

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

NO411

PUBLISHED EACH MONTH SINCE 1982

AUGUST 2016

St Andrew's School

St. Andrew's pupils, staff, governors and parents are enjoying the last few days of the summer term.

Through the term children continued to further their learning about past occupations in North Lopham through the topic 'Our Norfolk, Our Adventures'. Pupils keenly shared their work with the wider community on Friday 15th July 2016 from which the school received a lot of positive feedback.

Year 5 and 6 also enjoyed a wonderful residential at Hilltop. The weather was kind and the group were able to take part in high ropes, bushcraft and many more outdoor activities. Returning from Hilltop, year 6 celebrated extremely good SAT's results. The outstanding teaching and hard work of the pupils really paid off. Pupils, staff and parent planned a Teddy Bears Picnic to say goodbye to staff that were departing at the end of term. Strawberries and cream were enjoyed by all and cards were presented.

School Council raised money and arranged for the whole school to have a trip to Bewilderwood. Children participated in a range of activities including climbing, maze and boat trip.

If you would like to know more about St. Andrew's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School please contact the school office on 01379 687253.

St Andrew's Pre School

Greetings from all of us at pre school. As I write this we are looking forward to our end of term party and then a nice long summer holiday. Some children are leaving us to go to school and we wish them well. We also say goodbye to our assistant and in September welcome Louise who is taking on the role. Numbers are looking good for September but we do still have some places available on all days. We are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8.45 – 3.15 during term.

To the member of the public who left a letter under the door with no address on so that we could reply: The car you spotted outside pre school driving away with a child on the drivers lap was nothing at all to do with pre school. Other people use our parking area for numerous reasons or simply to turn around in. We are sorry that this incident made you upset and angry but as you said in your letter maybe you should have notified the police. If you or anyone in the village wishes to discuss any matter with us we are more than willing to chat, thanks. Jan Feather, pre school manager

Lophams' Village Hall

Hall Improvements: Now that the tiling of the kitchen is all complete, a dehumidifier is being fitted to help keep it in pristine condition, and the old cupboard doors on the window side will be replaced to match those under the hatch. The other fittings are being reviewed, to ensure everything is in tip top order, making the room a pleasure to work in.

The Lottery: It is great when there's a full complement of 100 members, with a corresponding monthly first prize of £200, so 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. The winners in June were: first prize of £200 – R Clark; second prizes of £50 – K Wood and J Farren-Bradley. 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. Mrs Taber won this in June.

Regular bookings:

Farmers' Markets: are on the fourth Saturday from 9am till 12.30pm so the July date will be 23rd. (Details from Mike on 01379687235)

Judo: is on Mondays & Wednesdays - (Details from Howard on 1379 688 258) NB – Howard is taking a well deserved rest for August

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.

Dog Training: Most Thursday evenings with Rob Jessup; Rob's 'phone number is 01379 873144

To book the hall for private events, telephone 01379 687679, or go to the website

Lophams' Ladies

- meeting at the Village Hall on the first Tuesday each month, usually at 7pm for a 7.30 start.

David Morton came to the July meeting with an illustrated talk about the Tower of London and its fascinating history. His knowledge is amazing!

The annual Car Boot, Bric- a-Brac; Books & Jumble Sale was a happy occasion, though numbers were a bit low – too many competing attractions!. We were pleased to make over £125 after expenses, and thank all those who helped. At the August meeting, Jean Wright's subject is Gold Embroidery, and there will be a Bring & Buy stall. As ever visitors and new members will be very welcome

For more information, please contact Sarah on 01379 687337 & 687679 for Jumble.

Lophams' 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

We did not have our usual meeting on 7th July but instead spent the evening paying short visits to various club members gardens. We were able to admire a huge variety of flowers, trees and shrubs and also vegetables whilst appreciating how much hard work had gone into producing such beautiful results! We ended this most enjoyable evening at Meadow Farm where we enjoyed a selection of delicious cakes as well as Bucks Fizz or Sparkling Elderflower.

Our next meeting will be on 4th August when we look forward to welcoming Rodney Tibbs who will give a presentation entitled "Vegetables for Value", and looking further forward, on 1st September David Boulton will talk about "Mushrooms and Fungi".

