

Green Links

April 2024

The Monthly Village Magazine of Cockfield



Jeffreys Green in the Spring Sunshine - Photo Steve Ball

Green Links Copy Deadline!

Please note all copy for the May issue must be
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Janne Cutting-Keyton, Newholme, Smithwood Green,
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Green Links



The Monthly Village Magazine of Cockfield
Edition 4- No 203 April 2024

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By the time you read this Cockfield should be spick and span after the annual litter pick but there is one plea I have been asked to make and that is to remind dog owners to pick up their poo bags and dispose of them properly and while mentioning dogs there is also a reminder that Bulls Wood is a Nature Reserve and dogs must be kept on a lead, especially important as the breeding season is upon us.

As the days get warmer and the evenings are lighter for longer we can all enjoy being outside and you may catch the beautiful daffodils still in flower along Earls Meadow and in Jeffreys Green.

I saw on my news feed only this morning that Suffolk has been named one of the 'best places' to live in the country. Living in a rural environment certainly has its challenges when it comes to accessing services and transportation links but many benefits too and one of them is the open space we can all enjoy. Thank you to the volunteers who care for our amenity areas and greens and keep them for us all to enjoy and to those who helped with this years litter pick and those who collect litter throughout the year.

Janne

www.cockfield.org.uk

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Spring Jackets Saturday 13th April 12-2pm



We are delighted to announce
are Cockfield Jacket potato lunch this
April.

Spring lunch available to all in
the village. Come and join us at the
village hall.

It's only a donation of £1.00.



Catey Preschool April 2024

The month of March was a busy one for preschool. We had our much-anticipated quiz night which was a resounding success. Many thanks to our fantastic committee for planning and organising it and thank you to everyone who came along to support us.

The children have been enjoying the outside space in between the downpours of rain. We had a lovely time on our themed transport week riding around on the vehicles and using the diggers and dump trucks in the sand tray.

Mothers Day was a flurry of activity over the week making special cards for mummies and grandma's where there was cutting, gluing, painting and writing all week in time for Sunday.

As we move into April we will be preparing for Easter with plenty of craft activities to get involved in from making Easter chocolate nests to Easter cards. We will be doing an Easter egg picture hunt in the garden too.

Now that spring has sprung we will be in full swing in the garden, maintaining our little planters and watching the flowers spring into life. At preschool we can find a wealth of learning opportunities from spring with the beginning of new life as we encourage the children to watch the plants and trees waking up and the birds preparing their nests. We will be reading the hungry caterpillar and finding all about the life cycle of a butterfly.

Enquiries for preschool spaces please contact Mary or Steph on 01284 827274 or email us on cateypreschool@hotmail.com



Catey quiz night 9th March 2024

Cockfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 25 January 2024 at 7.30pm held in the Village Hall, Cockfield.

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



In Attendance: Suffolk County Cllr Robert Lindsay, District Cllr Paul Clover, District Cllr Margaret Maybury, 3 Members of Public and the Clerk.

2023/180 Apologies for Absence:

Steven Coughlan (Community Police Officer).

2023/181 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Levett, Cutting-Keyton and Morley declared a Pecuniary Interest in Finance (Agenda Item 8.1).

2023/182 Minutes of the Last Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

It was proposed by Cllr Baber and seconded by Cllr Knight that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 5 January 2024, be signed as a true record. The proposal was carried.

2023/183 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 arranged for 14th February. The Planning Consultation Group to update Cllrs at 29th February Parish Council Meeting.

2023/135.2.1: Safety Sign on Great Green: It was proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Cutting-Keyton that expenditure up to a maximum of £250 be approved to procure two small Safety Warning signs for the Village Green. The proposal was carried.

2023/146.2: Babergh District Cllr Report: Suffolk County Cllr Lindsay confirmed that SCC Highways trial use of Glycosulphate alternatives to control weeds had not been successful and new recommendations were to be submitted to SCC's Cabinet on 27th February.

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 Earmarked Reserves from its Barclays Community Account.

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. Cllr Levett to meet with Cllr Fletcher to agree an agenda for discussion between the Parish Council and Cockfield Village Group (**Deferred until 28th March Parish Council Meeting**)

2023/184 Public Participation Session:

2023/184.1 Suffolk County Councillor's Report:

Cllr Lindsay circulated his report to Cllrs in advance of the meeting. Cllr Lindsay highlighted SCC's funding shortfall and its impact in limiting the number of weed control applications that SCC can afford to undertake.

2023/184.2 Babergh District Councillor's Report:

Cllrs Clover/Maybury's joint report was circulated to Cllrs in advance of the meeting. Cllr Clover highlighted the forthcoming consultation paper on BMSDC's proposal to introduce car parking charges in Lavenham, Sudbury and Hadleigh. Cllr Clover also confirmed that Cllrs Clover/Maybury's Locality Budget could fund the purchase of an air conditioning unit for the Community Shop and reminded Cllr Fletcher of the application submission deadlines.

2023/184.3 Public Participation Session:

A resident asked about BMSDC's Call for Sites. Cllr Levett advised that this item was included as Agenda Item 7.3.

2023/185 New Policing Model:

Steven Coughlan (Community Police Officer covering Sudbury Rural North) was due to explain the new policing model and answer questions, but was called away for operational reasons shortly before the meeting. Agenda item to be deferred to a future meeting.

2023/186 Planning:

2023/186.1 Applications Received: It was noted that the following applications had been referred to the Parish Council:

DC/24/00068: Householder Application - Erection of shed in rear garden to provide external store and associated fence: Ludlam House, Great Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0HJ. (**The Parish Council SUPPORTS the Application**)

DC/24/00170: Householder Application - Siting of temporary structure to create home office / occasional guest accommodation: Jaydam House, 8 Great Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0HQ. **(The Parish Council OBJECTS to the Application)**

2023/186.2 Decisions Received:

DC/23/05040: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/22/06241 - Condition 3 (Agreement of Levels), Condition 5 (Refuse Bins and Collection Areas), Condition 8 (Construction Management Plan), Condition 12 (Archaeological Works) and Condition 13 (Archaeological Works): Three Horseshoes, Stows Hill, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0JB. **(Conditions APPROVED)**

DC/23/04770: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/22/06014 - Condition 8 (Works over the ditch), Condition 9 (Surface Water Discharge), Condition 11 (Refuse Bins), Condition 12 (Construction Management Strategy), Condition 14 (EPS Licence for Great Crested Newt), Condition 15 (Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy) and Condition 16 (Wildlife Sensitive Design Scheme): Land Adjacent To Plough And Fleece Inn, Great Green, Cockfield, Suffolk. **(Conditions REFUSED)**

DC/23/05445: Householder Application. Construction of a new vehicular access. Cockfield Post Office and Stores, Howe Lane, Cockfield, IP30 0HA. **(Planning Permission has been GRANTED)**

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. **(Planning Permission has been GRANTED)**

DC/24/00011: Application for a Non-Material Amendment relating to DC/22/06014 - Change Plot 1 from a 4-bed 262 sqm dwelling, to a smaller 4-bed 195 sqm dwelling.: Land Adjacent To Plough And Fleece Inn, Great Green, Cockfield, Suffolk. **(Conditions APPROVED)**

2023/186.3 BMSDC Call for Sites:

Cllrs discussed BMSDC's Call for Sites invitation, but as the Parish Council doesn't own any building land, Cllrs agreed that no response was required.

