

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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St Andrew's School

St. Andrew's pupils and staff enjoyed a very busy end of summer term.

Reception and Year 1 had an exciting educational visit to Redgrave and Lopham Fen where they learnt about the different habitats of various living things.

Year 2, 3 and 4 enjoyed a sunny day out at the Royal Norfolk Show where learning opportunities included a habitat trail and pond dipping with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

Meanwhile Year 5 and 6 worked as a team to put on a theatrical production of the Pied Piper.

In addition to this, the school took part in a range of sporting fixtures. St. Andrew's held its own, well attended sports morning followed by a picnic lunch, year R, 1 and 2 took part in the Diss Cluster sports afternoon, year 3 and 4 in Cluster athletics and year 5 and 6 in Cluster kwick cricket and rounders. St. Andrew's was also recognised for its contribution to the small schools football and netball league where Freddie Rednall, Mia Somers and Erin Aldous received players of the year for their contribution to the teams.

Friends of St. Andrew's were also very busy organising a range of fundraising events for the children. They laid on a leaver breakfast, summer fair and St. Andrew's has Talent night. For more information about what the Friends are planning during the summer break, visit their Facebook page: **Friends of St Andrews School** and **St Andrew's Pre-school**.

St. Andrew's governors, pupils and staff hope you are enjoying a lovely summer. 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. We would love to hear from you!

St Andrew's Pre School

We are almost at the end of an especially busy term. Our Sports Day was held on 1st July and a Barbecue in lovely sunshine on 12th July. The leavers' party is on 20th July; the last day of our year.

We will miss our oldest children when they move on to "big" school, and send them off with lots of good wishes; they enjoyed their visits to meet this year's reception children. We look forward to meeting new younger ones.

So, any new residents with children approaching their 2nd birthday, or a bit older, are warmly invited 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 year olds are entitled to 15 hours 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 at the beginning of next term, view the setting and meet our team. Please note our new contact number is 07854 091257.

Lophams' Ladies

Meets on the first Tuesday of the month, usually in the Village Hall, at 7.30pm.

Our visit to Mervyn Lambert's garden on July 7th was cancelled due to the unpredictable weather on that day.

On August 4th we meet in the Hall; 7.15pm for 7.30pm to hear Robert Maidstone give a talk on "Our Little Lodgers"!

There will be a "Bring and Buy" at this meeting. On September 1st we have a talk and demonstration by "Gabriel's Garden".

New members and visitors always welcome - phone 01379 687337 for details.

Garden Club

Graham Jenner gave a talk at our last meeting on July 2nd, entitled "A Rose by any other Name", which explained how much information was contained in a plant's Latin name. Graham accompanied his talk with a selection of slides and it was an interesting and informative evening.

We are looking forward to our trip to Beth Chatto's Garden on 1st August, while on 3rd September Sarah Cook will give a presentation on Suffolk Heritage Gardens.

We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm at Lophams' Village Hall and visitors and new members are always very welcome. Please telephone 01379 687833 for further details.

Lophams' Village Hall

The **gates** to the playing field were re-sited and re-hung at the end of June, on a very hot Thursday. Grateful thanks are extended to the team who worked so hard to complete the job in a single day. We hope the increased car parking area outside the gates will encourage more use of the big open space inside during the holidays - for games, kite flying etc. as well as dog walking.

The **verandah edging** has since been replaced, to ensure that that is both safe and smart. This all means it is even more important that the dustbin is **not** used as a poop-scoop receptacle; this poses a real health hazard. NLPC have applied for a proper doggie bin and extra litterbins for the field.

The **Village Hall AGM** was held on 26th June. Development plan progress was reviewed & future ideas were discussed. The Officers remain in post.

The **Lottery**. Membership has fluctuated slightly since the 100 members was reached, but has just about got there again, 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. The Lottery winners for June were: 1st prize £196.00 E Jacob and 2nd prizes of £49.00 each P Moralee and J Brown. In addition to the Lottery draw, there is a **monthly raffle** with one superb prize, which includes an item from every stall at the Farmer's Market, a wonderful array of goodies for the larder.

Farmers' Markets are usually the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am to 12.30pm, so the next one is on 22nd August. (Details from Mike on 01379 687235).

NB Judo is having a well-earned break during school holidays. (Details for next term 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 website at www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk.

