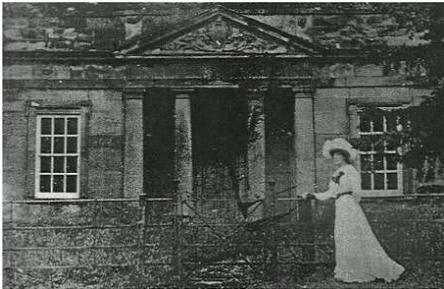
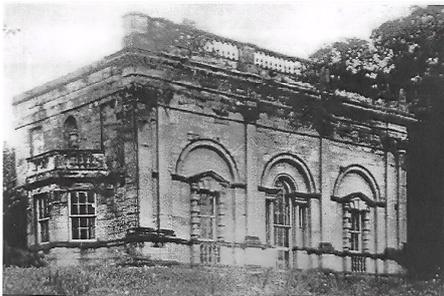


SEDGEFIELD NEWS

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

February 2020

Deadline for next edition: Friday 14th February



Your Park needs YOU!

Of Hardwick's twenty six buildings, structures and features, fifteen have now been fully restored with a further five, partially completed. There is now a good chance that funding will be found to rebuild two key buildings in the northern part of the Park - the Bath House and Banqueting House. To enable this to happen however, an archaeological investigation of both sites is first required.

An application for a small award is being submitted to the National Lottery Heritage Grants scheme for this purpose. If successful, the work should be carried out between May and October this year and will be led by former Durham County Archaeologist, Niall Hammond, so we are seeking volunteers of all ages to join us in this venture. **You can enjoy the unique camaraderie which develops in such work, as well as learn first hand about Hardwick's past - and possibly make exciting discoveries of your own!**

The Friends of Hardwick Park was formed in 1998, drawn by a call from Durham County Council to help in an exciting new initiative to revive the decaying parkland which lay just west of Sedgfield. Hitherto some works had taken place around the Serpentine Lake and Hall, but overall the place was a sorry sight, in danger of losing completely its once grand status at the cutting edge of 18th Century landscape design. From the start, the Friends group has played an important role in the restoration of the Park, importantly demonstrating that local people were fully behind the venture, a requirement of the original Heritage Lottery Fund. Much of the historic research undertaken, necessary to ensure that the work of restoration was accurately executed, was carried out by the Friends. In addition, funds were raised solely by the Friends to commission a replica statue of Neptune to replace the original, stolen from its plinth in the Serpentine almost 70 years ago.

Over the last 20 years the group has assisted the County Council in its management and maintenance of the Park. Volunteers have a wide variety of roles assisting the full-time staff in their maintenance of water bodies, vegetation and paths, running the shop and providing an expanding education programme. Inevitably the number of volunteers has declined and we hope this exciting new phase of development will attract new volunteers to join us for the archaeological dig and hopefully to maintain a continuing involvement with the Friends. *If you are interested please contact me on 07415 789484 or email mithnfhtudhoe@gmail.com Tony Smith, Chairman, Friends of Hardwick Park.*

Exciting times lie ahead at Hardwick Park but we need volunteers to get their hands dirty to help two more of Hardwick's former buildings rise again.

An invitation from Sedgfield Twinning Association

Sedgfield Twinning Association was founded in October 1982 and over the last 38 years people of Sedgfield have shared much fun and friendship with residents of Hamminkeln, Germany.

In May 2020 we will welcome another group of German visitors to Sedgfield. Some of the founder members are still active, but this year we hope to involve more people to help take our association into the 21st Century. So we are planning a buffet supper and social evening to follow our AGM on Saturday 8th February. It will be free to all present and past members, as a thank you for all their hard work and fundraising over many years, and their loyalty and help even when they are no longer able to actively take part in our visits.

It will also be free to anyone who would like to meet us and hear more about what we do! There will of course be no obligation to join the Association (although we would love you to!) If you would like to know more about twinning before you come, you can meet Alda Hummelinck in the Pickled Parson from 5.30 onwards!

We do hope you will join us for a meal and a drink from the bar at Ceddesfeld. The AGM starts at 6.30pm in Ceddesfeld Hall and the buffet supper will be from 7.30pm onwards. We just ask that you let us know if you intend to come, for catering purposes.

Please ring or text Judith Edgoose on 07899 984464 or email mail@toddsousefarm.co.uk.

SEDGEFIELD NEWS DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS

Your efforts in getting this paper out to readers are very much appreciated and we want to say thank you.

You are warmly invited to a get-together on Monday 17th February from 7.30 - 9.30pm at Ceddesfeld Hall. Drinks & nibbles provided.

Editorial team members and trustees of Sedgfield Development Trust look forward to meeting you.

GREENER SEDGEFIELD

It is not always easy to understand what is recyclable and what isn't. Despite the information printed on packaging, we can still be left confused. So what do these common symbols mean?



The **Green Dot** (or can be another colour, depending of the colour of packaging) found on chocolate wrappers and crisp packets. This does not mean that the wrapper is recyclable; the green dot only means that **"the producer has made a financial contribution towards the recovery and recycling of packaging in Europe"**, so look for other symbols to see if it can be recycled.