2023/187 Finance:

2023/187.1 Financial Statement:

The Financial Statement was submitted as part of the Draft Budget & Precept Requirement circulated to Cllrs in advance of the meeting for Agenda Item 9.1 & 9.2.

2023/187.2 Payments & Income:

It was proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Knight that the schedule of

payments be approved. The proposal was carried. The 25 January 2024 schedule comprised the following:

Councillors authorised the payments covering January 2024 and noted Income .

2023/187.3 It was proposed by Cllr Brinkley and seconded by Cllr Golding that the Parish Council purchase an Echo 14" petrol chain saw with 5 yr warranty (£239.98 + £48.00 VAT), protective clothing (safety trousers, gloves and helmet £83.31 + £16.66 VAT) and Chain Oil (£8.31 + £1.66 VAT), total costs £331.60 + £66.32 VAT for use at Earls Meadow, Jeffreys Green and Bruffs Line. (**Note:** The Community Council have donated £200 towards the cost of the equipment, so the Parish Council are being asked to fund the balance of £131.60). The proposal was carried.

2023/187.4 It was proposed by Cllr Brinkley and seconded by Cllr Golding that the Parish Council purchase an upgraded Mailchimp subscription (for Community Broadcasts) to allow 3 user access at a cost of £10.38/month (£124.56 per annum). The proposal was carried.

2023/188 Budget & Precept:

2023/188.1 Budget:

The Clerk presented the Year 2023/24 expenditure, the proposed 2024/25 budget, the Parish Council's Earmarked and General Reserves and 2023/24 Neighbourhood CIL Report (all circulated to Cllrs in advance of the meeting) and answered Cllrs questions. It was proposed by Cllr Levett and seconded by Cllr Cutting-Keyton that the 2024/25 Budget be approved. The proposal was carried.

2023/188.2 Precept:

It was proposed by Cllr Cutting-Keyton and seconded by Cllr Levett that the 2024/25 Precept be increased by 4% to cover likely increases in Parish Council expenditure. The proposal was carried. It was noted that this is the first time the Parish Council has increased its proportion of the Band D Council Tax for 4 years. Cllrs Levett, Cllr Golding and the Clerk signed the Precept application form to enable submission before the 31/01/24 deadline.

2023/189 Cockfield Parish Council Mission Statement:

It was proposed by Cllr Levett and seconded by Cllr Cutting-Keyton that Cockfield Parish Council will not pursue a Mission Statement at the current time. The proposal was carried.

2023/190 Village Website:

Cllr Baber confirmed that the Parish Council had written to Neil Ashton regarding the transfer of the website domain to the Parish Council and were awaiting

his reply. The Clerk was asked to seek advice from SALC on Data Protection protocols for shared websites.

2023/191 Suffolk Small Village of the Year Award:

Cllrs Cutting-Keyton and Levett provided updates on the event and thanked all helpers and contributors.

2023/192 Bio-Diversity Expenditure Initiative:

Item deferred until 29th February Meeting.

2023/193 Quiet Lanes:

The Clerk confirmed that SCC's Quiet Lanes Initiative had ended in 2022. Cllr Morley to provide feedback to the Windsor Green resident.

2023/194 Jeffreys Green Signage:

Cllr Morley to provide an estimate to erect signage in Jeffreys Green.

2023/195 Maintenance Schedule and Asset Management:

195.1 Maintenance Calendar: (Full Review, February, June, October only). To undertake full review of 2023/24 Maintenance Requirements for budget preparation purposes.

195.2 Maintenance Matters by exception:

195.2.1 Greens Management: It was proposed by Cllr Brinkley and seconded by Cllr Morley that Cargate Ltd be requested to pump out the sump drain on the Great Green for £160.00 + VAT. The proposal was carried.

Clerk to pursue ascertain grounds maintenance pricing options from Vertas Ltd.

195.2.2 Glebe Land: Cllr Levett to issue annual lease renewal notices to Allotment holders.

195.2.3 Earls Meadow: Cllr Morley advised Cllrs that the village school children would be planting a common hornbeam tree and 1000 snowdrops in Jeffreys Green.

195.2.4 Cemetery: None.

195.2.5 Playground: Cllr Knight's monthly play equipment inspection identified a couple of minor issues that needed adjustment.

195.2.6 Village Hall Car Park: None

195.2.7 Parish Paths: None.

195.2.8 Pavilion: The Clerk was asked to ascertain from Acorn Heating & A/C, how to turn on toilet heaters.

195.2.9 Other Assets: None

2023/19 Third Party Liaison:

By Exception, to receive any reports from lead members on matters which need to be brought to the attention of the Council and to take actions appropriate:

196.1 Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC): Cllr Knight confirmed his attendance at the next meeting in March.

196.2 Highways and Emergencies: Cllr Cutting-Keyton confirmed she continues to reports potholes to SCC.

196.3 Police/Fire: None

2023/197 Correspondence:

The correspondence Register was circulated in advance of the meeting.

2023/198 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council either for information or for inclusion on the agenda of a future Ordinary Meeting:

Website Governance

Bio-Diversity Expenditure Initiative

2023/199 Next Meeting:

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

The meeting closed at 10.07pm.

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

The St Peter's Recycling Stall

St Peter's Plants, Books and Bicycle stall will open again this spring at Northside Howe Lane.

If anyone in the village has a once loved bicycle loitering at the back of a shed that would like a new home, please donate it to St Peter's Church.





DO YOU LIKE TO CHALLENGE YOUR MIND?

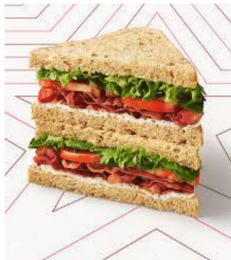
ARE YOU FOND OF FIGURES?

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 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

Cockfield W.I.

