

SEDGEFIELD NEWS

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

April 2020

Deadline for next edition: Wednesday 15th April

Co-operation in action



Growers and planting volunteers on site



County Durham
Community Foundation

What a lovely day we had at the end of February! Families from Sedgefield Hardwick Primary, Sedgefield Primary and staff representing the Next Steps department of Darlington College came together to plant 30 oak saplings which they had grown from acorns for the project.

The recent storms had blown a large amount of litter onto the site, but the children weren't daunted and got stuck into clearing it with equipment kindly provided by Durham County Council. They collected a hefty 8 bags of rubbish.

A break in the windy weather allowed us to enjoy some refreshments which were bought from Discover Brightwater funding and the Co-op generously gave us some goodies to mark the end of Fairtrade fortnight. A big thank you to all who supported the tree planting event and made the morning so positive. If you'd like to know more about the Woodland & Wildlife project, email woodland@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk or search on Facebook for 'Woodland and Wildlife - Sedgfield'.

Sedgfield Round Up *Are you signed up to the weekly Round Up email?
Here are some snippets from the March 20th edition.*

COVID-19 UPDATE

These are difficult times for a lot of people in our community. As the COVID-19/coronavirus outbreak escalates and ever more restrictive measures take effect, we are all feeling the impact...

My plan is to maintain the weekly frequency of the Round Up emails, unless there is an urgent need to share information, in which case I will send out additional messages. In the meantime, the Sedgfield News team is doing a great job of posting the latest news relating to COVID-19 on Facebook.

The Round Up has always been a simple platform for sharing information about events and news in Sedgfield... Keep sharing the good things...

Let's look after ourselves, look after each other, and together help everyone in Sedgfield get through the challenges ahead.

To contact me, email sedgefieldlines@aol.com or call 07971 868329.

Staying Open

The news media, of which we are a tiny part, is usually the last thing to shut down in a crisis, so this edition reflects the month - March 2020 - in which it all began; a mixture of events as usual on the one hand, and the impact of Covid-19 on the other.

Some pages are full of articles - we deliberately kept some happy news on the front page, but the diary is full of cancellations and empty of events. It is likely that our next edition will contain fewer pages.

URGENT NOTICES.

Our inbox has been filled with these but some readers may still be unaware of building closures.

Sedgfield Town Council has had to close the Parish Hall and cancel all room bookings. The Town Council office is closed to the public.

However, they are still operating by phone (01740 621 273) and email. If you wish to pay an invoice or purchase dog bags, you can call on weekdays between 9am - 12 noon.

Citizens Advice Bureau has cancelled all outreach sessions but you can still ask their advice on their Adviceline - 0300 330 9027.

Sedgfield Community Association has had to close Ceddesfeld Hall and take some other disappointing decisions. Details are on page 11.

Public Worship is not permitted -- until further notice. Details are on p5, but at the time of writing the churches may be open at certain times for private prayer.

From the Police

Chief Superintendent Chris Curtis, the officer in charge of Durham Constabulary's response to the outbreak, says that police will continue to be there when needed, despite the impact of Covid-19.

Chief Superintendent Chris Curtis said: "Durham Constabulary has taken all necessary steps to ensure we can continue to protect the public and uphold the service that keeps the public safe every day. I understand that people are worried because these are Continued on p 5

Ah, those happy days when we could run around carefree! Sedgefield Ball Game 2020: and the winner is...



... Paul Johnson, seen here with his prize - and his son, Ollie.
Congratulations Paul! Thanks to Chris Lines for the photo

Sedgefield News from the past

by Martin F Peagam, The Time Traveller, for Sedgefield Local History Society.

In April 1827 – 193 years ago

Notices appeared in the Durham Advertiser confirming the dates of the Hirings. Hiring fairs were regular events where labourers were hired for fixed terms and continued well into the 20th century, up to the Second World War in some places. Both male and female agricultural servants would gather in order to bargain with prospective employers and, hopefully, secure a position for the coming year. The yearly hiring included board and lodging for single employees for the whole year with wages being paid at the end of the year.

SEDGEFIELD HIRINGS.
A HIRING for SERVANTS will be held at SEDGEFIELD, on FRIDAY, the 4th and 11th days of May, 1827; and will continue on the TWO FRIDAYS preceding the 13th May and 23d November in each year.

In April 1831 – 189 years ago

The Durham Advertiser carried a notice of a property auction to be held at The Hardwick Arms on 3 May 1831.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,
At the Hardwick Inn, in Sedgefield, in the county of Durham, on Tuesday, 3d day of May, 1831, at two o'clock in the afternoon,
A FREEHOLD MEADOW CLOSE, situate in the township of Sedgefield aforesaid, containing by estimation Four Acres, in the occupation of Oswald Meggison, who will shew the premises.
For further particulars apply to Mr ORD, Solicitor, Sedgefield.

