

SEDGEFIELD NEWS

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

February 2025

Submission deadline for the next edition: Friday 14 February

Happy to chat

Fishburn Parish Council have introduced "The Happy To Chat Bench" on Fishburn Village Green. It is located opposite the barber's shop near to the crossroads. Feel free to sit there and chat. If you need help or to talk to someone, there are numbers listed to help you.



Volunteers needed

Sedgefield Farmers Market would like to fill two roles for the busy and successful Sunday market:

1. Market Administrator/Organiser to manage the general running of the market, communicating with stall holders and volunteers
2. Market Manager - to operate on alternate months with the current Manager to ensure smooth operation on the day of the market.

For both roles you will get to work with a great group of people and a handover will ensure that you're not thrown in the deep end! If you are interested and would like to know more please email us at farmers@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk.

Sedgefield Rock & Blues club

Blue Nation and Dirty Ruby : 8 March

Get ready to be blown away by the electrifying force that is Blue Nation! Hailing from the heart of Birmingham, this powerhouse 3-piece band unleashes a seismic fusion of riff based melodic blues rock, crafted from a reservoir of iconic influences including The Beatles, Cream, Zeppelin, and Brit Pop 90's, along with more recent inspirations like Rival Sons and Vintage Trouble. Brace yourself for their unforgettable sound!

Fronted by a mesmerizing vocalist, Blue Nation's songs are delivered with soul and passion, showcasing the remarkable talents of three accomplished musicians who have mastered their craft. Their live performances are nothing short of awe-inspiring, with an impressive gig experience and an undeniable stage presence that leaves audiences begging for more.

Tickets: www.sedgefieldblues.com

A poster for the Sedgefield Rock and Blues Club event on 8th March 2025. The poster features the text "Sedgefield Rock and Blues Club" at the top, followed by "8th March 2025". Below this, it lists the bands "BLUE NATION" and "DIRTY RUBY". There are two photographs: one of the Blue Nation band performing on stage and another of the Dirty Ruby band. The poster also includes a QR code for tickets and the text "Thank you for supporting live music". At the bottom, it provides the website "www.sedgefieldblues.com" and the location "Sedgefield Parish Hall, TS21 3AT".

Former Sedgefield pupil speaks about children's mental health at House of Commons



Vivienne Trask-Hall speaking at the House of Commons

Find out more on page 3.

SCHOOL NEWS

Bright Star Library

Year 6 pupils at Sedgefield Hardwick Primary Academy are spearheading an inspiring initiative as part of their Community Impact Offer to support the creation of a library at the Bright Star Christian School in Ghana.

In 2023, over 50 pieces of technology, ranging from laptops to tablets were gathered together and sent to improve the technology available for the pupils at the school in order to improve the computer skills and computer science knowledge of the pupils. Last year, boxes of PE equipment and clothing were donated by parents and children at Sedgefield Hardwick as well as generous donations from Sedgefield Community College and Durham County Cricket Club to further enhance the enjoyment the children at Bright Star have of sport.

This year, children at Sedgefield Hardwick are aiming to provide students in Ghana with access to valuable educational resources and foster a love of reading that will benefit them for years to come and they need your help! Partnering with Silksworth Independent Methodist Church in Sunderland, which provides financial aid to the Bright Star School, the pupils are collecting book donations to fill the shelves of the new library. "The support that Sedgefield Hardwick has given the school over the last few years has been invaluable. I know the staff and pupils at the school are incredibly grateful for all of the technology and equipment they have been sent in previous years and are very eager to work with the school to develop their library for the benefit of their pupils for years to come," stated Peter Machin, a member of Silksworth Independent Methodist Church.

Books can be dropped off at Sedgefield Hardwick Primary Academy, located on Hawthorn Road (TS21 3DA), throughout February. The donations will be collected and shipped to Ghana to support the Bright Star Christian School's new library. Any children's books, from nursery to secondary school age, are warmly welcomed.