A **Mobius Loop** of three arrows indicates that the material is capable of being recycled, but it does not mean that it is recyclable in all recycling collecting systems. On occasions where a percentage figure is in the middle of the symbol it shows that the packaging is made of a certain percent of recycled material.



Plastic resin codes. The number in the middle of arrows shows the type of plastic resin that has been used to make the product. Numbers vary from 1–7 and not all local authorities recycle the same items. **Please remember that plastic bags are NOT part of the recycling scheme in county Durham.** You can take plastic bags to supermarkets. Hard plastic, as used in toys, is recyclable at household waste centres but not via kerbside collection.



A seedling logo means that the material is **Compostable, but only in industrial composting units!** Please don't put this into your home composter, or into plastic recycling. It will contaminate the recyclable plastic. Plastics marked with the seedling logo can be recycled with garden waste, but if you don't have a brown bin then it should go into general waste.



Materials suitable for home composting are marked with a logo like this on the right.



The Forest Stewardship Council logo indicates that the wood based products, anything from paper to Christmas trees, originate from well managed forests independently certified in accordance with the rules of the FSC.



Tidyman is just a moral reminder not to litter and to dispose of your rubbish appropriately.



More information on recycling and what different symbols mean can be found [Recycle now website](#). For ideas and chat on greener living and eco friendly living visit [Greener Sedgefield on Facebook](#).

Hardwick children set a good example

At Sedgefield Hardwick, we have been learning about the importance of caring for our area. Climate change is a huge topic and talking point currently, and it is important that we all play our part to try and help slow climate change and encourage people to recycle and create less waste.

As well as being important globally, it is also important to care for our local area. If we didn't care for Sedgefield, litter would become a big problem all throughout the village, which would then be dangerous for local wildlife (who may eat plastic waste) as well as looking and smelling unpleasant!

As part of our project, we recently undertook a litter-pick throughout Sedgefield, focussing on the alleyways and paths around the Doctors' surgery and the Hardwick estate (the litter crew is pictured right).

We found a variety of waste, such as plastic, aluminium, glass, including glass bottles, crisp packets and fruit juice bottles. We mainly found these items in bushes along alleyways, but some were also along the paths.



It was very pleasing for us to find that the Village Green was very clean; in fact we could hardly find any litter at all there! We hope that everyone in our local community will continue to show such high levels of care and ensure that Sedgefield is a beautiful, litter-free place to visit all year round!

Editor's note:

People of all ages can get involved in litter picking. Why not join **Sedgefield Ploggers**. Find us on Facebook.



Sedgefield News: from the past

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

In February 1870: 150 years ago

The Poor Law Board released the results of a survey of the wages of agricultural labourers. In Sedgefield the average weekly earnings were as follows: Men 18s, Women 7s 6d, Children under 16, 4s. The report added 'some employers make an allowance of ale and porter in harvest time'. The information had been collected in the Harvest Quarter, so the rates were 25% higher than in the rest of the year.

That same month, Matt Gibbon - a 'farmer from Sedgefield' was charged with hawking vegetables in West Hartlepool without a hawker licence. The court accepted Gibbon's plea that he was not aware that a licence was needed, but he still had to pay court expenses of 11s 6d.

In February 1920: 100 years ago

Sedgefield Rural District Council was seeking authorisation to acquire loans, to enable it to purchase sites for housing. The purchase price of the land was £440 in Bishop Middleham, £150 in Trimdon, and £400 in Sedgefield.

Discussions were also taking place with the North Eastern Railway Company about seeking a late train service from Newcastle to Ferryhill every evening, and extending the existing 9.05pm Saturday service from West Hartlepool to Trimdon, to include Coxhoe Bridge, West Cornforth and Ferryhill.

In February 1970: 50 years ago

Doug Moscrop reported that 'it was not a day for favourite backers' at Sedgefield Races on 24 February. The only favourite to win was Kernan, who romped home by five lengths in the last race of the day, the Tow Law Novices Chase. By then, Moscrop reported, 'most people had little money left'.



Sunday 23 February 12-3pm

Join us in Hardwick Park to enjoy a walk in beautiful scenery and plant snowdrops in support of Child Bereavement UK. Snowdrops will be available to purchase in the Visitor Centre along with children's art and craft activities and a book of Remembrance in quiet corner. Entry is free, but donations will be gratefully received



SEDGEFIELD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

"An Outstanding School" - Ofsted

Sedgefield Community College is proud to announce that it has achieved the national 'World Class School' quality mark.

This mark is only awarded to non-selective state schools that offer the best education to young people in the UK. To achieve the award, students are assessed against a framework of skills and competencies that it is considered young people need to flourish in an emerging global economy. Throughout the assessment process students had to show considerable independence, creativity and the ability to function as an effective team and deliver quality outcomes. This award will no doubt provide parents and carers with yet another illustration of the exemplary educational experience provided at Sedgefield Community College. Congratulations to Mr Davies and the staff and students on this notable achievement.



New Head Teacher

In the December issue it was reported that Sedgefield Community College would be joining the Laidlaw Schools Trust in Spring 2020 and that Mr Davies, the current Head Teacher would be taking a strategic Trust-wide role.

Following an extensive selection process Mr Geoff Robinson has been appointed as the new Head Teacher from September 2020.

