

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No 417

PUBLISHED EACH MONTH SINCE 1982

FEBRUARY 2017

St Andrew's School

The new term got off to a great start with a new pupil in Year 4. Welcome to Jessica; we hope you will be very happy at St Andrew's.

The first special event was the Federation trip to the pantomime at the Theatre Royal. Thankfully the threatened snow didn't prevent us going. The children had a wonderful time, behaved beautifully, and came back with lots of inspiration for work in the coming weeks.

We are very proud of the pupils who got through the local rounds of the Junior Cross Country competition, and wish them well for the finals in February. Years 3 and 4 continue the weekly swimming lessons this term; it is good to see how their confidence in the water is developing.

The staff are busy organising events for the new topic for this term 'Time Travel' and look forward to continuing to work with the school and local community this term. If you need any further information about what we can offer please contact the school office on 01379 687253.

St Andrew's Pre School

Greetings from St Andrews Pre School.

This term we are looking at vehicles and transport, the usual and the more unusual.

We have already counted how many and what type of vehicles passed our windows in a few minutes time slot, you may be surprised at the outcome, we have made a graph of the results. We are going to make hot air balloons, hopefully have a visit from a fire engine, explore the story of Noah's Ark and see what a penny farthing looks like, and lots, lots more.

We are open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.45 – 3.15 term time only and were rated good by Ofsted at our last inspection. For further information or to arrange a visit call Jan on 07854091257.

JOB VACANCY: We are looking for an emergency helper to cover staff sickness/holidays/ and to do occasional lunch time cover. The successful candidate will need a level 2 or above in child care and education. For further information about this post please ring the above number

Lophams' Village Hall

Village Hall Lottery: The Lottery has been running for over seven years now! In that time, over £25,000 has been distributed in prize money, and £13,500 has been added to the Hall Development Fund, which has been used to make significant improvements to the hall and its surroundings, such as relocation of facilities for the less able to improve access, moving the main gates to encourage more use of the playing field, resurfacing of the car park areas, provision of a dog bin and new litter bin on the field, and on going improvements to the kitchen – new tiled walls & a de-humidifier have been installed, new electrical equipment and cupboard doors will be added in the coming months. The main purpose of the committee is to maintain the hall fabric so that it is an attractive venue for the use of the local communities. Support from the Lottery members is gratefully recognized. If you are not in the lottery, but would like to join when there is a vacancy, please telephone 01379 687718, supply your contact details, and you will be contacted as soon as one arises.

Winners for December 2016 were: 1st prize of £200 – M Lanchester; 2nd prizes of £50 each – B Inglis and P & S Marley; the Christmas Bonanza of £299 went to P Cooper.

Famers' Markets: take place every month, on the 4th Saturday, (except December – third Sunday) from 9am till 12.30pm, with a wide range of stalls to choose your locally produced goods. In December we said a big Thank You and sad Goodbye to Jason Salisbury, and his range of wonderful Suffolk Farmhouse Cheeses, which have been a feature of the Market for 12 years – a hard act to follow, but organizer Mike Shipperlee is 'on the case'. The Raffle for over £40 worth of market goods was won by Mr & Mrs Harding. The next markets is on 25th February. Details from Mike Shipperlee on 01379 687235

Other regular bookings.

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.

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

Bookings - to book the hall for private events, telephone 01379 687679, or go to the website.

Lophams' Ladies

Meet in the village hall on the first Tuesday of the month, at 2pm on 7th February.

In January, Paige and her pet dog Pippa gave an illustrated talk about the Dogs Trust, focusing on the re-homing centre at nearby Snetterton. It was heartwarming to learn how well every dog is treated, and the care with which they are re-homed.

In February, the topic is Cambridge College Gardens, with Rodney Tibbs., and there will be a Bring & Buy Table. For March, we revert to the usual 7.30pm time, and Chris Parfitt will take us along the China Silk Road – sure to be a fascinating journey.

For more information, please contact Sarah on 01379 687337

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.

As we do not meet in January, we are very much looking forward to our first meeting in 2017 which will be on 2nd February when Ben Potterton will give a presentation entitled "Snowdrops", while looking further forward, on 2nd March we shall hold a short A.G.M. which will be followed by a talk on Houseplants by Andy Bailey.

Please telephone 01379 687833 for further details.

North Lopham Parish Council – met on 11th January.

Present: W Nunn, D Eagle, M McManus, D Hammond (Chair), Parish Clerk (J Crossley), J Tate, M Tiple and 4 members of public. Apologies R Carley, M Chapman-Allen.

Jubilee Lane has been adopted by NCC as a restricted byway but they have no money to maintain it.

Primrose Lane SLPC proposes 50/50 cost share for 5 grass cuts per year at £40.00/cut. Agreed. Investigate possibilities for Jubilee Lane maintenance.

Better Broadband faster broadband should be available to more addresses, contact your provider for details.

Precept will remain at £3,600.

School Crossing Patrol a protest about the proposed removal of the SCP has been lodged with NCC.

Donation £50 donation to National Association of Rescue Services was approved.

Parish Plan Proposal to set up a subcommittee to manage this was approved. Neighbourhood Plan deemed too costly and complex, Village Design Statement/PP may/may not be adopted by Breckland, W Nunn to investigate.

