

# Green Links

January 2021

 recycle

## Your real Christmas tree In Cockfield at Hall Farm

on the concrete  
hardstanding  
junction of  
Perrydown/Howe Lane



Trees can be left at this collection point  
between Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January  
Collection will be made from 6.30am  
on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January.

Trees must be less than 7' tall & must have all  
decorations, stands & pots removed.

Please call 0300 1234 000 (Option 4) for further details.



*Working in Partnership*

# Green Links Copy Deadline!

Please note all copy for the February issue must be  
with me by 15th January please

Janne Cutting-Keyton, Newholme, Smithwood Green,  
Cockfield. IP30 0JQ  
01284 828264 or [janne@twerbs.co.uk](mailto: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  
delivered to your door by a  
team of local volunteer  
distributors.

Please contact  
01284 828264  
for further details

## Cockfield Village Hall

Available for hire at very  
reasonable rates

Please contact  
June Pettit  
for bookings or for  
further details  
[cockfield.org.uk/villagehall](http://cockfield.org.uk/villagehall)

**Please spread the  
word about our  
super village hall,  
huge car park  
and full facilities**

## GREEN LINKS ADVERTISING

To place an advertisement in Green Links  
or enquire about our rates please contact

Sue Harrison at  
[sue.harrison42@gmail.com](mailto:sue.harrison42@gmail.com)

# Green Links



The Monthly Village Magazine of Cockfield  
Edition 4- No 160 January 2021

Chairman and Distribution  
Editor  
Secretary  
Advertising Manager

David Simpson  
Janne Cutting-Keyton  
Morag Kelly  
Sue Harrison

May I take this opportunity to wish all Green Links readers, advertisers and especially distributors a Happy and Safe 2021.

Together the village, as a whole, has come through 2020 virtually unscathed although poorer for the lack of events the Community Council has been able to put on. We can now see a glimmer of light on the horizon. although I expect 2021 will still be rocky planning can begin in earnest for a celebration year in 2022.

We must all continue to support each other and do what we can to look after the wider environment which includes putting the correct items into our blue bins (details in this months Green Links), recycling our Christmas Trees (details on the front cover) and recycling unwanted items - after an initial spurt I have not received any adverts for the Cockfield Community Classified page. Maybe you could use the impetus of the New Year to have a bit of a sort out and let me know of any items For Sale or those Offered Free to a new home by the 15th January.

While on the subject of the environment I must mention how much litter presently lays around our verges, it really is a blight on the village, if the litters are readers of Green Links maybe one of your New Year Resolutions could be to take your litter home with you - that would be a benefit to us all.

Janne

p.s. Last months back cover photo was of the fishing lakes at Cross Green caught in the early morning, a delightful picture.

[www.cockfield.org.uk](http://www.cockfield.org.uk)

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Come and join  
The Community Council



# for the New Year's Day Hangover Hike

All Welcome

Friday 1st January

A pleasant hike around the footpaths  
of Cockfield

**Approximately an hour and a half**

**Dogs STRICTLY ON LEADS Welcome**

Meet in the Village Hall Car Park at 11am  
If its pouring the walk will be cancelled

**EVERYTHING PERMITTING, we will start from the Village Hall at 11am for a 4 mile wander which should take about 1.5 hours with socially distanced groups of no more than 6.**

**We hope to offer refreshments (bookable in advance) when you get back to the hall (served outside of course) but we have to be guided by the Rules in place come the 1st.**

**Please check on the web-site [www.cockfield.org.uk](http://www.cockfield.org.uk) before setting off to come to the hall as the latest information will be posted there.**

# COCKFIELD MINIBUS

## To the Residents of Cockfield,

As you are no doubt aware the village has had a minibus in excess of forty years. We are now on our fourth vehicle, a 2012 14seat Transit style vehicle, that can be driven on a car license. This valuable asset is owned by the Parish Council and operated collaboratively by the Community Council.

In recent years usage has declined and both Councils are jointly minded that this situation should be turned around in order that it be more financially sustainable going forward.

To achieve this, we are reaching out to residents and asking for further volunteers to come forward with an enthusiasm to provide administration support and to explore and promote opportunities to generate further income. Exactly how it would work can be discussed with whoever comes forward.

This year has obviously been a challenging one, but going into the New Year we very much hope that we can make best use of this worthy community asset.

We would appreciate any enquiries no later than early January and ideally as soon as possible.

Rodney Williams - Chairman Cockfield Community Council  
Derek Southgate – Chairman Cockfield Parish Council

**If you have an interest in helping, in the first instance could you please make contact through Janne Cutting-Keyton (Cockfield Community Council Secretary). 01284 - 828264**

**Janne will be able to give further details and explain the Management and administration process associated with the minibus.**



# Babergh District Council

## Christmas & New Year Waste Collection Schedule 2020/21

	Usual Collection Date	Revised Collection Date	Change
Refuse	Monday 21st December 2020	Monday 21st December 2020	No change
	Tuesday 22nd December 2020	Tuesday 22nd December 2020	No change
	Wednesday 23rd December 2020	Wednesday 23rd December 2020	No change
	Thursday 24th December 2020	Thursday 24th December 2020	No change
	Friday 25th December 2020	Monday 28th December 2020	3 days later
Recycling	Monday 28th December 2020	Tuesday 29th December 2020	1 day later
	Tuesday 29th December 2020	Wednesday 30th December 2020	1 day later
	Wednesday 30th December 2020	Thursday 31st December 2020	1 day later
	Thursday 31st December 2020	Saturday 2nd January 2021	2 days later
	Friday 1st January 2021	Monday 4th January 2021	3 days later
Refuse	Monday 4th January 2021	Tuesday 5th January 2021	1 day later
	Tuesday 5th January 2021	Wednesday 6th January 2021	1 day later
	Wednesday 6th January 2021	Thursday 7th January 2021	1 day later
	Thursday 7th January 2021	Friday 8th January 2021	1 day later
	Friday 8th January 2021	Saturday 9th January 2021	1 day later

From Monday 11th January 2021 refuse and recycling collections return to the normal schedule.

**Please note:** There will be no garden waste (brown bin) collections during the weeks commencing 21st and 28th December 2020. Please refer to the garden waste collection schedule, which is available at: [www.babergh.gov.uk/waste-services](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/waste-services)

**Please make sure your bin is out by 6.30am on collection day**



# TIER TWO RULES

Help stop the spread of COVID-19 



Households are **not** allowed to mix with other people indoors, unless with people in your support bubble.

You can meet with up to **5 other people**, maximum of 6 including yourself, **outside** as long as everyone stays 2 metres apart.



