

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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NOVEMBER 2015

New Editor Needed

After five & a half years as editor of Lophams' News, Lee Baker is unable to continue after the end of 2015, so a successor is urgently needed. Lee only came on board as a temporary volunteer, so we owe her a huge debt of gratitude. She will make available to her successor the email address (with all the submissions since she started) and all the back issues (in electronic format).

For more information, contact the Parish Councils' Chairmen, or Jennie Vere on 01379 687679.

St Andrew's School

St. Andrew's pupils, staff, parents and governors have enjoyed the first half of the autumn term. To celebrate harvest, St. Andrew's pupils and staff joined other schools in the federation at All Saints Winfarthing for Experience Harvest. During the day pupils thanked God for harvest from the ocean, earth, flock and garden by baking bread, folding origami boats, making clay bowls, planting seeds and weaving wool. The day provided children with a fun and hands on way to learn about harvesting different produce.

Discovery class also joined the federation of schools for a visit from the Wildlife Man who specialises in fossils. They searched for ammonites, sharks teeth and dinosaur teeth in rocks. To enhance their learning about Romans, **Victory** class would like to thank Mr Wright and Mr West for lending them their Roman coins found on the fields in North Lopham. **Endeavour** class continue to set a good example to the younger children. During book week they have enjoyed reading with younger children and inspiring them to become good readers for life.

FoSTA have also been very busy. They held a beetle drive for parents and children in school with a delicious chilli supper, raising over £60. Their next event is a film night in November.

If you wish to make an appointment to visit, please contact Mrs Norgate, on 01379 687253 or by email head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk. We would love to hear from you!

St Andrew's Pre School

The children have enjoyed getting to know some of the "people who help us" in our daily lives this term. They became "helpers" too, when they filled a box with fruit, vegetables and eggs to present to St Nicholas' Church at the Harvest Festival and then took the box to give to Richard Vere, in church.

We have some spaces available and invite any new residents with children approaching their 2nd birthday, or a bit older, to get in touch to arrange a visit. Do note that **all** 3 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free sessions each week. Following our **good** OFSTED rating we can now offer free funded places to eligible 2 year olds as well! Just drop in on Mon, Wed or Thurs to view the setting and meet our team. Our contact number is 07854 091257.

Lophams' Village Hall

Bins. A smart litterbin & a poop scoop bin have been installed at the fence adjacent to the field gates. All visitors are asked to use these bins, which will be emptied regularly by Serco, to ensure the field looks tidy and the environment is safe for all.

The Grand Bonfire and Fireworks event will be on Saturday 7th November; gates open at 6pm and fireworks will start about 7.30pm. Entry prices have been kept at last year's level - £7 adult, £3 child under 16 and a family ticket at £20, so represent excellent value. There will be soup, hot food and drinks inside the hall and on the site, plus stalls, so do tell your friends and come for a great night out!

Many thanks to all those who have brought burnable garden rubbish for the fire; the field gates will be open on Saturdays & Sundays from 10 till 2 right up to the 7th, so it's not too late to contribute. (Please continue to ensure that your contributions meet the H & S safety requirements! Thank you).

The Lottery. It is great to have a full complement of 100 members, with a corresponding monthly first prize of £200. We do want to maintain this situation, so please get in touch if you would like to join as soon as a new vacancy occurs. Please ring 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, i.e. from October. The Lottery winners for September were: 1st prize £198 A Jacob and 2nd prizes of £49.50 each L & L Kercher and T Colyer. Mrs Young from Garboldisham won the monthly raffle prize, which included an item from every stall at the farmer's market. **Super Sausage Saturday** encouraged extra people to come to the September Market. The winner of 'the golden frying pan' was the chicken sausage from Yew Tree Farm; Mrs Flack from Elveden won the £25 market voucher.

Farmers' Markets are usually the **fourth Saturday each month**, from 9am until 12.30pm, so the next is on **28th November**. (Details from Mike on 01379 687235)

Judo is on **Monday & Wednesday** every week. Details are available 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.

To book the hall for private functions, please contact 01379 687679. To find out more about the hall generally, visit the web site at www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk.

Lophams' Ladies

Meeting on the first Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall; 7.15pm for 7.30pm

Our October speaker, Celia Stevens entertained us all by her very enthusiastic talk on her passion for racing driving. From her trepid beginnings; taking her racing car driving licence test on Snetterton track, to racing in the Le Mans Classic in her "Peerless" and also a 1930's Citroen C4; Celia is now an instructor herself.