Report for March



In March we had a talk by Jason Kermeen on Faberge Eggs and other collectable objects, such as automatons and music boxes from the Victorian era. It was a very interesting and extremely enjoyable evening, especially as many of his treasures were on display to illustrate his talk and for us to look at and touch afterwards. Jason, being a very enthusiastic collector and extremely knowledgeable, had a lot to share with us! He pointed out that long before there was access to modern forms of entertainment wealthy people were keen to entertain their guests after dinner and had objects like amazing music boxes. These were developed from watches on chains which played music. In effect this was the first form of live/recorded music. They took a year for one man to make! This happened around 1885 and they had to have a wooden frame and box, which was necessary to act as a resonator.

We also had an opportunity to look at musical automatons, dating from around 1860-75, which were mainly made in Switzerland and France and sometimes in England. During the Edwardian era, they were less popular, as there was less money available to buy them. Also photography became more popular, the first World War happened and in the 1920s 78 records began to appear.

Music boxes became much smaller and only one Swiss company called Rouge remained, who made the components later for more modern Faberge Eggs in the 1960s. Faberge, whose eggs are another of Jason's interests, began making Imperial eggs for the Czar in Russia in 1867.



The Czar, especially liked his enamelling work and the unique ability he had to curve the enamelling. Faberge made 50 of these very special eggs. Easter was a very important time of year in Russia, which was one of the reasons the Czar wanted them and they were all purchased by the Czar to give to his mother and his wife. Only 42 are known to exist now and most are damaged. King Charles has three, which are in very good condition. More recent Faberge eggs were made in the 60s and 70s by his grandson in America, who was originally a glass maker.



The story about the family and other stories Jason shared about replica jewels used in the crown jewels, including the Cullinan diamond were fascinating. Many other stories he shared were also extremely entertaining and interesting. It was a great evening!

On the 2nd April we are having a catered Literary lunch with a speaker Ian Henderson, who will be talking about his book 'The History of Spice.' It will be paid for out of WI funds.

We will be entertained at our regular monthly meeting on 4th April by Barrie and Partner. It will be an open meeting with a 50s/60s music theme!

In May we have our AGM and there will not be a speaker. In June our speaker is Suze Bowers, a tour guide, who will share her adventures working in Spain, France and England. In July we will have a visit and talk from Amanda Sutherland on 'My creative journey in fashion, costume, crafting & creative business skills.'

We are finalising our visits for this year currently and hope to visit the Suffolk Food museum in April/May. Other visits will include our final choice of garden to visit in June, possibly the Yum Yum fudge factory and the Suffolk Distillery at Stoke by Nayland.

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 25th April, in the Village Hall Committee Room. Following that there is one at the end of May. The monthly coffee mornings, having now returned will continue throughout the year until there is a short break in December!

The monthly Soup Saturdays are also continuing! The next one is on Saturday 13th April and there will be one in May, 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 www.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 Using Dried Herbs and Spices

*Blends, blends, incredible blends
So many to choose from the list never ends.
So serve up a dish
With meat, veg. or fish
Blends, blends, incredible blends*

At the beginning of April members of our WI are having a literary lunch, when the speaker is Ian Henderson talking about his book 'The History of Spices'! I am looking forward to learning a great deal!

It also seems to be a good idea to check in the store cupboard, as part of a 'spring clean', in case dried herbs and spices have been in there a long time or perhaps too long! Six months is the limit in most cases, as they lose a lot of their flavour, if kept too long. They should be stored in a cool dark and dry place. We tend to keep them near or above our cookers for ease of use but heat can help to damage them and decrease their potency. Perhaps add a little more if they are reaching their use by date!

There are many herbs and spices and given the vast range of cuisines out there I have just made reference to a few! Adjustments can be made to suit individual and family taste and it is advisable to buy only small quantities at a time, unless you use them very frequently!

The following are examples of some of the most widely used but I could have included a huge number and have been sorely tempted to do so!

Red pepper flakes – for use in pasta and pizza sauces, soup, brines, marinades and anything with sausage. Others include *garlic powder, ground cinnamon, whole nutmeg, cayenne pepper, ground cumin, ground coriander, ginger, garam masala (a blend)*..... and so on! Herbs could include *dried bay leaves, basil, oregano, cardamom, rosemary, dill, curry powder, chilli* *Salt and pepper (black and white)* of course and perhaps *mixed herbs*.

If possible keep some whole, such as *nutmeg* because this maintains the flavour for longer. A few such as members of the *red pepper* family keep their colour and stay fresher if stored in the fridge. Make sure the lid of your container is on tightly immediately. If you like *fennel*, for instance – it is very aromatic and will lose potency rapidly!

A basic coffee grinder could be used to grind *whole seeds, cloves, cinnamon sticks* etc. as needed and are then especially flavourful. Usually dried herbs are stronger than fresh. One teaspoon of dried is equivalent to one tablespoon of fresh.

Spicing up Chicken Recipe

This spice mix can double up as a pork rub, can be used on fish and even potatoes.

Combine all the ingredients in a small bowl. Pat the chicken dry with kitchen roll and lightly coat with a little olive oil (helps the seasoning to adhere to the meat).

Guide only is 1 tablespoon for every pound of chicken and it is suggested that you coat the meat completely. It can then be cooked but it is better to marinade the meat in the rub for 30 minutes or even up to 12 hours for more flavour (using the fridge).

The quantity given is enough to coat 6 chicken breasts or one whole chicken.

Add more or less as you wish, as personalising your mix is a great idea!!! Then cook as usual.

All 'recipes' are only suggestions – making changes and adjustments to any of them often means great results!

½ tsp	Salt
To taste	<i>Freshly ground black pepper</i>
½-1 tsp	<i>Paprika</i>
½-1 tsp	<i>Cayenne pepper</i>
½-1 tsp	<i>Garlic powder</i>
½-1 tsp	<i>Onion powder</i>
½-1 tsp	<i>Dried thyme (or Italian seasoning)</i>
½-1 tsp	<i>Dried basil (sweet aromatic and peppery)</i>
½-1 tsp	<i>Dried rosemary (strong and concentrated)</i>
½-1 tsp	<i>Dried parsley (helps with balance and rounds out the flavours)</i>

Making a batch, it can be stored in a dark and dry place for up to 3 months.

Many other spice mixes can be made including some for stir fry, Thai, Indian, garlic/herb and so on. The choice is endless!

