

Green Links

March 2024

The Monthly Village Magazine of Cockfield

The Cockfield Community

Come and join us at Earls Meadow

On Saturday 30th March from 11.00am

Easter Duck Race

Suitable for all ages

(Children must be accompanied by an adult)



£1 per Entry ...All ducks are provided

Parking at the Village Hall

Public footpath to

Earls Meadow via Perrydown Lane

Green Links Copy Deadline!

Please note all copy for the April issue must be
with me by 15th March please

Janne Cutting-Keyton, Newholme, Smithwood Green,
Cockfield. IP30 0JQ
01284 828264 or janne@twerbs.co.uk

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There are currently over 400
subscribers to Green Links in
Cockfield and the
surrounding villages.

An annual subscription is
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The magazine is
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team of local volunteer
distributors.

Please contact
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Cockfield Village Hall

Available for hire at very
reasonable rates

Please contact
June Pettit
for bookings or for
further details
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Please spread the
word about our
super village hall,
huge car park
and full facilities

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To place an advertisement in Green Links
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Sue Harrison at
sue.harrison42@gmail.com

Green Links



The Monthly Village Magazine of Cockfield
Edition 4- No 202 March 2024

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Sue Harrison



COCKFIELD
village group

Cockfield Village Community Store and Post Office

All is well, the volunteers are getting increasingly
confident and doing a fantastic job!

We would welcome more volunteers

if you can spare 1 or 2 hours a week it would make a huge difference. It is not an inflexible commitment, we have 'fillers' who take over when anybody wants time off or goes on holiday. Maybe you could be one of those?

A reminder of the versatility of our shop! We have:

Fresh bread from the Bakery every day Fresh fruit and vegetables
Extensive range of frozen food and ice creams
Full range of groceries Free range eggs and local Honey
An ever-expanding range of alcohol Greetings cards and stationery
Delicatessen Dry cleaning service Chocolates and sweets

Full Post Office services

We are always open to suggestions for new products, we try and introduce something new every couple of weeks.

We have purchased a new fridge with kind donations and grants,
it is very smart!

Thank you all of you who use the shop and support us, allowing us to keep this very essential service going.

www.cockfield.org.uk

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Chocolate



BINGO

Friday 15th March

Cockfield Village Hall

Doors Open 6pm

Eyes down 6.45pm

Fun for All The Family

Amazing Chocolate Hampers to Win

Licenced Bar & Raffle

My Spider Truce

At a place where I work, there is a typical potting shed, just a general garden shed full of rubbish and tools.

In this shed, there is a proper bench and at this bench, I normally sit and eat my lunch.

Once lunchtime I opened the door and realised, much to my dismay, that I had inadvertently destroyed a spider's estate. Across the inside of the closed door, he had built a web from the edge of the door to the door frame and I had rudely cut it in half, one end was now dangling at the end of the workbench, resting on a stack of long-handled garden tools.

As I ate my lunch, I observed the spider, a big, fat, healthy-looking beast! He assessed the damage and spun a thread from the door frame to a garden rake and then to a hoe and, with impressive skill and accuracy, he set about rebuilding his empire. A professor of trigonometry and geometry could not have made the thousands of precise calculations it must have taken to plan the construction and get to work in such a short space of time.

I sat and watched and marvelled and in no time at all it was finished.

And then an eyeball-to-eyeball situation developed, he moved to the centre of his web and I will swear that he made direct eye contact and spoke to me most severely.

"Rod, you have destroyed one empire and I have rebuilt it. You do not need this rake or this hoe any more today, so just let me be! You pay respect to my empire and I will show respect to yours. When you come in for your lunch in future you will take more care, , for my part, will ensure that there are no stray flies left to alight on your cheese and onion sandwich"

A truce!

RW



Cockfield Parish Council



Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 05 January 2024 at 6.30pm held in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Ian Levett (Chair), Cllr Janne Cutting-Keyton (Vice-Chair), Cllr Dale Baber, Cllr Sarah Fletcher, Cllr Andy Golding, Cllr Nic Knight, Cllr Robin Morley and Cllr Ralph Turner.

In Attendance: The Clerk.

2023/166 Apologies for Absence: Suffolk County Cllr Robert Lindsay, District Cllr Paul Clover, District Cllr Margaret Maybury and Cllr Joe Brinkley.

2023/167 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Turner declared a Pecuniary Interest in Planning (Agenda Item 6.1).

2023/168 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

It was proposed by Cllr Baber and seconded by Cllr Fletcher that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 30 November 2023, be signed as a true record. The proposal was carried.

2023/169 Minutes of the Last Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

It was proposed by Cllr Cutting-Keyton and seconded by Cllr Knight that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 05 December 2023, be signed as a true record. The proposal was carried.

2023/170 Outstanding Actions:

2022/178: Pavilion Balustrade: No progress since last meeting.

2022/184.1: Reduced Speed Limits: The Clerk has shared SCC's Policy Document and Hadleigh Town Council's successful speed limit reduction paper with Cllrs Levett, Cutting-Keyton and Morley. Group to meet to discuss any application. No progress since last meeting.

2023/104.2: BMSDC Cllrs Report: Planning: A meeting with SCC Highways has been agreed but no dates provided. The Clerk has chased twice but is still waiting their proposed dates. The Clerk was requested to chase again for a response.

2023/104.3: Public Participation: Cllr Baber (Footpath Warden) advised that SCC had contacted the land owner to insist that measures be put in place to prevent any further spillage onto the public footpath on the Airfield to the SCC Footpath team. **(Action: Closed).**

2023/135.2.1: Safety Sign on Great Green: Cllrs Golding & Turner to develop a proposal for a sign on Great Green warning about the overhead power cables and obtain a quotation. Cllr Turner will reuse the redundant SID Mounting post from Cross Green to use on Great Green.

2023/135.2.7 Parish Paths: Cllr Baber advised that the footpaths between the bungalows

on the A1141 and Abbey Cottages are functional. **(Action: Closed)**

2023/146.2: Babergh District Cllr Report: Suffolk County Cllr Lindsay to be asked to question SCC Highways on how they propose to control growth of unwanted weeds without the use of Glycosulphates. It was noted that BMSDC's trials of alternatives have not been successful.

