

# SEDGEFIELD NEWS

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

April 2025

Submission deadline for the next edition: Monday 14 April

## Rob Adcock wins 2025 Ball Game



At 1pm on Shrove Tuesday, the Sedgefield Ball Game tradition was kept alive as David Adcock started the game by passing the ball through the bull ring in the centre of the village.

As always, hundreds of people took to the streets with the usual scrums running and kicking. Congratulations to this year's winner, Rob Adcock, pictured above.



Thank you to Stephen Curry for the Ball Game photographs.

You can see larger versions on the Sedgefield News website at [sedgefieldweb.co.uk](http://sedgefieldweb.co.uk).

## Pancakes, POTUS fundraising and guest appearance by ball!

Our Canadian Rector of the Parish of the Upper Skerne, Reverend David Lucas was in the Parish Hall at St Edmund's Pancake Coffee Morning when "miraculously" the ball arrived in the Fletcher Room.

We cannot confirm that the ball was blessed in any way, however it was another first for Reverend David since his arrival in June 2024! Is this the first time a Canadian has had their hands on the Ball Game ball, or the first time held by a priest?



Many thanks to all involved with cooking, waiting or running the raffle at the fundraiser. It raised £253 for church funds, half the total going to the Parish of the Upper Skerne (POTUS) anniversary activities to be held later this year.



The Pancake Fundraiser is an annual event, so please put it in your diaries for next year - Shrove Tuesday, 17 February 2026. It usually starts and ends before the mayhem!



## SCHOOL NEWS

### Swap Shop at Sedgefield Community College

We would like to use this month's article to make all of our school families aware of the 'Sedgefield Swap Shop'. Our 'Swap Shop' is very well stocked with many items of brand new or like new school uniform. All items of school uniform, including shoes, are available to ensure all of our students are able to wear their school uniform with pride.

We know that many of our students feel passionately about the environment and are keen to do everything that they can to avoid waste and encourage recycling. Using the 'Swap Shop' is a great way of putting this desire to be environmentally friendly into practice. Making use of clothing from the shop avoids unnecessary waste with pre-used uniform that is still in good condition being thrown away.

For any of our families who would like to make use of the 'Swap Shop', please contact your child's Year Manager and they will be able to make the necessary arrangements for this to happen. Equally, if you do have any existing uniform that is no longer being used and you would like to donate this, please send washed items into school that can be dropped off at our main office.

In the future, we're keen to promote further use of the 'Swap Shop' to make sure we're doing our bit to avoid unnecessary waste. Do look out for school events where it will be possible to drop in and browse the uniform items available.

### Helping Elphaba

Sedgefield Hardwick Primary Academy was transformed into the world of Oz recently as we celebrated World Book Day! The children gathered together in their costumes to help the characters from Wicked and The Wizard of Oz prove Elphaba's innocence and the Wizard's wickedness! A fantastic range of costumes were on display, including the Teletubbies, Ghostbusters, Gangster Granny and Willy Wonka himself!

The morning began with an assembly, where Glinda, Dorothy, Tin-man, Lion and Scarecrow explained to the children that the Wizard had cruelly made everyone in Oz believe that Elphaba was evil, calling her the Wicked Witch of the West! However, there was a letter the Wizard was guarding which proved that Elphaba was innocent! Over the course of the day, each class had to sneak into the Wizard's office to retrieve a fragment of the letter. The Wizard and his henchmen kept pulling children out to interrogate them, but the children didn't give away the mission!



At the end of the day, the children gathered in assembly again, Glinda collected the letter fragments together and cast a spell on them to repair the letter, exonerating Elphaba and proving the Wizard's Wickedness! The final act was to give the Wizard a taste of his own medicine, sliming him in his own cauldron!

A fantastic day was had by all, and we already can't wait for World Book Day 2026!



### Family Groups at Sedgefield Primary



At Sedgefield Primary School we have something that we believe is special and a very important part of our school life. Our Family Groups are well established and are intrinsic to the ethos of our school. Each Family Group is named after a jungle animal and each group aim to collect as many points as they can each week. Family Groups meet every other Friday afternoon and are a mixture of Reception -Year 6 classes.



The groups complete activities based on various personal development themes. All of the children enjoy meeting up with their friends, siblings and family members in the mixed year group classes. The older children particularly enjoy supporting the younger children and this ethos continues throughout school life. At Sedgefield Primary we hold traditional values of care and support paramount for all pupils to achieve their true potential both in terms of character and academia. We see ourselves as an extended family unit, who learn together for life.



## SEDGEFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST *PROJECT NEWS*



**Sunday 6 April**  
**on the Village Green**  
**8:30am - 12:15pm**

This popular market hosts around 20 stall holders each month, varying throughout the seasons. Providing locally sourced and produced breads, beverages, fresh fish, meats and vegetables, handmade pies, pastries and cakes, spices and condiments, cheeses and much more. Come along and pay us a visit. There's sure to be something to whet your appetite.

We are delighted to announce that Sedgefield Handbell Ringers will be present and performing at the next Farmers Market on 6 April. The group meet regularly on Wednesdays on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th weeks of the month, and on a Thursday on the first week of the month, at Ceddesfeld Hall.

Many thanks to Lynne Dentith who has been a huge contributor to the Market team over the past few years. Wishing Lynne well for her new adventures and a big welcome to Laura Batten from the Balefire team who will be our Market Manager on alternate months. We're still seeking a Market Administrator to manage the general running and communication with stall holders and volunteers. If you are interested, or would like to know more, please email us at [farmers@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk](mailto:farmers@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk).

## BUSINESS UPDATE

### Back of Beyond Books

Local author, published poet and playwright, Lucy Atkinson has opened an independent bookshop in Sedgefield. Known to many in Sedgefield through being a part of the Sedgefield Players, Lucy has recently completed a PhD in Creative Writing at Durham University. As part of the PhD she wrote a novel about the Newcastle witch trials that will eventually be for sale in the shop.

Back of Beyond Books is located in what was the Lost Robot on Church Street. There is a curated range of books, including children's and North East writers. Browsers will be able to have coffee and cake, sit and watch the world go by. As well as books, there are tote bags, cards, pins, D&D dice for sale and buyers will be given a bookmark and a loyalty card. There is also a second hand section and also a book library where you can swap books in return for bringing one in, and a "Blind Date with a book". Please come along and support this new and wonderful addition to Sedgefield.

Opening hours are Tuesday - Saturday 10am till 5pm and Sunday 12 till 4pm.

### Did you use one of our Thermal Cameras this winter? If so....



Could the loans work better? Did you learn much from the survey of your property? Have you actually made, or at least planned, some changes as a result?



Thanks to everyone who has used the scheme this year, and please, if you were happy with it, spread the word to friends and neighbours. Also, if you would like to be involved in running the project, we would love to talk to you. This is how the Development Trust increases the range of projects we can run. Write to [news@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk](mailto:news@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk) or contact the project at [thermal@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk](mailto:thermal@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk).

### Sew Easy

Sew Easy runs on Monday evenings on alternate weeks starting 10 March and there are spaces available.

If you are interested, please contact Dorothy on 07773 286743.

## Durham Bird Club are 50



On Sunday 11 May, Durham Bird Club are holding an event to celebrate their 50th year. The Club has a bird hide at Castle Lake, near Bishop Middleham, and given the range of birds which can be on seen, this is the perfect venue for our celebration. Castle Lake Conservation Group, which seeks to protect the long-term future of the lake, have also arranged multiple events on the day in Bishop Middleham Village Hall.



Castle Lake near Bishop Middleham

Castle Lake is very special, with nearly 200 bird species being recorded, including many scarce species, making it one of the best places for birdlife in the county. The site is botanically important too, particularly for its rich calcareous grassland habitat. In addition, the site also contains the earthworks of Bishop Middleham Castle, the principal seat of the former Prince Bishops of Durham leading to DigVentures recently carrying out archaeological excavations.

Events for the day include:

- An early morning 'Dawn Chorus' walk
- Experts on hand at the hide for you to see the Lake's birds
- Guided Walks (depending on numbers) to see birdlife, botany, landscape and archaeology on the site
- Conservation organisations in the Village Hall.
- Presentations and talks on Durham's birds, Castle Lake birdlife, the Great Fen conservation project, and the archaeological history of the site.

Everyone is welcome to join us on this celebratory day. For more information, timings and event updates head to [durhambirdclub.org.uk/dbc-at-50](http://durhambirdclub.org.uk/dbc-at-50).

We hope to see you there!