Mr Robinson has been a Deputy Head Teacher at the college for 10 years and knows the school extremely well. The Governors are confident he will prove to be an exceptional appointment.

Defibrillator

The Community College now has its own Automated External Defibrillator which is fixed to the wall just inside the entrance used by the community (The HUB). The type fitted is seen quite commonly in public places and is similar in so far as no particular training is required to use it, as the equipment itself guides the user through the operation required. The defibrillator is available for community use at any time that the school is open. Hopefully it will not be not needed.

Care Navigation at Skerne Medical Group How you can help when making an appointment

If you have called the GP Surgery recently to book an appointment, you may have been asked to provide brief details about the reason for your visit. This isn't because the receptionist has an unhealthy interest in your personal life, but it's to help you get the best possible care.

The receptionist staff have been trained to navigate you to the most appropriate service or person. This signposting is called **Care Navigation** and is being used at many GP practices across the country.

By understanding the reason for your visit, the receptionist can make sure you get seen by the right person, at the right time, so that you don't waste your time with extra appointments. It also makes it easier for staff to match patients to practitioners – a significant logistical challenge at a busy practice.

The staff at Skerne Medical Group care for over 15,000 patients in our local community, and in addition to doctors, the group has a number of specialist clinical roles to help patients.

- **Phlebotomist**
- **Health Care Assistant**
- **Practice Nurse**
- **Clinical Practitioner**
- **Paramedic**
- **Practice Pharmacist**

The best person to treat you depends on your clinical requirements.

A phlebotomist is highly trained in taking blood samples, whereas a clinical practitioner can prescribe drugs and treat minor illnesses and injuries. The practice pharmacist can undertake complex medication reviews and the practice nurse can carry out chronic disease reviews. We will take a look at the different roles in more detail in a future issue of the Sedgefield News. Most people are happy to provide a little bit of extra information to ensure they get the best care. However, if the matter is sensitive, you don't need to share! So, if you can, please support the receptionists, and remember, **the best person to help you is not always the GP.**

CPI is a three times winner

At the annual North East Process Industry Cluster (NEPIC) award ceremony held at Hardwick Hall recently, CPI's commitment to upskilling current employees and nurturing future talent was clearly demonstrated when they won The Apprenticeship Employer of the Year award. CPI has chosen to donate the £2,000 prize to Thornaby Academy.

The Apprentice of the Year award was won by Ben Gay, a Laboratory Scientist apprentice at CPI's National Biologics Manufacturing Centre, during his completion of a degree in Biological Sciences at Teesside University.

The Young Achiever award was won by Dan Wallis, who has worked at CPI for just over seven years, recently being appointed as plant supervisor. Dan showed professionalism and leadership in his role as a key player in commissioning the Calysta bespoke demonstration plant under strict deadlines. Jodie Coe, Director of Organisation Development at CPI said "We will continue to have a strong focus on the development of local young scientists and engineers."

Riverside Shoot Out.

Sedgefield Youth FC Under 11s have been invited to take part in a penalty shoot out at the Riverside Stadium.

The penalties will be taken at the half time interval in the Championship clash between Boro and Blackburn Rovers on Saturday 1st February.

If you are at the match, please give your support for the lads who will be hoping to secure victory in front of around 20,000 fans!

The SYFC U11s team are currently unbeaten in their current league campaign and are hoping to transfer their form onto the Riverside pitch!

Sedgefield Youth FC U11s
would like to thank
Sadberge Boarding Kennels
and Cattery for their
ongoing support and
sponsorship of our team.



01325 332 433



ARTS UPDATE

sedgefieldartsandevents@hotmail.com

A Spectacular Panto

Between Christmas and New Year was Panto time as ever, and the Sedgefield Players' choice this year was a new version of 'Mother Goose' by Alan Frayn.

The titular (in more ways than one) heroine of the piece was played by Tom Guest who also choreographed the show alongside Gill Rowe.

The plot, as convoluted as most pantomimes, saw Fairy Friendship (Viv Jacobs/Rosemary Jones) sending Princess Priscilla of Gooseland (Alisha Quinn/Emily Legender) to stay with Mother Goose and her children, Billy (Kieron O'Donnell) and Jill (Kelsey White) so that she could be inaugurated into the Goose Royal Family, headed by the King & Queen of Gooseland (Dave Jasper, Hilary Yeoman and Jessica Sadler).

Jill's boyfriend Colin (Lucy Atkinson) and his Uncle the mean, merciless, miserly Squire of Goosingham (Peter Hook) are on opposite sides of a Rent War with the Squire calling in the Bailiffs (Jacqui O'Meara and Liz Flanagan) to oust Mother Goose from her home. The evil Demona Discontent (Sarah Legender) seduces Mother Goose with Youth and Beauty, which sets her on a quest to become good again, lose her greed for riches and restore Priscilla to her rightful place as Princess of Gooseland. Supporting and ensemble roles were taken by SPYS as usual.

Tech support was provided by Adam White and Richard Flanagan; Walter Howell created beautiful back cloths & scenery and wonderful costumes like the one below were created and developed by Jeanne Iveson.



Sarah Atkinson, directing her first Panto for the Players said 'It's been a fantastic experience from start to finish and the audiences have been exceptional.'

