

SEDGEFIELD NEWS

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

May 2023 edition

Deadline for June: Sunday 14 May



Sedgfield Mediaeval Fayre
PROCLAMATION
A fun day for the family

On the Green...
Children's parade and demonstrations
Durham Rams
Black Sheep Morris Dancers
Escafeld Mediaeval Knights
Tug-of-War
Walworth Falconry Display
Craft Stalls & Charity Stalls
Fun Fair
SCA Tombola

In Ceddesfeld Grounds...
Birds of Prey
Acle and Escafeld Mediaeval Crafts
Living History
Circus Skills Workshops
Face Painting
Bucking Bronco
Toddlers Fairground Ride

In Ceddesfeld Hall...
Real Ale and Bar
All Day Cafe/Refreshments

Any support from willing volunteers on the day, to set up and take down stalls, marshal the parade and man SCA tombola stall please contact Sarah & Tony on 01740 622185 or email info@sedgfieldscsca.org.uk
Sponsored and Supported by Local Business.

Saturday 20th May 2023
10am-4pm

Ceddesfeld Hall, Rectory Row,
Sedgfield, County Durham, TS21 2AE
www.sedgfieldscsca.org.uk

Oyez, oyez, oyez

This is the call of the town crier, now usually only heard at ceremonials, fêtes and local events. It would however have been a common cry on the streets of medieval England.

'Oyez' (pronounced 'oh yay') comes from the French *ouïr* ('to listen') and means "Hear ye".

So, "oyez, oyez, oyez", the Sedgfield Mediaeval Fayre will take place on Saturday 20 May from 10am!

There really is something for everyone in this community event with performances by knights and Morris Dancers, fairground rides, birds of prey, tombola and craft stalls. All profits from SCA stalls will go directly back to the upkeep of Ceddesfeld Hall.

Donations for tombola prizes (a bottle or gift) may be dropped in to Ceddesfeld Hall any evening (Monday to Friday from 7:30pm) or can be collected by contacting one of the numbers below. Donations need to be made by Wednesday 17 May.

Help on the day remains crucial. We're looking for people to help from 8am to 9am and from 4pm to 5:30pm to carry, set up and take down gazebos, leg weights, tables, chairs, and to set up the performance arena. The gazebos are easily erected, best done with 4 people, one on each corner.

If you, your friends, team or colleagues can help, please do get in touch as soon as possible. Contact info@sedgfieldscsca.org.uk or telephone Tony & Sarah on 01740 622185, John on 01740 620042 or Maggie on 07970 761844.



Tunnel of light

Sedgefield Primary pupils were delighted to work in collaboration with other schools to complete an eye-catching Tunnel of Light installation at Durham Cathedral. Year 3 pupils were thrilled to be given the opportunity to be able to see their design become a reality in a recent visit. They said it made them feel part of something, as they viewed their spectacular art installation. Sedgefield Primary has won many awards for their participation in the arts throughout the years and they are so proud that they will now become part of living history in the magnificent Durham Cathedral.



Community impact

Over the last few weeks at Sedgefield Hardwick, we have been working very hard on our Community Impact Offer. The global pandemic meant that many community links were reduced or halted, and we are very keen to once again engage fully with opportunities in our local area, but also broaden this to a national and even international stage.

In Year 1, our pupils have been working closely with the local charity 'Feeding Families'. They have undertaken a drive to encourage people to donate food packages to families in need in our local area, and will assist the charity to deliver these packages in the coming weeks.

In Year 2, we are excited to re-establish our links with Willowdene Care Home, and our pupils have met with staff and residents of the Care Home to discuss different ways in which they can entertain the residents, for example by taking part in reading activities, board games or performances. Our Year 2 children are very excited to take part in these sessions next term!

Year 3 have also had an impact locally by working alongside the Days In, Days Out (DIDO) group to assist members in our local community in the use of technology. The pupils designed and delivered a workshop where they demonstrated the use of different aspects of iPads and apps that can be useful in our day to day lives.

