



Sedgefield NEWS

October 2010

One rainy Great North Runday morning...

From the editor, Sunday 19th September. Putting the finishing touches to Sedgefield News today, I had coverage of the GNR running in the background, hoping to spot some Sedgefield runners, like 'Sedgefield Sarah', inheritor of Dame Memory-Jogger's crown and Chris Lines, whose Sports Update came in late last night while he still had the energy to type ...

"I am typing this on the eve of the 30th Great North Run. The media coverage in the lead up to the event has brought back many memories and reminded me of what a special occasion it is. I've been privileged to complete the run numerous times, but before I was an enthusiastic spectator at an event that has grown into an international sporting institution. Most people who have been touched by the Great North Run can recount great stories of their experiences. For my part, I remember watching in about 1982, as Kevin Keegan pushed a wheelchair competitor around the course. As he passed the spot at which I was standing with my mum, brothers and sister, he spotted that I was wearing a Nottingham Forest football shirt. Mr Keegan slowed down, veered towards me and jokingly enquired about the wisdom of my choice of attire. Then off he went again, pushing that wheelchair to South Shields. That moment, and many more, inspired me as a kid and so here I am almost 30 years later, preparing to join nearly 40,000 other runners (a few thousand of the 50,000 entrants don't make it to the start for various reasons), including a good number from Sedgefield, as we all make our way along that now very famous course measuring 13 miles and 192 yards. Next month, I hope to bring you some Sedgefield stories from this year's Great North Run, so if you have one of your own, please let me know and I'll try to include it."

Sports Update continues on p 6

Monday 20th September. Chris completed the race in 1 hr 30 mins and then found the energy to write in! He's pictured below with his sister, Kate. "We were raising funds for the Sir Bobby Robson Foundation in memory of mum (www.justgiving.com/runningformartha will still be open for business for a while if anyone wants to add a donation). Between us, we have raised nearly £2,000 (plus another £500 raised by Kate's friend Claire Belcher), thanks to the great generosity of family, friends and colleagues. It was Kate's first Great North Run and my 18th (I think) and we both made our time targets (only just in my case!). I was representing the Harriers for the first time and twice on the way round I heard 'Go Sedgefield' shouts from spectators, which was nice! Ours is just one of thousands of great stories of course and loads of people we know were running for equally great causes."

Ellen Guest, Sedgefield Youth Worker, also ran again, alongside Emma Johnson & her Dad, Barry. They came in at 2hrs 10 mins, personal bests for all three. Brilliant!



Blooming great!

The results were terrific for both Sedgefield and Fishburn at the **Northumbria in Bloom** awards ceremony, held recently at Eaglescliffe. Members of Sedgefield in Bloom were delighted to win gold and the Federation Breweries Award for Best Small Town and Fishburn took silver in the Best Large Village category.

Trophies and certificates were presented by Sir John Hall, (*photo page 7*) whose speech praised the commitment and efforts of everyone involved. Presenters Marian Foster, well known from local TV and radio, and Walter Dinning, an experienced professional gardener and judge, welcomed to the stage the winners of awards in over 30 categories.

The judges praised the enthusiasm and community involvement evident in Sedgefield, exemplifying the ethos of Northumbria in Bloom. Sedgefield also had winners in the special awards, Hardwick Park and the Dun Cow Inn receiving silver gilt and the residents of Claremont Grove a gold award for their beautiful front gardens. Sedgefield in Bloom chairman Ian Sutherland said, "We are very pleased and proud to have done so well. This was very much a team effort, exemplified by our slogan -working beautifully together."

Sedgefield News goes to print too early for the national competition results, which are declared in Birmingham on September 29th.

Here at Sedgefield News we receive some very long letters, which can lead to editorial half marathons! Hoping for a little relief, we hereby invite your

Mini Rant of the Month!

Twitter rules apply, so rants of no more than 140 characters please. You MUST be prepared to see your name in print and we reserve the right to decide whether or not to publish (*and also to decide that this was a dreadful idea!*)

sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Great results day at Community College

What a truly amazing set of results! Not only has the Sedgefield class of 2010 recorded the best results the college has ever produced, it has set a whole new benchmark against which subsequent year groups must target to achieve or indeed surpass.

For a number of years the percentage of Sedgefield students achieving the nationally recognised 'gold standard' measure of attainment (5+ A*-C with English and Maths) had become stuck around 47%. This year however, innovative approaches adopted across the college coupled with the unwavering commitment of students and staff has resulted in the previous 'best' being smashed and a new college record being set, with 64% of students achieving the 5+ A*-C (with English and Maths) standard, an increase of 15% on the previous college best.

This is not the only success in what is a consistently impressive set of results. Student performance has improved across the full ability range. Just as pleasing is the percentage of students who achieved five higher grade passes; 96% of students reached this standard against a previous college record of 83%, proving that all students, regardless of ability, can and do achieve highly at Sedgefield Community College.

