

SEDGEFIELD NEWS

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

November 2022 Edition

Deadline for December - Tuesday 15 November

Keep on rolling

The evenings are drawing in again, and whilst it's not quite like enjoying a ride in glorious sunshine there's no reason to stop riding into autumn and beyond! Indeed, a ride around our lovely countryside on a cool sunny morning, enjoying the changing colours of the trees and the fresh autumn air can be a great way to get some exercise at your own pace and even get some jobs done as you go. There are a few things you can do to make the changing conditions a bit more comfortable though:

- **Fit mudguards.** You will be amazed at the difference they make to staying warm and dry. There are lots of different types available and there will be one to suit your bike, from full length fixed ones to clip on guards for bikes without fittings for full guards. Drop us a line at BAT for advice.
- **Get lights.** Even if you don't intend to ride as it gets dark, having a red light at the back and a white one in front can help you be seen when the sun is low. I always have them fitted on my bike so I can turn them on as conditions require. Remember to keep them charged or carry some extra batteries.
- **Carry spares.** A spare inner tube and the tools to change it can save you a long walk. I try to keep a bit of cash with me too in case I need a taxi! You might also want to carry a lightweight waterproof jacket in case you get caught in a shower.
- **Get a luggage rack and panniers.** If you want to carry some shopping home it is so much easier to carry the weight on the bike than in a backpack or carrier bag. I have twin panniers and a saddlebag that can carry lots of shopping or my things for work. Put a couple of bin bags in them that you can roll things up in if you need to keep them dry.
- **Change your clothes.** You can get cycle specific waterproofs and thermal cycle clothing if you want, but otherwise wearing several layers can let you regulate your temperature easily. I always carry gloves because my fingers get cold easily!

With a bit of planning and preparation, cycling into autumn and winter can be comfortable and fun, so don't be in a hurry to pack your bike away just yet! Please contact BAT via the Facebook page [Sedgfield Bicycle and Active Travel Project](#) or our email – cycling@sedgfielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk if you need any advice or if you have any other ideas for making autumn and winter cycling easier! Happy riding!

Mark Darling



Ken's fabulous photos

Two new striking photographs which have been highly praised by supporters of the town's church will feature in this year's packs of Christmas cards produced by the Friends of St Edmund's charity.

They are the work of experienced photographer Ken Wilson and will be sold with four of the best-selling cards in recent years to help maintain the fabric of the ancient building.

Two copies of each of the six cards are included which cost £8 per pack including envelopes. Alternatively, customers can 'pick and mix' for the same price.

Ken, a keen photographer for over 50 years who rates Hardwick Park as his favourite spot for pursuing his special interests in landscape and wildlife photography, said that he was 'very honoured' to have his pictures used in both the Friends' calendar and the Christmas card packs.



New for 2022



New for 2022



The cards are now on sale and can be obtained from Friends' membership secretary Brian Mutch on 01740 622302, via b.mutch@btconnect.com or at 6 Hasledon Grove, Sedgfield.

Cards and calendars are available at 'From Loft to Loved' in Sedgfield. For local people with mobility or health problems, Brian and his wife, Christine, will deliver cards and calendars to homes by appointment.



Brought to you by volunteers of Sedgfield Development Trust
www.sedgfieldweb.co.uk

cycling@sedgfielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk
Sedgfield Bicycle and Active Travel Group

Black History Month

As part of our commitment to the personal development of the students at Sedgefield Community College, we have set up a 'Diversity Calendar' of events that will take place throughout the academic year, in order to ensure that our curriculum is inclusive of people of different backgrounds, cultures and identities.



The first event in our diversity calendar is Black History Month, which is recognised nationally every October. Every year group received an assembly about Black History and why there is a need for Black History Month. We also welcomed Marsha Garrett (who is a researcher, public speaker and historian on the creation of race and racism) back into school to run workshops for our Year 8s about Black History, the creation of race and racism. Marsha shared her expertise with warmth and humour and we look forward to continuing our work with her in the future.

Sports galore!

What a week of sporting achievement it has been at Sedgefield Hardwick! Pupils have taken part in both a cross country event and a football league. This year's sport began with the school football teams competing against other schools in the area. The teams were made up from a mix of boys and girls across Years 4, 5 and 6 and both teams participated with great ambition and determination to finish as high as they could. After four weeks of intense competition, our A team achieved a silver medal while not losing or conceding a goal-what an incredible effort! Our B team were hot on their heels and finished with a bronze medal.



In the cross country, pupils showed great resilience and perseverance to achieve some fantastic results. A gold and bronze medal were secured in the Year 5 and 6 boys race. This was followed up by Year 5 and 6 girls achieving a bronze medal as well as finishing fourth. In the younger age group of Year 3 and 4, the boys won a silver medal. These fantastic finishes mean both our Year 5 and 6 teams as well as our Year 3 and 4 boys have qualified for the county finals later in the academic year.



"I am really proud of all of our school teams and what they have achieved this week!" commented Xander, a member of our football team.

