

Annual Litter Pick 2023

18th and 19th March



For details of how you can join
in please see page 5

Green Links Copy Deadline!

Please note all copy for the April issue must be
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Green Links



The Monthly Village Magazine of Cockfield
Edition 4– No 189 March 2023

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Spring is finally in the air and along with the spurt of growth there appears to be a growth of litter, good job the Annual Litter Pick takes place this month details of how you can join in are on page 5.

Speaking of joining in the arrangements for the Coronation in Cockfield are starting to take shape, there can't be a celebration like last years Jubilee but Cockfield is going to mark the day with an open picnic followed by the lighting of the Beacon and a toast to the King along with providing a Coronation Gift Bag to every child, under 16 years old, in the village. This will include those who would already have celebrated their 16th birthday in 2023 and those who will be born at some date in the Coronation year. The gift bags will include a funky mug, pin badge, Charles III 50p coin and some other themed goodies, for people who are resident in Cockfield but their children or grandchildren live outside the village these bags can also be purchased. The bags do have to be applied for in advance so please get the slip back as soon as possible and put Saturday the 6th May in your diary's and join in with the Picnic on the Green

The Community Council is looking for people who would like to help out at their events, either setting up, taking down or during, we all have life skills which can be put to good use and its fun to be part of the team. Details of registering to join the volunteer team are on page 31.

Janne

www.cockfield.org.uk

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Spring Jackets

Saturday 18th March

12.00- 2pm

Cockfield residents come and enjoy a Jacket potato this March..

At our first potato lunch with choices of fillings.

Bring a friend or the family.

Come and join us at the village hall.

It's a donation of £1.00.

Annual Litter Pick 2023

18th and 19th March

This year our annual litter pick of public areas, verges and public footpaths will concentrate on the weekend of 18th and 19th March.



Pickers, jackets and bags will be available from Cockfield Hall Barn from 18th March, Please drop your 'pickings' off at the Barn when you return your equipment. The rubbish will be collected from the Barn, by Babergh, early the following week

As in previous years the Parish Council has worked with our Web Master to divide the Village into pickable sections and making these into a chart, if you would like to help with the litter pick please visit

www.cockfield.org.uk/clean-up-cockfield/

to register your interest in your preferred section (anonymously) or phone Neil Ashton on 01284 827238 or 07900 880 888 and just tell him what you would like to do and he will do the rest!

Babergh issues Guidance for Voluntary Litter Pickers, a copy is on Cockfield's website, please do read it before you start.

Whatever you do please do it safely!

Janne Cutting-Keyton Cockfield Parish Council
01284 828264 janne@twerbs.co.uk

Cockfield's Celebrations

to mark the



Coronation of HM King Charles III

**Saturday 6th May on Great Green
Beacon Lighting and Toast
to His Majesty**

**Gathering at 6pm,
Beacon lighting 6.15pm**

**This is an open event to which
everyone is invited.**

The event to mark the Coronation of HM King Charles III in Cockfield is being led by the Parish Council in conjunction with other village groups and organisations.

On Saturday 6th May everyone is invited to picnic on Great Green from 4.30pm.

You need to bring your own food and are welcome to pitch a tent or gazebo and to decorate it on a coronation theme.

At 6.15pm our Beacon will be lit and a toast will be offered to the King followed by community singing and the distribution of the Coronation Gift Bags to the children of the village.

To register for a Coronation Gift Bag for an under 16 year old please complete the form on the flyer delivered with this copy of Green Links or complete the slip over the page and return to Cockfield Post Office, to the Parish Clerk at Greenridge Howe Lane or email to coronation@cockfield.org.uk this must be received by Monday 24th April

A limited number of bags will be made available to residents of the village whose children or grandchildren do not reside in the parish. These are priced at £8.00 each please indicate on the slip if the children are not resident in Cockfield

If you need any further information please email coronation@cockfield.org.uk or telephone the Parish Clerk on 01284 828987

Careful consideration has been given to the scale of the celebration in the current economic climate and the likely prevailing weather conditions for early May.

In addition to the above there will be an Oak Tree planted in the King's name and an inscribed bench will be sited in a prominent position within the village.



The Coronation Gift Bags will contain a Mug, Pin Badge, Charles III 50p Coin and other themed goodies.



To register for a Coronation Gift Bag for an under 16 year old, including those who's 16th birthday was in 2023 or those who are due to be born in the Coronation year, please complete the form below and return the slip to Cockfield Post Office, the Parish Clerk at Greenridge Howe Lane or email to coronation@cockfield.org.uk by Monday 24th April

A limited number of bags will be made available to residents of the village whose children or grandchildren do not reside in the parish. These are priced at £8.00 each please indicate below if the children are not resident in Cockfield.

PLEASE PRINT

Bags will be/will not be collected on the 6th

Household Surname _____

Address _____

Children's Full Names including Surname

Contact phone number or email

If you need any further information please email coronation@cockfield.org.uk or telephone the Parish Clerk on 01284 828987



COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 29th APRIL

10 –1

AT

St. Peters Church

Church Lane

Cockfield

COFFEE, TEA, CAKES BOOKS,

PLANTS, RAFFLE

COME AND MEET OLD FRIENDS

AND MAKE NEW ONES

FUND RAISING FOR

ST. PETERS CHURCH, COCKFIELD

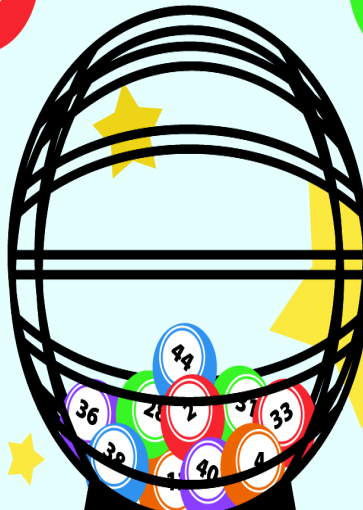
Chocolate Bingo

Friday 17th March 2023

Doors Open 6.00pm, Eyes down 6.30pm

Cockfield Village Hall

No need to pre-book



Great News...
We now take
Card Payments
at all events

Garden Tips for March 2023

Flowers & Grasses

- Check whether any containers need watering especially if they are located under eaves or balconies. Aim to keep moist rather than wet.
- If some perennials such as dianthus (old fashioned pinks have become infested with couch grass and other perennial weeds these should be lifted so that you can remove the roots of the weeds and grass. You can then replant.
- Watch out for slugs and protect new shoots coming through by covering with a mulch of gravel. Slugs love Hostas, Delphiniums Sweet peas and Tulips. Fortunately there are some plants that aren't so popular with them such as foxgloves (*Digitalis*), Day Lilies (*Hemerocallis*), Elephant's ears (*Bergenia*), Verbascum, Sedums, Geums and Aquilegia.
- Finish cutting back dead foliage from perennials to make way for new growth.
- Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials. This will refresh the plant and provide extra plants to position elsewhere in the garden. You can also give surplus plants to family and friends.
- Now is the time to put plant supports in. There are many types available but I tend to use natural material such as old fallen branches from my Silver birches or winter pruned twiggy branches from other shrubs (Twisted willow is very good) to support plants like Delphiniums and Peonies.
- Hardy Fuchsias - late March until early April and as the new growth appears cut back every branch to just above a pair of leaf buds to within three to four inches from the surface of the soil.
- Deadhead daffodils but let the foliage die down naturally.
- Divide and plant snowdrops in the green (finished flowering) to increase display for next year.



