

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No 432

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MAY 2018

St Andrew's School

During March Key Stage 2 children enjoyed an educational visit to Ipswich to learn about different places of worship. This was a wonderful day out and pupils learnt lots about what happens in a Mosque and a Gurdwara. The pupils were praised for their fantastic behaviour.

Children from years 4, 5 and 6 have also taken part in the tag rugby, netball and tournaments at Diss High School and enjoyed this different part of the curriculum. There were some excellent achievements, including being placed 3rd and 4th in tag rugby.

The school is very grateful for the parent group FOSTA, who have organised a variety of exciting events such as a Beetle Drive, pancake morning and Easter scavenger hunt. This term the children are focusing on the topic 'Growing' with the collective worship theme 'reverence and respect'.

If you would like further information about St Andrew's CE VA Primary, or wish to make an appointment to visit, please do not hesitate to contact the school 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

We had a very nice Easter hat parade and afternoon tea for parents/carers at the end of last term, the children made some very good creations at home and brought them along on the day and each child was given an Easter egg for taking part. We also had an Easter egg hunt which the children enjoyed,

We are now at the start of the long summer term. For the first half of the term we are looking at some science topics including our senses, the natural world, magnets and light and shadow. We will be planting and weeding in our garden, doing some simple experiments and using our five senses both inside the setting and outside to listen, touch, smell, taste and see all sorts of different things.

We received a good outcome at our recent Ofsted inspection and have places available on all days. We welcome all families and are open term time only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 8.45 a.m. to 3.15 p.m.

For more information please contact Jan on 0785091257.

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 April we welcomed Claire Boothby from The British Trust for Ornithology. Claire gave a very interesting talk about birds and nature in general and how important a part our gardens played in their lives. Our gardens attract the insects on which the birds depend for food and, of course, so many of us put out bird food to supplement their diets and these factors combine to enable the birds to successfully rear their young.

Our next meeting is on 3rd May when we shall hold our A.G.M. postponed from our cancelled March meeting, followed by a quiz and refreshments and, looking further forward, on 7th June we shall welcome Guy Barker to give a presentation entitled "Early Summer".

Lophams' Ladies - meeting at the Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month, at 7.15 for 7.30pm. Visitors & potential members are very welcome. The AGM on April 3rd followed an enjoyable meal at South Lopham White Horse, when members were pleased to have plenty of time to exchange personal news. Carol Hardstone was thanked for her time in office as she stepped down from the chair. Committee members will discuss the Officer roles when they meet.

A full programme of meetings for the new year has been planned – on May 1st we look forward to Kathleen Denton's talk about the production of stage costumes, especially those for pantomimes. There will be a Bring & Buy Stall. On June 5th the subject is 'A Turkish Valentine', with Jenny Gibbs.

Advance notice: The annual Bric a Brac, Jumble and Book Sale is on Saturday 16th June, so do remember the Ladies as you do the Spring sort out! We can collect, if you telephone 01379 687679 (Jennie) or 687337 (Sarah)

Lophams' Village Hall

The Spring and Summer calendar has two big events to note:

BRIMBO will hold a motorcycle Meet at the field on Sunday 13th May, from 10am to 4pm, for all motorbike enthusiasts and families. As in previous years, pitches will be £12, or £10 if pre-booked; admission is £2, with free parking, and refreshments will be available throughout the day

For further information, phone Mick (01986 788708) or Rodney (01379 688208). Proceeds from this event will benefit Norfolk Area Blood Bikes.

The first **Lophams' Vintage Rally** will be on Sunday 29th July. All details will be published nearer the time, but be sure to put the date in your diary now! There will be cars, engines, motorbikes and much more, alongside traditional crafts and stalls, from 10am to 4pm.

The Village Hall AGM is on Friday 25th May at 7.30pm. Please come along to hear about the activities of the last year, plans for the coming twelve months, and to put forward any ideas you may have. The hall and field are there for the benefit of the whole Lophams' community.

Plans for the installation of gym equipment for younger users is still a priority - thanks go to those who have already contributed; please get in touch if you have ideas... A new container for movable goods is now in place, so sports equipment can be safely housed when not in use

The Village Hall Lottery: The development fund has enabled many improvements to the hall over the last year - completing the kitchen area and adding new equipment; redecoration of the inside of the hall has been completed. Thank you all for your support which has allowed us to get these things done, however, there is always further work required and your on-going and greatly valued participation is still needed so, if you entered for six months, you may need to renew your entry by 14th May to stay in with a chance and to continue to help the Village Hall. Contact Jayne Conquest 01379 688183; Thanks again everyone!

Lottery winners in March were: 1st Prize £200 - A Briggs; 2nd prizes £50 – P Sturman and G Horan. S Blyth won the basket of goodies.

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 is 26th May; details from M Shipperlee on 01379 687235

Judo is on Mondays & Wednesdays - (contact Howard on 01379 688258)

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 details.

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.

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. The next is on 23rd May

Lent Lunches raised about £300 – many thanks to everybody who hosted or came along. Lynn & Tony Fry in Papua New Guinea will benefit directly

Recycling: First, the good news – the paper store on the edge of Fersfield aerodrome was emptied earlier this year, earning £287.86 for the old Upper Waveney Benefice, so each church will receive over £57.50, a welcome boost to funds. The used stamps saved in the churches benefit the Leprosy Mission

Now, the bad news - the Chinese government have stopped the import of soft plastic for recycling, so we no longer have an outlet for bottle tops. Thank you to all those who have collected so faithfully for many years but, for the time being, they need to go in the home recycling bin. The Matthew Project in Norwich has received around £2,000 from all the bottle tops collections, so we do hope that some entrepreneur in this country will develop a scheme for using them.

