enormous contribution to the life and work of St. Edmund's Church over the years, in leadership roles and in work behind the scenes.

As we have heard, Derrick loved singing and when, in 1974, he co-founded the Lyric Singers as a non-auditioned, mixed voice choir, it gave freedom to people who might not have had confidence in their voice, to make music. The Lyrics were encouraged to develop a set of rules too, including about charitable giving, which lasts to this day. As a result, countless good causes, chosen by members, have been supported.

When the Youth choir began to make its mark, Derrick encouraged them to take part in visits to Germany, introducing them to the twinning idea. He was passionate about the need for friendship between the two countries and he made a lasting impression in the Hamminkeln area, as well as here at home. Sedgefield Twinning Association owes much to Derrick's persistence and enthusiasm.

We haven't space here to say a lot about his career in retailing or his public service as councillor and Mayor; about the talented and hardworking family that he and Audrey nurtured and of whom he was so proud; about his leadership role at Sedgefield Charities or the Pop-In Club for senior citizens - the list goes on. In many ways, Derrick was a visionary - an ideas man, but one who didn't hesitate to knuckle down to the work involved. He lived a long and very active life, and will be sadly missed by family, friends and all those involved in the schemes he helped to bring into being.

Steve's Nature Diary JUNE

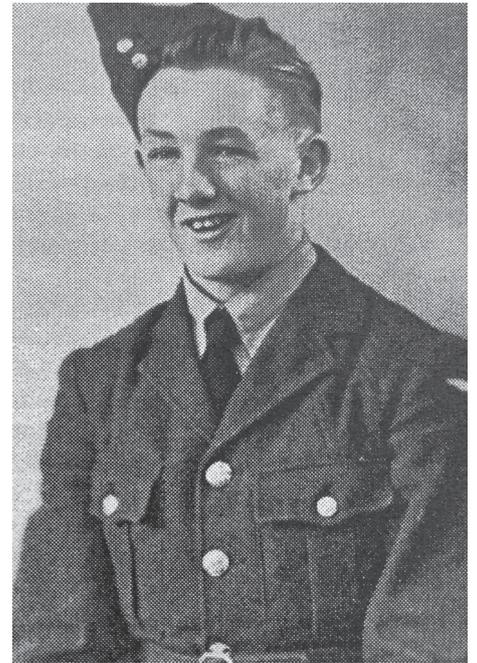


Day 1 - read a book outside. Day 2 - visit a nature reserve. Day 3—get up early for the dawn chorus. So what is this all about? It's the Wildlife Trust's annual nature challenge **30 Days Wild** which encourages people to do something wild every day for the month of June. Over 250,000 people took part in 2017, so why not try it for yourself? Research reveals that *30 Days Wild* helps to improve people's perception of beauty in nature and that noticing natural beauty makes people happier and want to care for it. This June's *30 Days Wild* challenge from The Wildlife Trusts will encourage thousands of people across the UK to make their neighbourhoods wilder – to help wildlife and get communities sharing the joy of the wild. You can sign-up by clicking on *30 Days Wild* at www.wildlifetrusts.org/

You will get a free pack with a booklet of inspirational ideas for Random Acts of Wildness, a recipe for wild strawberry and thyme ice cream, wildflower seeded paper to sow, a wall chart to record your activities and wild stickers. There are special packs for schools with outdoor lesson plans and giant Random Acts of Wildness cards. Business can join in too, with tailored download packs to bring the 'wild' to work. *30 Days Wild* is a lovely way to get closer to nature and marvel at the everyday wildlife that lives all around you. Sit quietly and enjoy watching dragonflies dance over a pond or take a moment to sow a window-box of wildflowers to help bees. Get together with your neighbours to create hedgehog highways or sow front-garden meadows along the length of your street. No matter how small the action, it all counts!

This year's theme is all about helping wildlife in your neighbourhood. To celebrate the first ever *Big Wild Weekend* there are events on **Saturday 16th June** at **Portrack Marsh and Maze Park** and a Big Community Bug Hunt at **Low Barns**. So get involved and have a **WILD** June.

Derrick during his service in the RAF



A letter received by Sedgefield News, expressing sorrow on Derrick's passing - and telling a rather good tale

When us 19 year olds entered Hardwick Camp, we were 565 Northumberland Fusiliers Searchlight Battery, and our first church parade on a Sunday in October 1944 was at St Edmund's. After the service, a lady asked me and another chap if we would like dinner at their house. It was Derrick's mother, Mrs Lofthouse. Derrick was 8 or 9 and he brought his Monopoly for us to play. We also had tea before returning to camp. Lots of the lads married girls from the village; my wife, Marjorie, came from the Kennels at Hardwick Park, but only Mr Johnny Hill and I stayed here to live. We both worked at Sedgefield RDC for 31 years and I was even a bell ringer at the church in the 50s. Derrick let me read his book telling his life story, and I gave him my diaries to read. His book brought back memories of the past, when Sedgefield was a small village. L.J. Butler, Elm Avenue.