As we continue to plan to move into our new building in January this provides us with the perfect platform upon which to build the sustained and continuous improvements that we strive for. Well done the class of 2010!

Still 'on song'

The Lirica concert due to take place early in October has been postponed until Spring, but you don't have to miss out on musical entertainment this month, because on Sunday 24th October there's the Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir 25th Year Re-union Concert in the Parish Hall. It promises to be a fun-packed and thoroughly nostalgic evening.

Sedgefield Round Table Blues Club

Saturday 16th October

Despite opposition and imposed conditions, Round Table's next event goes ahead and features one of Britain's top up & coming Rock/Blues guitarists, **Chantelle McGregor** & her band, supported by Paul Liddel, another local artist getting a chance to show off his talent - as is part of our objective. There will be officers from the environmental protection agency present to ensure that we adhere to the conditions. *Tickets on sale in the Post Office.*

Folk Festival

Folk Festival goes from strength to strength

The fifth annual Sedgefield Folk Festival held over the first weekend in September once again turned out to be a huge success. Three sell-out concerts in the Parish Hall, singarounds in Ceddesfeld Hall, a concert in St Edmund's Church, various music and dance workshops and other events, all received excellent feedback from people who attended from all over the north-east and other parts of the country. The festival is now well established on the folk scene and receiving increasing national recognition. There were many highs over the week-end, but the best for me was a wonderful performance by Johnny Silvo from Norway. His charismatic personality and interesting life, which he talked about in the "meet and greet" session, was something to be remembered.

As one of the organisers of the Festival, I would like to thank everyone for all their magnificent support. We are already planning next year's festival, which will hopefully be bigger and better still. *Joan Edmundson*

Trad tunes for beginners

Although specialist groups e.g. Northumbrian pipers, meet in Sedgefield, it seems a shame that there's not so much of a tune playing tradition here as in other parts of the North East. It really is a feel-good activity. So we have decided that before the monthly CeddesFolk session (1st Wednesdays) we'll do an extra hour from 7pm, specifically to encourage anyone from about age 9 (no upwards age limit) to play. The idea is, you bring an instrument that you can find your way around (and a pair of ears) and we'll bring our instruments (& maybe some spares for you to try) and some great tunes. With luck you will soon begin to feel as if you are playing in a band! There will always be a couple of CeddesFolk regulars/band members to guide you and the proper checks for working with youngsters will be in place. *Contacts: Sandy Clubleby, 620609 & Maxine Crallan, 07785 281 471.*



Sedgefield
Community
College

Year 6 Open Evening

Tuesday 5th October 2010 6pm – 8pm

Prospective students and their parents are warmly invited to meet the Headteacher, David Davies, staff and current students.

If you are unable to attend or would like a follow up visit, please contact Sandy Baird (Deputy Head) on **01740 625300**

www.sedgefieldcommunitycollege.co.uk
Hawthorn Road, Sedgefield, TS21 3DD

A real treat for Christmas

Would you like to nominate one of our senior residents for a very special treat this Christmas?

Wayne and Richard, the new proprietors of the Hardwick Arms in Sedgefield, have offered to provide a Christmas Meal free of charge on 6th December for 50 people. Carrying on a tradition they had started in a previous establishment, they want to reach as many people as possible in Sedgefield to give them the opportunity to come along and share in the festivities.

If you know of anyone you would like to nominate or if you just want to put your own name/s down, we would love to hear from you. You can contact Gloria Wills on 622447, or pop a note through the door of No 58 Front Street with details of name, address and telephone number and marked Christmas Meal.

Closing date for names is Monday 1st November and the draw will be made by Wayne and Richard. The lucky ones will be notified by invitation.

Don't miss next month's News for the Hardwick Arms Christmas Menu and forthcoming attractions.

Community Lawyers

A Sedgefield Development Trust Project

If you would like to access our Legal Clinic please ring and leave a message on 629011 and we will make contact with you. Clinics are usually arranged to suit individual needs.



Snapshots of Sedgefield

Many thanks to Harry Smith for this lovely photo, our first in colour, though, sadly, it appears here in black and white. I'm sure Harry's schoolmates from Rectory Row 1977 will recognise themselves, but, for the rest of us, Harry has provided a complete list of names.

From left to right on the back row we have Harry himself, Shaun Holdsworth, Michael Mohr, Martin Roberts, Ian Brown, Jonathon Walls, William Robinson, Peter Pickering, Martin Dawson and teacher Mr J Cauldwell.

On the middle row, do you recognise Paul Blakey, David Quarmbly, Joy Lawson, Susan Anderson, Tracy Marsh, Zoe Constantine, Julie Wayman, Trudie Howarth, Lee Graham and Michael Ridley?

The girls in the front row are Kim Keeley, Nicola Wilson, Beverley Edwards, Clair Webster, Catherine Raw, Sandra Stirk, Anne Bonnington, Gillian Ingham and Andrea Lund. Many of them still live in Sedgefield, although they look a little different now.

