



A New Year Message on behalf of the Coddenham Centre, to all our customers, collaborators, practitioners, volunteers, and generous sponsors.

What a Year....

Although you might apply the description to all three of those that make up our short history as a charitable incorporated organisation!

We won't go into minute detail, but here are some headlines we wanted to share, as we look both forward and back in 2022. Behind every year there is of course, a huge amount of work, a mixture of crisis & opportunity management plus thankfully, plenty of humour when needed.

Be you customer, collaborator or even both, you will have played a part at some point, big or small. Thankyou.

Having fought our way through COVID, the year kicked off with a potentially crippling precept change and we are eternally grateful to everyone who rallied around to help us correct it. We are now back in a sound partnership with a much-recharged Parish Council and in little more than our three years (despite COVID), we will by 2023 in real terms, have reduced our community precept dependency by 67%.

By February our Air Source Heat pumps were fully commissioned, greatly reducing our dependency on fossil fuels, and joining a range of fully funded environmental initiatives that are hopefully an exemplar to the community we serve. We'll publish full details soon, but we have just completed a carbon audit with the support of Groundworks/Suffolk District Council that shows we have already reduced our footprint by 72%. With the aid of people like the National Lottery, MSDC, SCC and Viridor/the Valencia Community Fund, our work really is becoming cleaner and greener.

Our activities continued to grow; award winning Ballroom Dancing, Badminton, Bowls, HIIT, Nordic Walking, Pilates, and Tennis all flourished. We also welcomed the return of the Coddenham Athletic Football Club.

We believe we offer an excellent choice of active wellbeing for all, so please continue to support and make the most of it, if you can!

In May we also welcomed new resident, Ukrainian Junior National Badminton Champion, Nastya Ruban, to train at the Centre as part of a welcome from the Coddenham community.

We also welcomed new and expanded offers for toddlers and infants, plus the introduction of scrapbooking, a gentle activity for everyone.

Our Brunches continued to bring people together and we even hosted some new Country & Western evenings plus, our popular Quiz returned.

In June, we hosted and catered the Coddenham Jubilee Lunch for the Parish, in conjunction with our fellow Coddenham Community Response Group members. It was a thoroughly community wide project that we were proud to play an important role in.

We also helped initiate and build the Coddenham Parish Community Survey and are working to integrate recommendations and ideas into our future strategy.

We were also delighted to play a lead part in conjunction with Parish Council in bringing the Coddenham Green Space Management Report to fruition with the Suffolk Wildlife Trust. Independently, we hosted litter picks and the 'Clean for the Queen'.

We welcomed Open Gardens again and in September, the successful return of the Coddenham Fete.

We saw two more commemorative trees planted, with the help of the children of Coddenham and later, the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk. We secured another sponsored batch of hedges and trees to replace some of those lost through drought.

A water leak briefly threatened to bankrupt us but was wrestled under control by our Treasurer and community help. We created a long sought private meeting room also with Trustee help, which is now available to book online. Thank you for putting up with the temporary disruption!

Our winter weekly 'warm-space' was introduced with help from Mid Suffolk District Council and will be expanded soon. Look out for details.

Our Suffolk School of Nordic Walking continued to provide Nordic Walking training and local weekly walks, including support to cancer patients through the local NHS.

Our kitchen flourished with four artisan chefs now booking in for a range of products 'cooked in Coddenham', all offering very low food miles.

We repaired our 'closed loop' technology for the hard of hearing and acquired a public address system. We increased our 'arsenal' of marquees with generous volunteer and sponsor help.

The icing on the 2022 'cake' were awards for the Suffolk Community Centre of the Year and Most Active Community, putting the Centre and Coddenham, very firmly on the 'map'. Our thanks to Community Action Suffolk, Active Suffolk and everyone involved.

The year closed with a fantastic Christmas Party for nearly 100 people of all ages. We even managed to squeeze in a World Cup football match alongside the more traditional, music and dancing. The seasonal event joined a children's entertainment with the help of Creative Arts East and the first of what we hope will be a series of Food & Craft fairs at the Centre.

T: +44(0)7944581299
E: andrew.macpherson@thecoddenhamcentre.co.uk
W: www.thecoddenhamcentre.co.uk



THE CODDENHAM CENTRE

Registered Charity No : 1183244

Looking ahead into 2023, we hope to take a final funding step to almost 100% energy self-sustainability with solar energy, plus the building of a new storage space, which will allow us to rationalise our capacity for activities and greater mixed use.

Solar also has an economic imperative, as our 2021 fixed rate for electricity comes to an end in April. While we have prepared some contingency, the economic climate challenges the leisure and activity sector as much as others, so your support and/or advocacy all helps please!

Our huge thanks to fellow Trustees, Ray, Debbie and David, our hard-working employees Gail and Charmian, all our activities, the generous sponsors including Active Suffolk, Community Action Suffolk, the Day Foundation, the Gardemau Trusts, Mid Suffolk District Council, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Community Foundation, Viridor plus our wonderful volunteers and the people of Coddenham and beyond, who all support us so much.

A Happy New Year to you all!

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew MacPherson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Andrew MacPherson
Chair – The Coddenham Centre.