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Sedgefield NEWS

October 2008

Tour of Britain sweeps through Sedgefield



The field included Britain's multi-Olympic medallist Bradley Wiggins, British cycling champion Rob Hayles and numerous other world and Olympic medallists, and the supporters poured out from home, school, shop and office to cheer them on.

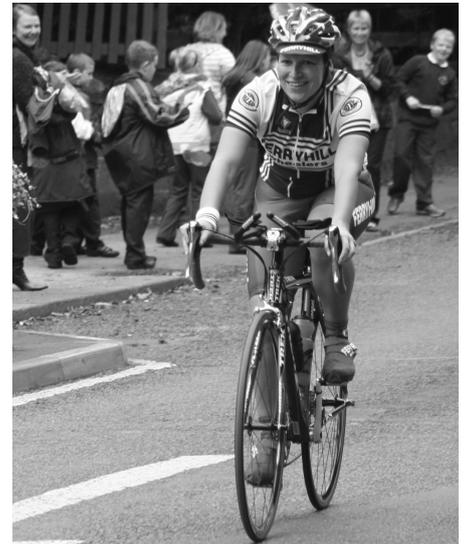
Traffic gradually tamed by beautifully choreographed police motorcyclists, lights blazing and grinning broadly (they were cheered heartily too), hearts beat a little quicker as a huge posse of horns-blaring support vehicles came through, drivers and passengers waving and throwing race sponsors' freebies to bystanders.

Then they appeared. The three stage leaders, a minute or two ahead of the huge chasing peloton, were across the top of the village and squeezing through the chicanes (much despised by locals, they provided a fantastic focal point for photographers on this day) in no time at all. Gruelling for the riders it may be, but for spectators it was a spectacular and thoroughly cheerful escape from the humdrum reality of everyday life. Wonderful.

Left: With nothing to prove after his Olympic success, Bradley Wiggins was taking it easy off the back of the peloton.

Below: the main pack rounds West End with the Agritubel team leading the way.

Thanks for these 2 photos, taken by Ian Dunn, himself a keen cyclist. More on p. 12



Chasing the race, the lady from Ferryhill Wheelers had good reason to smile. The main event over, children trudging back to classrooms gave her possibly their loudest cheer of the day as she sped through the chicane! Harry was watching the race too - one of a new generation of brilliant Brits on bikes? Photos SJC



The delegation from Hardwick School cheer the riders out of Sedgefield



Chantell and the Dragon Boat ladies paddle to a medal haul



Above: Chantell at full stretch



Celebrations for Team GB, with Chantell centre front

As reported last month, a lady you may have known as one of your Kleeneze reps, Chantell Malloy, represented team GB in the British Dragon Boats Ladies events. Their boat had fantastic success, gaining 2 silver and 1 bronze medals from 4 races. *Many thanks to David Hillerby for sending us the good news.*

Music Festival a Big Success

The third Annual Sedgefield Music Festival held over the first weekend of September turned out to be a huge success. Visitors from as far away as New Zealand and Spain joined the audience for two sell-out concerts at the Parish Hall (in fact the tickets could have been sold twice over), while well over 100 people attended the Saturday concert in the Parish Church.

The singarounds and annual spoons championship were also hugely popular, attended by capacity audiences of both the young and old. The highlight of the Saturday afternoon singaround was the guitar group of children from Hardwick Junior School led by Mrs Guest and Mr Lennox.

Bert Draycott from Fishburn, for many years the World Spoons Champion, unfortunately lost his crown to George Hood, an 83-year old from Gateshead, while Rachel Ellen Thompson, 11, won the children's section with eight-year old Georgina Letts coming second.

As one of the organizers of the Festival, I would like to thank everyone for all of their magnificent support. We are already looking forward to next year's festival, which will again be held over the first weekend in September, and which will hopefully be bigger still, with extra concerts and provision of more ancillary activities such as music workshops.

Joan Edmundson

Planning appeal decision brings satisfaction to village campaigners

The controversial proposal for a holiday lodge and caravan park at Brakes Farm, which had been refused planning permission, was taken to appeal during the summer by the developers. Their amended proposal included the siting of 330 static caravans and 48 lodge visitor accommodation.

A strong campaign by Sedgefield groups and individuals resulted in a refusal being gained for the current application,, though some doubt remains over a possible future application for caravans only.

So, although there is a feeling amongst those who spoke against the development that there may still be work to do, for the moment they can take satisfaction in a job well done. *Reaction from the Residents' Forum in 'Jottings' on page 4.*

A plea from the Sedgefield News team

Of course we will **never** reject hand-written reports, but if you have the technology, please beam your news, views, photographs or adverts to us at **sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com**. Information that arrives by email means a bit less work for your hard pressed volunteers on the editorial team!