Next up for the Players is their March Production of 'The Railway Children' by children's favourite, E Nesbit, in an adaptation by Mike Kenny. This show features the entire company of the Players (over 80 people) across 4 performances from the 12th to the 14th March, before heading to the Isle of Man Festival in April. Tickets will be available soon. We will also be fundraising with shows including 'Love is all around' - a Cabaret evening on February 14th. More information to follow.

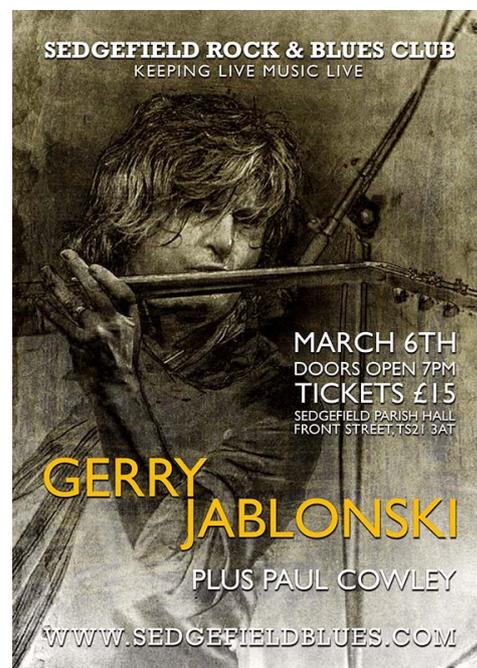


From Sedgefield to Skegness

Sedgefield Blues Club have just returned from the annual trip to the Great Rock and Blues festival at Butlins Skegness, over 50 artists seen in 3 days. Around 5000 rock and blues fans descended on the seaside town for a long weekend of great music from around the world. They showcase up and coming acts through to legendary artists which included the eldest son of Muddy Waters & Dr Feelgood.

For us, it is a great opportunity to spot potential acts to grace the Sedgefield Rock and Blues Club stage in the future. There were many highlights one of which was the sublime Miguel Montalban, an extremely talented guitar player, check him out on Youtube.

Tickets and more great live music at www.sedgefieldblues.com.



DIARY FEBRUARY 2020

Submit events to diary.sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com

- Sun 2nd** **Sedgefield Farmers' Market** 8.30am -12.30pm
Reflective, meditative Tiazé-style ecumenical service, St. John Fisher Church, 6pm. Everyone welcome.
- Mon 3rd** **Sedgefield Local History Society**, Ceddesfeld Hall, 7.45pm. True Heroes of the Sea by David Hastings. Contact Suzanne Hoper 01429 888250.
Sedgefield Methodist Wives & Friends. Dorothy's Well Update with Jim O'Connor. Contact Margaret Dickerson 01740 621093 or Jennifer Mason 01740 620296.
- Tue 4th** **Sedgefield Tea Dance**, Sedgefield Parish Hall 1-3pm, £2.50 including refreshments. Joyce 01740 622601 or Ann 01740 629070 for details.
- Wed 5th** **Sedgefield Women's Institute**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7.15pm. "Ceddesfeld Ukulele Band", competition - a lady's handkerchief.
Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch Meeting, Sedgefield Social Club (Upstairs Room) from 7pm.
- Fri 7th** **Veterans Coffee morning**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am-12pm.
Sedgefield & District U3A 2pm at the Parish Hall. Jean Harrod on 'Deadly Diplomacy'. Guest Welcome £3 at the door. 01740 629574
Quiz night, Sedgefield Cricket Club at 8.30pm.
- Sat 8th** **Sedgefield Twinning Association AGM**, Ceddesfeld Hall, starts at 6.30pm and followed at 7.30pm by a buffet meal (bar open). Free to anyone interested in the association but please contact Judith Edgoose on 07899 984464, email mail@toddshousefarm.co.uk.
- Tue 11th** **Ladies Club**, Ceddesfeld Hall, Cornerstone Support Housing
- Thu 13th** **Sedgefield Show Committee Meeting**, Sedgefield Social Club at 8pm. All meetings are open to everyone who would like to get involved.
- Fri 14th** **Country Market**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10-11.30am. Cakes, crafts, plants, refreshments, everyone welcome.
- Mon 17th** **Sedgefield Family History Group**, Methodist Church Hall at 7.15pm. "Stories & Quirks of family history research in a military museum" with Steve Erskine.
Sedgefield Methodist Wives & Friends. Paton Baldwins, Chris Lloyd.
- Tue 18th** **Ferryhill, Sedgefield & District Flower Club**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 2pm. Nicola Davies Murray. Members free, £5 non-members.
Sedgefield Tea Dance, details as Tue 4th.
- Thu 20th** **Sedgefield Memory Café**, Sedgefield Fire Station, 10.30-12pm. For dementia clients and their carers only.
- Fri 21st** **Sedgefield in Bloom Coffee Morning**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10-11.30pm. Refreshments, home made cakes and scones, book stall, tombola, and raffle.
Live Music Night at Sedgefield Cricket Club, 7.30pm. Main guest is Stony with the John Wrightson Band and support. Admission £11, 01740 621347 for more details.
- Tue 25th** **Mordon & District Ladies Circle**, Mordon Village Hall, 7.30pm. Talk on memory care.
Ladies Club, Ceddesfeld Hall, Erland Randall - Life in the Sand Pit.