2023/148.3: Parish Council Investments: Cllrs Levett, Cutting-Keyton, Morley and Golding agreed to be the Parish Council's signatories on a Cambridge Building Society Deposit account. Cllrs to provide personal information and complete application form to enable the Parish Council open a Deposit account and transfer the Parish Council's Ear-marked Reserves from its Barclays Community Account.

2023/150: Community Engagement Initiative: Cllr Knight to draft a proposal for the Parish Council's Mission Statement, for adoption at the next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council. **(On Agenda for 25/01/24).**

2023/153: Community Shop & Post Office: Cllr Fletcher to provide further details about the Cockfield Village Group's Business Plan for the future of the Pub as a long-term location for the Post Office & Shop. **(On Agenda for 25/01/24)**

2023/171 Public Participation Session:

2023/171.1 Suffolk County Councillor's Report:

No report was provided.

2023/171.2 Babergh District Councillor's Report:

Cllr Clover's report was emailed to and read out at the meeting by the Clerk. A copy was circulated to Cllrs after the meeting.

2023/171.3 Public Participation Session: None

2023/172 Planning:

2023/172.1 Applications Received: It was noted that the following applications had been referred to the Parish Council:

DC/23/05590: Householder Application - Erection of single storey side extension (following demolition of existing) including creation of opening for new rear doors: 3 Stows Hill, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 0JB. **The Parish Council SUPPORTS the Application.**

Appeal Reference: APP/D3505/W/23/3325194 Appeal by: Edmund Wolf Properties: Application for Outline Planning Permission (all matters reserved) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) - Erection of 2No. Dwellings: The Abbey Cottage, Windsor Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0LY. **The Parish Council OBJECTS to the Application, subject of the Appeal.**

DC/23/05445: Householder Application. Construction of a new vehicular access: Cockfield Post Office and Stores, Howe Lane, Cockfield, IP30 OHA. **The Parish Council SUPPORTS the Application.**

DC/23/05936: Householder Application - Erection of part two storey and single storey side extensions (following demolition of existing single storey extensions) New garage: Highview, Great Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0HN. **The Parish Council OBJECTS to the Application.**

2023/172.2 Decisions Received:

DC/23/04922: Householder Application - Erection of greenhouse. Steward House, Cross Green, Cockfield, Sudbury Suffolk IP30 0LG. **(Decision: Planning Permission has been GRANTED)**

DC/23/04926: Application for Listed Building Consent - Internal alterations to form a larger utility room. Steward House, Cross Green, Cockfield, Sudbury Suffolk IP30 0LG **(Decision: Listed Building Consent has been GRANTED)**

DC/23/05825: Application for a Non-Material Amendment relating to DC/23/01432 - Cream weatherboarding to porch and projecting dormer roofs, amendments to internal room layout and related fenestration: 8 Mackenzie Place, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 0HY. **(Decision: Amendment Details APPROVED)**

DC/23/05837: Application for a Non-Material Amendment relating to DC/22/06241 - Changes to approved materials and changes to floor plan to include services cupboard for air source heat pump equipment: Three Horseshoes, Stows Hill, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0JB **(Decision: Amendment Details REFUSED)**

2023/172.3 Other Planning Matters:

172.3.1: It was proposed by Cllr Levett and seconded by Cllr Morley that if Planning Application DC/23/05157 be referred to the Planning Committee for determination, then the Parish Council should attend and be represented at the BMSDC Planning Committee Meeting. The proposal was carried.

172.3.2: It was proposed by Cllr Cutting-Keyton and seconded by Cllr Levett that a Parish Council's statement to be read out at the Planning Committee Meeting should be prepared by Cllr Cutting-Keyton and agreed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 25/01/24. The proposal was carried.

2023/173 Finance:

2023/173.1 December Financial Statement:

None

2023/173.2 December Payments & Income:

It was proposed by Cllr Golding and seconded by Cllr Cutting-Keyton that the schedule of payments be approved. The proposal was carried. The 05 January 2024 schedule (covering December invoices) comprised the following:

Councillors are recommended to authorise payments covering December 2023.

Councillors noted Income received:

2023/174 Future of the Website:

It was proposed by Cllr Baber and seconded by Cllr Cutting-Keyton that the proposal to move the Cockfield Website to the 'One Suffolk' Domain and that Neil Ashton be commissioned to assist with the transfer. The proposal was carried.

2023/175 Village of the Year Event:

Cllrs Cutting-Keyton and Levett provided updates to the meeting, including contributors, table arrangements, timings.

2023/176 Community Council Request:

It was proposed by Cllr Cutting-Keyton and seconded by Cllr Knight that the Community Council's request to hold the 2024 Cockfield Village Fair on Great Green be approved. The Proposal was carried, subject to the Community Council providing evidence of both their PL insurance cover and for any third party/commercial activities. The Clerk was requested to advise the Community Council.

2023/177 Correspondence:

The correspondence Register was circulated in advance of the meeting.

2023/178 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council either for information or for inclusion on the agenda of a future Ordinary Meeting:

Review of the Draft Budget (25/01/24 meeting)

Adoption of a Mission Statement (25/01/24 meeting)

Consideration of BMSDC's Call for Sites (Deadline 2nd February 2024)

Bio-Diversity Expenditure Initiative

2023/179 Next Meeting:

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday in the Village Hall (Main Hall) on 25th January, 29th February & 28th March 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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

Garden Tips for March 2024

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.
- Deadhead hydrangeas before new growth appears. Cut to approximately one third of last season's growth.
- Fruit and Vegetables
- Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes.
- Feed Blueberry bushes with an ericaceous plant fertiliser.
- Weed vegetable seed beds and then dig compost and well-rotted manure in preparation for the growing season ahead.
- Hand weed Asparagus beds to avoid damaging their shallow roots. Mulch with well-rotted manure.
- Give blackcurrant bushes a high nitrogen feed.
- Plant a fig tree in a large container to restrict roots. This will encourage fruiting and limit overall size. Place container preferably in south facing position.



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



DO YOU LIKE TO CHALLENGE YOUR MIND?

ARE YOU FOND OF FIGURES?

DO YOU GET SATISFACTION FROM GETTING
THINGS JUST RIGHT?

You might be just the person to work in Cockfield Post Office.
We need a Postmaster/Mistress and another volunteer.