Ripple effect



Creative drama workshops took place for Year 4 & 5 pupils to launch the school year.

This gave them excellent teamwork building skills opportunities, through music and acting skills. Pupils developed science skills by learning about the water cycle through the Ripple Effect Workshops sponsored by Northumbrian Water.



The environment and water conservation were also a key feature to the creative day, supporting our PHSCE (Personal, Health, Social and Citizenship Education) curriculum.



All pupils thoroughly enjoyed his creative way of learning and took lifelong learning water conservation messages home to parents.



SEDGEFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST PROJECT NEWS



Co-op Local
Community Fund



We are delighted to announce that Sedgefield Development Trust has been chosen to be the next Co-op Local Community Fund cause, any funds raised will be used to benefit the Woodland & Wildlife Project.

Co-op customers with a member's card can choose to support the project from 23 October 2022, so the money you spend in store can contribute to giving nature a space in Sedgefield, which the community can enjoy.

With the funding we hope to purchase signage for the site, and we also have plans to create new areas of habitats, to encourage more wildlife onto the already abundant site.

We'd be very grateful if you would consider signing up to support the project either as a new or existing Co-op member. Many Thanks!

If you would like to know more or volunteer with us, please contact Melissa – woodland@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk or join our Facebook page - Woodland & Wildlife – Sedgefield.

Friendly Fixers



The first Friendly Fixers repair cafe got off to a good start with electrical, sharpening and stitching fixes.

Our next session is on Saturday 5 November, 10:30am to 12:30pm at Fishburn Youth and Community Centre.

Follow us on Facebook for all things fixing [Friendly Fixers – Repair Cafe!](#)



Homework Help

Homework Help is up and running; both 1:1 sessions and a trial of drop-in sessions 4.30 pm to 5.30 pm on Thursdays in Sedgefield Library.



Do contact us if you'd like any help with homework/schoolwork, or if you can offer any. We'll do what we can and will ask around for other expertise if we can't already cover your topic.

Speaking of which - we are still on the lookout for help with A-Level Economics and Sociology, so please get in touch if you could help with either of those. Thanks!

homework@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Sew Easy

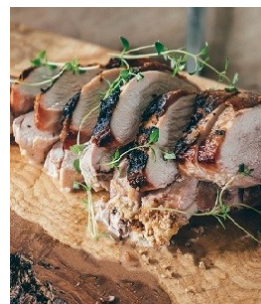
Places are now available in Monday night and Wednesday afternoon sewing groups.

For more information contact Dorothy Anderson on 07773 286743.



November Farmers Market
Sunday 6 November
On the Village Green
8:30 - 12:30

We expect a busy scene on the Green again, with lots of fabulous produce to choose from. All our producers are building up their stock for winter and the festive season. Talking of Christmas...



... Festive Turkeys by Dryden Farms The usual tasting at the November market is not possible this year, but you can still order one of their superb Kelly Bronze turkeys. Call Judith Dryden on 0191 526 3287 or 07747 150415.

If you need to warm up at some point, maybe after queueing for Mellanby's winter veg, there's coffee, tea and hot chocolate at The Coffee Den, run by Denise and Tony Hill.

Did you know that a free stall is available each month to charities or community groups? You can apply to attend by sending an email to charitystall@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk with your credentials.

This month we have Durham Fostering Service, where there is a shortage of foster parents at the moment. They will be there to promote their service and to answer questions.



Don't ditch it, fix it!

Friendly Fixers is a Repair Café where you can bring your broken, damaged or torn household or personal items for advice or repair – all completely free of charge.

Anyone can pop in, even just for a cuppa and a slice of cake. Repairs are free but donations are encouraged if possible to help with the running costs of Friendly Fixers.

- Electrical Appliances
- Electronic Gadgets
- Furniture
- Toys
- Ceramics
- Jewellery
- Clothing & Textiles
- Bicycles
- Clocks
- Garden Equipment
- Tool sharpening and much more!

First Saturday of the month from 10.30am - 12.30pm
FISHBURN YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE
TS21 4ED
All welcome!

Can you help? Get in touch!
For more information email us at: repaircafe@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Brought to you by volunteers of Sedgefield Development Trust
www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk

Days In Days Out (DIDO)

Remembrance with local singer Lily.

Monday November 14
1:30pm to 3:30pm at
Sedgefield Parish Hall.

For more details call
01740 629574 or
07597 116847.



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

Bees at Hardwick

The Bees at Hardwick have been super busy and we are delighted to be able to attend the Farmer's Market this November.

We will be selling our jars of honey in 227g sizes. We will also have some extra wax products which include candles and wax blocks which can be used for furniture polish or can be melted down for wax wraps, lip balms or even just as pretty gifts. We look forward to seeing you there.



Happy Anniversary

u3a
40th Anniversary



The u3a movement has been learning, staying active and having fun for 40 years and Sedgefield celebrated that anniversary by showing what Photography, Book, Creative Writing, Wine Appreciation and Bridge groups have achieved. Theatre Group visits and the pop-up Craft Group displays were also on show.