Please telephone 01379 687833 for further details

South Lopham Parish Council

The July meeting was held on the 7th July at Valley Farm Low Common. Five Councillors present and Mrs Phillips, the clerk.

The Chairman reported his attendance at a SNAP meeting at Attleborough and a South Breckland forum meeting at East Harling when amongst other items the topics of traffic speed affecting the villages were discussed. As a result there will be a police presence in South Lopham on the A1066 for a limited period. Further steps are being investigated regarding traffic speed, particularly heavy traffic, on the Kenninghall-North Lopham South Lopham road. He also reported that the Council had been successful in obtaining a Pride grant from Breckland Council for the Village sign renovation. The renovator would now be given instructions to commence work.

The Clerk advised the Council of the resignation of Tim Frizzell from the Council. Tim will be missed and thanks were expressed for his contribution and work during his time as a councillor. As a result there is a vacancy and those interested may contact the Clerk or any member of the Council.

Parish Partnership Funding: NCC is now open for bids for small highway schemes. It was agreed that if this could be used in connection with a flashing sign showing the speed of vehicles or a village gateway on the A1066 the council will consider an application.

Planning: applications at Willow Brae and Poplar Farm undecided. Use of land corner of Brick Kiln Lane and Low Common - enquiries still proceeding through Enforcement officer.

Highways: repairs on Blo Norton road appear to be complete but some doubt expressed as to their effectiveness. Brick Kiln Lane - enquiries to be made as to whether or not further work still to be done. A1066 - the clerk to contact NCC re reduction of speed. Council still to press it's case.

Footpaths: Rob Webb had produced a paper on Parish Paths seminar attended by him in June and will attend the next Council meeting to expand on the presentations made.

Works: Bus shelter repairs - Jim Pursehouse to undertake.

Parish Website: confirmed this is now up to date and all public are encouraged to visit it and parishioners to use it to publicise events etc.

Next meeting: 1st September 2016 @ 7.30pm at Valley Farm Low Common

St Nicholas' Church

Used Postage Stamps: Grateful thanks to all those who save stamps and deposit them in the box in church. To date over £117,000 has been raised for the Leprosy Mission nationally. Our do help! A note from the organiser – please leave a 1cm margin round the outside – they cannot be used if the perforations are damaged.

The Social Scene:

The Summer Coffee Morning in & around the church July 6th, was blessed with glorious sunshine and a steady stream of lovely visitors to enjoy a gossip as they browsed the plants, books & jigsaws for sale, 'had a go' on the Raffle or Odds & Evens, and sampled the delicious refreshments. Many thanks to everyone who came along, or helped in any way – especially our wonderful kitchen team of Angie & Maureen, £380 was raised for funds!

CONCERT FOR NEPAL:

Bryony Holdsworth, well known to many in the village (St Andrew's School, Diss High School and helper at the Kings Head) plans to go out to Nepal in August to help rebuild a school destroyed by the 2015 earthquake. Our New Wave of talented young musicians performed a concert of light classical music, plus some jazz, to a very appreciative audience on 16th July. The programme gave us a great mix of styles, e.g. Duke Ellington style on the piano followed by a harp solo; a classical flute sonata then "Feeling Good" as the finale, with a light supper in the interval. A wonderful evening made £379 towards Bryony's project – so a huge thank you to everyone involved, especially Delcine, Maya, Sophie, Elliott and Luke, our entertainers.

August is traditionally a quieter month – we wish all those going away a happy holiday and safe travelling. To any visitors coming in this direction – please feel sure of a warm welcome if you come to the church building. We would love to meet you.

Redgrave and Lopham Fen IP22 2HX

Guided fen walks Saturday 6 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

Summer holiday activities – there are a range of these events. Please see and book @ www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Art Exhibition - Sat 27, Sun 28 & Mon 29 August, 10am-4pm
Artwork by local artists inspired by nature. Free entry and refreshments available

Norfolk Village Games

Once again the Lophams were represented by a multi-generational team at the 2016 Norfolk Village Games which took place at the UEA Sportpark on the 10th July. Ten teams from 16 villages across Norfolk battled it out with each other to see who could excel in the ten competitive sports on the programme.

