

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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## St Andrew's School

St. Andrew's pupils and staff are certainly enjoying the warmer weather this half term. Continuing their learning about water, Discovery class enjoyed an Educational Visit to the sea life centre in Great Yarmouth, where they saw rays and sharks and had the opportunity to touch crabs and star fish. Endeavour class will soon be departing on their residential to Horstead, where they will take part in a range of activities including nightline, canoeing, archery and team building.

Since Easter FOSTA have encouraged the children to celebrate St. Georges Day by wearing red and white to school and holding a film 'K'nights! They have also organised a Pancake breakfast and are inviting children to take part in a Scavenger Hunt over half term.

The netballs and footballers have also been busy in the small school scheme, where they have drawn and won matches against other schools.

With the Statutory Assessment Tests completed, year 6 are now preparing for their move to either Diss High or Old Buckenham High. Before they depart they will have the opportunity to represent St. Andrew's at Kwick Cricket and Rounders and also join in the School Summer Fair on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 12 – 3 pm.

If you would like further information about St. Andrew's Primary, or wish to make an appointment to visit, please contact Executive Headteacher Mrs Norgate, on 01379 687253 or by email head@st-andrews-pri.norfolk.sch.uk. We would love to hear from you!

## St Andrew's Pre School

The Pre School children are really enjoying finding out more about their place in this great big world - their own homes and surroundings are familiar, but seeing them in the context of communities with lots of different homes is fascinating, as is the setting of the villages. They are also enjoying time outside, playing on the outdoor equipment and being in their own garden area, watching things grow.

Any new residents with children approaching their 2nd birthday, or a bit older, are warmly invited to get in touch to arrange a visit, with a view to joining us. We offer your child a safe way to make friends with those they may then grow up alongside and can also help them to get to know the "big" school too. Do note that **all** 3 year olds are entitled to 15 hours free sessions each week. Following our **Good OfSTED rating** we can now offer free funded places to eligible 2 year olds as well!

As always, just drop in, view the setting and meet our team. Please note our new contact number is 07854 091257.

## Lophams' Village Hall

The Village Hall AGM will take place on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June, at 7.30pm. All local residents are warmly invited to come along to hear the formal reports, share ideas about the use of the hall & field and ask questions.

The Village Hall was visited by a large percentage of local residents on Polling day; it was lovely to see so many groups stopping for a chat in the sunshine!

The playing field should soon be more easily accessible to visitors - the gates are to be re-sited and re-hung during the next few weeks. It would be lovely to see kites flying overhead, or groups playing field games. The verandah wall is also scheduled for attention; an alternative to the brick capping is being sought.

\*\*\*One important reminder to dog walkers - the litterbin should **not** be used as a poop-scoop receptacle; this poses a real health hazard. If possible a proper doggie bin will be provided. \*\*\*

**The Lottery.** The elusive 100 members target, with the first prize of £200 has been maintained since February. We hope this will continue; so do please get in touch if you would like to join as soon as a vacancy occurs. Telephone 01379 687718 for more information, or contact Eileen (01379 687608) or any committee member. There are three chances each month of winning a prize, plus a Bonanza draw in December for those who have been "in" for at least three months. The Lottery winners for April were: 1<sup>st</sup> prize £200: R Bassett and 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes of £50.00 each: J Farren-Bradley and J Keylock. In addition to the Lottery draw, there is a monthly raffle with one superb prize, which includes an item from every stall; a wonderful array of goodies for the larder.

**Farmers' Markets** are usually the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am to 12.30pm, so the next one is on 27<sup>th</sup> June. (Details from Mike on 01379 687235).

**Judo** is on Mondays & Wednesdays - (Details from Howard on 01379 688258)

**Dog Training** is held most Tuesday evenings, our trainer Elaine (07845 776110) will provide information.

**Lopham Art Group:** meets on Wednesday mornings, from 9.30am. The cost is £20 each per month, and includes refreshments and a visit from an 'expert' once each month. Contact Jennifer on 01379 687282 for more details.

**Yoga with P:** we hope will return soon - Watch this space!

To book the hall for private functions, please contact 01379 687679. To find out more about the hall generally, visit the website at [www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk).

## Lophams' Ladies

Meets on the first Tuesday of the month, usually in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The first meeting of the New Year was a very successful visit to Morrison's supermarket on 5<sup>th</sup> May. There were demonstrations in the florists and bakery, samples to taste from the greengrocery and deli departments and many opportunities to ask questions as we moved around all areas of the store. Most of us were heartened to learn just how much of the stock is genuinely British. The evening ended with refreshments, including 'home made' cream cakes, before we collected copies of the latest store magazine in a Morrison's goodie bag!