GREENER SEDGEFIELD

Carbon emissions come from almost all parts of our lives, the vehicles we use, the energy to our homes, the food we eat and the clothes we wear. Even an email counts. The World Economic Forum said recently that if each Briton sent one less email a day, Britain could cut its carbon output by 16,433 tonnes pa; that's the same as 81000 flights from London to Madrid.

Food production: in particular, meat and dairy are some of the biggest contributors to global emissions. The latest scientific research has calculated that a quarter of all worldwide emissions come from food, of which around half comes from animal products.

Of course there is a big difference between intensive farming and the grass fed cattle that we see farmed in this and some other countries. Going vegetarian or vegan isn't for everyone but reducing your meat and dairy intake by adopting a flexitarian approach will inevitably reduce your carbon footprint. Buying local free range meats will also mean you're buying food that has not only made less carbon emissions before it reaches your table, but also has not travelled far to get to you in the first place. Perhaps plan meals around what's in season too.

Deforestation: a large factor in global warming. Forest cover helps remove carbon from our atmosphere and provide us with oxygen not forgetting the habitat it gives to wildlife. Do you have room for more greenery in your garden? Perhaps you could help plant trees as part of a scheme such as with the local Woodland and Wildlife group.

Distance travelled: how far away were your purchases produced? The further they need to go the more it costs the environment. The clothing industry uses huge amounts of energy, with the majority of goods being imported. Avoiding 'fast fashion', getting real wear out of items and passing them on will help. Before buying any product, think about where the seller is based? Where was the item made? Are they selling something that could be bought closer to home?

By implementing small changes we can make an immediate impact. Why not test your household's footprint visit www.footprint.world.org.uk.

For ideas and chat on greener and eco friendly living visit Greener Sedgefield on Facebook.



Can you find our missing footpaths?

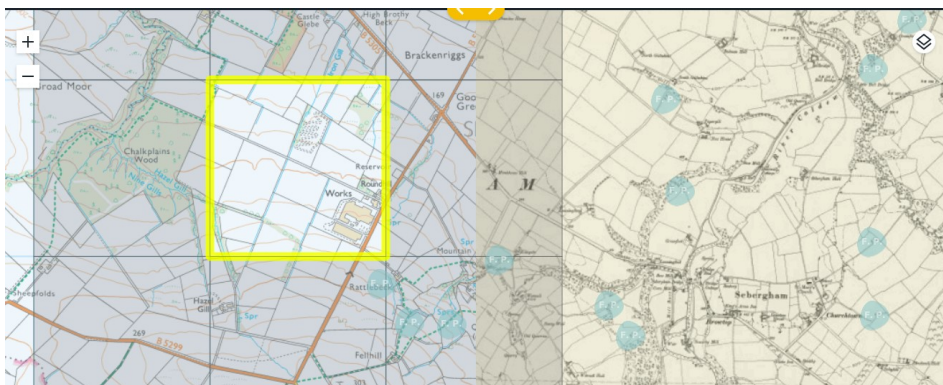
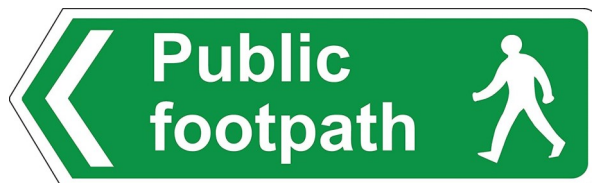
We are fortunate to have many lovely footpaths on our doorsteps but many more could be missing from the official maps.

In the 1950s local councils were required to draw up maps of all paths in England and Wales, but over 10,000 miles of historic footpaths are thought to be missing and could be lost forever.

All rights of way must be identified before a government deadline of 2026, after which it will no longer be possible to add old paths to the official record. Some of the paths are still in use but many have become overgrown.

The Ramblers walking group (ramblers.org.uk) is urging people to use its mapping site (ramblers.org.uk/dontloseyourway) to help identify the missing footpaths. The website divides the Ordnance Survey map into 1km squares so users can compare historic and current maps side by side, spot any differences, and submit missing paths.

Once mapped, Ramblers will recruit volunteers to make applications to restore paths to local authorities before the deadline.

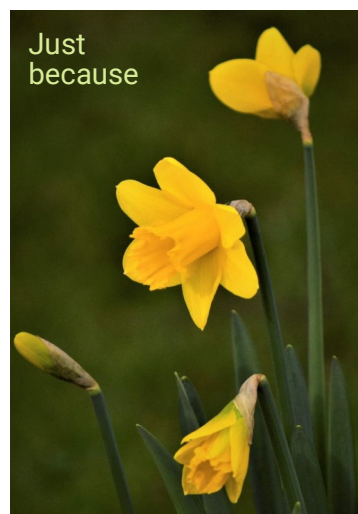


Hardwick Primary School Governors impressed

At a recent meeting the Hardwick School Governors learnt all about the articles that appear in Sedgefield News from the school.