Sedgefield Library
Tel: 03000 269521 **Opening Hours:**
 Wednesdays: 9.30am - 12.30pm
 Thursdays: 10am - 6pm
 Fridays: 1pm - 7pm
 Saturdays: 9.30am - 12.30pm
Digital Support : 1st & 3rd Thursdays:
 10.30am - 12.30pm
'Boogie Beat' pre-school session:
 Thursdays 2pm: Booking essential
Craft Group: 1.30pm 2nd & 4th Friday
Book Circle: 3rd Friday 2pm: new members always welcome.

Digital Support at the Library
Do you want to use your iPad, laptop or tablet more effectively? On the 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 10.30am-12.30pm, we hold bite-sized sessions, where you can also use 'Windows 10' and 'Microsoft Office'. Our experienced & qualified volunteer tutor can personalise the session to suit your needs and hopefully solve your problems. Book a slot now!

The Hub
 @Sedgefield Community College
New Dance Generation - Monday
 U9s 5-5.45pm. Over 9s 5.45-6.30pm
Clubercise: Tues 6pm
Zumba: Tues 6.30pm & **Thurs** 7pm
Blade Taekwondo: Sat 10.30am
 Call **01740 617882** for all enquiries.

Sedgefield Social Club
 Entertainment every Saturday
Sew Easy Sessions in February
 Mon: 3rd & 17th
 Wed: 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th, 6.30-9pm
 Venue: Parish Hall Boardroom.

Ceddesfeld Accoustic Group
 First Friday & last Wednesday of every month. All instruments welcome.

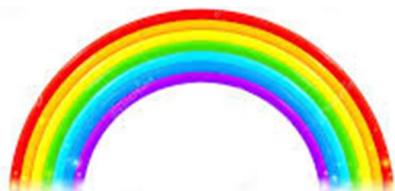
St John Fisher Catholic Church
Weekly Mass Times
 Weds & Fri mornings, 9.45am
 Sunday 10.45am. Thurs 7pm Adoration
 Friday am after Mass, Legion of Mary
parishsecretary1961@btconnect.com

New Generation Church
 Sun 2nd Bethany Centre, Newton Aycliffe.
 Sun 9th, 16th, & 23rd
 at Sedgefield Parish Hall

St. Edmund's Church
 Weekly service times:
 Mon 8.30am: Morning Prayer
 Wed 10am: Eucharist
 1st & 3rd Sun 8am: Eucharist
 1st, 3rd & 5th Sun: 10am Eucharist
 2nd Sun: Morning Worship
 4th Sun: Team Eucharist

Sedgefield Methodist Hall
Non-Profit Playgroup
 Mon, Wed & Thursday 9.30-11.30am in term time. For children aged 2 to 4.
 Contact Barbara Smith 01740 620923 or Jane Jones 01740 620893

Who Built the Ark?



Sunday 9th Feb 11am-12.30pm in St Edmunds Church.

Join Noah in his Ark, dressed as an animal if you wish. Story, mask making, craft & music. Children to be accompanied by an adult.

Mayor's Civic Ball

Friday 6th March at Hardwick Hall Hotel, Sedgefield

Drinks Reception & 3 course meal
 Entertainment by Peter Grant, with Ivory Dan McCormack, supported by Watermelon Dance & Zumba Fitsteps Group, The Mayor's Charity Band - 60's rock & roll dance music
 Carriages at Midnight

Tickets £35 from Sedgefield Town Council Offices - 01740 621273

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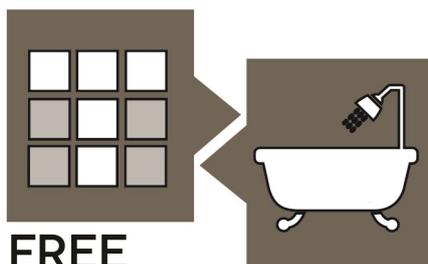
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SEDGEFIELD VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

TV Licensing

Last time we warned of popular scams over Christmas and sure enough an old favourite has raised its head. An email is hitting Inboxes now which purports to be from TV Licensing and suggests that you need to renew your bank details as they have been 'lost'. The layout and logo look very convincing. If you receive this, delete it immediately. If TV Licensing need to contact you, they will write a letter. Please visit our Facebook page to see an image of this scam email.



Neighbourhood Watch Security Equipment

Sedgefield NHW is currently co-ordinating the acquisition of various items of security equipment that will be loaned (in the case of holiday packs) or supplied free of charge (in the case of attack alarms, door alarms, purse bells and UV pens) for the benefit of vulnerable residents in our village. Holiday packs will comprise a TV simulator, three timers and a Patlock (strong lock for French doors). See our Facebook page or come to our next meeting for more information.

Equity Release

Advertising aimed at elderly and retired people is encouraging them to release the equity tied up in their homes. Please be aware of the financial risks. Equity release being sold currently is in fact a mortgage. Another one to take out after you have spent your working life paying off the original mortgage. Before you make such a decision it is essential that you take independent advice (from an advisor of your choice). Martin Lewis of TV consumer advice fame, recommends that the best way to release equity is to sell your property and downsize. Go to: www.moneysavingexpert.com/mortgages/equity-release for more information.