Potholes/Tanns Lane repairs ongoing. Drainage of lower end of Tanns Lane continues to be problematic, no action from NCC, an official complaint will be sent to NCC chairman.

Planning a number of planning applications outside the settlement boundary have just been received. Check Breckland planning search for details.

Finance various payments were approved.

Traffic Chairman reported on a meeting at Kenninghall between KPC, public and Cranswick management to discuss problems of Mill traffic particularly in respect to Heath Road. Various problems were highlighted and some possible solutions discussed. 20mph limit, access road, rerouting.

Likely to be more traffic generated by the straw burning power station at Snetterton and proposed grain storage facility at Bressingham.

Next Meeting March 8th 2017

St Nicholas' Church

Greater Christmas Season

Two months of extra events and services are now complete. It has been a great pleasure to welcome visitors – from round the world - alongside new members of the village community. The Family Carol Service and Crib Service – were great opportunities to focus on the real happenings of the actual Nativity, with many chances for the children to take a big part in the action. The Epiphany Carol Service was a lovely finale, with eleven people having a speaking part, and the wonderful seasonal music to enjoy. To everybody who contributed, and to those who decorated the church so beautifully, we send a heartfelt “thank you”.

LENT begins on 1st March, with Ash Wednesday. The special services for the day will be held in Diss Church, at 10.30am and 7.30pm.

Knitted Bible Festival 2017 The response to the starter Festival last October was amazing - well over 500 visitors and lots of very good feedback. We plan to complete the project this Autumn, adding 15 more scenes, making a total of 50, depicting the most significant events/stories from the Bible.

We have patterns for anyone interested in having a go at knitting and/or dressing a figure. We do still need wool - the sort of colours that would be in use 2000 years ago.

To find out more, just telephone Jennie Vere on 01379 687679.

Congratulations

Shannon Spurdens of South Lopham has a passion for ballet dancing. After performing with her ballet school at venues across East Anglia, including at the Theatre Royal with the National Youth Ballet, Shannon was accepted as a student with the Northern Ballet Theatre last summer.

In the assessments at the end of her first term, Shannon was placed first of all the new students!

Events at Redgrave and Lopham Fen, IP22 2HX

February Events include:-

- Guided Fen Walk
- Marmalade Masterclass
- Woodblock Printmaking
- Bird Box Building
- General Hedgehog Care

Full details of cost & how to book are available at [www. redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org](mailto:redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org)

St Andrew's Church

The Friends of South Lopham Church are working to raise money to refurbish three of the Chancel windows in urgent need of repair.

We are also very grateful to the Friends for organising the cleaning of the Church guttering.

The Lophams' Society

The Lophams' Society have confirmed that their events for the coming year will be as follows:

Spring Quiz: Friday 28th April

Musical Summer Evening with popular Trad Jazz Band DixieMix: Saturday 8th July

Autumn Quiz: Friday 13th October

Christmas Drop-in: Friday 15th December

For further information please telephone 01379 688408.

Holy Bingo continues to meet on the first Monday each month at 2pm in Lophams' Village Hall. All are welcome to join these fun sessions, where there is always plenty of time for a chat. The next gathering is on 6th February. For more information, or help with transport, just 'phone Jennie on 01379 687679

South Lopham Parish Council

Parish Council met on 5th January 2017 at Valley Farm.

Present four councillors, the Clerk with one parishioner (planning only) and one apology.

Chairman: The Chairman will be attending:-

- a) Presentation in Watton 19th January on policing the Breckland District.
- b) Councillor training at East Harling 7th January
- c) SNAP meeting at Attleborough Town Hall 23rd February.

New Councillor: The Council filled one vacancy on the Council when it was pleased to co-opt Mrs Ann Shipperlee to its body.

Budget 2017/18 and precept: The Clerk presented a financial report and various accounts for approval/ ratification, after which the budget and precept were discussed.

It was decided that the precept should be £2816 (unchanged from 2016). A budget was agreed subject to, possibly, small adjustments which would need to be in place prior to the Council's March meeting.

The Clerk reported the present position on the Parish Partnership bid application, and the Chairman reported on a discussion with Breckland Council regarding match funding, both to pay for additional speed reduction signs in the village.

In connection with the budget a quotation for tree trimming on Blo Norton road was agreed and other projects including trimming/cutting and War Memorial renovation were discussed.

Planning: Mrs Martin reported on all current matters (see Breckland Planning web site).

Mr Batchelor of Bridge Farm (planning application refused for conversion of workshop to dwelling) explained to the meeting the basis of his proposed appeal against the refusal.

Footpaths: The Clerk reported on the present position. A supply of Finger Posts is awaited from NCC. Assistance with erection will be required.

Date of next meeting: Early March, date to be agreed.

A full copy of the minutes of this meeting will be available in due course and posted on the Parish website.

Services for February

North Lopham	South Lopham
	5th Feb
9.30am HC	***
11am Fam S	***
	12th Feb
11am Fam S	***
	19th Feb
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
	26th Feb
11am Fam S	9.30am HC

Contributions for next issue by;

18th February

Please email to
lophamsnews@gmail.com