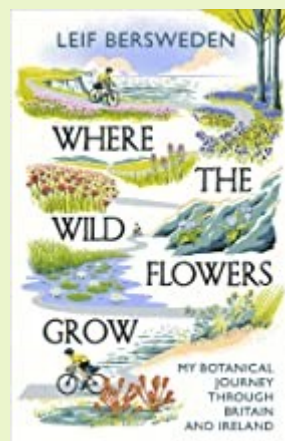


At our October meeting we were visited by Dr Pete Edwards, a physicist and astronomer from Durham University. He gave us an update on the newest developments in space exploration. We were all fascinated by his presentation on the new James Webb Telescope. We also learnt that one of the businesses at NETPark has played an important part in the design and manufacture of a critical part of the technical, infra-red cameras. Our next Speaker, on 4th November, is a Professor of Archaeology at Durham University; he will be bringing us up to date on what has now been discovered from the artefacts and relics uncovered at the recent excavations in our East Park. It seems that, almost 2000 years ago, Sedgefield may have been an important industrial and support station to troops moving to and from Scotland. We welcome visitors to all our meetings and look forward to meeting some more of you soon.



STEVE'S NATURE DIARY NOVEMBER 2022

I write this the day after going to a very entertaining talk entitled "Where the Wildflowers Grow – My Botanical Journey through Britain and Ireland" by Leif Bersweden. Over the course of a year, Leif goes on a journey around the UK and Ireland, highlighting the unique plants that grow there, their history and the threats that face them. His journey takes him from the Cornish coast to the pine forests of Scotland – even to the streets of London, proving that nature can be found in the most unexpected places. After the talk there were lots of questions from the audience and one of them was about what people can do to help the plight of plants and Leif replied with "tell other people how wonderful they are". So here I am telling you a little bit about what wonderful plants you might find in November.



This time of year is a good time to concentrate on a group of plants called the bryophytes. They are a group of plants that include mosses, liverworts and hornworts. Currently there are 1098 species of bryophyte in Britain and Ireland. Like the 'higher' plants (flowering plants and ferns) the majority of bryophytes make their own food via photosynthesis and because they contain chlorophyll, the majority are green. However, bryophytes are different to higher plants because they lack proper roots and proper leaves, so are generally quite small. They can be found in several habitats but particularly like mild and damp conditions. Often in lawns, on walls, in woodlands or other damp habitats. They have interesting names like Springy turf-moss, Wall Screw-moss, Mouse-tail moss and Forked veilwort. They can be difficult to identify but have a look at britishbryologicalsociety.org.uk/learning/some-common-bryophytes/ to help you.

Another question that was asked was about the threats that flora (and fauna) are facing at the moment and Leif explained about how during his travels he heard how some plants had disappeared from sites for a number of reasons including habitat destruction and climate change. The Wildlife Trust is particularly concerned at the moment because the UK Government has announced that they will be: "Removing important laws that protect nature, help to provide clean water and reduce pollution (through the Retained EU Law); Introducing a new planning and infrastructure bill, as well as investment zones as part of the growth plan, which will weaken protections for wildlife; Considering scrapping plans to reward farmers for managing land in a nature and climate friendly way; Lifting the ban on fracking in England, despite there being no evidence that proves fracking is safe." They have started a campaign #DefendNature – you can find more details at wildlifetrusts.org.

Sylvia

You spun your web across my door,
Knock knock, "hello" I ain't seen you before.

My new friend, eight legged and pretty cool,
Incy wincy spider, as we used to sing at school.

Your web covered in morning dew, when I leave the house,
You sleep in the corner, quiet as a mouse.

I wonder what's on the menu, for today,
After all you are a spider, looking for prey.

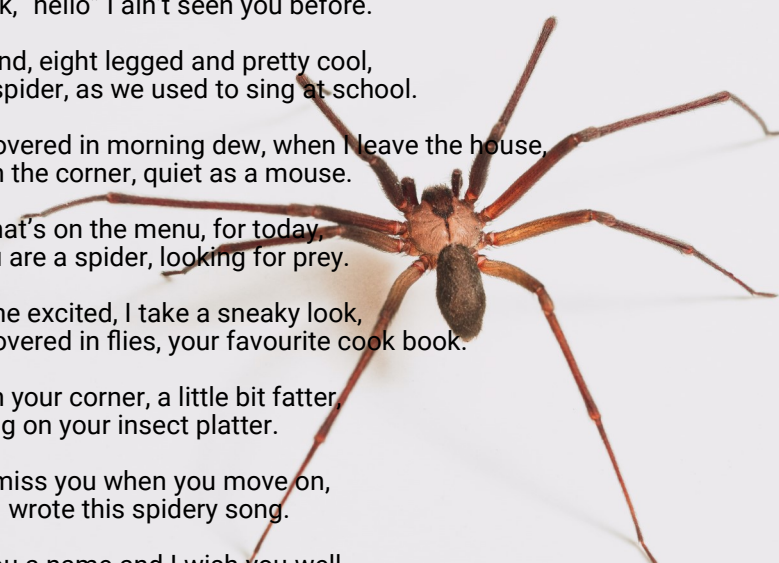
Getting home excited, I take a sneaky look,
Your web covered in flies, your favourite cook book.

