

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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NOVEMBER 2017

St Andrew's School

It's hard to believe the first half term of the year is complete! It has been an incredibly busy few weeks. New staff and pupils have all settled in well; it's hard to realise they have only been with us for six weeks.

Among other topics, the children have been thinking about Heroes – for the younger ones Florence Nightingale has been an inspiration. The Harvest Festival Service was a delight; the singing, readings and prayers were all delivered with real clarity. The perishable goods brought along have been shared with Fenner's Home at Fersfield; the tins and packets were gratefully received by the Food Bank based in Diss. All the juniors took part in Cross Country races at Diss High School. We are thrilled that St Andrew's had two medal winners and eleven runners qualified for the Area finals later in the term. Congratulations to them all.

St. Andrew's governors, pupils and staff hope you enjoy the half term break. If you wish to make an appointment to visit next half term, please contact Mrs McGarr, on 01379 687253 or by e-mail head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk We would love to hear from you!

St Andrew's Pre School

Greetings from the staff at St Andrews pre school.

As I write this we are approaching half term already, how quickly the time has gone.

We have been exploring colours at pre school this half term. We have enjoyed an Autumn walk to find some of the colours we have looked at, and collected some lovely colourful Autumn leaves and conkers. We have made an Elmer elephant using all the colours of the rainbow, he hangs in our window so do take look when you pass.

We have a sponsored Rainbow Day this week where the children will be sponsored to come to pre school in all the rainbow colours and hunt for hidden rainbow colours in the setting. We will also be decorating cakes and one of our parents is selling some beautiful rainbow cakes that she has made outside the setting on Thursday 19th to raise money for pre school funds.

We are an inclusive setting and welcome all families. We are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8.45am to 3.15pm term time only, and are situated in the grounds of the primary school. We were rated good by Ofsted at our last inspection.

For further information or to arrange a visit please call Jan on 07854 091257

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.

On 5th October we welcomed Shaun Mills who gave a talk entitled "Hedgehogs - Your Garden Friends". Shaun gave us a lot of information about the lifecycle of the hedgehog and also how and why we should welcome these creatures into our gardens.

Our next meeting is on 2nd November when Melanie Collins will give a presentation entitled "Hostas". Our competition in November will be A Garden in a Basket - any size and it would be lovely to see lots of entries.

We shall not have our usual meeting in December, but instead are looking forward to our Christmas Meal together. This will be on 7th December in the restaurant at the Wyvale Garden Centre in Bressingham 7.00pm for 7.30pm. The cost will be £17.00 per person and tickets are available now - telephone 01953 681989 for further details. It would be lovely to see friends old and new at what is sure to be a most enjoyable evening.

North Lopham News

The Parish Council: meets on November 8th

North Lopham Charities: The Charities group exists to help with sudden or unexpected needs as well as ongoing difficulties experienced by any of the village residents. Grants can be given to young people for special equipment, books etc needed for further education, or for charitable expeditions, or to families and older people faced with extra expenses.

To apply, just write a letter to the Chair of the trustees, Mr Mike Cox, at Linden House, The Street, North Lopham, with details. All applications are treated in confidence. The funds are there – help us to use them well!

Lophams' Ladies

meeting at the Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month, at 7.30pm.

At the October meeting we learned about the history and building of the Funeral Train, to meet the ever growing demand for funerals in Victorian London and its suburbs. Local History is the focus on November 7th The topic is Norfolk Workhouses, still within the memory for some members. Visitors will be very welcome to come along. The £2 contribution covers refreshments as well as the meeting.

Advance warning - meetings from December to February are in the afternoon, starting at 2pm. For further information, please telephone Carole on 01379 423143.

