



PUBLISHED BY SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

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Disclaimer: All information contained within this edition regarding events and dates are correct at the time of going to press. Any changes will be shared via our Twitter account (@SedgefieldTC), the news page of our website at www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk and through the residents' database, our email group.

Sedgefield Snow Party

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2023

St Edmund's Church Christmas Tree Festival opens 10am

Christmas trees decorated by local businesses and organisations

Santa Claus in the Parish Hall 12:30-3:25pm

Tickets to see Santa are £3 (includes a gift) and must be pre-booked at the council office. Plus free activities including bouncy castle, face painter and Sedgefield Youth Club bake sale

Ceddesfeld Hall Christmas Craft Fayre 1:00-3:45pm

Craft stalls, book sale and bran tub. Refreshments by Pop In. Ceddesfeld Hall Bar open between 1:00-7:00pm

Carol singing in St Edmund's Church 3:45pm-4:10pm

Christmas lights switch on 4:25pm

Speech by Mayor of Sedgefield and draw of glow-raffle on the Turning Circle. Glow-raffle tickets £1 from local primary schools and the council office. Lights switched on by glow-raffle winner

Festive Litter Pick

With Sedgefield Ploggers
10:45am @ Turning Circle
All equipment provided.
Festive hats optional!

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OUR NEW WEBSITE

SEDGEFIELDTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK



Our new website launched on Wednesday 27th September 2023 following months of planning, designing and building. Thanks to all residents for your patience while we were offline.

You can explore our brand-new site at our usual website address of www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk. We've made significant changes to how the information is presented, in addition to lots of new content including a refined, searchable news page; a Parish Hall Community page showcasing some of our regular users and activities; a dedicated area for Sedgefield Youth Club; a council events section and much more.

We will continue to build upon our site as the needs of the council and residents evolve. We are always grateful for feedback from those who use our website and hope that you find the new and improved site more accessible and informative.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

This year's Remembrance Day Service will be held at 10:00am in St Edmund's Church on Sunday 12th November 2023.

It will be followed by a silence and laying of wreaths at the Sedgefield War Memorial.

MAYOR'S CAROL SERVICE

This year's Mayor's Carol Service, with local children's choir, is to be held at 7:00pm in St Edmund's Church on Thursday 7th December 2023. All are welcome.

SEDGEFIELD YOUTH CLUB UPDATE BY GEORGE NOTT

After jetting off around the world and tasting cuisine inspired by different countries over the summer, we now look forward to the final few months of 2023. First on the list we have horrifying Halloween, which will (unfortunately) be over by the time you read this. On Friday 27th October we'll be selling tasty but terrifying treats at the annual Fireworks Display, beside the 'Halloween Howler' pumpkin table. Not long after we will be having our spooky themed disco on Monday 30th October, with crazy costumes and fearsome food.

Soon after Halloween, it's Christmas! Time flies!

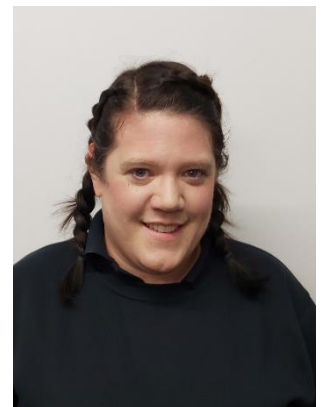
The Christmas season will be very busy at the youth club with much to look forward to. We will be running another festive treat stall at the magical Snow Party taking place on Saturday 2nd December. On Saturday 16th December, we've convinced Santa Claus to make another special trip to Sedgefield for the return of our Breakfast with Santa (book fast!). Then, only days after on Monday 18th December, our Christmas Disco will round up the festivities with games and music. To end the year, some of our members will be watching the local pantomime performed by Sedgefield Players.

When we're not discoing and celebrating various holidays, we will be continuing our normal sessions full of crafts, games and other fun activities. They take place every term time Monday 6-7:15pm (years 3-5) and 7:15-8:30pm (years 6+). Session's cost 50p entry but your first session is free. We can't wait to meet you!

