

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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JUNE 2012

Jubilee Preparations

Everything is coming together for a really special day at the field on 2nd June. We hope to see most of the residents of both villages there.

Readers may like to know that a Jubilee programme was sent to The Queen; a reply from Buckingham Palace states that "The Queen greatly appreciates your thought for her at this time, and was interested to hear about your history of fine linen-making" and ends with thanks "for writing to her in this, her special year".

St Andrew's School

St. Andrew's Primary School pupils have been very busy since returning from their Easter break. On arrival back to school, it was magnificent to hear that Niamh Somers, a year 4 pupil at St. Andrew's had won the Norfolk Energy Busters Competition. We were also extremely proud of Lucy Bernard who was a fantastic ambassador for the school by taking part in the year 5 County Cross Country finals. Discovery class have also celebrated a unique success by achieving 100% attendance in April!

So far this term St. Andrew's netballers and footballers have been extremely active, participating in matches again Bressingham and Tivetshall after school.

St. Andrew's pupils are now busy preparing for forthcoming events. The upper school is making up games and practising Maypole dancing for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations at North Lopham Village Hall on Saturday 2nd June and the whole school is currently practising to sing at the Chyme Concert in St. Mary's Church Diss on 25th May. St. Andrew's pupils also invite you to their next community lunch on Thursday 24th May 2012 at 12.00 pm. Please book with the school office on 01379 687253.

St Andrew's Preschool

The children have been busy this month learning about the importance of not littering. They have made a snail and decorated its shell with litter to enter a competition. The children enjoyed their first opportunity to visit the monthly library bus and choose a book for the preschool. Gertie the Hamster came to visit the children, which they all really enjoyed. All this as well as the usual painting, playing, making cakes, crafts, nature walks etc. - they have been busy!

The children are eagerly awaiting a visit to Knettishall Heath on Tuesday 10th July. They will be doing activities such as pond dipping, nature walk and looking at bugs. We would like to welcome anyone from the Mother and Toddler Group to join us.

We have purchased a gazebo for our outside area, which went up this week providing the children with shelter and a fun place to play. Plans are also underway for a fun and colourful fence to brighten up the outside play area.

We have a forthcoming fund raising event at The Kings Head on Sunday 1st July. Please come along and join us for a BBQ and family games.

We welcome children to our very friendly Preschool from their second birthday: children still in nappies are very welcome. Preschool opens on Mondays (8.45am - 11.45am) and Wednesdays and Thursdays (8.45am - 3.15pm) Prices vary according to session; government funding is available to all 3 year old children. Our home is situated in The Mess building at St Andrew's school, North Lopham, (the white building close to the road at the school). We have spaces available at Preschool; if you would like to look around and meet our team of Tonya (preschool manager) and her assistant Laura, please call in when we are open. Tonya can also be contacted regarding preschool on 0762 219523.

FOSTA

Over the past 5 months FOSTA has continued to raise money for St Andrew's School. Thank you to all parents and others who have supported FOSTA with their events. A successful movie and popcorn night raised £66.00 and the Bag2 school collection raised £180.00. It has been agreed that a PA system and AMP will be purchased at a cost of around £550.00. This will help greatly at school events and School church services.

Future Fundraising: We are planning a treasure hunt and family BBQ on the 14th July 2012. Treasure hunt entry costs £5.00 per car. All welcome.

Lophams' Village Hall

The Sports Taster Day on 13th May attracted a good number of adults and younger folk to try lots of activities both indoors and out. Archery especially attracted people to have a go outside. Inside, the new style Curling was very popular, and a good number tried short mat bowls and table tennis. There are plans to take a Lophams' team to the "Best in Breckland" Village Games at Watton on Sunday 17th June. We could do with two more tennis and badminton players - any volunteers are asked to contact Jim Pursehouse on 01379 687330. **The Lottery** - our opportunity to support the Village Hall and have a bit of fun too - has a number of renewals due at the moment. Do sign up again promptly, to avoid missing a monthly draw. In the April draw; A Osler won the 1st prize of £188.00; M Birchall and N Holdsworth won 2nd prizes of £47.00 each. New members, and those who need to renew are urged to get in touch: Copies of the full rules and entry forms are available from promoter, Eileen (01379 687608), from Village Hall Treasurer, Tim Colyer (01379 687718), from other Village Hall Committee members (see website for details), or at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events. **Farmers' Markets** are on the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am till 12.30pm. Next market 23rd June. For details, call 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. **Art Classes** are held on Wednesdays; morning sessions are fully booked, but there are a few spaces for the 1 to 4pm slot, the tutor is Susie Turner. (687434). Through the summer, there will be some 'one off' Saturday work shops, with a range of techniques & teachers. Details are included on the website.

