



CODDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL PARISH NEWSLETTER

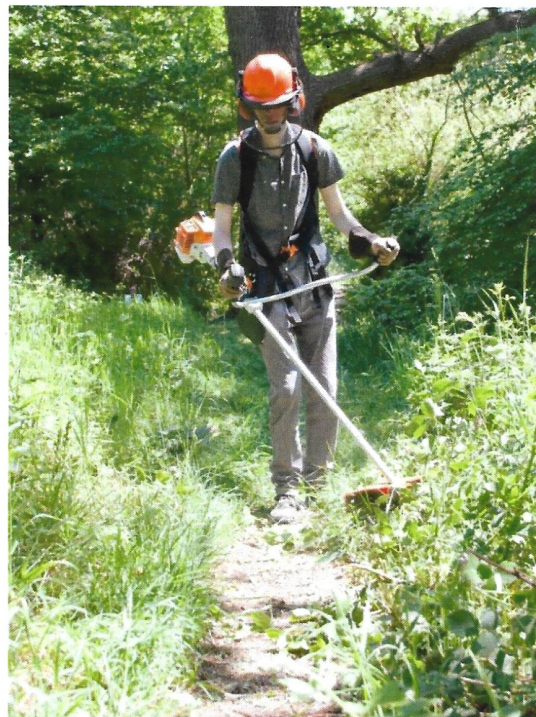
AUTUMN 2017

Parish Council Update

The Parish Council has been awarded £1200 from the Community Infrastructure Levy to spend on an infrastructure project in the village. A few ideas have been mentioned including supporting the purchase of adult outdoor keep fit equipment or an adventure trail to enhance the children's playground. If the money is not spent on a specific project it must be handed back so it cannot be used for the general running of the parish. If you have an idea of a project that would enhance the village please speak to a councillor or to the clerk. The council is reviewing the way it works and provides services for the parish and a small group of councillors are working hard on this task so that they can present proposals later this autumn for the whole council to consider. Already there have been changes with council meetings now finishing at 9pm. Increasingly resolutions are being presented as papers, available on the website, before the meeting so that less discussion is required during the actual meeting as councillors have already read and studied the issues.

With all the rain that there has been this summer keeping the footpaths clear of vegetation growth has been a struggle this year, but James has made a superb effort at cutting back brambles, nettles and grass to keep our path network a pleasure to walk on.

Footpath Assistant James Macpherson was appointed in the spring to maintain the village footpaths and ensure that they do not become overgrown. James is aware of the environmental issues and the need to leave some uncultivated areas which are such an important habitat for the survival of the bees and other wildlife. James who is studying at a college in London is intending to do most of the work during his summer vacation. Seen here hard at work on Broom Hill using the newly acquired petrol brush cutter and wearing the appropriate safety equipment.



Local Plan Consultation

For the first time since 1998 Mid-Suffolk District Council is reviewing its local plan. The page for Coddenham is reproduced below. The existing settlement boundary is shown by a solid line and proposed alterations to that boundary are shown by the dotted line. If the dotted line is accepted as the new settlement boundary then development within that dotted line is by presumption permitted. There are no identified sites, external to the proposed boundary, for potential development in Coddenham. If you would like to know more or wish to comment on the draft plan please visit www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/jointlocalplan



Coddenham		
 MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL 131, High Street, Needham Market, IP5 8DL Telephone: 01503 1234000 www.midsuffolk.gov.uk	BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL Coke Lane, Haddesburgh, IP7 6SL Telephone: 01506 1234000 www.babergh.gov.uk	 SCALE 1:5000 Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HM/SO © Crown copyright and database right 2017 Ordnance Survey licence number 100003024 Date Printed: 29/06/2017

CODDENHAM VILLAGE FETE 2017

'It has been at least 8 years since our last village fete' I heard told and so the seeds were sown.

'How hard can it be'?

