

# SEDGEFIELD NEWS

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

August 2021 Edition

Deadline for September - Sunday 15 August

## Allan Smart, 1928 - 2021. A tribute from family, friends and the community he supported

**It is with great sadness that we report Allan's passing on 27th June, at the age of 92. He had been ill for some time and died peacefully at home with his family around him.** He and his beloved wife, Nancy (pictured here at a birthday party in Ceddesfeld Hall) had just celebrated 70 years of marriage. A colourful character, much-loved in Sedgefield, where he had lived for over 50 years, Allan enjoyed nothing so much as a chat, so a ten-minute trip to the local shop often took at least an hour!

Born in August 1928 in Kelloe, the only child of George, an overman at Kelloe Pit, and Nellie. Allan had 39 cousins, George being one of eleven children! Allan followed his father down the mine, where he worked as a fitter until 1971. He met Nancy (a Yorkshire lass) whilst doing his National Service and they married in 1951. During Allan's time at Kelloe Pit he had two serious accidents which he recovered from, but after a trip down the pit herself, Nancy, appalled by the conditions, persuaded Allan to leave the mine. He initially became an Education Welfare Officer but then trained as a Social Worker at Newcastle Polytechnic. These two very different careers provided him with a fund of great anecdotes. Nancy reckons that his job as a Social Worker was at times just as dangerous as working down the pit!

Prior to 'life underground' Allan served four years post war National Service in the Royal Engineers stationed in Hamelin, Germany where he made sure to learn the 'local lingo'. Fluent in German, he made lifelong friends with several brave individuals who had been dissidents during the war years, some of whom were imprisoned for their beliefs. Allan maintained these relationships over many years, often travelling back and forth to Germany accompanied by his family. Both his daughter Helen and granddaughter Ruth went on to study German at University, so the chain has not been broken.

His time in the Royal Engineers had fostered a concern for the welfare of Service families, which led to him taking on voluntary casework for SSAFA after he had retired. He completed over 1,000 cases for them and in 2008 Allan was given the SSAFA-Forces Help 15-year Award. He also undertook voluntary work for the Anglican Diocesan Adoption Agency, his social work having given



him a particular concern for the welfare of children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Even after many years he was invited to the weddings of several adoptees. Allan and Nancy have lived in Sedgefield for over 60 years and both took an active part in village life. Allan was a founder member of the Sedgefield Community Association, serving on its committee for many years and eventually becoming its Honorary President. Of course, his 80th and 90th birthdays were celebrated in Ceddesfeld Hall and well into his eighties he could still be found pulling a pint and chatting to locals in the bar at Ceddesfeld. Nancy often said that their friend Judith did all the working whilst Allan did all the talking!

He was an important part of the Mediaeval Fayre and of the annual drama festival, being very involved with Sedgefield Players. He could boast of taking part in an open-air production of A Midsummer Night's Dream at Ceddesfeld Hall. A stalwart supporter, the Players were always glad to see him in the audience, especially for a comedy or panto, where his welcome chuckles provided a brilliant soundtrack to the show. His support for the Lyrics

choirs would manifest itself in postcards from the self-styled "Arts correspondent of the Exchange & Mart", pushed through the youth choir leader's letterbox the day after a concert and by his own special request, Lirica sang at his funeral.

Allan had a passion for history and regularly consumed huge tomes, often biographies of politicians to the left of the political agenda! He also had a phenomenal memory for dates and events.

In fact, Allan was interested in people from all walks of life and took note of their stories. He was one of the 'old school' who valued courtesy and politeness (though he did know some rude jokes!). He was amusing but compassionate and very kind when people were in distress. There are many in Sedgefield who can attest to that, and he was very proud to be given one of the first Sedgefield Citizen of the Year Awards in 2001.

Allan summed up his philosophy as 'try to put more into life than you take out'. As his life admirably demonstrated, he practised what he preached. A devoted family man and a kind friend, it is no exaggeration to say this place has lost a true friend. Sedgefield will miss him.



## Diversity at Sedgefield Community College

June has been a very eventful month at Sedgefield Community College! One of our duties to the young people in our care is to promote the British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual tolerance and respect. As one of our students put it: "It is important that people are aware of what struggles different people have faced and continue to face, and develop opinions that aren't based off fake news on social media." One approach we trialled this year was through the introduction of a 'Diversity Week', with students learning about issues facing the LGBT+ community. The week sparked a lot of debate and discussion and is just one of many events we have planned to ensure our curriculum is inclusive and helps students to make sense of the world around them.

