

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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## St Andrew's School

St Andrew's Primary School pupils have been very active during the last month, despite the lack of sun at outdoor events.

During June the whole school community enjoyed a sports day followed by family barbeque. Due to weather staff skillfully reversed the event ensuring the popular competitive races took place first followed by team activities. All present should be commended for the success of this event. Thank you.

Also in Sports weeks, St Andrew's went to All Saints and took part in a circus skills day with Steve Spud. This was very popular and gave children opportunity to learn new skills such as juggling, diablo and plate spinning. Children also enjoyed ice-lollies purchased by the School Council in the afternoon.

In preparation for the Olympics St Andrew's took part in a County festival at UEA. As a small school St Andrew's were able to benefit and take the entire of year R, 1, 2, 3 and 4, rather than having to select pupils. In total the event had 1600 pupils across two days and all had a fabulous time taking part in a range of sporting activities.

St Andrew's have also been working closely with other schools in the cluster. Year 5 have been fortunate to have the opportunity to take part in a Problem Solving Day at Diss High School, Year 4 a poetry day and year 5 and 6 and Early Years ICT activities.

As part of the small school league, St Andrew's footballers were awarded the fair play trophy for 2011-12.

Year 5 and 6 are currently away on a residential for two nights at Thorpe Woodlands. The feedback to date is 'we're having a great time!' Activities include canoeing, archery, high ropes, climbing wall and nighttime!

St Andrew's now prepares for the end of term, when it will be saying farewell to three year 6 pupils and one Teaching Assistant. The staff, governors, parents and children thank them all for their hard work and wish them good luck for the future, in their new settings.

If you would like to know more about St Andrew's or would like to come and look around. Please contact the School Office on 01379 687253.

## FOSTA

FOSTA would like to thank all parents for their support over the year.

The FOSTA treasure hunt on the 14<sup>th</sup> July was a great family event. £144.00 was raised. Thank you to the Kings Head for providing the prizes for the winner and runner up. The Rednall Family won and the Levingbird family came a close second. All families made it back to the Mess in time for a family BBQ and games. Thank you to all those who helped with the organisation and helped on the day.

Just a quick reminder the Village Yard Sales are planned for the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

## Lophams' Village Hall

**Jubilee Bench:** The Trustees are very grateful to the Jubilee Committee for the generous gift of a bench for the verandah, bought with the funds remaining after all the expenses of the Celebrations on June 2<sup>nd</sup> had been paid. This will complement the Golden Jubilee bench given by the W.I.

**Village Games:** Well done to the Lophams' Team; they came 9<sup>th</sup> out of 28 teams in the County finals, which is a great achievement as it was their first ever attempt.

**The Lottery** - our opportunity to support the Village Hall and have a bit of fun too - has a number of renewals due at the moment. Do sign up quickly to avoid missing a monthly draw. In the June draw, C Ward won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £186; B Cartwright and B Sarbutt won 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes of £46.50 each. New members, and those who need to renew are urged to get in touch. Copies of the full rules and entry forms are available from promoter, Eileen (01379 687608), from Village Hall Treasurer, Tim Colyer (01379 687718), from other Village Hall Committee members (see website for details), or at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events.

**Farmers' Markets** are on the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am - 12.30pm. The next one is 28<sup>th</sup> July. For details, call Mike on 01379 687235.

**Judo** is on Mondays & Wednesdays - (Details from Howard on 01379 688258).

**Dog Training** is held most Tuesday evenings, our trainer Elaine (07845 776 110) will provide information.

**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 01379 687718 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](http://www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk).

## Lophams' Ladies

Meeting on the first Tuesday of the month 7.15pm for 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Visitors and new members always welcome.

In July we had a tour of the Abbey Gardens in Bury St Edmunds. The two gardeners who showed us round were extremely knowledgeable both from an historical and botanical point of view; giving us insight, for instance, into how much is still lying underneath the abbey ruins still to be discovered. Appreciating the various trees and shrubs planted by the botanist Nathaniel Hodson, who set out the Abbey Gardens in the early 19<sup>th</sup>C after the site had been neglected for nearly 300 years and realising that it is a hundred years since the public were given free access to the gardens which are very much the pride of the town.

On August 7<sup>th</sup> we are having an evening in the garden of Allotment Farm, home of Alan and Kate Briggs and **September 1<sup>st</sup> at 1.30pm is our annual Jumble Sale and Car Boot** when we always welcome any of your unwanted clothes, books and bric a brac.

Our Autumn programme will be a series of open meetings; on September 4<sup>th</sup> we have invited Elizabeth Talbot from Gazes Auction Rooms to talk to us, on October 2<sup>nd</sup> we have Jason Salisbury who comes to the Farmer's Market with his Suffolk Cheeses and on November 6<sup>th</sup> we have Jim Bacon, the Look East Weatherman. For details phone 01379 687337.