"A team of journalists have been selected who write and edit articles to appear in the monthly editions of Sedgefield News. The children decide on the topic of their article each month, working together to draft and refine their writing before sending it to the Editor. Feedback from the Editor regarding this new column has been very positive, with claims that the school's contributions have been well received. The children enjoy seeing their work in a professional publication and understand they have an influence upon their community."

The Governors were impressed as they had thought the articles were written by the staff. Well done to the young journalists, whose latest copy follows. Ed



Fantastic World Book Day

Last month, it was World Book Day! At Sedgefield Hardwick, we had the whole school dressed up as our favourite book characters. Our school theme was Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl.

We tried to stop Boggis, Bunce and Bean from capturing Mr Fox. The evil farmers (played by Mr Steel, Mr Close and Mr Taylor) were vicious and mean. They kept squirting us with their water pistols in class assembly! Luckily, we came up with a plan - alongside Mr and Mrs Fox - to teach those pesky farmers a lesson! Throughout the day, we conducted secret food raids through tunnels under their storehouse. Before we went home, we tricked them into having a VIP banquet, where they ended up wearing more than they ate!

'I really loved the foxes causing mayhem through the day! My favourite bit was when the farmers got covered in the food!' exclaimed Jessie, a pupil in KS1, who was dressed up as Harry Potter from her favourite book *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*.

As well as being very popular with the children, the parents had a lot of positive things to say. One comment on Facebook read: ***'No wonder our girls absolutely love school... thank you for making it such a lot of fun!'***

We are already thinking about what the theme for next year's World Book Day could be. We would love to hear if you had any suggestions!



Pre-Raphaelite Knights at the Bowes Museum

1848 saw the founding of the Pre Raphaelite brotherhood. What would prove a short lived movement nonetheless left behind an influential and very popular body of work, characterised by a return to bright colours, by an emphasis on the natural world & by romantic, mythological and legendary subject matter.

Now a selection of work by figures including Dante Gabriel Rossetti, John Everett Millais & Sir Edward Coley Burne-Jones is being exhibited at the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle.

The PRB was originally a secret society founded by, among others, Millais, Rossetti & William Holman Hunt, as a reaction to what they saw as the artificiality of prevailing artistic thought. They sought to emphasise truth and realism, and a love of nature, where much of the art scene had grown stale, fixated upon stylising and elevating its subjects at the expense of honesty & relevance. Their preoccupation with English literature, often Keats, Shakespeare or Tennyson, and the pastoral settings for their work made for a distinctly English style, vivid & dreamlike, which remains popular today.

After having initially encountered scepticism & hostility from critics at the Royal Academy exhibition of 1849, the PRB won over such contemporary luminaries as John Ruskin & William Morris, both of whom played a big role in publicising & popularising their work. They also influenced other artists to be guided by their principles.

By 1853 the order had disbanded but several artists such as Edward Coley Burne-Jones & John William Waterhouse were drawn to the PRB's approach. Several of the images considered PRB masterpieces, such as Waterhouse's *Lady of Shallott* (1888), were actually produced decades later.

Over time the PRB aesthetic has been in and out of fashion but has sunk deep roots in popular taste, adorning countless publications about classical myths, Arthurian legend, or English literature. So much so that Millais' *Ophelia* is the best-selling postcard at Tate Britain & often considered Britain's favourite painting, with Millais himself held to be the most talented British painter of the century.

Millais' *The Knight Errant* (1870) is here, on loan from the Tate, alongside works by Rossetti, William Holman Hunt, William Morris, Ford Madox Brown and several others. The delicate fine brush work & lush, bright palettes that typify PRB paintings have guaranteed that it is a style which has endured and remained accessible for 170 years. They are beautifully presented in a dedicated space at Bowes museum until the 3rd of May.

Editor's note

This page was written before the events of the 3rd week in March, when public spaces such as the Bowes Museum were closed. Although we can't share in Geoff's good fortune in visiting the exhibition, we hope that readers will appreciate his interesting commentary as well as those beautiful pictures.

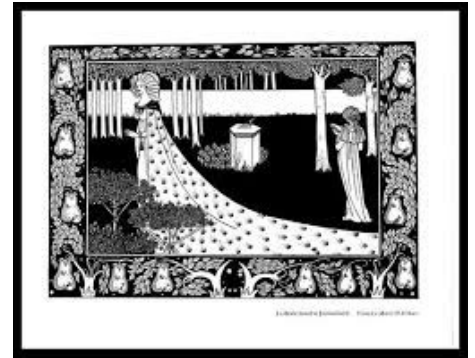
And so, we welcome our new arts editor and hope that you will send him news of any events which you would like to see covered on this page.