Our commitment to changing the lives of the children we work with every day has been recognised by a number of awards this term. We were awarded the Pearson Silver Teaching Award for Making a Difference - Secondary School of the Year 2021, and then a week later, we won TES Secondary School of the Year and TES Science Team of the Year! We are delighted to end such a challenging year on a high and are very much looking forward to what next year will bring.

Mrs S Lupton,

Director of Equality, Diversity & Community Engagement, Subject Leader for R.E.



Above, left to right, Deputy Head, Craig Hutton, members of the student leadership team: Ella Stables, Henry Everett-Collett, Hannah Savage, Bethany Howarth, Charlie Potts and Kristen McDonald and then Jamie Peacock MBE.

## Protecting our planet

Year 2 have worked incredibly hard during their final learning enquiry which was all about saving our beautiful planet.

They began their enquiry with science "instil" lessons where they focused on living things and animal habitats.

The children then moved onto geography lessons, where they researched the seven continents and five oceans. During these lessons, the children realised the importance of helping our amazing planet, oceans and animal habitats.

The children discussed a variety of different ways on how they could raise awareness of the issues relating to climate change, deforestation, pollution, and the damage to animal habitats.

This resulted in them contacting the WWF to research the issues further. To end their learning enquiry, the children created a clay sculpture representing the planet and what we can do to protect it.

Year 2 were delighted when WWF acknowledged and praised their hard work with a message just for them!



Clay sculptures by Year 2 children at Sedgefield Hardwick

## Reading scheme for long Covid patients



Staff from the multidisciplinary team at the long Covid clinic in Sedgefield Community Hospital

Patients being treated for long-term effects of coronavirus in County Durham and Darlington are benefitting from a new mental health and wellbeing initiative.

The Reading Well initiative, by The Reading Agency, is providing book collections to support patients in the region being treated for post covid syndrome, also known as long Covid.

The books are being provided to the County Durham Care Partnership for the long COVID clinic at Sedgefield Community Hospital. Curated by health experts, the book collections have been carefully selected to provide helpful information for managing common mental health conditions and dealing with difficult feelings and experiences with this new physical condition.



## BUSINESS UPDATE

### Durham University goes into Orbit

Durham University has opened its £1.4m Orbit area at NETPark to support small and medium sized technology and science businesses in the region. Businesses will get targeted guidance and support from Durham University's researchers and their partners, CPI and Business Durham. Companies will have access to flexible, private or collaborative office spaces and will be able to join networking events and skills workshops.

Businesses who are interested are encouraged to get in touch with the University to see how they can be supported. They can sign up for a private office, hot desk or virtual membership on flexible terms. The development at NETPark was delivered by several North East companies including Vest Construction, Space Architects, Identity Consult and Cundall.



### NETPark powers smart labels

The National Printable Electronics Centre, part of the Centre for Process Innovation (CPI), based at NETPark has provided crucial support to help develop a new battery technology to enable goods to be tracked using smart labels. The labels, developed by London-based company Reelables, can be attached to objects like a sticker and can be tracked using a phone app. This makes them ideal for tracking goods and it is hoped the project will lower production costs and drive growth within the printed electronics industry.

This development is an example of the Internet of Things. The Internet of Things is a network of physical objects, from labels to fridges, with embedded software allowing them to connect, and exchange data, with other devices and systems over the Internet.



CPI led the 12-month feasibility study to develop the low-cost battery that would be printed onto each smart label's circuit. The battery is much smaller, and more affordable, than existing solutions.

### Casa expands with Café

Once again, our intrepid journalists, were dispatched to check out the latest café opening in Sedgefield.

Casa Café has been set up by Christina, who many of you will know from her other business, Casa Yoga, which now operates from the same building, which is centrally located on The Square.



The café has been designed to coordinate with the yoga practice, with soothing colours and beautiful photographs (by Tina Veeranna) of Hardwick Park covering the walls.

There are lots of healthy choices on the menu with plenty of vegan, vegetarian and gluten free options and some treats for that special occasion.

Where possible, the food and drink items are locally sourced, and we spotted Parlour Made cheese on the menu. We enjoyed a light lunch of red pepper and goat's cheese paninis washed down with Shmoo milkshakes.

There are tables inside and outside, and take-out is available. The dessert menu has just launched – so we'll have to go back to check this out.

