

SEDGEFIELD NEWS

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

October 2026

Submission deadline for the next edition: Wednesday 14 October

"Why is that tree blue?..."

This question sparks a conversation that can change everything.

Blue Trees are powerful symbols of mental health awareness - silent yet unwavering reminders that you're not alone.



The Blue Tree being painted on Old Durham Road

Sedgefield has become the seventh location in the UK to host a Blue Tree, joining a global movement that now includes 1,671 registered blue trees worldwide. The Blue Tree Project was founded in Western Australia to encourage conversations about mental health, reduce stigma and promote suicide prevention. Blue trees act as powerful visual reminders to check in with ourselves and others and to seek support when needed.

The latest addition was painted last month by former Winterton Hospital nurse Paul Blakey, who worked at the psychiatric hospital for 15 years before moving to Australia. Paul, who continues to work in mental health and returns to Sedgefield regularly to visit family and friends, first discovered the Blue Tree Project while working in Western Australia in 2019.

Last year, he met the project's founder, Kendall Whyte, and shared his vision of creating a Blue Tree on the site of the former Winterton Hospital. After months of planning, that vision became reality with the help of friend Gary Thompson, who owns the land where the tree stands.

Paul hopes the tree will become a local landmark and conversation starter, helping raise awareness of mental health and encouraging people to talk openly about their wellbeing. As the Blue Tree Project's message highlights, sometimes a simple conversation can make all the difference.

To find out more about the project, see bluetreeproject.com.au.

If you require mental health support, please contact the Durham Mental Health Wellbeing Alliance on 0300 304 5527.

Excavation complete

Durham University's 2026 excavations at the East Park Roman settlement in Sedgefield have revealed important new evidence about life in this significant Roman roadside community.

Archaeologists focused their investigations on the centre of the settlement, opening trenches on either side of Cade's Road, a major Roman route that linked the Humber estuary with the River Tyne. The work examined roadside ditches, pits and enclosure features, helping researchers better understand how the settlement developed and changed over time.

A wide range of finds was recovered, including Roman pottery, animal bone and small artefacts such as a lead spindle whorl and a quern stone. These discoveries provide valuable insight into daily life, diet and local activities. Evidence of industrial processes was also identified, including deposits of industrial waste and the remains of a probable corn dryer, highlighting the settlement's agricultural and economic importance.



A decorated shard of Samian ware pottery, and it is most likely from a bowl. Samian ware was a high-quality Roman fine ware which was imported into Britain from production centres in Gaul (modern day France) between the 1st and 3rd centuries AD.

Post-excavation analysis is now underway and will continue in the coming years, helping to build a more detailed picture of civilian life in Roman Sedgefield. The excavation team thanks the local community for its continued support and enthusiasm.

SCHOOL NEWS

Strong at Sedgefield Community College (SCC)

As we started the new school year, we were delighted when our new Ofsted report was published in early September. The school was inspected for two days back in June and we had been looking forward to the publication of the report since this time.

Changes have been made in the last year to the way in which schools are judged by Ofsted and this was SCC's first inspection with this new system in place. Instead of one overall judgement for the school, six separate judgements were made on the following areas: Inclusion; Achievement; Curriculum & Teaching; Attendance & Behaviour; Personal Development & Wellbeing, and Leadership & Governance.

For each of these six areas, the school was judged to be 'Strong'. To achieve a 'Strong' judgement across every inspection area is very rare and we're incredibly pleased that the inspection team recognised what makes SCC such an excellent school.

The report can be read in full on our school website (SCC - Ofsted Report) and some highlights from the report are below:

- "The school environment is highly conducive to learning. It is calm and purposeful."
- "Leaders have created a highly positive culture which makes pupils want to attend school."
- "Teachers are experts in their subject area."
- "Leaders and staff know their pupils incredibly well. Pupils are well cared for and know where to go if they need some extra help."
- "Pupils leave as confident and independent young people..."

Exploring the human body

Year 6 pupils at Sedgefield Hardwick have made an energetic start to their Science learning by exploring the circulatory system. As part of their first topic, the children have investigated how the heart, blood and blood vessels work together to keep our bodies healthy.

Using the wide range of technology available in school, pupils were able to explore the human body in an interactive way, identifying and labelling different parts of the heart and developing a deeper understanding of how the circulatory system works.

