

## **HISTORY RECORDER**

Just over 500 years ago, in 1517, John Spurdance of Crowfield died and his will was proved. He left 20 shillings (£500 today) each to four of his sons and the same amount to Coddenham church where he wished to be buried. As a devout Catholic he also left money for a priest to pray for his soul and 20 pence (old money, so roughly £40) to the high altar at Coddenham for the tithes and offerings he had forgotten as well as the equivalent of £80 for repairs at Crowfield chapel. This was not to be the last reference to the need of repair at Crowfield. Subordinate to Coddenham it was not high on the agenda of anyone. Five years before his death Spurdance and others had attempted to have the vicar of Coddenham ordered to celebrate mass there, and failed. Four years after Spurdance died Henry VIII was accorded the title 'Defender of the Faith' by the Pope. Yet in the next decade he renounced allegiance to Rome and had himself declared head of the church in England.

Thomas Spurdance, John's fourth son, seems to have been an enthusiastic convert to the Church of England. So much so that he became a martyr during the reign of Mary Tudor. It is possible that his stubborn resistance to the reintroduction of Roman Catholicism had something to do with his father's dispute, forty years earlier, with the vicar of Coddenham.

John Spurdance had left his mother's house at Baylham to his eldest son, also John, once she had left it. His other sons and daughter would have their inheritance from the of his house at Crowfield, after his wife's death. Interestingly, William Dowsing, notorious for ordering removal of many 'superstitious' (Roman Catholic) images from churches, was also to live at Baylham in the seventeenth century.

I am grateful to Russ Spurdans, a descendant, for this information, which can be found in the Iveagh/Phillipps manuscript collection held at Ipswich Record Office.

*John Pelling*

## **GET COMPOSTING**

'Spadework', August 6VN, by Ian Jeffrey provided as usual, entertaining and useful information. My 'Hotbin' experience that Ian referred to, was the result of a generous gift, but I should mention that Mid Suffolk Council sponsor a supplier of Hotbins and composting equipment, at discounted prices to local households.

Apart from conventional bins, they include Wormerys (versions have provided my gardens with excellent liquid feed for 40 years+) and Bokashi Bins (can be smelly, but effectively pickles raw foodstuffs), the latter my wife introduced after visiting the Hampton Court RHS Show a few years ago.

Go to [Getcomposting.com](http://Getcomposting.com) for details and a useful helpline on 0800 316 4454 for all things composting!

*Andrew MacPherson*





**COFFEE MORNING**

*St Mary's Church, Coddendam*

*Saturday 13 October*

*10.00 – 12 noon*

*Freshly brewed coffee and homemade cakes*

**Preserves Day**  
**Jams, Marmalades, Chutney**  
**for sale**



*Children – come along and decorate a jam jar*

All proceeds to the Church Fabric Fund

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
CODDENHAM IP6 9PY**



Photo courtesy of Charmian Berry [berry415@btinternet.com](mailto:berry415@btinternet.com)

**THE OSILIGI TROUPE  
OF  
MAASAI WARRIORS**

**The Troupe's music is incredible, mesmerising to hear and certainly fascinating to watch. This is an opportunity to experience and enjoy the diverse culture of the Maasai. AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENT!! NOT TO BE MISSED!!**

**Crafts and wares will be available for purchase.**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 p.m.**

**Tickets: £10 Adults, Children FREE**

**From: Coddendam Food Store  
or  
Margaret Baker • 01449 760207  
or  
Judy Hales • 01449 760375**

Please view our website: [www.osiligi.org](http://www.osiligi.org)

## **Tales from the Trees**

by Squashbox Theatre

at Coddendam Community and Sports Hall on

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm**

Great half term entertainment – ‘a terrific tangle of puppetry, storytelling, live music and comedy, with a theme that embraces natural history, folklore and ecology’. A chance to meet Craig the Forest Ranger and follow his adventures in the forest while learning about the world of trees!

Sponsored by Creative Arts East.

Tickets from Coddendam Food Store 01449 760227

Family (4) £10 Adults £3 Concessions and children £2.50



**Crib Festival**  
Barham Church  
Nov. Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> – Mon 26<sup>th</sup>  
10am – 4pm daily

Songs of Praise Sun.25<sup>th</sup> 4pm followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies  
Soup and Rolls 12noon-2pm daily. Refreshments served all weekend.

## **Coddenham Village History Club 2018**

On Tuesday October 16th  
Elizabeth Surple will talk about  
Monastic Houses in Ipswich



Visitors Welcome    £3

### **ST MARY'S FLOWER ROTA**

6 October	Mrs Ingle
13 October	Mrs Kenward
20 October	Mrs West
27 October	Mrs Griffin

### **ST MARY'S CLEANING ROTA**

Commencing Monday:

1 October	Mrs Hailes and Mrs Wagstaff
8 October	Mr and Mrs Challis
15 October	Mrs Baker and Mrs Granville
22 October	Mr and Mrs Collins
29 October	Mr and Mrs Thomas