Years 4 and 5 have some exciting projects lined up for the summer term regarding local traffic and environmental issues, whilst in Year 6, pupils are preparing to take part in a truly international project.



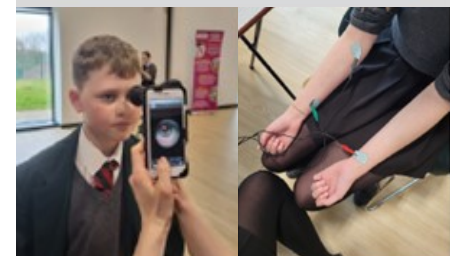
Careers in medicine



During their time at Sedgefield Community College, we work very hard to ensure students understand the wide range of careers that are available to them – encouraging them to consider professions that they may not be familiar with. Two events in the spring term took place in school to help our students gain a greater understanding of careers in the medical field.



We were delighted to host a drama performance for our Year 8 students that focused on some careers within the NHS such as art therapist and radiographer that many would be less familiar with. At the end of term, we were also delighted to welcome the 'Medical Mavericks' back to SCC for a second year to work with our Year 9 students. The children took part in a workshop and had a chance to test a range of medical equipment and this included using an ECG machine, taking their blood pressure, taking blood from a simulated arm, searching for the growth plates in their wrists using an ultrasound machine, performing keyhole surgery and looking at the eye in huge detail using a retina scanner!



Students had a great time during both events and got a feel for 'real-life' medical careers. For any of our students or their families, a reminder that lots more information about careers is available via the 'Careers @ SCC' site on our school's online learning platform.



Just before the Easter holidays, Year 6 were visited by Peter and Linda Machin, from Silksworth Independent Methodist Church in Sunderland, who have helped us to forge a link with Bright Star Christian School in Ghana. Together, we are going to work to build beneficial links for all of our pupils, as well as sampling school life in a different culture and continent! As part of our project, our Year 6 pupils will be spearheading a drive encouraging donations of technology devices which could be shipped to Bright Star Christian School, as Computer Science is an area that has been marked for development in their school. Watch this space for more exciting developments over the coming weeks and months!

Sunday 7 May
on the Village Green
8:30am - 12:30pm

This month's Market is on the weekend of the King's Coronation so please come along and enjoy the celebration with us.



We have an exciting new trader joining us, The Mann's Vegan Scrans, who sell gluten free and vegan treats and Micky will be there to answer any questions you may have.



Our charity stall for May is the Sedgefield Community Association (SCA) who are busy preparing for the Sedgefield Medieval Fayre.



Finally we are looking for volunteers to help with various aspects of the Market so if you are interested please email:
farmers@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk.

SEDGEFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST *PROJECT NEWS*

Friendly Fixers

Friendly Fixers have now held seven successful fixers events since October 2022.

Over that time we have had at least 55 items brought in to us for repair. The majority have been electrical items, but also garments, jewellery, ceramics, furniture, garden tools, and hand-bells. The number of volunteers has grown, and we have a committed core doing initial assessments, repairs, meet and greet, and the all important café duties.

We have shown people how to mend their items, and have a number of regular customers. Pay as you feel donations are covering core costs, so we are happy that the group is sustainable in the long term.

The next meeting will be on Saturday 3 June 10:30-12:30. Please note - there will be no event in May due to the clash with the Coronation.



Homework Help wishes all students everywhere all the best for upcoming exams!

homework@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk.

SEDGEFIELDNEWS

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Sedgefield News is put together and distributed each month by an intrepid band of volunteers and is paid for by advertising, so that it can be read for free in over 3,000 homes, businesses and public locations in the local area. Sedgefield News is also available at

www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk.

If you would like to help, write a letter or article (or send some encouragement!) you can drop us a line at

news@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk.