A highlight of the topic was a practical investigation into the effects of exercise on heart rate. Taking on the role of scientists, pupils designed their own fair tests, measured their resting heart rates, completed different types of exercise and recorded how their heart rates changed before gradually returning to normal.

Through these activities, children developed important scientific skills, including planning investigations, collecting and analysing data, and drawing conclusions from evidence. Most importantly, they gained a greater understanding of how exercise helps to keep our hearts healthy and why an active lifestyle is so important.



Open Evening Event

Sedgefield Primary School is celebrating another year of outstanding SATs results, consistently exceeding the national average. With a thriving family feel and a commitment to learning together for life, we are proud to share our success with the local community.

Everyone is welcome! Join us on Monday 12 October, 3:45pm–5:30pm, as we welcome current and new families to our Open Event. Come and discover what makes our school special, meet our community and celebrate our shared achievements.



SEDGEFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST *PROJECTS*



FARMERS MARKET
Sunday 4 October
8:30am to 12pm
Sedgefield Village Green



As well as our usual stalls, the Mayor Ciaran Butterworth will have a jigsaw tombola on the Charity Stall and a Feeding Families collection box will be available.



Homework Help feels that education is an opportunity to invest in oneself and one's future. If you're a student/pupil and you'd like a hand understanding your homework or lessons, contact us: homework@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk - also if you are someone who could spare an hour a week to share your knowledge and understanding with a student. You don't have to be teacher-trained. Take a look also at sedgefieldweb.co.uk/homework-help.html. All volunteers are DBS checked.

MAYOR'S CORNER

One of my most informative engagements this month was a visit to the Feeding Families Distribution Hub in Blaydon, where I learned more about the organisation's vital work supporting people across our region. Their new strap-line, *'More than food. A way forward'*, reflects their commitment to helping individuals and families build resilience and independence.

I was also delighted to attend Carol Lawford's book launch at Back of Beyond Books, where she shared her inspiring story of adapting to life after a late-in-life MS diagnosis.

During the month, I attended the Memory Café Coffee Morning, judged at the Sedgefield Show, visited the Book Fair at Ceddesfeld Hall, and supported fellow North East Mayors at events across the region.

I hope to see you at my Jigsaw Tombola charity stall at the Farmers' Market on 4 October, the Fashion Show on 17 October, or the Mayor's Quiz on 23 October. Feeding Families collection boxes will be available at all events for donations.

Ciaran Butterworth

Switch Together Energy

The Energy Switch Scheme helped local residents save money on their gas and electricity bills for almost a decade. Since it began in 2014, the scheme generated over £182,284 in savings for Sedgefield households through collective energy switching.



The initiative was paused during the energy market uncertainty of recent years, when fewer suppliers were willing to take part. However, the scheme, now known as Switch Together Energy, may once again offer opportunities for residents to access competitive fixed-term energy deals.

The process is simple: residents register their interest with no obligation, suppliers take part in an auction, and households receive a personalised offer which they are free to accept or decline.

Volunteer Wanted

Before the Sedgefield Development Trust can consider rejoining the scheme, a volunteer is needed to act as the local contact. The role would involve liaising with the scheme provider and helping to promote the initiative locally. Guidance and advice would be available from those involved previously.

If you are interested in helping bring this potentially valuable scheme back to Sedgefield, please contact the Sedgefield Development Trust at chairman@sedgefielddevelopmenttrust.co.uk. A little of your time could help local residents save money on their energy bills.

Sedgefield in Bloom



Firstly, we'd like to thank everyone who stopped by our stall at the Farmers' Market on Sunday 6 September. Your support always means so much to us. Our raffle and children's game helped raise some much-needed funds; however, our main aim was to raise awareness of what we do and, hopefully, welcome some new volunteer members to our group in the future.

This summer, as we are all aware, has been a challenging time for anyone who tends green spaces. Flowers bloomed early and quickly became exhausted by the high temperatures and lack of water. This meant that flower beds have not been as vibrant, many plants have withered, and we must reassess what we plant, and where, in the future.

Watering has been a real issue for us this summer, especially as our main source of water is kept in our compound. This has meant carrying watering cans to and from the areas we tend, just to try to keep plants alive.

We have since been in talks with Sedgefield Social Club about installing a separately metered tap. This will mean we can easily access water at that end of the village.