Lophams' Village Hall

Big news for the Autumn: The Village Hall Committee send a big thank you to everyone who supported the Bags For Help campaign at Tesco. As you may have heard we won, so have £3500 towards the children's play equipment planned for installation on the playing field at the Village Hall. It is a great start to the fund-raising for this project which we are very keen to see succeed. We have also applied for another grant with Aviva, so fingers crossed! We have been accepted as an eligible project by them so we will put more information on about this when we receive it. It does involve some online voting. We are very keen to complete this project by the spring so any ideas or help with fund-raising events would be brilliant. And Thank you, Pauline, for all your hard work. (There are also plans for new 5-a-side football posts)

Lophams' Bonfire and Firework Event: Saturday 4th November. The gates will open at 6pm for this always popular event, as the bonfire begins to burn; the firework display will begin about 7.30pm. Admission will be adult £8, and school age child £4, with a Family ticket pegged at £20 for another year, a real bargain! There will be all the usual extra attractions – hot food and drinks, plus soup in the kitchen, a bar, and children's fun items, so do book the date and come along for a very special evening. The bonfire promises to be HUGE – many thanks to all who have already brought prunings, wood etc to the field. Further loads can be brought on Saturdays & Sundays up to November 4th - a donation of £1 per car load or £5 per lorry load will be gratefully received towards the increased costs of the fabulous fireworks. Please do not bring materials (nails, metal, plastic etc) which could cause Environmental Health to ban the bonfire! Thank you.

Diary Date: An evening of comedy and song. with Pat Nearney and Danny Platten on 18th November at 7.30pm is another special date for the diary. Tickets are just £9 from Eileen (01379 687608) & Jennie (01379 687679) Do get yours in good time.

The **Village Hall Lottery** continues to raise invaluable funds for the development fund, with a full complement of members at the moment. If you would like to go on the list for a place when a vacancy occurs, please contact 01379 687718, or speak to any committee member. Regular draws take place at noon at the Farmers' Market each month. All who have been in for three months are entered into the Christmas Bonanza draw at the December Farmers' Market. The September winners were: first prize of £200 – L & L Kercher; second prizes of £50 - B Goodey & S Dilloway. Harriet from N Lopham won the £40 goodies basket. Tonya's duck sausages won the golden frying pan!

Farmers' Markets: take place every month, on the 4th Saturday, from 9am till 12.30pm, with a wide range of stalls to choose your locally produced goods. The next Market is on 25th November. Details from Mike Shipperlee on 01379687235.

Judo is on Mondays & Wednesdays - (contact Howard on 1379 688 258)

Lophams' Art Group: meets on Wednesday mornings, from 9.30am. The cost is £15 each per month, and includes refreshments and a visit from an 'expert' once each month. Contact Jennifer on 01379 687282 for more details

Pilates: sadly, Pilates has ceased due to lack of regular support. This is a real case of 'Use it or lose it!'

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

To book the hall for private events, 'phone 01379 687679, or visit the website

St Nicholas' Church

Methodists' Services Methodist friends from the area continue to meet in church for an informal morning service followed by coffee & chat on the fourth Wednesday each month at 10.30am, and are always happy to have local friends join in. The next service is on November 22nd

The **Biggest Coffee Morning in the World**: Grateful thanks to all who supported this event and helped to raise £188 for Macmillan Cancer Care

Samaritan's Purse: Shoe Box Appeal. Thank you to anyone who is decorating and filling a box to go to a child in the Easter Block or beyond. Please bring your box to Southlands by the weekend of 12th November, so we can be sure it is delivered in time for Christmas.

Knitted Bible Festival 2017: 25th to 30th October, We are almost there! The KBF will be open from 11am to 5pm each day from Wednesday 25th to Monday 30th (Sunday from 12.30) Admission is completely free! There will be interactive ideas to do, plus refreshments and a craft stall with associated items and preserves. We would love to see you, so do come along to view the 50 displays with knitted figures etc

Remembrance is the important theme for November: A **Remembrance Ceremony** will be held at the village War Memorial on Friday 10th November at 10.50 for 11am. The older pupils from St Andrew's School have been invited to join veterans, local residents and members of the American Air Force for this occasion, when they will plant poppy crosses and join in the service. On Remembrance Sunday, 12th November, a special ceremony will take place at the beginning of the Family Service at 11am, when all the names from the war memorials will be read, as we give thanks for all the sacrifices made.