The **Indian 'restaurant' spice mix** ingredients are:

2 tbsp	<i>Mild curry powder</i>	4 tbsp	<i>Coriander powder</i>
1-2 tsp	<i>Chilli powder (mild or strong to taste)</i>	2 tbsp	<i>Cumin powder</i>
1 tsp	<i>Garam masala (a blend)</i>	4 tbsp	<i>Turmeric powder</i>
1 tsp	<i>Black pepper</i>	3 tbsp	<i>Paprika</i>

The **Thai Spice mix** ingredients are:

2 tsp	<i>Paprika</i>	1 tsp	<i>Fenugreek</i>
1 tsp	<i>Turmeric</i>	½ tsp	<i>Dry mustard</i>
1 tsp	<i>Coarsely ground black pepper</i>	½ tsp	<i>Ground cumin</i>
1 tsp	<i>Ground coriander</i>	½ tsp	<i>Ground ginger</i>
1/8 – ¼ tsp	<i>Cayenne powder (optional)</i>		

Happy cooking!

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 free!

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 1071221

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

Rural Coffee Caravan
Next Visit to Cockfield
Thursday 4th April
10am - 12pm
Congregational Church
Everyone is Welcome

Earls Meadow and Jeffreys Green

Our thoughts are with Rodney Williams family at this sad time. Rodney was part of the group at the beginning of the Earls Meadow project and continued to work with the 'willing volunteers' throughout. Rodney enjoyed working in Earls Meadow to create a Green Space for everyone to enjoy.

Following another extremely wet month the only feature which appears to prosper is the river- goodness knows how much water has passed through the culvert.

The mild weather has brought forward the budding of the fruit trees and pruning is nearing completion.

I have mentioned in earlier editions that the moles have thrived in the moist conditions, which seems strange as you would have thought the opposite to be the case.

Grass cutting season is fast approaching and the first cuts are scheduled for third week in March. We delay as long as possible our thoughts being once you start to cut the more readily the grass appears to grow! I am sure the most avid readers can sympathise with their domestic lawns!

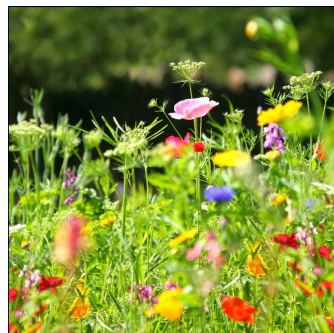
We look forward to the Duck Race on 30th March especially as the river shows no signs of abating- I think that's where I started.

RM

Garden Tips for April 2024

Flowers & Grasses

- Sow hardy annuals, herbs and wild flower seeds outdoors.
- Order annual plug plants – geranium, petunias, begonias online or from a reputable supplier's catalogue. Spread the cost by splitting the cost of order with friends & family.
- In late April cut back your Penstemons down to the base of the plant provided that you can see new growth. Alternatively, cut back to just above a new pair of leaves.
- Primroses - Once they have finished flowering lift and divide. This encourages the plant to produce more flowers in the following year.
- Remove faded flowers from winter flowering pansies and violas to stop them setting seed. This will prolong the flowering period.
- In the greenhouse nip out pinch out the growing tips of fuchsias. This will encourage new side shoots and will result in a much bushier plants.
- Sweet pea plants raised from seed in a greenhouse can be planted out now providing the soil is workable/not frozen
- Continue to deadhead Daffodils and Tulips but allow the foliage to die down naturally as this builds up the bulb for the next season.
- Towards the end of the month plant up hanging baskets and containers. Don't forget to add slow release fertiliser and water-retaining gel. Keep under cover until all danger of frost has passed.
- If you have a spare patch of ground sow a packet of wildflower seeds. This will encourage pollinators into your garden.
- Remove dead growth from ornamental grasses.
- Apply a general purpose fertiliser to beds and borders. Take care not to spread over any emerging shoots as this will burn them.



Fruit and Vegetables

- Consider building a raised bed to take some of the bending out of growing vegetables.
- Sow seed outdoors for beetroot, carrots, Swiss chard, lettuce, radish and perpetual spinach. Make sure that the soil has been well prepared.
- Feed raspberry canes and other fruit bushes sprinkling a slow release fertiliser around the base of the plants.
- Good time to buy vegetable plug plants.
- Pot up tomato seedlings once they have developed true leaves above the more rounded seed leaves.

- If your asparagus bed is at least 2 years old you can cut the spears when they are no more than 18cm tall. They will be tender and so delicious.
- Apple, pear, plum and cherry trees will start flowering this month. In very cold or windy weather protect blossoms with fleece.
- Keep watering newly planted fruit trees regularly
- Mulch fruit trees with well-rotted manure but make sure it doesn't touch the actual trunk.
- Support pea and bean plants now with twiggy sticks.



Trees, Shrubs & Climbers

- Roses – Climbers and ramblers - Tie in new growth horizontally to your trellis or wires. During any prolonged periods of dry weather make sure new plants are watered. Continue adding fertiliser in accordance with the supplier's instructions.
- Roses grown in containers should be watered regularly especially during prolonged dry periods and fed with a proprietary rose feed.
- Mulch shrub borders with a good layer (5-8cm) of organic matter such as well-rotted manure. This will help retain moisture and improve soil structure.
- After flowering hard prune Forsythia back to strong new shoots.
- Tie in new honeysuckle and clematis stems.
- Check tree stakes and ties to make sure they are providing good support but without cutting into their trunks.



Lawns

- Repair any bare patches. Lightly fork the bare patch and water. Then apply a thin layer of compost. Sow the lawn seed thinly. Cover with another thin layer of compost. Keep moist.
- Apply specialist high nitrogen lawn feed and weed killers.
- Mow Lawn regularly and lower the blades towards the end of the month.

General Maintenance and planning

- Make sure bird baths are clean and filled with fresh water.
- Check your compost bins to see if you have any ready to use.
- Keep a separate garden diary to note what seeds you have sown and what you have planted.
- Don't forget your houseplants. As the days become longer and warmer they may require more water. Always refer to the plant's specific care label.
- Weed and clean patios and paths.

- Make sure you give your Greenhouse a thorough clean before the growing season is in full swing.
- Make sure there is fresh water in low saucers for Hedgehogs.
- Leave a flat stone in the garden so that Thrushes have something to smash snail shells on.
- Divide and replant waterlilies once they are showing signs of growth.
- If the water in your pond goes from clear to greenish and persists consider adding oxygenating plants.

Happy Gardening
Kate Ransom

POP-UP CAFE



AFTERNOON TEA
In Cockfield Church



SATURDAY 6th APRIL



2.30pm



ALL WELCOME

Come and enjoy the
EASTER FLOWERS
in
COCKFIELD CHURCH

(dogs welcome)

COCKFIELD COMMUNITY CINEMA PRESENTS

SCRAPPER (12)

Friday 26th April 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



It's said that it takes a village to raise a child, but 12-year-old Georgie (Lola Campbell) has other ideas. Living alone since her beloved mum died, Georgie fills the flat they shared with her own special magic. But when her absent father Jason (Harris Dickinson) turns up out of the blue, she's forced to confront reality. A dreamy, witty and unmissable tale of family and fresh starts, SCRAPPER is a film that believes life's not so much about chasing rainbows but snatching fistfuls in both hands..