Autumn will be a busy season for us. We aim to continue work on a new project in the grounds of Ceddesfeld Hall, hopefully completing most of the planting before winter.

We will also be holding a Halloween-themed coffee morning on Friday 23 October at 10am in the Parish Hall. Please pop in to enjoy our delicious homemade bakes, enter our raffle, and catch up with friends, old and new.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering with us, we meet every Wednesday morning in the grounds of Ceddesfeld Hall. Alternatively, you can contact us via our Facebook page or through the contact details on our flyers.

Melissa Hill

u3a update



The new autumn session started positively, with an almost full hall listening to Denis Fox's fascinating talk, *Beyond the Call of Duty*, about local heroes and heroines who went above and beyond in their work.

We heard about the Seaham Lifeboat, which launched into stormy seas in November 1962 to rescue a local fishing coble. Although four fishermen and a nine-year-old boy were rescued, tragedy struck when the George Elmy was capsized by two huge waves just 100 yards from safety. Five lifeboat crew members and four of those rescued, including young David Burrell, lost their lives.

Denis also told us about the Aycliffe Angels, around 17,000 women who worked at the Royal Ordnance Factory during the 1940s. The work was dangerous, and many were killed or injured, yet much of their contribution went unrecognised due to wartime secrecy.

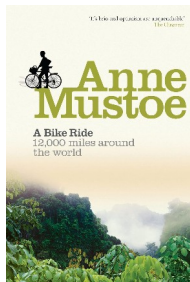
Nursing during the First World War was equally demanding and dangerous. Denis shared the story of a young woman from Spennymoor who did far more than simply "do her bit".

Members of the committee hosted the charity stall at the August Farmers' Market. It was a pleasure to meet so many people and tell them about the benefits of belonging to u3a. We were delighted to welcome many of them to our meeting earlier this month.

The Wine Appreciation Group compared wines that were more expensive than our usual selections. Sometimes the cheaper wine was preferred, but occasionally the extra cost really did make a difference!

The Health and Wellbeing Group learnt valuable first-aid skills from a local Red Cross representative, covering everything from burns and cuts to choking, allergic reactions and the use of a defibrillator.

The Book Group read *A Bike Ride by Anne Mustoe*. Opinions were divided and some members were unable to finish the book, although all admired the



STEVE'S NATURE DIARY OCTOBER 2026

I have been going out with the Cleveland Naturalists recently as part of their summer programme, and the September trip was to a place I had only visited once before: Castle Eden Dene. If you haven't visited, it is well worth a trip.

It gave me the impression of stepping back in time, with its massive trees, abundant ferns, horsetails and ancient rock formations. Located on the edge of Peterlee, Castle Eden Dene is the largest area of natural woodland in North East England and is renowned for its yew trees. This tangled landscape is a survivor of the 'wildwood' that once covered much of Britain. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, managed by Natural England, and is home to an extraordinary variety of birds, more than 450 species of plants, and some of our favourite mammals, including roe deer and foxes.

At 3.5 miles (5.6 km) long, it covers 221 hectares of woodland and lowland grassland, with several access points, and is signposted from the A19 and Peterlee.

During our walk, the birds were a little quiet, but we did see several buzzards and a sparrowhawk flying past, along with a great spotted woodpecker and a marsh tit. We also saw an array of fungi, including the bracket fungus *Dryad's Saddle* (*Cerioporus squamosus*) and *Dead Moll's Fingers* (*Xylaria longipes*), a very strange dark, finger-like fungus that grows on fallen or decaying hardwood branches, especially beech and sycamore.

We had a geologist with us who explained that the steep gorge of the Dene was carved by post-glacial meltwaters dissolving the soft Magnesian Limestone, creating some spectacular cliffs and geological features. When we reached the bottom of the Dene, we expected to see water flowing, but the stream has created an underground channel, so it often disappears and reappears further down the Dene.

The Dene is rich in history. The Saxons called this area Yoden, meaning 'Yew Dene', from which we get the name Eden today. The Burdon family, owners of the land from 1757 until the mid-20th century, built a large stately home on the edge of the Dene known as The Castle. They created many of the paths that still cross the reserve today.

Some of the larger geological features have been given names and stories, including the 'Kissing Frogs' and the huge 'Devil's Lapstone'. Legend tells how the Devil offered to help build Durham Cathedral. He planned to make foundations of rock so crumbly that, when thousands of people crowded into the cathedral for its opening, the building would collapse, killing everyone inside.