On November 3rd our speaker will be Mary Miller of the Windmill Ringers. Our December meeting on the 1st of the month will be held at 2pm when Rosemarie Jacob will talk about on "A day in the life of a Newsagent". Seasonal refreshments will be provided by the committee so giving us chance to catch up on a Winter's afternoon at the start of the Christmas season.

Visitors and new members always welcome - phone 01379 687337 for details.

Garden Club

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

On 1st October we welcomed Simon White to our meeting. Simon spoke to us about his passion for growing late-flowering chrysanthemums and illustrated his talk with lots of slides. He showed us how he takes cuttings, pots them on and finally has a colourful show of beautiful blooms in his greenhouse.

Our next meeting is on 5th November when Gabby Reid will give a demonstration on "**Wreath Making**".

We will not have our usual meeting in December, but instead are looking forward to our Christmas Dinner. This will be held at Blooms Garden Centre on 3rd December 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Tickets are £15 for members and £17 for non-members and can be purchased at our next meeting or by telephoning 01953 681989.

The Lophams' Society

There was a good attendance at the Lophams' Society Autumn Quiz, which took place on the 9th October and attracted players from the Lophams and further afield. The question master, Roy Clark, provided a wide range of questions and Mike Cox took care of the scoreboard. At the end of eight closely fought rounds Table 3 managed to maintain it's early lead and took home the spoils. A cheese ploughman's supper, which everyone seemed to enjoy, was served in the interval. At the end of the evening, the chairman thanked everyone who came along and took part in support of this popular Lophams' Society event and especially all those who had provided complimentary feedback on the evening. He also thanked the members of the committee for their hard work in the preparation and serving of the food and to Bill Bedford for his sterling work behind the bar.

The next Lophams' Society event will be the **Free Pre-Christmas Drop-in** on the 18th December. This year will see a change from the previous year's format and will be a more adult themed event, hopefully attracting a more multi-generational attendance.

St Nicholas' Church.

Samaritans Purse - Shoe Box Appeal. Many thanks to those who have filled, or are filling shoeboxes for the underprivileged children in E Europe and beyond. The last date for bringing filled boxes to Southlands is 9th November; the collection will be during the following few days.

The Biggest Coffee Morning in the World. Grateful thanks to all who came along to support Macmillan Cancer Care on 25th September. We raised £175 for this worthwhile cause.

St Nicholas' Harvest Thanksgiving was a lively, happy occasion, with lots of younger people joining the regulars, and taking a big part in the service - lighting candles, sharing in the procession of gifts, taking the collection etc. and enjoying delicious cake at the end. The two old tractors and hand held plough outside were a great attraction too. A huge thank you to the church decorators and everyone who helped in any way to make this such a great day.

November 8th is **Remembrance Sunday**. There will be a special act of remembrance at the 11am Family Service, when the names of all those from the village who gave their lives in the two world wars will be read.

Armistice Day - 11th November. The Annual Ceremony will be held at the War Memorial at 11am, with juniors from St Andrew's School joining veterans, local residents and representatives of the American Air Force. 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the air crash over Lopham, when 18 American airmen lost their lives so a special US Colour Party will be on parade alongside the Union Flag.

North Lopham Crib Festival: The fifth Crib Festival will run from Wednesday 25th to Saturday 28th, between 11am and 5pm and on Sunday 29th from 12 noon until 4pm, when Mary, Joseph and the donkey will set out on their journey round the area seeking a night's shelter with willing hosts - *Posada* - before they return to the church for the Crib service on Christmas Eve. **NB** The Festival is Free for everyone! There will be a great number of Crib scenes to view, plus the interactive corner, refreshments and a stall with seasonal items. Please note, **You** are invited to create a crib scene or a Christmas Carol scene, using your own ideas.... peg dolls, paper crafts, or and bring it along on Tuesday 24th. Interested in having a go? Just contact Jennie on 01379 687679 for

The Lophams' Autumn Lunch

Sunday 1st November at the Village Hall, 1pm for a prompt start at 1.15pm. The menu will be delicious pork, jacket potatoes & salads, or veggie option, then apple desserts & ice cream plus fruit juice / hot drinks. As usual, please bring your own alcohol if desired & glasses.

Tickets at £8.50 are available from churchwardens, PCCs or Jennie. Please contact 01379 687679 for more details.