Fruit and Vegetables

- Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes.
- Feed Blueberry bushes with an ericaceous plant fertiliser.
- Mulch established Rhubarb with a thick layer of well-rotted manure taking care not to cover the crown of the plant.
- Hand weed Asparagus beds to avoid damaging their shallow roots. Mulch with well-rotted manure.
- Cut autumn fruiting raspberry canes to the ground. This will stimulate the production of new canes. Cut the tips of summer fruiting raspberries which have grown beyond the top of their supports; Cut just above a bud.



Trees, Shrubs & Climbers

- If you haven't done so already prune Bush and Shrub roses by removing dead, damaged and diseased parts of the plant. You can reduce the plant to a height of 1-1.5 feet / 40 cms. Prune back to an outward facing bud. Sprinkle and fork in a balanced fertiliser (contains equal measures of nitrogen, phosphate and potash) around the base to give them a boost for the season ahead.
- Feed trees, hedges and shrubs by forking in a slow release fertiliser on the surface of the surrounding soil and then hoe in. Keep fertiliser away from the bark or main stem of the tree or shrub.
- Cornus (Dogwoods) which are grown for their colourful winter stems should be cut back to their bases.
- Evergreen trees and shrubs can be moved in late March depending on the weather but not if birds have already started nesting. Soil should not be waterlogged or frozen solid. You will need to pay careful attention to watering to ensure they survive their first summer after moving



- If you haven't already done so you can prune back winter flowering jasmine once it has flowered. Remove dead and damaged shoots and shorten all laterals coming off the main framework to 5cm (2inches) cutting to a bud.
- Many summer or late summer flowering shrubs can be pruned back towards the end of the month. These include Lavatera (Tree Mallow) – Using clean and sharp secateurs cut all stems down to within 1ft (30cm) of the ground.
Leycesteria (Himalayan Honeysuckle) – Once again these can be cut down to 4 inches (10cm) of the ground to produce a neat clump.
Hardy Fuchsia – Once buds have started to appear remove any spindly and dead branches. You can then prune back to the previous year's flowering stems to within one or two buds of the older woody framework.
Cotinus – Smoke Bush – You can lightly prune or trim into shape or hard prune to contain growth.



Lawns

- Re-edge your lawns. This makes such a difference to the overall appearance.
- Towards the end of March and if the weather is warm apply a Spring fertiliser
- Mow Lawn if weather permits. Choose a dry day and set the blades higher on your mower.
- Now is a good time to repair your lawn or lay new turf. Prepare the soil for growing a new lawn from seed. This will allow it to settle before sowing.



General Maintenance and planning

- Continue to keep on top of weeding whilst easier to control.
- Top up raised beds with good quality compost.

- Permanent planted containers – Check that they haven't dried out. Top dress with at least an inch of fresh compost.
- Make sure greenhouses and cold frames are ventilated on warmer days.
- Enjoy visits to local nurseries to see what's looking good and in flower.
- Remove any netting from garden ponds. Do a general tidy up. You can now start feeding the fish. Clean out water filters and check that any pond pumps are in working order.
- If possible try and fill or replenish your pond with rain water rather than tap water.
- Consider installing a water butt and position under a down pipe to make the most of any rainfall.
- Put plant supports in now while growth is still low.
- Consider planting native hedges to encourage wildlife.
- Clean patios and paths.

Happy Gardening
Kate Ransom

Thorpe Morieux & District Gardening Club

Despite the nippy weather, 36 of our members were keen to get things moving in the garden and therefore listened to our guest speaker Dr Ian Bedford . Ian gave us a talk with slides to tell us which companion planting we can plant next to our more precious plants in order to combat all sorts of pests like black and white fly caterpillars amongst many others some more of a problem in the garden. A safe way of combating these pests without using chemicals. We all listened intently and gleaned some useful information.

The evening came to a close with lots of garden chatter and coffee and biscuits and the announcement of who had won the competition which was a bottle home made wine or Liqueur. The competition was won by Jasmin with her sloe Gin. Mark Smith "volunteered "to be the judge and do the tasting its a rotten job but somebody had to do it.

Come along to our next meeting which is on Monday 20th 7.15 for 7.30 . The subject for the talk will be nature through the seasons with Roger Hance as our speaker. We look forward to seeing you.

Linda Shotbolt committee member

Cockfield W.I.

February's Meeting



On 2nd February our speaker was Jenny Easton, a member of our own Cockfield WI, who is a spinner and weaver! Apparently 'It all started with a donkey' when her son helped to look after animals on a small holding, which included a donkey. Due to his enthusiasm looking after the animals, he was given a sheep and the following year Jenny was persuaded to use the fleece. She enrolled on a weaving course in 1993 and when the family moved to Suffolk she joined the Lavenham Guild. Her son now has over a hundred sheep and provides Jenny with as many fleeces as she wants! Jenny demonstrated spinning on her own wheel.



She also showed us how she could weave using a small portable loom. She was wearing a cardigan she had made and brought along other beautifully made items. She recommended the hobby, which she found rewarding, sociable and fun! We enjoyed the evening very much and appreciated her skills and the resulting beautifully made items!



In March, which is an open meeting, we celebrate our local WI birthday with our speaker Charles Garland, a local Suffolk lad, born in Bury St Edmunds, who will be telling us about the enormously successful and popular Dads' Army programme. Indeed the Nations favourite comedy! Charles Garland has been an actor, writer, composer, television director, producer and author.

He re-edited most of the classic comedy archive for the BBC, including Dads Army, Steptoe & Son, Are You Being Served?, Porridge, The Good Life and many others.



In April. We will be joined by some very experienced gardeners from Thorpe Morieux Gardening Club.

In April we are planning to visit the refurbished Gainsborough House in Sudbury with further visits to include Fullers Mill Garden at Bury St Edmunds in the summer and the Food Museum at Stowmarket in September. The Food Museum (formerly the Museum of East Anglian Life) is Britain's only Food Museum, is set in 75 acres of Suffolk countryside and has 40,000 objects and 17 buildings to explore.

In May we have our AGM, so there is no speaker. In June we have a garden meeting in a member's lovely garden. In July our speaker is Lou Chapman, an artist.

A few members arranged to visit Chippenham Park near Newmarket to see the snowdrops, which I am sure they enjoyed but a report was not available to include this month.