Schools, universities and colleges remain **open**.

Everyone who **can** work from home should do so.

Children **can** move between homes if their parents are separated.



Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Alcohol can only be served with substantial meals. Venues must stop taking orders at 10pm, and close at 11pm.

Retail, indoor leisure, entertainment, personal care, and accommodation settings are **open**.



Whenever you are out of your home, remember '**Hands. Face. Space**':

- Hands** – wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds
- Face** – wear a face covering over nose and mouth in indoor settings
- Space** – stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible.



Get tested if you have symptoms: a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell and taste.

If you are anyone in you have been in close contact with has symptoms, follow the guidance on self-isolation.



**Travel:** You must follow tier 2 rules when you travel to a tier 1 area. Avoid travel to, or overnight stays, in tier 3 areas other than where necessary, e.g. work, education, medical treatment, or caring responsibilities.

You can travel through a tier 3 area as a part of a longer journey.

**STICK WITH IT  
SUFFOLK**

Become a Covid-19 message cascader  
[www.suffolk.gov.uk/message-cascaders](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/message-cascaders)



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# Cockfield Community Council

## Chairman's Report 20.11.20

2020 has been a very strange year but, despite pandemic and lockdown and all the changes in rules and regulations, it has been good to see everybody working together to serve the community.

We would like to thank Andrea Hartshorne who is standing down from the CC for all of her work whilst a trustee.

For the first time that I know of the CC, along with various helpers, erected a Christmas Tree by the pavilion on Great Green, a Nordmann Fir, 18 feet of Christmas cheer with twinkling lights! Let's do the same again this year as I think we may all be in need of some cheer.

This tree was supposed to be a fitting backdrop to Carols on The Green but the weather was so filthy that the event was held in the church, a very pleasant, informal service with around 35 people present and refreshments afterwards.

January started with the Hangover Hike, muddy and a little shorter than usual but a great way for participants and various dogs to blow away the cobwebs and greet the new year.

In February we held a quiz night with a fish and chip supper, a splendid evening, very well supported and a great credit to Neil Ashton and his team and the catering organisers.

After a very successful end to 2019 and start to 2020 there was much planned for the Spring but then the hammer fell, the nation shut down and, for 6 months, no events were possible or permissible. Here I must pay tribute to the CC for as soon as there was a glimmer of light, a sign that restrictions would begin to relax then things started to happen again.

In September Janne very cleverly set up an online version of the Cockfield Show which was very well supported. This meant a lot of hard work but was a good start to getting the community involved again.

Team work between the Village Hall and Cinema groups saw the popular cinema nights start again in September and much work was done behind the

scenes to comply with government guidance and to ensure everyone's safety and it's good to note that the film screenings have been supported to the maximum capacity allowed. Well done to all.

Neil Ashton hit on a great idea with a virtual quiz last weekend, I was unable to attend but am told that it was well organised, well supported and most enjoyable. I believe that another is being set up for just before Christmas. Good show!

Through these difficult times it has been good to see Bruff's Line and Earl's Meadow come into their own, providing a beautiful green space where people could wander freely, a tranquil and much need boost to physical and mental well-being. A big Thank You to the team who put so much hard work into creating and maintaining these precious places.

During these unprecedented months the CC may have been stilled but the community wasn't, it was as active and vibrant as ever, looking out for those who needed help with shopping, medical matters or simply some socially distanced social contact and the knowledge that we may have been in lockdown but were connected as members of the community. In so many ways the pandemic brought the community close together and we should be proud to be a part of it.

Thanks to everybody in this village and I wish all a happy Christmas and a hopeful new year

R Williams CC chair



**Andy's Jet Force**

- All drainage work undertaken, from block drains to new drains
- CCTV surveys
- High pressure water jetting services
- Patios and driveways cleaned
- Septic tanks and treatment plants emptied, serviced and installed

**Andrew Waldock**  
jefforce@mail.com  
**T 01284 763952 M 07772 751645**  
[www.andysjefforce.co.uk](http://www.andysjefforce.co.uk)

# Census 2021

## will provide a snapshot of modern society

Households across Cockfield will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021.

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

“A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed,” Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics, said.

“This could mean things like doctors’ surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That’s why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them.”

Census day will be on March 21, but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

For more information, visit [census.gov.uk](https://census.gov.uk).

The logo for the 2021 Census, featuring the word 'census' in a lowercase, rounded, purple font, with '2021' below it in a larger, similar font.

Dear Neighbour

Just like the Covid-19 virus, criminals are targeting the vulnerable. Since the outbreak, there has been an increase in cybercrime and fraud. 'You wouldn't leave your front door open when you leave your house for criminals to walk right in. Having weak passwords is like leaving your digital front door open for cybercriminals to steal all your personal data and images.' So, protect yourself with strong Passwords (not like this), have a separate password for your email account and protect your devices with antivirus software. If you would like more information about Passwords, Phishing, Online ID, Updates, Wi-Fi, Online shopping, Payment, Romance, or Impersonation fraud, go to <https://www.met.police.uk/littlemedia> for a series of short informative videos. To report any fraud or cyber crime phone ActionFraud on 0300 123 2040 or call CrimeStoppers COVID Fraud Hotline on 0800 587 5030.



Criminals have been targeting people selling items online, by sending them emails purporting to be from PayPal. The emails trick victims into believing they have received payment for the items they are selling. Typically, after receiving these emails, victims will ship the item to the criminal, without receiving any payment. Do not be persuaded into sending anything until you can verify you have received the payment. Note, a genuine PayPal email will address you by your first and last name and will never ask you for your password, bank account, or credit card details in the message.

This autumn you probably saw the reports of over 1,000 arrests, half a million pounds in cash recovered and millions of pounds worth of County Line illegal drugs seized. Each 'County Line' is the mobile phone line, typically taking over £25,000 per week in orders for drugs, which are transported from one area to another, usually by vulnerable young people, who are coerced into it by gangs. Threats of violence, mental and sexual abuse and drug dependency ensure the loyalty of these young drug runners, leaving the dealers with the hope that they will stay under the radar of law enforcement. If you suspect County Lines within the community report it to the police (101 or in an emergency 999) or, if you wish to remain anonymous, via CrimeStoppers (0800 555111).

In the last 250 days approximately 60,000 people have sadly died in the UK of Covid-19 within 28 days of a positive test. That is 200 each day. Every 20 minutes, someone is killed or seriously injured on a British road. That is over 70 each day. Each crash is a tragedy, each crash is preventable, so on these darker winter days do take special care when walking, cycling, and driving.