Durham Bird Club and Castle Lake Conservation Group



Lucy Atkinson in front of the shop

## U3A UPDATE

u3a

While sorting through some archive materials for Middlesbrough Museums, Lynn Lampert, this month's Speaker, had come across a fragment of red military uniform which she was eventually able to trace to a young man who had enlisted into the Welsh Fusiliers; a 16 year old Shropshire lad who took the Queens Shilling in 1840 and, leaving his job as carpet weaver's apprentice, was sent off to wage war in India. In Cardiff Castle Military Museum, Lynn then found the diary he had kept from joining up until his return to Britain 20 years later. Lynn's attention to detail is exemplary and she was also able to uncover many contemporary drawings, paintings and lithographs to illustrate the young man's stories of his military journey through India, Burma, Afghanistan and Pakistan. He had married a young girl with whom he had 10 children and who accompanied him on his travels. Injuring his leg in battle he was eventually sent home and spent several years on military policing duties in Wales and Ireland, before retiring to take over his grandfather's property business. In her work to discover the link with the North East, Lynn found that four of his grandchildren came up to the Middlesbrough area to work and assumes that on his death many of his artefacts and mementoes were shared among his family and thereafter were donated to a local museum. During a chat with one of his current descendants, Lynn found something extraordinary. One of her Great Uncles, her Grandad's brother, had been married to one of the soldier's granddaughters! Although she has no memory of that family, perhaps it explains her need to follow through and spend so much time and effort on investigating the Weaver who went to War. . .

Our Lunch Group visited the Green Tree in Tudhoe village for lunch this month. Another great venue and more delicious food! We are hoping to make a return visit later in the summer when Keith Simpson has invited us to walk the Village Green and visit some of the fascinating buildings he told us about during his visit in January.



## STEVE'S NATURE DIARY APRIL 2025

As I write this spring is in the air, the blue tits are checking out the bird box, I have seen my first frog spawn and heard my first Chiffchaff. So, what will be next?

I have not seen many insects on the wing yet but the anticipation of seeing them is exciting. Whether it is the first butterfly, bumble bee or hoverfly they all have a place in the natural world. The Wildlife Trusts and Royal Horticultural Society are calling on gardeners to help save hoverflies. This fly family is the second most significant pollinator after bees - some species of hoverfly are known to visit more flowers than bees. At first glance they can look like bees or wasps, with yellow and black bands but if you look closely, you will see that they only have one pair of wings (a characteristic of a fly rather than two pairs found on wasps and bees). They also don't sting so you can enjoy watching them hover as they visit flowers without fear. It can be easier to identify them by their behaviour than their looks, because they hover or even zigzag around plants. Hoverflies are masters of disguise, and the different types go by various common names such as Batman, Footballer and Marmalade, thanks to their distinctive markings and colours.

These insects are unsung heroes of many of our ecosystems. Hoverflies visit 52% of crops globally which they either pollinate or protect by eating sap-sucking aphids. Additionally, they pollinate wildflowers, are food for birds and even help break down organic matter in gardens. Yet, intensive agriculture, harmful pesticides, urban development and climate change have all taken their toll. Hoverfly distribution has seen a 44% decline between 1980 to 2020 and in 2022 the International Union for the Conservation of Nature added hoverflies to its Red List of threatened species.

Experts from the two charities have designed a series of projects for gardeners to help hoverflies in spaces large or small. These include:

- Pollinator plant boxes: Ideal for small-space gardens or balconies, these can be jam-packed with flowering plants to suit the season, representing a giant buffet for visiting hoverflies.
- Hoverfly lagoons: These are pools of shallow water where fallen leaves create a perfect breeding ground for many of the hoverfly species which have aquatic larvae.
- Larvae nurseries: Log piles and even shrubs can make perfect homes for hoverfly larvae.

You can download your booklet which helps you to identify which hoverflies are visiting your garden and to find out more about how you can help save this species, visit [wildaboutgardens.org.uk](http://wildaboutgardens.org.uk).



The Photography Group reviewed wide angle photography and different picture formats this month. Come along to Ceddesfeld Hall on the second Friday morning of each month if you are interested. If you are perhaps thinking about buying a new camera, you might like to come along and have an informal chat with members of our group. They'd love to share their knowledge!

Our Monday afternoons, Bridge sessions continue and we have a committed and enthusiastic group who enjoy learning all the conventions. Tuesday evenings are for the more able player; do come along.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 4 April in the Parish Hall from 2-4pm when Bob Pullen will be telling us about The Brain and Behaviour. If you are retired or semi-retired, you are very welcome to join us. We look forward to meeting you then.