If you think this might be for you, please contact Barbara or
Sarah for a chat on 01284 828201.

ALSO, FOR THE SHOP



We need a volunteer to take over the sandwich making. Full
training would be given if required.

Cockfield W.I.

Report for February



On January 20th all of the groups in Cockfield were able to celebrate Cockfield winning 'Small Village of the Year 2023'. It was very well attended and included a table display celebrating events, outings and meeting held by the WI and members of our WI did a very good job providing refreshments for the occasion! Thank you ladies for the exceedingly good cakes as usual and for serving the refreshments!



The speaker at our February WI meeting was Allen Burbridge, an experienced and knowledgeable guide from Ickworth. His talk about The Hervey family of Ickworth was very interesting and informative!

The estate came into existence as a deer park in 1253 and the village was moved to nearby Horringer so that the church could be built in 1467. The 18th Century palace was built to showcase many treasures and art collection made by the Earl Bishop who survived 2 older brothers to unexpectedly inherit the estate in 1779 and became the 4th Earl. The family contained many interesting characters and provided Allen with some quite shocking and amusing stories to share with us!



The art collection includes paintings by Hogarth, Reynolds and Constable for example. His father, the 3rd Earl of Bristol, was a prominent figure in King George II's court. His mother was the beautiful Mary 'Molly' Lepel, a former lady in waiting to Queen Caroline.

Many treasures in the collection were taken and the 4th Earl travelled

extensively to try to retrieve them and to collect more. The collection of paintings, silver and sculptures is impressive, which many visitors particularly enjoy each year.

In 1956 the 4th Marquess presented the house and estate to the Treasury in lieu of death duties and Ickworth was passed to the National Trust and welcomes many visitors, as it is one of the 28 Treasure Houses run by the National Trust!



In 2018-20 the biggest ever roof conservation project was undertaken to protect the grand Rotunda and all of its treasures. The work cost £5 million Conservation, remedial and restoration work continues and is vital to protect Ickworth. Many volunteers help in the house, garden and grounds.

In March we have a talk by Jason Kermeen on Faberge eggs. In April we will be entertained with 50s & 60s music by Barrie and Partner. We are also still currently planning visits for this coming year but have a number to select from and will do so based on the most popular soon. These may include a visit to a gin distillery, a flour mill, a vineyard and a local fudge maker! An obvious food and drink theme! A list of all the possible options we have so far considered was circulated again at the January meeting for members to express an interest in any options offered and to suggest their own. Watch this space!

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 coffee morning is from 10.30 am until 12 noon on Thursday 28th March, in the Village Hall Committee Room. Following that there is one at the end of April. The monthly coffee mornings having now returned will continue throughout the year .

The monthly Soup Saturdays are also continuing! The next one is on Saturday 2nd March and there will be one in April, which will be advertised soon. The lunch is available for a small contribution of £1, for the food! Teas and coffees are also available. Please come, we would love to see you then!

We would all really 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**

Visitors are welcome to attend up to three meetings before deciding about joining or not! There is no obligation! If you need transport we will help too!
Joan Ball

Tips & Recipes for Mother's Day & Easter

Emily Dickinson - *'A Light Exists in Spring'*

A Light Exists in Spring,

Not Present on the Year

At any other period

When March is scarcely here.

Eggs are associated with spring and new life! They are so versatile, good value and generally regarded as being good for us!

The first thing to say is that it is best to store them in the box they come in as it protects them and shows the best before date! They stay as fresh as possible in the box too because eggshells have tiny pores which bacteria from other foods and smells such as food odour and flavouring can seep through over time.

They should be kept at a steady temperature below 20C. Temperature fluctuation should be avoided and can be kept in a fridge and brought up to room temperature before use. I keep some in a cool cupboard so that they are ready to use. If they are not very fresh they will float to the top in a bowl of water. Use them as fresh as possible.

Freezing is possible (not in their shells) if you beat the egg together. The egg yolk can tend to become glutinous which can be prevented by adding in a half teaspoon of salt or sugar (per egg) depending on whether you are going to use it for something sweet or savoury. Three tablespoons of beaten egg is equivalent to one egg. Using a dated freezable container the egg will keep for 6 months.

In March this year, we will celebrate Mothers' Day and Easter!

How about treating mum to a lovely Chocolate Sponge Cake or French Toast as a brunch treat!? Or use the cake recipe for an Easter treat with appropriate decorations.

Chocolate Sponge Cake

Ingredients

50g cocoa powder

6 tbsp boiling water

3 eggs

4 tbsp milk

175g self-raising flour

1 rounded tsp baking powder

100g soft butter

300g caster sugar

For the icing and filling

150g dark chocolate broken into small pieces

150ml double cream, 3 tbsp apricot jam

Method

Preheat the oven to 180c and grease and line two 20cm sandwich tins with baking parchment. Put the cocoa powder and boiling water into a large bowl and mix well to make a paste. Add the remaining ingredients and beat or whisk again until combined. This can also be done in a food processor but take care not to over whisk.

Divide the mixture between the prepared tins. Bake for about 20-30 minutes, or until well risen and slightly shrinking away from the sides of the tins.

To make the filling/icing, measure the chocolate and cream together in a bowl and stand the bowl over a pan of simmering water for about 10 minutes, or until melted. Stir from time to time and set aside and leave until cool.

Once baked remove the cakes from the oven and allow to cool. After 10 minutes turn out onto a wire rack to cool completely.

Spread the tops of each cake with jam. Fill the cakes with half of the icing and spread the remainder on top. Finish with a swirly S shape or decorate as you wish!

French Toast

Ingredients

50ml whole milk

2 eggs

2 thick slices slightly stale brioche

2 knobs unsalted butter

1 tbsp caster sugar

Pinch – ½ tsp ground cinnamon, to taste

1 ripe banana, peeled & sliced

Maple syrup, to taste

Method

Whisk together the milk and eggs in a wide shallow bowl.

Dip the brioche slices into the egg and milk mixture for 1 minute, making sure the liquid soaks into the brioche on both sides. Heat a knob of butter in a large, non-stick frying pan over a medium high heat. Once the butter is melted, fry the brioche slices for 2 minutes on each side until golden brown and crisp. Remove from the pan and place on a serving plate.