MONTHLY SCREENINGS

**4TH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
FOR FUTURE SCREENINGS**

VISIT: www.cockfield.org.uk

YOU ARE APPRECIATED

At the Cockfield Community AGM at the end of last year, Janne Cutting-Keyton gave up her position as secretary and her trusteeship of the Community Group after many, many, many years.

We couldn't and wouldn't let the occasion pass without recognising the enormous contribution Janne has made during her tenure. The Cockfield Produce Show and the Art Show (having a break this year) wouldn't have happened without Janne's organisational skills.

As secretary, she has been the 'sidekick' of many a chairman prompting and assisting along the way and also serving behind the bar at so many events in the community.



Thank you Janne for what you have given and what you continue to give with your many 'hats'.

Barbara Turner
on behalf of The Cockfield Community
(Cockfield Community Council)

Four notable Suffolk Warriors - Part 4 Group Captain Leonard Cheshire VC DSO and two bars DFC

For the last part in this series we go a few miles to the west to the beautiful village of Cavendish. If you were to enter the cemetery you might come across a grave which is quite unremarkable. Indeed, it took me and my son 15 minutes to find it. The lettering on the headstone does not really stand out, and it is only on closer inspection that you realise you are standing in front of the final resting place of one of the greatest airmen this country has ever produced, buried alongside his equally remarkable wife and fellow humanitarian campaigner Sue Ryder. I am of course talking about Group Captain Leonard Cheshire who, as a bomber pilot in World War 2 completed one hundred operational sorties. I'll say that again. One hundred operational sorties - in bombers.

World War 2 career

Being an aircrew member of Bomber Command was the most hazardous occupation a young man could choose back then. 55,573 young men lost their lives serving in Bomber Command out of the 125,000 who served. That's a death rate of a hair over 44%. Life expectancy was two weeks on a front line squadron in the winter of 1943-44. If we take an average squadron during that period, for every one hundred aircrew, twenty five would complete their tour of thirty operations. Five would be wounded or taken ill, five would be shot down and evade capture, six would be shot down and be captured, and fifty nine would be killed. Germany had by 1943-44 a highly sophisticated integrated air defence system comprising searchlights, radar, anti-aircraft guns and day and night fighters. All this was co-ordinated from huge bunkers known as 'Battle Opera Houses'. Cheshire completed four tours of operations in this crucible of air fighting, with numbers 102, 35, 76 and 617 squadrons.



Group Captain Geoffrey Leonard Cheshire, Baron Cheshire, VC, OM, DSO and Two Bars, DFC, founder of the charity

Cheshire is best remembered for his time as Commanding Officer of 617 'Dambusters' squadron, a role he filled from September 1943 until July 1944. He took over command of 617 Sqn at a time when their fortunes were at a low ebb. Having lost eight of the



original pilots during the May 1943 Dams Raid, the squadron lost another six pilots during the disastrous September 1943 attempt to breach the banks of the Dortmund Ems Canal, a major waterway. This left just five pilots from the original squadron. Cheshire oversaw the transition from low level to medium level bombing, as it was realised that going in at low level against heavily defended targets was simply too dangerous - a lesson the RAF had to relearn during the first Gulf War in 1991 when six Tornados were lost in the opening days of the air campaign operating from low level against Iraqi airfields.

Cheshire did however believe in low level marking of the target using a highly agile and fast aircraft such as a Mosquito or a P-51 Mustang fighter. It was still incredibly hazardous, going in as he did at rooftop level to positively identify the aiming point. He was responsible for the accurate marking of the SS barracks at Mailly-Le-Camp in France in May 1944, an operation in which Norman Gregory participated, as well as key V1 and V2 launch sites and other high value targets. 617 Sqn were very much pioneers of precision bombing, and this was forged under the gallant leadership of Cheshire. These days 617 Sqn operate the F-35B Lightning II from their base a RAF Marham, still specialising in precision strikes of high value targets.

Postwar career

Cheshire was finally stood down from flying duties at the conclusion of his fourth tour as CO of 617 Sqn. He was awarded the Victoria Cross, unusually not for a single action, but for his courageous conduct during his four years of operational flying. On the day of his investiture at Buckingham Palace another VC was being awarded to a fellow Bomber Command member, Sgt Norman Jackson, who won his for, unbelievably, climbing out onto the wing of his Lancaster at 20,000 feet to try and extinguish an engine fire. Cheshire graciously said to the King "This chap stuck his neck out more than I did. He should go first". However, the Palace staff stuck to the protocol and Cheshire went first.

Cheshire is famous throughout the world for establishing what was originally called the Cheshire Foundation Homes For The Sick. It went through various rebranding until in 2018 it was simplified to just Leonard Cheshire. It all started in May 1948 when, after a period of time spent convalescing at St Luke's Hospital in London (he'd been diagnosed, perhaps unsurprisingly, as suffering from what was then known as psycho neurosis, but which today would probably be called PTSD) he was asked by his GP if he could take in a terminally ill patient from the fledgling NHS into his home of Le Court near Liss in Hampshire. With very little money Cheshire learned nursing skills and took care of the man, and they became friends. Other people heard about this act of kindness and came to Cheshire for help. People were keen to share a home with others and to support each other. Soon he took in another patient, a 94 year old stroke victim. Soon she was followed by others, some coming to him for help, and others offering to help. This started a life time of humanitarian work with disabled people that continued until his death in 1992.

In 1959 he married Sue Ryder, another remarkable humanitarian campaigner and founder of the Sue Ryder Foundation and they made their home together in the Suffolk village of Cavendish.



Sue Ryder and her husband Leonard Cheshire

Space precludes me from elaborating too much on her life's work, but she worked for the Polish section of the Special Operations Executive during the war, and thus began her long association with Poland. This explains why their grave is surrounded by Polish survivors of the Holocaust. These people were some of the first to be given refuge in her home in Cavendish. After the war she had travelled to Europe to help relieve the post war suffering and she had started to bring back to England survivors from the Concentration Camps who needed long term nursing and that's how they ended up in Cavendish. In 1953 she set up the Sue Ryder Foundation to provide homes and domiciliary care teams for the sick and disabled in any part of the world where assistance was required. She and her husband spent much of their time travelling the world visiting their humanitarian projects. In 1981 Cheshire was admitted to the Order of Merit and was made a life peer in the House of Lords in 1991. In memory of his time serving with 617 Sqn at RAF Woodhall Spa he took the title Baron Cheshire of Woodhall in the county of Lincolnshire.