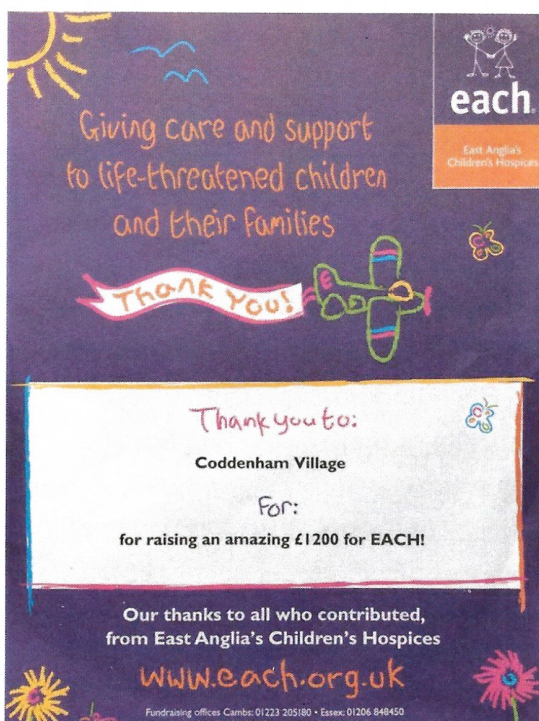
Well, now I know the answer. With the right sort of people around you and a community enthusiastic for its revival it can be done relatively painlessly. Of course, the early days are a doddle. The last few days, manic.

What made this event for me were not just the volunteers who stepped up and did their bit, but also the vast number of villagers who answered the call and donated so generously. The cakes were numerous and superb, the tombola donations were all good quality and worth winning, the nearly new clothes worth wearing and there was enough bric a brac to start our own antiques business. Add to that the marquees, gazebos, bouncy castle, games, races, bar and quality traders and you already have a recipe for a good afternoon out. However, the one ingredient you have no control over is of course the weather. As it turned out one shower came and went and everything carried on as normal. You have got to love this country.

Our chosen charity for the day, East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH), will benefit from the generosity of yourselves and local businesses, and the hard work put in by the 'Tree' team in the Hall. EACH will receive £1200, and the Parish £1500 approximately after expenses.

I have been lucky to come into contact with some enthusiastic, hard working people over the last few months, especially a man with more tools than B&Q and thankfully the skills to use them. You all know who you are.

Mitch



CODDENHAM FETE 2017 PRODUCE AND FLOWER SHOW



Winners of the 2017 Show as follows (Winner = 1st / Highly Commended= HC)

Jar of Chutney :	1 st	Jane Peacock	HC Jenny Keeble
Favourite Jam :	1 st	Marion Kenward	HC Jane Peacock
Victoria Jam Sandwich:	1 st	Alan West	HC Jenny Keeble
Four Fruit Scones :	1 st	Linda Goodacre	HC Olivia Thorpe
Decorated Cup Cakes :	1 st	Olivia Thorpe	HC Jane Soanes
Favourite Fruit Pie :	1 st	Marion Kenward	
Flowers in Wine Glass:	1 st	Shirley West	
Foliage Arrangement:	1 st	Jane Peacock	HC: Jenny Keeble
Single Flower:	1 st	Jill West	HC Jenny Keeble
Onions/Shallots/Garlic	1 st	Roy Groom	HC Jill West
Display of Fruit/Veg	1 st	Jane Soanes	HC Eleanor Margaritelli
Tied bunch of Herbs	1 st	Kath Hardy	HC Frances Collins
Unusual Shaped Veg	1 st	John Peacock	HC John Peacock
Collage	1 st	Jake Hall	HC Alfie Hall
Model	1 st	Emily Parkinson	HC Oliver Parkinson
Animal in Fruit/Veg	1 st	Fern Keough	HC Lois Keough
Monster in Fruit/Veg	1 st	Ben Denny	HC Samuel Denny
Postcard	1 st	Fern Keough	HC Lois Keough
			HC Sophie McLennan
			HC Alice Rutland

STAR BAKER for 2017 : Alan "Jammy" West

The Judge of the Show stated that the entries for this year were of exceptionally high standard which bodes well for a very competitive event next year. A big thank you to all who participated.