Ann Beamson is Retiring

In one respect anyone who knows Ann through her many years of service in Sedgefield Library will not be surprised at this news. They will have had first-hand experience of Ann's lightly worn competence and her unassuming management of the library's day to day activities. The real shock for generations of library borrowers and general users is that she has actually decided to leave!

Ann has worked at Sedgefield Library for 43 years and in that time she states confidently, "there's very few days I haven't enjoyed coming to work; I've no regrets in my career. I would have loved to have passed away with a date stamp in my hand, but I'm more likely to pass away now with a glass of wine in my hand." When asked if she has any nagging doubts about retiring she replies, "I'll let you know about that; I've never retired before, you see." Ann has grasped the nettle of retirement now as she feels that it is time that she and her partner move on to the next stage of their life while they're still young enough and active enough to do it justice. She is confident about the future whilst being a tiny bit ambivalent about life without the library. Perhaps this is why her current manager, Katie Burkill, who describes Ann as her "right arm", is taking every opportunity to reassure Ann that she can 'pop in' after retirement any time she likes.

Ann's affinity for libraries and books goes back to childhood. She was brought up in Trimdon Village when the residents had to rely on the travelling library from Spennymoor for their precious library books. In the early 1970s Ann remembers the building of Trimdon's first County Library branch. Before long she and her friend were thrown out by the very stern librarian because they were giggling. Far from being annoyed, she admits she was so impressed that library staff were invested with the authority to throw people out that she was drawn to the power. At that time, Ann attended Ferryhill Grammar School where, in her fourth year careers interview, the careers officer suggested that she might consider becoming a Gardener or (with considerably more insight) perhaps a librarian. Although, by her own admission, no high-flyer Ann worked hard to gain the qualifications required to become a Librarian – at least 4 GCE 'O' Levels, including English. Suitably qualified, Ann applied for and gained a position in the library service and started her first job in Darlington Library in 1974. After a year of travelling on public transport to Darlington she organised a transfer to Sedgefield where she started work in 1975.

Over the years, Ann has witnessed considerable change and, according to her supervisor, Katie, "she has mellowed massively". Ann owns up that in the early days she ejected customers for breaking the old library code of silence but she readily concedes that modern libraries are "more of a social space and less of a shush place". Ann has seen lots of changes in her time with the growth of interactive and participatory events. "In the early days of my career", she says, "It was more about books than people but nowadays it's more about people. I understand the need for things to change and I try to do what's necessary to make that change happen." This willingness to stay on the 'front line' and quietly just get things done is further evidence of Ann's retiring nature. She has made conscious choices to not to follow the promotion path, despite being advised by colleagues to do so. "It's just not what I wanted to do. A service needs good core staff and I've always been comfortable in that role, supporting those above me to ensure continuity." Ann has totally embraced the people aspect of her work from helping borrowers locate resources to listening to their news of family joys and tribulations. And, of course, what better place for a lonely or isolated person to come to, just for a little chat. Both Katie and Ann agree, "It's one of the positives of a small community library compared to a town library that you actually have time to give to customers such as these".

This attitude is reflected in the users' comments currently being added to Ann's retirement card, a card which has had several extra pages affixed to it such is the public's desire to record their thanks to Ann for all her work and attention to them. The comments are all positive, as might be expected, but I was struck by the number of references to Ann's kindness, helpfulness, humour and friendliness together with numerous references to how she will be missed. Ann's official retirement date is Saturday, June 9th so there's still time to add your message to the card on the library counter. Ann will have a retirement night out with colleagues on Wednesday 6th and an open house Coffee Day in the Library on the 7th, and all are welcome.



Librarian Ann Beamson, a familiar face in the place where we have known her for so long!

In memory of Rosemary

Rosemary Burnip sadly passed away earlier this year on the 11th March. She enjoyed so much being a part of many of the group activities which became such a large part of her life in our village community. She met so many people whilst participating in the various clubs and groups, whose company she enjoyed immensely. Many of them became very close and dear friends and we know that they were a great source of comfort to her during her long battle with Leukaemia.