## Garden Club

On July 4<sup>th</sup> we much enjoyed a guided tour of Redgrave and Lopham Fen looking for wild flowers along the way. Our guide was Stella Taylor, and Stella's knowledge helped us to see many plants that we would otherwise have passed by without a second glance. It made for a truly interesting walk.

We look forward to welcoming David Derrick on August 1<sup>st</sup>. David will speak about "Bee Keeping and the Products of the Hive", and looking further forward, at our meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September Bob Coutts (Head Gardener at Somerleyton) will give a presentation on "Gardening for the autumn".

Our meetings take place in the restaurant area of Blooms Garden Centre on the first Wednesday of each month starting at 7.30pm and visitors and new members are always very welcome.

## The Lophams' Society

The Society is putting on a musical evening and supper at the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2012. The Waveney Four will provide the music. The entry price of £7.50 includes a hot supper and there will be a licensed bar. Tickets available from 01379 640355. Based on past experience, this should be a fun evening and we are hoping for a good turnout.

## Lophams' Jubilee Committee

The Committee is pleased to announce that there was a small surplus of approximately £330 arising from the celebrations held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. The committee has decided to use most of this (£270) in the purchase of a bench (with a suitable plaque attached) to be located at the Village Hall. The balance will be used to assemble two "time capsules" for burying at suitable spots (possibly the churchyards) in the two villages. The contents of the capsules will be revealed in due course.

**A Harvest Luncheon** will be held on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1 for 1.15pm, in a Marquee outside the Village Hall. (The marquee will be decorated for a wedding reception on 15<sup>th</sup> and we have been offered its use the next day. Many thanks to John & Marion Crisp for their generosity). Tickets, priced £8.50 will be on sale during August; please get yours by 8<sup>th</sup> September at the latest. More details are included in Cock Crow.

### North Lopham Parish Council

J Tate and L Bird could not be present; two members of the public were in attendance. Council members are very concerned about the state of village footways and footpaths, especially where residents themselves have the responsibility for their present condition: **For Jubilee Lane**, repeated appeals for dog owners to clear up after their pets have gone unheeded; the grass will not be cut there because it is so badly fouled with dog excrement that the volunteers who used to do the work now refuse to do so as it is too filthy a job. There are still **overgrown hedges** obstructing the pavements in **The Street**; further action was considered. There was praise for "Streetscene" who maintain the verges. The health and safety of all those who use the Lane and pavements are at risk if conditions don't improve, so the Council appeals to dog owners & householders to play their part in keeping our village attractive and safe. Other items on the agenda were: **Finance**, various small items of expenditure were considered & approved. A **planning application** at 46, The Street is under consideration; an application at 40, The Street was approved. The grass down Primrose Lane should be cut again but finance is not available. The annual **Risk Assessment** has been completed, no issues were found. The NALC revised version of the Code of Conduct has been adopted. Details of proposals for **Rights of Way** will be published in the EDP for public scrutiny; more details are obtainable from the Parish Clerk on 688355. Comments are required by 31<sup>st</sup> August.

### St Nicholas' Church

**Our Summer Coffee Morning** was another very happy affair, at Brecklands, home of Jean & Chris Stringfield. Despite heavy rain most of the night before; the morning was dry, if rather humid. To be on the safe side all the stalls were in the bungalow, or undercover. The delicious refreshments meant that no one rushed off early, after patronising the stalls, tombola and giant raffle and were still there to see the draw. We are very grateful to all those who donated items, helped to set up or dismantle the marquee and helped behind the scenes. The biggest thank you, though, must go to our hosts, who worked so hard to ensure the success of the morning. To date, well over £520 has been added to funds!

The main holiday season is almost upon us - we wish safe travelling to all those who are going away and look forward to welcoming visitors to the area.

**Holidays:** During the school holiday, there will be a **Craft Club** for primary age youngsters, in The Mess at St Andrew's School, on Monday mornings, starting 30<sup>th</sup> July, between 10am and noon. There will be two main crafts on offer each week, with enough time to devote to both, and refreshments at 'half time'. Anyone interested in coming along as a helper to one or more sessions will be very welcome - please telephone 01379 687679 for details.

Advance Notice: The Norfolk Churches Trust **Sponsored Cycle Ride** is on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

### Village Games

The Lophams' village games team who became Breckland champions in June competed in the county final at the UEA Sportspark on the 15<sup>th</sup> July, wearing t-shirts kindly supplied by the village hall and the North Lopham Charity. A team of 37 competed in 10 sports.

After a very competitive day Lophams finished in 9<sup>th</sup> place out of 28, a great achievement in their first year. Many thanks to all of the sports men/women and supporters who gave their all and in great spirit.