If any of those delightful children (or their parents) have memories to share or information about classmates who have moved away, please feel free to contact me on 01740-620091 or email norma@neal.myzen.co.uk.

Sedgefield Local History Society would be grateful for further loans or donations of historic photographs and documents relating to the Sedgefield area. Contact details above.

Ceddesfeld Hall success story - be part of it

Join us on Saturday October 16th at Ceddesfeld Hall to celebrate 40 successful years for Sedgefield Community Association.

10am – 4 pm. Find out what goes on now and what went on in the past. Over the years some sections have disappeared – what were they? Maybe you would like to resurrect them. See displays from current sections e.g. Local History, Youth Choir, Sedgefield Players and many others; an Art exhibition and an Open day at the Squash club – try squash or racket ball, At 3pm, Traditional tunes - a taster session for beginners with CeddesFolk.
12 noon – 2 pm. Bar open – the bar in Ceddesfeld Hall was the first in a Community Association in County Durham and was not expected to survive with only voluntary help!

7 - 11 pm. Musical contributions from sections and affiliated sections, e.g. Concertina group, Northumbrian Pipers, CeddesFolk...

Can you help us fill in the gaps in our 40 year history? It would be great to hear from anyone who can help. (David & Wendy 620206; Pat & Dudley 620607).

Jumping bears!

Sedgefield Primary School PTFA and Friends of St. Edmund's hold their annual teddy bear parachute event at St. Edmund's Church on Sat. 2nd October from 1.30pm. As well as parachuting teddy bears there will be a variety of stalls, activities and refreshments. Jumps can be purchased in advance; £2 for the first jump & £1.50 for subsequent jumps (or on the day, £2.50 & £2). Parachutes are provided; you only need to bring your teddy!

For further information or to purchase jumps in advance contact Becky Rowe, Tel: 629068

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Icons of the North in a rainbow of stitches

In a recent regional competition, members of the Embroiderers' Guild were challenged to portray their favourite 'Icons' of northern life in stitch, fabric and thread. Their choices included favourites which inspire us all, from Durham Cathedral and Holy Island to the dales, our cities, coast and hills and our northern wildlife.

There's something here for all lovers of the art and craft of sewing to admire and enjoy.

An Exhibition of Embroideries
Mon 4th to Sat 23rd October in
Bishop Auckland Town Hall.

Also at B.A. Town Hall -
An afternoon of Flanders & Swann: Wed 6 October 1.30pm
Olly Burton sings. Tickets: £4

Community SAFETY



Dark Nights – Security Concerns

With the dark nights just round the corner, comes the Burglar & Sneak Thief's greatest opportunity. Take time and trouble to help yourself minimise the risk of providing them with an "early Xmas Bonus" Don't leave your house unlit after dark. Use light timers and draw curtains. Don't leave valuable or desirable items on show.

Lock your doors even when you are at home.

Don't leave your keys (includes your car keys) where a thief can see them or where they can be hooked and retrieved via the letterbox.

Don't leave toys/bikes around your property. It tells the thief you are not security conscious.

DO Lock your car & check it is locked when you leave it. We don't want a repeat of this year's car crime wave. Thieves re-visit easy pickings!

Tell a 'trusted' neighbour of extended periods of absence and ask for their help to push letters & papers fully through the letterbox (& why not complain to the culprits who leave stuff sticking out in the first place?).

Better still if you have a trusted neighbour ask them to draw curtains, put mail/newspapers out of sight & generally keep an eye on your home whilst you are away.

Report suspicious persons or out of place vehicles to Police 0345 60 60 365. Police want the public to do this, as it is a major source of crime detection, as well as crime prevention.

Door Bars are a simple and effective deterrent to the sneak thief or unwelcome visitor; they are available from Community Warden Tim Spearey who will also fit same if required (see Tim's phone details below or contact N/Hood Watch C/man Ken Saiger: 621896).

Visible burglar alarms make burglars think twice and usually they go elsewhere, similarly good exterior lighting usually deters thieves; for advice on these items and other security aspects contact Keith Lounds, our local Crime Prevention Officer on 01325 742714.

To deter unwanted people from calling as the nights draw in, why don't you make your home visibly a NO COLD CALLING HOME? Window & Door notices are still available from the Town Council Offices, free.

For the majority of "Cold Callers" the notices seem to act as a good deterrent but of course there are still several individuals who will choose to ignore them and be a nuisance to you in their own interests - not yours! From experience it seems clear that if complaints are made to companies by individual householders (ask for a response in writing) most organisations will confirm that they don't want their reps annoying the general public and consequently running the risk of damaging their reputation, and will take steps to reprimand the offender. So if you are sufficiently irritated by a rep ignoring your notice let the company know - give them a flea in their ear. If you display a No Cold Calling Home sticker and still get door knocked, options to consider:

Do not answer the door (waste their time not yours).