The family have been overwhelmed by the many cards and very kind messages of sympathy which we have received. St. Edmund's was full on the day of her funeral, and whilst it was very emotional, it was said by many to be a joyous occasion of which she would have approved, and was truly a reflection of her.

We have been astounded by the generosity of the many people and groups who made donations to her chosen charity, Bloodwise, in her memory. Not only is it a wonderful gesture in itself but we like to feel it is a statement of the regard she had within our community. The charity has sent letters of thanks for the very significant amount which has been raised, the level of which they have found amazing. They now also understand and appreciate the warmth and the friendship which exists within our community. Our love and heartfelt thanks to you all.

Rest in peace little one.

Husband Peter, son Jonathan and daughter Helen

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Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch

Our next Neighbourhood Watch Meeting will be held in the Fletcher Room of the Parish Hall on Tuesday, 12th June 2018. The meeting starts promptly at 7.00pm and will not last more than an hour.

If you value having a viable Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Sedgefield please make the effort to come along and participate or just listen. Our new PC, John Lamb will be on hand to update us on recent events and to hear of anyone's concerns and issues (publicly or privately).

Whilst Sedgefield is a low crime area, crime *is* still being committed in Sedgefield. Car crime, thefts, burglaries and of course, as we are all aware, regular Anti-Social Behaviour all still occur in Sedgefield.

The purpose of N/H/Watch is to minimise crime by being the extra eyes and ears for our local Police and to have formal, regular contact with them as well as looking out for our neighbours and their properties.

As we have stated several times, our group is struggling to keep going; we seriously need more support and active participation from younger (than pensioner) residents, so if you can make the time please come along and get involved.

Call 101 to contact Local Police to report concerns, seek advice or pass on information. You are advised to keep notes of the conversation & obtain an incident number. Below are the up-to-date police contacts. Please note any you may need, as we may not have space to publish them all every month.

Crime Prevention Officer: rona.stocks@durham.pnn.police.uk

Police Community Cohesion Officer: Faye Callan; Telephone 101 Extension 742317.

Email Faye.callan@durham.pnn.police.uk

PCC RON HOGG: www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Information-Hub/Contact.aspx

Retirement - but not the end of service to the community

The Revd. Michael Thompson, Team Vicar in the Parish of the Upper Skerne, will retire on July 31st, four years after accepting the post and making his home at Trimdon Grange. Well loved by many, Michael and his family intend to remain in County Durham where, after a period of rest and reflection, he plans to offer his services in some form to the "former mining communities that were once the mainstream and energising force of life in this county".

Father Michael was ordained deacon in 1986 and made priest the following year in the diocese of Newcastle. Most of his ministry was spent in the London area before returning to the north east. Father Michael said that after accepting the offer to serve as Team Vicar in the Upper Skerne he was "delighted to become part of a parish full of potential and hope. It was wonderful to work with children again and help support the parish leaders and different congregations and communities within this wide-ranging and varied parish. "Within the spectrum of community life in the Trimdons and Fishburn I also found an echo of my working class roots. It was an honour to give the prayer of benediction and march before the miners' banners on Gala Day. Memories of this and being involved with the dedication of the restored Trimdon Colliery miners' banner will always remain with me."

For many parishioners, Father Michael will be remembered for his great sense of humour!

The Revd. Martin King thanked Father Michael for his ministry in the parish and told him: "You will be missed. You are well loved by a lot of people."

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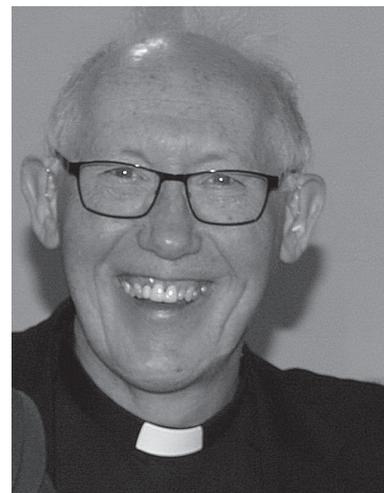
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Above, the Revd. Michael Thompson, and below, with the Trimdon Colliery banner.



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James Guest, on parade at the Fayre with the children of both primary schools

Mediaeval Fayre The sun shone on the 48th Fayre and it was a great community day, in true Sedgefield tradition. The children's walking parade was lively, vibrant and colourful with over 200 children taking part, from nursery age to Y6. The band of drummers kept the beat and the art work which celebrated British and American architecture, sport, famous people, cartoons, and literature was wonderful. The procession was led by the May Queen, Sophie Green and her attendants, Evie Legender, Amelia Taylor, and Georgie Luke. Thanks to all of the children, staff and parents from both primary schools who participated in putting on a marvellous show.