Diary extra

So many events on the Diary page this month we had to overspill. Keep them coming and we might have to redesign the whole paper!

Scary Walk

Kick off the October school holiday with a Scary Walk in aid of the Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland.

This popular annual event takes place at Whitworth Hall Country Park near Spennymoor, on Monday 27th October: 6 – 8pm.

Booking essential.

Get tickets from Bobby Shafto's Playbarn or Bishop Auckland Butterwick Hospice at a cost of **Children £7** (including entrance to Playbarn & Party Food Box)

Accompanying Adults £2. Further details 01388 603003.

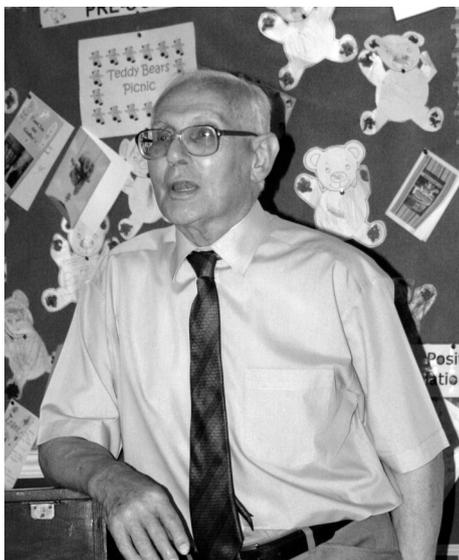
101 Gigs in October

- 04 Lemington Club, Newcastle
- 09 The Vic, Saltburn (Tribute Show)
- 10 The Ship, Marske
- 11 The Turbinia, Newton Aycliffe
- 16 The Music Rooms, Sunderland
- 17 The Green Tree, Middlesbrough
- 18 Hardwick Hall, Blackhall
- 19 Normanby Hotel, Normanby
- 24 The Lord Nelson, Stockton
- 25 Dr. Browns, Middlesbrough
- 26 The Crown, Brotton

Thurlow Grange

We've received a new programme of monthly events at Thurlow Grange, to which all are welcome. Don't miss their entry on page 11.

"Speech!"



A party at Ceddesfeld Hall surprised SCA man of the moment, Allan Smart, when his 80th birthday was celebrated by a large gathering of friends and family.



Protesting that a hilarious, in fact, verging on the indecent, 'This is Your Life' presented by Ivan Porter (above) was 'a pack of scurrilous lies' Allan insisted on the right to reply! He was actually chuffed to bits and also clearly moved during the evening of treats and tributes.



Ceddesfeld conundrum

How do you bring an 18th century Grade 2 listed building into the 21st century? The short answer is "not easily" but that's what the volunteers of the Sedgefield Community Association (SCA), who have occupied Ceddesfeld Hall since 1974, are trying to achieve.

SCA, which exists to serve all residents of the area, is concerned to continue to meet the needs of an ageing population. Only the main hall is available for hire or section use on the ground floor. It is in high demand and often under occupied. Increasing numbers will be unable to tackle the staircase for activities located on the upper floors.

The Hall is in urgent need of refurbishment and major improvement is planned, The Conservation Planning Officer has been consulted throughout. The proposals are;-

- Refurbish and update the kitchen and lounge.
- Install a lift from basement to attic
- Create new storage areas for building users' equipment
- 1st floor office room becomes the Community Warden base and SCA's admin & records
- Community IT facility in Kell Room,
- Refurbish 1st floor toilets, relocating the disabled toilet

This will increase usage of the first floor rooms and make bookings in the centre dependent on the activity and group size rather than age and agility.

A later phase, to open up the attic, potentially for community or youth group use may follow.

The first phase of work is estimated at more that £220,000. The lift alone will be around £130,000. SCA has committed £50,000 to the project (from money raised by voluntary community effort*). An application is well advanced, with Sedgefield Borough Council for Local Improvement Programme money of £103,000. This is a one and only opportunity. If not grasped now, it will not come again. A decision is expected on 25th October 2008 after which formal planning permission will be sought. Other funding is being pursued.

89% of respondents to an SCA survey supported the proposals. All comments & suggestions, including new activities for both adults and young people, are being analysed. Numerous letters of support have been received.

It is hoped that the works will ensure the building will meet community needs for the foreseeable future.

Pat Buckley, SCA Chair.

**The volunteers pay all running costs e.g. rent to the Town Council, insurance, heat & light & repairs; raising the money through lettings and events.*

Wendy Gill spoke warmly of Allan's commitment to the SCA, his record of volunteering at Ceddesfeld bar (second to none), his remarkable conversational skills and welcoming conviviality with newcomers.

