

REPORT TO COCKFIELD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING 25 MAY 2023

The Village Recorder, as the name suggests, keeps a note of events and changes from year to year in their village.

The most comprehensive record of month by month activity in Cockfield is printed in Green Links, our parish magazine. The Editor does an excellent job and I am assured that copies are archived at the Records Office.

The biggest visual change in Cockfield over the past few years has been the increase in new housing at both ends of the village, and in gaps in between too. I hope all new residents will be given a warm welcome and encouraged to join the many regular activities going on in the village.

There was a move a while ago to develop the Plough & Fleece pub into a community owned hub. I have not had any update on how that is progressing.

The monthly cinema continues to be popular with its regulars. I have been keeping the flyers to show what a variety of topics are on offer. At £4.50 a ticket, it is excellent value.

Another event which grows year on year is Cockfield Art Show, held on the May Bank Holiday weekend every year. This has an excellent reputation in the East Anglian region for the high standard of amateur art on display and for sale.

Two events have brought the whole village together in the past year. Who can forget the Jubilee Lunch (600 servings) in the big marquee on Great Green, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 6 May 2022.

Sadly the Queen died in September 2022 and many watched the State Funeral on television.

This year, 2023, we again came together, after watching the Coronation on television, to toast our new monarch, King Charles III. We even managed a bit of community singing.

We have had two very special 100th birthdays in the past two years. Cycling Norman Gregory celebrated his in January 2022 with an afternoon tea in the

village hall for 100 family and friends. Sadly he passed away in August last year but a cycle ride is planned this year to remember him.

Margaret Slater, who lived at Buttons Green for many years, celebrated her 100th birthday in October 2022 and there was a two page spread in the East Anglian Daily Times covering her family tea party. She died peacefully at her home in Lavenham in April 2023. I am grateful to those who take a local daily newspaper for passing on these cuttings to me.

Can I end with a plea for anyone producing flyers for events to please ensure the full date (day, month and year) is shown – essential for those looking at our archive in future years. And can the Village Recorder be sent a copy please.

Thank you

Brenda Dyer
Village Recorder