The good weather brought in the crowds who enjoyed the different stalls and displays, as well as the mediaeval events, tug of war and country dancing. The birds of prey were very popular and we're happy to report that the escaped buzzard was found, safe and sound, later in the day. The children's entertainment, Living History and face painting on the lawns at Ceddesfeld attracted families and friends who were able to relax and enjoy the fun in the sun shine, a drink from the bar and delicious refreshments (bacon and sausage butties, quiche, salad, sandwiches and cakes) prepared and organised by Sedgefield Bloomers.

SDT Projects *Sedgefield Development Trust news*



Homework Help

Students are in the middle of exams, but Homework Help sessions are continuing for those who wish. Yet another helper has come forward to further strengthen the team.

We can offer a broad range of subjects right up to A-Level, with particular strengths in sciences, maths, German and French (so far!) If you'd like help, or to offer help, email homeworkhelpsedgefield@gmail.com or find us on Facebook ([facebook.com/homeworkhelpsedgefield/](https://www.facebook.com/homeworkhelpsedgefield/)). Huge thanks to all our helpers, and all the best to the students with their exams.

Sedgefield Farmers' Market, Sunday 3rd June from 8.30am.

Sedgefield Harriers are visiting the Farmers' Market community stall this month, so come along and find out more about them, perhaps maybe even join them - it's one way to keep, or get, fit! The entertaining "Push Button Band" provides the music this month. Proper Patisserie will be here in June. Other stall news will be posted on Facebook and Twitter.

The Woodland & Wildlife Project

The warm weather has certainly brought out the weeds, but fortunately, a team of dedicated weeders has grown alongside them! They are spending many hours and a great deal of energy tackling the problem before the baby trees become overwhelmed by the competition. The trees are doing very well, but the group's dedication will need to continue through the growing season. If you would like to get stuck in too, look for our group on Facebook and request to join, or call or text 07803 269956.



Contact SDT via individual project phone numbers & email addresses, or email sedgefielddevelopmenttrust@hotmail.co.uk

In the run up and during the day of the Fayre, well over 100 local volunteers turned out to help. Some have been involved for many years; they come back time and time again. Some new people too this year made a difference in ensuring everyone stayed safe and the event ran smoothly. Local businesses are generous with their sponsorship and are keen to support the community. SCA would like to thank all of the individuals, groups, organisations and businesses for their continued support. Sedgefield Mediaeval Fayre just wouldn't go ahead without them. In 2020 Sedgefield will celebrate the 50th Mediaeval Fayre; what an achievement and huge testament to the people of Sedgefield for their long standing community endeavours and spirit.

Sedgefield Day. Our next community event, is on June 23rd, and is for all local groups (not just SCA) and organisations who want to be involved, to promote what they do. Get in touch if you would like a display space. All activities are at Ceddesfeld Hall and grounds. The combined school choirs and SPYS will be performing as well as Ceddesfolk, The Push Button Band, Raggle Taggle and Ceddesfeld Ukuleles. There will be displays and activities from the craft group, Sedgefield Civic Trust, Sedgefield Players and SPYS, Sedgefield Bloomers, the art group, Tiny Talk, U3A, the squash club and some others yet to confirm, as well as refreshments and Ceddesfeld bar across the day. Come along to see what your local community has to offer. There really is something for everyone. Details can be seen on the website in the coming weeks and look out for posters around town.

Following Sedgefield day there is the SCA Beer Festival (6th & 7th July), Sedgefield Folk Festival (31st August, 1st & 2nd September), Sedgefield Book Ends, which runs between Saturday 29th September and 21st October; more on these next month, or visit the SCA website for further details.

For more information on Ceddesfeld Hall events, regular activities, room hire and bar opening times, contact Wendy on 01740 620206, Pat on 01740 620607, Sarah on 01740 622185 or visit

www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk

Interview with the new Sedgefield Comedy Club

Q. Tell us about yourself?

A. My name is Peter Vincent and I'm a stand up comedy programmer and promoter. I program comedy for Ten Feet Tall, a Middlesbrough based company bringing big names to the town hall like Sarah Millican & Jimmy Carr. They have 5 regular comedy gigs across the Teesside area including the popular Catch 22 at ARC. I also work for Jason Manford programming his chain of 16 comedy clubs around the UK.

Q. What made you decide to run a comedy night in Sedgefield?

A. I was in Sedgefield and happened to come across the Parish Hall. After taking one look I knew we could run a great night there. If any residents of Sedgefield fancied a night out at a comedy club they'd have to travel to Stockton or Middlesbrough which can end up being expensive if you include taxis. This way, we can bring quality stand up comedians to the intimate setting in the Parish Hall.