Combine the caster sugar and cinnamon in a small bowl & set aside.

Add another knob of butter to the pan over a high heat. Once melted, add the sliced banana to the pan. Toss in the melted butter and fry for two minutes, or until caramelised lightly on the outside.

Serve the French toast with the caramelised banana, a sprinkle of the cinnamon sugar and a drizzle of maple syrup.

Easter Simnel Cake

This cake was traditionally given by servant girls to their mothers when they returned home on Mothering Sunday but has now become a classic Easter cake.

Ingredients

100g glace cherries
225g butter, softened, plus extra for greasing
225 light muscovado sugar
4 large eggs
225 self-raising flour
225g sultanas
100g currants
50g candied chopped peel
2 lemons, grated zest only
2 tsp ground mixed spice
For the filling and topping
1 lb marzipan
1-2 tbsps apricot jam, warmed
Beaten egg, for glazing

Method

Preheat oven to 150C. Grease & line a 20cm cake tin. Cut the cherries into quarters, put in a sieve and rinse under running water. Drain well then dry thoroughly on kitchen paper.

Place the cherries in a bowl with the butter, sugar, eggs, flour, sultanas, currants, peel, lemon zest, and mixed spice and beat well until thoroughly mixed. Pour half the mixture into the prepared tin.

Take one third of the marzipan and roll it out into a circle the size of the tin and place on top of the cake mixture. Spoon the remaining cake mixture on and level the surface.

Bake in a preheated oven for about 2 ½ hours or until well risen, evenly brown and firm to the touch. Cover with foil after 1 hour if the top is browning too quickly. Leave to cool in the tin for 10minutes then turn out, peel off the paper and finish cooling on a wire rack.

When the cake is cool, brush the top with the jam and roll out half the remaining marzipan to fit the top. Press firmly on the top and crimp the edges to decorate. Make the rest of the marzipan into 11 balls.

Brush the marzipan with beaten egg and arrange the marzipan balls around the edge of the cake top. Brush the tops of the balls with beaten egg and carefully place the cake under a hot grill until the top is lightly toasted!

Happy Easter!

Joan Ball

St Peter's, Cockfield

Dates for your diary

Saturday 6 April.	A pop-up café in the church. Come and enjoy the Easter flowers.
Saturday 11 May	The return of “The Emergers” . A concert in the church, 7pm, tickets £10, pay bar.
Saturday 25 May	Coffee morning and plant sale in the church yard.
Sunday 1 September	Summer Lunch at Milton House.
Saturday 16 Nov	“Craft and Artisan Fair” in the church.
Sunday 18 Jan 2025	Winter lunch in the village hall.



Rural Coffee Caravan
Making a difference to rural communities throughout Suffolk

Come and share a pot of tea, our welcome is warm and our friendship is long.

We'll be visiting:
COCKFIELD
Congregational Church IP30 0EH
10am—12pm
Thursday 7th December

Come along for some company and a catch up with your neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits and cake. We bring a great source of information along with the free refreshments. We look forward to seeing you. All Welcome!

Information on board
Come on for a chat...

www.ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk tel: 01379 855 338

Registered Charity 1070221

Meet Up Mondays
Coffee and Friends events
The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

Rural Coffee Caravan

Next Visit to Cockfield
Thursday 7th March
10am - 12pm

Congregational
Church

Everyone is Welcome

Cockfield Community Council Quiz Night

Team Ticket and Meal Choices

Cockfield Village Hall

Saturday 6th April, 7 pm for 7.30

Please hand in to the Community shop with your payment by end

Tuesday 2nd April to secure your place and meal order

Team No:

(Team name not essential at this stage)

A contact Email Address:

Team members:

	Meal choice	£10 paid
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
Total paid		

Meal Choices

F= Fish n Chips

S =2 sausage n chips

C= Chicken n chips

V=vegetarian

Cockfield Community Council Quiz Night

Team Ticket and Meal Choices

Cockfield Village Hall

Saturday 6th April, 7pm for 7.30

Please keep this copy

Team No:

(Team name not essential at this stage)

A contact Email Address:

Team members:

	Meal choice	£10 paid
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
Total paid		

Meal Choices

F= Fish n Chips

S =2 sausage n chips

C= Chicken n chips

V=vegetarian

? Cockfield Community Presents
6th APRIL 2024 ?

QUIZ
NIGHT

At the Village Hall

Tickets only £10
including supper

? Entry forms at Cockfield shop

Doors Open 7.00 for 7.30pm

Children's Page March 2024

It's Easter and that means eggs!
Eggs to decorate, Eggs to go
looking for and Eggs to eat.

Have a lovely Easter.



COCKFIELD COMMUNITY CINEMA PRESENTS

WONKA (PG)

Friday 22nd March 2024

Cockfield Village Hall, Church Lane, IP30 0LA

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



Based on the extraordinary character at the centre of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, the jewel in the Roald Dahl crown and one of the best-selling children’s books of all time, “Wonka” tells the wondrous story of how the world’s greatest inventor, magician and chocolate-maker became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today. This irresistibly vivid and inventive big screen spectacle will introduce audiences to a young Willy Wonka, chock-full of ideas and determined to change the world one delectable bite at a time—proving that the best things in life begin with a dream, and if you’re lucky enough to meet Willy Wonka, anything is possible.

MONTHLY SCREENINGS

4TH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

FOR FUTURE SCREENINGS

VISIT: www.cockfield.org.uk

Soup Saturday! 16th March 12.00- 2pm



A Warming soup lunch in Cockfield awaits you this March. Why not bring a friend, partner or the whole family. Join us at the village hall

Saturday 16th for our popular soup lunch.

It's only a donation of £1.00.

Clean Up Cockfield 2024



This year our annual litter pick of public areas, verges and public footpaths will concentrate on the weekend of 23rd and 24th March.

Pickers, jackets and bags will be available from Cockfield Hall Barn from 23rd Marc. Please drop your 'pickings' off at the barn when you return your equipment, so a photo can be taken of it all. The rubbish will be collected from the barn by Babergh sometime early the following week.

As last year the Village has been divided into pickable sections as shown in the table at www.cockfield.org.uk/clean-cockfield-2024/ . When someone volunteers to pick a section, it will be marked as *Allocated* on the table.