It is a lovely garden and well worth a visit to see the daffodils a little later in the spring.

The coffee morning we hold in the village hall each month is a great place to meet and have a chat! It is open to everyone and everyone is very welcome to share some lovely homemade cakes and biscuits, as well as tea and coffee. The next three Thursday coffee mornings are from 10.30 am until 12 noon and are on the 23rd March, 27th April and 25th May, in the Village Hall Committee room.

Our Soup lunch in January was very enjoyable and it was great to see so many people there. We plan to continue with the monthly lunches and hope the next one on 18th February is as successful! (No details available at the time we go to press) Future lunches are on Saturday 18th March and Saturday 15th April, when the food prepared may be subject to seasonal change. Please come, we would love to see you!

We would all like to say welcome to you if you have recently moved into the village and would love to meet you.

Visitors are always very welcome to WI meetings and if you would like to come along, haven't felt comfortable going out due to Covid or used to come to WI and would like to think about coming back, please contact Michelle Callinan on WI@cockfield.org.uk



Spring Jackets Saturday 18th March

12.00- 2pm

Cockfield residents come and enjoy a Jacket potato this March..

At our first potato lunch with choices of fillings.

Bring a friend or the family.

Come and join us at the village hall.

It's a donation of £1.00.

Report JB

Cockfield Community Coffee

4th Thursday of the month

Hope to see you there



**Cockfield Village Hall - Committee Room
10.30am - 12 noon**

No Charge but donations are welcome

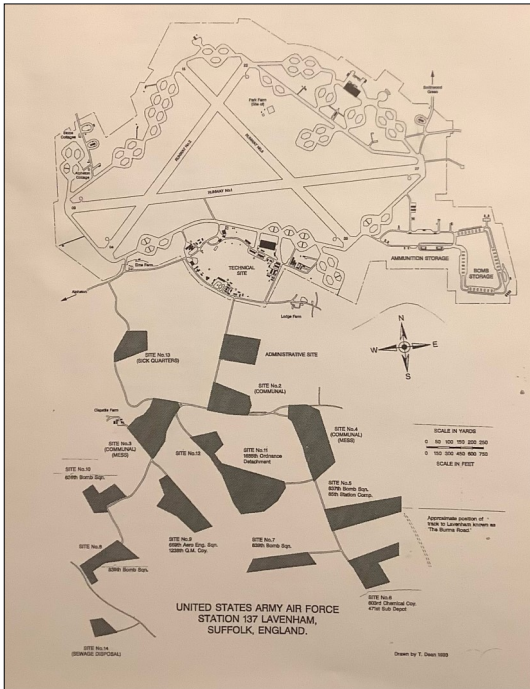
The Americans in Suffolk part 2 - The airfields

Last time I looked at the beginning of what came to be known as the 'friendly invasion', in other words the transformation of Eastern England into a giant aircraft carrier anchored off Fortress Europe. This was to provide the launch point for the United States strategic air offensive against Germany in what was known as the ETO, or the European Theatre of Operations. There would later also be a United States tactical Air Force based largely in Essex. This was the Ninth Air Force and was to support the coming invasion in June 1944. That is beyond the scope of this article, but again this was a huge American presence in Essex. In this article I will look at the construction of the airfields.

At the outbreak of war there were already a number of permanent RAF stations in Suffolk, these being Honington, Mildenhall, Wattisham, Martlesham Heath and Stradishall. The desperate need for new airfields during the early war years required land that was relatively flat, between 50 and 600 feet above sea level, with as few natural obstacles as possible. There was already enough urgency to find new airfields for the RAF's needs, but with the arrival of the Eighth Air Force the demand for new airfields intensified dramatically.

By this stage most new airfields were being built to what became known as 'Class A' bomber standard. This envisaged three intersecting runways in the shape of an A (hence 'class A') to allow for changes in wind direction. Aircraft need to take off and land into wind in order to reduce the length of the take off roll by generating the required airspeed for take off more quickly. The main runway was to be 6000 feet long (just over a mile), with the other two being shorter at 4200 feet. Runways would be 150 feet wide. These three runways would be encircled by a 50 foot wide perimeter track that would stretch to just under three miles. Along this perimeter track would be the concrete dispersal points for the bombers, up to fifty for USAAF airfields, although by the summer of 1944 even this number would prove to be insufficient. There were to be two large T2 prefabricated hangars with a span of 120 feet, a length of 240 feet and a height of 39 feet.

This was the basic requirement. To this would be added a technical site to support bombing operations, an administrative site, a bomb and ammunition storage area, two underground fuel storage tanks each holding 100,000 gallons of 100 octane aviation spirit, and communal mess sites, ablutions and accommodation for 2500 officers and enlisted men. Perhaps the most iconic of all the buildings was the control tower, and many of these have survived today to be turned into museums or to serve other purposes. On visiting one, such as the one at Bury St Edmunds, it is not hard to imagine the balcony being crowded with the operations staff, straining to hear the first sounds of the Wright R 1820 Cyclone engines which drove the B-17s to war and, if the crews were lucky, brought them home again.



The building of these airfields involved one of the biggest engineering projects ever seen, involving such household names as John Laing, McAlpine, Wimpey, Taylor Woodrow, Richard Costain and others. Later on US Engineers would also build airfields, such as the ones at Eye, Debach and Raydon. It is said that six trains ran daily from London to East Anglia, each bringing 400 tons of hardcore produced from the rubble of bombed London. It has to be one of the supreme ironies of the war that by bombing British cities the Luftwaffe were providing the means to construct the airfields from which British and American bombers would lay waste to the Reich. Much of the sand and aggregate for the construction of the airfields was provided by the St Ives Sand and Gravel Company, and


after the war they devised a way of breaking up the runways and perimeter tracks of disused airfields and putting the concrete slabs so obtained through a crusher to produce hardcore. Around 200,000 tons of this went into the M11. If ever there was a case of having your cake and eating it, then this was it!

Early in the war, the area between Lavenham and Alpheton was selected for the construction of an airfield to Class A standard. The John Laing and Son Ltd Company built the airfield in 1943 with what can only be described as a quite staggering amount of material. 190,000 cubic yards of concrete were poured for the runways and perimeter track and hardstandings; these were dressed with 32,000 square yards of tarmac; 52,000 cubic yards of concrete were used to construct the roads linking the various administrative, technical and domestic sites, and 4,500,000 bricks were used for the buildings. Approximately eight miles of hedgerow were removed, and twenty miles of drains, ten miles of conduit, six miles of water main and ten miles of roads were laid down.

The average cost of a Class A airfield was, at wartime prices, £900,000. So the cost of just the five airfields at Bury, Lavenham, Great Ashfield, Rattlesden and Sudbury amounted to £4,500,000 which, adjusted for inflation, would be £262,515,397 today. No wonder that by the end of World War Two Britain had amassed a debt of £21 billion. The debt to the United States was finally paid off in 2006. So from a financial point of view alone, not counting the human cost, wars are best avoided.



