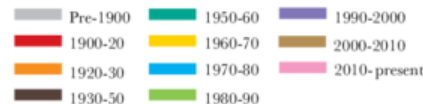


For countless generations Sedburgh students have enjoyed some of the most stunning environments in the country, and have been able to roam the fells and explore whatever took their fancy. Their stamina has been challenged as well as their sense of responsibility. Without necessarily having been put to 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.

Peter Fuchs / Powell S3-39

personal development. **Peter Fuchs (Powell 53-59)**



Trans Sahara Expedition
A group of Sedbergh staff and students set off with an ex Nato Merc, a Unimog Field Ambulance and a V8 Land Rover with the intention of following the Tanezrouft route to some of the most desolate parts of the Sahara desert. Similar expeditions were repeated in 1984 and 1985.

Morocco Expedition
A party from school travels by sea in Land Rover and visits the Ait Bou Guermmez in the Mountains of Morocco. The party carried out surveys for N Level and made a film about the trip.

1975
A group of 10 travelled to the Hakkari Valley in Eastern Turkey with the aim of making a film about the region and its people. In 38 days they travelled nearly 8,000 miles. The expedition was supported by The Royal Geographical Society, The Young Explorers Trust, The World Expeditionary Association and the Frederick Soddy Trust.

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, Sedburgh 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.

Hugh Symonds
Staff member 1981-2011
Hugh taught maths and
was in charge of the running
club at Wilson Run. As a runner
he represented GB at the
Yorkshire Three Peaks
Race. In 1990 he raised £30,000
for the Technology Group (now
the Technology Centre) by running
over and in the hills for
3000 feet in Scotland,
England, Wales and
Ireland. The story of his
adventure is recounted
in the book *Running High*.

Mark Smith
Eaton 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.

Robert Swan was
Wilder 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 NOKUS Award for contributing to 17 Sustainable Development Goals and completed the South Pole Energy Expedition, the first winter of the Humanitarian Assistance Lifetime Achievement Award. Founder of '2901', a company dedicated to the preservation of the Antarctic. In January 2020 the 'Last 500' and 'The Last Degrees' expeditions reached the South Geographic Pole using Advanced Bio-fuels and gear made from plants, CO₂ and recycled materials.

CLIMATEFORCE, a
young company, has raised more than 326 million tonnes of CO₂ out of the atmosphere through effective solutions and education to encourage personal leadership in our carbon neutral future.

Nick Van Gruisen
Selouschi House 1968-72
Spent five years in Botswana and South Africa in the 1970s 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.

Richard Gladhill
Windsor 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, Chairman of Governors 2010-2015.

John Dunn
Evens House 1967-71
 John graduated in geology from London University and worked in mineral exploration in the Australian Outback. After moving to Calgary, he became a Canadian citizen and pursued his dream of exploring and photographing the Arctic. He has organised and successfully completed over 20 arctic expeditions, totalling over 1100 days in the field. For his efforts in promoting awareness of Canada's arctic geography John was made a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.

Robert Napier (DE, DL, FRCI (Hons))
School House 1969-65
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 Kew-Forest School 2000-19.

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.

Robin Davis
Winder House 1945-48
Former Director of the Energy Centre who supplied pellets and stoves for commercial customers. Robin the company and built a small operation running in his garden to large scale commercial manufacturing.

Digby McLaren
Earth 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 paleogeology, biostratigraphy and regional geology.

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.

Simon Scott-Harden
Wilder House 1987-93

Simon is the Academic Researcher on The Filippi Project. He makes the connections between research, science, technology and design and oversees the scientific research being undertaken during the Filippi Project expeditions. When he is not onboard The Filippi, he is a Senior Lecturer in Industrial Design based at Northumbria University and also founder of ZEDCreative, a design consultancy specialising in new product innovation.

Grant Rowley
Solgesch House 1988-93

Skoogs Logs was set up by Grant in 2008 promoting "green fuel" through the environmental and sustainability aspects of its work. The business promotes the use of soft wood which is ideal for controlled environments, like log burners, and is a cheaper alternative. They are also keen to keep it local cutting down on transport costs and making it more environmentally friendly.

Ben Horison
Selvagick 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'.

Jack Wood
Psuedo 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.

Dr Catherine Hirst
Cavertan 1995-2004, Laftan House 2005-07
 Catherine read Earth Sciences at Oxford University, then achieved her PhD from Stockholm University. She was a Postdoctoral Researcher for the project 'WeThurs' at Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium from 2018-2022, exploring the effects of climate change on the chemistry of soils, rocks and river waters in the Arctic. Since 2022 she has been an Assistant Professor at the Department of Earth Sciences at Durham University.

Katie May
Robertson House 2006-11
Gained an MSc in Exploration from the University of Leeds. BSc Geology at the University of Leeds. Now working for Shell UK and Production Geology, identifying hydrocarbon targets and the North Sea, and is involved in cleaner energy transition. Capture and Storage so

Dr Anna Bidgood
Robertson House 2008-10

Graduated from the University of Oxford with a 1st Class Masters of Earth Sciences and a PhD in Environmental Science. In 2023/2024 Anna was a Fulbright Scholar at the Carnegie Institute for Science in Washington. Anna then worked as a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences and is currently an Exploration Geologist at Kollfeld Metals. She was President of the Exploration Club and the Geologists Society whilst at Oxford.

Charlie Smith
Sedgwick House 2009-14
Charlie is a designer, explorer and cold weather adventurer and has led expeditions across the Arctic, Scandinavia & Greenland. Named as one of 'The New Shacksons: Britain's Next Generation of Explorers' for *Gentleman's Journal*. 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.

Laura Holliday
Lapton House 2011-2013
Laura graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Earth Science from the University of Glasgow and then gained an MSc in Hydrogeology at the University of Strathclyde. She worked as a Hydrogeologist at Ground Water Relief and is currently a Hydrogeologist at British Geological Survey. She is passionate about using her hydrogeological knowledge to help improve the management and provision of groundwater resources in the developing world.

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

2019
Extensive maintenance works were undertaken to dredge Bruce Loch.



2020
Sedburgh School creates a Green
Investment Fund to cut its carbon
emissions.

2023
School campus-wide lighting was
converted to LED lighting, halving
energy use.



2024
Complete boarding house window conversion to energy efficient windows