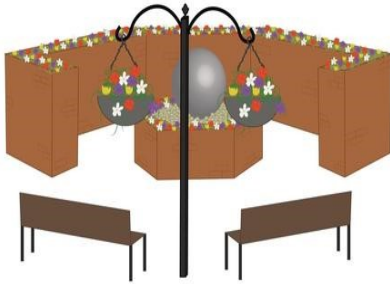




## Fishburn Memorial Garden opens

In December 2020, we reported that Fishburn Parish Council were raising money to create a place of remembrance and respect for those we have lost.

We shared the following image of the plans to install a memorial garden in a quiet corner of Fishburn Cemetery, along with a wall to commemorate the deceased with plaques.



We are delighted to report that the garden was officially opened by Paul Howell MP on 10 July with Fishburn Band playing and attended by many supporters from the village.

Organiser Sandra Dowson explained, "It all came from having nowhere to go to remember my gran and so as a parish councillor, I approached the parish with a drawing and after a lot of hard work and sheer determination, the end result is there to be seen."

Lots of other cemeteries have this sort of thing so why not Fishburn. I love where I live and wanted the village to have somewhere they could sit and reflect in peaceful surroundings."

Should you wish to remember a loved one in the garden plaques are available at £100 for 100 years inclusive of inscription and installation and memorial benches are £450.

Contact Sandra at [sandra985@btinternet.com](mailto:sandra985@btinternet.com) or find her on Facebook Messenger.

On behalf of Fishburn Parish Council, the organiser Sandra Dowson, thanks everyone who supported the fundraising and the opening of the site.



## STEVE'S NATURE DIARY AUGUST 2021

**By the time you read this we will be half way through "The Wildlife Trusts" Marine Week which officially finishes on 8 August so you still just have enough time to do something fishy!**

Staycations mean more of us are set to discover the delights of our shores and coastal waters, as we visit the seaside for a summer break. The Wildlife Trusts' National Marine Week is celebrating the intriguing, weird and wonderful lives of shore dwellers and coastal citizens: solar powered anemones; fish which dupe their rivals; rockpool residents battling the elements, and sometimes each other.

Situated where we are, not far from the coast, whether it is sand dunes and little terns at Seaton Carew, rock pools at Redcar or Saltburn or a number of other seaside locations, it's good to spend some time by the sea with big skies and wide open spaces. If you look closely in rock pools and encourage the children (and adults) not just to concentrate on crabs, you can find beautiful creatures such as sea anemones and occasionally small fish.

Battered by waves then exposed as the tide retreats, rock pools are tough places to live in. The extraordinary snakelocks anemone harnesses solar power through symbiotic algae, which live in its bright green stinging tentacles. The algae turn sunlight into energy for the anemone, which is why snakelocks live in the sunniest spots in the pool. In return, the algae get benefits in the form of protection and nutrients.

With rockpool space at a premium, the seemingly serene beadlet anemone defends its place by deploying a ring of bright blue beads full of stinging cells and battling against opponents. Clamped tight until the tides cover them, cone shelled limpets zigzag around, feeding on algae scraped off rocks with their tongue, one of the world's strongest biological structures!



Beadlet anemone ©markthomasimages.co.uk

Returning to their home patch, limpets sometimes clash shells; trying to tip each other over or prise their opponent from a rock. No one's quite sure why, it could be territory or feeding disputes, but one thing's for sure they're not the motionless shells they appear to be.

The tompot blenny (below), a colourful fish with a punk hair do, and a big character, is rusty brown with an impressive pair of red head tentacles. It can occasionally be spotted in rockpools, more often in rocky crevices in shallow water.

Our seas are home to over half of all our wildlife, they provide oxygen for every other breath you take, and visiting the coast can improve mental and physical health. This is why it's so important that more and better protection is given to the waters around our shores. National Marine Week is a chance to celebrate our amazing seas, and I'd urge people to make the most of the coast and enjoy events hosted by organisations either locally or throughout the UK.



Tompot blenny © Citron

## Your LETTERS 1

### Sedgefield Playgroup Closure

**It is with great regret that on the 25th May, we had to announce the permanent closure of Sedgefield Playgroup.**

Sedgefield Playgroup was founded on the 21st October 1966 by parents who wanted to create a social, learning and caring environment for pre-school children. It was based, as it always has been, in Sedgefield Methodist Hall. At the time of its launch there was no nursery provision in the village and children did not start school until the year that they were 5. Children could be left by their parents for a half-day session, where they were encouraged to learn socialisation skills in a play environment. Education was also an important element, with a strong emphasis on arts and crafts.