Finally, as many people set up temporary home offices and adjust to a new ways of working during the pandemic, the fire service is warning of a rise in electrical fires. So please check that your home has working smoke alarms. Do not charge electrical items on flammable surfaces like beds, and do not get distracted by emails or work calls and leave your cooker hob on and unattended at meal-times.

Remember 'crime cannot flourish in a community that cares', so be on the alert and be watchful in looking after yourself and your neighbours.

Kind regards, Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

# Sudbury & District Citizens Advice

**citizens  
advice**

**We offer a telephone  
advice service from  
Mon – Thurs  
10am – 1pm**



**Tel: 01787 321400, 0300 330 1151 or  
03444 111 444**

**Or email [advice@sudburycab.org.uk](mailto:advice@sudburycab.org.uk)  
website: [www.sudburycab.org.uk](http://www.sudburycab.org.uk)  
[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)**

**We're here to help you – whoever you are, whatever the problem**

**Benefits - Debt - Consumer - Housing - Employment  
Education - Health - Legal - Immigration - Relationships**

**We provide free independent, confidential and impartial advice to  
everyone on their rights and responsibilities.**

## 6 x New Shared Ownership Homes

Completion Spring 2021

## JEFFREY'S GREEN, COCKFIELD



**2 bedroom houses For Sale £112,500**

**3 bedroom houses For Sale £125,000**

**50% Shared Ownership Sale**



If you would like to know more information about the homes that are being built at Jeffrey's Green in Cockfield, please contact Karen Suddes or Sandra Scott for an informal chat. We will happily talk you through the development and what you need to do to apply.



[homesales@orwell-housing.co.uk](mailto:homesales@orwell-housing.co.uk)

**call 07595 120688 / 07749 417399**

## Self-isolation support payments for low-income earners in Babergh



Residents on low-incomes and unable to work because they have been asked to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace, can now claim a £500 payment to compensate for loss of earnings.

As part of a nationwide Government scheme, residents in Babergh who are on low incomes and are unable to work because they have been told by NHS Test and Trace that they have to self-isolate can now apply for a lump sum payment from their local councils. Money will be paid into their accounts within days of their applications being verified, to relieve immediate financial hardship.

People who receive notification from NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate because they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, will be entitled to a £500 support payment if they meet all of the following requirements:

- They comply with the NHS Test and Trace notification to self-isolate
- are employed or self-employed
- are unable to work from home and will lose income as a result

**AND are in receipt of one of the following benefits:**

Universal Credit - Working Tax Credit - Income-based Employment and Support Allowance - Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance  
Income Support - Housing Benefit - Pension Credit

Discretionary payments may also be available in exceptional circumstances to individuals who meet the main qualifying criteria (i.e. low-income and unable to work because they are self-isolating) but are not in receipt of qualifying benefits and are facing severe financial hardship.

The scheme is being administered on behalf of the local authority by the Shared Revenue Partnership - with a fast and simple application form now available on the councils' websites together with information about how to easily provide evidence required and further details about the scheme.

To apply and find out more:

Babergh residents: [www.babergh.gov.uk/benefits/coronavirus-money-and-benefits-advice/](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/benefits/coronavirus-money-and-benefits-advice/)

Claims must be made within 14 days of a period of self-isolation ending. Residents are also reminded of the launch of the Suffolk Support and Advice Service earlier this month to help people access information or support relating to debt, benefits, housing or employment.

Citizens Advice Suffolk Alliance, which includes the eight Citizens Advice Bureaus across Suffolk, and Anglia Care Trust and Ipswich Housing Action Group are delivering advice and support to people through a single phone line. The phoneline is funded by Suffolk Public Sector Leaders and has been developed by Suffolk-wide partners on the Collaborative Communities Covid-19 Board, which is part of the Suffolk Resilience Forum.

People can contact the Suffolk Support and Advice Service on **0800 068 3131** between 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday or go to: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service/>



We may be lucky enough to see some more snow this month – what fun! Here are some ideas of what you can do in the snow or when its very cold – with parents approval of course!

### **Blow unpopable bubbles**

The soapy solution you use in summer reacts differently in chilly temperatures. Leave the bubble bottle outside so it can get really cold. Then wave the wand—instead of blowing with your warm breath—to let the bubbles fly. If you're quick (and careful) enough to catch one, you might just see it slowly ice over in your hands.

### **Take a nature walk**

Identify the animal footprints you see. A symmetrical track with four toes, large claws, and a small heel pad probably came from a canine (think a dog or a fox), while asymmetrical tracks with four toes, a relatively large heel pad, and no claws may indicate a feline (like a house cat). Two-toed, heart-shaped tracks usually signal deer. Or, you can find a cosy spot to quietly watch and listen for birds.

### **Toss snowballs.**

Have a snowball-throwing contest! Make a target by creating a bright circle in the snow with coloured water in a squirt bottle. You can also paint a bull's-eye target on a piece of cardboard, giving each coloured ring a point value. Attach it to a tree, and keep score as you try to hit the target with snowballs.

# Cockfield Cinema presents **Summerland**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2021

Start 7.30 pm, doors open 7 pm

Our opening film for 2021 is **Summerland**. Our first 2 screenings following re-opening of the village hall went really well. We are most grateful to everyone who embraced the changes we are obliged to implement and made the evenings so successful in the circumstances. So we hope you will continue to support our Community Council activities. Of course we are mindful of the national and regional situation and any changes will be posted on the village website and broadcast if appropriate.



During World War II, reclusive writer Alice has her sequestered life upended when Frank, an evacuee from the London Blitz, is left in her care. Despite initially resolving to be rid of him, Alice finds herself and her emotions reawakened by him. Certificate 12, running time 100 mins

The Cinema will operate under the following special conditions, always with the caveat that things may need to change between now and screening day:

To comply with social distancing and government guidelines for such public premises, and for the particular set up in the village hall, a maximum of 30 cinema-goers will be admitted.

Seating will be set out according to social distancing and to cater for couples, singles and where possible family groups of 3 or 4. Chairs must not be moved by attendees.

A one-way system for access, exit and use of toilets will be in force and indicated by signs.

Hand sanitiser will be available at the entrance and in the hall

Face covering must be worn whilst in the hall

Ice cream will be offered, £1.50 per tub

Attendees may bring their own teas, coffees, other drinks, mugs, glasses etc. All materials and litter must be taken away again at the end

There will not be a raffle and the interval will be shorter than usual

Once the screening is over attendees will be asked to leave the building via the marked exits and not gather for conversations.

Chairs will be stacked away by designated people. Attendees are asked not to help out.