So, whether you are interested in natural history, history, geology or mythology, Castle Eden Dene is well worth a visit.

author's courage. A score of 6/10 was awarded.

October's monthly meeting, on 2 October from 2pm to 4pm in the Parish Hall, will feature one of our favourite speakers, Bob Pullen, who continues his fascinating series on the human brain. This month he will focus on touch, pain and painkillers.

Join us from 1.30pm for coffee, conversation and the chance to find out more about our interest groups, activities and community projects. To discover more about who we are and what we do, please visit our website and explore the many benefits of belonging to such a positive and welcoming group.

Chris Balfour

The Friends of St Edmund's

Saturday 14 November at 7pm in
Ceddesfeld Hall



Tickets £10 to include Pie and Peas Supper
(Vegetarian option available on request).

Tickets available from Alison Hodgson (01740 620912)
Brian Mutch (01740 622302) or From Loft to Loved

SEDGEFIELD SPEAKS

Growing up, I spent hours lost in classic storybooks, mesmerised by tales of picturesque English villages with blooming gardens and warm, close-knit communities. For a long time, those romantic countryside scenes felt like a distant dream. Today, that childhood aspiration has wonderfully become my everyday reality. For more than five years, my family and I have been fortunate to call the beautiful village of Sedgefield home.

To me, Sedgefield is the crown jewel of North East England. What makes this place truly special is not only its scenic beauty but also its vibrant and generous community. I have a deep love for our local traditions and enjoy celebrating festive occasions throughout the year, whether decorating and gathering for Easter, enjoying the fun and magic of Halloween, or embracing the warmth of Christmas. Taking part in these village events brings my family and me immense joy.

I am proud to be a contributing member of Sedgefield News magazine, where I help capture the spirit of our wonderful community. The tireless work carried out by local groups and volunteers is nothing short of remarkable. Inspired by their dedication, I hope to join the Sedgefield In Bloom group in the near future and help keep our village's gardens and floral displays thriving.

Living in Sedgefield is about far more than residing in a beautiful location; it is about belonging to a community that genuinely cares. I feel grateful to be part of this extraordinary place and am committed to doing my part to preserve and continue its wonderful legacy for years to come.

Dhrubajyoti Chatterjee



Sedgefield Area Churches Together

Community barbecue

There was a friendly, relaxed atmosphere at the third annual community bring-and-share barbecue at the Rectory on a sunny Sunday afternoon, 13 September. There was plenty of food and good company, with familiar faces and new ones alike. As ever, everyone was welcome.

Live music from Marjorie, and from Ed and Bethany, was much enjoyed. A "dream board" (see right), improvised on the garage door, showcased just some of the activities and events taking place in the area and invited new ideas too, so watch this space!

Thanks to everyone who came along and to all those who helped in any way. Your support is greatly appreciated. Here's looking forward to next year's event.

Sports overflow - Golf

Sedgefield Golf Society recently held a special event in memory of one of its members. Organised by a team led by Lewis Archer and hosted by Knotty Hill Golf Centre, the Steve Dovaston Charity Golf Day was staged to raise money for Blood Cancer UK and proved to be a huge success, exceeding expectations on all fronts. I will have a full report on the event next month, but can confirm that it raised almost £9,000 for the charity, which is a brilliant achievement.



CEDDSFELD HALL SCA

SCA Autumn Quiz Night

Thank you to everyone who attended our Autumn Quiz Night. It was a great success and a thoroughly enjoyable evening with quiz master Peter Hinde and the SCA team.

Ceddesfeld Hall Upcoming Events

Sedgefield Sounds featuring Mamma Said, Saturday 24 October, 7pm for 7.30pm

An evening of live acoustic music featuring local performers. Tickets £5, available from the bar (cash only), Maggie (07970 761844) or Sarah (07847 052761).

Christmas Craft Fayre, Saturday 28 November, 1pm to 4pm

Part of the STC Snow Party and Parade. Community bar open until 7pm.

Mulled Wine & Mince Pies, Friday 18 December, 7pm

Following Carols on the Green. Proceeds to Butterwick Hospice.

Christmas Kanikapila, Friday 18 December, 7.15pm

Featuring the Sedgefield Smile Time Ukulele Band. Free entry.

