

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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St Andrew's School

Finally, the sun has arrived and St. Andrew's pupils are enjoying the summer term feast of activities.

Thank you to FOSTA, for organising a wonderful summer fayre! Despite the two o'clock down pour the event was successful, with parents enjoying Pimms and a barbeque and children ice creams and cakes! The afternoon flew by with face painting, tattoos and a popular tug of war! Over £400 was raised!

The warmer weather has also enabled pupils to appreciate a number of sporting events. Year 5 and 6 took part in cluster athletics, while Reception, year 1 and 2 participated in the cluster sports day! This was in addition to the annual school sports day, which included competitive and non-competitive activities, followed by a family barbeque and picnic.

All of the children in year 6 who took their cycling proficiency successfully passed, whilst talented year 4's attended an enjoyable poetry day at Diss High School.

St. Andrew's now looks forward to hosting the partnership production of Shrek and taking part in the end of term leaver's service.

If you would like to know more about St. Andrew's then please contact the school on 01379 687253 or by e-mail head@st-andrews-pri.norfolk.sch.uk and come and look around. We would love to hear from you.

Lophams' Ladies

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

In early July we were given a very warm welcome at the home of Sylvia and Peter Coster where we all enjoyed seeing their beautiful garden.

On August 6th we look forward to Jennie telling us about the **History of Lopham Linen**. There will be a **Bring and Buy** table at this meeting.

On September 3rd we have an Open Evening when the talk will be on "**The Mid Norfolk Railway**".

Looking ahead into the early autumn, on October 1st we have a talk on Bhutan entitled "**Thunder Dragon**" given by Chris Parfitt.

We always welcome visitors and new members - please phone 01379 687337 for further details.

St Andrew's Pre School

We hope you enjoyed our summer BBQ, 'Grill And Games' at The Kings Head PH 21st July, we'll report it next time!

The end of term is nearly here - Hurray! Have a happy holiday. Our children have enjoyed the outdoors whenever it hasn't been too hot; water fun has been very popular, as have quiet activities in the shade. Very best wishes go to the children who are leaving us for "big" school - we hope they will be very happy. They have already enjoyed several visits to join with Discovery Class, so feel very at home there.

We have a number of free spaces coming up in September and remember we take children from age 2 (in nappies) up to school age. We will open Mondays to Thursdays 08.45 - 11.45 and continue until 15.15 on Thursday each week. Call in for a visit and chat with our friendly staff or call Tonya direct on 07962 219523 / attwood145@btinternet.com.

Garden Club

On 3rd July we were very pleased to welcome Tina and Ian Rimmer from Peter Beales Roses who gave their presentation "Taste the Roses". They brought with them many varieties of roses to illustrate their different perfume, colour and shape, together with rose flavoured cordials, cookies, turkish delight and even vodka that Tina had made for us all to sample. It all made for a truly memorable evening.

We are looking forward to our trip on Saturday 10th August when we shall spend the day at the **Cambridge Botanic Gardens**. The charge for this trip is £14.50 and there are still places available on the coach. Please telephone 01953 681989 for further information and to purchase your tickets.

Our next meeting is on 4th September when our speaker will be Andy Bailey from Blooms of Bressingham Garden Centre.

We hold our meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the restaurant area of Blooms of Bressingham Garden Centre. Visitors and new members are always very welcome.

Lophams' Village Hall

The Lottery, our chance to raise money for hall developments, has several new members this summer, so the prizes are growing too as is the fund for the next Bonanza draw; - if you aren't yet "in", do consider having a go. It's a fun way to support the hall, with three chances each month of winning a prize. The winners for June were: 1st Prize of £194.00 - J Brown and 2nd prizes of £48.50 each - P Clark and L Quinn. Anyone who needs to renew, or who wishes to join is invited to make contact: 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. The August Market is on 24th. 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.

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 01379 687718 for more details.

Yoga with P: is a popular addition to the weekly programme. Sessions are on Thursdays in the early evening. Booking is essential, tel 01379 890955 or 07932 010720 or email pieternella.jarvie@gmail.com.

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.

