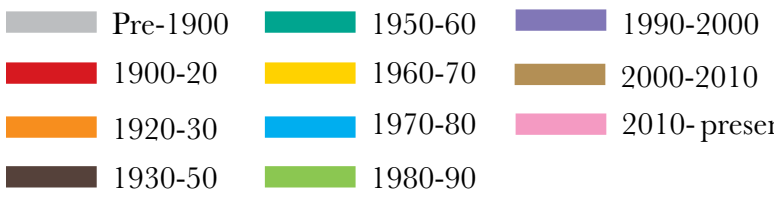


ENVIRONMENTALISTS & EXPLORERS TIMELINE

For countless generations Sedbergh students have enjoyed some of the most stunning environments in the country, and have been able to roam the fells and explore whatever took their fancy. Their stamina has been challenged as well as their sense of responsibility. Without necessarily having been put to them, the environment has been a classroom with an influence on the development of that responsibility for the environment and all that the countryside stands for. The environment and expeditions with particular projects are an integral part of their education and their personal development.



1985
Bruce Loch was enclosed by a perimeter fence to exclude livestock and the marshy floor of the basin excavated by mechanical diggers. During the winter 1985/86, Sedbergh School pupils and staff cleared other areas by hand and by spring the lake was complete and water levels were stabilised. Aquatic plants and shoreline woodlands were introduced. The area continues to be actively managed by the School Conservation Society with support from the grounds staff.



Jim Fisher
Staff 1985-2018
Jim taught Geography and Geology. He took part in about 50 treks and expeditions, many as the leader and many with pupils to 95 countries on seven continents, often to remote corners of the world such as Antarctica, Greenland, Baffin Island, Mongolia, Guyana, Alaska, Himalayas and Andes, always with a wildlife and environment edge.

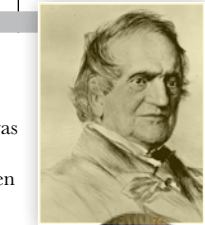


Simon Scott-Harden
Winder House 1987-93
Simon is the Academic Researcher on The Flipflop Project, he makes the connections between research, science, technology and design and oversees the scientific research being undertaken during the Flipflop Project expeditions. When he is not onboard The Flipflop, he is a Senior Lecturer in Industrial Design based at Northumbria University and also founder of ZELOcreative, a design consultancy specialising in new product innovation.

John Fothergill
c.1730-40's
Doctor and botanist. A collector of rare plants who created a large botanical garden in Upton, near Stratford. He was the patron of Sydney Parkinson, the South Sea voyager, and of William Bartram, the American botanist in his southern travels of 1773-1776. Fellow of the Royal Society.



Christopher Alderson
c.1750
A devoted gardener he was employed to lay out the grounds at Kew for Queen Charlotte and was appointed Rector of Eckington, a royal position.



Adam Sedgwick
c.1800
Appointed Woodwardian Professor of Geology at Trinity College 1818. President of the Geology Society and co-founder of the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

Edward Eyre
1828-1830
Led explorations of Australia including an overland exploration of the Northern part of the continent through areas that had never been visited by non-indigenous humans.

Charles Trotter
Evans 1878-1881
Surveyed land in Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

October 1887
The School Museum Opened 'for the encouragement of the study of Natural History, Archaeology, &c.' according to the *Sedberghian Magazine*.

Thomas Carter
Evans House 1878-80
Had published papers on British birds, and made observations in Iceland, before travelling to Western Australia. He arrived at Carnarvon to work at Boolathanna Station, later acquiring a pastoral lease around Point Cloates. Illness reportedly required his family to return to England in 1914, but he returned to Australia for several expeditions, the last in 1928.

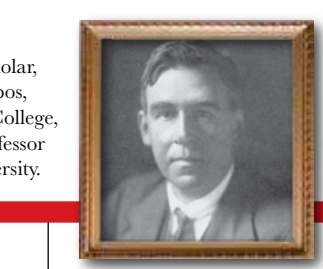
Harry Smith
1889-1892
Head Surveyor of the Atlas Assurance Co. Ltd, Manchester



Dr Arthur Wakefield
Sedgwick House 1890-94
Reached the North Col of Mount Everest as a member of General Charles Bruce's 1922 expedition. Provided medical care to his comrades who included George Mallory. Awarded Olympic medal for mountaineering at the 1924 Winter Olympics.

James Waddingham
Sedgwick 1896-1902
Assistant Conservator of the Indian Forest Service 1906-1910. Returned to the UK to service in the R.E.A. Awarded M.C. in 1916.

James Donald
Evans House 1897-1899
Conservator of forests in India.



Gordon Dobson *cBE*
Sedgwick House 1903-07
A physicist and meteorologist who did important work on the ozone. He built the first Dobson ozone spectrophotometers and studied the results over many years. The Dobson unit, a unit of measurement of vertically integrated atmospheric ozone density, is named after him. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and was president of the Royal Meteorological Society from 1947-49.