Learning for Life

'Learning Together for life' is our school motto at Sedgefield Primary. We endorse traditional values of pupils reaching their full academic potential in a family feel environment, which promotes sharing and caring for others. Pupils in all classes have set out their goals for 2025 to be the best they can be. This year, pupils are keen to make good use of our new outdoor classroom and our woodlands area. Many of our pupils say that Golden Time is their favourite part of the week. Pupils get to enjoy the outdoors with our wide age range and support one another. We provide care and engaging learning for pupils aged 3-11 years in an enriched environment.

Pupils meet and learn regularly in family groups and explore a diverse range of citizenship issues. We also use this time to celebrate our successes. These successes vary from celebrating high order mental calculation skills in Mathematics, excelling in English or demonstrating outstanding kindness to others. A weekly celebration assembly ensures these skills are recognised by all with whole school involvement.



Pupils gain individual family group points, which contribute towards a shared cumulative total for the winning weekly family group. Pupils of our school are proud to be part of this whole school effective team work approach.



End of term fun

The end of the autumn term is always an exciting one at Sedgefield Community College, with a number of annual events taking place that are among the highlights of each school year. First of all, it was wonderful to have more children than ever before performing in our Christmas Carol Concert and to see a similarly bumper audience of parents and carers joining us to enjoy a whole host of wonderful performances. For the first time, it was a particular pleasure to have a number of primary students from Sedgefield Primary and Sedgefield Hardwick taking part in the event and showcasing their considerable musical talents!

The final day of the autumn term saw a whole host of activities taking place as we focused on ensuring our children had a brilliant final day in school before the start of the Christmas holiday. Among the activities taking place were a whole school game of bingo and an amazing 'silent' disco that was supported by Durham University, who provided the school with the state-of-the-art headphones required.



Silent disco

Our 'Rewards Assemblies' remain the centrepiece of the day and it was wonderful to see students and staff joining in the celebrations together... joined by Santa of course! During the assemblies, students also had the opportunity to win fantastic prizes by spinning the 'Sedgefield Wheel of Wonder' and we're delighted that one of our students did win the star prize of a brand-new Xbox gaming console thanks to their lucky spin!



SEDGEFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST *PROJECT NEWS*



Sunday 2 February
on the Village Green
8:30am - 12:15pm

Unfortunately, only one trader was able to attend the Market in January due to the weather conditions, Mellanby's have been with the Market for many years and have turned up in all weathers, so a big thank you to our loyal trader and all their loyal customers who came out and supported them in the deep snow.



We are hoping for calmer weather for the Market in February and expect all our traders to be there. Please come along and support your local Market and bring your four-legged friends along as well! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates on the Market.



Christmas Tree Recycling Day at Skerne Wood

Many thanks to everyone who brought us their real Christmas tree this year. We were particularly impressed by those who arrived on foot dragging a tree behind them!



We had a lovely, cold but sunny morning using the Christmas trees to regenerate one of the dead hedges, which over the years has been a home to birds and insects.

We were treated to a visit by a buzzard, which perched close to where we working – hopefully it approved our handiwork.

If you would like to know more about the project please contact Melissa at woodland@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk or join our Facebook page - [Woodland & Wildlife - Sedgefield](#).



Notice of Annual General Meeting

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

Monday 10 February 2025 at 7:30pm in the Oldham Room of Ceddesfeld Hall

Any special or general resolutions proposed must be with the Company at its registered office 3a Front Street, Sedgefield TS21 3AT, no later than 12 noon on Monday 3 February.

This AGM is an open, public meeting. You are welcome to attend.

Sedgefield Development Trust is a company limited by guarantee.

Company Number: 4312745

Registered Charity Number: 1100806

Bin lorry fires



Durham County Council is asking people to make sure vapes and batteries are not put in rubbish or recycling bins, following four fires last year.

The incidents, including one in Sedgefield, takes the total number since 2019/20 to 12. In addition, three fires have broken out in waste at the council's waste transfer station since the beginning of April, due to inappropriate items being discarded in the waste.



Clr Mark Wilkes, the authority's Cabinet member for neighbourhoods and climate change, said: "A number of fires have started in our bin lorries because of people putting vapes and batteries in their rubbish or recycling bins.