The lovely Italian aria 'O mio babbino caro' (Oh my beloved father) was sung by daughter Helen (left), there was more music from Lirica and a delicious shared supper provided by family and guests. A great evening for all.

The fact that Allan had no suspicions at all until a few hours beforehand, when he found himself washing up a strange piece of kitchen equipment, is testament to weeks of secrecy employed by everyone involved.

They were determined that Allan, who can usually be relied upon to know what's going on, would know nothing of this until they were good and ready!

The next

Blood Donor Session

in Sedgefield is at the Parish Hall on

**Thursday 16th October
from 2.30 – 7pm.**

Anyone aged between 17 and 60 who is fit and well and weighs over 7st 12lbs (50kg) can give blood.

Regular donors who are in good health can continue to give blood up to the age of 70.

We will be happy to welcome new and regular donors and appointments can be pre-booked by ringing our helpline

0845 7711 711

Community SAFETY



Jottings

No Cold Calling for Sedgefield

Sedgefield Village Neighbourhood Watch is pleased to finally inform residents that they can now choose to **say NO to Cold Callers** by declaring their home a **NO COLD CALLING HOME** very simply by displaying a window or door sticker with this message in a prominent position on their property. **Stickers are now available free of charge - 1 per household, from the Town Council Offices in the village, during normal opening times.**

Residents are recommended to ignore Cold Callers by not answering the door; but if they choose to answer the door then simply advise the caller they do not wish them to stay, politely ask them to leave and in future respect the notice displayed.

If the caller is persistent and will not leave, in addition to the above, tell them that you are going to report them to the Police as they are causing a nuisance, close the door on them and then make your report of the nuisance to the Police - telephone 0345 60 60 365

These stickers have been funded through the generosity of donations from: Sedgefield Borough Council Crime Reduction Partnership, thanks to Alan Blakemore, Sedgefield Town Council, the Mayor & Town Clerk, also individual Councillors David Brown & John Robinson.

Remember saying No to Cold Callers is another way of helping to reduce the opportunity for criminals who engage in Doorstep Crime through various means, including the most common one - Distraction Burglary.

It is also worth pointing out that these crimes are usually targeted at the elderly and more vulnerable in the community.

Once Again - Relevant Telephone Numbers (Remember if you don't contact them, the Police and Community Force don't know a problem exists)

Community Warden Tim Spearey at Sedgefield ring **623654**
or via Chilton Control Room ring **01388 721351**

To report any concerns, seek advice or pass on information to our **Local Police**: Telephone **0345 60 60 365** (*NB it may be prudent to keep a note of details of any conversation & obtain an incident no.*)

For advice / assistance:

Crime Prevention Officer Neil Langthorne, Telephone **01325 742714**
Community Liaison Officer - Mel Elliot, Telephone **01325 742755**

PC Todd reports

Now that the evenings are drawing in there are more opportunities for the 'parasites' of our community to commit crime under cover of darkness. Don't be a victim. You can protect yourself by using a timing light switch set to come on half an hour before last light; also by making sure you lock your garage door.

Winterton estate has been targeted recently, garages providing particularly easy pickings. Someone was arrested this time, but next time...?

And finally, graffiti artists have had their say. Who's rattled their cage, I wonder?

Until next time, Keith

Pub Watch

At a meeting held recently at the Crosshills, one event worthy of note was brought up. It related to an incident to the rear of the Golden Lion in which people were injured. A police investigation is under way so anyone with information could contact me at the Sedgefield office.

Any action taken against those caught breaking Pub Watch rules will be discussed at the next meeting.

Veterans in Sedgefield who would like their Veterans' Badge presented to them by Borough Mayor, John Robinson, please contact Tim Spearey on 623654. This includes any veterans who don't yet have their badge.

A veteran is defined as any person who served in any of the forces, WRVS, Land Girls etc during or after WW2.

David Hillerby is currently engaged on research into **Sedgefield Military Men of the 19th Century**. If you have any information about relations or friends in your family history, he would be pleased to hear from you.

Telephone David on 621343.

from Sedgefield Residents Forum September meeting

Following a six day appeal inquiry, we are delighted to say the appeal to allow the creation of a holiday park on Brakes Farm has been turned down by the Planning Inspector. Residents and the Town Council put on a magnificent performance at the inquiry, being up against one of the highest rated planning QC's in the country. The attendance of quite a few residents really helped and demonstrated the feelings of the village.

Unfortunately the Inspector's decision was not totally 'clear cut'; he believed that the caravans would be acceptable on the site but not the lodges so this leaves things open for a further application from the developer.

We maintain that any development of this nature would have a considerable detrimental effect on our community and people should not be disadvantaged or have their lives disrupted for the sake of profit and development.