We also now have our own page on Sedgefield Town Council's new website. For any information on sessions, activities or to download a membership form, you can visit www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/youth-club. For recent news, notice of holiday activities and all the details for our upcoming Breakfast with Santa event, check out our dedicated news and gallery page www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/youth-club-news. For any other queries, you can always get in touch with us directly at sedgefieldyouthclub2022@outlook.com.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW GARDENER

On Monday 14th August, our newest member of staff Kate started her new role as Gardener. Kate will be working alongside our Head Gardener & Cemetery Superintendent Stephen throughout the town and in Butterwick Road Cemetery. You'll have probably seen Kate out and about on the tractor watering council tubs and beds over the summer. We are delighted to have Kate join our team and look forward to seeing her creative input on the floral displays next summer!



COUNCIL OFFICE CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

Sedgefield Town Council Offices will close for Christmas at 12noon on Wednesday 20th December 2023 and re-open at 9am on Wednesday 3rd January 2024. We wish you a lovely Christmas and New Year!

UPDATE FROM THE MAYOR: CLLR DAVE JASPER

Since the end of the summer holidays, I have had a busy itinerary of events. Early in September, local company Wootzano from NETPark invited me to a talk and demonstration in Newcastle about their latest invention, a robotic arm which can pick up soft fruit without damaging it.



My next destination was for a Civic Service for Great Aycliffe's Mayor in St Andrew's Church, Aycliffe Village. Civic Services followed each week after that in Spennymoor's Kingdom Culture Church, St Cuthbert's Church in Peterlee, mine held here in Sedgefield at St John Fisher Church and Cockerton Methodist Church in Darlington. All the services were very different yet all enjoyable in their own way.

The funeral of former Seaham Mayor Leanne Kennedy was a very sad occasion. At 44 years of age, she was taken far too soon. A packed St John's Church in Seaham bore witness to her popularity.

The Macmillan Greatest Coffee Morning event saw my Consort Annette and I attend 3 during the course of the morning. It's just as well we like coffee and cakes!



Music featured prominently too with events at the Phoenix Club in Newton Aycliffe, an Oompah Band at the Twinning Association's Beer Festival in Ceddesfeld Hall and of course my own Jersey Boyz tribute band, who wowed the packed audience in the Parish Hall with their singing, dance moves and humour.

I am looking forward to attending lots of Carol Services as we build up to the great Festival of Christmas. I hope your Christmas proves to be enjoyable and peaceful and that the New Year brings all of you good health, prosperity and much happiness.

Keep an eye out in the New Year for information about my Mayor's Civic Ball taking place on 1st March 2024 at Hardwick Hall. It will be yet another incredible night of dancing, fundraising and delicious food.



COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION: VACANCY UPDATE

We'd like to thank everyone for their interest in our casual vacancy. Unfortunately, this edition of Sedgefield Extra is going to print just before we are able to announce our new councillor, so please visit the news page of our website or keep checking our Twitter account @SedefieldTC to meet the newly co-opted councillor as the news breaks.

We will feature a full profile article introducing you to the new councillor in the February edition of the Extra.

COUNCIL COACH TRIPS: OUR 2023 RECAP

Thank you to everyone who has supported any of our coach trips this year. We kicked off the summer with our much-loved trip to Keswick in June, followed by a trip to Skipton market in August. Our last remaining trip of the year, taking place on 23rd November, will see two coaches head off to York's vibrant Christmas market. At the time of writing, there are limited tickets still available, get in touch for last-minute availability.

Keep an eye out for adverts for all our 2024 trips early next year! As always, suggestions on the locations of future trips are greatly appreciated.



CEMETERIES: HEADSTONE SAFETY TESTING 2023

Sedgefield Town Council is legally required to undertake headstone safety testing annually to ensure that headstones are stable and safe. Testing in Butterwick Road Cemetery, Beacon Lane Cemetery and Winterton Cemetery will take place over the coming months. Any headstones found to be unstable will be marked with warning tape and we will, where such details are known, contact the next of kin as well as place advisory notices on the cemetery noticeboard.