What is equally staggering, is the speed with which they were built, particularly in view of the shortage of skilled labour and the primitive nature of the construction equipment in use at the time. In 1942, the peak period of construction, a new airfield was being started every three days. Lavenham Airfield, or Station 137 as it was known to the USAAF, opened in April 1944 and was handed over to the USAAF. It was to be the home of the 487th Bomb Group until the end of the war. All that was now needed were the aircraft, aircrew, ground crew and support and administrative staff. Enter Lt Col Beirne Lay Jr and the men of the 487th. JG

The background of the entire page is an abstract, vibrant painting with a mix of colors including red, purple, blue, green, and yellow, creating a textured, expressive look.

Cockfield Art Show - Exhibition and Sale will
be held over the Bank Holiday weekend
27th - 28th - 29th May 2023

If you would like to exhibit your works for sale
or if you have craft items you would like to sell

please contact

Janne on 01284 828264 or

janne@twerbs.co.uk

to receive an Intent to Exhibit Form

Summary Report of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 24 November 2022.



(Please note: 'To obtain a copy of the full formal minutes of this meeting, please email the Parish Clerk, parish.council@cockfield.org.uk')

As the Parish Council do not hold a meeting in December the minutes from the November meeting were not able to be approved for any publication until the January meeting.

Ongoing matters.

BMSDC Public Realm Land (Safety Issue at Duke Meadow): SCC Cllr Lindsay reported that SCC Highways Enforcement team have asked the landowner to relocate the fence line further away from the junction.

Local Needs Housing (Jeffreys Green): The Clerk confirmed he had completed application for 'Granting of a new right of common and application for registration of a right in the commons register'.

Highways & Emergencies (Mill Corner footway): It was advised that the Council are still awaiting a proposal from landowners on possible route options for footpath.

Greens Management: The Clerk has instructed the contractor to defer painting the bandstand until the spring due to adverse weather conditions.

Pavilion & Shed: The Clerk had obtained a quotation to paint the Pavilion and the Shed in the Spring 2023, which was approved by Cllrs.

Greens Management: Cllr Morley confirmed he had purchased a QE2 Memorial Plaque and supplied it to our Contractor to fix it to the tree guard he is fabricating for the Great Green.

Playground: It was confirmed that the hollows had been filled in under some of the play equipment with new soil (as identified in the Annual Safety Inspection), and the Council are awaiting on the contractor to arrange a site visit to adjust tensions on the Zip Wire and tighten some fixings on the see-saw.

Pavilion - Maintenance: The Clerk confirmed that the locksmith had replaced the lock and handle on the Pavilion Home Changing Room Door.

Highways and Emergencies: The Clerk had written letters of thanks to residents who had assisted in repairing the pothole on the corner of Cross Green.

Village Hall Car Park: The Clerk has appointed a licensed contractor to undertake a 12 Month programme of spraying & general car park maintenance.

Glebe Land: The Clerk has appointed a contractor to create allotment car park, access road and entrance hard standings in accordance with the approved quotation.

Repairs to Klargester: The Clerk has appointed a contractor to de-sludge and repair Pavilion Klargester in accordance with their approved quotation.

Pavilion: The Clerk has applied to Octopus Energy for a Smart Meter to be installed.

Highways & Emergencies: Cllrs were advised that our suppliers will not provide a single letter to replace that on the Cockfield sign, so will need to procure the word "Cockfield". Cost effective alternatives to be sought.

EV Charging Point at the VH Car Park: The Clerk to provide details of potential electrical supply requirements to Cllr Cutting-Keyton who will raise the issue at the Village Hall AGM.

Public Participation Session:

The Clerk had circulated SCC Cllr Lindsay's report in advance of the meeting. In SCC Cllr Lindsay's absence, there was no further discussion.

District Cllr Arthey reported that the BMSDC CIFCo's were making a profit. That BMSDC's new offices were progressing. BMSDC thermal imaging cameras were available for Parish Councils to borrow to check heat loss on buildings and that he can donate towards the purchase cost of a new mower from his Locality Budget.

District Cllr Maybury report emailed to the Clerk was not received until after the meeting but was subsequently circulated to Cllrs. Matters were not directly related to Cockfield.

Planning Applications Received for Consultation:

DC/22/05374: Application for Lawful Development Certificate for an existing Use, Operation or Activity including those in breach of a planning condition. Town & Country Planning Act 1990 as amended – Continued Use of The Stables as a Dwelling house. Potash Farm, Cockfield Road, Thorpe Morieux, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0NG **The Parish Council understood the concerns of Thorpe Morieux Parish Council and supports their response.**

Planning Decisions Received from BMSDC:

DC/22/05434: Application for Non-material amendment relating to DC/17/03011 – Amendments to plots 4 & 5 – Soffit to front of dwelling lifted and gabled dormers removed. Land to the northeast of Ivy Farm, Chapel Road, Cockfield, Suffolk. **Decision: Amendment Details Approved.**

DC/22/05151: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 1No. Cherry (T1) Oak House, Cross Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0LG. **Decision: BMSDC do not wish to Object.**

Pavillion & Pavilion Shed: It was agreed to accept the contractor's quotation to rub down, prepare and apply 3 coats barn paint to Pavilion / Pavilion Shed external cladding, facias etc.

Cross Green Bench & Planters: Councillors agreed a quotation from Gensis Garden Furniture (Orwell Mencap) for a new Iroko Bench inscribed "Cross Green 2023" and two planters.

Pavilion Electrical Supply: The Clerk advised that the Government's Electricity subsidies had been applied to Octopus Energy's unit rates contained in the November Utility Bill and would apply for 6 months.

Budget: The Clerk explained the Parish Council's forecast expenditure to 31/03/23 and presented details of the Parish Council's Bank Balance, Uncommitted Neighbourhood CIL funds held, Earmarked & General Reserves and the 1st Draft of the proposed 2023-24 Budget Requirement (all of which had been circulated to Cllrs in advance of the meeting). Cllrs raised queries and suggested amendments to the Budget. The Clerk was requested to seek clarification from BMSDC over permitted Neighbourhood CIL expenditure to mitigate any demands on the Precept. The Clerk to issue a 2nd Draft Budget once all outstanding queries are answered, in advance of the Parish Council Meeting in January 2023.

The Clerk advised that the Cockfield Tax Base had only increased by 1.5% which wouldn't cover the increase needed to fund the proposed Budget. It was agreed in principle that, if possible, the Parish Council would not increase its element of the Cockfield Council Tax (for the 3rd year running), so it might be necessary to fund any shortfall from its General Reserves. It was agreed to bring forward the January Parish Council meeting to the 19th January 2023 to allow the Clerk time to meet the Precept submission deadlines.