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, back at the Hall, there will be a talk by Carol Kearns who is a freelance illustrator. Also in June we have our annual **Nearly New, Books, Jumble and Bric-a-Brac sale** on Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup>. We would welcome any Bric-a-Brac, Books or Jumble that readers wish to bring along to the hall at 10am that day, or we can collect if you telephone Sarah on 01379 687337, or Jennie on 687679. Doors open at 1.30pm, and admission is free!

We are off out again in July to see Mervyn Lambert's Garden in Bressingham. For further details, or general enquiries about the group, please 'phone Sarah, as above.

## Garden Club

On 7<sup>th</sup> May we paid a visit to Blacksmiths Cottage Nursery in Dickleburgh. On arrival we were given a guided tour of the Nursery and the Wildlife Gardens by Ben Potterton and Tom Proctor. They told us about the birds and animals kept at the gardens. We were then free to wander the gardens, buy plants and also sit to enjoy tea/coffee and a piece of cake. We were lucky with the weather, despite a large and threatening raincloud, and thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

At our next meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> June, Martyn Davey will give a talk on "Growing Vegetables". Looking further forward, on July 2<sup>nd</sup> we shall welcome Graham Jenner who will give a presentation entitled "A Rose by any other name".

We meet at Lophams' Village Hall on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. Visitors and new members are always very welcome. Please telephone 01379 687833 for any further information.

## The Lophams' Society

Jazz on a July Evening. Make a date in your diary for Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July, which sees the return appearance of popular jazz combo **Pork Pie Hat**. As last year's event was a great success, tickets are now available be booked in advance. So to avoid disappointment ring 01379 688408 to make sure you are there on, what promises to be, another great night. Tickets are £7 per person and the music starts at 8pm.

## St Nicholas' Church.

**North Lopham Outreach Collections** at Church in May raised almost £100 for the Disasters Emergency Committee, following the devastating earthquake in Nepal.

**Gill Osler.** The North Lopham community was greatly saddened by the death of Gill Osler on 26<sup>th</sup>. Gill has been at the heart of Lopham life for the last decade, as a member of so many groups & activities in both church and village, greeting everyone with real kindness and that beautiful smile. We send sincere sympathy to all the family.

**Healing Service.** An Evening Prayer service, with healing as the theme, will be held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 4pm. Everyone is warmly invited to come along.

**Friday Night is SNYSB Night** is always a highlight of the early summer. This year's concert on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May will be reported next time, as will the **Pentecost Birthday Service** on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Advance Notice. A Hymn Marathon** (the very last one!) will be held at the beginning of August. The details of the day will be published in the next issue, but please be prepared to see Jennie around the village in the coming weeks, inviting residents to sponsor a favourite hymn; perhaps in memory of someone special. Thank you!

## North Lopham Parish Council

Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> May. **Present:** Councillors D Eagle, M McManus, D Hammond, J Tate and R Carley; Parish Clerk J Crosley; Breckland District Councillor M Chapman-Allen; in an advisory role, L Farren-Bradley and approximately 40 members of the public. **Election of Officers:** D Hammond was elected Chairman & J Tate as Vice-chair. **Council Vacancies:** Applications are invited to fill the two vacancies on NLPC. Details are available from the Parish Clerk. **Traffic Calming:**

The chairman outlined 3 areas of concern; speeding vehicles of all types, failure of some HGVs and agricultural vehicles to comply with the 7.5 tonne weight limit zone\*, potential increase in traffic associated with the Kenninghall digester. The chairman also listed measures taken so far; signage including new 20mph limit signs near the school to appear very shortly, the mobile flashing speed advisory sign, letters and discussions with local hauliers and delivery companies, consultation with NCC and direct contact with the Traffic Division of Suffolk Police (responsible for this area) which has resulted in an increased police presence. \*Crown Milling and their subcontractors' lorries are quite legally permitted to enter the 7.5 tonne zone for access to the mill as are agricultural vehicles for access within the zone.

A lengthy open discussion followed. Safety concerns, especially for child cyclists, noise and lack of official funding for calming measures were hot topics. Residents decided that an action group would be formed separately from NLPC. Initially to set up a Community Speedwatch scheme and to monitor HGV movements within the 7.5 tonne zone to measure the number of illegal journeys. It was thought this would have a deterrent effect and provide evidence for further representations if required. For further details contact: Rob Gerrett, 688512 or Kevin Edwards, kevedwardss@gmail.com.