La Belle Dame Sans Merci c.1901. Sir Francis Bernard Dicksee, on loan from Bristol Museum & Art Gallery



Joan of Arc, 1882, Dante Gabriel Rossetti



Scandal & Beauty

Sedgefield's Mark Gatiss has recorded a documentary for BBC4 celebrating the work of the controversial Victorian illustrator Aubrey Beardsley.

Beardsley's career saw him illustrate Thomas Malory's *Morte D'Arthur* & Oscar Wilde's *Salome* before his death due to TB aged just 25. He worked almost exclusively in black ink, influenced by Toulouse-Lautrec & by Japanese Woodcuts. He is currently the subject of a major exhibition at Tate Britain, showcasing his output, which was by turns imaginative, erotic, comic and grotesque, making him a regular target of allegations of obscenity.

Mark Gatiss has obvious passion for this subject, having been a Beardsley fan since his teens. Those who saw his 'History of Horror' series will remember him as a natural presenter with a deep knowledge of the subject and an infectious enthusiasm for the grotesque and macabre. 'Scandal & Beauty: Mark Gatiss on Aubrey Beardsley' will be broadcast 30th March on BBC4, but available on catch up for 28 days.

Kanikapila

with Ceddesfeld Ukulele Band

The band hosted their latest event at Ceddesfeld Hall on 7th March and brought tropical entertainment to chilly Sedgefield.

This was a free night of popular standards arranged for ukulele with audience participation very much encouraged.

It was very well attended with hardly a free seat to be found. The engaging performers brought lots of fun to the occasion & the audience, themselves a sea of colour, decked out in grass skirts & several aloha shirts that were even louder than the music, grew noisier as the night wore on.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening with standout moments being a rousing rendition of Frankie Valli's 'Can't Take My Eyes Off You' and a very enthusiastic 'I Wanna Be Like You' from *The Jungle Book*.

DIARY APRIL 2020

Submit notices & events to diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

Cancellations

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on events for April and beyond. This is a list of **cancelled events** at the time of printing. As the months go on, please feel that you can still use this email to send messages to readers about your group or any plans you have in development.

Aircraft Restoration Group	Open Cockpit Days, Monday 13th April & Sunday 10th May cancelled.
Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club	All meetings until September 2020 have been cancelled.
Scouting Activities	All face to face activities are on hold.
Sedgefield Farmers' Market	Cancelled until further notice
Sedgefield Harriers	Training paused until further notice.
Sedgefield in Bloom	All activities suspended including Northumbria in Bloom spring judging.
Sedgefield Youth FC	Training sessions cancelled for the moment as per FA guidelines



Coronavirus

Isolate your household * Stay at home



If you or anyone in your household has a high temperature or a new and continuous cough, even if it's mild -

- ♦ Everyone in your household must stay at home for 14 days and keep away from others.
- ♦ DO NOT go to your GP or hospital. Go to [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) to check your symptoms and follow the specialist medical advice.
- ♦ Only call NHS 111 if you can't get online or your symptoms worsen.
- ♦ Protect older people and those with existing health conditions by avoiding contact.

Find out how to isolate your household at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

Sedgefield Charities

The Trustees of the Charities invite applications for the post of Clerk.

This is an opportunity to play an important role in delivering the Charities' support to individuals and families in need in Sedgefield and the local villages.

The Clerk is the contact point for Social Workers and other professionals seeking the Charities' assistance for their clients, and also for university students from lower income families applying for grants. The Clerk also acts as secretary for the Trustees' meetings, preparing papers and keeping account of income and expenditure.

Almost all the work can be carried out at home and at times of the post-holder's choosing. The total commitment amounts to a few hours in an average week. This is a voluntary role but the Trustees are willing to negotiate an allowance in recognition of facilities such as telephone, computer and printing which the successful applicant will need to provide.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the retiring Clerk, John Hannon, on 01740 622512 or at east.house@btinternet.com

Application, by CV and any other supporting information, should be sent to John by email (as above) or by post to East House, Mordon, Sedgefield, TS21 2EY by 30th April, 2020.

Message from the Juicy Pear

Over the next few weeks if people have to self isolate and don't have family/friends to help, we will try to deliver to people in Sedgefield.

To order, please call 01740 622911 DURING THE AFTERNOON

Your order will then be delivered late on the following day.

Farmers' Market Traders

Many of the trusted traders who regularly attend Sedgefield Farmers Market are trying to maintain their business and service to customers by setting up a delivery service. We will set up a list of these over the coming weeks, on our website, Facebook page and on page 11.



Sedgefield Library

All libraries in Durham have closed but online services are available using an app called **BorrowBox**. Download the app onto your phone, tablet, or laptop, then use the number on your library card and your surname to register.

The rest is easy; e-books and audio books are there for you to use.

For more details go to www.durham.gov.uk/ebooks.