If you do answer the door, ask them for their name/I.D., their company telephone details, then ask why they ignored the notice & finally ask them to leave. Then take the time & trouble to report them to their organisation & seek an apology etc in writing. Pass details on to either the N/Hood Watch or our Police Liaison Officer Neil Langthorne (see below).

If any of you receive any abuse try & obtain their personal details, make a note of their description & contact the Police immediately.

If the caller is suspicious in any way, try & obtain their personal details, make a note of their description & contact the Police immediately.

Flask in the Fridge

Please remember to update your data sheet inside the flask, following any change to either your medication or to your health. If the Emergency Services are called to help you, it is vital that the information which is your information, is accurate & up to date. It is for your benefit only.

Telephone Numbers

Local Police: 0345 60 60 365. (We suggest you keep a note of the details of your conversation & obtain an incident number.)

Community Warden Tim Spearey at Sedgefield: 623654

or via Chilton Control Room: 01388 721351

For advice/assistance: Police CPO Keith Lownds: 01325 742714

Police Community Liaison Officer Neil Langthorne, **01325 742755**

PC Todd reports

Only a few weeks ago, St Edmund's Church became a victim of crime. A quantity of lead was removed from the roof overnight. Sadly, the thieves returned on the weekend of 17/18/19th September to remove even more lead. This shameful crime shows how a determined thief will stop at nothing in his quest to steal, not giving a thought to the damage and distress caused. Police are seeking witnesses or any information regarding suspicious vehicles or persons during this time.

The only other recently reported crime involves a window of a premises on High St. Being deliberately smashed with a stone. Until next time, Keith

Pub Watch. The recent meeting held in the Hope Inn received no reports requiring further action. The recent Police operation in the Trimdon area, concerning underage drinking in pubs, was discussed. Most of the licensed premises failed the test by serving alcohol to persons under 18 years. Licensees and staff received either a warning or a fine for their actions. Staff in all licensed premises in Sedgefield have been asked to challenge customers ages if they appear to be under 18 years. You have been warned.

P.A.C.T. At a meeting held prior to the Residents' Forum recently, it was agreed that the beat team's priority should remain parking issues outside Sainsbury's store.

Police Community Consultative Groups. Durham Police Authority is holding a series of meetings aimed at making our local communities better places to live and work.

The meeting for Sedgefield is in Spennymoor Town Hall at 7pm on Monday 4th October.

Citizen of the Year 2010

It's that time of the year again; time to think what extraordinary service our fellow citizens have done in this community. Again this year, the emphasis is on 'exceptional contributions to Sedgefield'. We would like to focus more on recent events than on long-serving histories. Please think about your friends and acquaintances, and if they have performed meritorious acts in the community, will you nominate them to be our Citizen of the Year 2010?

Jottings from September Residents' Forum meeting

The general business issues of the Forum were put on hold this month to accommodate discussion on the proposed wind turbines for Spring Lane. Durham County Council (DCC) planning officers held an information exhibition in the Parish Hall from 3pm to 7pm before the Forum meeting to give residents opportunity to view and ask questions on the contentious issues relating to the application. Officers were kept busy throughout, in fact found it a little difficult to cope with the numbers attending at some points. By the time you read this we will all have had to send in our letters of objection or support; however we have not yet heard a single voice supporting the application. We don't yet know the date of the planning meeting where a decision on the application will be made nor do we know what recommendation (either to support or refuse) the officers will make to the planning committee. Keep a watch on the village notice board for the date of the planning meeting – remember anyone can attend.

The Forum have, for some time, been trying to ascertain what has happened to circa £47000 Section 106 money held by DCC from the Cunningham Court development which is to be spent for community benefit. We have involved the Local Government Ombudsman to help with our enquiries and have now asked the Area Action Partnership (AAP) to get some answers for us through the Community Issue part of the AAP agenda. We will report back at the next Forum, meeting.

Next meeting October 4th, 7pm; Fletcher Room, Parish Hall. All welcome

Notes from Sedgefield Borough Homes (sbh)

Payment cards

Tenants renting homes and garages from sbh can now use payment cards at local Post Offices and anywhere displaying the Paypoint sign. Anyone who expresses an interest in using the new payment card will receive a free card, with a covering letter explaining where it can be used. Transaction costs will be paid by sbh. For all the different payment methods available to sbh tenants please visit www.sedgefieldboroughhomes.co.uk.

Apprenticeships

Sedgefield Borough Housing and strategic partners Mears & Bullock, have recruited 14 apprentices through the 'Great Futures' partnership. The Apprenticeships cover a range of jobs including accountancy, joinery, business administration and multi-skilling. Each Apprenticeship lasts for approximately two years, during which time the Apprentices (pictured above) will gain work experience and complete a relevant qualification. Most of the Apprenticeships will lead to permanent employment.



Maintaining and Improving Neighbourhoods

We now provides a single point of contact for tenants and residents to deal with issues in their communities, with a named neighbourhood officer on hand to help with a whole range of issues from managing their tenancy successfully to ensuring estates are clean and tidy. Grounds maintenance services provided to sbh by Durham County Council will continue for another year up to the end of March 2012. This work has a value of over £300,000 and will ensure that estates are tidy and well cared for, and that local jobs are protected.