### Booking & Tickets

**Admittance will be by advanced reservation only. No walk-ins will be permitted.**

We will not issue tickets but use the reservation system for confirmation on the day

To reserve up to 4 places, please email [cinema.tickets@cockfield.org.uk](mailto:cinema.tickets@cockfield.org.uk), or phone Julie Goodsman 07815 497952 weekdays after 3pm or anytime weekends, or Neil Ashton 07900 880888 any time. Confirmation of your reservation will be issued.

To assist with the seating plan on the day, if reserving 2-4 places you will be asked for the number of family units – i.e. who are not socially distancing amongst themselves.

For contact tracing, at the time of reserving, the person booking will be asked for a contact email address or phone number (In line with government guidelines this information will be retained for 21 days).

Payment will be collected on arrival; exact money is requested.

Please contact one of the above if you have reserved places but cannot attend, so that the places can be reallocated.

The Cinema procedures follow prevailing government instructions and guidelines, and additional guidance provided by Community Action Suffolk (ACRE). As these rules and regulations are liable to change, we will adapt the plan as required.

Please contact Julie or Neil as above If you have any questions.

***The Cinema Team***

[www.cockfield.org.uk](http://www.cockfield.org.uk)



# Surviving Winter APPEAL



As in previous years, the appeal will support older and vulnerable people in Suffolk to stay warm in their homes.

We will also ask individuals about their health and wellbeing, living conditions and isolation, and connect them to people that can help.



## IF YOU NEED SUPPORT CONTACT

**The Surviving  
Winter Helpline  
01473 219770**



This year, we are expecting more people to need our help than ever before, so we are merging the Surviving Winter Appeal with the central Rebuilding Local Lives initiative that we have been running since the start of the pandemic. We hope that this action will deliver a much louder and easily understood central message to increase local giving and ensure that every vulnerable person in our 'Caring County' is supported to 'Stay Warm, Stay Well and Stay Connected'.

As the Coronavirus pandemic continues to have a profound impact on all our lives, we perhaps have a greater empathy than ever before of what it is to feel vulnerable, lonely or isolated.

At this time of year, for the team at the Foundation and all our annual Surviving Winter Appeal partners and existing donors, thoughts inevitably turn to the coming months and the impact that shorter days and colder nights may have on the health and wellbeing, particularly of vulnerable older people and others experiencing deprivation or serious issues affecting their physical or mental health.

With winter almost upon us, Suffolk is bracing itself for a dramatic increase in need. Last year our annual Surviving Winter Appeal raised enough money to heat over 1000 homes and connected many hundreds of people to other services to help tackle isolation, address physical and mental health challenges, improve poor living conditions, solve debt problems and assist with access to services to help them stay safe and well.



## Great Green Adventure Playground

I am sure you will have noticed that the new adventure playground is taking shape on the Green. Unfortunately, our contractor has been impacted by Covid restrictions and difficulties with his scheduling and resources, therefore the work has taken far longer than we originally anticipated. However, progress is being made and will soon be at a conclusion, although the situation remains fluid with the lockdown. Nevertheless, when completed hopefully in early December, the equipment will be available for use. We continue to liaise with the contractor and will monitor government directives that influence this.

We are not yet sure how we can facilitate an official opening event to celebrate the efforts put into securing funding, getting the project underway and finished. I would like to thank all those involved in what has turned out to be a challenging period.

The Parish Council does remind users that at the time of writing; From Thursday 5 November national COVID-19 restrictions apply to England, although this allows that outdoor playgrounds can remain open.

In general, you must not meet with another person socially or undertake any activities with another person. However, you can exercise or meet in a public outdoor space with people you live with, your support bubble (or as part of a childcare bubble), or with one other person.

You should minimise time spent outside your home. When around other people, stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household - meaning the people you live with - or your support bubble. Where this is not possible, stay 1 metre apart with extra precautions (e.g. wearing a face covering).

The Parish Council are not able to micromanage, provide direct supervision at the playground, or implement a continuous cleaning regime. We ask all users to consider their own wellbeing and that of others during the use of the equipment and note following:

We remind users, parents, guardians and carers of the need for social distancing.

We strongly recommend the wearing of face coverings. Current government guidance states that face coverings should not be used by children under the age of 3 or those who may find it difficult to manage them correctly. Parents should be aware that wearing a face covering in a playground setting could pose an additional safety risk and should use their judgement on whether their children wear a face covering.

Users are to dispose of used face coverings by taking them home for disposal.

Cleaning of equipment by users, parents, guardians and carers, particularly where there are clear touch points such as swing rockers and see-saws will improve the safety of all users.

We encourage parents to bring hand sanitiser gel or wipes to clean their children's hands.

We encourage hand hygiene with including washing/sanitising hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds using soap and water or approved gel and foam sanitiser, particularly at the beginning and end of play.

We remind the children not to put their mouths on equipment or their hands in their mouths and not to touch their faces.

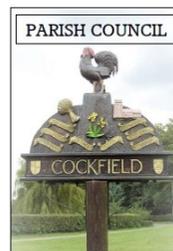
The consumption of food or drink on play equipment or in the playground area is banned due to the risk associated with transmission.

We hope circumstances improve and that everyone can enjoy the new facilities we have been able to provide to the village and local community.

Derek Southgate - Chairman Cockfield Parish Council

# Cockfield Parish Council

## Notes



### **Summary report of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 held by Skype Video Conference**

The Chairman welcomed Andrew Golding to the Council who had been co-opted

**Cutting Grass alongside footpaths:**

Suffolk County Cllr Lindsay advised he has now secured some commitment to progress this from Highways.

**Noticeboards:** A quotation from C Limmer was accepted to refurbish the existing noticeboard at Cross Green.

**Maintenance Schedule:** Cllr Levett and the Clerk to finalise the Maintenance Schedule to facilitate preparation of the 2021/22 Annual budget & Precept.

**New SID:** Cllr Turner was awaiting quotations for a new SID and 3 No. new support posts.

**Suffolk County Councillor:** Robert Linsey was not in attendance however, had provided a written report.

**Babergh District Councillors:**

Cllr Mayberry had offered a written report, on 06.11.20, in advance of the meeting.

This included a reminder of the minor adaptations grant available from BDC for a maximum of £7,500 to fund adaptations to homes that would make it much easier for those with accessibility issues or a vulnerable status. These adaptations can be anything from a key safe to the exterior of the property, to a walk-in shower in a bathroom. These grants are not means tested and can be for both a private or privately tenanted property.

Cllr Arthey had provided an update / reminder on recyclables, via a separate leaflet, confirming what could be placed in blue bins.