SCA Christmas Eve Quiz, Thursday 24 December, 8pm

Free event, including a raffle.

Membership 2026/27

Annual membership fees are:

Adults (under 60): £10

Seniors: £9

Under 18s/full-time students: £5

Payments can be made at the bar or by bank transfer via membership@sedgefieldscsca.org.uk.

Membership is vital to the continued running of SCA and Ceddesfeld Hall. New members are always welcome.

For information on events, activities, room hire and bar opening times, visit www.sedgefieldscsca.org.uk, follow us on Facebook, or contact Wendy (01740 620206), Pat (01740 620607), John (01740 620042) or Sarah (07847 052761).

ARTS UPDATE with Geoff Millichap

Contact Geoff at sedgefieldartsandevents@outlook.com

Sedgefield Players update

The Players and SPYS were once again successful at our One Act Festival in September, winning 12 trophies, including Best Actress (Amy Henery), Best Supporting Actor (James Muldowney) and Best Supporting Actress (Ace Warrant), all for *Rebellious Women*. Tom Guest won Best Actor for *Far Away*. See the players website for a full list of winners at sedgefieldplayers.co.uk

Congratulations to all the teams that took part: Bishop Auckland Theatre Society, Nunthorpe Players Youth Theatre (competing for the first time with two plays and winning the Youth Award), Richmond Amateur Dramatic Society, and Bananadrama from Scarborough. Thank you also to our wonderful audiences who supported each night.



We have already started rehearsals for our pantomime, *Little Red Riding Hood*. Written by Tom Guest and Sarah Atkinson, this panto is a firm favourite over the Christmas period and is always a sell-out.

Kelsey White and Nathan Cox will play *Little Red* and her brother, *Carmine*. Their mother, *Ruby*, is played by Tom Guest, while *Granny Rose* is jointly played by Jacqui O'Meara and Liz Flanagan (can you see the theme?). The evil witch is Sarah Legender, who will hopefully be foiled by *Fairy Mary* (Rosemary Jones). With three little pigs, played by Millie Mallow, Emily Legender and Ben Gibbon, there will be the usual singing, booing, audience participation and, of course, a wolf. Tickets are not yet available, so please look out for further announcements.

Sedgefield Players

Halloween Fun

Plenty of Halloween events are taking place this October for kids.

Skeleton Key runs at Hardwick Park from 24 October to 1 November. Follow clues around the park to find the skeleton's lost keys.

Spooky Skeletons, on 29 October, invites children to dig for and identify bones, with skeleton-themed games and jokes.

Ten Little Monsters, on 17 October, combines storytelling, crafts and games specifically for under-fives.

At Sedgefield Parish Hall, **Glitter & Glow** takes place on 28 October. Children can drop in between 10.30am and 3.30pm (booking is essential), make Halloween creations and win prizes too!



Tim Jasper

Sedgefield's Tim Jasper has been appointed Associate Musical Director at the Landestheater in Linz.

There, he will be involved in the musical direction of productions such as *Matilda*, *Carousel* and Disney's *Fantasia*, all performed in German, as well as other shows throughout the year.

It has been quite a journey for Tim, from St William's School in Trimdon to Linz, Austria, via Durham University and London's West End.

Everyone who knows Tim will wish him all the best as he takes up this exciting opportunity abroad.

More local events:

Sedgefield Local History Society, Cedesfeld Hall

Local historian Martin Peagram presents an illustrated talk on the history, stories and significant impact of remarkable Teesside women.

5 October, 7.45pm



Coal Faces, Bishop Auckland Town Hall

A musical drama set in Co. Durham, exploring the lives of miners and their communities.

29 October, 7pm, £10

www.bishopaucklandtownhall.org.uk/bishoppost/coal-faces

My Royal Life with Lucy Worsley, Stockton Globe

Acclaimed historian Lucy Worsley takes audiences behind the scenes of royal homes, sharing stories of palaces, monarchs and the many facets of royal life.

2 November, 7.30pm, £35

www.stockonglobe.co.uk/whats-on



SPORTS UPDATE with Chris Lines

It's been a very successful month for sport in Sedgefield and there's lots to get through, so...

Cricket

Sedgefield Cricket Club has made it back into the Premier Division of the North Yorkshire & South Durham League! Over the last few months, I've reported on the possibility of promotion and after a thumping victory away at Billingham in their penultimate match, it was in the 1st XI's hands to finish the job.