Efficiency savings

We have made efficiency savings of £2.8M in our first year of business. Promises were made to tenants to achieve savings with no reduction in the quality of the services received. Most savings (£2.2M) were made against the costs of purchasing the same quality component for a lower price and in some cases purchasing better components for the same original price for the major improvements of properties. The rest of the savings have come from managing assets and resources in a more efficient and effective manner. Savings are expected to grow to around £4M for the current year.

Butterwick Moor wind turbines

Delivery update: we are advised by Eon that the final four turbines will be delivered from 11th October, the last one being erected on 25th October, weather conditions and traffic restrictions allowing.

Help!

If you live in Fishburn or at Winterton, the Sedgefield News distribution team needs you.

We are looking for a couple of people from each area, to get Sedgefield News out to readers each month. If you have a little spare time and are willing to help, please contact

Judith Edgoose on 620244
or send an email to
sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com
and we'll pass it on to the team.

Regular Events

The Diary page is ever more full, so here are the regular entries usually found on the 3rd column of page 11

Café@St Catherine's

Friendly chat & latest gossip!
Fridays 9.30am - 12noon
Tea, coffee, toast & conversation

Ceddesfeld Art Group

Small, friendly group: 10-12 noon
on Thursdays in Ceddesfeld Hall
To join us, just call in or phone
Malcolm Scott on 622871

Country Markets

Please note: once only this month,
Friday 8th October

Rotary Club of Sedgefield

Wednesdays 7.15 - 7.30pm

Nag's Head: new members
welcome, call 629070 or 620562

Round Table

1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays

Sporting, social and charitable
events. New members welcome
Contact Rob on 629079
www.sedgefieldroundtable.org.uk

Sedgefield Playgroup

Methodist Church. Ofsted inspected

Mon - Thurs 9:15 - 11:45

Spaces for children 2+ years
Contact 621071 or 620572

Sedgefield Rugby Club training nights

Tuesday & Thursday
from 7.30pm at the school
No experience necessary, age 17+
Contact the club on 07578316499
or go to www.sedgefieldrugby.co.uk

Sing for Health & Fun

Methodist Church Hall
Weds 13th & 27th October
from 1 - 2pm

Winterton Wayfarers Walking Group

Each Sunday, walks varying in
length from 5 to 10 miles.
More info at 620034 or 620434

Squash

The Sedgefield Community Association has been absolutely invaluable in supporting Sedgefield Squash Club since it opened in the grounds of Ceddesfeld Hall in 1976. Since then, the club has become an integral part of the community and contributes to the wide range of sports available to the residents of Sedgefield and the surrounding villages.

On **Saturday 16 October**, the squash club will participate in the official SCA 40th birthday celebrations by holding an open day at its courts between 10am and 4pm. There will also be a display within Ceddesfeld Hall. Old and young alike are very welcome to visit and see both the squash and racketball facilities on offer, or even to try out the sports if they wish (if you want to, please take a clean pair of shoes)! Sedgefield Squash Club looks forward to a big turnout on the day.

Football

Sedgefield Youth FC

Sedgefield Youth recently took part in a pre-season tournament in Eaglescliffe. The team's first game was against Thornaby Central, which ended in a 1-1 draw, with Sedgefield's goal scored by Anthony (I'll ask for surnames to include in future reports!) from a corner. Sedgefield won their second game 3-2, against Eaglescliffe Elementis, with Daniel and Cameron on the scoresheet (the 3rd was an own goal). The third match against Catterick saw a convincing victory of 6-0 - goal scorers were Jamie (4) and Cameron (2). Sedgefield Youth FC finished joint first with Thornaby, but ended up second following a penalty shootout. Nevertheless, the tournament was great preparation for the season ahead.

The first game of the season was against Broughton Hibs. Ryan scored Sedgefield's first goal of the season, then Jamie scored two. Unfortunately, the team lost 3-4, due to what they all thought was an offside goal (I see they're getting into that habit early!). The Sedgefield players are looking forward to playing Broughton on their home ground. The club now has a page on Facebook (search for SYFC Sedgefield), so we can all keep an eye on their progress.

Sedgefield St Edmund's FC

It has been a reasonable start to the season for Sedgefield's leading Sunday league football team, St. Edmund's FC. With ten games played so far, they have won six, lost three and drawn one, and all three defeats have been close against very strong sides.

It wasn't the best start to the season, though, when St. Edmund's went out of the Alan Smith Cup 3-0 at Langley Park. Close defeats, home and away, to a strong Kelloe WMC in the league were disappointing, but home league victories against Pelton (2-1) and Ferryhill (1-0) have restored the balance. In addition, a 3-0 win against Washington JFC in the League Cup 3-0 has given the team plenty of optimism for the rest of the season.