Special mention to Paul Sturman who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the table tennis and to our county winning athletics team Gregor Shipperlee, Eddie Kent, Emma Somers, Mark Samuel and Jim Pursehouse.

### LOHP Food and Folk Event

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2.30 - 9.30pm**  
The Frith off B1113 IP22 2JN,  
South Lopham

A family day out with entertainment, refreshments, children's games & quizzes, bunting competition prizegiving, and lots more to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> birthday! Check out our website [www.lohp.org.uk](http://www.lohp.org.uk). Free entry, parking £2, bicycles free.

### South Lopham Parish Council

The following points arose from the Council Meeting held on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 p.m.:-

1. Stephen Reynolds was co-opted on to the Council to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Peter Coster.
2. Gary Phillips (husband of Caroline, the Clerk) was appointed as Responsible Financial Officer to serve on a voluntary unpaid basis.
3. A new Code of Conduct was adopted as required by the Localism Act 2011. The version promulgated by the Norfolk Association of Local Councils was preferred.
4. A SLOW sign has now been painted on the A1066 on the approach to the village from Diss. This was the most the Highways Authority would do in response to appeals to move back the 30 mph sign to slow traffic down entering the village.
5. Contact has been made with the dog warden employed by Breckland Council in connection with the fouling of village footpaths by certain dogs. It is accepted that most dog owners in the village behave responsibly with their animals. Unfortunately, there is a minority who disregard good practice with unpleasant results. The warden, Mike Gardiner, (01362 858500, email [mike@animalwardenservices.co.uk](mailto:mike@animalwardenservices.co.uk)) will be patrolling the area with his staff to check up on dog-owner behaviour. If anyone observes an owner allowing his dog to foul the footpath, could he or she please notify the warden.
6. The Council decided to offer the residue of the Malson legacy (£164) to St. Andrews Church for the repair and maintenance of the organ.
7. It was reported that Lophams' Links has now abandoned its proposal to construct a children's play area in the garden of the White Horse. They have reverted to their previous idea of setting it up at the Village Hall if sufficient funds can be raised.

### Redgrave and Lopham Fen - August

**Family afternoons - Wednesdays 2pm - 4pm. 1<sup>st</sup> - Woodland Wonders, 8<sup>th</sup> - Wetland Wonders, 15<sup>th</sup> - Wild about Art, 22<sup>nd</sup> - Trailblazers. £3.50 child, £1.50 adult. Activity days for 6 - 10 year olds, Tuesdays 10am - 2pm. 7<sup>th</sup> - Animal Olympics, 21<sup>st</sup> - Bushcraft. £6 each or two siblings for £10. Booking essential 01379 688333. Sundays 5<sup>th</sup> August & 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 11am - 4pm. Art in the Wild - Adult Wildlearning course £20/£17 concessions. Booking essential 01473 890089. Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Wildlife Watch group. A club for 6 - 12yr olds. £1, details 01379 688333. Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>, 10am - 3pm. Introduction to Wildlife Photography. Adult Wildlearning course. £35 Booking essential 01473 890089.**

### North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Services for August

5<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am  
Preacher Mrs Browne

19<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am  
Preacher Mr S Aspinall of Stanton  
A warm welcome to all.

### St Andrew's Church

The Coffee Morning in the Church on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July raised £143. Our thanks go to all who came and gave to support the Church.

### Lophams' Links

Donna Potter has decided to step down as Chairperson and we would like to thank her for her work as chair of the Lophams' Links group for the past two years.

Any person interested in taking on this role or helping with fundraising, please contact Elaine Aldous (688342) or [lophamlinks@gmail.com](mailto:lophamlinks@gmail.com).

Currently funding and grant applications are being completed with a view to the play area being at the Village Hall site. It was decided, after discussions with villagers, parents and carers, that a play area at the White Horse public house would not suit the needs of the majority of children from North and South Lopham. Lopham Links would like to thank Tony Holloway, Landlord of the White Horse for suggesting this as an option and allowing the group to investigate the possibility. The White Horse currently has a play area that their customers are able to use.

### Lophams' Bingo

Bingo sessions continue on the first Monday in the month, at the Village Hall from 2pm to 3.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along for a social time, with lots of opportunity to chat and enjoy yourself. It's good to have young players during school holidays. (Please note - serious bingo players could find the social aspect disconcerting; fun is the main objective!)

### Services for August

North Lopham      South Lopham

5 <sup>th</sup> August	
9.30am Group HC	-
11am Fam S	-
12 <sup>th</sup> August	
11am Fam S	-
6.30pm ES	-
19 <sup>th</sup> August	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
26 <sup>th</sup> August	
11am Fam S	6.30pm ES

Contributions for next issue by;

**18<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

Please email to  
[lophamsnews@gmail.com](mailto:lophamsnews@gmail.com)