

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No.401

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OCTOBER 2015

## St Andrew's School

St. Andrew's pupils and staff have enjoyed returning to school. Discovery class have settled in quickly and are enjoying their school routine. They are fascinated by their topic Dinosaurs. Discovery class are also looking forward to their visit to All Saints where they will join the Federation for a day of activities, experiencing harvest.

Victory class have also settled in. Years 3 and 4 have already been swimming and years 2, 3 and 4 are looking forward to visiting South Lopham to look at the history of the church. Endeavour class are enjoying being exemplary pupils to the younger members of the school community. They are showing good behaviours for learning as they embark on their topic about Anglo Saxons.

If you wish to make an appointment to visit in September, please contact Mrs Norgate, on 01379 687253 or by e-mail [head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk). We would love to hear from you!

## St Andrew's Pre School

We are enjoying getting to know the new, younger members of Pre-School. The theme this term is 'People that help us' and the children will be visited by one of our local friendly Police Officers!

We have spaces on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday am and pm sessions and do invite any new residents with children approaching their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday, or a bit older, 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 years 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!

As always, just drop in on Mondays, Wednesdays or Thursdays to view the setting and meet our team. Please note our contact number is 07854 091257.

## Lophams' Village Hall

As the autumn approaches, and the attendant tree & shrub pruning takes place, do remember that we plan to have a bonfire at the field on 7<sup>th</sup> November. Lopham residents can dispose of all the garden refuse during October; the gates to the field will be open between 10am and 2pm on Saturdays & Sundays throughout the month so that your burnables can be brought right to the site of the fire (for a nominal charge of £1 per load to offset firework costs). As ever, please **do not** bring metal or plastic, or any other material that could cause Environmental Health officials to ban the bonfire.

Our Grand **Bonfire and Fireworks** event will be on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November**; the gates open at 6pm and the fireworks will start about 7.30pm. Details will be included next month, but please book the date now!

**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. all those currently members). The Lottery winners for August were: 1<sup>st</sup> prize £200, N & J Williams and 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes of £50 each J Keylock and S Dilloway. In addition to the Lottery draw, there is a monthly raffle with one superb prize which includes an item from every stall at the Farmers' Market; a wonderful array of goodies for the larder.

**Farmers' Markets** are usually the **fourth Saturday each month**, from 9am until 12.30pm, so the next is on **24<sup>th</sup> October**. (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](http://www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk).

## Lophams' Ladies

In September, Gabi from "Gabriel's Garden" came to talk about her homegrown flower business in Gissing; bringing with her a colourful selection of her flowers, which she made into a tied bouquet. Another inspirational talk of how one person's dream became a successful enterprise.

Also in September, as the planned visit to Mervyn Lambert's garden this summer was cancelled because of unfavourable weather, Jean Barnbrook invited members to visit her home. We had a fascinating time looking at a huge variety of quilts made in the last ten years, followed by a delicious afternoon tea. We were bowled over by the colours used and Jean's expertise in many different techniques.

On October 6<sup>th</sup>, **Celia Stevens, a female racing driver**, will talk to us and on November 3<sup>rd</sup> Mary Miller will talk about the "**Windmill Ringers**".

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month; 7.15pm for 7.30pm in the Village hall. New members and visitors always welcome. Please phone 01379 687337 for details.

## Garden Club

On 3<sup>rd</sup> September we welcomed Sarah Cook and Jim Marshall to our meeting. Sarah has a National Collection of Irises at her garden in Shelley and Jim is well known for growing Malmaison Carnations. They are both involved with the Suffolk Heritage Garden at The Suffolk Punch Trust at Hollesley and described how the garden was established. All the plants and trees growing there have a connection to Suffolk, for example the grower being born in Suffolk. We were also able to buy Jim's carnations or Sarah's irises.

Our next meeting is on 1<sup>st</sup> October when Simon White will talk on **Chrysanthemum Growing** and, looking further forward, on 5<sup>th</sup> November Gabby Reid will give a demonstration on **Wreath Making**.

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.

## The Lophams' Society

Time to dust off the thinking caps as the Lophams' Autumn Quiz will take place in the village hall on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm. Entrance is £6 per person, which will include a cheese ploughman's supper served in the interval. The bar will also be open for those who wish to lubricate the little grey cells if necessary.

Teams of six players per table, which can be booked in advance, by telephoning 01379 688408. Single players and couples are especially welcome to join us on, what always proves to be, a most enjoyable evening.

## St Nicholas' Church.

**Samaritans Purse Shoe Box Appeal.** Once again, we are planning to help very deprived children in Eastern Europe & beyond feel loved at Christmas. If you would like to help, please cover a shoe box in Christmas paper, fill it with little gifts (toiletries, stationery, a woolly hat & mits and a small cuddly toy) and bring it to Southlands, North Lopham by 9<sup>th</sup> November, to be sure of getting it to its destination in time. Our boxes went to Serbia in 2014, after two years when their destination was Belarus. (Two of the children who came from that area with Friends of Chernobyl Children told us, with great excitement, that their village had received boxes from one of those consignments!)

**The Norfolk Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride** was on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. If you took part, thank you!

**The Biggest Coffee Morning in the World** is on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September. If you come / came to church to help that good cause, thank you too!

A **Team Harvest Event** will be held in Lophams' Village Hall on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**, starting at 7.30pm. A chance for people from all six parishes to come together for a warming supper of shepherd's pie or a veggie alternative, followed by apple pie & ice cream. Tickets are just £2.50 to cover costs and there will be a raffle, with the proceeds for charity. See local posters for full details, or 'phone Jennie on 01379 687679 to order tickets.