Sedgefield Harriers

The Serpentine Trail Race

The sun shone on Sedgefield Harriers' fourth annual Sedgefield Serpentine Trail Race on Sunday 12 September. No doubt aided by the good weather, the race had a record turnout of 123 runners, who followed a scenic 6.5 mile route on paths around Hardwick Park and Bishop Middleham, starting and finishing at Sedgefield Cricket Club. Terry Wall from Morpeth Harriers, who won the race in 2008 and 2009, defended his title with ease in an impressive time of 35:39.

Andy Chadfield of Billingham Marsh House Harriers and James Askew of Newton Aycliffe AC were battling for second place when they took a wrong turn just before the end of the race, allowing Mike Jefferies of North York Moors to nip in ahead of them, with James and Andy coming third and fourth respectively.

First lady home was Sarah Jane Oates from Crook AC in an excellent time of 46:19, followed by Sedgefield Harriers' Janet Raper and Alison Carter from Billingham Marsh House. In addition to Janet, other successful Sedgefield runners were Gary and Amanda Hetherington who were first in their veterans' categories. This year, the Harriers also awarded a prize for the first Sedgefield Non-Athletics Team, as a way of encouraging more Sedgefield residents to get involved in the event; this was claimed by 'Andy's Best Mates' made up of James Hampson, Steve Nadin, Mark Woolley and Christopher Stephenson who walked away with a crate of lager, much to their delight.

When the excitement of the race was over, runners, organisers and their friends and family enjoyed a fantastic barbeque in the cricket club grounds laid on by the Sedgefield Explorer Scouts. A very successful event - made more enjoyable by the barbeque, the excellent facilities at Sedgefield Cricket Club and the weather - the Harriers hope to make the Sedgefield Serpentine Race even bigger and better next year. Many thanks to Alf Walton again for his generous sponsorship of the event.

U13 Boys Win at Jarrow

The Junior Harriers U13 Boys Relay Team were fine winners in their race at the Jarrow Relay Championships held at Monkton Stadium on 8th September.



Early leaders in the Serpentine Trail Race, in the glorious autumnal setting of Hardwick Park

Sedgefield Harriers continued...

Sprinter George Pilkington set the team up with a storming first leg for George Peden, Ryan Chatt and Josh Hetherington to follow. The club also had teams in the U13 and U15 Girls races and all acquitted themselves well despite most competitors being at bottom age in their age group or running in the age group above. Sedgefield were up against Gateshead Harriers, Durham City Harriers, Chester-Le-Street AC and other established clubs on a night of competitive racing.

That's all for this month. It would be good to hear from some sports we don't often cover. If you have any sports news please send it to chrisjlines@aol.com



Cycle your way to health

There is a major risk of developing coronary heart disease, obesity, high blood pressure and diabetes if you take no exercise, but people of all ages can improve their health and well being with regular, moderate intensity exercise.

Now you can get out and about, exercise and socialise all at the same time with FREE weekly organised bike rides on Thursday mornings. Run by NHS County Durham and Darlington Community Health Services, the Get Active Get Cycling scheme is suitable for all ages and abilities, ideal for families and led by qualified cycle instructors.

Bikes and helmets will be available to loan for free. Routes will be predominantly off-road using a variety of national cycle networks and will last approximately 90mins. For those already taking part, go ahead with arrangements made the previous week, but if you are coming for the first time, meet me at 0910 on the green outside St Edmund's Church in Sedgefield.

For more information on health improvement (obesity/physical activity) please contact Steven Hart (Health Improvement Specialist) on 0191 569 2847 or email steven.hart@nhs.net.

Blooming great!

Continued from front page..

Sir John Hall presents the award for Best Small Town to mayor Allan Blakemore, Sedgefield in Bloom chairman Ian Sutherland & head gardener Stephen Young.



More Letters

Two messages of thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated staff of the Franziska Willer ward at the Sedgefield Community Hospital for their kindness and nursing care given to my husband during his illness.

I'd also like to thank my family, relatives and friends for their most generous donations in memory of Gerry which came to the grand total of £927.50. This has been presented to the community hospital. What a wonderful place we have in our village!

Margaret Waller

May I please take up a small space to give a big THANK YOU for all the get well cards, telephone calls, good wishes, gifts and offers of help sent to me during my illness.

The support given by Sedgefield Players, WI, Sedgefield Walking Group, Sedgefield "Bloomers", Monday Night Girls (you know who you are!) and friends & neighbours has been really tremendous. Your support, coupled with excellent treatment from North Tees and Middlesbrough Hospitals and our local surgery, has put me well on the way to recovery. I feel blessed.

Vee Cooper

October Events Diary

A FREE service to non-commercial organisations

Body Shop Party

Willowdene Nursing Home

Friday 1st October

10.30-11.30am

New Christmas Gift Sets

Tea/coffee & biscuit provided

Everyone welcome

Bingo @ Ceddesfeld Hall

Saturday 2nd October

Eyes down at 7.30pm

Mordon Village Hall

Saturday Night Challenge

Saturday 2nd October

7.30pm

Bring your team or group for an

evening of quizzes & games.