Leonard Cheshire with his Order of Merit

He died from the effects of Motor Neurone Disease on 31 July 1992, aged 74.
JG



Memorial to Leonard Cheshire and Sue Ryder in St Mary's Church, Cavendish



Sequel to the Turkish Airlines aeroplane crash, 3rd March 1974

Referring to the article 'Bury St Edmunds Remembers' it may be of interest to read of how the club and others reacted to the disaster.

I played for Bury Rugby club in the years before 1974 but at the time was a student at Leicester Polytechnic. I returned to Bury occasionally and when home always played for one of the four senior teams (excluding the Colts – the under 18 side). I had returned that weekend but as I was away at Leicester I was unaware of the trip to Paris to play a game and to watch France v England in the 5 Nations (as it was called then). Whilst hitchhiking back to Leicester on the Sunday that weekend one person with whom I had a lift said it was bad news about the air crash. I had not heard about it and did not connect it with Paris or the club's trip.

Back at the student house that evening a fellow Bury rugby player, who was also a student at the polytechnic, arrived and told me about the crash and that many players from the club had been killed. We agreed to return by train the next day to help in any way we could. I heard that John Cousins had missed the plane but that Ron Saunders, who had business in Paris, had never intended to return that Sunday. On hearing the news in Paris he started to help the authorities there. When we returned Chris Tilbrook, who had a brother who was one of the victims, organised a group of us for the next few days to help with collating information about those players and friends and dealing with other matters arising from the crash. I recall that we had to organise collecting dental records which brought home the horrific scale of the injuries incurred. By then we had started a street collection in the town to raise funds for their families of those killed including some wives and young children.

The air crash was international and UK headline news as so many rugby players from one club were killed. Many were first team players and were club organisers. Several had played for Suffolk, and some for the Eastern Counties including one, Brian Arthur, who had or was playing for Bedford which was a top tier club. He was also best man at the wedding of Budge Rogers, an England player, who also became involved in helping the club during this time. Many news outlets reported this sympathetically, but the MP for the town, Eldon Griffiths, took issue with sensational style reporting by one national newspaper.

Soon after the tragedy there was a memorial service and separately the club held a reception for the bereaved to give them support. Like many others I found this difficult as I did not know what to say to them but the event helped them. Also, a charity was formed for funds to provide for the many dependants which spread to other rugby clubs. In addition to this a Memorial game was played about a month after the crash between Bury and a representative RAF Honington side which had some invited 'guest players' to raise funds.

After losing so many club players and leaders, one of the first tasks was to reorganise the club and meet its fixtures. The club members who did this laid the foundation for the continued success of the club to this day.

Sadly, and unrelated to the air crash, another Bury player collapsed and died whilst playing for Bury against a Norfolk club three weeks after the crash.

Later that year I moved to Leeds to work there and joined Old Rodillians, a rugby club just outside Wakefield, with many players being miners. On the bar was a collection box for the dependants of the players, which made me realise the extent of the support given by clubs with little connection to Bury. Two years later, in 1976, there was a 'friendly' rugby match between England and France at Twickenham to raise funds for the charity (France deservedly won).

It was a sad and difficult time for the families of those who died and the club, but the kindness and generosity of all who helped or supported the bereaved families in various ways showed the tremendous help from the those involved with rugby throughout the UK. I believe that this also exists for any team sport and helps to create communities that are strong and supportive in difficult times.

TB



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**

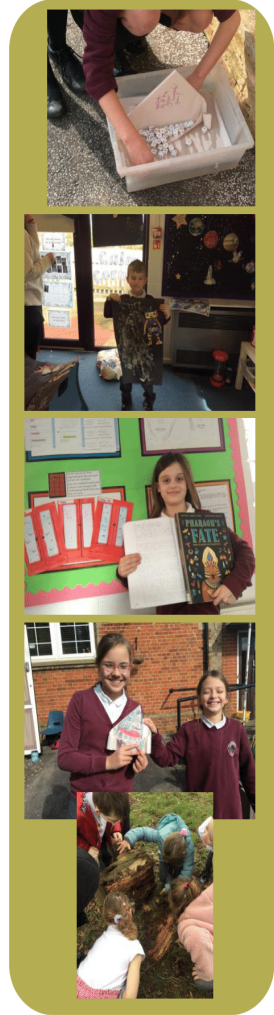
No Charge but donations are welcome
Enquiries please email
wi@cockfield.org.uk



Welcome back to another exciting edition of our school newsletter! As the days lengthen and the weather begins to hint at the arrival of spring, our school is buzzing with the vibrant energy of learning and exploration. Let's take a look at the wonderful learning in our classrooms!

Our youngest learners in Lime Class have been taking, not a 'small step', but a 'giant leap for' the stars as they dive into the topic of "Space"! From naming planets to discovering facts about famous astronauts the children have been captivated by the mysteries of our solar system. They've been busy crafting stunning artwork, bringing to life the planets with vivid colors and naming them. It's truly out-of-this-world!

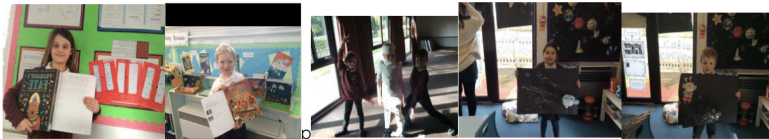
Meanwhile, our Year 1 and 2 children in Oak Class have been embarking on thrilling adventures in the realm of "Animals and Living Things". Just like Timon & Pumbaa, they've been on safari right here in our school grounds, uncovering the hidden world of life cycles in animals. From Slug eggs to woodlice, every rock and tree stump holds a fascinating discovery!



In Willow Class, our Year 3 and 4 pupils have been transported back in time to the era of the Ancient Egyptians. From unraveling the mysteries of the river Nile to mastering the art of mummification, they've immersed themselves in the wonders of this ancient civilization. Their Egyptian-style pottery is a testament to their creativity, and their adaptations of "The Egyptian Cinderella" have us all enchanted!

Our eldest children have been navigating the waters of science with gusto! Year 5 and 6 have been on a quest to design the ultimate floating craft, testing their hypotheses about buoyancy, water resistance, and water displacement. After some trial and error, our champions managed to defy gravity with a boat that held an impressive 61 dice before taking a dive and plummeting towards the dark depths of the water tray! Their advice to future ship designers: A "Wide, flat bottom" is key!