FOSTA: A 1940s Swing Night is planned for Saturday 25th November, from 7.30 to 11.30pm, at Lophams' Village Hall.

Dance to live band Bootleg Swing; Bar & DJ until 11pm. Tickets are £10 in advance, from The Kings Head or St Andrew's School, or £12 on the door on the night. 1940s dress is welcome, but optional.

Redgrave and Lopham Fen, nr Bressingham, IP22 2HX

For details of all the many events for both children and adults and to book, visit www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org or call 01473 890089

Little Ouse Headwaters Project (LOHP)

AGM and Members' Evening Monday 27th November, 7.30pm Redgrave Activities Centre, Churchway, IP22 1RL

All are welcome to our AGM and ever popular Annual talk and members' evening. This year's talk, by Dr Pam Taylor, will be on dragonflies, with particular reference to our area. Pam is a former president of the British Dragonfly Society. The talk will be followed by a chance to look at displays, including some of our Creative Arts Group's work, and seasonal refreshments; contributions of finger foods and raffle prizes will be gratefully received.

South Lopham Estates Charity

Part of the purpose of this charity is to give modest sums of money to residents of South Lopham who have specific financial needs.

We are particularly interested in helping young people with the expenses of education and training, including travel.

Other applications for consideration could include anyone suffering because of a bereavement or an unforeseen setback; or problems or expense because of illness in the family such as travel to a hospital or care home; or to assist any resident who has insufficient disposable income to enable him/her to enjoy the occasional treat; or any other cause which the Trustees consider deserving.

If you believe that you or someone in your family may qualify for such assistance please contact the secretary, Keeley Chapman, on 01379 687985 for further details and a simple application form for completion. If you are aware of any other resident in specific financial need please let the secretary know so that we can approach that person to see if we can help.

Please be assured that all applications will be treated sympathetically and with complete confidentiality.

St Andrew's Church

Remembrance Service. The Service of Remembrance for South Lopham this year will take place in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 12th November, please note this service will start at 10.00am.

Coffee Morning. There will be a Coffee Morning in the Church on Saturday 18th November 2017 from 10.00am to 12.00noon, with Cake stall, Raffle and a Tombola, we hope you will be able to join us, we look forward to welcoming you.

Harvest Service. On Sunday 24th September we welcomed Jayne Hinds to take our Harvest Service. The Church looked splendid with all the Autumn flowers and produce, thank you to everyone who helped, gave produce or who came to the service to celebrate our Harvest Festival.

Church Carpet. We now have a nice new carpet in the Church, the PCC would like to thank the Friends of South Lopham Church for providing this much needed replacement.

The Lophams' Society

Friday the 13th October was lucky for some when the Lophams' Society hosted it's most successful quiz night to date. A total of 17 teams, comprising of almost 100 people, filled the Village Hall hoping to become the winning team. At the end of the last round with just a few points dividing the teams, table 16 took the honours.

Many thanks to both our regular supporters and those who joined us for the first time who came along to this most enjoyable evening. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to our Spring Quiz in 2018. Thanks also to question-master Roy Clark and to Mike Cox for keeping score and to all the committee members for their sterling work keeping everyone fed and "watered" throughout the evening.

The next Lophams' Society event will be the Christmas Drop-in on 15th December which is a free event and open to all residents of the Lophams.

Holy Bingo

- continues on the first Monday each month, at the Village Hall at 2pm. The November date is the 6th for the usual fun time with plenty of chat, alongside the actual bingo games.

If you need a lift, please contact Jennie on 01379 687679 to arrange transport

Services for November

North Lopham	South Lopham
	5th Nov
9.30am HC 11am Fam S	*****
	12th Nov
11am Fam S	10am Remem
	19th Nov
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
	26th Nov
11am Fam S	9.30am MS

Contributions for next issue by:

18th November

Please email Julie
lophamsnews@gmail.com

Thank You