Police Report: Our Police Beat Team have reported the following:

Burglaries at the Co-op. The person arrested and released on bail has now been charged with commercial burglary. One other person has since been arrested and is in prison awaiting trial. Further arrests are expected.

Robbery at the Premier convenience store. One person has been arrested and is on remand awaiting trial for a Well done to our local Police Team for their efforts in achieving a quick result.

Farm Watch The recent meeting reported some thefts of equipment and suspicious activity. Another issue was fly tipping of horse manure in lanes and farm entrances, in some cases, 15 tons at a time. Police soon got a whiff of the culprits and suspects are being questioned (albeit from a distance!)

C.O.P.S.

Our support goes to PC John Lamb, who is spending a cold night in an abandoned and haunted prison to raise money for Care Of Police Survivors (COPS), a charity dedicated to helping families of Police Officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. To donate please go to: www.justgiving.com/careofpolicesurvivors. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Crimestoppers

The Crimestoppers Regional Manager, who is based in Sedgefield, will be giving a presentation on what this initiative is all about at our next NHW Meeting on Wednesday 5th February 2020 at 7pm in the Social Club. Come along and find out more!

The Crimestoppers strap line is **SPEAK UP. STOP CRIME.** Call them on 0800 555111 if you see anything suspicious or have any information at all about an incident, or if something just doesn't seem right. It is 100% anonymous. They won't ask your name, won't judge, but just listen and pass it on. When you hang up the phone you're done.

If you have any information, queries, concerns or news for us, please get in touch via the 'Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch' Facebook page.

For Local Police, call 101

to report concerns, seek advice or pass on information. Keep notes and ask for an incident number. Information will be developed & acted upon.

CPO Rona Stocks

rona.stocks@durham.pnn.police.uk

Police Community Cohesion Officer

Faye Callan 101 Extension 742317:

Faye.callan@durham.pnn.police.uk

Confidential email address:

John.lamb@durham.pnn.police.uk

New Baby & Toddler Playgroup in Sedgefield

A new playgroup for babies and toddlers is starting on Tuesday February 4th at Ceddesfeld Hall in Sedgefield. It will run every Tuesday during term time, from 9:15-11:15.

Parents and carers are welcome to bring their little ones for playtime, snacks, stories and songs.

The playgroup will provide a local opportunity for parents and carers as well as children to socialise.

Please note that parents and carers are expected to stay during the session.

The group is open to everyone on a pay-what-you-can basis, but a small contribution of £3 is suggested to cover weekly running costs.

The playgroup is also collecting toys and equipment suitable for babies or toddlers. Thank you to everyone who has already donated. If you would like to donate something, please get in touch via the Facebook page or by email as below.



Please check the Facebook page for more information or to subscribe.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sedgefieldplaygroup/>

If you are not on Facebook, the playgroup can be contacted at sedgefieldplaygroup@gmail.com



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STEVE'S NATURE DIARY FEBRUARY 2020



When I last visited the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust nature reserve, Maze Park, and had a pleasant stroll around and along the river, looking for seals, I hadn't seen a great deal; a charm of goldfinches had been the highlight. But as I got back to the car, I closed the boot and I saw something in the corner of my eye. **Two Roe deer bounded away on their spring loaded-legs towards the railway line, like antelopes on the African savannah.** This strange habit is known as stotting, from a Scottish term meaning "walk with a bounce".

As they departed the white patches on their backsides shone like beacons in the dim light of a winter's morning. This is quite often the view that people get of deer. Occasionally it is possible to come across a small herd grazing but you have to be really lucky or very good at stalking! We also had a video sent to us of two deer stotting though the Tees Barrage International White Water Course. You can find it on the Teeswildlife Facebook page.

Our most common native deer, the Roe deer tends to be solitary in summer, but forms small, loose groups in winter. The males have relatively short antlers, typically with three points. They begin to grow their antlers in November, shedding the velvet from them in the spring. By summer, they are ready for the rutting season. After mating, they shed their antlers in October and begin to grow a new set. Roe deer live in areas of mixed countryside that includes woodland, farmland, grassland and heathland. They eat buds and leaves from trees and shrubs, as well as ferns, grasses and heathers. A slender, medium-sized deer, the Roe deer has no tail with a pale buff patch around its rump. Their coats are brown in colour, turning reddish in the summer and darker grey in the winter.

Roe deer are one of only two native species of deer in Britain, the other being the much larger Red deer and you would need to travel a lot further afield to catch a glimpse of them. Although Roe deer are classified as native, they were hunted to extinction in England and Wales by the early eighteenth century and these we see today are probably descendants of animals introduced here from mainland Europe. They are doing well in many rural areas, although in some places they can cause problems by browsing the woodland understorey, and this raise the tricky question: when does a native mammal become a pest?

The Roe deer has no natural enemies now that lynx, wolves and bears no longer roam our countryside. Now there's an idea for another "Rewilding" story...