You sleep in your corner, a little bit fatter,
After gorging on your insect platter.

I will really miss you when you move on,
That's why I wrote this spidery song.

I've given you a name and I wish you well,
So now I'll bid you a fond farewell.
Sylvia.

Richard Fearnside, 2022



SEDGEFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

ARE YOU OK?

“ Together we need to make it clear that we find all forms of harassment unacceptable and take a stand against it “.

John Hayward-Cripps, CEO, National Neighbourhood Watch.

We are calling on all adults to stand up against street harassment. There are many ways we can all do this safely and together we can make a difference. If you see someone experience street harassment, ask them if they are OK. This lets them know that you stand by them and that street harassment is never OK. We can all do this small but powerful act. For more information, check out the National NHW website and follow the “Are you OK” links.



AUTUMN AND WINTER CRIME PREVENTION

As last month's Crime stats for Sedgefield indicated, a dwelling house burglary in the village is a rare event. That doesn't mean we can be complacent regarding security measures in and around the home as darker nights loom. Always keep doors and windows locked, even when you're at home. Remove keys from locks and keep them out of view or reach. Install a PIR LED light to ensure your garden and entrances are well lit. Come to one of our meetings and pick up a Neighbourhood Watch window sticker, which has been proven to deter would be criminals.

ENERGY REBATE AND PARCEL DELIVERY SCAMS

We are still receiving reports from residents who are finding messages on their devices claiming to offer energy rebates. Energy rebates will be paid to your bank or your supplier direct. You do not need to apply for them.

Another popular scam at the moment is a message from a parcel delivery company, which you may have previously used, claiming that they have tried to deliver a parcel and follow the links to arrange another delivery date. As usual, the advice is to take five minutes to think before doing anything. If you know it's a scam, report it.

I recently accompanied PCSO Amy Jorgeson on a walkabout in the village and we identified an area which was being targeted by youth harassment. Although several homes had been affected, only a couple of residents had reported it was taking place. Amy quickly investigated the issue, the culprit was identified and police action taken. A good reminder that if the police, Local Council, Housing Authority or Neighbourhood Watch are informed about incidents, action will be taken.

A quick reminder that our Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm in Ceddesfeld Hall and we still have a vacant position on our committee. Everyone is welcome, and it's free!

Remember to keep those reports going in to the Police on 101 or 999 in an emergency. Whether it's harassment, anti social behaviour, dangerous or inconsiderate driving or parking, or any issue which may be causing you distress. If it happens every day, report it every day. You can always report a crime issue to Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Popular quiz and supper to aid church preservation

Quiz-lovers are being advised to sharpen their pencils and start revising for one of the most popular events organised by the Friends of St Edmund's Church in Sedgefield- the annual Quiz Night and Pie and Pea Supper at Ceddesfeld Hall.

This year's quiz, the first since the pandemic, will be held on Saturday, November 19, from 7.30pm. Tickets cost £10 and include supper. A vegetarian option is available on request.



Flashback: all smiles from the winners of the most recent pre-Covid quiz night

Tickets are available from Alison Hodgson (01740 620912), Brian Mutch (01740 622302) or from Tickety Boo in the village.

“The quiz night is always very popular and helps us to raise much-needed funds for preservation work on the fabric at St Edmund's”, said Alison.



Northumbria in Bloom



On Wednesday 28 September 2022, a small group of representatives from both Sedgefield Town Council and Sedgefield in Bloom Volunteers attended the Northumbria in Bloom Awards ceremony at the Lancasterian Suite in “The Fed” at Gateshead.

In a very full programme, it was a pleasure to see so many diverse groups, from school children to pensioners, who give their time freely for the enhancement of their areas, giving pleasure to so many people.

Sedgefield did very well, winning gold and best entry overall in the Small Town category. We had also entered Ceddesfeld Hall & Gardens, The Dun Cow Inn and Sedgefield Cricket Club in the “Specials” categories and they also won gold, silver gilt and silver, respectively – an excellent result for all involved.

Entering Northumbria in Bloom, not only involves much time and effort on the part of the Sedgefield Town Council gardening staff and the Sedgefield in Bloom volunteers, but also relies heavily on the support of all of our residents, business owners and other volunteer groups to achieve these results and on behalf of all concerned I would like to offer my sincere thanks for this ongoing support.

Alice Hobson
Chair, Sedgefield in Bloom

Sedgefield in Bloom Christmas Tree collection



Just to let you know that Sedgefield in Bloom volunteers are planning to do the Christmas Tree Collection again in January 2023 – more details will be in the December Issue of the Sedgefield News.

SYC SEDGEFIELD YOUTH CLUB

...are proud to bring you...