Arthur Aikman
Hart House 1904-1907
On the Board of Agriculture for Scotland during the 1920s when crop prices plummeted after WW1 and 40% of Scottish land is believed to have changed hands. He campaigned for several acts of parliament which gave price support and grants to farmers, thus changing to the types of crops grown on Scottish agricultural land and the visual appearance of Scottish countryside.



Major George Sherriff *oBE*
Evans House 1912-16
Scottish explorer and plant collector. Travelled primarily to the Nepal region on botanical missions, recording many significant new species and sending samples to Kew Gardens. Made several expeditions into the Himalayan regions of Tibet and Bhutan, collecting thousands of specimens, many of which were new to science are held in the Natural History Museum. In 1948 was awarded the Royal Horticultural Society's Victoria Medal of Honour.



Colin G Trapnell *oBE*
Hart House 1920-1925
From Sedbergh, Colin Trapnell went to Trinity College Oxford. A keen botanist and scientist from an early age, he co-founded the Oxford University Exploration Club in 1927 and organised its first expedition to Greenland in 1928. As ecologist for the Colonial Office, he was posted to Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) in 1931. Over 10 years he mapped the soil, vegetation and agriculture of the whole country - the first survey of its kind. In 1994 he set up the Trapnell Fund for Environmental Field Research in Africa at the University of Oxford.



Freddie Spencer Chapman *oBE*
Lupton House 1921-1926
An explorer who joined the British Arctic Air Route Expedition in 1930 and, in 1932 the Greenland Expedition followed by an expedition to Lapland in 1932 and one to the Himalayas in 1936. He went on to teach at Gordonstoun school where Prince Philip was one of his pupils.



The Very Reverend Ingram Cleasby
Lupton House 1934-1938
Primarily a higher-ranking member of the Clergy and former Dean of Chester, Ingram Cleasby had a lifelong interest in ornithology. He wrote several publications including, *Birds and boys at Sedbergh* and the Ornithological Society volume.

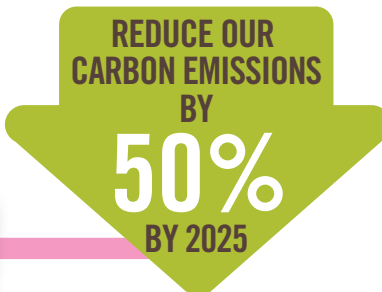


Robin Davis
Winder House 1945-48
Former Director of the Eco Green Energy Centre who supply wood pellets and stoves for commercial and domestic customers. Robin created the company and built it up from a small operation running from a shed in his garden to large scale professional organisation.



Digby McLaren
Evans House 1934-37
In 1948, he moved to Canada and joined the Geological Survey of Canada. In 1967, he became the first Director of the Institute of Sedimentary and Petroleum Geology of the GSC and in 1973 he was appointed Director of the Geological Survey of Canada. In 1981, he became Assistant Deputy Minister of Science and Technology for Energy, Mines and Resources Canada. He was the President of the Royal Society of Canada and of the Geological Society of America. He was the author of over 100 publications and maps in the fields of palaeontology, biostratigraphy and regional geology.

Sedbergh School creates a Green Investment Fund to cut its carbon emissions in half by 2025, the most ambitious green campaign pledge by a UK independent school.



2018
Ladakh Expedition
20 pupils and 2 staff travelled to northern India to climb Stok Khangri, 6,153 meters above sea level.



2015
Bolivia Expedition
12 pupils and 3 staff visited Bolivia on a 17 day expedition including climbing the Acotango volcano at 6057 meters above sea level.



Peter Fuchs
Powell House 1953-59
Followed in his father's footsteps by visiting Antarctica. He manages the Fuchs Foundation which aims each year to take teachers and young people to the Antarctic and Arctic (and also Greenland and Iceland) to undertake scientific research.

Charlie Smith
Sedgwick House 2009-14
Charlie is a designer, explorer and cold weather adventurer and has led expeditions across the Arctic, Scandinavia & Greenland. Having been named as one of 'The New Shackletons: Britain's Next Generation of Explorers' for *Gentleman's Journal* and *Wind for Adventure* 'Most inspiring young Explorers', pushing boundaries is becoming a key component to both his expedition life and his design life. Working alongside some of the leading outdoor brands in the world as both a designer and an explorer he has been helping research and document the limits of the most effective equipment on the market and has a couple of personal projects in the works which aim to push these products, and human limits, even further.



Robert Napier *cBE, DL, FRCS (Hon)*
School House 1960-65
Robert was Chairman of the Met Office 2006-12, Chairman of the Carbon Disclosure Project 2005-11, Chairman of the Green Fiscal Commission 2007-09, a Trustee of the South Georgia Heritage Trust 2007-08 and Chairman of the World Conservation Monitoring Centre 2007-17. He was Chairman of Governors of Sedbergh School 2000-12.