Bicycle & Active Travel

The British Cycle Quest (BCQ) is a unique cycling challenge. Fed up with riding the same old circuits? Feel like going on an adventure? Take on the BCQ and discover new places and new routes all over Britain.



Checkpoints are scattered throughout England, Wales and Scotland. Wherever you are, you'll most likely find one or two checkpoints within cycling range. It's all about getting outside and cycling to find as many points of interest across the whole of Britain as you can. There's one in Hardwick Park to start you off - can you find it? Find out more at cyclinguk.org/british-cycle-quest.

Sedgefield Development Trust Contact Details

3a Front Street, Sedgefield, Co. Durham, TS21 3AT Telephone 07572 502904
email: secretary@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk website: www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk

Update on Durham Carrs

You may recall our October front page featured a fundraising campaign for Durham Wildlife Trust seeking to restore Durham Carrs. The Trust has just announced that the campaign has been a massive success.



“Our vision for a Great North Fen, a restored landscape where nature can recover and wetland habitats will sequester and store carbon, is one step closer to being realised.”

Thanks to the generosity of the Trust’s members and supporters, the £20,000 fundraising target has been met and the money raised has been used as match funding for a grant application. As a result, Durham Wildlife Trust has been able to negotiate a deal to purchase additional land at Ricknall Carrs. The acquisition of the land should be completed in late spring.

Good luck Gary

Local radio DJ and Sedgefield resident, Gary Philipson has been nominated for the 2023 Audio & Radio Industry Awards in the category of Best Local Show. The winners will be revealed in The Theatre Royal Drury Lane in London on 2 May. We’re hoping Gary’s name is in the envelope!



STEVE’S NATURE DIARY MAY 2023

On one of the many wet days that we have had recently, I decided to have a go at The Wildlife Trusts’ new Great Big Nature Survey. They say it is all about people and nature and they want to hear your opinions on some of the biggest questions surrounding nature and our role in caring for it. I thought it would be quite interesting to have go and it would be relatively easy to do. The Wildlife Trusts are running this survey to find out what people in the UK really think about nature and how we, as a society, should protect it. Results will also help The Wildlife Trusts hold the government to account over its environmental policies and priorities.

The first question was easy: it was all about what I did to help the wider environment from recycling, feeding the birds, to having a wildlife friendly garden. It then got a bit more difficult “In your opinion, how effective are the following at protecting nature? Individuals, communities, council, government etc.” Quite thought-provoking especially because it included water and energy providers! It then goes on to ask questions about “Is nature important to you? If so, how important? And what, if any, roles should people, business, and government have in managing nature?” So if you have got 15 minutes to spare, on a rainy afternoon or evening why not have a go at the Great Big Nature Survey it can be found at wildlifetrusts.org/great-big-nature-survey.

When the weather does improve it is the time of the year when people start to think about cutting their lawn again. We haven’t done ours yet and a few dandelions have started to appear which is great for the early bumble bees looking for nectar. One of the campaigns that The Wildlife Trusts do every year along with the Royal Horticultural Society is “Wild About Gardens” which celebrates wildlife gardening and aims to encourage people to use their gardens to take action to help support nature.

This year it’s all about going wild about lawns. Our lawns are so much more than just a patch of grass. With a bit of care and attention – or even inattention – a lawn can provide a sanctuary for our natural neighbours. Take some time to get to know the plants and animals in your lawn, and you might be surprised at what you find!

The difference between weeds and wildflowers is just a matter of perspective – embrace the daisies, dandelions, clovers and other naturally flowering plants and you won’t see a weed in sight. A lawn full of wildflowers provides vital food for bees and butterflies, amongst many other benefits. So, ditch the weedkiller, mow less often, and let the flowers flourish!

To make the most of your lovely lawn, mix up the mowing routine. Keep some areas short as pathways or sunbathing spots – and of course hunting grounds for worm-eating birds. Then let the grass grow a little longer in a small area, offering shelter to caterpillars, grasshoppers and other insects. In turn, this multitude of minibeasts will create a buffet for birds and bats. Find out how our green spaces can provide for wildlife by downloading “Wild About Lawns” from wildaboutgardens.org.uk.



SEDGEFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Vehicle Crime

A recent crime survey stated that in the UK a car is stolen on average every ten minutes!

Three Range Rover type vehicles have been stolen from addresses in Sedgefield in the last few weeks. These cars have been targeted because of their high value but also because thieves have been able to access their keyless entry systems from outside the owners' properties, by means of a signal transmitted from the key fob.

If you have a car with keyless entry and it's parked outside your property, you can protect it from this method of theft by keeping your key fob inside a "Faraday" bag. A small key pouch with a lining that blocks the signal to your car, or anyone else. These bags can be purchased online or at our NHW meetings, at a cost of under £10.



Let's make life more difficult for the car thief by following these simple rules:

1. Always lock your car. 44% of cars broken into are unlocked.
2. 80% of car crime occurs during the evening or at night. Ensure your car is left in a well lit position, under a street lamp or protected by a PIR Light.
3. Leave your car empty. Don't store vehicle documents or personal belongings in the car overnight.
4. Use a "soldsecure.com" security device on your car. It may be old school but a visual deterrent will make thieves think twice before targeting your vehicle.
5. Secretly mark your car with a UV pen, also available from NHW, by writing your postcode somewhere so if it's recovered, under false plates say, it will prove your ownership. You can even do this on your Catalytic Converter, another target for theft, or install a Tilt alarm inside the car to detect this type of theft.

WhatsApp Verification scam

Action Fraud has issued a warning about a new type of scam relating to WhatsApp.



First, you'll receive an unexpected but genuine message from WhatsApp containing a verification code.

Next, one of your WhatsApp contacts will message you via the app, usually with a story to try to persuade you to send them the code you've just received. They may say they sent it to you in error.

Because the message seems to be from a relative or friend, a lot of people have been tricked into passing on the verification code, which then allows the fraudsters to take over their account. They then have access to personal information about you and your contacts which could be used to access other accounts or target you with more scams.

Keep your WhatsApp account safe:

1. Don't share your login details or verification code with anyone. Not even family or friends.
2. Set up "Two-step verification" to secure your account.
3. Report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp. Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions.
4. Report any fraud or cybercrime to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

Anti-social behaviour update

Sedgefield residents are still suffering incidents of anti-social behaviour with further damage and mindless acts of vandalism. Recently, the Town Council offices were targeted with damage caused to the roof. We still await news of an impending upgrade to our Town CCTV but we can all play our part in identifying the culprits. Local police and NHW advice is to resist the impulse to intervene or approach the perpetrators, however, if mobile phone, CCTV footage or photographs can be obtained, this will greatly assist in the identification and possible subsequent prosecution of the culprits.

Next meeting

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 11 May at 7.30 pm in Ceddesfeld Hall. Come along and have a look at our safety/security equipment and CCTV systems available and have a chat about your local concerns and issues on how to keep our neighbourhood safe. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please report all incidents to the Police on 101 or 999 if the incident is ongoing, or report criminal activity anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Crimestoppers.

0800 555 111

100% anonymous. Always.



Your LETTERS

Dead pigeons!

Last summer, we had a number of dead pigeons in our garden (14-16). Since January 2023 we have now had up to 7, including one today on the drive way!

Is anyone else having this problem? We are getting fed up of disposing of these birds, so we have reported this problem to Defra (Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs) with concerns about Avian flu. The birds do not appear to have been attacked by other animals.

We have also written to Local County Councillors Chris Lines and David Brown as DCC don't seem to deal with this issue.

We have spoken to our neighbours who are also experiencing this problem and we are interested to find out if this is just occurring in our area or elsewhere in the Sedgefield vicinity.