BREAKFAST WITH Santa

AS PART OF Sedgefield Snow Party

Saturday 17th December 2022
Sedgefield Parish Hall
9:30-11:30am

£12.50 per child

Includes: a personalised invitation from Santa, Christmas cookie decorating on the day, group storytime & singalong, a gift bag and a 1:1 Santa experience. Breakfast includes a child's portion English breakfast (egg, bacon, sausage, hash brown, beans and toast) or Pancakes with a choice of sauces.

£7.50 per adult

Includes: an adult's portion English breakfast (eggs, bacon, sausage, hash brown, beans and toast) or Pancakes with a choice of sauces (bacon can be added for an additional £2). Tea / coffee/ orange juice.

Limited spaces available!

Tickets available now from sedgefieldyouthclub2022@outlook.com or at Sedgefield Youth Club sessions. Tickets must be paid in full on the date of purchase.

All profits go directly to Sedgefield Youth Club

ARTS UPDATE with Geoff Millichap

email: sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com

Sedgefield Players' Festival

September saw the first Sedgefield Festival of One Act Plays for three years, and what a week it was. A full audience saw seven plays over four nights. Unfortunately one of the groups had to pull out at the last minute. Groups from Saltburn, Durham, Washington, and Nunthorpe, as well as two plays from the 'Players and one from the SPYS, treated everyone to melodrama, cowboys, singing, house mice and lockdown. Adjudicated by Bev Clark from the Guild of Drama Adjudicators, Sedgefield Players came out on top for their modern twist on an old play, 'Try It Again'. Tom Guest also won Best Director for this play and festival newcomers Gill Hook and Ste Edgoose-Clubley were awarded Best Actress and Best Actor for their parts in the play. Other Sedgefield winners were Sarah Legender for Best Supporting Actress and Kelsey White for Best Under 21 in 'Lady of the Sea'. Lucy Atkinson also won Best New Writing for 'Lady of the Sea', and 'Survive the Night' performed by the SPYS. SPYS were also awarded the Endeavour Award for bringing their video game play to life. However, there is no rest for the



Players and they have immediately gone into pantomime rehearsals (oh yes we have). This year the group is performing 'Sleeping Beauty', written by Tom Guest. With modern music, fairies, chase scenes, boeing and hissing, this will be something for everyone. In the Parish Hall on 27 December at 2pm & 7pm and 28, 29 & 30 December at 7pm. Tickets available from Tickety Boo and www.sedgefieldplayers.co.uk. Further details coming soon. Sedgefield Players

Local Events, November

The Pitmen Poets Ride Again, Barnard Castle

The Witham hosts the "final, never to be repeated, one and only, LAST farewell tour" you have been warned!
4 November 7:30pm
thewitham.org.uk/event/the-pitmen-poets-ride-again/

Shildon Brick Show 2022, Shildon

Locomotion hosts LEGO exhibitions, challenges, activities & trade stalls.
5 & 6 November 10:00-16:00
locomotion.org.uk/whats-on/shildon-brick-show-2022

The Tenant of Wildfell Hall, Barnard Castle



The Castle Players present Anne Brontë's provocative second novel at the Witham, Barnard Castle
11 & 12 November, various times
thewitham.org.uk/event/castle-players-the-tenant-of-wildfell-hall/

Fontaines D.C., Stockton



Rowdy sounds from the all-conquering Dublin 5-piece at Stockton's Globe on 15 November. Doors 7pm.
stocktonglobe.co.uk/shows/fontaines-dc

Toddler Tales and Trails - There's a Monster in your Book, Sedgefield

90 minutes of outdoor craft, storytelling & exploring Hardwick Park for 2-5 year olds. Ticket price includes admission for one adult.
November 16 & 19 10am & 1pm
durham.gov.uk/hardwickevents

Seasonal fun in Sedgefield & beyond

Each year there are more and earlier festive events and performances at the run-in to Christmas. Already this month we have singing, ballet, panto, plenty of Charles Dickens and even a visit from the big man himself:

Odd Socks' *Snow White* at Spennymoor Settlement's Everyman Theatre is a traditional panto with the usual songs & laughs. Fun frolics for the whole family from 1-3 December. ticketsource.co.uk/settlementeveryman

Darlington Hippodrome hosts *Fairytale of New York*, billed as 'the ultimate feel good Irish-inspired Christmas show' - songs to get you in the festive spirit and rather less reverential than a traditional carolling service.
darlingtonhippodrome.co.uk/whats-on/Fairytale-of-New-York

Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* appears more than once in our seasonal schedule....