Sedgefield Playgroup proved very successful and popular with parents and children alike. Demand was so high that it ran morning and afternoon sessions. Other playgroups in the village soon followed, all parent led.

Over the years increasing government regulation has made the

running of playgroups more complex and difficult. There were benefits to increased regulation, such as police record checks, education frameworks and health and safety but there were also problems caused by them. The amount of paperwork and record keeping demanded by Ofsted were not appropriate for volunteer groups.

Early Years provision has also improved within Sedgefield, with both primary schools offering excellent nursery services. Over the years free nursery education has been lowered in age, meaning most children now have a place at the age of 3.

All of these factors have contributed to the slow demise of all of the playgroups until only ours was left in Sedgefield. We operated three sessions a week and had good attendance for 2-3 year olds in the village; unfortunately we could not survive the COVID pandemic.

We closed our doors on the 18 March 2020 for the last time at the start of the COVID outbreak. With no income and only a small bank balance (as we have always run as a non-profit group) the cost of re-opening would now be prohibitive.

Some of our staff also wish to retire and the recruitment of volunteers over the years has become increasingly difficult.

I wish to thank each and every one of the staff that have worked at the Playgroup now and over the previous decades. Our longest serving staff member is Barbara Smith, who has worked at Playgroup for over 40 years, followed closely by Lesley Dix. Other current staff members, Nicola Flintoff, Viv Moran, Briony Richmond and Siiri Tenno-Marshall have also provided outstanding care and work for Playgroup.

Lastly I would like to thank the most important people, the children who have attended Sedgefield Playgroup since 1966. On behalf of all of the staff, it has been our joy and pleasure to care for you all!

Thank you,

Jane Jones, Playgroup Chairman

## Your LETTERS 2

### Planning application: Community athletics track

We have recently been informed of a planning application for the formation of a community athletics track facility with associated floodlighting, access, car parking, drainage and landscaping. Reference DM/21/01984/FPA, which can be accessed online <https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk>

Whilst the Harriers vision for their own track should be applauded, we feel that this site is unsuitable and will only benefit a minority of people whose interests are athletics. Local residents are greatly concerned by the proximity of this site to our homes and its location next to Sedgefield Development Trust's Woodland and Wildlife Group. Most residents that live here do so because it is a quiet, peaceful countryside location.

I am concerned that people are unaware of where the proposed track is to be located and may not be aware that the application has been submitted?

Local people have been told that the site for the track is earmarked for development. This is incorrect. The site proposed for the track is included in the County Durham Plan as a Safeguarded Employment Site for the future expansion of NETPark beyond the current plan period. The council state they have no requirement for this site for NETPark until 2045.

The development of the athletics track facility is against the land allocation in the recently adopted County Durham Plan and would not be a sustainable development with most people travelling by car. We do not believe the benefits of this proposed facility outweigh the negative impact upon the landscape, ecology or the noise and disturbance to nearby residents and wildlife.

If you do not want to see Sedgefield unnecessarily lose another wildlife rich greenfield site when there are other, better located and more sustainable sites in the area, then you have a right to have your views heard. The final date for comments is 29 July, however I believe all comments and objections will be included even if received after this date.

Eddie, Kay, Kelly and Scott Aitkin and the residents of Hardwick Grange

## SEDFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



### Community Speedwatch

Neighbourhood Watch is currently looking to expand its input to Community Speedwatch by offering more support to Police and Police Volunteers.

Therefore volunteers are now being sought to help operate a portable speed recording board in areas around the Village. This checks a vehicle's speed, then flashes the recorded figure to the driver together with an image of either a happy or sad face.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact Amy Jorgeson at Sedgefield Police:

[amy.jorgeson@durham.police.uk](mailto:amy.jorgeson@durham.police.uk)



**Crime isn't as common as you think... but don't be a victim. Please lock up, stay safe, sleep well.**

**To report anything suspicious in your area call Durham Constabulary on 101 or 999 in an emergency.**

To report concerns, seek advice or pass on information call 101. Keep notes, ask for an incident number. Information received will be developed & acted on

**Confidential email address:**

[amy.jorgeson@durham.police.uk](mailto:amy.jorgeson@durham.police.uk)

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## ARTS UPDATE with Geoff Millichap email: [sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com](mailto:sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com)

### Kynren Returns

August 2021 sees the return of the hugely popular Kynren performances at Bishop Auckland.