To register your interest in your preferred section or sections please email Steve Ball at enquiries@cockfield.org.uk .

Sarah Fletcher

Cockfield Parish Council

Village of the Year Event Saturday 20 January 2024

The Parish Council are very grateful to everyone who supported and attended the Village of the Year event at the Village Hall on Saturday 20 January 2024.

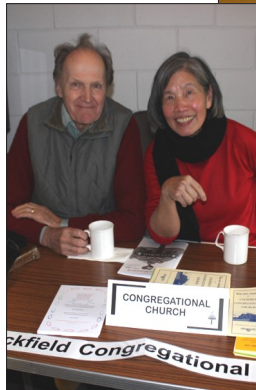
For those of you who were not able to come along the event was held to celebrate Cockfield being named Small Village of the Year 2023 by the Suffolk Association of Local Councils.

The turnout from the village was excellent and the displays from the multitude of organisations and clubs who contributed were absolutely marvellous. So indeed, were the cakes provided by members of the WI and we give a special thanks to the hardy souls who performed car parking duties on a cold day.

We give our huge thanks to everyone including Kathryn Vernon who has provided the village with many photographic memories as you can see in this article.

Thank you once again to everyone.

Ian Levett and Janne Cutting Keyton
On behalf of the Parish Council





Bury St Edmunds remembers...

Fifty years ago, at 12:32 on Sunday 3rd March 1974, a Turkish Airlines DC-10, one of the new generation of wide body commercial airliners, lifted off from Orly Airport, Paris, bound for London Heathrow. The flight had originated earlier in Istanbul, and normally this sector of the flight would have been under booked. However, a strike by BEA baggage handlers had resulted in passengers being offered seats on Turkish Airlines Flight 981, and 216 new passengers boarded the onward flight to Heathrow. A total of 346 passengers and crew were now aboard, 177 of whom were British, many of whom had been in Paris to watch the Five Nations match. This number included 18 members of Bury St Edmunds Rugby Club. They had been scheduled to play a local club side in a friendly game that Sunday, but this had been cancelled, and 18 of the 21 strong party elected to come home early, and managed to get seats on Flight 981.

As the flight passed through 11000 feet on its way to its initial cleared altitude of 23,000 feet, the cockpit voice recorder picked up a muffled thump. This was the sound of the rear cargo door blowing off resulting in a rapid explosive decompression of the cargo hold. The pressurised passenger compartment floor above was now subjected to a pressure differential of 5.2 lbs per square inch, something for which it was not designed. Due to the full load of passengers the floor collapsed, severing the hydraulics to the control surfaces at the tail of the aircraft, as well as disabling the engine controls to the number two engine at the rear of the aircraft. The flight crew now had no way to control the aircraft, which was now doomed. The nose of the aircraft pitched down, and it entered a 20 degree nose down attitude, from which there was no recovery. 77 seconds after the cargo door blew out, Flight 981 impacted the trees of the forest of Ermenonville, some 32 miles to the north of Orly Airport, at a speed approaching 500 mph, resulting in the total disintegration of the aircraft and the loss of all 346 souls.

The devastating impact on a small rugby club like Bury St Edmunds cannot be overstated. Ten wives were widowed, and 21 children were left without a father. These were casualty figures akin to those from a battlefield. The club lost as many members as 2 Para did at Goose Green eight years later. At the time I was ten years old and a pupil at King's School Ely. I remember the Headmaster announcing news of the tragedy in assembly. We couldn't really comprehend the scale of the disaster. I'd never seen a wide body aircraft, let alone flown in one. As my interest in aviation grew I read numerous books and articles about what happened, and I still find it shocking that it was allowed to happen, for it was an entirely avoidable accident.

The tragedy resonated throughout Suffolk. The town and its people rallied around the grief stricken club and the community came together to offer solidarity and support. In 2016 a memorial was unveiled at the club, similar to the one at the crash site. It was opened by John Cousins, the last surviving member of the club party that had flown to Paris all those years before. The club has moved on, and has gone from strength to strength since then, but this was a tragedy that has become woven into the history of the club, and should be remembered fifty years on.

JG



Earls Meadow and Jeffreys Green

We welcomed Cockfield Primary School pupils to Earls Meadow and Jeffreys Green at the end of January. The Parish Council had purchased 1000 Double Snowdrops in the green and an upright Hornbeam tree so the children could help plant these to celebrate the registration of Jeffreys Green. We were grateful to Mr Gilbert the headteacher and the Year 5 and 6 Class Teacher who organised the visit for the pupils.

The group walked to the site via Church Lane, Perrydown Lane and along the footpath including the disused railway line.

On entering Jeffreys Green facts about the area and landmarks were described to the pupils. We then distributed the Snowdrops to the pupils 100 at a time which they planted with enthusiasm in amongst the Silver Birch trees. Following this the pupils helped to plant the Hornbeam tree and the history of Reverend Jeffreys was explained with a reminder to the pupils that the tree will be known as the School Tree.

To conclude the trip we crossed the bridge to observe the Culvert and we pointed out the route for the Duck Race on Easter Saturday 30th March, meeting at the Culvert at 11am. If we are fortunate and if the flow of the river during the winter is anything to go by there should be some good racing.

All are welcome!

As we made our way along Earls Meadow we were very pleased to hear that many of the pupils had been down to Earls Meadow previously.

A great afternoon enjoyed by all.

The willing volunteers have been continuing their winter duties clearing, tidying and beginning the pruning of the fruit trees. There is a good showing of Snowdrops along the railway. We look forward to seeing the Bluebells and Daffodils over the next few weeks. RM





As we come to the end of another exciting and eventful spring half term, we want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible achievements and experiences our pupils have had.

In Birch class, our budding scientists have been busy investigating solutions and thermal conductivity. They have also shown their creative side by creating synopses for well-known books and classic texts. Using BBC micro:bits, they have amazed us with their programming skills and developed some incredible gadgets, including step counters. Additionally, they have made a positive impact on our community by helping to plant over 1000 snowdrops in the new village Green.