Durham's Gala Cinema will be showing Mark Gatiss' *A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story* on 27 November & 1 December. Written by & starring Gatiss alongside Nicholas Farrell in a new take on an old tale.
galadurham.co.uk/galapost/a-christmas-carol-a-ghost-story

Olivier Award winner Guy Masterson single-handedly tackles every role in Nick Hennegan's *Christmas Carol* at Darlington Hippodrome on November 22 & 23 in a production that won rave reviews when it debuted in 2017. Masterson specialises in one-man shows and his performance has been hailed as 'spellbinding'.
darlingtonhippodrome.co.uk/whats-on/A-Christmas-Carol

Darlington's Chris Foote Wood has become a regular fixture at Edinburgh Festival with his one-man show recreating characters from Dickens, and he performs at The Witham, Barnard Castle for one night only Friday 2 December in a fundraiser for the venue.
thewitham.org.uk/event/the-genius-of-charles-dickens

Crown Ballet brings *The Nutcracker* on it's annual winter tour, arriving at Middlesbrough Theatre on 25 November.
middlesbroughtheatre.co.uk/event/the-nutcracker

Last, but certainly not least, Father Christmas himself will be visiting Hardwick Park on 3, 4, 10 & 11 December, giving out gifts from inside the yurt. Book now to avoid disappointment.
durham.gov.uk/hardwickevents

DIARY & EVENTS

Please send information to diary.sedgefieldnews@gmail.com

November 2022

- Tuesday 1** **Open Mic Night**, Mordon Village Hall, 7:30pm, entry £3
- Friday 4** **Sedgefield and District U3A**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 2pm. Dr. David Mason, Chief Archaeologist with Durham County Council, will talk about the excavations in East Park and the Romans in Sedgefield. Visitors welcome, £3.
- Saturday 5** **Friendly Fixers**, Fishburn Youth & Community Centre, 10:30-12:30. See Page 3 for more information.
- Sunday 6** **Sedgefield Farmers Market**, Village Green, 8:30am-12:30pm.
- Monday 7** **Sedgefield Local History Society**, Ceddesfeld Hall at 7:45pm. "The Road to Rockcliffe" by Chris Lloyd. Please contact Suzanne Hopper for details, 01429 882250.
- Wednesday 2** **Sedgefield WI**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7:15pm. Kathryn Ridsdale will demonstrate craft. Visitors welcome (£4).
- Wednesday 9** **Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch**, Ceddesfeld Hall, 7:30pm.
- Friday 11** **Remembrance Service**, St. Luke's Church, Winterton.
- Sunday 13** **Remembrance Service**, St. Edmund's Church and War Memorial.
- Monday 14** **DIDO**, Remembrance with local singer Lily, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 1:30pm-3:30pm, 01740 629574, 07597116847
- Tuesday 15** **Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7:30pm. "Christmas flower demonstration" by Susan Maddox. All welcome, £5 for members, £8 for non-members. Information from Sandra 07533 752870.
- Thursday 17** **Citizens Advice**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am-1pm.
Sedgefield Memory Café, Sedgefield Fire Station, 10:30am-12pm. For those living with dementia and their carers.
- Friday 18** **Mayor's Charity Night**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7:30pm until 11pm. The Moondogs, cash bar, raffle and games. Tickets £12.
Sedgefield WI, coffee morning, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am until 11:30am. Homemade cakes, tombola, raffle and books.
- Saturday 19** **The Friends of St. Edmund's**, Quiz Time, Ceddesfeld Hall, 7:30pm. Tickets £10 to include piece and peas supper (vegetarian option available on request). Tickets from Alice (01740 620912), Brian (01740 622302) or from Tickety Boo.
Sedgefield Blues Club, Corky Laing Plays Mountain + Brave Rival, Sedgefield Parish Hall. Tickets from www.sedgefieldblues.com.
- Thursday 24** **Sedgefield Show Planning Committee**, Sedgefield Social Club, 7:30pm. Annual General Meeting.
Sedgefield Town Council Christmas Coach Trip to York. Coach leaves Sedgefield Parish Hall at 9am. Tickets £13.50 from Town Council Offices (01740 6121273).
- Friday 25** **Sedgefield Village Veterans**, coffee morning, Sedgefield Parish Hall, from 10am
- Saturday 26** **Snow Party**, Sedgefield Parish Hall. Santa, and craft sale in Ceddesfeld Hall. Carols in St. Edmund's Church followed by Christmas light switch on.
Singer Lily Ho, Mordon Village Hall, 7:30pm, entry £7.50.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 1 December - Sedgefield Area Churches Together Carol Service in St. Edmund's Church.

Coming soon

Cosy Coffee (and Tea). Sedgefield Area Churches Together will invite you to join them on Mondays from 1pm to 3pm, at the Methodist Church. Meet your friends or make new ones. Watch this space/email sedgefieldact@gmail.com.

SEDFIELD LIBRARY

Tel: 0300 026 9521

The library is back to normal opening hours:

Wednesday 9:30 to 12:30

Thursday 10:00 to 18:00

Friday 13:00 to 19:00

Saturday 9:30 to 12:30

Little Movers every Thursday from 10am, places need booking at the library.

Craft Group, 2nd and 4th Friday of the month from 1:30pm.

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

Lego Needed

Sedgefield Library is starting a Lego drop-in group but needs more Lego! If you have any spare or unwanted Lego please donate at the library.