Thank you
Susan Brown

Ed - Please contact Sedgefield News if you have any information for Susan via news@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Opinions expressed in Sedgefield News are not necessarily those of the publisher. We strive to be impartial and independent. We reserve the right to edit copy and will not publish letters of unknown authorship. Please send your contact details with correspondence.

Carer Friendly

Durham County Carers Support are currently supporting 24,000 un-paid Carers living in Sedgefield and surrounding areas.



If you are a carer or a local business then visit dcarers.org/carers-discount-card to learn more about the scheme.

Watch out for the Carer Friendly sticker. The following local businesses are already part of the scheme:

Betty's Boudoir
Cooper & Barr Opticians
Wo Ping - Fishburn
Coxhoe Chiropody

ARTS UPDATE with Geoff Millichap

email: sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com

Festival Success

March was not only a very busy time for the Players but also a hugely successful one. The group took part in the Durham & Sunderland Festival, winning with their play 'Try it Again', with Gill Hook winning Best Actress. The group then took two plays to the Nidderdale Festival held in Knaresborough. The SPYS performed 'Survive the Night'; with Emily Legender and Charlies Lines winning Best Youth Actress and Actor respectively and Eve Edgoose-Clubley was awarded the Adjudicator Award for Youth. The players then went on with 'Ladies of the Sea' which was awarded Best Set, Best Actress for Lucy Atkinson, Best Director for Sarah Atkinson, and the Adjudicators Award for singing. They were also awarded Best Production. This means that the group will be taking two plays forward to the semi-finals of the All England Theatre Festival in Liverpool on 30 April 2023. If this wasn't enough the Players also put on a three night run of Blithe Spirit. This farce was well received by a great audience who enjoyed the ghostly chaos provided by Rosemary Jones as Elvira, who tormented Charles and Ruth Condomine (Peter Hook and Christine Walker). With support from Paul Walker, Jean Hewling and Hilary Ramful, this play proved challenging at times, but worth it.

The group went straight into rehearsals for their June Production of 'Little Women' (pictured). This well known story features Lucy Atkinson, Amy Henery, Kelsey White and Emily Legender as the eponymous sisters and Sarah Legender as Marmee. This lovely play is being performed in the Parish Hall, Sedgefield on 8, 9 and 10 June 2023 at 7:30pm. Tickets are £8.50 from Tickety Boo, www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk or 07957 104434.

Members are also rehearsing for a Murder Mystery evening on behalf of the Mayors Charity. A Backful of Bullets will be in the Parish Hall on Wednesday 10 May 2023 – more details elsewhere on this page. Not to be outdone, SPYS are also in rehearsal for their July play - 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz'. To be performed in the Parish Hall on Friday 14 July at 7pm and two performances on Saturday 15 July at 2pm and 7pm. Tickets will be available from Tickety Boo, www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk or 07957 104434 and are £8.50. Further information will follow.

Sedgefield Players

Mayor's Murder Mystery

10 May promises to be a fantastic night as Sedgefield Parish Hall hosts the last event of the mayoral year, 'A Backful Of Bullets'. A Western-themed murder mystery featuring actors from Sedgefield Players. The ticket price of £15 includes a 2 course meal, and there will also be a cash bar and raffle.



Vox Populi @St Edmunds

There is still time to book tickets for this event at St Edmund's to see these extremely talented young classical music singers perform on 13 May.

For more information contact sedgefieldact@gmail.com or 01740 620574.



More Local Events

The Power of Image: Versailles and the Sun King, Ushaw Historic House, Ushaw Moor

An exhibition of engravings and prints focussing on the opulence of Louis XIV's magnificent chateau. Until 25 June, free with an annual pass.

ushaw.org/whatson/the-power-of-image-versailles-and-the-sun-king/

Florian Mitrea Plays for Bishop Auckland Music Society

Outstanding classical pianist returns to Bishop Auckland Methodist Church.