Following regular meetings between Hardwick Hall Hotel management, SBC and residents, the Hotel has largely been successful in containing the noise element of its functions but please remain vigilant and report incidents to SBC and the Hall.

Further dog attacks on family pets have been reported in the Lane area. Who will take responsibility if a small child is the next victim? Answers are being sought.

'Sedgefield Together' are to be contacted to stress that in the Local Government Reorganisation Sedgefield Village Residents want a local area partnership to provide a platform for gathering views from organisations and businesses in their village to feed through to the next level which would be local and not to large.

The matter of responsibility for the management of the Winterton Hospital Cemetery will hopefully be resolved at a meeting between NHS and Town Council.

Following the decision to transfer council housing to SB Homes, there was concern expressed about the associated land; it was strongly felt that this should be transferred to the communities.

Next meeting

Monday 6th October 7pm in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall.

Please come along; everyone is welcome.

Jamboree 2008

The Irish Republic celebrated 100 years of scouting in August and among the visitors were 28 youngsters from 1st Sedgefield Guides & Scouts. 12,500 guides and scouts met up, from Australia Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Peru, France, Hungary, Italy, Norway, the Philippines, Netherlands, Sweden and the USA.



Everyone was given a rucksack, camp knecker and handbook, with details of the 7 day programme. This included circus skills, pioneering, water slides, helicopter rides, bungee jumping, kayaking obstacle course, air sea rescue demonstration; stunt flying - the list was endless. We helped make a CD (we sang Yellow Submarine). Two of our leaders were taken to visit Dublin and to have tea with the Prime Minister!

The racecourse village had shops, vendors selling hotdogs, pizzas etc., and each group displayed something about their village and showed some craft which they could take back to their groups. We were showing how to make Turk's head woggles - in emerald green of course, and face painting.

Two scouts completed the camp chief's challenge - well done Esme Harte and Sam Hearmon. Each group had to entertain their sub camp and we resurrected for the final time (ok, till the next time!) the famous Sedgefield Flying Helmets Precision Acrobatic Team, which was highly commended and got a mention on Irish radio.

The camping was traditional, with patrol cooking, food supplied by jamboree staff, and sleeping in tents - until the last night that is! Saturday 9th August saw torrential rain threaten to wash tents away and flood the entire camping area. The Irish children were sent home, leaving the international visitors being evacuated - "just bring sleeping bags and mattresses" - to sleep in the various racecourse buildings. Viewed as a huge adventure, this became one of the highlights of the 2008 camp!

We held a presentation evening on Sept 19th to thank all who helped make this visit to Jamboree Ireland such a huge success: Durham County Council, Sedgefield Mayor's charity, Sedgefield Town Council, Tesco, Sedgefield Round Table, Unison, the Co-op Community Fund. Thanks to Mr George Bolam, Sedgefield Co-op, Marks & Spencer at Teesside Park, for allowing us to bag pack.

Jackie Postgate

The group ready to perform "THE FLYING HELMETS"



New national flagship centre opens at NETPark



If you've been wondering what the new building you pass going north on the A177 is, all can now be revealed - if you are prepared to grapple with the technological jargon! It's known as PETEC and its purpose is to enable the development of revolutionary printable electronics technologies. Independent forecasts predict this will be a £16 billion industry by 2015. The UK is an innovator in the field and Sedgefield's NETPark is now at the forefront.

Printable electronics include the next generation of thin flexible display monitors and televisions, the development of low energy organic lighting, low cost flexible solar cells and even disposable small-scale technology for children's toys and medical devices. The PETEC Centre provides 3,000 square metres of cleanroom and laboratory space, and will allow the creation of cost-effective electronic devices of far greater sizes and at lower cost than has been feasible to date. The range of applications for these technologies is extremely broad, but PETEC, in response to industry interest, is initially focusing on displays, photovoltaics, lighting and medical sensors.

The newly opened Centre provides the printable electronics community with the infrastructure required to take new ideas and concepts for products and accelerate the move from the lab to production. There is currently no other such equivalent facility in the world.

I was on holiday last month and didn't write my usual sports update for Sedgefield News. So, apologies to anyone who sent me a contribution that wasn't used (Andrew Watson – please let me have a further report for the next issue). That extra month has given me more time to reflect on the Beijing Olympics and Paralympics.

Starting with the local angle, Bradley Saunders wasn't able to bring back a medal in the end. After a convincing victory in his first bout, he was unfortunate to come up against a very tough opponent in the second round, who ended his Olympic dream. But for the rest of his life, Bradley will know that he was privileged enough to represent his country at the Olympic Games and that is something very special.

I was lucky enough to watch and listen to a great deal of the Olympics. As happens every four years, I took in sports that would not normally interest me in the slightest, along with others that I pay infrequent attention to, and yet more that I follow regularly. I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of the Beijing extravaganza, for both the spectacle of the action and for the outstanding successes achieved by the British teams.