Richard Gledhill
Winder House 1967-71
Was head of climate change services at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, leading their work on climate and forest finance, climate policy and green growth; advised the World Economic Forum on climate policy and finance, and led working groups on financing sustainable land use and scaling renewables; was a part-time Commissioner of the Independent Commission for Aid Impact; and sat on the board of the Natural Environment Research Council. Board Member of the Climate Group and the Earth Innovation Institute. Became Chairman of Governors in 2020.

Katie May
Robertson House 2006-11
Gained an MSc in Exploration Geophysics from the University of Leeds after studying BSc Geology at the University of Bristol. Now working for Shell UK as a Production Geologist she explores for hydrocarbon targets and drills new wells in the North Sea, and is involved in Shell's cleaner energy transition for example Carbon Capture and Storage solutions.



Nick Van Gruisen
Sedgwick House 1968-72
Spent five years in Botswana and South Africa in the 1970's working as a professional Safari Guide. In the 1980s he managed ExplorAsia, the UK office of the Tiger Mountain group who were one of the pioneers of adventure travel and conservation tourism, including 'Tiger Tops' jungle lodge, world leader at the time for environmentally sensitive tours which included and supported the local communities. In 1991 he started his own company World Wide Journeys and Expeditions which grew, acquired other companies and emerged in 2003 as The Ultimate Travel Company of which he is now Managing Director.



Robert Swan *oBE*
Winder House 1970-74
First person to walk to the North and South poles. Has been a UN Environment Program Goodwill Ambassador, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Youth and Special Envoy to the Director General of UNESCO. In 2017 he was the winner of UN NOVUS Award for contributing to 17 Sustainable Development Goals and completed the South Pole Energy Challenge. 2015 winner of the Humanitarian Innovation Lifetime Achievement Award. Founder of '2041', a company dedicated to the preservation of the Antarctic. In January 2020, the 'Last 300' and the 'Last Degree' expeditions reached the South Geographic Pole using Advanced BioFuels and gear made from plants, CO₂, and recycled materials. CLIMATEFORCE, a 7 year campaign to remove 326 million tonnes of CO₂ out of the atmosphere through effective solutions and education to encourage personal leadership in our carbon neutral future.

Catherine Hirst
Casterton 1995-2004, Lupton House 2005-07
Read Earth Sciences at Oxford University then achieved her PhD from Stockholm University and is now a Postdoctoral Researcher for the project 'WeThaw' at Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium exploring the effects of climate change on the chemistry of soils, rocks and river waters in the Arctic. She has ventured to Siberia and travelled by boat down the Lena River to collect waters, dodge mosquitoes and take a swim above the Arctic Circle. More recently, she journeyed to Alaska to investigate the effects of warming on smaller, Settlebeck ghyll-sized streams - and had fun ice auguring through frozen rivers and coring frozen permafrost soils.



Alistair Aitken
Powell House 1990-1998
Specialises in ground and air source heat pumps and renewable technologies working primarily with new builds.



Mark Smith
Evans House 1974-79
A wildlife film cameraman. His work includes *The Hunt, Life Story, Africa, Frozen Planet* and *Planet Earth* for the BBC Natural History Unit. He has won Emmy awards and a BAFTA for Cinematography for his filming for the BBC and of the Striated Caracara in the Falkland Islands for National Geographic. Mark was the first person to film a Snow Leopard hunt in Northern Pakistan.



Jack Wood
Powell House 1989-94
Jack crewed yachts when he was younger and spends most of his free time in or on the sea surfing/swimming/kitesurfing and heads up expedition safety and risk management for the Flipflop Project. This involves both boat safety on land and the water and also wider security considerations.



Ben Morison
Sedgwick House 1988-93
Ben is CEO of Far & Wild Travel and has worked in the African travel industry all his life. He started the Flipflop Project after witnessing the dramatic impact that plastics are having on the continent that has given so much to him. He became convinced that plastic was far too valuable, versatile and often beautiful to be used just once and thrown away. His mission: 'a world without single-use plastics'.



1987
Svalbard Expedition
Pupils and staff visited Svalbard to establish baseline data for research into acid rain pollution in the lakes. Sir Vivian Fuchs FRGS acted as Patron of the expedition. An expedition to Greenland in 1991 continued the study of acid rain pollution.



Hugh Symonds
Staff member 1981-2010
Hugh taught maths and for many years was in charge of the running team, athletics and The Wilson Run. As a runner he won The Classic Yorkshire Three Peaks race, The Ben Nevis race and represented GB at mountain running several times. In 1990 he raised £30,000 for The Intermediate Technology Group (now Practical Action) by running over and in between all 303 mountains over 3000 feet in Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland. The story of this adventure is recounted in the book *Running High*.