Redgrave and Lopham Fen

Family events, £2.50 per person.

Wednesday 5 August, 10am-12noon - Super furry animals

Wednesday 12 August, 2pm-4pm - Awesome arachnids

Wednesday 19 August, 2pm-4pm - Pictorial orienteering

Tuesday 25 August, 10am-2pm - Fabulous flowers

Wednesday 26 August, 2pm-4pm - Beetlemania

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Booking essential 01379 688333

Activity days, £6 per child

Tuesday 4 August, 10am-2pm - Wild art

Tuesday 11 August, 10am-2pm - Bio challenge

Tuesday 18 August, 10am-2pm - Wild fun and games

Unaccompanied children only

Booking essential 01379 688333.

Art Exhibition

Sat 29, Sun 30 & Mon 31 August, 10am - 4pm. Artwork by local artists inspired by nature.

Free entry. Refreshments available.

St Nicholas' Church.

The **Summer Coffee Morning** on Thursday 9th July was held in and round the church this year on a beautiful, sunny morning. It was lovely to welcome visitors from across the Team - and far beyond! Two were from Alabama; descendants of the Revd Lawrence Womack, a rector in the 1700s! Many thanks go to all those who provided goodies for the stall, raffle and tombola and to everyone who came along, as well as to those who helped in any way; especially Angie and Maureen who dealt with all the refreshments so efficiently. We raised £467 on the day, which was excellent.

St Andrew's School end of year service was held in St Nicholas' Church. It was lovely to have the building filled and to hear the beautiful singing.

The **Hymn Marathon** - the very last one! Will take place on Saturday 8th August, starting at 8.30am and continuing until around 5.15pm. The church team will be on hand throughout, to greet visitors and serve coffee & tea. Playing will be continuous through the morning, but there will be a chance to sing along, or even request a favourite hymn in the afternoon; if you have missed Jennie around the village beforehand, inviting folk to sponsor one (perhaps in memory of someone special). The target is 600 hymns and as many more as can be fitted in!! Thank you all.

As the holiday season reaches its climax, we do hope that visitors to the area will find their way into church and feel welcome, perhaps even share in a service. To all those going away, we send good wishes for safe travelling and a restful time.

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 10.30 am.

The August gathering is on 26th.

St. Andrew's Church

We look forward to seeing you at the **Harvest Coffee Morning** in the Church on Saturday 26th September 10am to 12 noon. Cake stall, bring and buy and raffle. Please come along for a coffee and a score.

Holy Bingo

Continues in the Village Hall throughout the summer holiday, 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 3rd August. Please telephone 01379 687679 for further details or for help with transport.

South Lopham Parish Council

Meeting 2nd July. **Present** Councillors John Crisp, S.Martin, T. Frizzell and D.Huggins and Mrs Chapman Allen (District Councillor). Mrs Martin deputised as clerk as Mrs Phillips was unable to attend. **Matters arising:** Village meeting. Recent correspondence from the Chairman of the Lophams' Society was discussed. Decided that a response should be sent to the Chairman acknowledging his letter. As the Council hold regular meetings advertised in advance to which all parishioners are welcome the Council is happy for the Society to take the initiative regarding the Village Meeting. **Telephone kiosk:** Jim Pursehouse not in attendance to report. John Crisp had had discussions with a parishioner living near the box who felt that the book exchange was supported and was also used by people living outside the village. Jim to report at the next meeting. **Finance:** In the absence of the Clerk the Chairman reported the Bank balances and approval was given for payment of various accounts. £184.24 was received from Breckland in respect of the bottle bank. **Planning:** Mrs Martin reported on the current position. White Horse, marquee and hedging undecided, Bridge Farm replacement dwelling undecided, Noddle Farm lifting of conditions partial approval, Lansdown House alterations and extension undecided, Nissen hut behind Allotment Farm permitted development, Council's opinion not sought although Councillors felt this was not suitable conversion to a dwelling. **Use of land in Brick Kiln Lane:** It was reported that this land appeared to be being used as a builders yard and another large portable building had been placed there. Enforcement Officer to be informed. **Highways:** Mrs Chapman Allen had contacted County highways on behalf of the Parish. Further signs awaited by N.C.C. Repairs to Blo Norton road were inadequate either only partially complete or paint markings had been ignored. Mrs Chapman Allen suggested that our County Councillor should be contacted to arrange a meeting with N.C.C. Highways concerning moving the 30mph signs on the A1066. Church Road broken fire hydrant marker. Anglian Water to be contacted by John Crisp. **Community:** David Huggins reported that village hall gates had been moved back to allow easier access when the gates are locked. David Huggins attending August meeting with Gressingham Foods and reported on works of improvement by the company. **Footpaths:** Tim Frizzell reported on footpaths that needed clearing between Duttlebridge and Rectory Corner and between Duttlebridge and Chequers Farm. Parish Clerk to write to land owner. Bus shelter had been tidied and old notices removed. Rubbish behind shelter to be investigated and source traced. Tim to inspect and clean Jubilee Bench. There was a request that out of date signs advertising functions in either of the villages be removed as soon as possible after the event. John Crisp to investigate refurbishment of Village sign. **AOB:** The Clerk had sent the Parish Audit to Mazars and thanks were expressed to Mr Hodgson for his internal audit work. **Date of next meeting:** 3rd September, Valley Farm, Low Common.