Here's a comparison: after Athens 2004, British Olympians came home with nine gold, nine silver and 12 bronze medals, while the Paralympians won 35 gold, 30 silver and 29 bronze; fast forward to Beijing 2008, and the British Olympics medal haul was 19 gold, 13 silver and 15 bronze, and the Paralympians won 42 gold, 29 silver and 31 bronze medals. By any measure, this represents significant progress and on the surface, it should bode well for London 2012. However, if we look at one sport in isolation, then I think there is reason to not get too carried away.

Without doubt, the cyclists were the stars of the British Olympics show, winning eight gold, four silver and two bronze medals. Only one member of the British Olympics cycling team didn't win a medal and they were the overwhelmingly dominant team in the velodrome. That is of course fantastic, but they are going to have to work even harder to maintain that success through to 2012, and some of the young riders

on the fringes of the team will really have to step up. The other leading cycling nations are going to be working even harder between now and the London games, aiming to catch and pass the British team. Actually, British cycling is in great hands and I think they will continue to lead the way, but if the whole of Team GB is going to build on the Beijing successes, then some other sports are going to have to start delivering the goods – sports like athletics and judo. But one event in which I personally would rather not see a British team competing in at the London Olympics is football. Don't misinterpret this, I love football – I play the game (when fit and able) and I watch it a lot. But there was something refreshing about the Olympics – we saw competitors putting themselves on the line time and again for their nations and not for £100,000 a week, we watched or heard interviews with men and women (boys and girls in some cases) that weren't riddled with clichés or evasive non-answers. And media coverage was not dominated by transfer rumours fuelled by greedy agents, petty arguments between managers or clubs, or numerous self-obsessed pampered millionaires and prima donnas (I know that most top flight footballers are not like this, but more than enough are). I fear that should a Great Britain football team emerge for London 2012, they will become the 'poster boys' for the Games, and that really doesn't feel right to me. Anyway, I'll get off my high horse and back to local sport. Given the success of British cyclists at the Olympics and the subsequent visit of the Tour of Britain to Sedgefield, this sports update (and indeed the front cover of the newsletter) is going to be dominated by cycling. With the help of keen Sedgefield cyclist Ian Dunn, I've managed to piece together information on some of the cycling clubs and venues that exist in our vicinity. Off the bike, I also have news from the Harriers and Sedgefield District Rugby Football Club, which is determined to build on a very successful first season.

Cycling

Cycling is one of the fastest growing pastimes in the UK today. It has always been popular, but for all sorts of reasons, more people than ever are getting on their

bikes. There are plenty of cycling clubs in the vicinity of Sedgefield and loads of great places for enthusiasts to start pedalling.

If you want to get involved in a local club, it may be worth your while to get in touch with Ferryhill Wheelers. The club dates back to 1926, currently has over 100 members (including several from Sedgefield), and is very active. Along with an official get together on the first Monday of the month at Ferryhill leisure Centre, the club also organises a range of other activities for members. These include two club rides per week; one takes place on a Sunday (starting at Rushyford at 9.30am), and covers between 50 and 90 miles; the other is a gentler paced mid week ride starting out in Sedgefield on a Wednesday evening.

Ferryhill Wheelers also hold Thursday night 10 mile time trials over the summer. This proved to be very popular this year, with 39 riders at final event. The course, which runs from Sedgefield to Wynyard, turned out to be a great success, so will hopefully be used again next year. You don't have to be an 'expert' to have a go at the time trial. It's against the clock, so the challenge is to improve your time, though you can of course also be as competitive with the other riders as you want to be.

If you are interested in the **Ferryhill Wheelers** contact Howard Jones at Langdon House, 1 Ettersgill Drive, Baydale Meadow, Darlington, DL3 8UD, or on howardjones@ferryhillwheelers.org.uk. The Wheelers' website is www.ferryhillwheelers.org.uk.

Other nearby clubs worth considering are:

Bishop Auckland CC

Nikki Willis
113 Low Etherley
Bishop Auckland
DL14 0HA.
T: 01388 835236
Email: nikki.2@btinternet.com

Velo Club 167

Gordon Panicca
T: 01325 319197.

Stockton Wheelers

Web: www.stocktonwheelers.org.uk

For young cyclists, there is a youth cycling development club called **Hetton Hawks**, aimed at riders up to the age of 23. Based a little further afield, in Hetton Le Hole,

Sports update continued...

Wearside, this club is becoming very popular and has the support of accredited coaches. The Hawks are also able to offer a venue that provides on and off road riding, both in a safe environment away from cars. To find out more visit www.hettonhawks.org.uk.