Willow class has been delving into the wonders of the human body and skeleton structure, with the help of our resident skeleton, Mr. Billy Bones. They have taken on the role of young scientists, designing and conducting their own investigations and creating hypotheses about the relationship between bone length (specifically the femur) and the distance that can be jumped. To further enrich their learning, they visited Suffolk College, where they were immersed in the new world of artificial intelligence, augmented reality, and virtual reality. We are proud to share that two of our wonderful students were



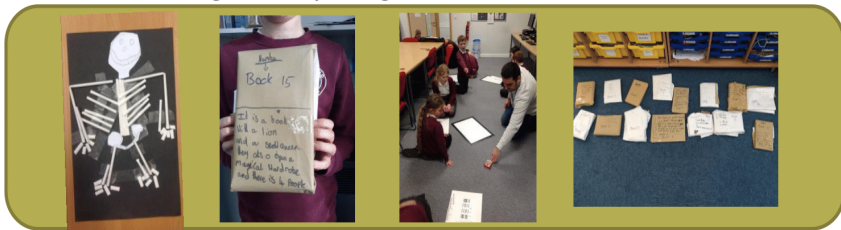
even interviewed by the university's newspaper!

Oak class embarked on an exciting journey through the Great Fire of London. This topic has provided them with countless opportunities to connect their learning across various subjects. From designing and constructing timber-framed houses in DT, to investigating how fires were controlled during History lessons, their engagement has been truly remarkable. Notably, their class text, inspired by the story of a flea named Vlad who escapes the fire, has inspired them to create astonishing pieces of extended non-fiction writing in the form of a newspaper genre.

In Lime class, the joy of exploration continues with muddy Mondays. Our reception class join Mrs. Bray and Mrs. Iliffe outside to explore our beautiful grounds. Recently, the children used natural materials found in our forest school's area, to create their own paintbrushes. With these brushes, they collaborated to create a nearly 5-meter-long piece of artwork. It's safe to say that Banksy himself would be impressed with their creativity and enthusiasm!

From all of us here at Cockfield Primary School, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to our wonderful FOCSA team for their tireless efforts in raising funds for multiple projects in our school. Their support has helped cover travel costs for children's school trips and maintain our fantastic climbing equipment. We would also like to extend our thanks to Cockfield's WI for their generous donation towards replenishing our school books. We are truly grateful for the support of our amazing community.

We hope that the upcoming break brings rest, joy, and quality time with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming our pupils back for another incredible term filled with learning, discovery, and growth.







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Cockfield community Events.

The parish council organised an event in January to acknowledge Cockfield winning Small Village of the Year. Organisations from the village were present at the event and able to showcase what they are all about. If you were at this event, did you get a chance to visit 'The Cockfield Community' stand where we were promoting forthcoming events and the monthly cinema nights. We had photos of past events, maybe you or a relative were in one of them?. We were also asking for suggestions for future events. Our aim is to bring the residents of Cockfield together, to have fun whilst raising funds for future projects within the village. If you were able to attend we hope you have been tempted to try one or more of the planned events for this year, we certainly hope so, but if you were not able to attend a full list of events can be found below.

Saturday 30th March - annual duck race at earls meadow. ,

Saturday 6th April - first of two quiz nights in Cockfield village hall. Teams of up to 6.

May - to be confirmed

Sunday 21st July - **Cockfield village fete on Great Green**

A Saturday night in August - village Bash on Great Green. Music and dancing in the open air, complete with a licensed bar and a BBQ. Date dependent on weather. Initially scheduled for the first Saturday in August, but if the weather isn't suitable it will go to second Saturday in August.

September - 50's Hop in the village hall - date to be confirmed.

Friday 11th October - second cash bingo night in Cockfield village hall.

Saturday 16th November - second quiz night in Cockfield village hall.

Friday 29th November - Cockfield community AGM in Cockfield village hall.

December - Carols by candlelight - date to be confirmed.

As you can see we have a lot of events planned for this year. These events

help raise much needed funds for various village projects but this is only possible with your support, so please take some time to look through the list and consider coming to one or more of these events we are sure you will have a good time and a great way to meet new people.

More details of events are advertised in Green links, on village noticeboards and the community broadcasts as the date gets closer.

Don't forget we also have the monthly cinema in Cockfield village hall. Held on the 4th Friday of every month. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm screening. No booking required simply pay on the door where you can also get raffle tickets for the draw which is held during the interval. The bar is always open for alcoholic and soft drinks, ice cream and snacks and the kitchen for tea, coffee and cakes.

Cockfield Community Coffee
Run by Cockfield WI
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
Enquiries please email
wi@cockfield.org.uk



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Invitational Charity Fours

Since 1992 CCBC has hosted its annual invitational fours in the Village Hall. I think 2021 was the only year that it didn't take place, but then not a lot else was happening in February 2021 as I recall! Each year we choose a charity to support and this year our chosen charity was St Nicholas Hospice Care. For forty years St Nic's has been providing high quality, specialist palliative care, as well as practical and emotional support. It costs a staggering £8 million a year to run the Hospice, which equates to £22,000 per day. 20% of their costs are covered by statutory funding, but that still leaves £17,500 per day that can only come from donations, so really they are utterly reliant on us, the local community, to continue to support them.

20 teams participated in this year's tournament. There were Group stages on four carpets before the semi finals and the final. The Group games were the best of seven ends and shots were not counted. However shots were counted in the knockout stages. Whilst the competition went on, the Cockfield hosts were busy selling paperback books, raffle tickets, bingo cards, teas, coffee and cake, quiz sheets (cryptic clues!), and serving lunch. For some veteran club members, such as June Petitt, Sue Davey, club Captain Colin Fellingham, wife Sheila and brother Keith, it was a well trodden path. For new club members Jo Day and Allan Cousins this was the first time that they had attended the event and both found the day thoroughly enjoyable with "a wonderful sense of community and coming together".

The tournament was won 4-3 by Withersfield, with Burstall the runners up, so well done to them, and a big thank you to all the teams who came to take part, and who gladly emptied their pockets of cash throughout the day. The day showcased all that's good about Cockfield and it was a pleasure to be there. Well done to everyone in the club for



The Winners

all their efforts to make the day such a success.