5 May, £16-£18

bvemv.orpheusweb.co.uk/BAMSWeb/bams.html

In The Footsteps of Ewan MacColl, The Witham, Barnard Castle

A live concert performance adapted from Ewan MacColl's classic *Radio Ballads* broadcasts, from Bob Fox, Jez Lowe and Julie Matthews.

25 May at 7:30pm, £18-20.

thewitham.org.uk/event/in-the-footsteps-of-ewan-maccoll

Shattered by Stuart Langley, Bishop Auckland Town Hall

This local artist's work is found across the north east & Teesside. Shattered is an immersive geometric installation reflecting on our climate.

From 1 June, Free entry.

bishopaucklandtownhall.org.uk/gallery/future-exhibition/

Little Women by Sedgefield Players at Sedgefield Parish Hall,

Courtesy of our village's award-winning 'Players. Book tickets early to avoid disappointment 8, 9 and 10 June, £8.50.

www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk



SPORTS UPDATE

Email chrisjlines@aol.com

I was hoping to include some news this month from Sedgefield Cricket Club's early season games. Unfortunately, the British weather intervened and fixtures over the first couple of weekends were called off. The Sedgefield ground is in immaculate condition and the clubhouse is well stocked with refreshments, so when the action does get underway, the club's many teams hope to attract plenty of support. Meanwhile, there's been plenty of other action to report.

Squash

Sedgefield Squash Club held its Closed Competition Finals in April. There were many entrants for the various age categories, and the games on 20 and 21 April produced some awe inspiring squash. A packed balcony watched Jess Weatherspoon successfully defend her Ladies and Juniors titles, and Oliver Walls held onto the Closed Competition trophy that he won last year.



Giacomo Rutherford (junior finalist), Rob Pearce, Jess Weatherspoon



Club chair Gordon Peden, Oliver Walls, club captain Stephen Rowsby, Rob Pearce

The U11s was won by Magnus McKay (runner up Huey Lamb) and the U15s by Mikey Wilson (runner up Gideon Welsh). A full gallery of all the winners will be on the website after the club's presentation evening on 5 May, which will be held in the Parish Hall.



Huey Lamb, Rob Pearce, Magnus McKay



Gideon Welsh, Rob Pearce, Mikey Wilson

In other news, Sedgefield also achieved success at the Durham & Cleveland County Squash Awards on 20 April. Two of the club's members, Jess Weatherspoon and Craig Muller, won the men's and ladies' best player awards respectively, and Marie Priest won the Divisional Ladies Award. At the close of the season, Sedgefield's 3rd team came top in their division. This is a huge achievement, and testament to the dedication of all of the players over a long and challenging season.

Football

It's been a very busy time for Sedgefield St. Edmund's FC. The club enjoyed some good cup runs, but bowed out in two semi-finals on penalties, and in one quarter-final. A consequence of those runs was a backlog of 15 league games, which have to be completed by 7 May. Since the clocks went forward, St. Edmund's have often been playing three games a week and at the time of writing this, still have five to play. Manager Graham Kime has done well to get teams out to complete these fixtures and by the time the season has ended, they will have played 38 games and hope to finish in a mid-table position.



Football - just want a kickabout?

There's friendly group who play football on Thursdays at 8:15pm on the sand pitch at Sedgefield Community College. They would welcome you joining them. Ages range from 18 to 50.

Danny describes it as "Nothing serious, just a kickabout to keep fit". If you'd like some more information then contact him at dannywrc2013@gmail.com.

Athletics



The road racing season is underway, including some of the big spring marathons. Two of the major events on the calendar took place recently – Manchester Marathon and London Marathon, returning to its traditional April date. Sedgefield Harriers had representatives in both races, who produced some excellent performances. At Manchester, Mark Raine was the club's first runner to finish, in a rapid personal best time of 2:58:06. John Haycock was next in 3:45:49 and Beth Raine also recorded a big PB, crossing the line in 4:32:56. Incidentally, Kieran Walker, who was a Sedgefield Harrier in his formative years, claimed second place in the race in 2:17:30. A week later, three Harriers headed south for the London Marathon. In the men's race, David Bentley improved on his 2022 PB with a fantastic time of 2:33:38, while in the women's event Lisa Darby also recorded her fastest ever time of 3:13:58, breaking her own club record in the process. Completing a trio of PBs was Matt Cooke, shaving a brilliant 15 minutes off his previous best with 3:48:01. Congratulations to all of the Sedgefield runners.