The premise is an ambitious one; to present 2000 years of the history and mythology of Great Britain in 90 minutes, utilising a cast of over 1,000 performers in a beautiful setting on a warm summer evening; the show always delivers, even when the weather does not. Kynren came about in 2016 thanks to the charity 11Arches, which underwrote the cost of staging the first season, and which saw the show grow from strength to strength until 2020, when the scheduled shows were all cancelled due to a ban on gatherings.

This summer the show will return on successive Saturdays from 7 August alongside their new daytime attraction, 11Arches Park.

**KYNREN**  
AN EPIC TALE OF ENGLAND



11Arches Park is an open-all-day historical themed park, perfect for kids who might find the 8:30pm start times for Kynren evening shows challenging.

**ELEVEN  
ARCHES**

Like Kynren it features live action shows and interactive attractions covering the history of the region from the Romans and the Vikings to the Prince Bishops and the central role of the North East in the industrial revolution.

The Kynren visuals are spectacular and on a scale unlike anything else, set over 7.5 acres of land and a huge stage, centred around the lake. The sets, special effects & pyrotechnics are second to none. This unusual format, a fusion of art, drama, fireworks display and historical re-enactment has been so popular that it has drawn rave reviews & over 250,000 visitors from all over the world.

11Arches & Kynren are ticketed separately, visit [www.11arches.com/kynren/show-dates](http://www.11arches.com/kynren/show-dates) for details.



### Outdoor Cinema at Raby Castle.

Besides Kynren, still more spectacular shows in stunning settings are on offer in August.

Raby Castle offers a programme of outdoor cinema events for kids at 5pm, featuring highlights including *The Greatest Showman*, *The Lion King* & *Moana*.

Slightly more grown up offerings at 8:15pm. These include *Dirty Dancing*, *1917* & *A Star is Born* (2018).

They will be screened in the beautiful setting of the walled gardens (above.) Bring snacks (but no glassware!) and waterproof clothing.

For dates & times, see [www.raby.co.uk/whats-on/](http://www.raby.co.uk/whats-on/)

### Hardwick Live Festival: tickets still available

Hardwick Live, Sedgefield's biggest music event of the year, will fall in August.

The diverse 2021 line-up will include Maximo Park, Nile Rodgers & Chic, Imelda May, Razorlight, & Rag 'n' Bone Man, so will cater for most tastes. Tickets are still available for both days of the weekend 21 to 22 August. Visit [www.viagogo.co.uk/Festival-Tickets/UK-Festivals/Hardwick-Live-Tickets](http://www.viagogo.co.uk/Festival-Tickets/UK-Festivals/Hardwick-Live-Tickets) for details.



## Architecture & Arts at Ushaw College

Ushaw College has been expanding its range of artistic events in recent years and over the last year of lockdowns its buildings, parks & grounds, enhanced with the work of outdoor contemporary artist Steve Messam, became a real highlight during fine weather.



The buildings alone are well worth a visit, being among the finest examples of Victorian Gothic architecture anywhere in the country, and designed by three generations of the Pugin family. The buildings are best appreciated on one of the architectural tours that Ushaw operates, accompanied by a knowledgeable and likeable guide. Free to annual pass holders, the cost otherwise is just £5.

The college also houses an exceptional collection of art, including the finest collection of Karl Hoffman sculptures anywhere in the world, as well as five significant Franz von Rohden paintings.

There is currently a temporary exhibition of 36 paintings from the artist Mark Fairington alongside objects from Ushaw's collection, and on 3 August Fairington will give a talk at Ushaw about the exhibition, which is titled *Relics*. The talk is free to admission ticket holders.

Tickets at: [ushaw.org/tour-p](http://ushaw.org/tour-p)

## Bishop Auckland Music Society



Bishop Auckland music society concert series 2021 continues on 20 August when Katherine Bryer (oboe) and Irena Radic (piano) will perform Rachmininoff and Schumann among others at Bishop Auckland Methodist Church.

Tickets at [bvemv.orpheusweb.co.uk/BAMSWeb/bams.html](http://bvemv.orpheusweb.co.uk/BAMSWeb/bams.html)



## DIARY & EVENTS

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

To all clubs, groups and societies, this is your space. Please do use it!

### Sedgefield Baby & Toddler Group

Sedgefield Baby & Toddler Group have returned to Ceddesfeld Hall operating on Tuesdays from 9.30am - 11.00am.