Greens Management: Cllr Morley highlighted the poor condition of the grass at Cross Green. It was agreed that Soil Testing and remediation work be undertaken.

Glebe Land (Alloments): Councillors noted that following an advertisement in GL there were now 5 applicants expressing an interest in plots.

Earls Meadow: Councillors discussed the need for a new commercial mower to cut Earls Meadow, Jeffreys Green and Bruffs Line (which now total 8-9 Acres of meadow). The Clerk had received confirmation from BMSDC that a mower could be purchased using Neighbourhood CIL Funds and Cllr Arthey had offered a donation from his Locality Budget. Further investigation into model types / availability would be undertaken.

Village Hall Car Park: Cllr Cutting-Keyton advised of the need for repairs to the path between the road and the entrance to the Village Hall, caused by tree root damage. Councillors agreed to part fund with the VH committee for the repairs.

Parish Paths: Councillors were advised that SCC have refused to repair the damage to the Abbey footpath or erect signage warning of the trip hazard. Cllr Webster will ascertain whether SCC will allow the Parish Council to erect signage. Cllr Webster advised that he was still awaiting SCC's response to his complaints about the footbridge over the stream on the Abbey footpath.

Other Assets: Cllr Turner advised that the Parish Council's oldest SID will need replacing next year and requested provision be made for a new one in the 2023/24 budget & precept.

Cllrs noted the CCC's email requesting a notice board at the Pavilion. Cllr Levett would discuss the issue with the Chair of the CCC.

Local Needs Housing: Orwell Housing to be asked to establish with SCC when they were likely to transfer the land (between the new Jeffreys Green Housing development and Jeffreys Green meadow) over to Cockfield Parish Council.

Police/Fire: Cllrs noted that the police had been asked to conduct speed checks in the Cross Green area.

King Charles Coronation (Village celebration): Cllrs agreed this to be included on the agenda for January's Ordinary Parish Council Meeting such type / scale of event could be explored.

Councillors noted Correspondence for action

Resident letter complaining about overgrown footpaths and speeding traffic through Cross Green.

Headway Suffolk email seeking donation from Parish Council.

Resident's email reporting broken bench on Cross Green and requesting Parish Council replace it with a new bench.

BMSDC Infrastructure Team confirmation that all outstanding CIL payments have now been made for the Mortimer Road development.

The Parish Council may be contacted through the Clerk,
Steve Ball by email at: parish.council@cockfield.org.uk
or 01284 828987 10am - 4pm please

Next Meetings - The next Ordinary Meetings of the Council will be held
on Thursday 30th March 2023 and Thursday 27th April
at 7.30pm in Cockfield Village Hall

Cockfield's new allotments

There has been a great response to the announcement last autumn of Cockfield's new allotments. Of the ten plots available, eight have already been reserved. The applicants met on-site in January for their first view of the allotments and were very enthusiastic about the new project.

The allotment site is located close to Jeffreys Green and the plots are around 65 square metres; a good size to grow plenty of your own vegetables, but not too big to manage for first-time allotment gardeners. Tenancies will start from March for an annual rent of £20.

If you are a village resident and would like one of the two remaining plots, or would like more information, please email mark.cfield21@btinternet.com

Mark Webster, on behalf of Cockfield Parish Council

The Historic Lighting Club
Presents a Display and Sale of
Antique Oil Lamps

In
St. Peters Church, Cockfield

On
Saturday 11th March 2023

Open from 4pm until 8pm

Adults £3. Children Free

Refreshments available



I've been offered and accepted a new job. The new company wants me to start as soon as possible but we're really short-staffed where I am now, and I don't know how soon I'll be allowed to leave. How should I bring all this up with my boss?

Congratulations on your new role! It can feel awkward telling your employer you're moving on but there are set processes in place. The time between telling your employer you've found a new position and you actually leaving is known as your notice period.

If you've been in your current job for less than one month, you won't have to give any notice period (unless your contract says otherwise). If it's more than a month though, you have to give at least one week's notice. Check what your contract says to find out how much notice you'll be expected to give.

If you don't have a contract, and your employer has no written record of you agreeing to a notice period, but you have been employed for more than a month you have to give at least one week's notice.

Although it may be tempting to hand in your resignation as soon as possible, it's worth waiting until your new employer has confirmed your new employment, for example by signing your contract or by giving you a start date.

It's then best to give your resignation in writing (email is fine), so that you have a record of the date you told your employer. You can find guidance on how to do this on the Citizens Advice website, visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk where we have a page on handing in your notice.

Fixed-term contracts are a bit different, as you won't need to give notice if you intend to leave on the last day of your contract. Leaving before the end of a fixed-term contract usually means giving at least one week's notice, but again check your contract to see if this is different.

Don't forget about your holiday days during your notice period. If you have any unused annual leave, speak to your employer about either taking these during the notice period or being paid back for them in your final pay cheque. Finally, sometimes people can change their mind about moving jobs or find their circumstances alter. If this happens to you, you should speak to your current employer to see what your options are and if you can stay in your current role.

Everyone's situation is different, but if you face any challenges with an existing or potential employer, contact Citizens Advice for advice: 0800 144 8848 or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk to find out about what to do when you're leaving a job. For information and advice on this or anything else, visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk or call Sudbury and District Citizens Advice on 01787 321400 and leave a message and someone will call you back when available. We will attempt three times to call you back, so please expect a call from a withheld number. Alternatively, contact us via email at advice@sudburycab.org.uk or by using the contact facility on our website, <https://www.sudburycab.org.uk/contact>

Tips and Tricks - Cleaning for Less



You don't have to walk down a cleaning aisle to find manufactured goods for cleaning your home—just open your pantry and you'll find all you need to clean your home plus being kinder to the environment.

It's possible to clean and remove stains with just vinegar, lemons, baking soda, and a few other items around the home and all for a fraction of the price of the shop bought products.

Stained cups/teapot

Wet the cup or mug then sprinkle 2 tbsps bicarb and scrub with a bottle brush. The tannin dissolves quickly and effectively.

Dishwasher

Dishwashers can become greasy quite quickly. After cleaning the filter, place 4 tbsps vinegar or 2 used lemon halves (top shelf) in the empty machine and set a normal programme. The empty wash plus the acid from the vinegar/lemons will clean, shine and deodorize leaving your dishwasher fresh and clean.

Oven Shelves

These can be a horrible job to clean, but it can be so easy. In a sink or plastic container that's large enough, measure 2-3 cups of washing soda and pour enough boiling water to cover and leave them to soak while you sleep! In the morning, they should just need a wipe down and they're clean!

(do not use with self-clean coatings or if the shelves are aluminium)

Descaling Kettles

We live in a hard water area so this can be a particular problem so try this for an effective clean.

Fill half a kettle of water, boil then unplug. Add 80g citric acid and leave for around half an hour then rinse well before use and you're ready to go.