Prizes for winning table. £3 entry

Residents' Forum

Monday 4th October

7pm in the Fletcher Room

Local History Society

Monday 4th October

Ceddesfeld Hall 7.45pm

Jack Turton - 'Winterton Hospital:

from the outside in'

All welcome

Sedgefield Methodist

Wives & Friends

Monday 4th October

Cards by Muriel

Monday 18th October

Kayaking in Alaska

Sedgefield WI

Wednesday 6th October

7.15pm, Parish Hall.

"Hearing Dogs for Deaf People"

by Daphne Hadfield

Members' competition:

a photograph of a pet

Visitors always welcome; fee £2.50

CeddesFolk Session

Welcome back!

Ceddesfeld Hall

Wednesday 6th October

Beginners: 7 - 8pm (see p.2)

All comers from 8pm

Cricket Club Quiz Night

Saturday 9th October: 8pm

Quizmaster John Bryant

Farmers' Market

Sunday 10th October

9.30 - 1.30, village green

Art in the Park

Sunday 10th October

11am -3pm Hardwick Park, **Free**

Part of the National BIG draw

Event. Work with artists to create

large murals of the park

Sedgefield Gardening Club

Tuesday 12th October

7.30pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

Trip to Kilimanjaro. Steve Copland

Ladies' Club

Ceddesfeld Hall, 8pm

Tuesday 12th October

Canoeing on the Yukon; Bob Brown

Tuesday 26th October

Iona to Lindisfarne; David Rodway

Neighbourhood Watch

A.G.M followed by Panel Meeting

(PACT meeting follows on)

Tuesday 12th October

Fletcher Room, Parish Hall 7 pm

All Welcome

DIDO Fundraising

Coffee Morning

Thursday 14th October

Parish Hall, 10am - 12 noon

Cake Stall, Tombola, Nearly New &

more. Please support this project

for older people. Any contributions

to Tombola or Stalls please, to

Margaret Stewart 622684 or

Gloria Wills 622447

Sedgefield Community

Association

"40 years on" *see p. 3*

Saturday 16th October

Ceddesfeld Hall

Live Music Night

Sedgefield Cricket Club, 8pm

Saturday 16th October

Haley Sisters, John Wrightson,

Copperhead Still & John Weighell

Admission £9 inc buffet. Tel 621347

Sedgefield Family History

(branch of Cleveland FHS)

Monday 18th October

7:45pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

"Everybody Has Roots"

by Norman Welch

New members always welcome

Call Sylvia Hall 620367

Ferryhill, Sedgefield &

District Flower Club

Tuesday 19th October

Parish Hall at 7.30pm

"Elegance" with Margaret Earl,

Gateshead Flower Club

All welcome

Trafalgar Dinner

Sedgefield Community Association

Saturday 23rd October

Ceddesfeld Hall, 7 for 7.30pm

4 course meal, welcome drink

Tickets £20 from Pat - 620607

or Wendy - 620206

SLYC 25th anniversary

re-union concert

Sunday 24th October

7pm in the Parish Hall

Entry - a small donation, please

Sedgefield Wildlife Group

Thursday 28th October

7.45pm Parish Hall

Tuli National Park, Botswana -

Steve Ashton

Call 01287 636382 or email

sashton@teeswildlife.org

Fishburn Boys FC

Friday 29th October

7.30pm - midnight at Fishburn Club

A show not to be missed

featuring multi award winners

Extraordinary Gentlemen &

the Extraordinary Ladies

Raffle, Bingo

Tickets £4: contact team managers

or ring 07801549907

Halloween at Hardwick Park

Friday 29th October

6.30-9.30pm

£5 individual, £20 family ticket

Book in advance on 621505

Halloween crafts, scary performers,

and a scary walk!

Mayor's Charity Quiz

Friday 29th October

Ceddesfeld Hall, 7.30 - 10.30pm

Tickets (limited numbers)

£5 incl. Pie & Pea Supper from

Sedgefield Town Council Offices.

Cheques payable to "Sedgefield Town

Council Mayor's Charity Account"

Sedgefield Rugby Club

Saturday 30th October

Halloween Fancy Dress Party

at the Cricket Club

Lee & Andy: Live rock from all eras

Tickets £5 from Nag's Head in

advance or £7 on the door

Sedgefield Library Events

New! Need help finding a job?

Help & support,

Thursdays 10-11.30am

International Cookery Course

Tuesday 5th & 12th

10am-12 noon

Tickle Time 2.15-3pm

Monday 11th Oct

Rhyme Time 10-11am

Wednesday 13th Oct

Children's holiday activities

please contact library for details

Next month ...

Sedgefield Show A.G.M.