Additional measures will be in place including one entrance, one exit, social distancing & face masks for adults.

A reservation system will be in place as we can only have 15 adults in at one time. Unfortunately, refreshments will NOT be available as there is no access to the kitchen, please bring your own snacks/drinks. £3 per family.

Please join the Facebook page for further updates or to ask any questions: "Sedgefield Baby & Toddler Group".

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the group in the autumn. If you are interested, please get in touch with us via our Facebook page or via email at [m.m.close@gmail.com](mailto:m.m.close@gmail.com).



### Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club update

Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club would like to announce that the committee have decided, following much deliberation, to postpone the AGM planned for 20 July 2021 and the Garden Party which was planned in August. We hope that we will be able to resume our programme starting 21 September 2021 if the situation improves.

We deeply regret this move, but the decision was made in light of the rising cases of COVID in the Sedgefield District.

Please stay safe everyone.

Sandra Coyle (Secretary)

### Mayor's Coffee Morning

The Mayor of Sedgefield, Ann Carr, would like to invite you to a Coffee Morning on Friday 3 September 10am to 12.30pm in the Parish Hall, to celebrate meeting old and new friends.

We will be supporting Youngminds and local charities. There will be Homecare Clothing by Paul in the Fletcher Room, children's face painting, cake stall, etc.

Everyone is welcome. Please join in this happy event. I look forward to meeting you.

Ann Carr

Event subject to Covid regulations.

### On the lookout for Festival Makers to keep Lumiere shining

Durham will host the UK's leading light festival across four nights from 18 - 21 November 2021. Its return will give visitors the opportunity to experience an ambitious programme featuring international and local artists in an outdoor environment after the long months of lockdown.

Volunteers make a vital contribution to Lumiere which is why in the build-up to this year's event, Durham County Council is working with festival producers Artichoke to recruit volunteer Festival Makers to help make Durham shine once more. Organisers want to hear from those aged 18 and over who have a friendly personality and a passion for the festival, as well as different skills and life experiences.

The roles are ideal for someone who is volunteering for the first time, seasoned professionals or those who have volunteered during the pandemic and want to do some more. The roles will include welcoming visitors to the city, directing people to the Lumiere installations and also being the face of the festival.

People can find out more and sign up to be a Festival Maker at [www.durham.gov.uk/festivalmaker](http://www.durham.gov.uk/festivalmaker)



Volunteer Festival makers, Lumiere 2019

## SEDFIELD LIBRARY

Tel: 0300 026 9521

The library is open again with temporary opening hours:

**Wednesday 9:30 to 12:30**

**Thursday 9:30 to 16:30 (closed for lunch from 12:30 to 13:30)**

**Friday 13:30 to 17:30**

**Saturday 9:30 to 12:30**

Browsing will be limited to 20 mins and only 4 visitors allowed at a time, so you may be asked to queue patiently outside.

See [www.durham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.durham.gov.uk/libraries) for updates and information and to updated with any service changes.

Also, the Facebook page [CountyDurhamLibraries](https://www.facebook.com/CountyDurhamLibraries) is absolutely full of interest. We recommend following them.

### Terrier, lurcher, whippet and family fun dog show

The South Durham Hunt is holding a dog show on Sunday 15 August.

The event will take place at the Hunt Kennels in Sedgefield, located on the A177, between Hardwick Hall Hotel and Knotty Hill Golf Course.

This event is a qualifier for the Cock of the North.

The judging starts at 1pm and donations are welcome on the gate.

There will be a bar, refreshments and a raffle.

### Sedgefield Charities: Education grants for students

The Trustees of the Sedgefield Charities make a number of awards each year to help students from lower income families who are taking up full time study beyond A level or its equivalent.

Students of any age may apply.

Applicants must live in **Bishop Middleham, Bradbury, Cornforth, Fishburn, Mordon, Sedgefield or Trimdon**

Application forms and further information can be obtained by contacting the Clerk.

Post: 46 Whitehouse Drive, Sedgefield, TS21 3BU.

Telephone: 01740 620811 or email [sedgefieldcharities@gmail.com](mailto:sedgefieldcharities@gmail.com)

The closing date for applications is **30th September, 2021.**



## SEDGEFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST PROJECT NEWS

### Meet Janette - your new Sedgefield News Editor

Janette Savage joined husband Paul on the editorial team not long before the huge challenge of COVID-19 and the first lockdown was ordered.