**Neighbourhood Plan:** Mr Farren-Bradley gave a brief outline of how a 'recognised body' eg. NLPC might apply to Breckland District Council to have a Neighbourhood plan adopted for a particular area e.g. within the NL parish boundary. The plan must comply with Breckland planning policy but once adopted becomes part of that policy and carries the same weight. District Councillor Chapman-Allen added that new funds for grants towards the costs were being made available and a new officer appointed at BDC to speed up the process. It was decided to make the initial application. **Bottle Bank:** Please continue to use the King's Head bottle bank, it raised over £400 towards PC funds last year. **Roads/Footpaths:** Potholes outside 'Conkers' are scheduled for repair, 'horse deposits' in Pound Lane and standing water in Tanns Lane were discussed but it was decided no action could be taken. **Village Hall:** Thanks expressed to Village Hall Committee; the gates are shortly to be moved to improve access to the field. **Next meeting:** July 8<sup>th</sup> 2015.

**Extra:** Grateful thanks to those who took part in the Village Clean Up on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

## North Lopham Methodist Church

Methodist friends now hold an informal service and coffee morning in Church on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday each month and welcome anyone from the village to join them at 10.30am. The June gathering will be on 24<sup>th</sup>.

## St. Andrew's Church

At the vestry meeting on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May Mr Peter Reeder and Mrs Jill Brundell were elected as Churchwardens for the coming year. Mr David Huggins has retired from his position as Churchwarden and is now a Churchwarden emeritus, the PCC would like to express their appreciation to David for his services to St. Andrew's Church.

Thank you to everyone who came to the Coffee Morning on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May and to all who helped and donated, just over £200 was raised for St. Andrew's Church.

## South Lopham Parish Council

Annual General Meeting 2015 and regular meeting held at Valley Farm Low Common 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Six existing Councillors had been elected

and Rob Webb was approved as a co-optative Councillor with John Crisp being elected chairman and Mrs Sarah Martin vice chairman. Mrs Chapman Allen, District Councillor also attended the meeting. Thanks were given to Councillors for their contributions during the year and the Clerk, Mrs Phillips, for her hard work assisted by Gary Phillips, responsible financial officer. The Chairman made his opening remarks and gave his annual report, summarising his comments at the village meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The Village Meeting had not been well attended and the format of this is being considered. **Telephone box/ book exchange.** Its use and future was discussed. It appears little used. It was decided that the person responsible should be contacted in order to gain their views so that the council could consider it further.

A **financial report** was presented by the Clerk including a statement of balances and usual monthly/annual accounts for payment were approved. **Councillors reports.**

**Planning.** Mrs Martin reported that the retrospective application relating to two buildings at Pooley Street have been granted. The application in respect of a small building at Low Common had been refused. The White Horse public house will be granted retrospective consent for its marquee subject to certain conditions. Mrs Chapman Allen provided guidance to the Council when considering planning applications. **Highways.** At the eastern end of the village on the A 1066 village signs and 30mph signs have now been replaced. Further road signage is on order for this end of the village but the Parish Council has not received a satisfactory response from Norfolk County Council as to moving village and speed limit signs further east on this road. The 30mph sign on the Blo Norton road has now been replaced. The County engineer is providing assistance regarding concealed entrance signs to the owner of Pantiles. Repairs to potholes in Church Road and some in Blo Norton road are imminent or completed. **Footpaths.** Two finger posts have been erected in Church Road. Works. Tim Frizzell will undertake small repairs to bus shelter. **Overhanging trees.** All landowners are advised to inspect boundaries adjoining public highways to ensure that no dead or dangerous boughs constitute a danger. **Neighbourhood Plan.** Mrs Chapman Allen addressed the Council and the Neighbourhood plan will be kept under consideration during the forthcoming year. **Recycling.** Mrs Chapman Allen advised Councillors that the bin at the White Horse should still be used, as there was a financial benefit to the parish. **Next meeting** 7.30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Valley Farm Low Common.

## Holy Bingo

Continues in the Village Hall, usually on the first Monday each month at 2pm, when new faces are always welcome to come and share in fun sessions, with plenty of time for a chat. Do come along and join us. Forthcoming sessions are on 1<sup>st</sup> June and 6<sup>th</sup> July.

Please telephone 01379 687679 for further details or help with transport.

## Redgrave and Lopham Fen

### Guided fen walks

Saturdays - 4 July, 1 Aug 10.30am - 1pm Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fen with enthusiast and naturalist John Hill.  
£3 Meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

### Wildlife Watch Group

Saturdays – 13 June, 11 July 10.30am – 12.30pm  
A club for 6 – 12yr olds, £2  
Contact marcus.halmshaw@btinternet.com or call 01379 688333

## Services for June

### North Lopham    South Lopham

7<sup>th</sup> June

9.30am HC

11am Fam S

-

14<sup>th</sup> June

11am Fam S

-

4pm ES with Healing

-

21<sup>st</sup> June

11am Fam S

9.30am HC

28<sup>th</sup> June

11am Fam S

9.30am MS

Contributions for next issue by;

18<sup>th</sup> JUNE

Please email to  
lophamsnews@gmail.com