There is also an excellent youth cycling series organised by the **Offroad Centre** in South Bank, Middlesbrough. Based on a tarmac circuit, the series includes time trials, skills training and a circuit race every week over summer. To find out more about plans and opportunities for 2009 have a look at www.league2000.co.uk.

Of course, organised clubs aren't the be all and end all. One of the great things about cycling is that if you have a bicycle, and the energy, you can get active whenever you want to. Just down the road from Sedgefield is the Castle Eden Walkway, which gives cyclists access to Hartlepool, east Durham (and west Durham if you link the routes up), Stockton and beyond. These are well maintained, off road (generally) cycle routes – all accessible via the cycle path that runs alongside the A689 between the village and the A19. When you get to the footbridge with the colourful side 'railings' (and car parks on either side of the dual carriageway), you have reached the walkway.

I have been focusing on road cycling so far, but mountain biking is also really popular. There is a great mountain biking venue almost on our doorstep, in Hamsterley Forest. There, the **Hamsterley Trailblazers** have been doing a massive amount to develop the forest into a leading centre for the sport, and they have even more plans for the future. Find out more at www.hamsterley-trailblazers.co.uk.

Road cycling activities and events dominate the summer months, but as autumn and winter approach, cyclo cross comes to the fore. Muddy, frenetic and exciting, cyclo cross is a great high intensity, short duration sport for riders of all abilities. Numerous events will take place across the North East between now and January, including one in Darlington on November 16th.

Find out more on www.neccl.co.uk or www.necca.org.uk

Rugby Union

Sedgefield District RFC performed superbly well last season, but the club faces an even sterner test this year, both on and off the field, with expectations running high.

The pre season training has gone very well under the guidance of head coach Mike Williams and assistant coach Ian Grieve. This has been capped off by visits from internationals Jason Strange and guest Ian Reynolds. The squad is much fitter, stronger and more tactically aware than last year, with the likes of Hugh Carter, Paul Wilkinson, Mick Bishop and Chris Robson all putting in tremendous effort.

The club is indebted to the foresight of chairman Mark Townsley for his continued effort to ensure the building blocks are in place to secure the future of rugby in Sedgefield, in the face of significant adversity. Thanks to the actions of Mark and other key committee members, the club will operate out of a new clubhouse this season, and will work in partnership with Sedgefield Cricket Club. Sedgefield District RFC would like to thank everyone at the cricket club for their support, with special thanks to Chris Buckland for his continued backing.

On the pitch, although the start of the season has not gone as planned, there is a tremendous sense of teamwork and spirit. The first game, against Hartlepool Rovers, did not go well. Several Sedgefield players were missing due to work and other commitments, and Hartlepool ran out 33-19 winners, despite two tries from Hugh Carter, and two penalties and two conversions from Owen Robinson at Fly Half. Sedgefield were 13-12 up at half time but due to the loss of Martin Warner and Captain Carl Arnott, the team lost its shape and never really regained it. Stiff tackling from Paul McCormack, Jonathan Lee, Johnny Parish and the rest of the backs kept the try count down. The depleted pack showed that they will be a match for anyone this season with a solid scum and outstanding performances from Paul Wilkinson and Chris Robson.

The club is confident that results will soon pick up and that rugby union has a great future in Sedgefield. Training is held every Wednesday night and new members are always welcome. Find out more about the club at www.sedgefieldrugby.co.uk.

Sedgefield Harriers

The Sedgefield Harriers have been as active as ever recently and have a very full programme of events between now and early 2009. The Winter Grand Prix series will keep them very busy until March, with the Harriers planning to field teams in two races every month. Varying in distance, the races will be held across North East England and Yorkshire and start with the Harewood House 10km on October 5th. In addition, the Harriers will have nine representatives tackling the Great North Run on October 6th. Good luck to them and to everyone else from Sedgefield who will be running the world's biggest half marathon.

And Finally

Are you interested in becoming a football referee? The Durham League is trying to attract new referees for Sunday league duties, and is willing to put candidates through the official FA course. Sunday league referees do get paid a modest sum for their services. If you are interested, let David Ryder know (07515 020766).

That's all for this month. As ever, if you have any sports news, let me know on chrisjlines@aol.com.

Holiday sport

Shay Given Foundation Course: Goalkeeping, Football, Multi-Sports Sedgefield Community College

Mon-Thurs 27th-30th October
10am - 3pm (staff from 9.30am so children can be dropped off)

Price £40 for 4 days.

Please contact the SGF on 07826 403292 or e mail shaygivenfoundation@yahoo.co.uk

Anyone for Netball ?

There is now a netball group which meets to play every Tuesday evening from 8-9pm at Sedgefield Community college.