St. Edmund's Church

We have been advised by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York that, with immediate effect, there will be no services of public worship for the foreseeable future. This means that St. Edmund's will not hold any services until further notice.

Sedgefield Methodist Church

We have been advised by the Methodist Church to suspend all services of worship for the time being in line with Government guidance, and to that end, there will be no services in our Methodist Church until further notice.

Other church meetings have also been cancelled/suspended. We look forward to catching up with everyone again soon.

The Hub

@Sedgefield Community College
Closed until further notice.

continued from p 1

From the Police

undeniably difficult times for everyone and our officers and staff are only human: we can catch a flu just like everyone else.

But as you would expect, we have well-rehearsed plans in place for every eventuality and that means we can make sure that our officers and the vital staff who support them will still be out there doing what they do best: preventing crime, catching criminals and keeping our communities safe.

Virus or no virus, we will always be there when the public need us.

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SEDGEFIELD VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Inconsiderate Drivers

We mentioned last time the problems caused by dangerous and inconsiderate drivers in Sedgefield. This month, due to repeated parking offences, Sedgefield Police would like to warn motorists not to park on the warning lines near the zebra crossing as it's a traffic offence and public safety issue. The fine is £100 and 3 penalty points, and for repeat offenders there will be a summons to court where a judge could impose a stiffer penalty.



ARE YOU EXPERIENCING PROBLEMS WITH INCONSIDERATE PARKING; SPEEDING; LACK OF TRAFFIC CALMING; NO PELICAN CROSSINGS ON BUSY ROADS; ETC? Yes? Then please see the communication below from Durham CC. Here's your chance to get your opinions and concerns over to Durham County Council as part of their 'Road Safety Strategy' Consultation.

DCC consultation on Road Safety Strategy

We want your views on our new Road Safety Strategy. We'd like to know what you think about our proposed approach to this Strategy as we aim to work in partnership to better safeguard road users. Please use the link below to learn more about this consultation including how you can give your views.

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/22773/Consultation-on-road-safety-in-the-county>

The consultation ends at 10.00pm on Sunday 29 March 2020.

Holidays

Hopefully the infamous virus will not stop you enjoying your well-earned break. Whether in this country or abroad have peace of mind that you have done everything you can to keep your property safe while you are away.

Here are some tips on how to deter burglars and make their life difficult:

- Leave a car on the drive. It looks as though you are home.
- Close and lock ALL windows and doors securely.
- Tilt all blinds so that no one can see straight in.
- Lower blinds over patio or French doors.
- Lock your garden gate.
- Fit timers to interior and exterior lights so that lighting times mimic your normal habits.
- Don't advertise the fact that you are going away by telling all your friends and acquaintances. Conversations can easily be overheard.
- Don't mention it on social media. A criminal can piece together information and all they need is the date and address. Better to tell your friends what a good time you had afterwards.
- Tell only a trusted neighbour or relative, and ask them to keep an eye out for unusual activity. Ask them to check daily and push any post or leaflets right through the letterbox.
- Don't order anything that may need to be delivered when you are away and don't tell suppliers you are on holiday.
- Don't write your address on luggage labels, your phone number will do if it is lost.
- Fit security equipment (more on this next month).

Watch Out for Your Neighbour

Residents need to work together and also with the Police to make Sedgefield safe and crime free. Are you willing to keep an eye out in your street?

If you spot suspicious behaviour, contact the Police or Crimestoppers quickly with accurate information. This provides the best chance of successfully apprehending criminals.

Remember, crime isn't as common as you think... but don't be a victim.

Please lock up, stay safe, and sleep well.



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Police Community Cohesion Officer Faye Callan 101 Extension 742317:
Faye.callan@durham.pnn.police.uk
Confidential email address:
John.lamb@durham.pnn.police.uk

COVID-19 Scams

Police are aware that fraudsters are trying to exploit the spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus to facilitate various types of fraud and cyber-crime. Since February 2020, the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) has identified 21 reports of fraud where Coronavirus was mentioned, with victim losses totalling over £800k. Ten of these reports were made by victims that attempted to purchase protective face masks from fraudulent sellers.

Opportunistic scams are expected to rise as the virus continues to spread and have already been received whereby scammers are sending coronavirus themed phishing emails in an attempt to trick people into opening malicious attachments or revealing personal, sensitive, or financial details.

The scammers may claim to be from the World Health Organisation (WHO) or Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in order to make the email seem more legitimate.

Be wary of scam emails, don't reply to the sender, or click on any links or attachments in these emails. Do not follow the instructions in the email.

Other Scams

Following our warning last month of scammers offering you money, the latest version is purporting to be a British Gas overpayment return. Again, it looks very convincing but don't be tempted to respond. Please note that energy companies will automatically revise your future payments to correct any overpayment or shortfall.