Chris Balfour

**WOODLAND & WILDLIFE**  
A Project of Sedgefield Development Trust

**Free Public Talk**

by  
**Dr Fred Milton**

A Tiny Piece in the Jigsaw:

What Skerne Wood@NETPark's Birds Tell Us About Marginal Sites.

**Tuesday 1st April**

**7.30pm**

**Sedgefield Parish Hall**  
(The Fletcher Room)

Tea/Coffee will be available (donation jar)

[woodland@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk](mailto:woodland@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk)



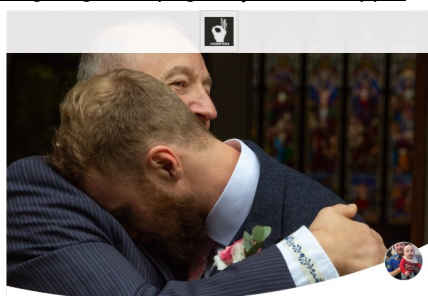
## LETTERS

### Andy's Man Club

I'm reaching out to ask for your support in raising awareness and funds for Andy's Man Club, a charity dedicated to providing peer-to-peer support for men struggling with depression.

Tragically, last year, my dad took his own life. In his memory, and to help others facing similar struggles, I will be undertaking a 61 mile walk along the Northumberland coast, carrying 61 lbs, from Cresswell to Berwick-upon-Tweed. The challenge will take place from 6 April to 9 April, ending on what would have been his 61st birthday.

I have set up a JustGiving page to support this cause:  
[justgiving.com/page/myles-mantripp-3](https://justgiving.com/page/myles-mantripp-3).



#### Myles's fundraiser for ANDYSMANCLUB

I am raising money in memory of my dad Ian Mantripp who sadly lost his battle with depression in 2024. I will be walking 61 miles carrying 61lbs along the Northumberland coast from Cresswell to Berwick upon Tweed starting on April 6th and ending on April 9th which would have been his 61st birthday. Anything you can spare will be greatly appreciated but



Help us reach our £6,100 target!  
 Make a donation with **JustGiving**

Any support, whether through a donation or simply spreading the word, would mean the world to me.  
 Myles Mantripp

### MAYOR'S CORNER

Photo from the Mayor's Ceilidh held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 1 March with a great band called Blind Panic to raise money for the Mayors Charity.



*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.*

## Anaerobic Digestion Plant proposed for our area

A large-scale industrial waste plant is coming to your doorstep - it is an imminent threat to our community! This huge plant is NOT agricultural scale. Its size makes it far better suited to an industrial development area. If approved, it will process 89,500 tonnes of waste annually, including food waste, animal waste, bloods and syrups, to produce biogas and will operate 24/7.

This application is NOT approved, it will be reconsidered and a decision will be made at Durham County Council Planning Committee Meeting at 10am on Wednesday 2 April 2025 at Durham County Hall, DH1 5UL. We urge you to attend!

We need YOUR voice to help protect our homes, environment, businesses, and way of life. Together, we can preserve the character and integrity of Sedgefield and its surrounding villages for future generations.

### Parish celebrates 20 years

The Parish of the Upper Skerne which extends from Bradbury and Mordon in the South to Deaf Hill and the Trimdons in the North, is this year celebrating twenty years since its formation to incorporate the churches of

St Alban's, Trimdon Grange  
 St Catherine's, Fishburn  
 St Edmund's, Sedgefield  
 St Mary Magdalene's, Trimdon Village  
 St Michael's, Bishop Middleham

A wide ranging and varied series of events are planned across the Parish starting at Easter when the children from all the Primary Schools will be decorating eggs for display between 1pm and 3pm in their local churches on 19, 20 and 21 April.

On 11 May there is a Choral Evensong in St Michael's. Followed by a talk on Sunday 25 May at St Alban's Church in Trimdon Grange on the Lindisfarne Gospels by Michele Brown, the acknowledged expert on the subject, when a facsimile of the Gospels will be available to view.

Later in the year will be a Parish Eucharist on 15 June at St Edmund's Sedgefield celebrating the twenty year anniversary.

Later still are concerts by the Lyric Singers, Songs of Praise, Murder Mystery Night, a possible visit by Hartlepool Male Voice Choir and much, much more.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT ALL EVENTS. Further information is available from John Burrows on 07870 210269 or [jandeburrows@gmail.com](mailto:jandeburrows@gmail.com). Alternatively visit [upperskerne.org.uk](http://upperskerne.org.uk).