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.

Lophams' Ladies

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

At our meeting in May, Peter Booth-Smith gave us a most interesting talk on the history of the Tea Trade. Brought up in a family of Tea Traders and being one himself; his knowledge was extensive. From it's early beginnings, the drinking of dried Camellia sinensis leaves was considered a health drink by the Chinese in the 3rd millennium BC. Then only 350 years ago Tea was introduced into Britain and now a quintessentially British drink; we are now told it really is good for us!

On June 2nd we celebrate the Queens Jubilee where you will see some of us serving that very same traditional brew. On July 3rd we have a visit to the Abbey Gardens in Bury St Edmunds where we will be given a guided tour by the Head Gardener. For this we will meet in the Village Hall car park at 1pm and share lifts into Bury. For details phone 01379 687337.

Garden Club

In May we welcomed garden designer Lucy Redman who talked about her own garden and how it is constantly evolving. Her energy and enthusiasm inspired us all and we may even take up some of her design suggestions!

On June 6th, we look forward to a private visit to the Dell Gardens at Bressingham, beginning at 7.30pm and looking further forward, on July 4th we will have a guided tour of Lopham and Redgrave Fen, searching for wild flowers along the way. We meet at the Fen car park at 7.00pm for this visit.

There may be tickets available for our visit to Sandringham Flower Show on 25th July. If you are interested, please telephone 01379 687833 for more information.

Visitors and new members are always very welcome to our meetings.

Lophams' Links

The sponsored walk was a great success. Lophams' links would like to thank all the people who took part in the Sponsored walk on the 21st April 2012. A group of young children and parents were sponsored to walk from the Lechmere (duck pond) in North Lopham to the White Horse public House in South Lopham and back again. Even the youngest child managed to walk/run the distance. Thank you to all those who supported this event by taking part, or by sponsoring. Thank you also to the White Horse Public house for supplying food on our arrival there. The Sponsored walk raised over £400 pounds; Lophams' Links are raising money to fund a play area for the Lophams' villages.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Services for June

10th June 10.30am
Preacher Mr Roy Sayer of Diss

24th June 10.30am
Preacher Mrs Gibson of Thetford

A warm welcome to all.

St Nicholas' Church

Retirement. The Revd Rob Mellowship, Rector since 1997 signed the official papers on May 1st, which mean that he has now taken early retirement. Although Rob and Jan do not want any presentations, people who would like to share in a retirement gift can give their contributions to the churchwardens, or put them on a plate at the back of church after services. We all wish Rob and Jan well for the future. **The Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen** will be celebrated in style at the Playing Field on Saturday 2nd June from 2pm. **Our Jubilee Services** will be on Sunday 10th June. Jubilee Medallions for all children in the Lophams' from birth to Year 11 age will be presented at the end of a very informal service for all ages at 3pm in St Nicholas' Church. There will be an Exhibition of Royal memorabilia in the church. Do bring along any photos you may have of past Jubilee celebrations. Any medallions surplus after all children in both villages have received theirs, will be available for purchase, price £2.25. Numbers will be very limited, so please give name and number desired to Jennie Vere as soon as possible. (First come, first served). The 6.30pm Evensong will have a Royal feel, and hymns to match! **Ascension Day** was marked with a Holy Communion Service, led by the Revd Ben Sasada, with the Revd Reg Dakin in attendance. Everyone present shared in singing an Ascension hymn at the start. **Pentecost** - The Birthday of the Christian Church is on 27th. There will be a Party Family Service for all at 11am, with balloons, games and cake to share. Do come along! **Advance Notice:** The **Summer Coffee Morning** will be held at Brecklands, home of Jean & Chris Stringfield on Wednesday July 4th from 10am. Please put the date in your diary now and then come along on the day.