Not wanting to give the supporters an easy ride, the team put everybody through the wringer in the final game at home to Rockliffe Park, securing an incredibly tense two wicket win with only four deliveries remaining. Cue ecstatic celebrations on the balcony, field and the clubhouse bar for many hours afterwards! Preparations have already begun for the step up to Premier Division cricket in 2027 with the club offering a range of sponsorship opportunities for local businesses which started with a very well supported get together in late September.



Sedgefield CC 1st XI

Elsewhere, Sedgefield Cricket Club's long-term future looks to be in good hands after the U13 team won their league with ease and after winning a league winners' play-off, were unlucky to lose the overall championship final to Marton. Meanwhile, many of the U13 and U15 boys also play for Sedgefield Community College, and have just been crowned winners of the school U14 Durham County Cup, with a dominant performance in the final.

And last but certainly not least, the club has its first ever women's team, who came third when hosting a tournament in September and will be joining the local league in 2027. This is great news for Sedgefield, creating a pathway for the girls' teams to continue playing beyond junior age groups.

The social aspect of the club is a vital part of its success and sustainability. In that respect the Sedgefield Winkers social cricket team make an important contribution, boosting the bar takings after (and sometimes before and during) their home games. The team also perform very well on the pitch and were unbeaten this season, securing the North East Social Cricket League and Cup double. Sedgefield Cricket Club remains open seven days a week (weekday evenings and all day on weekends) during the close season.

Boccia

Sedgefield boccia star Lee Maddison recently travelled to Stoke Mandeville for the Boccia England National Championships finals. After progressing from the pool stage, Lee successfully fought through his quarter-final and semi-final. The final was a hard and closely fought match, and the two players went into the last end tied at 2-2. Unfortunately it was not to be for Lee, and with a 3-2 score line he was runner-up, which is still a massive achievement at a national level. As always, Lee is grateful to his support team of Chris Foster, Kalab Yohans and Lauren Kianchehr, for their dedication and hard work throughout the year.



Athletics



As ever, the biggest regional running event in September was the Great North Run weekend. There were 24 senior Sedgefield Harriers in the main Great North Run field, and six juniors took part in the Junior and Mini Great North Runs. In the world's biggest half marathon, the first Harrier to finish was Sadie Abel in a very impressive time of one hour 27 minutes and 58 seconds. Among Sadie's clubmates in action on the day were Ean Parsons, who completed his 43rd Great North Run, and John Tomlinson, who completed his 45th – that's all of them! Of course, there were also plenty of other people from Sedgefield who took part in the event, but are not Harriers, or members of any club.

Congratulations to everyone who made the annual pilgrimage from Newcastle to South Shields.

A little earlier in the month, four Harriers made a much longer journey, to Sedgefield's twin town Hamminkeln, where three of them took part in a 10K race and one tackled a 5K Nordic walk. As always, a visit to Hamminkeln was characterised by a warm welcome and great hospitality.

As autumn approaches, thoughts turn to the cross country season, which will start with the first fixture in the North East Harrier League, close to home at Thornley Farm. So far, 23 men, 14 women and 15 juniors have signed up to represent the club in the league, which will involve seven fixtures around the region. Last season, the men earned promotion to Division 2 and hopes are high that a big squad can build on that success, while the women's squad is also looking competitive. Meanwhile, the club's juniors achieved some very notable individual results last season, which they will hope to repeat over the months ahead.

That's all for this month. As always, if you have sports news, please send it to chrisjlines@aol.com.

Home Fire Safety Check

Did you know that County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) offers a free online Home Fire Safety Check?

The quick online assessment provides personalised advice to help you keep yourself, your family, and your home safe from fire.

The safety check can be completed for your own home, or on behalf of a friend, relative, neighbour, as well as someone you support through your work.

If the online check highlights that further advice and support may be beneficial, the fire service may then contact you to arrange a visit to your home.

These visits are free and will see fire service staff discuss any potential fire risks in the home and how you can make changes to keep yourself safe.

Fire service staff will also test smoke alarms, install new alarms if needed and talk to you about what to do in the event of a fire.

To complete the Home Fire Safety Check, visit: www.safelincs.co.uk/hfsc

For more information on fire safety in the home and a range of other safety topics, visit the CDDFRS website: www.ddfire.gov.uk.