Cleaning Surfaces

Clean the top of the stove, appliances, and countertop surfaces with equal parts white vinegar and water. Use vinegar to clean floors and be amazed at the fresh shiny results. (do not use on marble or metal as it may leave pitting)

Kitchen sinks

Instead of bleach, use 1tbsp sprinkled bicarb and clean with a soft cloth.

Toilets

After a general clean, use 130 ml of white vinegar around the toilet bowl, shut the lid and leave overnight – or for about 8 hours. Then flush as normal for a clean and shiny toilet.

As with all cleaning products, always do a patch test first, but then go ahead, save lots, and help the planet.

Cockfield Community Council

News

By the time you are reading this issue of Green Links we will be well settled into 2023. A chilly start to the year, but signs of spring are evident and the thought of lighter evenings and warmer temperatures is the ideal time to have a glance at the list below of community council events being planned this year and maybe pencil one, two or more into your diary and calendars.

We have now had two events , the New Years Hangover Hike and the first of our two planned family bingo evenings. If bingo is your thing but were unable to attend the February date look out for details of our second bingo evening being planned for October nearer the time.

The trustees are always trying to come up with a variety of events, if having looked at the list you have an idea for an event which you think could appeal to the residents of Cockfield, please get in touch with a member of the community council and it can then be discussed at one of our meetings.

So as we move into March we have a quiz night planned for **Saturday March 25th.**

Held in the village hall, Teams can have up to 6 people, but must be registered in advance as the ticket price includes supper. The bar will be open and tickets on sale for your chance to win a prize in the raffle. With a variety of subjects this fun evening is your chance to see how much trivia and facts you really know, so gather your team together and put your food order in when you purchase your tickets. These can be obtained from Cockfield Post office, via the calendar entry on the Cockfield website, or on request to quiz@cockfield.org.uk. Please don't be put off coming because some extra team mates are needed to make up your team, just speak to Neil on 07900880888 or email quiz@cockfield.org.uk.

Saturday April 8th (Easter Saturday) family fun at the annual Duck Race held at Earls Meadow.

Saturday May 6th is the King's Coronation and it is hoped to organise an event but is still in the planning phase.

Friday May 26th - Monday May 29th Cockfield Art Show in the village hall.

Saturday June 24th to celebrate the summer solstice join us for a guided walk around the village followed by a summer social in the village hall.

A village fete is being planned for July.

Dig out your gingham ready for a barn dance in September

Another chance to win with family cash bingo in October

Test your knowledge with a quiz evening in November.

Cinema screenings will continue on the evening of the 4th Friday of each month in the village hall. But the **May Cinema Screening** will be a week earlier on **Friday 19th May** and the **December Screening on Friday 15th**.

More details for each event will be advertised in Green Links, on village notice boards, on posters around the village and on the community broadcasts as the date gets closer.

If you would like to help out at events but not commit to being a trustee you can register on the helpers list by email - community.council@cockfield.org.uk or phone our secretary Janne on 01284828264

Community broadcasts can be received by visiting www.cockfield.org.uk and following the link in the footer of any page. The broadcasts provide general information for residents including reminders of upcoming events and any last minute changes.

Report JP

Cockfield Community Council Presents

Quiz Night

Spring 2023

Cockfield Village Hall

Saturday 25th March

Doors open 7 pm, Quiz Starts 7.30

Teams of up to 6, advanced booking only please

If you need others to make up a team, contact me

Bar

Fish n' chips, sausage &
chips or vegetarian option
for supper

Team entry forms £10 per
person (including supper)
from Post Office, via the
calendar entry on the
website, or on request to
quiz@cockfield.org.uk

Any queries please contact Neil on 07900 880 888 or email
quiz@cockfield.org.uk

**COCKFIELD COMMUNITY CINEMA PRESENTS
LIVING (12A)**

Friday 24th March

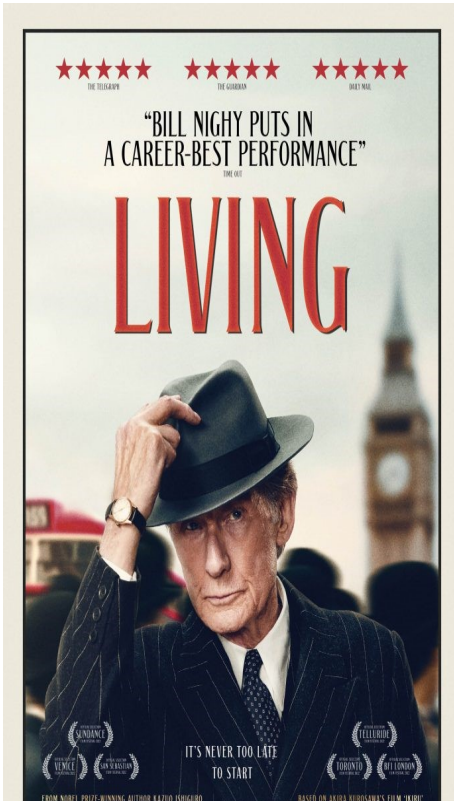
Cockfield Village Hall

Doors Open: 7pm – Film starts: 7:30pm

Tickets on the door

Adults: £4.50 / Under 16s: £3.00

Raffle, Refreshments & Licensed Bar available from 7pm



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Voter ID

From May 2023, voters have to show photo ID at polling stations before they are given a ballot paper.



The most commonly used photographic IDs include:

- passports
- photographic driver's licences (including provisional)
- Blue Badges
- Concessionary travel passes

What to do when you have no photo ID

If you do not have one of the accepted forms of photo ID and you would like to vote, you need to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate.

This certificate is a free photo ID document that will allow you to vote.

You can apply for a certificate from Monday 16 January 2023.

Apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate on line at voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk

You may wish to complete a paper application form instead. If you would like to request a paper application form, or need help with your application, please email elections@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk or phone Babergh District Council on 03001 234000

Voters who do not produce valid photo ID or a Voter Authority Certificate will **not be allowed to vote on the day.**

Cockfield Community Classifieds

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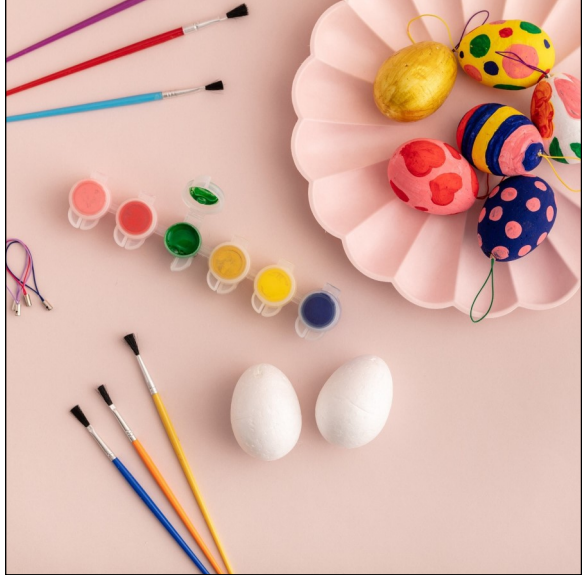
Please contact Allie on 07732 111802 or email

info@perfectpressing.co.uk

www.perfectpressing.co.uk

Children's Page March 2023

Easter is just around the corner and that means the duck race at Earls Meadow, I hope you will be able to go but either way Easter is a lovely time, maybe you could try painting eggs or



Drawing around your hand on some card, cutting the shape out and decorating it. They could be hung up as Easter decorations.