North Lopham Parish Council

Footpath at North End. The Parish Council thanks the residents who have already responded to the letter about making a promise for the footpath at the north end of the village. Please would any others, who wish to do so, contact a member of the Parish Council as soon as possible, advising of the amount of their pledge.

Redgrave and Lopham Fen

Wildlife Watch Group. Sat - 14 Nov, 12 Dec, 9 Jan. 10.30am-12.30pm. A club for 6-12yr olds, £2. Contact marcus.halmshaw@btinternet.com or call 01379 688333.

Introduction to low relief sculpture in clay. Thurs 19 Nov, 10am-4pm. A hands-on course, suitable for beginners using garden birds as a starting point. With tutor Glenn Holman. £35, inc materials. Booking essential 01473 890089.

Botanical Illustration. Sat 28 Nov, 10am-3pm. Illustration techniques with the emphasis on botanical accuracy. With botanical illustrator, Christine Grey-Wilson. £25/£21.50 Booking essential 01473 890089.

Weave a festive willow wreath. Sat 5 Dec, 10am-1pm. With local basketmaker, Karen Lawrence. £20, inc willow & some decorations. Booking essential 01473 890089.

'Geodiversity of the Upper Waveney Valley' a talk by Tim Holt-Wilson. Tues 24 Nov, 7.30pm. Organised by the SWT Valley Fens Wildlife Group. £2 per person (includes refreshments). All welcome, no need to book.

North Lopham Methodist Church

Methodist friends now hold an informal service and coffee morning in Church on the **fourth Wednesday** each month and would welcome anyone from the village to join them at 10.30am.

The November gathering is on 25th, at the launch of the church Crib Festival.

Holy Bingo

Continues in the Village Hall, 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. The next session is on **2nd November**. Please telephone 01379 687679 for further details or for help with transport.

St Andrew's Church

Thank you to all who gave to the very successful **Harvest Gift Weekend**. The Coffee Morning on Saturday 26th September raised £207, thank you to everyone who came to support this event, it was lovely to see so many there including parishioners from within the wider Benefice, who we were very pleased to welcome. Our Harvest Gift Weekend concluded with the **Thanksgiving Service** on Sunday 27th September, led by Angie Gardner. So far a total of £1013 has been raised for St. Andrew's Church, its still not too late for anyone wishing to make a donation.

On Sunday 8th November the **Service of Remembrance** will take place in St. Andrew's Church. Please note that this service will start at **10.50am**.

On Saturday 28th November there will be a **Coffee Morning** in the Church 10am to 12 noon with a Tombola, Bring and Buy, Cake Stall and Raffle, we hope you will be able to join us.

Friends of South Lopham Church

The Friends will be holding a Slide Show entitled Lophams' through the 20th Century on Friday 30th October in Lophams Village Hall at 7.30pm. Refreshments of cake and coffee, tickets £6 per person. We look forward to seeing you there.

LOHP (Little Ouse Headwaters Project)

Annual Talk, AGM and Members' Evening. 7.30pm, Wednesday 25th November at Garboldisham Village Hall. All welcome, for further details please see website: www.lohp.org.uk

Join us for our annual winter bash, with another great talk in prospect. Richard Woolnough, from the Suffolk Mammal Group, will be taking about **Otters** and encouraging us to monitor their very welcome return to the Little Ouse Headwaters. With a hands-on (though optional!) opportunity to examine the content of otter spraints under the microscope, this promises to be a memorable evening. As usual, our AGM and annual update will start at 7.30pm. The annual talk will start at 8pm and be followed by seasonal refreshments. Contributions of finger foods will be much appreciated. Members and friends all welcome - the evening is free but a non-members' contribution of £2 towards costs will be welcomed.

North Lopham Charities

The trustees of this local charity are able to make financial grants to local residents who have difficulty meeting essential expenses. For example young people travelling to their college courses, or needing to buy expensive books and specialist equipment, and folk of any age facing unexpected but necessary expenses.

To apply, please write to the Chairman, Mr Mike Cox at Linden House, The Street, North Lopham, setting out your particular problem, in good time before the Trustees meet at the beginning of December.

Services for November

North Lopham South Lopham

1 st November	
9.30am HC	
11am Fam S	-
8 th November	
11am Fam Rem	10.50 for 11am Rem
15 th November	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
22 nd November	
11am Fam S	9.30am MS

On 29th, a fifth Sunday, a Communion service for all parishes is at Diss, at 10.30am

Contributions for next issue by;

18th NOVEMBER

Please email to lophamsnews@gmail.com