JG



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An evening with Charlie Haylock



Join us for a fascinating evening with Suffolk author and dialect expert Charlie Haylock who will take us behind the scenes of the Netflix hit film The Dig

Saturday 23rd March Tickets £20

Ticket price includes the talk, a two course meal and showing of the film 'the Dig' on Saturday 16th March



Photo: Larry Horricks, Netflix 2021

We will be showing the film on Friday March 16th, and Charlie will talk about it on the evening of 23rd March. The evening will combine a meal and talk by Charlie, and include the film showing the week before.

The movie tells the story of an unlikely hero, Basil Brown of Ipswich Museum, the self-taught archaeologist and modest man who discovered the Sutton Hoo treasure, the most magnificent ever found in this country. We will enjoy an intriguing and sometimes hilarious look at The Dig.

Historian and author Charlie will explain how a potential "scam" email from the film producer turned out to real and was followed by a personal call from actor Ralph Fiennes. He will show how Ralph Fiennes, who played Basil Brown, and the other "Suffolk" actors learnt their Suffolk accent and managed not to sound like West Country pirates! He will also explain the extreme lengths that Fiennes took not only to play Basil Brown... but to become him. It looks set to be an entertaining evening for all!

Please contact **Annie Tavener** for tickets
01449 736412 email annie_tav@hotmail.com

Dear friends

A recent Easter quiz that I lifted from a well-known magazine recently had some interesting facts that I thought the readers of Green Links might like to know.

They are:

around 80 million Easter Eggs are sold in the UK each year
the first Easter eggs were hens' eggs that were dyed red
In Eastern Christianity, the end of Lent is called 'Lazarus Saturday'

You will have guessed from my musings so far that this month I am thinking about Easter as I plan for the services that will take place on Easter Sunday which this year falls on Sunday 31st March. But before Easter Day comes Holy Week, when we walk the way of the cross with Jesus as he anticipates the crucifixion.

For celebrating Easter without attending to the events of the week leading up to it is like serving chips without the fish. They go together. To walk the way of the cross with Jesus - as we call it in the Christian Church - is to reflect and pray about the days leading up to his death. In that week he travelled to Jerusalem and was hailed as the 'King of the Jews' who would save the Jewish people from oppression by the Romans - we know it as Palm Sunday.

He ate bread and drank wine and shared it with the disciples, his friends, which we call the 'Last Supper', and we remember that 'Last Supper' on Maundy Thursday. That evening he also washed the feet of his disciples, even though this was something that was usually carried out by a servant.

On Good Friday, the day when Jesus was crucified we think about the pain Jesus suffered on behalf of the world, of all of us, so that we might be forgiven our sins forever.

And then, on Easter Sunday we can celebrate Jesus coming back to life - that miracle of all miracles. The pain of the previous three days has gone, although not forgotten, and we can once again marvel at God's love for us all, whether we do or don't believe in God.

However you are spending Easter Day, may God's blessing be with you and those you love.

with every blessing

Sharon

Canon Sharon Potter, revsharon2@gmail.com, 01284 828599

Cockfield Benefice Services & Events March 2024

Sunday 3 March Third Sunday in Lent	9.30am Communion CW - Stanningfield 11am Communion CW - Bradfield St Clare 6pm Six2Seven - Felsham Village Hall
Sunday 10 March Fourth Sunday in Lent Mothering Sunday	10am Mothering Sunday Service - Cockfield 10.30am Communion CW - Bradfield St George 6pm Praise & Worship - Gt Whelnetham
Saturday 16th March	10am-12 noon - coffee morning and raffle in aid of the Bishops' Kagera Lent Appeal - Cockfield Rectory
Sunday 17 March Passion Sunday	9.30am Morning Prayer CW - Stanningfield 10am Morning Worship - Felsham 10.30am Communion CW - Cockfield 4pm Evening Prayer - Bradfield St Clare
 Saturday 23 March Venue tbc	Fun - food - crafts - stories for all children (must be accompanied by a parent or guardian) for more details contact Canon Sharon
Sunday 24 March Palm Sunday	9.30am Walk of Witness from Felsham to Gedding 10.30am Palm Sunday Communion - Gedding
Monday 25 March	7.30pm Compline - Bradfield St Clare
Tuesday 26 March	7.30pm Compline - Bradfield St Clare
Wednesday 27 March	7.30pm Compline - Bradfield St Clare
Thursday 28 March	7.30pm Maundy Thursday Communion - Bradfield St George
Friday 29 March	2pm Reflections on Good Friday - Stanningfield
Sunday 31 March Easter Sunday	10.30am Communion CW - Gt Whelnetham 10.30am Communion CW - Cockfield 10.30am Communion BCP - Gedding 10.30am Morning Praise for Easter Day - Felsham

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 normally held every Tuesday at Cockfield at 9am and at Stanningfield every Thursday at 9am.

For more details contact Canon Sharon, revsharon2@gmail.com,
 01284-828599 or 07825086063



Damp and mould is building up in our house as the weather gets colder. We're concerned about our health. We've reported it to our landlord, but they haven't done anything. With six months left on the tenancy agreement, we're running out of options.

What should we do?

You've done the right thing by bringing this to your landlord. To work out if they are responsible, you'll need to find the cause of the damp and mould, but this can take time unless there's a clear cause, like bad insulation or a leaking roof.

Damp is when an area of your property doesn't dry out, often because it's cold. The main types are rising, penetrating, construction, and condensation damp. It can lead to mould, which is a fungus that grows in areas where warm damp air condenses on cold surfaces, like window frames. Information on www.citizensadvice.org.uk can help you work out what type of damp you have, who is responsible and what you can do. You should also check your tenancy agreement for mentions of repairs and damp.

Your landlord is responsible for fixing a damp problem if it's making your home unsafe to live in. For example, this could be if it's affecting your health or the health of those you live with. Your landlord will also be responsible if the damp is related to repairs they should have carried out, like if the window frames are rotting. They would have to cover the cost of repairs to any items damaged by the damp, including carpets and furniture.

Condensation is a key cause of damp we're all familiar with. Keeping homes well-heated and well-ventilated is the best way to prevent this, but for many of us today, high heating costs and cold weather are making this very difficult. If you're finding it hard to insulate and heat your home, check our website, www.citizensadvice.org.uk to see if you're eligible for support.

Always avoid doing anything that can make damp worse, as it may affect whether the landlord takes responsibility for repairs. Our website, www.citizensadvice.org.uk has advice on what to avoid, like drying clothes on heaters, blocking air vents, or using portable gas heaters.