St Andrew's Church

On Sunday the 29th April we at St. Andrew's Church and the Upper Waveney Benefice welcomed The Right Reverend Graham James Bishop of Norwich to a Service of Thanksgiving for the building work completed on the Church, which consisted of the re roofing and Westmorland Slating of the Nave, the restoration of eight Clerestory Windows and East and West Windows also a door on the south side of the Chancel and a window on the north side of the Nave. To add to this extensive work we had a Remembrance Table and Book and new curtains in the entrance, bell chamber and south door and also the back vestry, kindly made and donated by Mrs Irene Howard. After the Bishop had preached his sermon he blessed a bowl of water and dedicated all that had been renewed and restored in St. Andrew's Church. John Pares Curate of Diss conducted the service of Holy Communion, and the Celebrant was the Bishop. A truly memorable service.

The Remembrance Table and Book are now placed in the Lady Chapel to view. If you wish to remember a loved one in the book entry forms are available in the Church.

Due to ill health The Reverend Rob Mellowship has now retired after 14 years service to our parishes. We wish him and Jan every blessing and our good wishes.

Ceilidh

On 11th May was a very happy occasion in a beautifully decorated hall, with most people getting up to have a go at a whole range of line and circle dances, with Caller Joy, accompanied by the Deneside Ramblers. Dancing is thirsty work, so the bar did brisk trade, and energy demanding, so Browne's hot dogs were very welcome in the interval! With the help of the Raffle, and the generosity of the Band, the evening made over £262 for the churches to share. Grateful thanks to all those who helped in any way.

Borderhoppa Outings

June

Mon 11th - Yesterdays World, Gt Yarmouth. £22.50 includes entrance fee.

Mon 18th - Felixstowe. £16.

Mon 25th - Ravensingham Craft Centre & Beccles. £12.

July

Mon 2nd - Sheringham. £18.50.

Mon 9th - Gorleston. £16.

Mon 16th - Boat trip on Waveney Stardust from Brundall. £21 includes boat trip.

Mon 23rd - Southwold. £14.

Mon 30th - Rushall Gardens. £21 includes entrance fee, lunch, cup of tea & cake.

Our outings are for Borderhoppa members only, if you would like to become a member (which is currently free) please call 01379 854800 for an application form. If you would like to make a booking on one of our buses on our Demand Responsive service, (formerly called Dial-A-Ride & now available to anyone, any age) or you would like to hire one of our mini buses day, evening or weekend, please call the office between 8.30am & 5pm Monday - Friday 01379 854800.

Borderhoppa are currently looking for a bookkeeper 2 - 3 hours per week. If you are interested, please call 01379 854800.

South Lopham Parish Council

AGM and Regular Meeting

On 10th May the above meetings were held at which the following business was transacted: -

1. Robert McCaw was elected Chairman for a further year.
2. Rob Webb was elected Vice Chairman for a year following the retirement of Peter Coster. The meeting expressed its gratitude for Peter's long and distinguished service.
3. Applications for the vacancy arising on the Parish Council are invited. Anyone interested please contact Robert McCaw on 01379 687776 or at robmad@btinternet.com.
4. It was decided to erect signs around the village to discourage dog owners from allowing their dogs to foul the countryside.
5. The Clerk presented the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2012 which were approved.
6. Subject to further suggestions the meeting thought that the small balance remaining from the Malson legacy could be used to help with repairs to the organ in St. Andrew's Church.
7. A report was received from Granville Horan about the preparations for the Jubilee Celebrations. Further help would be welcome, as would any gazebos or marquees, which anyone may be prepared to lend for use on 2nd June. Contact Granville on 01379 640355, or granvillehoran@hotmail.com.

Events at Redgrave and Lopham Fen: June 2012

Wednesday 6th June, 2-4pm. Minibeast Safari Family afternoon.

An afternoon of pond dipping, bug hunting, crafts and games.

Children £3.50, Adults £1.50. Booking essential 01379 688333.

Saturday 9th June, 10.30am-12.30pm. Wildlife Watch group.

A club for 6 - 12yr olds. £1, details 01379 688333.

Saturday 16th June, 10am - 3pm. Botanical Illustration.

Looking at a range of illustration techniques using seasonal plant material with an emphasis on botanical accuracy, with Christine Grey-Wilson.

£20. Booking essential 01473 890089.

Services for June

| North Lopham | South Lopham |
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| | 3rd June | |
| 9.30am Group HC | | - |
| 11am Fam S | | - |
| | 10th June | |
| 3pm Jubilee S | | - |
| 6.30pm ES | | - |
| | 17th June | |
| 11am Fam S | 9.30am HC | |
| | 24th June | |
| 11am Fam S | 6.30pm ES | |

Contributions for next issue by;

18th JUNE

Please email to
lophamsnews@gmail.com