Guides work to raise funds

Members of 1st Sedgefield Guides helped busy shoppers to pack their Christmas shopping in Sainsbury's, and some of the money raised will be used to support three guides who will attend the International Community Experience 2020 trip to Cork in Ireland in April. Olivia, Grace and Ellen will join 21 guides from across the North East who will meet guides from across the UK.

L-R Amelia Martin, Grace Rowe, Olivia Martin & Ellen Parry, pictured with guide leader, Joanne Thompson & Sainsbury's manager, Nichola Young.



YOUR LETTERS

Message from Australia

I have been very touched by my friends in Sedgefield as well as elsewhere sending me messages and thought for the residents of Sydney and New South Wales. I am currently staying in Victoria, the nearest fire being 12 kilometres away. It's scary stuff but I am touched by your messages and love, which I have passed on.
Best regards, *Mavis Wayman*

Sew grateful

I would like to thank all those amazing generous ladies and gentleman who have donated their once-loved sewing machines and over-lockers to refugees at the centre in Thornaby.

Nineteen machines were given to delighted ladies, who will now be able to develop skills, and gain satisfaction and purpose in their difficult circumstances.

There was also a most generous gift of a large quantity of material, wools and sewing cotton, all of which have been put to excellent use.

Here's a thank you message from Shirza, an Iraq asylum seeker:

"We are so grateful for your kindness. These sewing machines have made so many people happy. It has given us something to help with our independence, for example, making clothes for our children, curtains and bedding and lots of projects."

Chris Mills

A catch-up from Carole Lawford

Hello my fabulous friends and happy new year. I've been having some treatment but I'm feeling better now and I'm very happy to be moving into a beautiful adapted flat, just perfect for me as my needs change. It's very exciting!

Soon I will look out on a pond with green space around me and ducks on my terrace. Honey loves watching them!



CEDESSELD HALL

Home of Sedgefield Community Association

Activities for 2020 are already in full swing at Ceddesfeld Hall. We have such a variety of interest groups who meet regularly. There really is something for everyone!

SCA currently has over 670 members. Membership fees are very important to SCA as all money goes towards the maintenance and upkeep of the hall, which is run wholly by volunteers. The annual subscription fee is very reasonable; £8 for adults (18 to 60 yrs), £7 for senior (60 plus) and £4 for children and full-time students.

The SCA are committed to providing value for money. All members are entitled to discount for room bookings. For example, to book the main hall for an evening event costs £60 for a non-member, whereas a member would only have to pay £35. A wedding booking (11am to 6pm) would cost members £100, compared to £140 for non-members. All details of room hire can be found on the SCA website.

In recent weeks, the Swinhoe and Oldham rooms and the foyer have been re-decorated. A new carpet is due to be laid in the foyer and the staircase will be re-decorated in March. The outside of the building is scheduled to be painted a little later in the year.

SCA is holding its first **Wedding Fair** on Sunday 3rd May. All enquiries to go to Amie Davies via email at diy-a-wedding@hotmail.com. There are a few exhibitor spaces remaining.

A **Pop & Prosecco** night, which will be a fun night of group singing, takes place on **Friday 21st February**, from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm. This popular social event is new to Ceddesfeld Hall and welcomes adults of all abilities from shy beginners to veteran divas. The Singing Elf - vocal tutor Rebecca McGarvie - will bring the pop, teaching upbeat hits from the 60s and 70s.

Tickets cost £5 and can be obtained via email; info@sedgefieldsca.org.uk or from Sarah on 01740 622185 or Rebecca on 0191 3721682. Tickets can also be purchased on the door. For more information, visit www.thesingingelf.co.uk.



Sedgefield Mediaeval Fayre Saturday 16th May 2020



SCA are very keen to attract increased sponsorship for this, our biggest event and would love to hear from local firms & businesses, pubs & restaurants, who have much to gain from getting involved.

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

SEDFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST NEWS

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

Notice of Annual General Meeting

This is to give notice that Sedgefield Development Trust Ltd. will hold its Annual General Meeting on

Monday 10th February 2020 at 7.45 pm
in the **Boardroom of the Parish Hall.**

Any special or general resolutions proposed must be with the Company at its registered office, 7 Melgrove Way, Sedgefield, TS21 2JN, no later than 12 noon on Sunday 2nd February.

All nominations for Directors must be with the Company Secretary no later than 12 noon Sunday 2nd February.

This AGM is an open, public meeting.
SDT is owned and controlled by the community.

You are welcome to attend

Sedgefield Development Trust is a company limited by guarantee; Company Number: 4312745 and is a registered charity; Charity Number: 1100806

An Ideas Forum?

One of the great things about an open meeting like our AGM (above) is that there's a very good chance that someone will pop up with a brilliant new idea that could in time become one of SDT's successful projects. Ideas can vary greatly. Some have provoked much heated discussion; others are accepted as yes, blindingly obvious! Here's a quick rundown of what we do already:

Sedgefield News, SedgefieldWeb, Energy Switch, The Farmers' Market, DIDO, Sew Easy, Woodland & Wildlife, Homework Help, The Bees at Hardwick and in conjunction with STC & Rotary, the Citizen of the Year. In development for some time has been a possible sustainable energy project in conjunction with NETPark. But do you have a great idea? You are very welcome to come along and share it with us.