South Lopham Parish Council

Met at Valley Farm, South Lopham on Thursday 11th July 2013. The Parish Council is amongst 5%, selected at random, for a more detailed spot-check of our procedures by the external auditors appointed by Norfolk CC. **No planning matters** of note however the Parish Council is trying to establish what impact intended central Government changes to the planning laws may have and what steps need to be taken to ensure that development within the parish takes into account need and the views of the community. The intended **temporary closure of the A1066 to large vehicles** and resurfacing of the pavement in the centre of the village, due to have commenced in mid-June, has not started. We are following up with NCC Highways. **Subsidence of Church Road** at the site of previous work by Anglian Water has been reported. It appears survey work has been carried out so repairs should be imminent. Flooding at the South Lopham end of Primrose Lane has now been resolved by installation of a new drainpipe with co-operation from local landowners. The Breckland Community Rangers have carried out various works in the village including temporary pothole repairs, cleaning of signs and trimming of overgrown verges. Any resident who sees similar works that need carrying out please let the Parish Clerk know on 687950 or email clerk@southlopham.co.uk. Residents, particularly in more remote areas of the village, are encouraged to have the Grid Reference of their property near the phone to assist the emergency services in finding them. More info on the Parish Website www.southlopham.co.uk. The Lophams' Village Sports team were Champions in the Breckland District this year and on Sunday 14th July 2013 are challenging in the Norfolk County Village Games trying to better their position of 9th overall last year. **Next meeting** will be Thursday 12th September 2013 at 19:30hrs.

Lophams' Bingo

We would love to see young people coming to join the fun during the holiday. Do come along at 2pm on Monday 5th August. New adult faces are always welcome too!

Frendz Youth Group

For young people aged 13+ who have autism / aspergers. Meeting once every two weeks on Fridays 7 - 9pm for socialising/fun/games etc. Each session costs £3. Situated in Burston near Diss. For further information please contact Sharon (Group Leader) on (01379) 642255 who will be happy to help.

Lophams Churches - Team Churches' Walk - Weds 7th August

Bishop Alan (Bp of Thetford) will be walking across country from South Lopham Church to Diss. Everyone is invited to join in for all or part of the journey, either on foot or by car. He will be at S Lopham Church at 9am, and N Lopham church at 10am. There will refreshments at each stop, a bit of history, and a prayer. Full details are in each church. Please give your name to a churchwarden if you'd like to join in - especially if you'll be at Bressingham for ploughman's lunch at 1pm. (A similar trip, all by car, is planned for early September).

St Nicholas' Church

Jean's Grand Summer Coffee Morning: was a very happy occasion, using the bungalow and grounds to site the stalls. There were excellent sales plus lots of happy chatter as the delicious eats were enjoyed. We are very grateful to everyone who helped in any way to make it such a success - the donors of plants, crafts and fashion items to sell, or of wonderful prizes in the Raffle, those who erected and dismantled the marquee and furniture, and those who helped behind the scenes in the kitchen. Almost £600 was raised on the day, and the total has since grown to an amazing £620! Thank you, especially to our hosts, Jean & Chris.

The Hymn Marathon will take place on Saturday 3rd August, between 8.30am and around 5.15pm. Anyone who would like to sponsor a hymn, in memory of a loved one, or just because it's a favourite, is invited to do so - Jennie will be around the village during the next few weeks. If you come along on the day, you can listen, meet friends, or join in a sing-along in the afternoon.

Teddy Bears' Picnic: All the children who have joined the church family by Baptism in recent years are invited to bring Teddy (plus Mummy & Daddy) to Church on Saturday 10th August from 2 to 4pm, for a Teddy Bears' Picnic in the grounds - we hope it will still be fine! Just bring a rug to sit on, and meet lots of new friends.

The Sponsored Bike Ride is on 14th September this year. Info & sponsor forms are in the churches.

If you are going away - have a lovely time and come back safely; if you are having visitors, we hope you'll bring them along to meet us!

St Andrew's Church

We were delighted to welcome the "Thursday Night Ladies Choir" from Thetford again for a concert in the Church on Saturday 22nd June directed by Mary Rolton. The piano duets as last time with Trish Halliwell and Pip Jepson were outstanding as was the performance by Flautist Alan Howard who delighted us with the Carnival of Venice. The vocal duets of Melanie Settle and Polina Sosnina who sang the Flower Duet and Barcarolle were extremely beautiful as was the solo by Katie Howard, with the Choir bringing a lovely evening to a close with Gershwin for Girls, It don't mean a thing and Evening Prayer. Refreshments were served in the interval and our thanks go to Cynthia for her help with this. Our thanks also go to Archie for arranging the Concert and to the Choir, the performers and to everyone who came to support this event. We are pleased to say £500.00 was raised for the Organ Cleaning Fund.