Planning application for consultation;



DC/20/03116: Planning Application - Erection of new workshop building with the existing access to the site from the A1141 upgraded. Location: Land to The East Of, Sudbury Road, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0LN. Reason(s) for re-consultation: Additional Supporting Statement received 25.09.20 (Consultation Response Deadline 12/10/20, Extended until 27/11/20). This application consultation was deferred as expected new and revised information was not available on the BMSDC portal

DC/20/04886: Full Planning Application - Change of use of public house to residential dwelling. Plough and Fleece Inn, Great Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0HJ (Consultation Response Deadline 23/11/20, extended until 30/11/20).

The Parish Council objected to the application – Full details of the PC response can be seen on the BMSDC web site

Babergh District Council planning permissions/refusals received: DC/20/04312: Application for Listed Building Consent - Replacement of damaged main bedroom ceiling. Stows Hill House, Stows Hill, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0JB. Decision: Listed Building Consent has been Granted.

DC/20/04184: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/19/04576 - Condition 6 (Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation). Site Adjacent To, Mackenzie Place, Cockfield, Suffolk. Decision: Approved Conditions.

DC/20/04060: Planning Application - Erection of 1no. self-build dwelling and associated works. Land Adjacent to Gambrel, Chapel Road, Cockfield, Suffolk: Notice of Withdrawn Application.

DC/20/04006: Full Application - Conversion of kennel block to single-storey dwelling, including erection of porch and chimney and construction of link between kennel buildings. Erection of double garage & storeroom, following removal of existing cattery, sheds and outbuildings, approved following appeal reference APP/D3505/W/17/3170002, amended scheme to include extension. Roundwood House, Windsor Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0LY. Decision: Planning Permission has been Granted.

Finance: The clerk noted that the budget setting meeting would need to be delayed as BMSDC still had not issued the 2021/22 Precept forms or the



Tax Base which is needed to calculate the PC Element of the Council Tax, along with providing the baseline for calculating our annual % reduction/increase in our Precept demand. Due to the considerable work needed in preparing the budget documentation the Clerk was asked to proceed and make assumptions pending further confirmation from BMSDC.

Glebe Land: Cllr's Morley and Webster were attending the virtual Allotment help and advice sessions being held by BMSDC.

Cemetery: Autumn work in tidying up had been undertaken.

Playground: The playground work is nearing completion and the contractor would submit the independent safety inspection report on completion. The chairman noted that the budget setting meeting should make provision for a maintenance contract for the new equipment. The Clerk would investigate the contractor used by SCC Vertas and obtain a quotation.

Parish Paths: It was noted that a footbridge on the path at Small Bridge was in need of repair. Cllr Turner would investigate and report to SCC.

Pavilion Update: The working group would meet 29.11.20 to agree the colour scheme for the remediation works decoration and flooring.

Local Needs Housing: Despite recent bad weather the Councillors noted good progress with works, adjacent to the road, was now occurring. Further updates would be posted in Green Links.

Neighbourhood CIL: The CIL working group had looked at options for a replacement bus shelter a Mackenzie Place. Some examples were reviewed although the site may require a bespoke solution, so a contractor would be asked to attend to give advice and offer quotations.

Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC): Cllr Cutting-Keyton noted that the recent virtual meeting "Suffolk Police forum - Anti-social behaviour" was informative. It was noted our SNT contact is Inspector Kevin Horton, who should be able to assist.

Highways and Emergencies: Potholes and highway matters continued to be reported on the SCC website.

Police/Fire: Cllr Cutting-Keyton advised that obtaining advice on antisocial behaviour was still difficult and disappointing. There had been no positive response to our email of 19.11.20. Cllr Mayberry suggested escalation to

the Police and Crime Commissioner due to this poor response.

Mackenzie Open Space Meadow: Repair works to the Bruffs line vehicle bridge would await the completion of our CIL funding bid.

Village Minibus: The working group were to meet before the next PC meeting to consider options for the management and future direction of the minibus.

Correspondence: BMSDC had advised that the Developer for the development behind the Plough and Fleece had selected a name for the road as "Willow Mews". The Parish Council were invited to comment. The name was considered not the most appropriate and, in any event, could lead to confusion with the Willow Bridge area. Cllr Morley was asked to research a suitable alternative name with a local historic association.

**The Parish Council may be contacted through the Clerk, Steve Ball by email at [parish.council@cockfield.org.uk](mailto:parish.council@cockfield.org.uk) or 01284 8258987**

**Next Meeting - The next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 14th January 2021 at 7.30pm**

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## January's Advice Page

**I'm a bit concerned about buying goods online. What happens if something goes wrong, or if I change my mind after seeing something in reality? I don't have money to lose right now.**

You're not alone being cautious about shopping online. Over the last year Citizens Advice Consumer Service has dealt with just under 123,000 cases in relation to online shopping.

Most of the time, when you buy something online you automatically get a 14-day 'cooling-off period' which starts the day after you receive your order. There doesn't need to be anything wrong with the item for you to get a refund. Many online sellers may offer more time, so make sure you check the terms and conditions before purchasing.

There are some exceptions, like buying something bespoke or perishable, like flowers or chocolates. There are also exceptions if the product is sealed, like face masks or CDs.

If you do decide to return your item, you need to tell the seller you don't want the item within 14 days of receiving it. Once you've told the seller, you've got 14 days to send it back. The seller has to pay you the refund within 14 days from when they receive the item.

You may have to pay the cost of posting something back to the seller, but you don't have to return the item in its original packaging as long as you've wrapped it safely. If you don't wrap it safely and the item gets damaged, the seller can reduce your refund.

It's a good idea to get a certificate of posting from Royal Mail when you post the item. You can use this to prove to the seller that you posted the item.

If you buy something online and the product is faulty (i.e. it's broken, unusable or doesn't match what was advertised), you have 30 days to ask for a refund from when you receive it. However, you can choose to accept a replacement or repair. After 30 days (and before six months) the seller must offer you a repair within a reasonable timeframe. If this isn't possible, they must offer you a replacement or a refund. Ask the seller for the easiest way to send the item back. You shouldn't have to pay.

If you order something and it doesn't arrive, it's the seller's responsibility to make sure the item is delivered to you. If the seller used a courier, they should chase the courier to find out what's happened to your order - it's not your responsibility.

Check the delivery address you gave the seller. Then contact them and ask where your order is. If the seller claims they've delivered it or don't know where it is, you can ask for a redelivery. You might also be able to get a refund in some circumstances.

# Cockfield United Football Club

## It Never Rains But It Pours!!

Firstly all of us at the club would wish you all a happy and prosperous new year and hope you had a nice time over the festive period.