Areas for concern:

- Scale of The Development
- Odour & Air Pollution
- Traffic Congestion & Safety Risks
- Visual Impact
- A company with a history of environmental violations
- Noise & Nuisance
- Impact on Public Rights of Way
- Impact on Local Amenities

ACT NOW!

Have your say before it is too late!

Submit your objections by 1 April 2025 using the planning portal at [durham.gov.uk](http://durham.gov.uk) or by email to [planning@durham.gov.uk](mailto:planning@durham.gov.uk).

Use the reference:  
 DM/24/00903/WAS - Proposed Anaerobic Digestion Plant

*Concerned resident, name & address supplied*

*Editor's note: It now looks highly likely, due to the high volume of correspondence, that this item will be postponed until the June Planning Committee. You can check on the County Planning Committee web page.*

### Dear Diary

The Thorpe Thewles History Group (TTHG) are planning to produce and showcase a documentary film based on their recent discovery of a set of diaries written between 1911 and 1913 by the teenage son of a farmer in the village. These diaries present a young man's stories of life in rural south east Durham and beyond in the years leading up to the Great War. TTHG will invite local people of all ages to act, read extracts of the diaries for the camera and to work behind the scenes.

This is one of a number of exciting projects that the group are undertaking with funding from the National Heritage Lottery Fund and the Lambs Hill Wind Farm Community Fund. Other projects include creating a replica of the Thorpe Cross, a drone based survey of Grindon Church and a series of public engagement workshops.



Thorpe Thewles History Group (TTHG) carries out research as well as holding monthly talks. TTHG are always happy to welcome new members. You can find out more on Facebook or get in touch at [tthg@outlook.com](mailto:tthg@outlook.com).



## ARTS UPDATE with Geoff Millichap

[sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com](mailto:sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com)

### Bishop Auckland Music Society Calendar for 2025!

A new season of concerts from BAMS approaches and again, we are excited to bring you young, nationally and internationally recognised artists who will perform a varied program of music over the course of the year. Do remember that children are welcome to attend free of charge and they will have the opportunity to meet the artists.

We anticipate seeing old friends and new, so do come and join us - we look forward to meeting you there for some wonderful musical evenings in 2025.

We start the season at 7:30pm on Friday 4 April 2025 in Bishop Auckland Methodist Church (opposite Bishop Auckland General Hospital), by welcoming Trio Havisham whose program includes Haydn, Elliot Carter, Brahms and Schubert.



Trio Havisham is an award-winning ensemble, described as having "real flair while never losing that sense of balance" (CAVATINA 2022). The full program of BAMS dates and artists are listed below and, as always, the concerts are in the lovely setting of Bishop Auckland Methodist Church each starting at 7.30pm

Friday 2 May : Ewan Millar (oboe)

Friday 6 June: Lise Vandersmissen (triple harp)

Friday 11 July: Ignas Maknickas (solo piano)

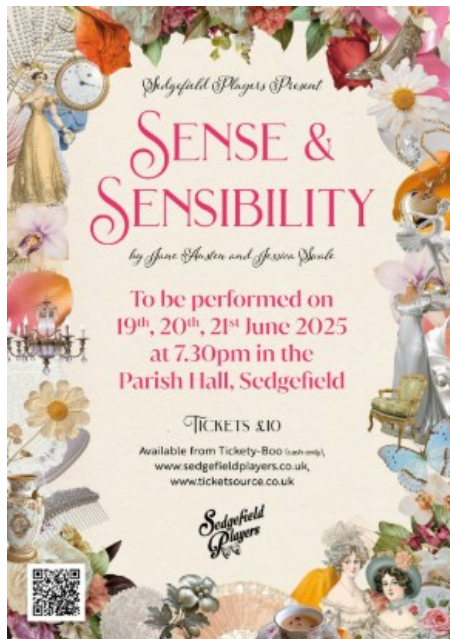
Friday 5 September: Lumas Winds (wind quintet)

Full details of all the programmes and artists are on our BAMS website: [bvemv.orpheusweb.co.uk/BAMSWeb/bams.html](http://bvemv.orpheusweb.co.uk/BAMSWeb/bams.html).

By BAMS

### Sedgefield Players Update

Fresh from their March production of Ladies Unleashed, the 'Players' are already rehearsing for their June spectacular Sense & Sensibility.