Lophams' Village Games

Following their success at retaining their crown as best in Breckland the team from The Lophams battled on Sunday 14th July with other regional winners for the county title. There was a fantastic turnout from our 2 villages, with over 40 representatives in 13 sporting events. Notable performances from our bowls trio of Alan and Maureen Gaynor and Bill Bedford, our athletics team were also runners up, well done Gregor Shipperlee, Emily and Katie Pursehouse for carrying a much slower (and older) Jim Pursehouse, along with great performances from junior archers James Conquest and Sophie Pursehouse finishing in third position, as did tennis players Holly Fleming and Max Hensser after losing just one match in the group stage, all contributed to our finishing overall in 5th position, a vast improvement to our 9th place last year.

Every Lopham player played their part in a wonderful days' sport, thanks to you all! Full results can be found on www.activenorfolk.org you can also find us on Facebook, search for Lophams village games team and join us!

Don't forget we have an opportunity to **learn archery** with Andy Beer at the village hall playing field on a Sunday 11 to 12.30 or 12.45 to 14.15 starting from 8th Sept. For more details phone Andy on 01953 606709/ 07729994805.

North Lopham Parish Council

10th July in The Mess. One member sent apologies; six members of the public were present. **Co-option of councillor:** Mr. D Hammond was selected by a majority decision from the two candidates who applied. **Replacement Parish Clerk:** the position will be advertised from 15th - 29th July. **Rights of way tribunal:** will take place at the village hall on 3rd & 4th September, plus a route walk on 5th if required. **Affordable housing** - no progress. **Neighbourhood plan** - fears expressed about cost/benefit. Planning applications may still be forced through. An information DVD will be circulated to councillors plus discussion with Mrs. J Farren-Bradley who has specialist knowledge. **20mph speed limit around school:** N Lopham is on the list; we await progress. **Letchmere drain** has still not been cleared after further reminder to NCC. **Income from Bottle Bank** - £254.72. **Highways and footpaths** - Road surface re-dressing is complete. A door-to-door approach to residents whose hedges impinge on footpaths will be adopted. A proposal to allow a remote area of the burial ground to become a conservation area will be investigated - report at next meeting. Dog fouling is worse again - signage to be renewed with threat of possible prosecution. **Highway Rangers** - Anyone who has suggestions about tasks the HRs might tackle should contact the Parish Clerk. **Risk Assessment** - Headstones inspected and deemed safe, pond fence sound. **Federation of St Andrew's school** - process continues. **Speed Watch** - one more volunteer is required to get the scheme launched - anyone interested please apply to Parish Clerk for details. **Correspondence** - Breckland Council are recruiting canvassers; the advert will be placed on the village notice board. Two letters of complaint about the state of maintenance of the burial ground were wrongly addressed to Mrs Vere. The burial ground, as opposed to the churchyard, is the PC's responsibility, its maintenance is ongoing and a major expense. **Next meeting** - Wednesday 11th Sept. The Mess, St. Andrew's School, 7.30pm.

North Lopham Methodist Church

The first Wednesday service was held in June, followed by Coffee and Sale. A similar event will take place at 10.30am on the fourth Wednesday each month. Everyone is warmly invited to come along to this wonderful building at 10.30am on 24th July then 28th August.

The Lophams' Art Group Exhibition

Congratulations to the Art Group for putting on such an impressive show! It was hard to realise that most members only started painting when classes began 18 months ago. The friendly, mixed ability art group meets at the Hall each Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30. Membership costs £20 per 4 weeks, which includes one session of tuition each month from a professional artist (currently Tracey Waghorn). Anyone interested in joining can call in any Wednesday morning or telephone Jennifer on 01379 687882 for more information.

The Lophams' Society Summer BBQ

A fine summer evening on the 6th July provided the perfect backdrop to this year's summer BBQ which had all the elements for an enjoyable village get-together. Bill Bedford and Mark Miller manned the BBQ and were ably assisted by a crack team of choppers, slicers and servers. The bar team were kept busy keeping thirsty villagers' vocal chords lubricated enabling them to join in with a mixture of music supplied throughout the evening by two local bands, Captain Kirk's Mandolins and Burning Indifference. For those with a little more energy, Jim Pursehouse organised an impromptu rounders match (extra practice for the village games maybe). Despite the fact that several of the committee were unable to attend due to holiday commitments, sterling work on behalf of the other members and helpers, both old and new, ensured that the evening went ahead as usual. At the end it was agreed that it had been a thoroughly enjoyable evening and thanks were due to all of those who gave their time and energy to make the evening happen and to all those villagers who turned up to support it.

Services for August

North Lopham South Lopham

4th August

9.30am HC -
11am Fam S then Bapt -

11th August

11am Fam S (Bapt) -
6pm ES -

18th August

11am Fam S 9.30am HC

25th August

11am Fam S 6pm ES

Contributions for next issue by;

18th AUGUST

Please email to
lophamsnews@gmail.com