We are very excited to share the wonderful news about our school library. Through generous donations from an ever growing list of charities and groups, we now have enough funds to begin our library project. We would like to say a big thank you to those who have already donated including Cockfield WI, Cockfield Community Council, parents and our wonderful FOCSA! We would like our library to be a centre piece of the school. We are still seeking further donations towards new books. Our team of teaching staff are compiling a wish list of books which we will share with the Cockfield community in the hope that our generous residents might be able to donate books towards the project. A poster with a link to the wish list will be created very soon.



**Warmest regards,
Marc (Headteacher)**





THE EMERGERS

LOCAL FOLK BAND



11 MAY 2024

at St Peter's Church,
Cockfield

7pm

tickets £10 (which
includes a light snack)

bar available

Enhanced Acoustics!

for tickets contact:

Church.warden@cockfield.org.uk

Cockfield community Events.

February saw the first of our two planned family bingo nights. Sadly not as many players as our last bingo event but still a fun evening. If bingo is something you enjoy we have another night planned for October.

Saturday 6th April - first of two quiz nights in Cockfield village hall. Teams of up to 6. Ticket price includes a fish & chips, chicken & chips or sausage & chips supper. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Sunday 21st July - **Cockfield village fete on Great Green.** This year we are having an Olympic theme. Do you fancy trying to reach or even beat a Guinness book of world records score? Hopefully you do as we are having a Cockfield Records Breakers event where you can give it a go, and don't forget to get your family together for Family Olympic Races. In addition to this we have Pooches on Parade, consisting of fun competitions for dogs and their owners. Over 40 craft stalls and side shows along with live music and entertainment including a traditional Punch and Judy show, there will be something for everyone regardless of age. Naturally to keep everyone refreshed we are having a BBQ, Beer tent, Teas, Coffee and cakes as well as food stalls and Ice-cream. As with any good fete we have a fantastic prize draw. Full details of the top prizes and how to purchase your tickets in advance can be found in next month's Green links. This event takes a great deal of organisation and on the day itself helpers are a great asset. If you feel you could spare some time to help we would be very grateful. You can contact Pauline on 07921151111.

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 and as a last resort the third 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 notice boards 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.
Report JP

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It's all such a worry
What are you to do ?

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Even if their poetry's bad



www.quove.co.uk

**Brickfields Business Park
Woolpit**

01284 845120



**PLANT SALE AND
COFFEE MORNING
SATURDAY 25TH MAY**

10am – 12:30pm

St. Peter's Church

Church Lane

Cockfield

**COFFEE, TEA, CAKES, BOOKS,
PLANTS and RAFFLE**

**COME AND MEET OLD FRIENDS AND
MAKE NEW ONES**

FUND RAISING FOR

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, COCKFIELD

The poster features a light green background with a white central area. At the top left, there are blue leaves. At the top right, a dark blue cloud-like shape contains the text 'REFRESHMENTS SHIMPLING PARK FARM BARN & THE VILLAGE HALL'. The main title 'Spring MARKET AND SALE TRAIL' is centered, with 'Spring' in a gold cursive font and 'MARKET AND SALE TRAIL' in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. Below the title, the date and time 'APRIL 13TH 10.00-13.00' and the location 'SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL' are listed. Further down, it says 'SALE TRAIL STALLS AROUND THE VILLAGE AND AT THE VILLAGE HALL (MAPS AVAILABLE FROM VILLAGE HALL)'. The website 'WWW.ALPHETONANDSHIMPLINGCHURCHES.ORG.UK' is at the bottom. The bottom section of the poster is decorated with a yellow butterfly, a brown rabbit, and a nest with three colorful eggs (blue, yellow, and purple).

REFRESHMENTS
SHIMPLING PARK
FARM BARN

& THE VILLAGE
HALL

Spring
**MARKET
AND
SALE TRAIL**

APRIL 13TH 10.00-13.00

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL

SALE TRAIL STALLS AROUND THE VILLAGE AND
AT THE VILLAGE HALL
(MAPS AVAILABLE FROM VILLAGE HALL)

WWW.ALPHETONANDSHIMPLINGCHURCHES.ORG.UK

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Website: www.lotsofcare.co.uk

PEEWITS ON THE STUBBLE CRIMBLES FARM COCKFIELD

A new memoir from Felsham Farmer John Poole provides a unique view of a passing age in rural life and farming.

It provides a vivid account of growing up on a small family farm (Crimbles) during World War 11. This was an era of self-sufficiency, before electricity and water, and heavy farm work was done with horses.

Daily life was punctuated by a variety of war incidents, including buzzbombs and air crashes in the area on and around the farm.

The book provides a unique perspective on farming practice in the area during harvest 1940 made possible by the availability of aerial reconnaissance photographs from the Luftwaffe captured at the end of the war.

The book is available at Cockfield Community Store

Dear friends

April is supposed to be the month that brings showers, although I'm sure everyone has had enough of those! We especially don't want them for our events this month, you can find details of these on the services and events page. There's always lots going on in both Cockfield village and the benefice which I think is what makes village life so special. I pray that more people in our villages will come along to these events and make new friends and support the organisations of the village at the same time.

Friendship, or fellowship as we often call it in Church, is a precious gift. Jesus chose a group of men and women to be his close friends, but also welcomed everyone to be his friend. In John's gospel (John 15:15) Jesus said: 'I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known you.'

Jesus invites us to be in a relationship with Him, and also to be in relationship with one another. That famous quote from the poem by John Donne "No man is an island" comes to mind when I think about human existence. God made us to live in community, and to care for one another.

It is easy to lose a friendship by a careless word or act, or to lose touch with someone we haven't seen for a while. I have pledged to myself that this Spring I am going to get in touch with someone I haven't spoken to for a while and have a catch up. And I pray that God will protect those friendships that are precious to me and help me to strengthen them even more. Who knows what blessings they will bring?

with every good wish

Sharon

Canon Sharon Potter, revsharon2@gmail.com,
01284 828599, 07825 086063

Cockfield Benefice Services & Events April 2024

Saturday 6 April	2.30pm Afternoon Tea at Cockfield Church
Sunday 7 April Easter 2	9.30am Communion CW - Stanningfield 11am Communion CW - Bradfield St Clare 6pm Celtic Communion - Felsham
Saturday 13 April	10am-12.30pm Plant & Vintage Tools Sale - Gt Whelnetham Church (in aid of Gt Whelnetham Church and Bury Drop-in Centre)
Sunday 14 April Easter 3	10am Morning Prayer CW - Cockfield 10.30am Communion CW - Bradfield St George 6pm Praise & Worship - Gt Whelnetham
Saturday 20 April	7pm 'The Roman Remains of Sicklesmere' talk by Andy Peachey - Gt Whelnetham Community Centre (in aid of Gt Whelnetham Church)
Sunday 21 April Easter 4	9.30am Morning Prayer CW - Stanningfield 10am Praise God Together - Felsham 10.30am Communion CW - Cockfield 6pm Evening Prayer CW - Bradfield St Clare
Sunday 28 April Easter 5	9.30am Communion CW - Gt Whelnetham 10am Communion BCP - Gedding 10am Worshipping Together - Bradfield St George

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



My council tax bill is coming out in March, and I am dreading opening it as it always goes up. My income has stayed the same but everything else seems more expensive and I have hardly anything left over - how will I cope if my payments for this year go up?