Q. What can we expect at the comedy club?

A. We'll have 3 comedians on and a professional MC to hold the night together. We run a very reasonably priced bar, doors open at 730pm with the show starting at 8pm and we expect to finish around 1030pm. I see hundreds of comedians a year so I've picked the best to come along and entertain the people of Sedgefield.

Q. Ok, when's the next night and who's on?

A. The Full Monty Comedy Club is back on Saturday 9th June with MC Mike Wilkinson, local comedian Fran Garrity, Brian Bell and the wonderful Eddy Brimson will be closing the show. Tickets are £10 from Tickety Boo or via the website www.fullmontycomedy.co.uk or find us on FaceBook/fullmontycomedy Peter Vincent

Fly to the Moon with the Lyric Singers, Lirica & SLYC

Plenty of musical delights are on offer this summer from Sedgefield's local choirs, with something for all ages and tastes. The Sedgefield Lyric Singers' summer concerts are in the Parish Hall, on Friday 29th June and Saturday 30th June starting at 7.30pm.

The senior choir will also be joined by the fabulous 'Lirica' and the talented junior choir 'SLYC'. The concerts promise fantastic performances with music from a wide range of sources from folk and swing style music to traditional choral pieces and musical theatre. This year's theme is 'Fly me to the Moon' so join us to 'swing among the stars'. Please come along and let us regale you for an hour or so.

Both the youth choir (for young people aged 8 to 18 years) and the adult choir welcome newcomers who enjoy singing. No auditions are required and it is not essential to be able to read music. Anyone interested can contact the choir director, Rob Guest or the secretary Avril Hannon (01740 622512), or simply come along to a rehearsal at Ceddesfeld Hall on Fridays in term time, at 6pm for the youth choir and 7.30pm for the adult choir. *Linda Gray*



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Ferryhill dreaming of a White Christmas

It seems an odd thing to be thinking of as summer is making its welcome appearance, but this is exactly what we're doing at Ferryhill Stage Society.

Rehearsals for our November production of Irving Berlin's spectacular, White Christmas, have begun and we are looking for friends old and new to join us on stage for this amazing show. **If you enjoy dancing, singing or acting, or indeed all three, then this is just the thing for you. We particularly would like to meet with a young girl (age 9 – 13) who can belt out a song and dance like a dream, to play the part of Susan, a smart, sassy character who can steal the show. If this is someone you know please get in touch.**

We meet from 7–9pm on Thursdays in Mainsforth Community Association Hall, Ferryhill Station and would love to welcome new faces to join us in this exciting venture. For further details contact Elsie McGowan on 01740 621161 or 07765313538.



Sedgefield Gardening Club visit

On Tuesday 24th July we are having an evening visit to Fir Tree Cottage Garden at Stokesley, leaving Sedgefield at 5pm, returning at 9pm. We will have a tour, of the garden, with a chance to ask questions, a short talk on Pelargoniums, then refreshments. This is open to members and non-members. A deposit of £7.50 is required to put your name down. Please contact Suzanne on 01429 882250

Players' Success at Saltburn

Last month I reported on the Players' success at the Richmond Festival with their production of 'The Jewish Wife'. Following this performance the play went onto the next round at Saltburn. Sadly, our play did not win, but it was highly praised for the outstanding visual ideas of the piece and its style, and awarded the adjudicator's award accordingly. The winning group, Saltburn 53 Society, compete in early June with their production of 'A tiding of Magpies' by Sue Pierce, a worthy winner.

The Players will present their award winning piece, alongside a host of other Brecht plays at the Parish Hall from the 14th to the 16th June. It will be an interesting evening's entertainment as the group have decided to break with tradition and perform the piece on a thrust stage, in the auditorium instead of on the actual stage itself. It will certainly be worth a watch and tickets are available now from the Players Website and Tickety Boo. Get them while you can as seating is slightly limited due to the style of the piece.

The sun has been shining, the temperature has been rising and the sound of leather on willow can once again be heard on the edge of Sedgefield and around the UK. Of course, cricket won't enjoy the lion's share of media attention this summer, thanks to the small matter of the football World Cup, but it is great to see warm weather sports such as that and track and field athletics come to the fore again. I'm not making any predictions for the World Cup, other than to expect a testing time logistically (and possibly 'culturally') for any England fans who do travel to Russia. Personally, I have really liked Gareth Southgate's approach to his job (and the media) so far and wish the young squad every success this summer. Talking of talented young sports people...