Sedgefield Baby & Toddler Group

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

Female Hormone Deficiency Support Group

Sedgefield Social Club every Thursday from 7:00-8:30pm

Sedgefield Social Club

Singer every Saturday night

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 November:

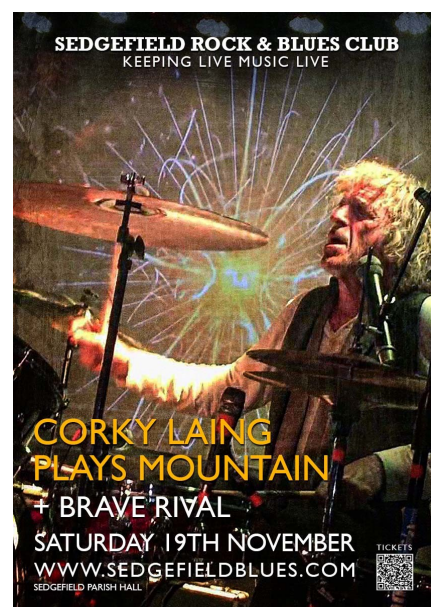
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CEDDSFELD HALL

Sedgefield Community Association

October has been another busy month at Ceddesfeld Hall, with concerts, quizzes, dinners, the STC fireworks display and private birthday parties. The hobby/interest groups have returned and new groups such as the model railway enthusiasts, are also becoming established. Following such quiet times during the pandemic, it's good to see the place being well used again by the community. The bar and lounge are also increasingly busy. Bar prices remain very competitive, and a warm (heating on) welcome is extended to everyone. There is a dedicated group of regular volunteers, but more are always welcome, especially to cover the bar at weekend events.

SCA is pleased to welcome Tom McConville and Michael Biggins to Ceddesfeld Hall on Saturday 3rd December. Tom has recently moved to Sedgefield, and he is keen to perform in his new hometown. He is an award-winning fiddle player and singer, who is internationally renowned for his fiery, heart stopping performances. Tom won the BBC Folk Musician of the Year in 2009. Blending traditional music from his hometown of Newcastle, with Irish American and Scottish influences, he creates a sound that has jazz, folk, bluegrass, and classical influence. His live performances are a roller coaster of musical delights; fast rhythmic dance tunes through beautiful slow airs and of course singing – all represented with his inimitable sense of humour and style. Tom has recorded alongside Stephane Grappelle, Barbara Dickson, Lindisfarne, Richard Thompson and many others on well over a hundred albums. Seth Lakeman and Kate Rusby count him as a huge influence. He is performing with Michael Biggins. Michael is an alumni of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and was crowned the BBC Young Traditional Musician of the Year 2021. Michael is a multi-instrumentalist originally from Newcastle-upon-Tyne but now residing in Glasgow. He currently plays and tours with TRIP, The Canny Band, Tom McConville, Northern Company and Irish Celtic – Spirit of Ireland Dance Show. It's going to be a fantastic evening! To reserve a seat for the concert please phone Sarah on 01740 622185 or entry can be paid for on the door (if there is space), on the evening. Prices are: £12 adult, concessions £10 and children £6. Numbers are limited to 70. The bar will be open.



Save the date

Mulled Wine following the 'Carols on the Green', Friday 16 December, 7pm.

Christmas Kanika Pila with Sedgefield Smile Time Ukulele Band, Friday 16 December, 7pm.

Christmas Eve Quiz – Saturday 24 December, 8pm.

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](https://www.facebook.com/Ceddesfeld).



Mayor's Corner



I am almost at the halfway point of my year as Mayor already and I have been present at a wide variety of events. The sad passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II provided me with the rare opportunity and great privilege of reading 'The Proclamation' in the Church Service at St. Edmund's and 'The Statement' a week later at the War Memorial, a tremendous honour. We sympathise with all of the Royal Family in their loss and would like to wish King Charles III all the very best as he begins his reign. On a happier note, there have been a number of coffee mornings to attend, in various venues and for many different groups. We have also had the opportunity of visiting some iconic sites and of enjoying guided tours, such as at Ryhope Pumping Station and Shildon's Locomotion Museum, which included a short ride on a replica of Stephenson's 'Rocket'.

Julie and I were thrilled to be asked to present the winners' trophies at the Sedgefield Players' Drama Festival of One Act Plays, a group I have belonged to as Treasurer (and pantomime villain) for a good many years.



Mayor Dave Jasper with Lucy Atkinson, winner of Best New Writing Award

The Twinning Association's 40th birthday party in Ceddesfeld Hall gave us the chance to meet some old friends and a new group of people informally, thanks to Alda and Phil's very kind invitation. Good wishes to them both as they begin to rekindle the group.

Sedgefield ran out with 5 certificates at the Northumbria in Bloom Awards held at The Fed in Dunston, including gold for Best Small Town and gold for Ceddesfeld Hall's Grounds. Other awards were won for The Dun Cow (silver-gilt), Cricket Club (silver) and The Hive (outstanding). Congratulations to all!

David Jasper

Tom McConville
&
Michael Biggins

One of Britain's finest fiddle players, and BBC Folk Musician of the Year, Tom McConville, with BBC Radio Scotland's Young Traditional Musician of the Year, Michael Biggins.