Another scam is warning that your Apple ID is locked and that you must respond with your ID, password and billing details to unlock it. Note that you will never need your billing information to unlock an account.

Virgin Mobile users are also receiving texts asking them to click on a link to enter details required to avoid loss of service. If it is sent from BILL-VIRGIN or an unidentified number then delete such texts immediately. Be aware that anyone called Bill Virgin will not live up to expectations.

You can report any of these scams to Action Fraud either via their website at www.actionfraud.police.uk or via telephone: 0300 123 2040.



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0800 555 111
Call anonymously with information about crime

STEVE'S NATURE DIARY APRIL 2020

Unless you have a keen eye, you may miss some of the spring flowers that will be flowering in April. One of the reasons for this is they are overlooked because they have green flowers. If you look closely in shady places in woodland, especially ancient woodland, and along hedgerow tracks you might find **Town Hall Clock** growing up to 12cm tall and in small patches. The leaves appear in February and March and it flowers in early April. The name Town Hall Clock is a reference to the way that the flowers are arranged. It has four flowers at right angles to each other, much like the clock faces on a tower and a fifth flower on top facing skyward, giving the appearance of a little cube of flowers atop a single stem. An unusual little flower, nothing else looks quite like it. Town Hall Clock has many other common names, including Moschatel five-faced bishop, hollowroot, tuberous crowfoot and muskroot. The latter term refers to the faint musk-like smell of the flowers as evening approaches. Interestingly, this scent disappears when the plant is crushed (other plants that have a smell tend to intensify the scent when bruised). You can find it in several places in Durham including Malton Nature Reserve, a compact, varied and easily accessed site just off the Lanchester railway path, with a good car park and all the facilities of Lanchester down the road - durhamwt.com/reserves/malton-nature-reserve/



More widespread and easier to spot, is **Dog's Mercury**. It flourishes in woodland with a preference for living under oak, beech, ash and elm. Although it's mainly a plant of ancient woods, it can colonise new deciduous woodland very quickly. It favours shady areas and hedgerows. It can be so expansive that it shades woodland floors and crowds out rarer species like Oxlip. Bearing clusters of small, greenish flowers in spring, it flowers from February to April. The spear-shaped, toothed, fresh green leaves on upright stems can persist throughout the year. It produces a foul and rotten smell. Unlike the 'true' mercuries such as Good-King-Henry, Dog's Mercury is highly poisonous and hence became known as 'False Mercury' or 'Dog's Mercury'. Ingestion of this plant can lead to vomiting, jaundice, coma and eventually death. Both plants can be indicators of ancient woodland, areas of woodland that have persisted since 1600 in

England and Wales, and 1750 in Scotland, when maps started to be reasonably accurate. We can tell that these areas have had tree cover for hundreds of years, relatively undisturbed by human development. As a result, they are unique, complex communities of plants, fungi, insects and other microorganisms. Ancient woods are irreplaceable and unique. We can't replace the complex biodiversity, which has accumulated over hundreds of years. Many species thriving in ancient woodland are slow to colonise new areas. The Wildlife Trusts manage woodland nature reserves sympathetically for the benefit of all kinds of wildlife. A mix of coppicing, scrub-cutting, ride maintenance and non-intervention all help woodland wildlife to thrive. You can help too: volunteer for Tees Valley or Durham Wildlife Trust and you could be involved in everything from traditional forest crafts to surveying for woodland plants.

The Ellen Timney Foundation: Hays Travel in Sedgefield help raise over £4000

The money raised goes towards supporting sick and underprivileged children in the North East of England. This can be from supplying specialist medical equipment unavailable on the NHS, right down to the basics such as beds and bedding and clothes including school uniforms. They also supply over 500 Christmas presents every year for local children.

Jane Morgan, Chair of The Ellen Timney Foundation set up the charity in memory of her mam, who lost her battle with cancer. She said, "Once again we are truly grateful of the



Julie Ann Humphrey, left & Jane Morgan

continued support of Julie Ann and Hays Travel, Sedgefield, as we are a small charity supporting local sick and disadvantaged children.

Hays Travel

I'm sure I speak for the whole community in expressing our sadness at the news of closures from Hays Travel. Another blow delivered by Covid19. Editor.

YOUR LETTERS

Volunteers recruited!

Just a quick note to thank you for the Aircraft Restoration Group article in the March edition of Sedgefield News. The response has been great and we have 4 people, so far, very interested in assisting with restoring our vintage aircraft. Thank you again.

Stephen McGuire

Food Appeal

A very big thank you to everyone who supported the Food Appeal for Woodhouse Close Food Bank in Bishop Auckland. There was a great response with a wide variety of goods and toiletries

On behalf of the people you have supported, thank you very much.