**St Nicholas' Harvest Thanksgiving** is on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October. There will be a presentation of token gifts at the All Age service at 11am, with seasonal refreshments afterwards and everyone is welcome. It would be lovely to have new residents joining us. We would be very grateful for any offers of flowers, foliage and produce to decorate the church for Harvest, plus help with arranging everything so that St Nicholas' looks its festive best.

Advance Notice: **North Lopham Crib Festival.** The fifth Crib Festival will run from Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November, between 11am and 5pm, and on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>. There will be a great number of Crib scenes to view, plus the interactive corner, refreshments and a stall with seasonal items. This year **you** are invited to create a crib scene or a Christmas Carol scene using your own ideas... peg dolls, paper crafts, or..... Bring it along on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>. Interested in having a go? Just contact Jennie on 01379 687679 for more information.

## 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 October gathering is on 28<sup>th</sup>.

## 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 **5<sup>th</sup> October**. Please telephone 01379 687679 for further details or for help with transport.

## Lophams' Churches

**The Lophams' Autumn Lunch** will be on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November** in the Village Hall. Watch out for posters for more details and for tickets, please speak to Church Wardens.

## Friends of South Lopham Church

The Friends will be holding a Slide Show entitled Lophams' through the 20<sup>th</sup> Century on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2015 in Lophams Village Hall at 7.30pm. Refreshments of cake and coffee, tickets £6 per person. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Redgrave and Lopham Fen

**Guided fen walks** Saturday 3 Oct 10.30am-1pm

£3 Meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

**Wildlife Watch Group** Saturdays – 10 Oct, 14 Nov 10.30am-12.30pm

A club for 6 – 12yr olds, £2

Contact marcus.halmshaw@btinternet.com or call 01379 688333

**Apple Day & Autumn Plant Sale** Sunday 18 Oct, 10.30am-3pm

£3 adults, £2 children 01379 688333

**Children's activity: Autumn antics** Tuesday 27 Oct, 10am-2pm For unaccompanied 6-10 year olds. £6 per child, please book 01379 688333 redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

**Family activity: All about owls** Wednesday 28 Oct, 6.30pm-8.30pm

£2.50 per person, please book 01379 688333

redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

**Young naturalists**

Thursday 29 Oct, 10am-2pm £6 each,

please book For 11-15 year olds

01379 688333

redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

## North Lopham Parish Council

**Meeting** 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015. **Present:** all councillors, Parish Clerk, Cllr. M. Chapman-Allen (BDC), Cllr. S Askew (NCC), four members of public. **Solar Farms:** NLPC was today informed that new plans for two solar farms are to be submitted to BDC. One is to the north of Thetford Road and the other South-West of Kings Head Lane. Applicants' details and precise locations are not yet known. **Speed Watch** is now operational, over 5 sessions the drivers of 24 cars and one lorry will receive warning letters, highest speed so far recorded is 47mph. Further **traffic calming** measures to be introduced at the north end of the village, a SLOW sign on the road, 'North Lopham' sign to be moved a bit further away from the village, new 30mph reflective signs with 'Think' signs and upgrades to the 30mph repeater signs throughout the village. **Proposed footpath** between 'The Bull' and Cherry Tree Close, revised estimate £11,500. Half would have to be raised by the PC. S106 money is not available for this type of project. **Neighbourhood Plan:** £57.60 required for the official map and permission to apply. Expenditure approved. **Telephone Box** refurbishment is almost complete. Defibrillator has been purchased; installation cost has yet to be covered. **Grit bin** at junction of High Common Road and Church Road has been requested, turned down on grounds of cost. **Council Vacancies:** 3 applicants for 2 places, interviews will be held. **Jubilee Lane:** In response to NCC enquiry, PC is unanimously against upgrade to restricted byway. **Precept:** consider raising it next year, costs are rising and fewer volunteers mean more money will be required to pay for essential work. **Next meeting** 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

## South Lopham Parish Council

**Meeting** 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 at Valley Farm, Low Common. **Present:** Councillors J Crisp, Mrs S Martin, D Huggins, T Frizzell, J Pursehouse, County Councillor Mr S Askew (part meeting) and Mrs C Phillips (Clerk). **Financial:** The Clerk provided updated bank balances and the meeting approved payments towards Lophams News, the Clerk's salary and election expenses invoiced by Breckland Council. The Clerk also confirmed approval of the Council's accounts by the auditors. **Planning.** The applications in respect of the Old Post Office had been granted, the marquee attached to the White Horse and the application at Bridge Farm were undecided. The small barn at Low Common and the application at Nodde Farm were subject to appeal. **Highways.** Mr Askew discussed with Councillors their growing dissatisfaction with the lack of action on the part of the County Council in respect of proposals by the Parish Council to resite road signs on the A1066 at both east and west ends of the village. Councillors also expressed their concern over the standard of road repairs carried out by the County Councils contractors. Mr Askew promised to investigate these concerns with the responsible officers and report back to the Council. **Works.** John Crisp investigating refurbishment of village sign and rubbish behind the bus shelter, Rob Webb clearance of foot path on land owned by Mr Alston and Tim Frizzell cleaning of bench behind the War Memorial. **General.** Risk management policy agreed, donation to St Andrew's discussed and a report on the continued use of phone box provided. **Next Meeting.** 5<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm at Valley Farm.

## Services for October

North Lopham    South Lopham

4<sup>th</sup> October

9.30am HC

11am Fam S

11<sup>th</sup> October

11am Harvest S

18<sup>th</sup> October

11am Fam S

9.30am HC

25<sup>th</sup> October

11am Fam S

9.30am MS

Contributions for next issue by;

**18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

Please email to  
lophamsnews@gmail.com