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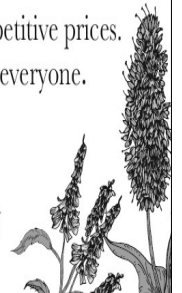
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Cockfield
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP30 0LA

Tel & Fax 01284 828287

E-mail: admin@cockfield.suffolk.sch.uk
www.cockfieldprimaryschool.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Trudie Harkin

We share, care and learn together

Dear Green Links readers,

The start of the Spring term has flown past. The number of trips planned has been reduced due to costs to parents in the current climate but the children enjoyed our recent Break the Rules Day, raising money for FOCSA with their rule breaking - changing their names, dressing down (PJs allowed) styling their hair and wearing make-up. A fun day at school and more dressing up will follow soon with World Book Day on its way, 2nd March and Dress Down for Chocolate, on the 10th when we bring in chocolate items for the FOCSA Chocolate Bingo night on the 17th March, 6pm, at the Village Hall. All welcome.

We have some special days planned including a Spirituality Day, Wellbeing Day, and Safer Internet Day. We will be welcoming PC Marshall, who is coming to visit the children soon and he has promised they can have a seat in his Police van! He was a pupil at the school back when Mr Webster was the Head. These visitors along with our special days and trips inspire our children. Using life skills such as resilience, creativity, co-operation and tolerance we celebrate when the children can use their Learning Powers in their everyday learning.

An Olympic Champion, a gymnast, will be visiting next half term to encourage the children. We have several talented children of our own in this field. They are attending local clubs, achieving high standards. Lilly in Year 6 has gained a place in the Eastern Region tumble squad, an amazing achievement plus Lilly has been picked for the Suffolk Squad! What a talented young lady.

The start of the year has seen the children getting into lots of DT projects as we have raised the profile of a subject that they really enjoy. We have had lots of cooking and trying of different vegetables in kebab and wraps, making of practical items including a reflective cycling belt and a beeswax sandwich wrap. One child said they recognise how these skills are important for life and give them confidence to try new things and have big ideas.

Best wishes,

Mrs Harkin

Dear Friends,

I know that it feels a bit early to be talking about Spring but I have seen spring shoots coming up all around the garden, and at times it does feel as though Spring is well and truly on the way. I have also seen plenty of snowdrops on the paths that I have been running just lately.

We can all marvel at the way in which the earth recovers from winter and I'm sure many of us are looking forward to warmer times when we can turn our heating down or off. This will be a welcome relief for those who have really struggled with their energy costs over the winter.

I think that many of us are struggling in all sorts of ways with life at the moment, not least with the news that reaches us about the Ukraine war and the earthquakes that have devastated parts of Turkey and Syria. Seeing and hearing about such misery and pain can overwhelm us, and we cry out to our God to help those who are in the midst of these crises.

As we move through Lent, my prayer is that we can give thanks for the many blessings that we have here in this lovely part of Suffolk. The communities that we have are, on the whole, so kind and generous. We are very lucky, and I thank God every day that I am so privileged to be here in Cockfield. And we continue our prayers for those who are experiencing pain or suffering, that they may experience the love of God in their lives too.

Yours in Christ,


Sharon

Rev Canon Sharon Potter

revsharon2@gmail.com 01284-828599 or 0782508

Cockfield Benefice Services & Events

March 2023

Saturday 4 March	2-4pm 'Vintage Messy' at Bradfield St Clare Village Hall.
Sunday 5 March Lent 2	9.30am Communion CW - Stanningfield 11am Morning Prayer CW - Cockfield 11am Communion CW - Bradfield St Clare 6pm Six-to-Seven - Felsham Village Hall
Sunday 12 March Lent 3	9.30am Said Communion BCP – Cockfield 11am Communion CW – Bradfield St George 4pm Praise and Worship – Gt Whelnetham
Sunday 19 March Lent 4/Mothering Sunday	9.30am Morning Prayer CW – Stanningfield 10am Family@Church – Felsham 11am Communion CW – Cockfield 4pm Taizé Service – Bradfield St Clare
Saturday 25 March	 <p>Crafts - Food - Stories All children welcome with carer/parent. 3-5pm. Venue tbc. Contact Canon Sharon for more details.</p>
Sunday 26 March Lent 5/Passion Sunday	9.30am Communion CW – Gt Whelnetham 10am Worshipping Together – Bradfield St George 10am Communion BCP - Gedding

Please note these services may be subject to change – for up-to-date service times see the benefice website at www.cockfieldbenefice.com

A service of Celtic Morning Prayer is held every Tuesday at Cockfield at 9am

A prayer group meets via zoom every Wednesday at 2pm via zoom

For more details contact Canon Sharon at revsharon2@gmail.com

tel: 01284 828599 or 078250 086063

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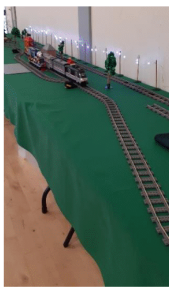
Opening Hours	
Monday	10.00 – 1.00
Tuesday	10.00 – 1.00 & 2.00 – 5.00
Thursday	10.00 – 1.00 & 2.00 – 5.00
Friday	10.00 – 1.00 & 2.00 – 5.00
Saturday	10.00 – 2.00
Sunday & Wednesday - CLOSED	

SUFFOLK LIBRARIES DAY

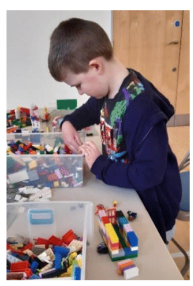


Suffolk Libraries is a charity which runs the library service in Suffolk and this is our annual fundraising event. At Lavenham library we are holding a raffle with prizes ranging from generous donations from local businesses to children’s books and games. Please visit the library to buy your raffle tickets and support Suffolk Libraries – the charity that runs your library service at the heart of your community.
The draw closes on the 24th March.

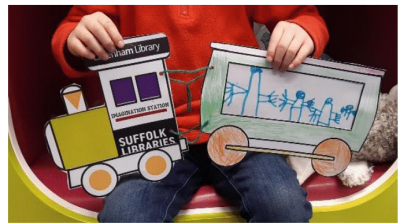
Half Term Lego/Craft Afternoon



A wonderful afternoon was enjoyed when the Lego train arrived for our Lego event during the February half term. We had some very creative Lego builders and artists who created models and their own “Imagination Station” Lego train.