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DIARY & EVENTS

Please send information to diary.sedgefieldnews@gmail.com

October 2026

- Thursday 1** **Sedgefield Parkinson's Group**, The Cafe at NETPark, 11am.
For more information, contact Cara Connolly on 020 7963 3693 or cconnolly@parkinsons.org.uk.
- Friday 2** **Sedgefield Memory Cafe Coffee Morning**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am–12pm. Raffle, homemade cakes.
u3a Meeting, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 2pm–4pm.
Bob Pullen on Touch, Pain and Painkillers.
- Saturday 3** **Friendly Fixers Repair Cafe**, Fishburn Youth and Community Centre, 10:30am–12:30pm.
- Sunday 4** **Sedgefield Farmers Market**, Village Green, 8:30am–12pm.
Mayor's Jigsaw Tombola is the charity stall.
- Monday 5** **Sedgefield Local History Society**, Ceddesfeld Hall, 7:30pm.
Putting ladies on a pedestal by Martin Peagam.
- Wednesday 7** **Sedgefield WI**, Sedgefield Methodist Hall, 7:15pm. "Crafty creations" with the Dabblers, members' competition is a thimble. Visitors welcome, fee £4 (includes refreshments).
- Thursday 15** **Sedgefield Parkinson's Group**, The Cafe at NETPark, 11am.
- Saturday 17** **Mayor's Fashion Show**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 6pm.
An evening of fashion, fun and fundraising.
- Tuesday 20** **Sedgefield Memory Café**, Sedgefield Methodist Hall, 10:30am–12pm. For those living with dementia and their carers. Clients must be accompanied.
Ferryhill, Sedgefield and District Flower Club, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7:15pm. Judy Walker: Into the Woods.
- Friday 23** **Sedgefield In Bloom Coffee Morning**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am.
Mayor's Quiz Night, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 7pm.
- Friday 30** **Sedgefield District Uniformed Service Group Coffee Morning**, Sedgefield Parish Hall, 10am.

New Youth Group

A new Youth Group will meet at St. Edmund's Church, Sedgefield, on Tuesdays, 5pm to 6pm, for ages 12 to 18. There'll be a free meal each time. For information, contact Reverend David (07902 416493) or Reverend Rachel (07816 763666) or upperskerne@gmail.com.

For more details about these events, go to sedgefieldweb.co.uk.

Sedgefield Baby & Toddler Group
Methodist Church on Mondays from 9:30am–11am.

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

Railway Society
Every Wednesday evening from 7:30pm–10pm at Ceddesfeld Hall.

Sedgefield Social Club
Singer fortnightly, see "[Sedgefield Social Club Official](#)" on Facebook.

Sedgefield Carpet Bowls
Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1pm–4pm, Ceddesfeld Hall.

Pop-in Club at Ceddesfeld Hall
Tuesdays 9:30am–12pm
Wednesdays 10am–12:30pm
Thursdays 1pm–3:30pm

Speed Quiz at Hardwick Arms
Every Thursday at 8pm in the Hardwick Lounge Bar.

Quiz at The Dun Cow
Every Monday at 8:30pm, hosted by Peter Hinde.

From Loft to Loved Craft Groups
Every Wednesday (10am–12pm, 2pm–4pm, 5pm–7pm, 7pm–9pm).
Sewing groups every Thursday (10am–12pm, 12:30pm–2:30pm).
Places need to be pre-booked.
Visit us or call on 07833 226676.

Move County Durham
Every Friday you can join a free, 3 mile guided walk, meeting at St. Edmund's Church gates at 10am and Coxhoe Village Hall at 1pm.

Sedgefield Library
Wednesday 9:30am–12:30pm
Thursday 10am–6pm
Friday 1pm–7pm
Saturday 9:30am–12:30pm
durham.gov.uk/sedgefieldlibrary.

One Step Forward
A bereavement support group at St. Edmund's Church on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays 2pm–4pm. Everyone is welcome - of all faiths or none. For details contact Sue on 07779 093386.

parkrun & junior parkrun
Every Saturday at 9am there is a free, 5k timed run (or walk!) at Hardwick Park. All welcome.

Every Sunday at 9am, there is a free 2k run for ages 4 to 14 at Hardwick Park. We welcome volunteers.

For either, or both, events register at parkrun.org.uk.

Events at Hardwick Hall Hotel

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