

Would you like a visit from Santa?



Because Santa knows that the COVID-19 regulations makes it difficult for the the Sedgwick community to have Christmas Party at the hall while some are still unvaccinated, the Sedgwick Fire Brigade has offered to take him around the district on the fire truck to meet children at their front gates.

If you would like a visit from Santa during the **afternoon of Sunday 5 December** please register your name, street address, email address, mobile number and how many children by sending an email to santa@sedgwickcommunity.org.au or a text message to **0419 567 384**. Santa will then respond before the day, letting you know the time you can expect him to come to your home.

Talk to neighbours and where possible gather the children in your vicinity together at one place to save Santa a little bit of time.

Sedgwick Hall and Conservation Reserve Management Committee AGM

Sunday 28 November at 3:30pm at the Hall following the North Harcourt and Sedgwick Landcare AGM.

Please come and support what the committee is doing for the Sedgwick and North Harcourt community. Also consider standing for a place on the committee as new members are needed. Please phone Anna Kelliher M: 0427 859 129 to express interest.

Councillor Fyffe will be joining us at the meeting.

Fire Brigade news

The fire brigade is busy training and preparing for the fire season and with extra focus this year on operating a new truck!

You may have already seen the brand new and bigger dual cab tanker getting around as we get familiar with it. This will soon replace Sedgwick Tanker 1 and the old tanker is such a well kept example of it's kind that it's destined for posterity in the Fire Services Museum Victoria.



There may be a public event early next year to present to the community - watch this space. Meanwhile, why not get a visit from Santa? We can't promise the new truck but it doesn't hurt to see if a fire truck can get in your driveway.

Fire restrictions will likely begin on the second weekend in December this year, when they do they'll appear on this website: <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-danger-period-restrictions>

Our neighbourhood coordinators haven't been out door knocking for obvious reasons but if you know any new residents who might like to connect with the fire brigade they can do so by email to Julian.Hall@members.cfa.vic.gov.au. The fire brigade is happy to do property appraisals ahead of the season.

Festival of Small Halls 2022



If all goes well and COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, we are anticipating the Festival of Small Halls will return to Sedgwick in March 2022.

More details as they come to hand.

Landcare news

Again, it was an odd year for the North Harcourt-Sedgwick Landcare group, but thanks to the enthusiasm of our members and committee members we had a few highlights in between the lockdowns.

Stand out events were the guided walks along the Goldfields Trail, a nest box workshop, and our "Pledge 2 Plant" revegetation project, that recorded approx. 2,800 seedlings being planted by our members! We are restoring landscapes 2,800 seedlings at a time! What an outstanding achievement in a year 'where nothing could be done'.

AGM

Join us at the Sedgwick Hall for a Christmas gathering and yes, AGM!

Sunday, 28 November at 1.30-3.30 pm

Have you missed your neighbours? Are you interested in local conservation work? Or would you like to meet some new locals? Please join us for our AGM and social BBQ:

Bookings are required via the Eventbrite platform, for catering purposes and adherence to COVID safe measures. Please visit www.eventbrite.com/e/nhse-landcare-agm-christmas-gathering-tickets-210568515097

COVID safe measures will be in place: Proof of full vaccination status, registration with a QR code and safety distancing will be required.

BBQ basics will be provided - i.e. sausages, burgers (vegetarian or vegan options), fried onions, bread and sauce

However, for hygiene reasons, please bring your own cutlery, crockery, glasses, salads and drinks. Unfortunately we cannot share home-made food.

And yes, there will be an AGM administrative part, but we will keep it to the absolute minimum!

Want to stay in touch?

Please join our North Harcourt & Sedgwick Landcare Facebook page for info and links on how to care for our beautiful land.

And if you happen to have some time to spare...We can always do with some help. Regardless of your skills or interests, there will be something that you can help us with. All activities are being organised by a small group of dedicated volunteers and sometimes it gets a bit much. Please contact us via the Facebook page or nhselandcare@gmail.com

The North Harcourt-Sedgwick Landcare photo competition



Junior category - Steel-blue sawfly larvae, by Charles M (9 years old)



Winning entry - Animals, by Linda Conn



Matthews family, caring for our country. Photo: Stephanie Matthew

Saving the Wombats of Harcourt North

After seeing a disturbing number of dead wombats on the Nth Harcourt Rd, concerned residents gathered with the intention of putting up 'Wombat Aware' signs.

Many locals are unaware that we have wombats in the area. Their sightings/numbers appear to have been slowly increasing over the last 10 yrs or so, but are still rarely seen....until they're dead by the roadside. Seemingly all wombat deaths happen overnight; apparently night drivers struggle to see the dark coloured wombats on the black asphalt. Locals worry about how much of a hit the still relatively small population can take before it becomes extinct.

As a result, best neighbourhood and community spirit sprung into action. Around 20 neighbours (including children), agreed to try and do something to assist the plight of the Wombats. The kids and their parents gathered in a backyard after school and over 3 sessions, painted up some road signs. There were 6 kids, each with their own personally designed and hand-painted sign, loosely supervised by parents and other neighbours keen to show their support.

Their parents will erect the signs this month, after careful consideration to everyone's safety in the process. The current range of sightings of wombats (both dead and alive) seems to be over about an 8km stretch of Nth Harcourt Rd extending north of Barkers Creek Reservoir, including the crossing of both the highpoint ridge line and the Coliban Channel gully road bend.

The boards, paint and painting accessories were all sponsored by a generous local couple who felt this was the best way for them to help.



Sedgwick Connect

Website - sedgwickcommunity.org.au

Facebook - facebook.com/sedgwickconnect

Sedgwick Brigade Facebook - facebook.com/sedgwickcfa

Landcare Facebook -

www.facebook.com/North-Harcourt-Sedgwick-Landcare-105830404481311