After over a month off the excitement among the players grew when it was announced the season would restart on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December, that optimism was soon wiped out for some when the heavy rain and snow hit meaning that the Reserves Home game fell foul of the weather.

The First Team, however, did see some action with another long trip up the A12 to Ufford, albeit on a pitch that would have been more useful for a game of water polo. With the conditions not favouring our passing style the home side made better use of set plays, especially utilising their 6'6" centre back who registered a goal and 2 assists. The boys did their best in the trying conditions but unfortunately they had to make the long trip back without any points. Final Score 4 – 3.

The Green dried out sufficiently by Sunday (6<sup>th</sup>) to allow a Cup Game for the Vets to go ahead. Our opponents were the newly formed Great Cornard Veterans, who, although in a lower division than ourselves, had been steamrolling all teams they had faced, so we knew it would be a tough task. In the slick conditions and in front of a healthy crowd, there were shall we say some "strong" tackles flying in from both sides which the referee seemed to let go, it was to our surprise, with the game at 0-0 on 60 minutes, that the referee seemed to find his note book and gave Howe two yellow cards in quick succession for seemingly innocuous challenges compared to those that had come before. This spoiled the game somewhat as Cornard made the extra man count and came away 4 – 0 winners. A harsh score line for ourselves considering how much we were in the game for an hour.

Hopefully next month I will have more action to bring you.

JB

If there is anyone interested in joining the club, in either a playing or other capacity please don't hesitate to contact us. You can reach us either through social media Twitter - @CockfieldU or Facebook – Cockfield Fc, or by contacting the club Secretary via [joebrinkley90@gmail.com](mailto:joebrinkley90@gmail.com)

# Cockfield W.I.



2020 was a year when it seemed that someone pressed the pause button putting our lives and daily routines on hold. There were little windows of normality and we made the most of them during the exceptionally warm summer months and well into autumn. Unable to socialise in the weeks leading up to Christmas we went into 'virtual mode' meeting up with our members on Zoom and FaceTime.

January 2021 begins with our Resolutions meeting where we will discuss and vote on those that have been submitted. We look forward to seeing and chatting with you virtually for the foreseeable future during the winter months and hope our situation improves by Spring so that we can all meet again in the usual way.

Wishing all our members a Happy New Year

Brenda and the committee

## Cockfield did Remember

I want to thank everyone who contributed so fantastically to this year's Poppy Appeal.

St Peter's Church (which included the school) £811.20

Cockfield Stores £305.60

Pat Hipwell (selling knitted poppies) £125.00

This made a total contribution of £1241.80

Barbara Turner





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Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk IP30 0LA

Tel & Fax 01284 828287  
E-mail: ad-  
min@cockfield.suffolk.sch.uk

Dear Green Link readers,

We wish you all a very Happy New Year!

The school term ended with some of our usual Christmas festivities, 'bubble' parties, Christmas lunch and a visit from a man in a big red suit, black boots and a long white beard. (Socially distancing of course!) Unfortunately, some of usual treats like a trip to the panto and Xmas Factor were missing. We hope that the new year will see a return to some normality in the near future, but in the meantime we will continue to inspire the children and plan new and wonderful learning opportunities in the coming months.

To cheer everyone up at what can be a gloomy time of year we have some jokes for you.

What do you call a gorilla with headphones?  
Anything you like because it can't hear you. Bailey

I'm so good at sleeping I could do it with my eyes closed. Caty

Do you know the pizza joke? Never mind it's a bit cheesy. Abigail

Do you want to know a joke about paper – don't worry its tear – able. Lowry

We will be in touch soon and look forward to sharing our learning in 2021.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Harkin

## Cockfield Community Broadcasts

In February 2015 we introduced a new email system to broadcast information to our community on events, activities and other topics of interest. This system evolved from the original eVine system and has a number of advantages including the ability for recipients to control their own subscription.

Our broadcasts sit alongside Green Links and the website as key methods of engaging with our community. For example when events are published in Green Links, we are able to use the broadcasts to let you know of updates and changes as they happen.

So we really want as many people as possible to subscribe to receive our broadcasts. Of course not all emails will be of interest to every subscriber. But since the introduction of the new system we have issued 135 broadcasts - an average of around 5 per month - so it is not a significant addition to the number of emails you already receive.

To subscribe, please visit our website at [www.cockfield.org.uk](http://www.cockfield.org.uk) and follow the link in the footer of any webpage. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at [neilka@btinternet.com](mailto:neilka@btinternet.com).

*Neil Ashton*

# KH

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Plastic bottles -  
empty, wash,  
squash and lid on



Plastic yoghurt  
pots, tubs and  
food trays



Bathroom and  
household cleaning  
with all tops on

 **YES**  
Metals



Food and drinks  
cans



Aluminium foil and  
trays - roll foil into  
a ball



Empty aerosols -  
e.g. deodorant,  
air freshener

 **YES**  
Paper/card



Paper, newspapers,  
magazines and  
junk mail



Cardboard, clean  
food packaging,  
boxes and cards



Books, paperback  
and hardback



**Please NEVER  
put these items in  
your recycling bin**

**They will contaminate the recycling and  
YOUR BIN WILL NOT BE EMPTIED**



**NO**

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bags or wrappers**



**NO  
Food**



**NO  
Nappies**



Put these in your rubbish bin



**NO  
Glass**



**NO  
Textiles**



**NO  
Cartons  
e.g. Tetra Pak**



These can be recycled elsewhere - see back cover



**NO**

**crisp packets - polystyrene - pet food pouches  
pill packs - toys - plant pots - tissues - kitchen roll  
wipes - shredded paper - wood - hazardous waste**

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## Recycle these items at your local recycling centre/recycling bank



Find your local recycling bank at  
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## Recycle these items at home in a compost bin



For compost offers visit  
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## **Cockfield Community Council News January 2021**

Happy New Year Cockfield.

Your Community Council held it's AGM at the end of November, it had to be on line which was a shame as we like to get together with those members who attend for some social time after the business concludes, you can read Rodney's Chairs report in Green Links this month.

The Trustees hold their first meeting at the end of January when the programme for 2021 will be discussed, I think things will have to remain cut back for a few months yet but we will see what can be done.

In the meantime the 2021 programme sets off with the Hangover Hike on New Years day, EVERYTHING PERMITTING, we will start from the Village Hall at 11am for a 4 mile wander which should take about 1.5 hours with socially distanced groups of no more than 6. We hope to offer refreshments (bookable in advance) when you get back to the hall (served outside of course) but we have to be guided by the Rules in place come the 1st. Please check on the web-site before setting off to come to the hall as the latest information will be posted there.