Around the same time, a new Arts Editor, Geoff Millichap took on the tricky job of finding something to write about when arts venues were closing their doors and amateur singing and drama groups were learning the delights of Zoom - a baptism of fire!

Janette and Paul have lived in Sedgefield for 17 years, returning to the North East after several years in Cheshire. Now working part-time as a data analyst for Cleveland Fire Brigade, Janette's skills and confidence in the field of IT have become essential to the team.

Working with her during these difficult months, it has become clear to me that she has the skills, interest and motivation to make an excellent editor of the publication which has come to mean so much to the Development Trust and we think, to many readers and contributors. The last few editions of Sedgefield News have been co-edited, but at our first in-person team meeting, organised and managed by Janette, the question "are you ready?" was asked. Happily, the answer was positive.

A year ago we were down to 8 pages and struggling to fill those. Sport, the arts and the local groups supported by our diary page had shut down. Many of our advertisers had no choice but to withdraw, leaving those few who could still work and others whose loyalty and financial base allowed them to continue with their support. That, along with the Trustees' belief in this enthusiastic team, allowed us to keep our heads above water.

It's been a long time coming, but although I will continue to look after the advertising for a while and sometimes to write for this page, retirement is within reach at last, after 18 years as editor.

Thanks to the many people who helped me along the way. *Sandy Clubleby.*



### Sedgefield Development Trust Change of Address

The new postal address of Sedgefield Development Trust is

**SDT Company Secretary, 3a Front Street, Sedgefield, Co. Durham, TS21 3AT**

Telephone no: 07572 502904 (this is also the Sedgefield News phone number)

email: [secretary@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk) website: [www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk](http://www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk)

### Sedgefield Farmers Market

**Sunday 1 August 8.30am - 12.30pm**

Happily, over the last couple of months the Market has been returning to the way it used to be. Ceddesfolk kicks off the summer music programme this month and our charity stall will be occupied by St John's Ambulance.

Last month the return of the Farmers Market shopping bags met with good demand and they will be on sale in the Information tent again.



### CEDDESFIELD HALL

**Home of Sedgefield Community Association (SCA)**

SCA is pleased to open its doors for increased numbers of people, following the Government's 'Step 4' lifting of COVID-19 safety restrictions.

Due to high and increasing number of local covid infections, the Trustees feel that a cautious approach to indoor gatherings remains important and people capacity limitations in all rooms will remain in place, at least for a few weeks. The Covid Secure risk assessment has been amended and it will be reviewed in September. It is available on the SCA website.

**The people capacity limits are as follows. Main hall, 40 people. Lounge, 25. Bar, 6 plus 2 bar staff. Patrons are encouraged to sit in the lounge. Oldham, Swinhoe & Chetwynd rooms, 18. Kell room, 8. Kitchen, 3.**

The bar will be open from Monday 2 August. A new card reader payment system will be in operation. Also, the wearing of masks is advised and a common-sense, careful approach to social distancing is strongly encouraged. We need you. Like all parts of the running of Ceddesfield Hall, the bar is manned by volunteers without whom it would obviously not be able to open. We need the help of any persons, over 18, who would enjoy getting involved in a new activity, would like to meet and make new friends and would help continue to keep open a highly valued community asset by working the occasional evening. If you feel this is you, please email [info@sedgefieldsca.org.uk](mailto:info@sedgefieldsca.org.uk) and we will get in touch.

For more information on Ceddesfield 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](http://www.sedgefieldsca.org.uk).



A Project of Sedgefield Development Trust

### Double Delivery

We recently took collection of some tools, which were given to us through a grant from Durham Woodland Revival. The tools will be very beneficial to the work we carry out on site. Included in the delivery were two scythes, which the volunteers will be using carefully to promote the regrowth of wild flowers and to cut pathways between the trees...once we have had our training! The project also took delivery of a pile of woodchip kindly donated by John Wright. We will be using it to improve the paths onsite and as mulch around the trees. It's certainly going to keep us very busy!