Where they do this and the vapes and batteries inadvertently end up in the bin lorry, they can get crushed. This can cause batteries, including those inside the vapes, to overheat and, in some cases, leak lithium which is highly flammable.

Please, dispose of vapes and batteries correctly and safely to help keep our firefighters, partner agency workers and communities safe."

Former Sedgefield pupil speaks about children's mental health at House of Commons

Vivienne Trask-Hall, who grew up in Sedgefield and attended Sedgefield Hardwick Primary School and Sedgefield Community College, spoke at the House of Commons recently. Now head of product and innovation at Thrive Approach, a leading provider of social and emotional learning (SEL) training and resources, Viv works to improve the well-being, mental health and behaviour of children and young people.

At the House of Commons event, Viv shared her expertise on how SEL can benefit children, equipping them with skills to manage emotions, build relationships, and navigate challenges. The event aimed to address the growing mental health crisis among young people and its impact on education. Viv believes that prioritising SEL in the curriculum can be a low-cost solution with significant benefits.

The Thrive Approach emphasises the importance of creating a supportive and nurturing environment where children feel safe, valued, and understood. It focuses on building strong relationships, developing social and emotional skills, and understanding child development.



Vivienne Trask-Hall at the House of Commons

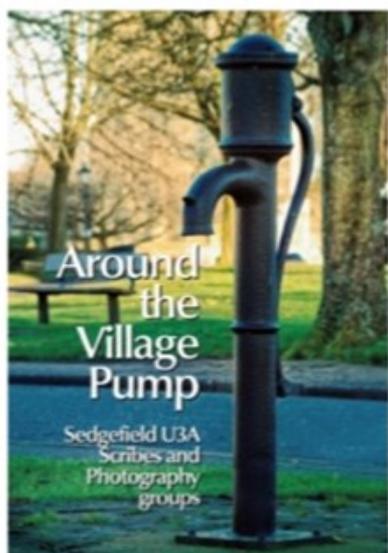
Viv, a passionate advocate for children's well-being, is also a proud foster carer and leads a team of foster families. Her dedication extends beyond her professional work, championing social and emotional learning so that every child and young person can reach their full potential, creating a generation of young people who not only succeed but truly thrive.

U3A UPDATE

u3a

Our members tend to take it easy in January, recovering from Christmas and trying to safely avoid the worst of the winter weather. However, almost 50 of them attended our first meeting of this new year when Keith Simpson talked to us about the history, constancy and changes that have occurred in Tudhoe Village. We were fascinated to learn of the Edwardian Orphanage, the earlier Dame School, the numerous farms and the possibility of a tunnel connecting two of the larger houses in the village. And did you know that they boast the longest village green in County Durham – at just over a quarter of a mile?

Following the success of their pantomime broadcast on Radio Tyneside just before Christmas, our Creative Writing Group is now concentrating on a new topic and on liaising with other groups to share and exchange writing and to connect with the wider world through a WordPress blog and greater use of social media.



A couple of years ago, they produced a short book of stories based on local myths and legends which was illustrated by our Photography group. Before Christmas, they sent a copy of this publication to u3as in the furthest reaches of the UK; copies were sent to Jersey and Guernsey, to St Just in Cornwall, to the Orkney and Shetland islands and to Enniskillen in Northern Ireland. Internationally, a copy winged its way to Sydney in Australia. We've recently learned that there is a u3a in our sister town of Sedgefield in South Africa, so we'll shortly be posting off a copy to them too!

In February, the Group will be hosting another visit by Lucy Brownlee who will be expanding on her October talk on Prose Writing. Non-members are very welcome to attend this meeting. Please see the Events page of our website for further details.

STEVE'S NATURE DIARY FEBRUARY 2025

As I write this the cold snap has just come to an end and it won't be long before the Blue Tit in my garden will be checking out the nest box and the Great Tit will be doing their familiar "Teacher Teacher" call to attract a mate and mark their territory. This is perfect timing for National Nest Box week, which will be soon, and which happens to coincide with Valentine's Day when romance is in the air! British birds are short of nesting holes, and there are plenty of reasons why. Our gardens, parks and woodland are neater and tidier than they used to be, depriving birds of natural holes to find a home. And to make matters worse there are fewer handy nooks and crannies in modern buildings. The populations of many bird species are down as a result of this housing shortage.