Many of us are feeling overwhelmed as we see our basic bills and essential costs go up. You're not alone in finding things difficult and, crucially, there's support available.

First off, there are discounts available to some people depending on their circumstances. You can check your bill or contact your council to find out if you might be eligible for an automatic reduction to your council tax.

If you're not getting a discount, you might still be entitled to one. It depends on who lives in the property. So, if you're the only adult in your home, you'll get a 25% discount on your council tax bill.

When working out how many people live in a property, some people aren't counted - they're called 'disregarded people' and include under 18s, a student nurse or someone on an apprenticeship scheme and many more. Checking the government website at <https://www.gov.uk/council-tax> for more details. If everyone who lives in the property is disregarded, you will still receive a council tax bill, but it will have a 50% discount. However, if everyone in your home is a student or severely mentally impaired, you won't pay any council tax.

Additionally, if someone has moved out, tell the council as this might change your eligibility. If you are entitled to a discount as a result, it will be valid from the date when the person moved out, even if you told the council after the event, and the reduction may be backdated.

If you think you might be eligible you should apply to your local council for a discount as soon as possible. You can find your council's contact details on GOV.UK. You mention that your income hasn't increased. If you are on a low income, you might be able to get your council tax reduced. If you get benefits or have other people living with you, this might affect how much your council tax is reduced by. Your local council will ask you details about your income and your circumstances, so they can work out if you're entitled to a council tax reduction. They will then calculate your new bill and tell you how much council tax you need to pay.

If you have other people living with you who are aged 18 or over, you might all be responsible for paying council tax. Only one of you needs to apply for a council tax reduction. The council will decide and reduce the amount of council tax you have to pay accordingly.

You may also be eligible for additional support if you've reached State Pension age which you can check on the government website can GOV.UK If you're under State Pension age, the 'working age rules' apply and if you've reached State Pension age, it depends if you or your partner get certain benefits.

The working age rules still apply if you've reached State Pension age and you or your partner get:

- Universal Credit
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Income Support

If you've reached State Pension age and don't get any of these benefits, the 'pension age rules' apply.

Even if none of the reduction criteria applies to you, your local council can still reduce your council tax bill or cancel it altogether, this is called 'discretionary reduction'. They'll normally only do this if you can show that you're suffering severe hardship and can't afford to pay council tax.

If you're in this situation you should ask your local council for help. You'll need to show them evidence of your circumstances. If your immigration status doesn't let you claim public funds, you can still apply for a discretionary reduction. A discretionary reduction doesn't count as public funds.

We know that times are incredibly tough and council tax is a priority bill so it's important to keep in contact with your council if you can't keep up payments. Citizens Advice is here to help you find a way forward, without judgement, working with you side by side.

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>

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Announcements

Rodney C. Williams

On behalf of the family, I would like to thank everyone who attended the celebration of the life of Rodney Williams on March 12th and to give special thanks to The Rev. Sharon Potter for a lovely service, to Norman Kelly for so ably overseeing the logistics (and for a beautiful reading), to Sue Cole. Liz Kinnell and Brenda McIntyre for the gorgeous flowers. to Robert King for the glorious music and to all who have donated so generously to Macmillan and St Nicholas Hospice.

Thanks also for the many kind messages and letters; the tributes to and memories of Rod that so many have taken the time to share with us mean the world, and that so many turned out on such a wet day to bid him farewell was the culmination of a year in which this village surrounded him with support, compassion and care. I will be forever grateful to be part of such a strong, supportive community, a community which Rod loved so very dearly and for which he did so much.

Rod is on another journey now and we will forever miss him but his legacy is all around us, we are so very proud of his life and all that he achieved.

Many Thanks

Deborah Williams

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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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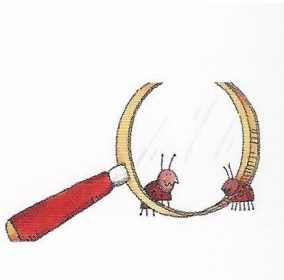
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Although this retort was given to “the Jews” in general (John 2:18), Jesus may well have been addressing the Sadducees (a sect of the Jewish people) in particular as they did not believe in the resurrection of the body. And like the Sadducees, many today refuse to believe in the resurrection; holding to the view that once dead there is no coming back. But Jesus belied this philosophy, having given “many infallible proofs” (Acts 1:3); by the best evidence of all – first hand eye witness accounts.

The first witness to His resurrection was Mary Magdalene, who met Him in the garden wherein the tomb was situated (John 20:14); He then appeared to His disciples, by the sea of Tiberias (John 21:1) and then He appeared to over 500 people (1 Corinthians 15:6) - many of whom, we see, were alive at the time that that account was written and who, if called upon to do so, could have given their personal confirmation as to their meeting with the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

All of these witnesses were contemporaries of Jesus who, along with many others, met with Him after His resurrection from the dead. But not only do we have this written record of His resurrection appearances in that forty day period, but we, as believers, have the testimony of it within our own selves; for, as Jesus, Himself said: “If you abide in me, I will abide in you” (John 15:4). And because He lives, we know that we shall live also (John 14:19). And that for eternity (John 5:24). And so, believing this we can sing:” He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today. He walks with me, He talks with me, along life’s narrow way. He lives, salvation to impart. You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.”

If anyone would like to experience this for themselves, they may do so. All that is necessary is ask for and receive Jesus into their lives and He will enter in (Revelation 3:20). It is a free gift from our gracious God (John 3:16), and once received it can never be taken from us (Romans 8:38 & 39).

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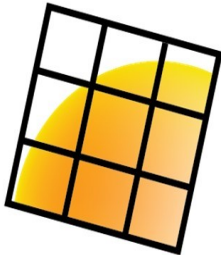
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Cockfield Cemetery	Ralph Turner	828201
Cockfield Charities	Tony Box	charities@cockfield.org.uk
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