*Melissa Hinton (Woodland & Wildlife Project volunteer) and Charles Forman (Durham Woodland Revival Manager)*





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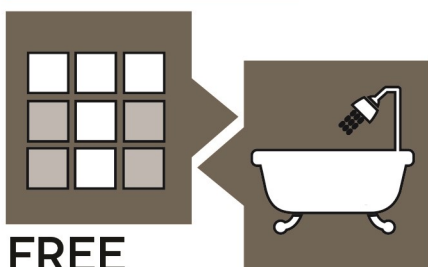
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## SPORTS UPDATE

Email [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com)

These continue to be really challenging times for grass roots sport, as COVID continues to exert an influence on events, competition and training. While on one hand, official restrictions have been eased, the recent spike in cases has led to many volunteer led organisations taking understandable precautions to ensure the safety of everyone involved in their sport. If you are active in any of these clubs and sports, keep a close eye on their communications channels for the latest news.

### Sedgefield Parkrun

At the time of writing this, in line with parkruns around England, **Sedgefield Parkrun** is due to return on Saturday 24 July. That is still subject to certain approvals and conditions (local and national). If the event has started again by the time you read this, it will be thanks to a lot of careful planning by the long-standing team of volunteers in Sedgefield, supported by Hardwick Park and officers at Durham County Council. Measures will be in place to encourage social distancing and the Sedgefield parkrun team urges all those who take part to abide by those, in the hope that the event can continue without more interruptions. Find out more about Sedgefield parkrun at [www.parkrun.org.uk/sedgefield](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/sedgefield) and on the event's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/sedgefieldparkrun](https://www.facebook.com/sedgefieldparkrun).

Meanwhile, **Sedgefield Junior Parkrun** hopes to restart around 12 September. The team had needed to recruit new run directors and the remaining small core team is unable to cover the 6 week school holidays between them. Some volunteers have already come forward, but more will be really welcome. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in finding out a bit more about becoming a run director, the junior parkrun will be delighted to hear from you. You can find out more about the event and get in touch with the team at [www.facebook.com/sedgefieldjuniorparkrun](https://www.facebook.com/sedgefieldjuniorparkrun).

### Cricket

The recent spike in COVID infections has led to many match cancellations across the North Yorkshire & South Durham Cricket League, resulting in void games and divisions moving to teams' average points per game to determine league placings.

For Sedgefield's senior teams, this has produced mixed outcomes: the 1st XI remain in contention for promotion to the Premier Division, but the 2nd XI's chances of going up to Division 3 have been dramatically reduced.

All of the junior teams are doing extremely well, headed by the Under 17s who having won their league division and now move into a four team play-off to determine the league champions. On top of their cup success, the team are in with a chance of a superb double.

Meanwhile, Sedgefield Cricket Club had 60 children participating in the All Stars programme this year, supported by their families. Thanks and congratulations go to over 30 volunteers from the club who helped deliver the programme, without whom it couldn't have been done - another great example of the community at the heart of Sedgefield Cricket Club.



### Athletics

Like every other grass roots sports club, Sedgefield Harriers has been grappling with the ongoing challenges presented by the pandemic. Membership is really healthy, as interest in running has consistently grown during the various lockdowns and related restrictions.

However, opportunities to compete or train together have inevitably been limited. Seniors have made the most of any events that have gone ahead and juniors have recently been getting in on the action too, with several turning out for a track meeting in Shildon.

Junior training and the popular strength and conditioning sessions will now return in September.

Before then, the club will host its Summer Handicap for the Gerry Kearsley Memorial Trophy, on the evening of Wednesday 4 August. Starting and finishing at Bishop Middleham Village Hall, the race is run over approximately 6 miles of beautiful, multi-terrain countryside, mostly on trails and old railway routes.

The event is free to enter, with registration opening at 5:15pm and the first runners setting off at 6:30pm. The event will abide by all COVID related guidance in place at the time and volunteers will be present to ensure adherence to these rules.

Please keep an eye on the Harriers' communications channels for details at [www.twitter.com/sedgeharriers](https://www.twitter.com/sedgeharriers) and [www.facebook.com/sedgefieldharriers](https://www.facebook.com/sedgefieldharriers).

You can read more about the event at [sedgefieldharriers.co.uk/gerry-kearsley-handicaps](http://sedgefieldharriers.co.uk/gerry-kearsley-handicaps).

### Squash

With the recent return of 'normal' squash, Sedgefield Squash Club's membership has enthusiastically jumped at the chance to take part in a summer team competition, which will run for several more weeks.

Early results suggest that all teams remain in with a shout of victory, so no doubt the mind games will begin between the captains, as the permutations are worked out!

Current members have received their membership renewal details – if you are among them, remember that your subs are due by September.

**That's all for this month.**

**As usual, please send any sports news to [chrisjlines@aol.com](mailto:chrisjlines@aol.com).**