CONTACTING SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL COUNCILLORS:

| | <i>Addresses (all Sedgefield)</i> | <i>Tel. no.</i> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cllr Allan Blakemore | 32 Beacon Avenue TS21 3AB | 01740 621820 |
| Cllr David Brown | Town Farm House, 3 West End TS21 3BW | 01740 622894 |
| Cllr Mark Cant | Mordon Moor Farm TS21 2HN | 07818 243774 |
| Cllr Ann Carr | 3 The Square TS21 2AB | 01740 629070 |
| Cllr Melvyn Carr | 3 The Square TS21 2AB | 629070 / 07530 315331 |
| Cllr Kelly Dickerson | 30 Beaumont Court TS21 3AH | 07720 080497 |
| Cllr John Finlayson | 5 Pine Ridge Avenue TS21 3EF | 01740 622313 |
| Cllr Elizabeth Flanagan | 33 Hamminckeln Place TS21 3FN | 07760 640059 |
| Cllr Catherine Hart | Foxtan Farm, Foxtan TS21 2HX | 07837 126472 |
| Cllr Jenny Haworth | 27 Station Rd TS21 2BY | 07946 569178 |
| Cllr Dave Jasper | The Mews, 1 Rosedale Close TS21 3EQ | 07791 030886 |
| Cllr Julie Towler | 6 Mitford Court TS21 2JE | 07979 376997 |
| Cllr Mavis Wayman | 32 White House Drive TS21 3BX | 01740 620337 |
| Cllr Stephen Winter | 3 Milliner Court TS21 2JF | 01740 629408 |

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|
| Cllr David Brown | Town Farm House, 3 West End TS21 3BW david.brown2@durham.gov.uk | 01740 622894 |
| Cllr Chris Lines | 41 Whitehouse Drive, TS21 3BX chris.lines@durham.gov.uk | 07971868329 |

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| Paul Howell MP | paul.howell.mp@parliament.uk | 01325 790580 |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

Front Street, Sedgefield TS21 3AT, 01740 621273

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|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Town Clerk: | Dr. Jane Ayre | town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk |
| Admin. Officer: | Jane Tate | jane@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk |
| Financial Assistant: | Julia Rowsby | julia@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk |
| Projects & Media Coordinator: | Natalie Chowns-Traynor | natalie@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk |
| Receptionist & Parish Hall Support Assistant: | Adam Heath | adam@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk |

CONTACTING DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

| CONCERN | WHO TO CONTACT | CONTACT INFORMATION |
|--|------------------------|--|
| General Enquiries | Customer Services | 03000 26 0000 |
| Refuse / street lights / pest control / dog fouling / stray dogs / grass cutting / litter / graffiti / roads and footpaths | Highways / Streetscene | 03000 26 1000 |
| Planning Applications | Planning | 03000 26 1060 / www.durham.gov.uk/planning |
| Benefits | Revenues & Benefits | 03000 26 2000 |
| Council Tax | Council Tax | 03000 26 4000 |
| Apply / Renew Bus Pass | Sustainable Transport | 03000 26 8667 |
| Apply / Renew Blue Badge | Blue Badge Scheme | 03000 26 9425 |
| Council Housing | Livin | 0845 50 55 500 |

Alternatively, Durham County Council concerns can be placed via text on 07786 027280 starting with the word INFO or via www.doitonline.gov.uk. It is very important that you register your views with Durham County Council. Your voice matters and could make a difference for all local residents!

SAVE THE DATE

Remembrance Service
12th November 2023
St Edmund's Church

Winter Coach Trip
York Christmas Market
23rd November 2023

Sedgefield Snow Party
2nd December 2023
various locations

Mayor's Carol Service
7th December 2023
St Edmund's Church

Mayor's Christmas
Coffee Morning
8th December 2023
Sedgefield Parish Hall

Sedgefield Youth Club's
Breakfast with Santa
16th December 2023
Sedgefield Parish Hall

Mayor's NYE Dance
31st December 2023
Sedgefield Parish Hall

Mayor's Race Night
3rd February 2024
Sedgefield Parish Hall

Mayor's Civic Ball
1st March 2024
Hardwick Hall

Mayor's Charity 60s
Music Night ft.
Moondogs
22nd March 2024
Sedgefield Parish Hall

Mayor's Fashion Show
with Betty's Boudoir
11th April 2024
Sedgefield Parish Hall