Ann Carr

Business success

Firstly, I wanted to thank you for the really great article about us in the March edition. It has resulted in us now working with George Bolam, who called after reading the article! We had a great night at the North East Business Awards dinner. We didn't win but being shortlisted has been a great experience for us all. Thank you, *Andy Smedley, Demeter Water Solutions Ltd*

Beautiful success

Ashleigh Jones, proud owner of Be Pampered, in the heart of Sedgefield, is overwhelmed to have won 'Beauty Salon of the year 2020' in the North East again on Sunday 8th March at the 'English Hair & Beauty Awards' for the second consecutive year.

In the year since the first award, Ashleigh has been able to take on a new therapist and receptionists. Between them she and her staff have a wealth of experience. She says "We want thank every one of our clients for their votes, positive feedback and continual support. Furthermore, I want to thank my wonderful team for all the hard work they have put in. We strive for perfection so that each client leaves invigorated, beautiful and relaxed."



CEDDESFELD HALL SCA

Home of Sedgefield Community Association

It was with much regret and concern that SCA closed Ceddesfeld Hall on 17th March 2020. At this time of global crisis, the top priority of course, is to keep people safe and well and to limit the spread of Coronavirus-Covid19.

SCA are sad that large community events, such as the Easter Picnic, Mediaeval Fayre and the 75th Anniversary VE Day celebrations have had to be cancelled.

We're also concerned for the well-being of regular users, many of whom are quite elderly and who rely on the regular activities at Ceddesfeld, for important social and emotional support and friendship. Long term isolation, especially during a time of unprecedented crisis, is going to be massively challenging for everyone and we know that as much as possible, we must try to help each other and reach out in different ways. Ceddesfeld Hall will re-open as soon as it is safe to do so, and we look forward to that. 2020 is the SCA 50th 'Golden Anniversary', which we hope to celebrate towards the end of the year.

Unfortunately, it is going to be a difficult year for everyone. Let's hope that before too long a time, the community can come together, and life can begin to get back to some normality. Stay safe, keep well and look out for each other.

To keep in touch with SCA, visit our website, www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk or follow us on our Facebook page, [Facebook.com/Ceddesfeld](https://www.facebook.com/Ceddesfeld).

For any further information, please contact Wendy on 01740 620206, Pat on 620607 or Sarah on 622185.



A project of Sedgefield Development Trust

While requests for Homework Help have continued, the library is currently closed and so we cannot meet there for the time being. Some resourceful students and helpers are arranging remote sessions using Skype, WhatsApp, Google Hangouts or similar, but this isn't feasible for everyone. We can offer help via e-mail where that is practical. We will get back to normal operation as soon as that is viable, but meantime, if you'd like to get in touch, find us on Facebook or email us at homework@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk

SEDGEFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST NEWS

Working for the people of Sedgefield, Bradbury, Mordon and Fishburn

Sedgefield Farmers Market: Wild weather & COVID19

Last month the it was the weather that put paid to the regular market, but this month - well, we all know don't we?

We have really struggled with this decision and tried to find a way to continue, but circumstances beyond our control have made the decision inevitable.

SEDGEFIELD FARMERS' MARKET is CANCELLED until it is safe again.

As promised on page 5, here are some contacts for traders who offer delivery or collect service for their produce.

Parlour Made Cheese

Email: carol@parlourmade.co.uk

Broom House Farm Grass Fed Meat

info@broomhousedurham.co.uk

The Gingerbread Mam

ramshawliz@gmail.com

Spices www.diabloseasonings.co.uk

peterpmspices@gmail.com

The Busy Whisk:

rachael.whitehouse@icloud.com

Screaming Chimp Chilli Sauce:

07850459198

niall@screamingchimp.com

Also, number of Sedgefield shops sell Market traders' products.

Parlour Made cheese & butter is in both **The Juicy Pear** and **No 4**.

Rosalind's Larder preserves and Mellanbys winter vegetables are also sold in **The Juicy Pear**.

Needful Things Delicatessen stock their own **Charlie's Country Kitchen** pies and bakes as well as produce from other traders.

More information will be added to the website and here in future.

Meanwhile, for up to date information, please search for the Farmers' market page on Facebook or on twitter, follow [@sedgyfarmmarket](https://twitter.com/sedgyfarmmarket).

farmers@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Spring has sprung on the Woodland & Wildlife patch

We may be unable to gather for our big open days, but if we are careful to work at a distance from one another, we can still look after things. Our reward comes in the shape of sights like this - an early ladybird perched on a cowslip.



Videoconferencing

There are lots of ways to keep in touch or host virtual meetings using the internet. Many companies provide free but limited services. Zoom (zoom.us) allows up to 100 participants but is limited to 40 minute calls. If you are interested but don't have the technical skills please call Paul on 07777 682907 for free advice.

ENERGY SWITCH SPRING 2020: Key dates

We're pleased to say we had another successful auction in February. Now, a quick reminder for people who are already a part of our scheme:

If your existing contract ends between now and the end of July, you need to register again at this next auction to continue.