Sedgefield Harriers were out in force for the first Wynyard Woodland parkrun

While some local runners were tackling 42k marathons in April, others were supporting the region's newest 5k parkrun, which is only a few miles away. Wynyard Woodland parkrun held its first event on 15 April, attracting over 400 runners, joggers and walkers. Set up by Sedgefield Harrier Victoria Fawcett and an army of volunteers, it follows an out-and-back route along Castle Eden Walkway, starting at the station end. Several Harriers helped out or ran at the inaugural event, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience, despite the muddy conditions. Looking ahead, the flat course should offer the opportunity for some fast times, for those who chase parkrun PBs!

That's all for this month. As always, if you have any sports news, send it to chrisjlines@aol.com.

CEDDSFELD HALL

Sedgefield Community Association

As well as the Mediaeval Fayre featured on our front cover, SCA are working with Sedgefield Town Council and other community organisations to celebrate the Coronation. Join us for our celebrations.



For more information on Ceddesfeld Hall events, regular activities, room hire and bar opening times, contact Wendy on 01740 620206, Pat on 01740 620607, John on 01740 620042, Sarah on 01740 622185 or visit our website on www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk. Follow us facebook.com/Ceddesfeld.

Cubs go plogging

As part of their World Challenge, the 1st Sedgefield Cubs had to meet a local community group and then take part in an activity to benefit the environment. With this in mind, Nigel Letts organised an event with the Sedgefield Ploggers. Over the course of a few hours on a warm Sunday morning in March, the Cubs made sure that the area around Ceddesfeld Hall, the lake and play park was litter-free, before moving on to the area around St Edmund's Church.

Their Co-op bags were soon filled and all the little bits of litter soon built up into quite a pile. Cub Scout Leader, Kev Scollay said, "Joining the Ploggers was a great opportunity for the Cubs to show that young people play an active part in our community every day. The whole town should be proud of them and their enthusiasm and passion for making a positive impact in Sedgefield - all the leaders certainly are!"

The Cubs also bumped into Geoff Hopper who founded 1st Sedgefield Scouts in 1966, see photo below.



Mayor's Corner



"I'm amazed at how quickly my year as Sedgefield's Mayor has gone by. It seems no time at all since I collected the Mayoral Chain and my very first task was to present medals to the Tug of War teams at the Mediaeval Fayre. A few days later Julie and I took our first tentative steps as we attended the inauguration of the Hartlepool Mayor at the Civic Centre. Thus began the representation of Sedgefield at 134 events during the year including 13 Carol Services, even more Coffee Mornings and a wide range of fundraising events throughout the North East.



New friendships have been forged and no doubt you will have seen many Mayors and Consorts visiting Sedgefield at the dozen or so events I have organised here in the village, all raising funds for Cancer Research UK and local community groups at £12,000+ and still counting!

We were all saddened to learn of the passing of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II. I had the great privilege of reading out the official Proclamation and Statement, a tremendous honour indeed. I will also be involved with the Coronation Service. My final event is a Murder Mystery Night on 10 May starring Sedgefield Players, who have given me fantastic backing all year. I hope to see some of you there and I thank you for your great support and generosity during my year as your Mayor".