The good news is that everyone can do their bit to help and your own garden is a great place to start. The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) reckons that if all the gardens in Britain were rolled up into one giant plot, it would be a huge area bigger than Suffolk. Just imagine how our wild birds would benefit if each one of those gardens contained a nest box or two, plus plants and insects providing food. Alongside common visitors – like Blue Tits, Great Tits, House Sparrows, Robins and Starlings – putting up a box may also boost your chance of attracting rarer species. Different birds have different requirements – size of box, size of hole or open fronted or other special requirements. So, if you don't have one in your garden it is well worth putting one up and now is a good time to do it.



**national
nestbox
week.com**

Making more homes
for Britain's birds

You can find more information on how to make one (or which one to buy) and where to put it at nestboxweek.com. Don't forget that nest boxes are good for us too. Spending time in the garden, building your own box and watching birds make themselves at home are all great stress-busters.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 7 February in the Parish Hall from 2pm to 4pm when a representative from Durham Wildlife Trust will be telling us about their vital work in the various nature reserves in County Durham, the visitor centres at their conservation bases at Rainton Meadows and Low Barns and how best to discover, protect and conserve local wildlife from the Tees to the Tyne.



**Durham
Wildlife Trust**
From Tees to Tyne

If you are retired or semi-retired, you are very welcome to join us then. We look forward to meeting you.

Chris Balfour

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.

Thank you

Just after the New Year, our hardy team braved the very chilly temperatures to collect Christmas trees from Sedgefield, which will be recycled by AW Treecare, and used in sites managed by Sedgefield in Bloom. This has now become an annual fundraiser for the group and we would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us in the project.



LETTERS

SLYC @ 40

At Sedgefield Lyrics Youth Choir (SLYC), we're having a lot of fun looking back over the 40 years since we came into being. A lot of the focus has been on me, as the person who stood at the front that January night in 1985, but I really must put the record straight.

A series of piano accompanists, Kath Kelly, Alistair Fisher, Mary Graham, Rachel Lee and occasional others, took much of the strain. Kay Marsland led a Junior section when choir membership grew to over 40 singers between the ages of 7 and 19, and there was always support from the Lyric Singers.

However, two people deserve particular credit for SLYC's continued success. Fourteen years ago, Rob Guest had come home from Hull University with a degree in music, to begin a career in the public and cultural sectors. Soon he was back with us as accompanist and joined by Kristen Peacock (now Guest), the youth choir thrives under their leadership.

I couldn't be prouder of the SLYC singers and their inspiring leaders.

Sandy Clubley

Christingle thank you

On 22 December, St Edmund's Church had over 120 parents and children at the Christingle Service. The 100 oranges which were used to make the Christingles were given to the church free of charge by Sainsbury's - many thanks to the Store Team.

Through the generosity of those leaving a donation in the collection, over £140 went to local charity Feeding Families, the other half going into church funds. Thank you.

Chris Rowsby (Treasurer St Edmund's Church)

Ding Dong Merrily

It was lovely to be able to ring the bells at St Edmund's for Christmas and on New Year's Eve for the first time in five years. The bells could be heard for all the Christmas services and for the traditional "ringing in the New Year" at midnight, and our two "newbies" also managed to ring on at least one occasion. This despite one of the stays breaking during a practice night just a couple of weeks before Christmas. The stay is a crucial short wooden post attached to the headstock of each bell that prevents it from swinging round and round continuously rather than back and forth as it should, and once broken, renders the bell unsafe to ring. Enter the three K's; Kevin, Kevin and Ken, who are becoming increasingly invaluable to our team. They are not ringers, but are very good at minor repairs, and we are indebted to them for their help, thank you so much.

I have been asked a few times why there was just one bell ringing for a while before the others joined in. It is tradition for the "old year" to be rung out before the "new year" is rung in. So the heaviest bell (known as the tenor) will ring the same number of times as the current year, this last one being 24, and the rest of the bells will start to ring before its 25th blow on the stroke of midnight to mark the new year 2025. Sounds relatively easy but it's quite difficult to get the timing exactly right. I think this year was the closest we've been. It's considered quite an honour for the person given the task of ringing the old year out on the tenor and this time Jenette carried it out perfectly.