The main criteria of the session are fun and informality. We are looking for a few more players. so if you are interested we would love to see you. It doesn't matter if you haven't played since School and have forgotten the rules, because you will be in the majority!

For more information, contact Becky (629068) or Clare (651723). Cost is £2 a session (you can come to a taster session for free).

Skating Day

Sedgefield Primary school hall on Saturday 11th October . Toddler age upwards. To book a 50 minute slot, call 07919190553.

Farmers' Market news

New stallholders at the Farmers' Market appreciated the warm welcome they received in September, and are already looking forward to next month. Dropswell Farm, having replaced the now retired Ken Larberry, sells beef lamb and other meats, and they set standards just as high as Ken's. For this month they also brought game to the Farmers' Market; very helpful since Rushyford Game have also ceased trading on Farmers' Markets.

September's guest stall was The Cuppa Car, provided by Fair Trade and selling delicious tea and coffee, providing refreshment for all.

We were delighted to welcome back old friends Anne and David Mellanby whose renown is based on their superb local farm fresh vegetables at the region's most reasonable prices.

Mr MacGregor was on hand with organic fruit and vegetables, although no sign of Peter Rabbit was evident!

We look forward to seeing new and old customers at the market on the 12th October.

Food in season

Autumn Vegetable Soup

This must be the easiest way of using up the end of your veg box.

Of course, on Farmers' Market weeks you can indulge yourself and actually choose what you have in the house! It works well with most vegetables and it's a tasty, but healthy recipe, with no fat.

Ingredients

- 1 kg autumn vegetables, e.g. potatoes, red onions, carrots, squash, etc.
- 5-6 sun-dried tomatoes (optional)
- 10 dried mushrooms (optional)
- 1 litre vegetable stock
- 1 tablespoon fresh herbs, chopped

Prepare vegetables, wash well and chop them into

1 inch chunks or slices

Put in the pan with the stock, sun-dried tomatoes (if using) and dried mushrooms (if using)

Cover and simmer, stirring occasionally about 40 minutes, until the vegetables are soft

Add the herbs and liquidise

Serve with fresh crusty bread

October Events Diary

A FREE service to non-commercial organisations

CeddesFolk

Acoustic Session

Ceddesfeld Hall from 8pm

Wednesday 1st October

Join our line up of fiddles, whistles, squeezeboxes, guitars, ukuleles ...

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 1st October

7.15pm in the Parish Hall

Speaker from **"Beautiful Beads"**

Members' competition –
a pretty pair of earrings
Visitors always welcome - £2

Residents Association

Monday 6th October

in the Fletcher Room, Parish Hall
at 7pm.

Local History Society

7.45pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

Monday 6th October

Gary Waine, local retired police
Detective Inspector on
"My Life with Murder"
All welcome

Sedgefield Mags

Monday 6th October

8pm in the Nag's Head

*'Sedgefield Mags' run a bus to all
Newcastle United home games*

Sedgefield Gardening Club

Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.30 pm

Tuesday 7th October

Talk by Gordon Gilson

"Potatoes"

All welcome

Sedgefield Civic Trust

Thursday 9th October

7pm in the Parish Hall

Mobile Movies

6.30pm, Parish Hall

Friday 10th October

See posters for programme

Entry £2 all ages

No need to book, pay on the door
Under 8's need accompanying adult
Refreshments on sale

Family Bingo

in Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 11th October

Eyes down at 7.30pm

Quiz Night @ Cricket Club

Saturday 11th October

Quizmaster John Bryant

Bar open 7:30. Quiz starts 8pm

Sedgefield Farmers' Market

Sunday 12th October

on the Village Green

North East

Concertina Players

Sunday 12th October

at 2pm in Ceddesfeld Hall
*Beginners meet on 2nd & 4th
Sundays at 1pm*

Line dancing

Monday 13th October

12.00 - 1.30 in the Parish Hall.

Sedgefield Methodist

Wives & Friends

Monday 13th October

North Accord Barber Shop Choir
Monday 27th October - 7.15pm
Talk by minister, Michael Pullan
New members always welcome

Neighbourhood Watch

A.G.M followed by normal
Panel Meeting

Tuesday 14th October

7 pm: Fletcher Room, Parish Hall
ALL Welcome

JJ Gifts at Thurlow Grange

Come along at 10.30am on

Thursday 16th October

All items £10 & under

Refreshments

Live Music Night

8pm at Sedgefield Cricket Club

Saturday 18th October

Main guests:

Bram Taylor & Roly Hindmarsh

also featuring

The Young 'Uns, Martin Nesbitt &

The John Wrightson Band

£8 inc buffet. Tel: 621347

*The Cricket Club is available for hire
for private parties, christenings,
etc. Call Jane on 629616*