Special thanks to Bryan & Chris Panton for setting up the Lego Train – and decorating it with a Spring setting – and for our wonderful volunteers: Diane, Alice, Margaret, and Georgia. Such a successful and enjoyable event can only be achieved by having such a hard-working team!
 Grateful thanks also to the Co-op for donating drinks and biscuits for refreshments which enabled us to run this free event for families.



Contact Details



Lavenham Library, Lavenham Village Hall, Church St, Lavenham CO10 9QT
 Tel No: 01787 247729 www.suffolklibraries.co.uk
 Email: lavenham.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk
 Suffolk Libraries HMRC charity number XT34476

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The United Charities can give small grants for fuel, clothing and food to people living within Cockfield parish and can also help with some medical, educational and job seeking support. In addition, there is a limited supply of logs from Earl's Meadow available for those who have wood burners or open fires.

The trustees have had no recent requests for any sort of help. There are limitations on who may benefit from the Charities, but we shall consider any requests **in the utmost confidence**. Please contact the trustees if you need help or if you are aware of any individual or family living in Cockfield who could benefit from some assistance.

Trustees

Tony Box, Chairman, United Charities of Cockfield (01284 828309)

Dick Bayes (01284 828569)

Barbara Ruffell (01284 828262)

Robin Morley (01284 828023)

Rev Canon Sharon Potter (01284 828599)



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11th March

7pm

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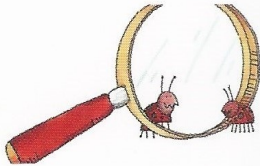
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Congregational Church Corner

In the first chapter of Timothy (verse 1) the apostle Paul calls Jesus "Our hope". In this context, the word 'hope' means a confident desire or expectation and is closely aligned with the word 'faith' which is exemplified in Hebrews chapter 11; that great chapter on faith that begins with the words: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things unseen" (verse 1). And our faith in Jesus is the manifestation of this hope. It is not some whimsical desire without substance or reason. It is a sure and certain hope in the promises Jesus has made and continues to make to us; and having done so He will fulfil His promises.

The first and foremost of these promises is the hope that He will save us from our sins. In this, the Bible tells us that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) and the consequences of this are grave indeed but our hope is in Christ Jesus, to free us from the consequences of this penalty (Romans 6:23). Some try to ignore the consequences of sin, others try to compensate for it by doing good works in the hope thereby to placate a righteous God, and still others worship other gods in the hope that they will save them. But these are merely false hopes that will not in save. Christ Jesus is the only hope: for He is "the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29) and it is through Him, and only Him, that we have "redemption from our sins" (Ephesians 1:7).

Man is a religious creature with a desire to worship God, implanted in us by God, Himself (Acts 17:26-28). If we do not do so then there is a void (Psalm 42:1-3) that people try to fill with all sorts of other things but will always come up feeling empty. Christ is the only one who can fill this emptiness, because through Him we are reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:18).

And as we think on these things in the run up to Easter, why not place your hope in Jesus today? He has said: "Behold I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear my voice and opens the door unto me, I will come in and sup with him and he with me" (Revelation 3:20). What a gracious invitation and it is open to anyone who chooses to avail themselves of it at any time.

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Announcements

Margaret Steward

The funeral of Margaret Steward, a quiet, unassuming and gentle lady took place at Bradfield Methodist Church on Wednesday 11th January 2023.

Margaret played the organ at Bradfield for over 50 years. During that time 3 hymn books had been used and she guided the congregation through these transitions. The task of the organist is to prepare the congregation for

worship, and this she did with great dedication. She rarely had a Sunday off, years ago there were 2 services a day.

Margaret was involved in all events at the church. She organised a very successful flower festival. Flowers were her forte and stunning arrangements were prepared for weddings here and further afield.

The Annual Harvest Supper was capably overseen by Margaret. She kept a large diary which recorded the quantities of everything needed from year to year. In its heyday the harvest supper served 60+ people. Margaret always made hazelnut meringue Pavlovas as a centrepiece of the desert table. Her baking skills were legendary including coffee and walnut, chocolate and fatless sponges together with delicious cheese scones.

Margaret was an accomplished needlewoman. In her house were many cushions made by her using a variety of stitches in pleasing colours. She also designed a tapestry picture of her house complete with hollyhocks along the side wall.

Within the village of Cockfield she was active with many organisations including Meals on Wheels, delivering lunches to the elderly.

The photograph portrays Margaret sitting at her kitchen table with arms folded and wearing her apron.

Margaret's coffin departed the church to the music of Widor's Toccata (at her request). The mighty cords of the finale carried to the graveside as she was interred.

A perfect tribute to the organist of Bradfield Methodist Church.

Rest in Peace



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Cockfield Contacts

March 2023 Web

CATEY Pre-School	Mary Tolhurst	catey@cockfield.org.uk
Cockfield Carpet Bowls Club	June Pettit	carpet.bowls@cockfield.org.uk
Cockfield Cemetery	Ralph Turner	828201
Cockfield Charties	Tony Box	charities@cockfield.org.uk
Cockfield Football Club	Joe Brinkley	football@cockfield.org.uk
Cockfield Netball Club	Lindsee Summers	netball@cockfield.org.uk
Cockfield Post Office	Barbara Turner	01284 828201
Cockfield Primary School	Trudie Harkin Headteacher	admin@cockfield.suffolk.sch.uk
Community Council Secretary	Janne Cutting-Keyton	community.council@cockfield.org.uk
Computer Circle, e-news	Neil Ashton	computer.circle@cockfield.org.uk
County Council - Local Member	Robert Lindsay	07738 264087
		robert.lindsay@suffolk.gov.uk
Dentist	Lavenham Dental Practice	01787 247058
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District Council	Babergh offices	0300 1234000
Local Member	Clive Arthey	01787 211316
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Local Member	Margaret Maybury	01787 464358
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Doctors	Long Melford Practice	01787 378226
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Footpath Warden	Mark Webster	footpaths@cockfield.org.uk
Friends of Cockfield School FOCSA	Mark Aston	fosca@cockfield.org.uk
Green Links - Village Magazine	Janne Cutting-Keyton	green.links@cockfield.org.uk
Parish Council Clerk	Steve Ball	parish.council@cockfield.org.uk
Pavilion Administrator (C.C. Council)	Andy Golding	pavilion@cockfield.org.uk
Pharmacy	The Lavenham Pharmacy	01787 247284
St. Peters Church	Rev. Sharon Potter	01284 828599
Church Wardens	Norman Kelly/David Smith	church.warden@cockfield.org.uk
Village Hall - Bookings	June Pettit	village.hall@cockfield.org.uk
Secretary	Vera Shepherd	village.hall@cockfield.org.uk
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