David Jasper

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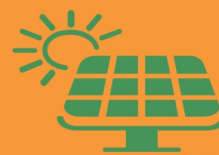
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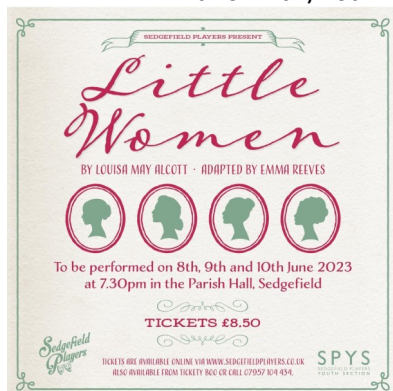
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DIARY & EVENTS

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May 2023

- Monday 1** **Sedgefield Local History Society**, Ceddesfeld Hall, 7:45pm. "The River Tees Story" by Geoff Taylor.
- Wednesday 3** **Sedgefield Women's Institute**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7:15pm. AGM, member's competition is "a commemorative item from any coronation". Visitors welcome £4.
- Thursday 4** **Female Hormone Deficiency Group**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7pm-8:30pm. Third Thursday of every month.
- Friday 5** **Sedgefield and District U3A**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 2pm. Ian Anderson, "The National Garden Scheme". Visitors £3.
- Saturday 6** **King's Coronation Celebration Evening**, hosted by Sedgefield in Bloom, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7pm-11:30pm. A night of music and dance. Ticket (£12.50) including pie and peas, with a raffle and a royal quiz. Bring along your own drinks and dress to impress. Tickets from Sedgefield Town Council.
- Sunday 7** **Sedgefield Farmers Market**, Village Green, 8:30am to 12:30pm. See page 3 for more information.
- Monday 8** **King's Coronation Community Celebration Day**, Ceddesfeld Hall & Grounds, 11am-5:30pm. A packed musical programme, refreshments by local café Aubergine, and lots of activities for families. Doors open at 10:45am.
- King's Coronation Special Commemorative Service**, St. Edmund's Church, 10am-10:40am. Sedgefield Area Churches Together celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.
- Wednesday 10** **Mayor's Murder Mystery Night**, A Backful of Bullets, in conjunction with Sedgefield Players, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7:45pm. See poster below for details.
- Thursday 11** **Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch**, Ceddesfeld Hall, 7:30pm. Why not come along and have a look at out range of safety and security equipment, and have a chat about your issues.
- Saturday 13** **Vox Populi**, free concert with North East local ensemble, St. Edmund's Church, 7:30pm. Refreshments and retiring collection after.
- Tuesday 16** **Sedgefield Memory Café**, Sedgefield Methodist Hall, 10:30am -12pm. For those living with dementia and their carers.
- Ferryhill, Sedgefield and District Flower Club**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7:30pm. May-Ann Simpson demonstrates "Two's company". Competition with a royal theme "An arrangement in a china cup". Members - no charge, non-members £5.
- Friday 19** **Ferryhill, Sedgefield and District Flower Club**, coffee morning. Coffee/tea with scone/cake £2. All welcome.
- Saturday 20** **Sedgefield Rock and Blues Club**, Full House plays Frankie Miller, Sedgefield Parish Hall, doors 7pm, tickets from sedgefieldblues.com
- Friday 26** **Sedgefield Village Veterans**, coffee morning, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am.



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Thursday 10:00 to 18:00

Friday 13:00 to 19:00

Saturday 9:30 to 12:30

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Craft Group, 2nd and 4th Friday of the month from 1:30pm. Places need booking at the library.

Book Circle, 3rd Friday of the month from 2pm.

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Sedgefield Baby & Toddler Group

Methodist Church every Monday from 9:30am to 11am.

Sedgefield Social Club

Singer every fortnight, Saturday 6 and Saturday 20.

Sedgefield Lyric Singers

Community choir Ceddesfeld Hall, 7:30-9pm. Join us for a sing, then some light refreshment afterwards, in the bar. Fridays, term time only. In April: Friday 14, 21 and 28

Making Tracks

Railway Society Club Night every Wednesday evening from 7:30pm to 10pm in the Kell Room at Ceddesfeld Hall. New members welcome, under 13s to be accompanied by an adult.