Thursday 25th November

Nags Head at 8pm

The Ellen Timney Foundation

My Mam, Ellen Timney lived in Sedgefield for almost twenty years. When I was pregnant with my second child she was diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer. Mam was told not to bother with chemo as it would only raise her survival chance by another 5%. She fought to have chemo and it wasn't until 7 years later that the cancer came back, this time in her brain; cancer had also spread to her lungs, chest, bones and spine. Her first thoughts were for my Dad, Tony and the rest of our close family.

While her illness progressed, a close family friend, Ron Darby from Middlesbrough, approached Dad and I to see what we thought about a charity in Mam's name. Mam had always helped others in any way that she could; her last job was working with adults with learning disabilities, she would even visit them on Christmas day or her day off. When I was younger there was always somebody at the door needing help. Mam always said it cost nothing to give people your time.

At first, when Ron asked Mam what she thought about a foundation in her name, she thought it was a silly idea, but Ron managed to explain it to her. I think because of the tumour she didn't really understand what it was all about. It was her choice that the money raised would benefit sick and underprivileged children and also support children attending Lourdes. Mam fell in love with Lourdes and would talk about the terribly sick people that she met there, even though she was ill herself. Mam lost her battle with cancer on March 8th 2007, her last couple of weeks spent in the wonderful and supportive Sedgefield Community Hospital.

We have had unreal support from our local community and further afield, from others that knew Mam through Lourdes. So far the foundation has given about £14,000 to children. Although we are a small charity we aim to help as many as possible. Our last donation made it possible for twin boys with Down's Syndrome to attend Lourdes earlier this year. One of our earlier donations was to Robbie Jones from Bowburn, who lost his legs to meningitis. Mam also persuaded Sedgefield Town Council to host a day for children visiting from Belarus; the children visit the area for a couple of weeks, turning up with just the clothes they stand in.

Sedgefield Development Trust is a member of the Development Trusts Association

Your Letters

Just before Mam was taken ill she put on a huge party tea for the children at Ceddesfeld hall. Although the children didn't speak any English, Mam seemed able to communicate so well with them. The foundation now supports their visit to Sedgefield and a wonderful fun filled day.

We raise funds through charity golf days and our main fundraiser - **The Ellen Timney Foundation Charity Ball**. We will host our 4th ball at Hardwick Hall on October 9th, sponsored for the 4th year running by Hays' Travel of Sedgefield. A four course meal, dancing, entertainment, millionaire's gaming tables, high quality auction, tombola and raffle all ensure it will be a wonderful evening, with tickets priced at just £30.

Mam would have loved the ball; she loved to dance and dress up. I know she would be overwhelmed at how kind and supportive people are. It is not just about the donations of prizes but the time people give leading up to the ball and throughout the year behind the scenes. There are too many people to mention everyone, but the ball would not take place without Maxine & John Robinson. Robert & Cheryl Hardy, from Bishop Middleham have also given the foundation so much support. We hope to continue with the foundation as long as possible. There will always be children who need help and as long as the incredible support continues, so will The Ellen Timney Foundation.

Jane Morgan (Ellen's daughter)
If you would like information on the foundation or to attend our charity ball please call 0191 3770448 or email janemorgan69@live.co.uk

Sedgefield Blues Club

In response to letters in the last and previous issues re the use of the Blues Nights in the Parish Hall; everyone living in Sedgefield will know the problems and issues of noise from events in the Parish Hall over the last 12 years or so, and the severe limitations placed on all events in the Hall by Environmental Health Officers. As a result, the refurbishment carried out by the Town Council included acoustic walls, linings, sound absorption panels and a 'noise limiter' - all installed following expert advice

and recommendations. These, together with an excellent in house sound system have contributed to ensuring that the facility is now a first class venue for all our community groups and residents, and as a direct result the entertainment licence was issued without the former restrictions and limitations. There had been no noise problems/issues since the hall re-opened in May 2008 until a complaint was made directly to the Environmental Health Dept at Durham County Council following the first Blues Concert. Although the complaint was not followed up, it did prompt DCC Officers to start making enquiries re the noise levels in the Hall. The Town Council arranged for DCC officers to meet with the Round Table and organisers of the Blue Concerts to discuss the existing noise limiter and the levels etc. At that time the officers confirmed that the existing limiter is well suited for the hall and that another or additional one is neither needed nor necessary. The following week the same officers returned to the hall and the limit was set at 98db with the provision that it could be reduced if further complaints are received. For the not so technical minded, this is still very high. The Town Council continues to welcome all bookings for the hall, including the blues club, but all music must be played through the existing noise limiter which, after warnings, cuts out the music if and when the limit is reached. If this is not done and the equipment is interfered with (which has happened) or by-passed, this seriously jeopardises the use of the hall for everyone and can result in the entertainment licence being withdrawn which, as everyone can appreciate, will have serious consequences for all.

Lesley Swinbank

More letters, page 7

Please send articles, letters and advertising copy for

November

by October 15th

to sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com
or to **58 Front Street, Sedgefield TS21 2AQ: tel 01740 629011.**

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