Ceddesfeld Hall,
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SPORTS UPDATE

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This month's update includes some of the regular news from clubs and individuals in and around Sedgefield. In addition, I was pleased to receive some details of the latest activities at Sedgefield 75, the well-established and successful swimming club that is based at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. I was also delighted to read that John Moore remains at the heart of the club's success. John is a prime example of those passionate volunteers who keep grass roots sport going, providing the opportunities to participate and compete to generation after generation.

Swimming

The 2022/23 swimming season kicked off for Sedgefield 75 swimming club with a trip to Billingham Swimming Club for an annual autumn gala. The young swimmers involved had resumed training in the second half of August, so were ready to test their progress since their last local competition in early July. The eight Sedgefield swimmers amassed 29 personal bests from 39 swims collectively, and everyone had something to shout about.



Aviana Wilson (who is from Sedgefield) set three PBs out of three and placed very highly in 50m and 100m freestyle, and 50m backstroke races. Ellis Dickinson took nearly six seconds off his 100m freestyle best and hit another new best in the 50m backstroke.

Charlotte Lee was on top form and achieved four PBs, including an excellent five second improvement in 200m breaststroke, where she placed fourth.

Charlie McEwan swam four races close to his best times, and earned a bronze medal in the 50m

freestyle with a time of 27:06 seconds.

Emma Price returned home unbeaten with six gold medals out of six, with PBs in all of them, which included very good backstroke times over all three distances. Emma also picked up three more club records in the 50m breaststroke, butterfly and backstroke.

Ruby Hancock also went 100% on PBs, swimming all freestyle with a mighty ten seconds improvement over 200m and close to four seconds off her 100m best time. Evie Weston took on eight events and hit seven PBs, with top ten finishes in all her races.

Jessica Bell also had a busy weekend with six scheduled events, beating her PB in four of them and winning bronze in the 100m butterfly and 100m breaststroke. She also finished fifth in the 200m individual medley, gaining her a place in the skins competition for 12 years and under, despite being just 11. Skins competitions are quickfire knockout events of 50m races, with the stroke being drawn at random. Jessica progressed through the first backstroke round and picked up a cash prize for her efforts.

Chief Coach John Moore was delighted with the quality of swimming from everyone, and also the team spirit on show as every swimmer was totally invested in everyone else's swims as well as their own.

To find out more about Sedgefield 75 swimming club visit sedgefield75.com.

Athletics

Three members of Sedgefield Harriers (of which I know) travelled south at the start of October to tackle the London Marathon. They all put in great performances. Steve Foreman finished in 3:40:45 and Andy Featherstone completed the race in 4:06:56. Tracy Foreman was Sedgefield's sole lady at the event and crossed the line in 5:02:59.

However, the standout marathon performance of the day by a Sedgefield Harrier was further north in Chester, where David Bentley set a new club record in a fantastic time of 2:36:19 (finishing 11th overall in the Chester Marathon). David shaved five minutes off the previous club best, which was set by Gary Hetherington. As many in Sedgefield will know, Gary was one of the best club runners in the North East for many years, before Sedgefield Harriers existed. After the club was founded and Gary became a member, he set the club record at the age of 50, but his personal marathon PB is 2:27. Back to the present and David has been making brilliant progress in recent years. He had been targeting 2:40, so to get down to 2:36 was hugely impressive. I look forward to reporting on him lowering the club record even more in the future.

Also running in Chester was Harrier Lisa Darby. Lisa had qualified to wear an England Athletics age group vest, which was a very significant achievement. Her race in Chester didn't go quite as she hoped, but her time of 3:31:39 was nevertheless very impressive.

Cycling

Sedgefield has a new national champion! Ben Hetherington rounded off his first year back in competition after his serious injury three years ago, by claiming the Paracyclist National Championship title at the RTTC National Closed Circuit Championship. In a time trial race at Thruxton Circuit in Hampshire, Ben covered the 11.7 miles in 27 minutes and 20 seconds to secure his win. Congratulations to Ben and I look forward to reporting on more success in the future.



Rugby Union

Sedgefield & District Rugby Club has made a promising start to the season in the restructured Durham & Northumberland Counties Division 2. After six fixtures, the first team sat in fifth place after victories against Gateshead, Redcar and Seaham, as well as claiming bonus points in losses against North Shields and Winlaton.

The Sedgefield Saxons have had an intermittent start in the Tees Valley Social League, with matches affected by player availability. The highlight has been a high scoring victory against Middlesbrough.

Cricket

Sedgefield Cricket Club's AGM will take place in the clubhouse on Monday 7 November starting at 7:00pm. All will be welcome.

Last month's celebratory report on the 2022 season was - for reasons of space (honest!) - missing the fact that Sedgefield CC's 4th XI (a.k.a. The Winkers) successfully repeated their league and cup double in the North East Social League. Played midweek and containing teams with a mixture of current, former and the odd never-should-have-been-a player, Sedgefield enjoyed another impressive season. Arguably more impressive was the total they accumulated in fines for on-field misdemeanours and comedy moments! Congratulations to all involved.

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