Registration opens on 31st March & closes on 18th May.

Auction takes place 19th May. Offer letters will be issued from 1st June.

Final Acceptance 31st June 2020

If you are interested in joining the scheme, and feel comfortable online, please go to www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk & click Energy Switch. If you would like help with the process, please call the SDT Energy Switch helpline: **07980 134 594**

CONTACTING SEDGEFIELD NEWS

Our email address is changing to bring it into line with other SDT projects. Please contact us at news@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk

SPORTS UPDATE

After a frenetic start to the sporting year, everything is now grinding to a halt. We're about to find out just how important sport is to the nation (and the economy), as it disappears from the calendar for the time being. On one hand, sport is really unimportant right now, but it matters so much to so many people, providing livelihoods (and I'm not talking about the uber-rich footballers and their like) and entertainment to millions. Not only will the cessation of events have a huge impact on the earning power of many, but it will also deprive countless others of the entertainment that might have made extended time in isolation that little bit more bearable.

Inevitably, the postponements and cancellations have quickly trickled down to grass roots local events. Mass events have been officially put on hold and there are restrictions in place about coaching and training sessions. Keep a close eye on the various websites and social media for the latest information.

And take care of each other.

Rugby Union

Another productive season is drawing to a close for Sedgefield District Rugby Club. After a busy summer, with a number of new recruits attracted to the club, an historic day occurred in November with the club fielding three senior teams for the first time. Additionally, an over 35s team has also represented the club in the new Durham County Vets Cup.

The First XV continue to compete in Division 2 of the Durham & Northumberland League. There have been notable victories against Winlaton Vulcans and local rivals Bishop Auckland so far this season. The team are now looking to secure their place in this division for a fifth successive season.

Meanwhile, the Sedgefield Saxons 2nd XV have been the real beneficiaries of the newly recruited players, taking the Tees Valley Social League by storm with some memorable performances in the spirit of social rugby. They currently sit in second place and are hoping to take the title in the coming weeks. The club is also developing off the field, with plans being put in place for new training facilities in time for next season.



Above, Dan Martin reaches out to score. Below, Kyle Sutcliffe scores to clinch victory for Sedgefield



Athletics

Representatives of Sedgefield Harriers managed to sneak in a couple of races over one weekend before everything in the foreseeable future was cancelled. First was the latest fixture in the winter cross country season. The Harriers compete in the North East Harrier League, which has been badly disrupted this season due to the weather (mainly when car parks were unusable! Bad weather and poor underfoot conditions on a cross country run itself are expected and even relished by some!)

On 14th March, a full team of senior men and Christine Hearmon and Sue Dobson from the senior women's team, headed up to Lambton Estate, a new venue for the league, for a fixture that had been re-arranged from earlier in the season. Although there no lions and no sign of the Lambton Worm, the runners did find a great



Email your reports to chrisjlines@aol.com

Sedgefield parkrun suspended, along with every other parkrun

but it has now been established for eight years, going from strength to strength, introducing new people to running every week.

About four years ago, it was joined by Sedgefield junior parkrun, for runners aged four to 14. It also takes place in Hardwick Park, over a 2km route on Sunday mornings at 9:00am. Like the Saturday event, junior parkrun has been made possible thanks to the many volunteers, who have given up their time to give young people an invaluable opportunity to get active.

Recently, Sedgefield junior parkrun celebrated its 200th event and can boast some great statistics. 2,017 individual runners have completed the Sedgefield event, with an average of 77 each week (and a highest attendance of 161), meaning that 15,333 junior parkruns have been completed in total.

The average run time is 13 minutes and four seconds and in the 200 Sedgefield junior parkruns, a total distance of 30,666km has been run, jogged or walked by young people from the town and surrounding area.

Taking part in Sedgefield junior parkrun is completely free, so when normal life is resumed you will be able to register at www.parkrun.org.uk/register.

We will always need plenty of marshals to put on a safe and well managed run for young people, so volunteers are very welcome too.

Information on the website at www.parkrun.org.uk/sedgefield-juniors.

LATEST: Squash Club Closed

Athletics continued.

course, with a typically challenging hill. The men's team came away with a third place finish on the day in their division of the league.

The day after the cross country, 19 Harriers took on the Thirsk 10 Mile Road Race. This popular early season road event attracted almost 1,000 runners and there were some very good performances from the Sedgefield athletes. Paul Weir was the first Harrier home in a time of 62 minutes and 58 seconds, followed by Chris Lines (66:53) and then, in an excellent run on his first race back after some time, Gary Austin (67:08). First Sedgefield lady was Emma Featherstone in 77:04, followed by Nicky Blackett (85:24) and Christine Hearmon (92:24).

That's all for now. Do keep in touch and send any sports news to chrisjlines@aol.com.