At the end of a highly enjoyable day the Lophams took overall second place winning the silver medal finishing just behind Hainford and Stratton Strawless who took the gold. In the individual events the Lophams took first place in the athletics, fitness challenge and short mat bowls.

As this is the sixth and final year of the Active Norfolk Event special thanks are due to all those who have taken part and to games co-ordinator Jim Pursehouse who has taken on the challenge every year to organise and assemble a team to represent the Lophams.

North Lopham Methodists

Methodist friends invite local residents to the monthly service in the church, with Coffee, at 10.30am on the fourth Wednesday each month. The next one is on 24th August.

BLO NORTON'S INDIAN PRINCE: H H Fred. V Duleep Singh 1868-1926 His life will be commemorated with an Exhibition in the Village Hall & Flower Festival in Church, with a Sikhism exhibition in the church porch by pupils from St Andrew's School on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th August from 10am till 4.30pm: Admission is free.

Talk in church at 2pm on Saturday by Peter Bance, lecturer on the Duleep Singh family. Numbers are limited to 100, so ring 01953 681396 to book a ticket. Informal talk at the Village Hall at 2pm on Sunday, by Geoffrey Leigh.

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. Younger people are especially welcome during school holidays....
Forthcoming dates are August 1st and September 5th.
(Do telephone 01379 687679 for further details or for help with transport)

St Andrew's Church

Vestry meeting - At the recent Vestry Meeting Peter Reeder retired from his position as Churchwarden. Peter has been a Churchwarden at St. Andrew's Church, South Lopham for over 40 years and we thank him most sincerely for his commitment and dedication in this roll. The PCC would like to wish Peter all the best in his retirement. Jill Brundell will continue as Churchwarden and is joined by new Churchwarden Marion Crisp.

Coffee Morning - On Saturday 4th June, there will be a Coffee Morning in St. Andrew's Church 10.00am to 12.00 noon, with all the usual stalls, including a tombola, Everyone is very welcome, please come and join us for a Coffee and a Scone.

North Lopham Parish Council

Parish Council – 14th July Present Six councillors, Parish Clerk, three members of public. Apologies from Cllr McManus.

East Harling Parish Forum

A quarterly meeting of delegates from a number of parishes surrounding E Harling is designed to report and act on their common issues. Three matters were discussed, flooding, HGVs and tractor and trailer drivers. Tanns Lane and The Street in N Lopham were included in the flooding report to NCC and N Lopham was praised for its ongoing, constructive work with HGVs.

Contact was made with the NFU and National Association of Agricultural Contractors to see if a code of practice could be introduced to encourage tractor drivers to be more considerate in built up areas.

Grass Cutting: Complaints about mess left causing drain blockages referred to Breckland.

War Memorial: John Bush, who has tended the area round the war memorial for many years is giving it up. A letter of thanks will be sent.

Benches at the Mere: Eric and Lesley Bird have restored them, a letter of thanks will be sent.

The Trod: The funding is in place and work is due to start in Jan/Feb 2017.

Village Gates: These were discussed as a possible further traffic calming measure. Cost £500 per set after grant. Decision deferred to next meeting for further consultation. Is there a need for more traffic calming, how effective will it be, is there a better use for the money? Suggestions please!!

Jubilee Lane: NCC has reapplied to upgrade Jubilee Lane to a restricted byway. Hedge and grass cutting urgently need to be improved but there are cost implications. In the current wet conditions, wheeled traffic is causing damage to the pathway. Could a working party be organised?

Settlement Boundary: Breckland is consulting about removing settlement boundaries, purports to give Parish Councils greater powers over planning decisions.

East Anglian Devolution website: Register your views on this important issue.

Next meeting: 14th Sept.

Church Farm House

Reminder - "Art in the Garden" will take place at Church Farm House (opposite St. Nicholas Church) on Saturday and Sunday, July 30th and 31st, from 11-5 both days.

Teas will be available. Admission is £3. Look forward to seeing you.

Services for August

North Lopham	South Lopham
7th August	
9.30am HC	-
11am Fam S	-
14th August	
11am Fam S	-
21st August	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
28th August	
11am Fam S	9.30am M.S

Contributions for next issue by;

18th August

Please email to
lophamsnews@gmail.com