Family History Group

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 20th October

Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45pm

"England Expected –

**a Durham man's part in the
Battle of Trafalgar"**

with Norman Welch

For more information please ring
Sylvia Hall 620367

Visitors are always welcome

Ferryhill, Sedgefield &

District Flower Club

Tuesday 21st October

7.30pm in the Parish Hall

'Today I went shopping'

Christine Ogle

North East Area Demonstrator

All Welcome

DIDO away day

Visit to Heighley Gate Garden
Centre & the Metro Centre

Monday 20th October

Pick up 9.15 outside Parish Hall.
For information please contact
Linda Maddison 620857

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 23rd October

7.45pm in the Parish Hall

Julie Mason:

**Teessmouth, & Teessmouth
Field Centre - A History**

Info from Steve Ashton 620559

All welcome

Sedgefield Veterans Group

Monthly meeting 7pm Parish Hall

Thursday 23rd October

New members always welcome

**WW11 Re-enactment Weekend
Sat 25th/Sun 26th October**

An action packed day out for all the
family at Sedgefield Racecourse
*See posters in village for full list of
attractions & timings.*

October @ the Library

Rhyme Time

Wednesdays 1st & 15th, 10 - 11am

Tickle Time

Monday 13th, 2.15 - 3pm

Toy Library

Weds 8th & 22nd, 10-11am

Children's Crafts

Mon 27th, Tues 28th & Thurs 30th

Mr Olly's Puppets

Show & Workshop -

Friday 31st October

Contact the library for more details

Charity Quiz

Join the Mayor of Sedgefield,
Cllr. Tim Jeanes, to raise funds for
his good causes, at Ceddesfeld Hall
on **Friday 31st October**

from 7.30 pm – 10.30 pm

Pie & Peas Supper

Tickets £5 from Council Offices

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable
events - new members welcome

Contact Rob on 629079

Ladies' Circle

2nd & 4th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable
events - new members welcome

Contact Viv on 629079

Country Market

Friday mornings in the Parish Hall

101 gigs are on page 2

Cyclist abuse unacceptable

Let's hope that by the time you read this letter, the Tour of Britain has passed through our village without a hitch and that none of the riders has had to endure what I had to at the weekend.

Last Saturday, whilst cycling along the Castle Eden cycle way, I suffered a puncture. Like any well equipped cyclist I spent a few minutes repairing it, but unfortunately had to endure a group of young lads throwing stones at me and emptying the remains of their drinks bottles on me from a nearby bridge. The following day, at the end of a ride with a fellow cyclist, we passed by the car boot sale at Sedgefield Racecourse. There, the driver of an old Ford Escort took exception at us riding two abreast. He shouted abuse, overtook us with inches to spare, cut in front and stopped. At this point I tried to explain that it was safer to ride two abreast, as this meant that drivers had to treat cyclists more like a car, slowing down and indicating to overtake rather than just swerving past as many do. We then rode past and the driver of the car repeated his previous actions, only this time, he opened his car door as if to try to knock us off our bikes as we passed. He continued to shout abuse and then resorted to spitting at us from his car.

This abuse and aggression should be as socially unacceptable as drunk driving has become. There will always be a few ignorant idiots, but if there were fewer then more people might risk getting on a bike and our village might be safer.

Duncan Woods

Well, the Tour of Britain did pass through without a hitch, but all cyclists, and decent motorists too, will seethe to read what happened to Duncan.

We finish this month with another couple of shots of the Tour (editor's apologies for being a bit obsessed!) Top: a great action shot from Ian Dunn. The leading three approach the centre of the village. Brit Peter Williams of Pinarello RT is just ahead of Bradley McGee - the Aussie who has led all three major tours and achieved numerous other good results.

Bottom: even the support vehicles were a spectacle!



Sedgefield Development Trust is a member of the Development Trusts Association

Your Letters

What were they thinking (if at all)?

As part of the development of the parkland to the rear of Station Road, a fence was erected parallel to the property boundary fence, leaving a space of about 15 feet. Why, is anybody's guess, as it serves no obvious purpose. Fences the length of the road have repelled all livestock grazing the field for the past forty years that I am aware of.

What it has done is to create a weed infested strip the full length of Station Road. The weeds are now above the tops of most of the garden fences. Where will all the seeds end up in a month or so? In our gardens, that's where. It is only a matter of time before the first supermarket trolley, car tyre etc. turns up.

This fence serves no purpose and should be removed in order that the farmer can cut up to or allow stock to graze up to the property line.

John W. Fyfe.



For inclusion in the November edition of Sedgefield News please send your news or adverts to us by October 15th
Post to 58 Front Street, Sedgefield TS21 2AQ: tel 01740 629011 (leave a message)
or email sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

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