Junior Football

Huge congratulations to Sedgefield Youth FC under 8s who finished their first ever season as league and cup double winners.

The team achieved this great success in style, scoring over 120 goals in just 21 games against opposition with much larger catchment areas, such as Durham, Washington, South Shields, Darlington, Gateshead and Hartlepool.

This is even more remarkable when considering that five of the eight lads had never played a competitive game before this team started up back in November (and three of them are playing a year above their own).

The coaches, Mal Dickenson and Chris McGirr, would like to thank the team's sponsors (Mark Stanley, Sedgefield Co-op and Right Lines Communications), the Russel Foster Youth League, David Ryder, and eight "amazing" sets of parents and their young lads (Benjamin Smith, Max Royal, Zac Short, Will McGirr, James Glass, Ben Burrell, Fraser Groves and Daniel Dickenson).

The team won't get long to bask in the glow of their success, as they will start the new season in just a few weeks. This time, it will be 7 v 7 football and with this in mind, the club has already signed two more high quality players in Jack Murphy and Ashton Davison. Sedgefield Youth FC will also have some exciting news to announce next month, which will secure the team's future for at least two more years.

Coach Mal Dickenson comments: "These boys play football not only in the right way, but also with smiles on their faces. They are an absolute pleasure to be associated with - long may it continue."



The double winning Sedgefield Youth FC U8 team with their trophies

Rugby Union

Sedgefield District RUFC 1st XV brought their Durham & Northumberland Division 2 campaign to a close, with defeats in their final two fixtures against North Shields at home (17-41) and away at Whitby (48-14). Sedgefield ended the season in ninth place, satisfied with progress as a competitive force in the division. The team will now aim to strengthen their squad in key positions over the summer. Congratulations go to Acklam as Division 2 champions, and Whitby in joining them in promotion as runners-up.

Sandwiched between those final league matches was the semi-final of the Durham Junior Cup, played at Hartlepool Rovers against Sunderland. An impressive young Sunderland team built up a healthy lead in the first half and despite two second half tries for Sedgefield by Kevin Vaughan, Sunderland ran out 29-12 winners, and then went on to beat Ryton in the final.

The Sedgefield Saxons closed their Tees Valley Social League campaign with a fine 45-12 victory over Horden & Peterlee III. The Saxons finish their debut social league season in 11th place, and have put in some impressive performances, which have seen a number of players develop and progress into the first team. Congratulations go to Billingham III who were social league champions.

Junior Athletics

Junior Sedgefield Harriers have teamed up with Derwentside AC to enter a team into this year's North East Youth Development League (NEYDL), a track and field competition that runs through the summer. The Sedgefield/Derwentside team is competing in Division 2 of the league in this part of the region and has enjoyed a promising start to the season, finishing in second place behind Durham City Harriers at the first fixture. Athletes score points for their team by taking part in a schedule of events at each meeting, which include sprints, middle distance, throws and jumps. Already this year, Sedgefield athletes have recorded a host of personal bests across a wide range of disciplines.

Many of the juniors have also been taking part (along with senior Harriers) in this year's North Yorkshire and South Durham (NYSD) series of track and field meetings. NYSD events run from April to July and are held alternately at the track and field facilities in Darlington and Middlesbrough. The events are very welcoming and each meeting has a different schedule, designed to encourage participants to try out something new. All of the events are officially sanctioned, so offer great opportunities for athletes of all ages to register times, distances or heights that are recorded and ranked by UK Athletics. Participants can measure their own performances against those of club mates and other equivalent age category competitors throughout the country.

Junior Cricket

While the teams in Sedgefield Cricket Club's strong junior set up have now started their 2018 seasons, the players of the future have been getting their first taste of the sport. The club is one of those throughout the country that is hosting the England and Wales Cricket Board's All Stars initiative.

On Friday 18th, scores of girls and boys aged five to eight headed to Sedgefield Cricket Club for their first All Stars Cricket session, coordinated by the

The Historic Commercial Vehicle Society Annual Tyne Tees Run on Sunday 3 June.

Buses and commercial vehicles, all over 20 years old, and many considerably older, will pass through Sedgefield in the morning en route from Stockton to South Shields. This is the 36th year that the event has been run and it is a great free spectacle.

Cooking up more success

Ali Hussain, the owner of East India Takeaway in Sedgefield, has won the prestigious title of **Asian Chef of the Year for 2018** at the North East Culinary and Trade Association (NECTA) event held at the Hilton Newcastle Gateshead.