Ray

CODDENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY CLUB

The Club enjoyed a year of talks arranged by Brenda Hudson and her co-pilot – Sue Allison. We started with Stowmarket Gun Cotton Factory followed by Ray's excellent choices of outings to Orwell Park Observatory and Suffolk Farmhouse Cheeses lightened the air! Charlie Haylock informed and amused in an evening of derivations of people's names and meanings. Our AGM is October 17 and we're always pleased to welcome new members. The programme for 2018 is still being pulled together by Brenda and Sue and we look forward to another 12 months of stories from history and sunny summer outings.

There were also two significant Birthdays during the year of long-standing Coddtenham ladies; Helen Wyles, now living at Winesham Nursing Home became 90 and Anne Stallibrass, still in her own home, became 100. Puts things in perspective !

Shirley West

HISTORY RECORDER - DAD'S ARMY

Few people are unaware of the famous TV series. The audience at a recent History Club meeting was obviously familiar with it. Much of the appeal of "Dad's Army" lay in the humour drawn from its disparate and often disunited platoon of unlikely Home Guard heroes. The absurdity of them defending British beaches from an invasion that had never happened was a comforting subtext.

Ironically, the British government may now have need of the good offices of Germany in negotiating a withdrawal from the EU, founded as much in hope of preventing European conflict as in economic and political co-operation. Croft and Perry would have relished the opportunity of a series featuring our current Cabinet, reportedly as ill-assorted as the "Dad's Army" characters.

John Pelling

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S



We have recently enjoyed a very special weekend. Flower Festivals at St Mary's always amaze me with the creativity and skill of the flower arrangers as well as the beauty of nature, and this year was no exception. The theme was 'Thankfulness', which tied in with our Harvest Festival service and the dedication of a new wall hanging. Inspired and co-ordinated by Judy Hailes, this has been created by twenty-nine villagers who have used a variety of craft techniques to celebrate our life in Coddendam. It was originally going to be hung under the window at the back of the church but so many people have taken part that it has spread across almost the whole width of the wall. Each contributor made a square illustrating a different aspect of the village and these are arranged above and below a quotation from St John's Gospel – *Jesus said 'I came that they might have life and have it abundantly'*. If you haven't seen it yet, do pop into the church and enjoy all the varied illustrations.

Following the same theme of 'Thankfulness', the Flower Festival weekend (and this article) also gives the church community an opportunity to say 'thank you' to all the villagers who contribute in so many different ways to keeping our church and churchyard in good condition and looking so splendid. We are very fortunate to have such a fine church, which as well as being a place of worship is also an inspiration to all who enter or pass by, and a centre for village activities. In recent weeks St Mary's has welcomed visitors from as far afield as the Netherlands and Australia as well as from many parts of Britain.

Looking ahead, the Harvest Supper is on Saturday 7th October with music from the Six Village Band, community singing and a ceilidh. Tickets are available from Coddendam Food Stores. The next Coffee Morning is on 21st October. And a date for your diary – on Sunday 10th December the East of England Co-op Band holds its annual concert in the church and we are looking forward to another sell-out performance.

Ian Galbraith

CODDENHAM OPEN GARDENS AND SCARECROWS 2018 – APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS

COGS has run successfully, in June of each alternate year, for over ten years. During that time, it has raised many thousands of pounds for village causes and both local and national charities. COGS has always been a very enjoyable village event (usually blessed with good weather!), which has featured widely on local TV and radio and in the press.

It will soon be time to start planning for COGS 2018 but, unfortunately, due to increasing family and other commitments, Jane Soanes and myself will not be able to lead the Working Group this time. We therefore desperately need somebody/bodies to come forward to take on the leadership of COGS. These events, enjoyed by many, rely on a relatively small number of people to organise them and 'do stuff', as well as those who so generously open their gardens!

Could YOU spare the time to help save COGS? It would be very sad if such a highlight of the village's year were to end due to lack of support. If you may be interested, Jane and I would be happy to discuss what is

involved. If feel you'd like to help, or to know more, please contact me as below, or speak to Jane Soanes in the Village Shop.