We'd like to wish all our listeners a happy new year and thank all those who have put comments on social media since we started ringing again at the end of 2023.



Remembering Rebecca

Sedgefield Funeralcare are supporting a registered charity, Remembering Rebecca, with the collection of bottle bags which are needed for their many fundraising events across the year. If you have any spare, unwanted bottle bags, to kindly bring them into Sedgefield Funeralcare and we will forward them onto the charity which raises awareness of Lissencephaly and offers financial assistance to children with Lissencephaly and other neurological conditions.

rememberingrebecca
...raising awareness of Lissencephaly

Sedgefield in Bloom



VALENTINES

COFFEE MORNING

COME ALONG, JOIN US AND MEET YOUR FRIENDS
FOR OUR POPULAR COFFEE MORNING

FRIDAY 14th February 2025

Parish Hall at 10am

Lucky door prize, cakes, tombola, raffle and much more

Mayor of Sedgefield's

Ceilidh

LIVE MUSIC BY BLIND PANIC

1st March 2025
Sedgefield Parish Hall

Doors 7pm for 7:30pm dancing
BYO food & drink

TICKETS £12.50 OUT NOW
Sedgefield Town Council Office | 01740 621273
Capacity limited to 75 for the best dancing experience





First Monday every month
7.45pm in Ceddesfeld Hall

Visitors welcome



Monday 3rd February 2025

AGM - complimentary drink on arrival

Looking forward to 2025 with an exhibition from our collections

Annual subs will be collected



ARTS UPDATE with Geoff Millichap

sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com

Durham's Fire & Ice Festival

Prepare to be dazzled when Durham City is transformed into a winter wonderland for the Fire & Ice Festival 2025! From 28 February to 1 March, the city will host a trail based on music featuring stunning ice sculptures meticulously carved by world-class artists, each capturing the rhythm and harmony of music in breathtaking frozen form.

As day turns to night, the streets will come alive with fiery performances, creating a spectacular fusion of fire and ice in a beautiful and historic setting. This family-friendly event offers interactive installations, live entertainment, and perfect photo-opportunities, making it a must-see for all ages.

Admission is free, with no need to book, so don't miss the magic of Fire and Ice in Durham!



Science Saved the World

Prepare to have your curiosity ignited and your mind blown—the Ministry of Science is bringing their explosively entertaining show, "Science Saved The World," to the Stockton Globe on Saturday 8 February 2025.

No typical science lecture; this is a high-octane spectacle with huge blooms of liquid nitrogen, fire tornadoes, and a self-built hovercraft all packed into 1 hour 50 minutes of educational entertainment. Showtimes are at 12:30pm and 4pm, with tickets priced at £15.

See science in action as never before, and let your little ones be astounded and inspired by a lively cast of presenters. Further details at: stockonglobe.co.uk/shows/ministry-of-science-live-science-saved-the-world

Paradise Found

Rev up your engines for an unforgettable night of power ballads and epic rock anthems!

On Sunday 16 February, "Paradise Found – Live Meat Loaf Rock Show," comes to Billingham Forum. A spectacular celebration of the legendary Meat Loaf.

Starting at 7pm, this electrifying tribute show will have you rocking out to iconic hits like Bat Out of Hell, Two Out of Three Ain't Bad, and I'd Do Anything for Love (But I Won't Do That). With soaring vocals, a powerhouse live band, and theatrical flair, this show is a feast for fans of larger-than-life rock.

Tickets are priced at £30 from forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk/show/paradise-found-live-meat-loaf-rock-show/.

Whether you're a die-hard Meat Loaf fan or just love a good night of classic rock, don't miss out on "Paradise Found"!



Pride & Prejudice on stage

Step into the world of romance, wit, and social intrigue as Jane Austen's timeless classic *Pride and Prejudice* comes to life at the Sir Thomas Allen Assembly Rooms Theatre.