There were eight chefs in the running for the title; the candidates had one hour to prepare, cook and present a main course for the highly acclaimed judges to sample. "Having been involved in numerous awards and events over the years this one is something I am honoured to have won. NECTA holds a lot of kudos in the industry here in the north east so I'm proud to have beaten off seven other amazing chefs to walk away as Asian Chef of the Year 2018."

Ali bought East India Takeaway in Sedgefield in 2016 and the venue had a zero-star rating, so he knew he had a mammoth task on his hands. Now, Ali has ten members of staff and has rebuilt the takeaway's reputation to a near five-star rating. The takeaway offers diners a fresh alternative to a standard takeout and all ingredients are bought fresh rather than from a wholesaler in order to guarantee quality dishes. Ali was well known in the Sunderland area for Café Bangla, which he decided to close in 2014 due to leasing issues. Since then, Ali has worked at St James' Park and the Stadium of Light as a chef and worked at the Rugby World Cup in 2016. Ali has also worked with the celebrity chef Mark Poynton from Cambridgeshire's Alimantum where they cooked a feast for royalty in Punjab, India. Ali has a string of accolades to his bow including Curry Chef of the Year 2017, National Curry Life Chef of the Year, Curry Life Fusion Chef and North East Curry Chef of the Year amongst many more.

Royle visit delights Christmas Tree Festival team

Popular television newscaster Pam Royle will again open this year's Festival at St Edmund's Church in Sedgefield. Demand for trees has led organisers to believe that this year's festival will be even better than that in 2016, which attracted praise from visitors all over the North East and further afield.

Local businesses and organisations in Sedgefield have already taken up offers to sponsor and decorate around 40 trees, ranging in size from 3ft to 6ft high, so that there is now space left for just a few 3ft trees at a cost of £16 each. Any local group interested should contact Brenda Moore on 01740 620758.



Children enjoy the first All Stars Cricket session in Sedgefield



club's coaches and volunteers. On a sunny afternoon, the youngsters were given expert guidance in a range of skills that will help turn them into the next generation of batters, bowlers and fielders. There was a lot of enthusiasm on display during the first of what will be six weeks of sessions.

That's all for this month. The next issue will include a report on Sedgefield St. Edmund's FC's season, and as always, if you have any sports news, please send it to chrisjlines@aol.com.

News From NETPark: Small Wonders

The NETPark based Centre for Process innovation (CPI) has recently announced the launch of a new collaborative project aimed at enhancing the Centre's work in the field of nanomedicines. They will work in close partnership with a range of business and academic organizations to strengthen their nanoformulation capabilities, to better develop the next generation of nanomedicines.

Used in conjunction with conventional medicines, nanoformulations can help enhance the properties of these drugs by, for example, improving the ability to target specific body tissues and facilitating the passage of drugs between cells. Ensuring that the right amount of a molecule can be delivered to the right tissue at the right time can enhance health outcomes and reduce negative side effects. Nanoformulations can therefore provide medicines and vaccines that are more effective, and enable new therapies for difficult-to-target sites, such as the delivery of nucleic acid therapies for cancer treatment.

Clearly a project such as this has the potential to confer significant benefits for the future development of medicines. The project will also give the CPI a lead role in strengthening The North East's position as a hub for medicines' manufacture. The market for nanoformulated medicines is a growing one, having a value of \$15.8 billion in 2014, projected to rise to \$44.5 billion by 2019.

Graeme Cruickshank, director of CPI's National Formulation Centre, commented, "We are thrilled to be working with such a strong consortium of collaborators on a project that will have positive impact for a rapidly emerging market."

CPI are also delighted to have given support to a programme to inspire the workers of tomorrow and give them some insight into future careers. In a 12 week college project with University Technical College South Durham, Year 12 pupils worked on concept and design ideas, health and safety awareness, marketing and prototype development, with CPI mentors on hand to provide guidance. Some were tasked with finding new ways of using graphene in a composite, whilst the others focused on solutions to improve thermal management of industrial systems.