Looking forward to the New Year if anyone has any ideas for events, exhibitions, class etc. our Secretary Janne is always contactable on 828264 or [janne@twerbs.co.uk](mailto:janne@twerbs.co.uk) it's your Community Council so please come forward.

Best wishes for 2021

# Computer Corner

## Dealing with iPad / iPhone Images in Windows

If someone sends you an email from an iPhone or iPad which includes images, as well as the image files there may be some strange looking files with names such as ATT00001.txt.

Here's how multiple images from an iPhone appear as attachments to an email in my Outlook email program:



Other emails systems will look different, but the treatment of attachments will be similar. This behaviour is all to do with the way Windows deals with embedded images. The originator of the email may have inserted an image then added some words to go with the image, then a 2<sup>nd</sup> image and more accompanying words and so on. Windows creates a file for the image, then creates a file of the text that follows, then another file from the next image, the next block of text and so on.

So the files ATT00001.txt are simple text files containing any text that sits between the images. That text might be nothing more than a couple of new lines, or it might be several paragraphs of description to accompany an image. So if a friend sends you such an email, don't assume the files ATT00001.txt are unimportant – they are in effect the text part of the email. All the files attached to the email can be saved in your file system in the usual way. Double click on the ATT files and they will open up in a text editor, e.g. Notepad, or your word processor. From there you'll know if the content is important.

Often the final file will just contain something like Sent from my iPhone. The point is, don't ignore these files.

### Apple Earphones and Windows

Did you know you can use Apple wireless earphones such as the earbuds with Windows? To set up the phones, go to Start / Settings / Devices. At the top of the main right-hand panel, make sure the Bluetooth setting is on then click Add Bluetooth or other device. On the next screen you can pair the headphones with your computer – press the small button on the case of the earbuds (with the earbuds in the case) and the pairing will be set up.

**Neil Ashton**

[computer.circle@cockfield.org.uk](mailto:computer.circle@cockfield.org.uk)



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Dear Friends,

I have just re-read the article I wrote for January 2020 in B.C time (before Covid!). If we had known what would be in store from March onwards I might have written a completely different article. However, some items are still on the agenda - Brexit being one of them. By the time you read this we will be in uncharted territory - possibly without a Brexit trade deal, and hopefully getting going on the Covid-19 vaccine programme.

Even with the vaccine, it is going to be a tough year. We have lost people to the virus. Businesses have disappeared. Schools are desperately trying to fill the gaps for children who lost out during the major lockdowns. Health and social care are under tremendous pressure. No wonder many are suffering with lack of sleep due to anxiety, stress or depression.

So, what can we as Christians offer to all the difficulties and sadness? We have just celebrated (in a more subdued way of course) the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ. God made man. A tiny baby arriving in a time and a place that did not have the mass communication that we have today. Yet still the things that Jesus said and did changed the way in which communities lived and treated each other - both then and through the centuries that followed.

And so I am thinking about love. I am not talking about the romantic, sentimental kind of love that fills our books and our screens. I am thinking of the kind of love that St Paul talks about in his first letter to the Corinthians chapter 13:

"Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things'.

For me, this is what being a Christian is all about. If only we could substitute all the hatred, prejudice, fear and hostility in this world with this kind of love. Well.....wouldn't that be wonderful?

Yours as ever in Christ,

**Sharon**

Revd Canon Sharon Potter  
revsharon2@gmail.com  
01284-828599 or 07825 086063

**Cockfield Benefice Services – January 2021**  
**please see website for up-to-date information**

<p>All 10am services will be made available on the benefice facebook page  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/cockfieldbenefice">https://www.facebook.com/cockfieldbenefice</a></p>	
<p>3rd January - Epiphany Sunday</p>	<p>8am Communion BCP - Gedding</p> <p>10am Morning Prayer - Cockfield/ online</p>
<p>10th January - Baptism of Christ</p>	<p>10am Family@Felsham - Felsham/ online</p> <p>4pm Communion - Bradfield St Clare</p>
<p>17th January - Epiphany 2</p>	<p>10am Communion - Cockfield</p>
<p>24th January - Epiphany 3</p>	<p>10am Worshipping Together - Brad- field St George</p>
<p>31st January - Presentation of Christ in the Temple</p>	<p>10am Benefice Communion - Felsham</p>

A service of Celtic Morning Prayer is held every Tuesday  
at Cockfield at 9am to which all are welcome

*Please note these services may be subject to change – for up-to-date service times see  
the benefice website at [www.cockfieldbenefice.com](http://www.cockfieldbenefice.com)*



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As the New Year starts it is sometimes good to look aback and reflect on what went before, for 'old' readers of Green Links the stories of Ken Steward will be familiar to you, sadly Ken is no longer with us but I hope you will enjoy an occasional reprint of his tales.

## The Old Stubble Fowl Hut

There was a stubble fowl hut on about every farm in Suffolk, and no doubt every county in the British Isles in circa 1922 and indeed much later, in fact until the combine harvester replaced the self binder and little 'shaled' grain was to be found among the stubble on almost all fields; that is of course if the settings of the combine was according to makers specification.

What was so special about a stubble hut? First it was usually mobile, had wheels, and sometimes shafts so that a horse could be used to move it once a field of wheat or barley had been bindered and stoked, and then perhaps move the hut at weekly periods to a fresh patch of field.

Such a hut would hold up to perhaps 40 laying hens depending on it's size; fitted with say 4 rows of perches enabling say 40 birds to perch. These huts always had a row of nesting boxes enabling eggs to be laid comfortably and remain clean for the daily collection by the farmer's wife or children.

Why the farmer's wife? Good question, eggs and poultry were perhaps the main income for the farmer's wife in those earlier days; hence this good woman defended with extraordinary care this 'right' and lost no opportunity of increasing numbers and saving food. No quality grain would be allowed for fowls, only the tail corn or screenings, thus once harvest commenced the fowl hut was very soon moved into the field and quickly the number of eggs increased; as did the farmer's wife's remuneration.

Another important aspect, part of each stubble hut was the presence of a hinged ramp covering an exit to allow hens to be safely enclosed at dark, and released again in the morning after sun rise. Why this device: one wonders, one word Foxes!

Hunting with hounds was a popular sport and hunting the fox meant foxes were usually present around farm fields, and Reynard enjoyed nothing more than to raid the hen hut and kill perhaps 15 or 20 birds, bury one or two nearby and carry one away to its den for food for his or her family of cubs. A suckling vixen was perhaps the greatest plague of fowls on the farm when I was a boy. After perhaps the age of 8 or 9 years my last job in the evening was to shut the hens up safely. I remember on one occasion I forgot (perhaps on purpose) not to shut the ramp up securely. I still remember the soreness of my hind part the following morning, of course Mr Fox had been, the hens were of course able to range from first light. Our horseman Bill Taylor, was instructed me and use his belt vigorously. This he did, he was ex first War and could run harder than I could. As years went by the running order changed!