Easter was a very memorable weekend in St Nicholas' Church. Revd Wendy led a thought provoking meditation on Good Friday, at the foot of the 14ft. Cross across the chancel arch, then joined us on Easter Sunday for the celebration Holy Communion Service, her last Sunday Service in North Lopham. We will all miss her enthusiasm and encouragement, so generously given over the last three years. The church looked really lovely, thanks to the efforts of all those who provide the floral decorations. We were very pleased to have the infant class Easter gardens on display round the Easter garden.

St George's Day on Monday 23rd April will be reported in the next News.

Ascension Day is on May 10th There will be a special service in Diss Church at 7.30pm. From Then until Pentecost, we will be joining the Archbishops' initiative 'Thy Kingdom Come', with interactive displays in the children's corner, and an open invitation to pop in at any time, to say a prayer, tie a ribbon on the tree, or take part in one of the activities. The decorated trees will go to Diss for Pentecost – Sunday 20th May.

Friday Night is **SNYSB+** Night on 25th May. Our friends from the South Norfolk Youth Symphonic Band plus a few older supporters, led by conductor Mike Booty, will entertain, with their own special brand of wind and percussion music, proving once again that Music is Fun. All are warmly invited to join us; tickets are just £6, which includes the programme and refreshments, or you can pay on the door.

Both Lophams: Please Note: the fifth Sunday Communion Service at Diss, at 10.30am on 29th April, will be the Goodbye service for Revd Wendy, so we do hope lots of Lopham people will be there to wish her and Neal well in their retirement.

St Andrews Church

Coffee Morning

On Saturday 5th May 2018 there will be a Coffee Morning in St. Andrew's Church from 10.00am to 12.00noon with a Cake Stall, Raffle and bring and buy, we look forward to welcoming you.

Norfolk Wildlife Talk

On Friday 6th April we welcomed Roger Jones from the Norfolk Wildlife Trust who gave us a very interesting and informative talk, look for the display in the Church of which wildlife we can look for in the Churchyard. We would also like to thank all the people who keep our Churchyard looking so beautiful.

Flower Festival

On Saturday and Sunday the 9th & 10th of June 2018 there will be a Flower Festival in the Church. Also there will be a plant stall and refreshments and the tower will be open. If anyone would be interested in doing a flower arrangement please contact our Churchwardens Jill on 01379 687216 or Marion on 01379 687953.

The Lophams' Society

The Lophams' Society **Spring Quiz** on the 13th April was once again an enjoyable and well-attended evening. It was good to see many of our regular supporters turning up as well as some new faces joining us for the first time. Roy Clark provided the questions while Mike Cox kept control of the scoreboard and at the end of the evening the team on table 13 (lucky for some) took the honours with a score of 79 points and the closely contested second place had to be decided by a tie-break question between tables 7 and 8 who both scored 75 points. After several seconds of nail-biting tension the team on table 8 were officially given second place. At the end of the evening Roy Clark thanked everybody for taking part and the committee for all their hard work behind the scenes.

The next Lophams' Society event will be the Musical Summer Evening on Saturday 30th June when DixieMix will be returning to the Lophams to treat us to another great evening of Trad Jazz.

All enquiries for bookings and information please telephone Roy Clark on 01379 688408.

Holy Bingo

Continues at the Village Hall on the first Monday each month, at 2pm.

Come and join us on 7th May, the next Bank Holiday for the usual happy chat as the games proceed. For transport help, just telephone 01379 687679.



News From North Lopham

North Lopham Parish Council's next meeting is on 9th May.

Please note – a Village Cleanup will take place on 12th May - meet 09.30am at the Mere. All volunteers are most welcome;

Little Ouse Headquarters Project - LOHP

On **Monday 7th May** (Bank Holiday) we will be hosting "**Peat Fest**" on Parkers Piece and at Blo Norton Village hall. This is a free event celebrating peat which abounds on the Blo Norton sites. Did you know that in past times the local people dug and dried the stuff to use as fuel?

Peat Fest will run from 10am to 3pm and will include guided walks, peat burning, cooking, children's activities, a bunting competition, displays, food stalls, windmill tours (£4), an art exhibition at the village hall and much more. Mike Harding will be leading a talk and walk, entitled 'Meet the Peat' starting at 10.30am from the windmill. Dogs welcome on short leads and parking available (or why not come on your bike or walk!) We'd love to see you there. Full details at www.lohp.org.uk

Redgrave and Lopham Fen, nr Bressingham, IP22 2HX

There are a series of adult, children & family events held here each month including Time to Paint, Fell Walks, Wildlife Photography, Activity Days, our Summer Celebration Sun 3rd June and much, much more....

For full details and to book, visit www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org or call 01473 890089

Services for May

| North Lopham | South Lopham |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 6th May | |
| 9.30am HC | ***** |
| 11am Fam S | |
| 13th May | |
| 11am Fam S | ***** |
| 20th May | |
| 11am Fam S | 9.30am HC |
| 27th May | |
| 11am Fam S | 9.30am MS |

Contributions for next issue by:

18th May

Please email Julie
lophamsnews@gmail.com

Thank You