Directed by Sarah Atkinson, this play will involve most of the group, which is a huge undertaking. Sarah said, 'It's 250 years since Jane Austen was born, so what better way to celebrate than bringing her first book to life on our stage?' The cast includes Amy Henery and Lucy Atkinson as Elinor and Marianne Dashwood while Tom Guest, Charlie Lines and Ste Edgoose-Clubley play Edward Ferrars, Colonel Brandon, and Willoughby, supported by Viv Jacobs, Rosemary Jones, Peter Hook and Jason Legender. Performed in the Parish Hall, Sedgefield on the 19, 20 and 21 June 2025 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 and available from Ticky Boo and [ticketsource.co.uk/sedgefield-players](http://ticketsource.co.uk/sedgefield-players).

By Sedgefield Players



SLYC & LIRICA PRESENT

### Coffee, Cake and Choirs

A COFFEE MORNING FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY 5TH APRIL  
11.00AM  
CEDDESFIELD HALL

Entry £4, cash only on the door  
Includes cup of tea / coffee & cake, additional donations welcome

All proceeds go to Sedgefield's Community Choirs



### More local events:

#### Sedgefield Players & SPYS Roaring 20s Revue

Dress to impress in your finest 1920s getup and join the 'Players & SPYS' for a dazzling cabaret of song, dance, sketches, and more!

12 April 2025, 7:30pm, £10

[ticketsource.co.uk/sedgefield-players](http://ticketsource.co.uk/sedgefield-players).



#### The Watsons, Sir Thomas Allen Assembly Rooms Theatre, Durham

Laura Wade's bold, witty & philosophical take on Jane Austen's unfinished novel comes to Durham 1-3 May, 7.30pm £8 [theassemblyroomstheatre.org/whatson/](http://theassemblyroomstheatre.org/whatson/).

#### Hardwick Festival, Hardwick Hall

The lineup has been announced for Hardwick Live in August and tickets are available for all 3 days 15-17 August 2025, prices vary [hardwickfestival.co.uk](http://hardwickfestival.co.uk).





## SPORTS UPDATE with Chris Lines [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com)

By the time you read this, the clocks will have gone back, which is another reminder that the start of the cricket season is imminent, while football and rugby campaigns are drawing to a close. Meanwhile, the runners out there are contemplating the transition from the mud of cross country to road races and track and field competition. While it's all change in one respect, the one constant is that there's plenty of sport going on in and around Sedgfield!

### Athletics

Sedgfield Harriers held its annual dinner and awards night in March. The club is 20 years old in 2025 and the event kicked off the celebrations of this milestone. Harriers' chair, Sue Dobson, welcomed guests and thanked all who had been involved in organising and coordinating the night. During the evening, the 2024 annual awards were presented, in a range of categories:

Newcomer - Graham Price  
Track and field - Frances Malcolm  
Cross country - Chris Lines  
Volunteer - David Graham  
Club runner - Sadie Abel  
Individual performance - Sadie Abel  
Endurance - Rosie Warnett.

The Club Member of the Year award is now the Ali Horton Trophy, in memory of member Ali Horton. The trophy was presented to Beth Raine by Ali's sister Claire, a special guest at the event.

Other awards presented on the night included those for the monthly Time Trials and performances in a series of Grand Prix races during the year.

The Time Trial winners were Jessie Davies (female overall), Lisa Darby (fastest female), Paul Cowell (male overall), Mark Raine (fastest male), and Peter Milburn (highest age graded percentage).

The female Grand Prix winners were Rosie Warnett (overall), Sadie Abel (senior), Rosie Warnett (V40), Jane Spink (V45), Marie Walker (V50), Sue Dobson (V55), Trina Price (V60), and Susan Milburn (V65). The male Grand Prix winners were Justin Cox (overall), Rory Letts (U18), Aidan Maloney (senior), Andrew Featherstone (V40), Declan Munnally (V45), Justin Cox (V50), David Walker (V55), and Peter Milburn (V60).

The club is grateful to all of the individuals and businesses who donated prizes for the event raffle, including From Loft to Loved, Aubergine Café, The Herd & Herb, and Back of Beyond Bookshop. The raffle raised £500 for Cancer Research UK.