North Lopham Parish Council

Met on July 8th. **Present:** All councillors (still 2 under strength), Mr Farren-Bradley, Ms S Molloy & 4 members of the public. The Parish clerk was absent because of ill health; wishes for her speedy recovery were expressed. **Proposed development in Kings Head Lane:** Ms Molloy, architect to the scheme, gave a presentation about the outline planning application for up to 6 dwellings on a site at the end of Kings Head Lane. The intention, should the scheme proceed to full planning approval, is to apply for 3 dwellings only. Discussion followed but no decision made at this stage. **Traffic calming:** Crown has instructed its drivers not to exceed 25mph through the village. Their subcontractors will receive a similar request. **Community Speedwatch:** will be up and running by the end of July. **NCC Partnership Scheme:** To consult NCC Highways dept. about feasibility and cost of making a footpath with kerb from "The Bull" to Cherry Tree Close. 50/50 funding could be available from NCC, application needed by December. Public financial support may be sought. **Neighbourhood Plan:** As a 'toe in the water', Mr Farren-Bradley proposed that an application be made to Breckland, in consultation with them, to designate the area enclosed by the N Lopham parish boundary for the purpose of NLPC producing a Neighbourhood Plan. If accepted, there is no commitment to go further. This was agreed. **Telephone box:** It was agreed to proceed with the restoration of this 'listed' building, the final cost could be £800-£1,000. End use is still to be finalised. **Vacancies:** 2 councillors are still needed. **Village Sign:** Refurbishment done by Mike Daley, thanks expressed to him. **Village Hall:** Gates have been moved, thanks expressed to the committee. Dog and litter bins, with accompanying signage, are being applied for. It is hoped that the field will be used more as a result. **Methodist Chapel:** Plans have been submitted for change of use, development as a dwelling and removal of headstones. No decision at this stage. A request to upgrade Jubilee Lane to 'restricted byway' status has been received by NCC. Process is lengthy. **Next meeting:** 9th September.

Lophams' Village Games

A team of 40 fit sportsmen and women from the Lophams' took on the rest of Norfolk in the Active Norfolk small/medium village competition at the UEA sports park in Norwich on the 12th July, we entered in all 11 sports in a, hugely competitive, but enjoyable day. Our outstanding result was the tennis mixed doubles where Chris Smith and Holly Fleming crushed their opposition to be hailed Norfolk champions. Lophams' finished 2nd in the junior archery and athletics, came 3rd in adult archery and with great performances in football, rounders, badminton, bowls, gymnastics, biking and darts to finish joint 4th.

Thanks to everyone who competed and special thanks to Gillian Rednall for helping with some of the extra rounders practice on our playing field. Don't miss next event! Contact Jim on 687330 or Facebook us at Lophams Village Games.

Services for August

North Lopham South Lopham

2 nd August	
9.30am HC	
11am Fam S	-
9 th August	
11am Fam S	-
16 th August	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
23 rd August	
11am Fam S	9.30am MS
30 th August	
Fifth Sunday:	
Communion is at Diss at 10.30am;	
Music, Praise & Worship at 4pm	

Contributions for next issue by;

18th AUGUST

Please email to
lophamsnews@gmail.com