From Wednesday 12 February, to Saturday 15 February, audiences will be transported to the elegant world of Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy in this enchanting stage adaptation. Austen's sharp humour, heartfelt emotion, and iconic characters are performed from 7:30pm each night, accompanied by a string quartet. With its sweeping love story and biting social commentary, this production promises to delight both long-time Austen fans and newcomers alike. Tickets are just £7 for an evening of captivating drama. Visit theassemblyroomstheatre.org/whats-on for further details.



More local events

Valentine Murder Mystery Night - Hardwick Hall Hotel

Love, intrigue, and a killer night out! Price includes drinks reception, canapes, 4-course meal and murder mystery plot.

Friday 14 February, 7:30pm £55pp
hardwickhallhotel.co.uk/events/valentine-murder-mystery-night/



Art Classes at The ARC, Stockton

Unleash your creativity in a relaxed, beginner-friendly space, under expert tuition, guidance, and encouragement! All art supplies supplied.

Wednesdays from 6pm, £7

arconline.co.uk/whats-on/art-class/



Terry Deary – A History of Britain in Ten Enemies - The Story, Durham

Join national treasure and County Durham resident Terry Deary for insightful analysis of our national story.

Sunday 2 March, 2pm, £12.50
thestorydurham.org/whats-on/terry-deary-a-history-of-britain-in-ten-enemies/

Little Fledglings Forest School, Hardwick Park

Places are available for these nature-filled adventures for toddlers up to age 5, building confidence and curiosity.

Tuesdays from 4 March, £48 for 6 weeks, 10am to 12 noon
durham.gov.uk/HardwickEvents

SPORTS UPDATE with Chris Lines chrisjlines@aol.com

The new sporting year has started at breakneck speed and there's plenty to share, so I'd better get on with it...

Taekwondo

In early December, four students from Fishburn Chi Taekwondo Club were successful in achieving their 1st Dan black belts at a North East British Taekwondo grading.

The students - Katherine Cooper Young, Arlo Young, Kendra Wade and Phil Atkinson - who regularly train at Fishburn Youth and Community Centre, had to perform four patterns, pre-arranged sparring, free sparring, self-defence and breaking techniques.

Club instructor, Master Mike Britton (5th Dan), said they all worked very hard for this day and excelled on the floor, along with students from other taekwondo clubs.



Fishburn Chi Taekwondo Club members

Taekwondo is a traditional martial art, originating from Korea, and students can expect to learn a full range of skills including kicking, punching, poomsae (patterns) and self-defence. Taekwondo is also excellent for keeping fit, building confidence, learning respect, and teaches strong ethics and moral values for children and adults alike.

Fishburn Chi Taekwondo Club meets on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:00-7:30pm. It currently has over 30 students training, aged six to 75 years old, and is open to all who would like to learn. For more information, please call 07743 455065 or 07368 818372.

Squash

Sedgefield Squash Club has some exciting news to start the year as it has a county champion in its midst. Colin Langley became the Squash 57 (racketball) champion at the Durham & Cleveland County Closed Championships, defeating Phil Mobley from Barnard Castle 3-0. Huge congratulations to Colin.

It's been a busy start to the new year for team players with the resumption of the Durham & Cleveland County Leagues. The standout result was the ladies' team, who won 3-0 down at Bedale and the 5th team also had an exciting 3-2 win against Nunthorpe 3rd team. A few of the club's players travelled over to the Carlisle Squash Open. This was the fourth and largest event of the MatchPoint one-day events. The Sedgefield successes on the day were Colin Langley who was runner up in the A Plate final and Huey Lamb who won the D event.

Two of the club's players, Rob Pearce and Oliver Walls, were members of the county team nominated to play a touring team from South Africa called the South African Knights, at Redcar Squash Club. The South Africans were on their 30th tour and were 5-0 winners on the last night of their tour, having already played 29 matches throughout the UK. It was a well-attended event, with an audience from across the county who thoroughly enjoyed watching the high standard of squash on the night.

If you would like to enquire about joining Sedgefield Squash Club, please email info@sedgefieldsquashclub.co.uk.