Sedgfield Harriers will once again host the popular Neptune Relays event, on Wednesday 30th April. Held in Hardwick Park, the event features races of four stages of approximately 1.7 miles each on a course around the park, starting and finishing in the temple field. There will be a staggered start to the relays, with the men's teams (including veteran categories) setting off at 6:45pm and all other teams starting at 6:55pm. There will be trophies – and the traditional prizes of fruit – in numerous senior and junior categories, including one for non-club runners. The entry fee per team is £16 for club/affiliated teams and £18 for unaffiliated teams. Entry is on the night only, with registration opening at 5:00pm at the visitors' centre. For more details about the event, contact [secretary@sedgfieldharriers.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sedgfieldharriers.co.uk).

### Boccia



Lee Maddison with Chris Foster in Antrim

### Football

St. Edmund's FC is celebrating its 60th birthday this year, so look out for more about that significant milestone soon. In the meantime, the team has a lot of football to get through between now and the end of the season. At the time of writing this, there are 10 league games to go and a cup semi-final scheduled for 30 March. So the games will come thick and fast when the lighter nights arrive. St. Edmund's expects to finish mid-table in the league and still hopes for cup success.



### Cricket



We're now into the last few weeks before the 2025 cricket season gets underway, and stamina shouldn't be an issue after the fantastic effort of Ben Swindale, Luke Henderson, Phil Reynard and David Budd, who on 22 March completed an incredible 38.5 mile, nine hours run from Bedale to Sedgfield. It was all to raise the funds to buy the equipment that will allow matches to be live streamed online and the club is delighted to confirm that the fundraising target was met, so thanks go to everyone who donated.

Extra thanks are also due to juniors Gideon Welsh, Tommy Hartshorn and James Watt, who a couple of weeks earlier completed their own fundraising walk across the Cleveland Hills, carrying their cricket bags, and playing some impromptu cricket along the way.

And in their own inimitable way, the 4th XI, better known as The Winkers, raised money for the cause with a pub crawl around Sedgfield.

The cricket itself gets underway on Easter Saturday with the 1st XI at home to Guisborough, starting at 12:00 – get yourselves along!



Ir Gideon Welsh, James Watt and Tommy Hartshorn on the summit of Roseberry Topping



Ir Ben, David, Luke and Phil complete their ultra run at Sedgfield Cricket Club

**That's all for this month.**  
As always, please send any sports news to [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com).

## CEDDESFELD HALL



Spring is on the way and SCA continue to work towards some special community events. Do look out for posters on notice boards and around town, as well as local social media platforms for all information.

### Easter Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Monday 21 April, 2pm to 4 pm - Free

A 'Cracking' afternoon for the family (children under 12yrs), with an egg hunt, decorated egg, and Easter bonnet competitions! The bar will be open from 1:30pm, and families are welcome to bring a picnic. There are prizes and goodies for all children taking part.

### Quiz Night with Pie & Peas, Saturday 26 April 7:30 pm, Tickets £10

A very popular SCA event, with well-known quiz master Peter Hinde. Tickets available in advance from behind the bar at Ceddesfeld or from Pat (01740 620607), Sarah (01740 622185) or Peter (01740 621709).

### Mediaeval Fayre, Saturday 17 May - 10am to 4pm - Village Green and Ceddesfeld Hall and Lawns

Dragons and damsels will be making an appearance in a big way! The fayre will begin with a walking procession - vibrant, colourful and lively, to include children from local primary schools, nurseries, and sports groups. The parade will culminate in demonstrations and performances, with Olaf the Ice Dragon and Princess Chardonnay and some rather large bubbles!

Two SCA tombola stalls, will be full of bottles, gifts, and vouchers (donated by very supportive local businesses), whilst around the green there will be various craft and gift stalls as well as the traditional fun fair. In the showground arena, mediaeval knights will demonstrate combat skills, local groups will do battle in the tug of war and a fantastic falconry display will entertain the crowds - not to be missed. There's country dancing too!

Ceddesfeld lawns will be open, for everyone to enjoy. Attractions include Walworth Falconry, face painting, circus skills workshops, Chi Taekwondo workshops, ACLE and Escafeld Living History, with 'Knights Table' and displays. True North Trades (have a go at working on the anvil) and an opportunity to develop dragon training and feeding skills, is a new attraction for this year. In the main hall, a morning breakfast of hot sausage or bacon buns, tea and coffee will be served and a cafe in the afternoon. The bar will be open from 11am.