Life on a hundred acre farm in the twenties and thirties of the twentieth century was so different, schools taught the three R's and we learned then I assure you. No one answered back, most families had mother and father and almost all had enough to eat, almost all had a vegetable garden or 40 rods of allotment, thus good food was available if one worked.

Sorry, I have let my mind go back to early childhood, back to the stubble hut, I have the hut of my childhood still here at Hope House Farm, a three wheeled model with shafts to allow a horse to move it as required. This hut was built by my father in 1922, when he and my mother were the tenants at Sutton Hall Farm, Bradfield Combust.

In 1924 the hut was moved to Block Farm Bradfield Combust and in 1940 the dear old hut came to Hope House, where it is still mobile, but in need of small repairs, which are planned to be carried out 'before long'.

This old hen hut, whilst under construction some 82 years ago, was the fixing point, by small 'dog lead', for my elder sister Jean; the story goes that this rather talkative child, to give my mother a 'break' was attached to the front wheel of the hut. So I have been told! My sister still says she does not remember!

Ken Steward



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# Lavenham Library

## Opening Hours

Monday 10-1  
Tuesday 10-1 and 2-5  
Thursday 10-1 and 2-5  
Friday 10-1 and 2-5  
Saturday 10-2  
Sunday & Wednesday - Closed

Our aim is to have now returned to our usual opening times as shown above and to offer browsing and use of our public computer. Groups will still not be meeting but check our Facebook page for Lego challenges and Family Crafts.

Please pre-book the computer by calling in or phoning the library. If you do not feel comfortable visiting, call us and we can select books for you, or someone on your behalf, to collect. **(However, these services are subject to any changes in the current government Coronavirus restrictions)**

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## DiscoverReads Zoom Event 6 January 2021 from 6pm



### Author Chat & Q & A with Tracy Borman, Patron of Lavenham Library

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## Children's Craft Competition and Winter Reading Challenge

We were so pleased with the response to these and the winners of the competition were Under 6 yrs – Delilah and Over 6yrs – Aleisha. Well done to all the entrants, some of whose work is still on display at the library



## Contact Details

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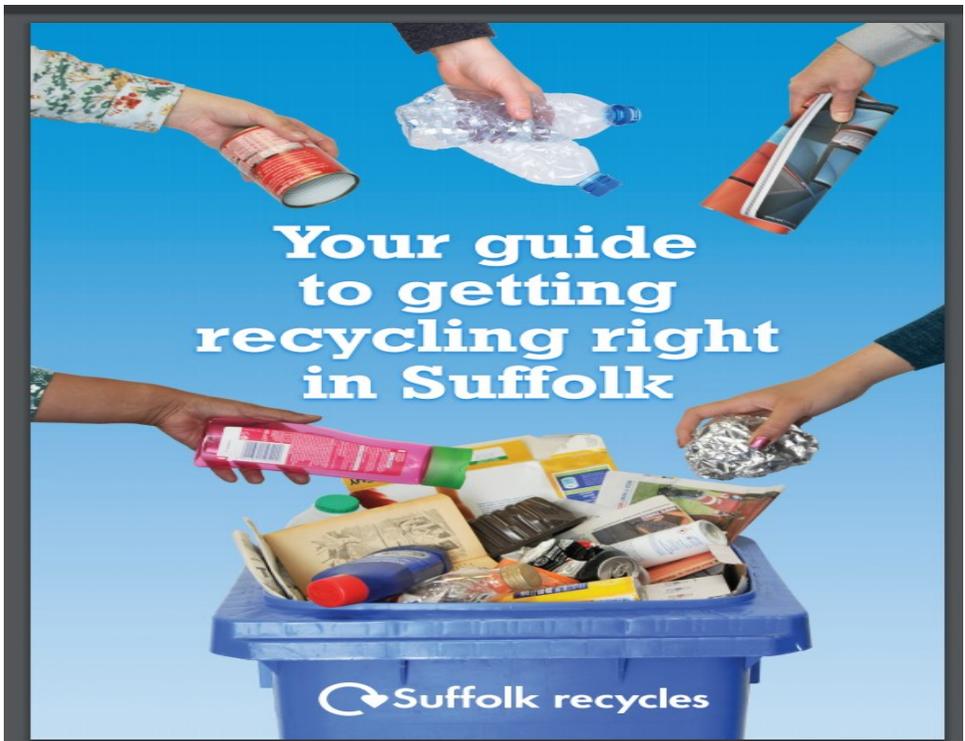
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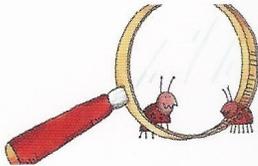
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# Announcements

Do you have an announcement you would like included here?  
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## Congregational Church Corner

Murphey's Law is a well-known idea stating that if something can go wrong it will do so and if it does go wrong then it will do so at the worst possible time. Where this concept came from nobody knows for sure but the front runner seems to be that it came from Captain Edward Murphy, an engineer, who became angry with his assistant for wrongly wiring a transducer, that Murphy was trying to develop, and so Murphy said of him: "If he can do anything the wrong way he will do it". Over time, with some modifications, this became known as the Murphy's Law that we know today.

Murphy's Law has been around for a long time and is widely used by people when things go wrong for them but its negativity contrasts with the positivity of God's law which assures us that: "All things work together for good to them who love God, to them who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28). And the reason for this is found in the very next verse: "For whom He did foreknow He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son".

What a comfort this should be to believers because it tells us that God not only knew us from before the beginning of time but also that He was determined to shape us into the image of His son, whom He loves and with whom He is well pleased (2 Peter 1:17). To underline this He tells each believer: "I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee" (Jeremiah 31:3).

All of this teaches us to be confident, that whatever happens in our lives, especially at the start of the New Year, God has our best interests at heart and so instead of looking for the reasons why things are going "wrong", we should be looking for what God is trying to show us and teach us and then, as we seek His will and do it, this will redound for our eternal benefit and glory (Romans 8:18).

At all times we should remember that God is love (1 John 4:8) and everything He does is and can only be motivated by this characteristic. It is in His very nature to be loving and kind and He cannot do anything that would be contrary to this. It naturally follows, therefore, that everything He puts or permits into our lives is done because He loves and cares for us (1 Peter 5:7).

Bill Attwood

Enquiries Pastor Gordon Hold  
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