Cricket

For Sedgefield Cricket Club, February marks the start of preparations for the 2025 season, with indoor net sessions getting underway. Senior and U17 squad members begin weekly sessions at Norton's indoor centre on Wednesday 12 February, from 6pm to 7pm, plus fortnightly sessions at Sedgefield Community College starting on Friday 7 February, from 7:45pm to 9pm. New or returning players are welcome. The other junior squads will also begin their training at the college this month, with parents having been notified of their schedules.

The calendar year also means it's membership renewal time, with a big thank you to everyone who has already signed up. The cricket club bar is open during the winter months. Open to everyone, but with discounted prices for members, the bar remains a great place to watch televised sport or enjoy a game of darts.



Meanwhile, the cricket club is fundraising for a project to buy equipment that will allow it to livestream matches during the summer. As part of the efforts, on Saturday 22 February, 1st XI captain Ben Swindale and fellow players Luke Henderson, Phil Reynard and David Budd will run an ultra-marathon of 56km from Bedale Cricket Club (the furthest away fixture that the first team will play in 2025) to Sedgefield. The four men will welcome people who want to join them and you will be able to find more details on the club's social media platforms closer to the date. If you would like to contribute to the fundraising, you can do that at <https://gofund.me/c327ffe0>.

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



CEDDESFELD HALL

SCA was delighted to welcome in 2025 with the traditional Burns Supper. The evening was well attended and enjoyed by all. Special thanks must go to Paul Cook the Piper, to Ian Sutherland for the Selkirk Grace, to Jim Sutherland for his Address to the Haggis and his Toast to the Immortal Memory, to Peter Hinde for his Toast to the Lassies and to Maxine Patterson for the Response. There was indeed a rousing rendition of Auld Lang Syne to finish!

Ceddesfeld Hall is very pleased to host a folk and country music night with the very popular John Wrightson Band (and friends) on Saturday 8 February. Places for the event were snapped up within a day, which is amazing, and very much reflects the long tradition of folk music in the town, with special thanks to Joan Edmundson, who was the driving force for Sedgefield Folk Club for many years.

Ceddesfeld Hall Community Bar continues to offer a warm welcome to all members and residents. The bar has recently been listed in the CAMRA Good Beer guide! The real ales from local brewers remain popular and special mention must go to Hopper House Brew Farm, Durham Brewery and Yard of Ale for their flavoursome and varied choice of beers. Flavoured gins, sparkling wine and cider (now on draft) add to the mix too, all at very reasonable cost! The bar continues to be run by a small committee of dedicated volunteers and is open from Monday to Friday, from 7:30 pm. Please do get in touch if you are interested in getting involved!

Springtime Events

Everyone is of course looking forward to the better weather and it's going to be another busy springtime for the community in Sedgefield. SCA will be hosting the Easter Picnic on Monday 1 April, a quiz night with pie and peas on Saturday 26 April and of course the 2025 Mediaeval Fayre.



Mediaeval Fayre, Saturday 17 May 2025 – Save the Date!

The planning is well underway already, but anyone who would like to be involved with the organising committee is very welcome - please do get in touch. We are open to new suggestions and ideas on how to promote and improve the event. SCA relies wholly upon the support from its sections, groups, and members as well as other community groups and associations, local businesses, traders, and organisations who support the event by volunteering to help, provide sponsorship or donate gifts and prizes for the special SCA tombola.

Interest and Hobby Groups

It's great to see the various groups return to the hall following the Christmas break. New groups are always very welcome with rooms available for hire during the day and evening times. Ceddesfeld Hall has free Wi-Fi in every room and rates are very competitive.

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 or Facebook [Ceddesfeld Hall 'Home of SCA'](https://www.facebook.com/CeddesfeldHall) for updates.

LS DECORATORS

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All Internal and External
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Individuals or groups**

01642 917581

contact@wheelicabs.co.uk

www.wheelicabs.co.uk

Sedgefield District Uniformed Services Group



SDUSG kicks off 2025 with their first coffee morning of the year on Friday 31 January in the Parish Hall. Come along and get out of the cold for a warm brew and a homemade piece of cake or sausage roll from 10am. Our coffee mornings are held on the last Friday of every month and due to strong continued support, the group has a healthy bank balance with which to support community projects in the surrounding area, not just Sedgefield. If you are a group or organisation looking for additional funds to support an event, occasion or club and would like to apply for a donation from SDUSG, please get in touch by completing a few questions on the Google Form at this web address: forms.gle/dgL1uBuWfsETa4YXA or by scanning the QR code below.