You may reach the point where you just want to get out of your tenancy agreement early but remember this can be very tricky and there might be things you haven't tried yet.

For example, if your landlord is responsible for the damp in your home but doesn't do anything, there are steps you can take, like reporting them to the local authority. And as a private renter, if you've got evidence from a health professional that damp is making you ill, you may be able to free legal advice through Legal Aid.

For more information visit the Citizens Advice website at www.citizensadvice.org.uk or call Sudbury and South Suffolk 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, get in touch by using the contact facility on our website, <https://www.sudburycab.org.uk/contact> We are providing advice by telephone and email Monday – Thursday, 10am – 3pm.

THORPE MORIEUX & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB JANUARY 2024 MEETING

Our first meeting of the year was on Monday 15th January. Annual Membership fees were collected and our program for 2024 was handed out.

The speaker for the evening was Brenda McIntyre, a very talented florist. She showed us how to produce a beautiful floral display which was then included in our raffle. The evening was rounded off with the judging of this month's competition - a bottle of home-made wine or liquor. The winner was Kylie Shepherd with her tasty liqueur of cherry brandy.

The next Gardening Club meeting will be on February 20th, and the speaker will be Chris Wiley from the Sustainable Plant Store. The the competition for February will be a Winter Botanic display.

New members are very welcome so please give us a 'try'. Meetings with a speaker are £2 for members and £3 for guests. Meetings without a speaker are £1 for members and £2 for guests. Annual membership is still only £10 per person.

We look forward to welcoming guests or potential new members at any future meetings which are held at Thorpe Morieux Village Hall at 7:30 pm on the third Monday of every month.

Patricia Everitt





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March 2024 Catey Preschool



We are now coming to the end of winter and spring is finally on the way which means time to get out the gardening gloves at preschool. The children can look forward to planting again, but first we will need to prep the big planter in the front garden. The children will be weeding and topping up the compost before choosing seeds to plant. Last year we enjoyed a small harvest of beetroot, strawberries, potatoes and peas. The children learn how to care for the plants and are so proud when they have visible results. The children have been also showing a keen interest in the birds that visit the preschool garden and have made bird feeders for them which has been so exciting for them to watch the different birds in our trees and seeing them feed from their bird feeders.

Towards the end of March we will be enjoying lots of Easter activities as the spring break approaches. We will be hunting for eggs, decorating eggs and creating lots of wonderful art work to take home.

We still have some spaces available at preschool so please do contact us if you would like a show round or more information about the preschool or funding, see the contact details below.

We are holding a quiz night on the 9th March at the Cockfield Village Hall to raise much needed funds for preschool we would love to see you there! Please see the flyer or contact us for more details.

For enquiries please contact Mary or Steph at Catey Preschool. Phone: 01284 827274, Email: cateypreschool@hotmail.com

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Sunday & Wednesday	- CLOSED

SUFFOLK LIBRARIES DAY – 23rd March



Suffolk Libraries Day is our annual fundraising event, celebrating the important work our libraries do for communities across Suffolk.

At **Lavenham library** we are holding a raffle where you could win one of our fabulous hampers and generous donations from local businesses. 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 will take place on the 23rd March.

Top Time Group



Top Time is our sociable drop-in group for all adults held fortnightly on Tuesdays from 2.30-4.00pm. This month's activities include making seed pots using recycled newspaper and an Easter craft activity making flower wreaths and eggs.



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

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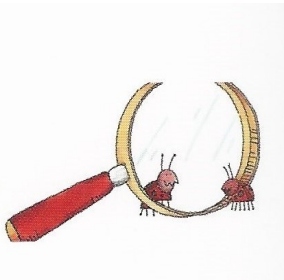
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Congregational Church Corner

An outstanding characteristic of Jesus is His compassion. He displayed this abundantly during His earthly ministry, when He: fed the hungry multitude (Matthew 15: 32 - 38), gave sight to the blind (Matthew 20:34), healed lepers (Mark 1:40 - 42), and raised the dead (Luke 7:12 - 15), to mention but a few. And, as we see from the easter narrative, that we remember again this month, Jesus maintained this compassion for others to the end of His life.

On the eve of His crucifixion, when He was in the Garden of Gethsemane, and the band of temple guards arrived to arrest Him, Peter, in resisting them, cut off the ear of Malchus, the servant of the high priest, (John 18:10). But despite struggling with His own agonies of spirit, Jesus had compassion on the guard and healed him (Luke 49:51).

Then, despite having suffered under the hands of the Romans, who scourged Him mercilessly, and thereafter nailed Him to the cross, when suffering in agony of body and spirit (Mark 15:34), He looked down, and gave His mother into the care of His disciple; so that she would be looked after when He had gone from the earth; for He knew it would be hard for a woman, alone in that culture in those days, thus compassionately caring for her needs above His own (John 19:26 & 27).

Then, even in the last minutes of His life, Jesus had compassion for the very people who were crucifying Him, by praying: "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34).

Then, as Jesus hung there, dying on the cross, His compassion was extended to the malefactor who asked to be remembered by Him when He "came into His kingdom". And, we see that Jesus did not turn away from this man's plea, despite the pain and sorrow that He was coping with Himself; but rather, out of compassion for him, He gave the man the assurance that "today" he would be with Him in paradise. (Luke 23:42 & 43).

But above all, we remember the compassion of Jesus, that brought Him from His blessed home in heaven, down to this sin cursed earth, to pay the penalty for our sins (1 John 2:2); and thereby give us His imputed righteousness (Romans 4: 24). He did not have to do this, but did so voluntarily, so that "we should at last go to heaven, saved by His precious blood".

And for this we should all be truly grateful to Him.

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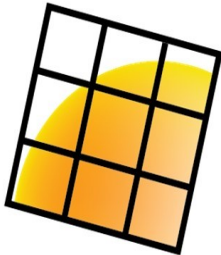
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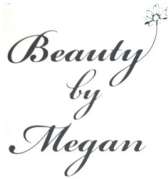
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Cockfield Carpet Bowls Club	June Pettit	carpet.bowls@cockfield.org.uk
Cockfield Cemetery	Ralph Turner	828201
Cockfield Charities	Tony Box	charities@cockfield.org.uk
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