Post script – this appeal was originally printed in the September edition of the Six Village News. To date no one has come forward. COGS will not happen unless someone, or several people, step up to the plate. David McDonnell, Chair, Open Gardens and Scarecrows Working Group, 01449 761793
deborah.mcdonnell3@btinternet.com

Coddenham foot tunnel under A14



Did you know that there was a foot tunnel for walkers and others under the A14 just off the Norwich Road on the footpath opposite Shrublands Saw Mill? You may not be aware of it as it is situated a few hundred yards to the left (facing the A14) of the existing footpath. Existing crossing points consist of little more than a sign post and gap in the central reservation, leaving those crossing to chance their luck with a constant stream of vehicles travelling at 70mph (or more!).

At Council's direction the Clerk has contacted the Chairman of the Baylham Parish Meeting, Cllr John Field to discuss the possibility of promoting the use of the tunnel as a pedestrian and cycle route to the B113 to Needham Market. He was positive in his reception to the idea and has provided other contacts and background information to assist in the consideration of the proposal. Particularly knowledgeable, Mr Ron Philpot, ex-footpath secretary for Baylham, has kindly walked the path in question – from the Baylham side – and provided a series of

photographs with a helpful commentary on the condition of the path.

The tunnel in question appears to have been built into the A14 to assist with the draining of surface water from the north side of the A14 through to the Gipping river on the south side. Local reports are that the tunnel is generally passable, with rare occasions of water between the two concrete footpads in the tunnel. Further research is needed to establish the public status of the footpaths to and from the tunnel.

Access to the tunnel from the northeast, is by a footpath which crosses the Old Norwich Road at the bridleway from Shrublands Estate at Wheelwrights Lodge, southwest past Blacksmiths Cottage, then directly south for 270 metres, across an open field to the tunnel. Exiting the tunnel on the southwest, a right turn follows the permissive path parallel to the A14 embankment for 180 metres, where a left turn leads to Sharmford Bridge, a concrete footbridge across the river Gipping. Turning right, from the bridge and following the river bank for 100 metres, there is a junction of the paths, forward and to the left. Taking the left hand path, westerly across an open field for 350 metres leads to a short tunnel under the railway, then out across an open field for 140 metres, to the B113. Alternatively, the footpath, left out of the tunnel, continues on a parallel route below the A14 embankment, northwest for 700 metres, to a left turn leading to the Baylham Rare Breeds Farm with access to Mill Lane and thence to the B113.

The fields on either side of the A14 are used for grazing cattle and the Clerk is investigating the ownership of the fields to engage with the farmer(s) concerned.

ALLOTMENTS – A SUMMER OF TWO HALVES



A lack of rain at the start of the year led to some crops perishing and having to be re-sown. By contrast the abundance of rain and sun later in the summer produced much better results, with bumper crops of raspberries, beans, beetroot, sweetcorn and as always courgettes. One allotment holder avoided the effects of the early summer drought by a wise application of mulch

That Council resolves to continue discussions on the use of the footpath and tunnel under the A14

and enjoyed abundant crops all season including carrots for the first time and went on to win the 'Display of Fruit and Vegetable' category in the Fruit and Flower show.

Another who avoided the worst effect of the drought commented that overwintering and early spring crops do well on the light soil in the allotments. Broad beans were successful, as was spinach. Peas, too, were a success, because they were heavily protected from mice and pigeons. Shallots, put in late in the day in spring, were good as were potatoes, although they were too close together to be ridged properly. Drought in early summer brought things to a halt.

'Gary' the grass snake has been spotted basking on the top layer of a number of compost heaps and this year has been accompanied by a number of his friends or relatives. Other wildlife such as hedgehogs are welcome allies in our battle against the slugs and snails and other pests. In return the allotments can provide a welcome sanctuary for a wide variety of flora and fauna some of whom like the humble bumble bee are a threatened species. Suffolk Wildlife Trust produce a range of leaflets, such as 'Allotments for Wildlife' and 'Refuges for Wildlife in your Garden', for those who would like more information. These are available from their web site or from Colin Hardy in hard copy form.

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