### Business Community Support and Volunteers – Mediaeval Fayre 2025

The SCA Mediaeval Fayre is organised by a small committee, who wholly rely on local people as well as various community groups, organisations, and businesses to get involved; to engage and volunteer to help in making the event successful and sustainable. Several local shops, services and groups already do get involved every year, which is fantastic. Without donations and sponsorship as well as practical help from volunteers with setting up, taking down, manning stalls, running activities etc, the event could not take place. Please do get in touch if you, your business, organisation, or your group, can offer any help with the activities.



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 [www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk](http://www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk) or Facebook Ceddesfeld Hall 'Home of SCA' for updates. Contact SCA via email: [info@sedgefieldsca.org.uk](mailto:info@sedgefieldsca.org.uk).



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## DIARY & EVENTS

Please send information to [diary.sedgefieldnews@gmail.com](mailto:diary.sedgefieldnews@gmail.com)

April 2025

- Wednesday 2** **Sedgefield WI**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7:15pm. Emma James will be talking about archery. The members' competition is "a pretty necklace/string of beads". Visitors welcome (£4 fee includes refreshments).
- Friday 4** **Sedgefield and District U3A**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 2pm. A talk by Bob Pullen on brain and behaviour. Visitors £3.
- Saturday 5** **Friendly Fixers**, Fishburn Youth and Community Centre, 10:30am to 12:30pm. Repair café.
- Saint Vincent de Paul Society**, Sedgefield Methodist Church, 11:30am. See poster for details.
- Easter Egg-stravaganza**, Mordon and Bradbury Village Hall, 2pm to 4pm. Egg decorating and crafts, Easter trail, face painting, garden games, and more. £5 per child.
- Sunday 6** **Sedgefield Farmers Market**, Village Green, 8:30-12:15pm.
- Friday 11** **Sedgefield in Bloom Easter Coffee Morning**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am. Lucky door prize, cakes, tombola, raffle and much more. Come along and support us.
- Tuesday 15** **Sedgefield Memory Café**, Sedgefield Methodist Hall, 10:30am to 12pm. For those living with dementia and carers.
- Ferryhill, Sedgefield and District Flower Club**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7:30pm. Demonstration by Catherine Gledhill, "A Spring Celebration". Members £5, guests £8.
- Friday 18** **Good Friday Procession**, starting at St. Edmund's at 10am, and processing to St. John Fisher and the Methodist Church. Sedgefield Area Churches Together, everyone is welcome.
- Monday 21** **Picnic and Egg Hunt**, Ceddesfeld Hall, 2pm to 4pm. Prizes for all ages for decorated and dyed eggs and Easter bonnets. Free entry and the bar will be open.
- Friday 25** **Sedgefield District Uniformed Services Group coffee morning**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am.

### Sedgefield Library

Events at the library include a craft group, book circles, a Lego drop in and a digital support drop in – see [durham.gov.uk/sedgefieldlibrary](http://durham.gov.uk/sedgefieldlibrary) for more information.

### One Step Forward

A new bereavement support group is running every Thursday afternoon between 2pm and 4pm. Everyone is welcome - of all faiths or none.

### parkrun

Every Saturday at 9am there is a free, 5km timed run at Hardwick Park. Register at [parkrun.org.uk](http://parkrun.org.uk). All welcome as volunteers, walkers or runners.

### Junior parkrun

A free 2km run for 4-14 year olds, meeting at the back of the visitor's centre at Hardwick Park every Sunday. We welcome volunteers including those doing their Duke of Edinburgh awards. Register at [parkrun.org.uk](http://parkrun.org.uk).

### Sedgefield in Bloom



### EASTER

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For more details about these events, go to [sedgefieldweb.co.uk](http://sedgefieldweb.co.uk).

### Sedgefield Baby & Toddler Group

Methodist Church on Mondays from 9:30am to 11am.

### Little Movers

Fletcher Room, Sedgefield Parish Hall every Thursday from 10am.

### Railway Society

Every Wednesday evening from 7:30pm to 10pm at Ceddesfeld Hall.

### Sedgefield Social Club

Singer fortnightly, see "Sedgefield Social Club Official" on Facebook.

### Sedgefield Carpet Bowls

Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1pm to 4pm in Ceddesfeld Hall.

### Pop-in Club at Ceddesfeld Hall

Tuesdays 9:30am-12pm  
Wednesdays 10am-12:30pm  
Thursdays 1pm-3:30pm

### Speed Quiz at Hardwick Arms

Every Thursday at 8pm in the Hardwick Lounge Bar.

### Quiz at The Dun Cow

Every Monday at 8:30pm, hosted by the Sedgefield Mayor, Peter Hinde.



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