Alternatively, you can get in touch via Facebook, or come and chat to us at a coffee morning about how we can support you.

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DIARY & EVENTS

Please send information to diary.sedgefieldnews@gmail.com

February 2025

- Saturday 1** **Friendly Fixers**, Fishburn Youth and Community Centre, 10:30am to 12:30pm. Repair café.
- Sunday 2** **Sedgefield Farmers Market**, Village Green, 8:30am-12:15pm.
Taizé-style Ecumenical Service, St. Edmund's Church, 6pm. See poster for details.
- Monday 3** **Sedgefield Local History Society**, Ceddesfeld Hall, 7:45pm. See poster on page 5 for details.
- Wednesday 5** **Sedgefield WI**, Dun Cow, 12pm for 12:30pm. Sedgefield WI members are getting their glad rags on to celebrate their 107th anniversary with a delicious lunch and birthday cake.
- Friday 7** **Quiz Night**, Mordon Village Hall, 6:30pm.
- Friday 14** **Sedgefield in Bloom Valentine's Coffee Morning**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am. See poster on page 5 for details.
- Saturday 15** **Sedgefield Games Club**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, from 6pm. Come along and play a variety of board games. £2.50.
- Tuesday 18** **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 Jo Purdy, "Mamma Mia Tales of a Greek Island". Members free, guests £5.
- Saturday 22** **World Day of Prayer coffee morning**, Sedgefield Methodist Church, 10am. All welcome.
- Sunday 23** **Snowdrop Walk**, Hardwick Park, 12pm-3pm. See poster below for details.
- Friday 28** **Sedgefield District Uniformed Services Group coffee morning**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am.

Valentine's Dance - cancelled

The Mayor's Valentine Dance, planned for 14 February, has been cancelled. However, see page 5 for details of a Ceilidh on 1 March.

**Taizé-style
ecumenical service**

Everyone is warmly welcome

Sunday 2nd February, 6 pm

St. Edmund's Church, Sedgefield

Sedgefield Area Churches Together



Save
The Date

World Day of Prayer will take place at the Methodist Church in Sedgefield on Friday 7 March at 2pm. All are welcome.



Enjoy a walk in beautiful scenery and plant snowdrops in support of Child Bereavement UK

- Snowdrops available to purchase

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From Loft to Loved Craft Groups

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Thursday 10:00 to 18:00
Friday 13:00 to 19:00
Saturday 9:30 to 12:30

Craft Group, 2nd and 4th Friday of the month from 1:30pm, places need to be booked at the library.

Book Circle, 1st and 3rd Friday of the month from 2pm.

Electricals and Battery Recycling If you have an electrical item that no longer works and is no bigger than a microwave, we are collecting.

Lego Club

Every Friday from 4:30pm to 6pm. Places need to be booked.

Digital Drop-In

Every Thursday 2pm-3:30pm.

Sedgefield Baby & Toddler Group

Methodist Church on Mondays from 9:30am to 11am (except Bank Holidays). Suitable for babies, toddlers and pre-school children. Please follow us on Facebook for regular updates.

Little Movers

Fletcher Room at the Sedgefield Parish Hall every Thursday from 10am, places need to be booked on the Little Movers' (Stockton) website. A second class for babies follows the session.

Making Tracks

Railway Society Club Night every Wednesday evening from 7:30pm to 10pm in the Kell Room at Ceddesfeld Hall. New members welcome, under 13s to be accompanied by an adult.

Sedgefield Social Club

Singer every fortnight, see "Sedgefield Social Club Official" Facebook page for details.

Sedgefield Carpet Bowls

Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1pm to 4pm in Ceddesfeld Hall. The first three afternoons are a free trial and then you have the option to become a member.

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. £1 per person and each team gets a bowl of chips at half-time