Sedgefield Energy Switch

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR THE FEBRUARY AUCTION

The current registration period closes on 10th February. If you are a part of our switching scheme already and your contract comes to an end before the end of April you need to register now, or if you are thinking of joining us for the first time, now is the time to act. You can register in one of two ways;

First, online. Go to www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk/ENERGY SWITCH. Click on 'REGISTER NOW' then 'SIGN UP TODAY'. Simply fill out your details.

Second, through the post. If you need help, please call 07980 134 594, the Sedgefield Development Trust Helpline. We are happy to assist, and can even complete registration for you. Registering for this scheme commits you to nothing and you are guaranteed not to receive any pestering phone calls.

Sedgefield Farmers Market

farmers@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk
charitystall@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Sunday 2nd February

Spice Up Your Life! The latest addition to our food range is a spice merchant from Middlesbrough, **Diablo Seasonings** (the Boro is increasingly well known for its cosmopolitan food outlets!) Believe me, the sight of this range of spices and seasonings will take you back to holidays in the sun!

It's great to know that our new plantswoman, **Debbie Owen**, who came for the first time in January, produces all the plants she sells; nothing is bought in!

The Woodland Trust makes a return visit to our charity stall this month, with tree planting so significant in the current climate crisis. Come along find out how you can help.

CONTACTING SEDGFELD NEWS

Our email address is changing to bring it into the SDT family, along with the other projects. Here's the new address

news@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk

We'll keep sedgefieldnews@hotmail.com for as long as possible, but not for ever!



Some of the Sedgefield Harriers who ran Old Monks.

Athletics

It was a very busy start to the year for Sedgefield Harriers, with club representatives taking part in various events, starting on New Year's Day. The popular Captain Cook's Fell Race starts and finishes in Great Ayton, the five-mile route including the small matter of a climb up to Captain Cook's Monument and a dash back down to the village. This year it was the first in a series marking the 50th anniversary of the Fell Running Association, and the record field saw 449 runners complete the course. First Harrier to finish was James Oldfield, an impressive 12th in 34 mins 21 secs. Full results on [sedgefieldweb](http://sedgefieldweb.co.uk).

The Stuart Pailor Memorial Race, also known as 'Old Monks' is organised by Hartlepool Burn Road Harriers. A challenging multi-terrain race, it includes two dips in and out of Castle Eden Dene. This was the first race of 2020 that formed part of Sedgefield Harriers' Grand Prix, a series of events over 10 months during which club members compete with each other in internal league divisions, earning points based on their performance in the races. Almost 30 Harriers tackled Old Monks and four of them finished in the top 20. The highlight was Sedgefield's women winning the team title – well done to Lisa Darby, Abbie Walker, Emma Featherstone and Marie Walker. That same weekend, a few juniors & seniors 'enjoyed' the first cross country event of the year at the Sherman Cup in South Shields. The following week, three Harriers ran the Brass Monkey Half Marathon in York. First to finish was Ian Hedley in 1:39:48, followed by Andrew Featherstone, 1:41:53 and Emma Featherstone, 1:42:05 - personal bests for both Ian and Emma. There's much more, including the Gerry Kearsley Memorial Trophy (*some Harriers' successes pictured right*) but for more, you will need to visit our partner website, www.sedgefieldweb.co.uk.

Squash

Not long before Christmas, Sedgefield Squash Club held a very successful junior team handicap competition. 28 players completed 42 matches, playing 84 games and scoring a total of 1,507 points (well done to volunteer markers who had to count all of those points!) The handicap also provided a very keenly fought competition, resulting in a three-way tie for the number of games won, so the final result was determined on count-back, with the number of points scored deciding the overall winner. The victors edged out the runners-up by a mere six points (out of those 1,507). Players in that team were Roan Lee (capt), Matteo Rutherford, Harry Siddall, Jake Bunting, Amelia Martin, George Nott and Josh Bunting. In the Individual Club Handicap event, Ben Wilberforce defeated Simon Hill in a marathon encounter. Starting on -32 to Ben's +5, Simon had to win a lot of points to reach 15 in each game of a best of three match. Eventually, the exertions were too great, and Ben came out on top, 15-8, 6-15, 15-11. The club is grateful to all members who took part in both well supported competitions.

Sedgefield Squash Club's new coaching term has now started and will run until Saturday 28th March (there will not be a break for the February half-term). For all coaching contacts, membership and general information, visit the club's website at www.sedgefieldsquashclub.co.uk.

Cricket

Indoor winter coaching is in full swing now, with it the realisation that it's only just over 12 weeks until the start of the season! Sedgefield Cricket Club holds its annual Kit Day on Saturday 23rd February, a chance to buy club branded cricket clothing and catch up with friends and colleagues, and to renew subscriptions, which at the time of going to print can be paid by cash or card at the club, due to unforeseen delays in getting the new online membership scheme up and running. The bar is open during the winter months, with upcoming social functions on social media. Keep up to date via Facebook or follow @Sedgefield_CC on Twitter.



Abbie Walker, fastest lady in the Winter Handicap, with chair of Sedgefield Harriers, Pete King.



Louise Collins, winner of the Winter Handicap, receives her trophy.



Paul Weir, fastest man in the Winter Handicap.

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