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DIARY: JUNE 2018

Submit your events to diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Date	Event
Fri 1 st	U3A: 2pm in the Parish Hall. Rachel Barclay: "An Introduction to Japanese Art". Members free. Visitors welcome, £3 at the door
Sat 2 nd	Drop in Surgeries: Cllr John Robinson. 9 – 9.45am Bradbury & Mordon Village Hall; 10 – 11am Sedgefield Library; 11.15 – 12 pm Fishburn Community Centre.
Sun 3 rd	Sedgefield Farmers' Market: On the village green from 8.30am.
Mon 4 th	Methodist Wives and Friends: Methodist Church Hall 7.30pm. AGM. Sedgefield Local History Society: Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45pm. Memory Lane Durham City by Michael Richardson. Further information from Suzanne 01429 882250.
Tue 5 th	Sedgefield Gardening Club: Ceddesfeld Hall 7.30pm. "Small Gardens" by Richard Barnes.
Wed 6 th	Sew Easy: Parish Hall boardroom. 10.30am to 1.30pm. Call 622447 for info. Sedgefield WI: The Parish Hall @ 7.15pm. "Wooden Boats & Iron Men (RNLI)" by David Hastings. Members' Competition: Photograph of a sea going vessel. Visitors always welcome (£3.50).
Thu 7 th	Willowdene Care Home: Community Afternoon Tea. 2 to 4pm. Befriending & socialising over complimentary refreshments, cakes and treats. For information contact Angela on 01740 771310 Sedgefield Library Coffee Day: From 10am onwards, to mark the retirement after 44 yrs of service of Ann Beamson. All borrowers and colleagues past and present, together with Ann's friends and acquaintances, are invited to pop in. Sedgefield Show Meeting: 8pm at Sedgefield Social Club
Fri 8 th	Sedgefield Country Market: Parish Hall 10am to 11.30am. Home baked produce, Crafts, Jams, Cards, Plants, Refreshments. For information call 629441.
Sat 9 th	Full Monty Comedy Club: At the Parish Hall. Doors open 7.30pm. Show 8pm. Tickets £10. From Tickety Boo or on the door. Headline act, Eddy Brimson.
Sun 10 th	Hopper House Farm Open Day 11am to 5pm. Entry Free. See below for details.
Mon 11 th	Sew Easy: Parish Hall boardroom. 6.30pm to 9.30. Call 622447 for information.
Tue 12 th	Neighbourhood Watch Meeting: Parish Hall. 7pm in the Fletcher Room at the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend. <i>See page 4 for further details.</i> Ladies' Club: Ceddesfeld Hall, 8pm. "Textiles and Accessories" by Emma Meers.
Wed 13 th	Sew Easy: Parish Hall boardroom. 10.30am to 1.30pm. Call 622447 for info.
Thu 14 th to Sat	Sedgefield Players Present: The Jewish Wife and Other Plays by Bertolt Brecht. 7.30pm. Tickets £7 from Tickety Boo. 07763 257846.
Mon 18 th	Methodist Wives and Friends: Summer Outing. Sew Easy: Parish Hall boardroom. 6.30pm to 9.30. Call 622447 for information. Sedgefield family History Group: Methodist Hall, Sedgefield @ 7.15pm. Family History Help Night - Need help starting your family history? Hit a research brick wall? Perhaps we can help.
Tue 19 th	Sedgefield, Ferryhill & District Flower Club: 7.30pm @ Sedgefield Parish Hall. Demonstrator Irene Parker. "Watch this space". Members free, non members £5.
Wed 20 th	Sew Easy: Parish Hall boardroom. 10.30am to 1.30pm. Call 622447 for info.
Thu 21 st	Memory Café: 10.30am to 12 noon @ Sedgefield Fire Station.
Fri 22 nd	Sedgefield, Ferryhill & District Flower Club: Coffee Morning in The Parish Hall. 10 to 11.30am. All Welcome.
Sun 24 th	Sedgefield Methodist Church: 3.30 to 5pm. Children. Bring your parents to 'Messy Church': Crafts, stories and games, with refreshments to follow.
Tue 26 th	Ladies' Club: Summer Outing
Wed 27 th	Sew Easy: Parish Hall boardroom. 10.30am to 1.30pm. Call 622447 for info.
Fri 29 th	WI Coffee Morning: The Fletcher Room, Parish Hall. 10 to 11.30am. All Welcome.

Hopper House Farm's Open Sunday plans cancelled

Stephen and Sharon Brown had planned to invite everyone to their farm, as they did last year, for a lovely family day out, but unfortunately they are unable to go ahead. The Browns are determined that it will happen again though, so they look forward to seeing lots of visitors again on Open Farm Sunday, 2019.

Sedgefield Library

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- Fridays: 1pm-7pm
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Metafit with Donna Wed 7.05 - 7.35pm

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Chi Taekwondo: Sat 10.30 - 11.30am
Call 01740 617882 for all enquiries .

Sedgefield Social Club

Saturday 2nd June: Rose.

Saturday 9th June: John Conlon.

Saturday 16th June: Julia Robinson.

Mon 18th June: Country Night,
Tanya Turner.

Saturday 23rd June: Ryan King.

Saturday 30th June: Stenna.

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