

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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St Andrew's School

St. Andrew's pupils and staff have enjoyed returning to school. Discovery class have settled in quickly and are enjoying their school routine. They are fascinated by their topic Dinosaurs. Discovery class are also looking forward to their visit to All Saints where they will join the Federation for a day of activities, experiencing harvest.

Victory class have also settled in. Years 3 and 4 have already been swimming and years 2, 3 and 4 are looking forward to visiting South Lopham to look at the history of the church. Endeavour class are enjoying being exemplary pupils to the younger members of the school community. They are showing good behaviours for learning as they embark on their topic about Anglo Saxons.

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 enjoying getting to know the new, younger members of Pre-School. The theme this term is 'People that help us' and the children will be visited by one of our local friendly Police Officers!

We have spaces on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday am and pm sessions and do invite any new residents with children approaching their 2nd birthday, or a bit older, 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 years olds are entitled to 15 hours of 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 on Mondays, Wednesdays or Thursdays to view the setting and meet our team. Please note our contact number is 07854 091257.

Lophams' Village Hall

As the autumn approaches, and the attendant tree & shrub pruning takes place, do remember that we plan to have a bonfire at the field on 7th November. Lopham residents can dispose of all the garden refuse during October; the gates to the field will be open between 10am and 2pm on Saturdays & Sundays throughout the month so that your burnables can be brought right to the site of the fire (for a nominal charge of £1 per load to offset firework costs). As ever, please **do not** bring metal or plastic, or any other material that could cause Environmental Health officials to ban the bonfire.

Our Grand **Bonfire and Fireworks** event will be on **Saturday 7th November**; the gates open at 6pm and the fireworks will start about 7.30pm. Details will be included next month, but please book the date now!

The Lottery. It is great to have a full complement of 100 members; 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 (i.e. all those currently members). The Lottery winners for August were: 1st prize £200, N & J Williams and 2nd prizes of £50 each J Keylock and S Dilloway. In addition to the Lottery draw, there is a monthly raffle with one superb prize which includes an item from every stall at the Farmers' Market; a wonderful array of goodies for the larder.

Farmers' Markets are usually the **fourth Saturday each month**, from 9am until 12.30pm, so the next is on **24th October**. (Details from Mike on 01379 687235)

Judo is on **Monday & Wednesday** every week. Details 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.

Advance Notice: The Lophams' Autumn Lunch will be held on Sunday 1st November at the Village Hall. Watch out for posters, then get your tickets from church members in good time.

To book the hall for private functions, please contact 01379 687679. To find out more about the hall generally, visit the web-site at www.lophamvillagehall.co.uk.

Lophams' Ladies

In September, Gabi from "Gabriel's Garden" came to talk about her homegrown flower business in Gissing; bringing with her a colourful selection of her flowers, which she made into a tied bouquet. Another inspirational talk of how one person's dream became a successful enterprise.

Also in September, as the planned visit to Mervyn Lambert's garden this summer was cancelled because of unfavourable weather, Jean Barnbrook invited members to visit her home. We had a fascinating time looking at a huge variety of quilts made in the last ten years, followed by a delicious afternoon tea. We were bowled over by the colours used and Jean's expertise in many different techniques.

On October 6th, **Celia Stevens, a female racing driver**, will talk to us and on November 3rd Mary Miller will talk about the "**Windmill Ringers**".

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month; 7.15pm for 7.30pm in the Village hall. New members and visitors always welcome. Please phone 01379 687337 for details.

Garden Club

On 3rd September we welcomed Sarah Cook and Jim Marshall to our meeting. Sarah has a National Collection of Irises at her garden in Shelley and Jim is well known for growing Malmaison Carnations. They are both involved with the Suffolk Heritage Garden at The Suffolk Punch Trust at Hollesley and described how the garden was established. All the plants and trees growing there have a connection to Suffolk, for example the grower being born in Suffolk. We were also able to buy Jim's carnations or Sarah's irises.

Our next meeting is on 1st October when Simon White will talk on **Chrysanthemum Growing** and, looking further forward, on 5th November Gabby Reid will give a demonstration on **Wreath Making**.

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. Please telephone 01379 687833 for further details.

The Lophams' Society

Time to dust off the thinking caps as the Lophams' Autumn Quiz will take place in the village hall on Friday 9th October at 7.30pm. Entrance is £6 per person, which will include a cheese ploughman's supper served in the interval. The bar will also be open for those who wish to lubricate the little grey cells if necessary.

Teams of six players per table, which can be booked in advance, by telephoning 01379 688408. Single players and couples are especially welcome to join us on, what always proves to be, a most enjoyable evening.

St Nicholas' Church.

Samaritans Purse - Shoe Box Appeal. Many thanks to those who have filled, or are filling shoeboxes for the underprivileged children in E Europe and beyond. The last date for bringing filled boxes to Southlands is 9th November; the collection will be during the following few days.

The Biggest Coffee Morning in the World. Grateful thanks to all who came along to support Macmillan Cancer Care on 25th September. We raised £175 for this worthwhile cause.

St Nicholas' Harvest Thanksgiving was a lively, happy occasion, with lots of younger people joining the regulars, and taking a big part in the service - lighting candles, sharing in the procession of gifts, taking the collection etc. and enjoying delicious cake at the end. The two old tractors and hand held plough outside were a great attraction too. A huge thank you to the church decorators and everyone who helped in any way to make this such a great day.

November 8th is **Remembrance Sunday**. There will be a special act of remembrance at the 11am Family Service, when the names of all those from the village who gave their lives in the two world wars will be read.

Armistice Day - 11th November. The Annual Ceremony will be held at the War Memorial at 11am, with juniors from St Andrew's School joining veterans, local residents and representatives of the American Air Force. 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the air crash over Lopham, when 18 American airmen lost their lives so a special US Colour Party will be on parade alongside the Union Flag.

North Lopham Crib Festival: The fifth Crib Festival will run from Wednesday 25th to Saturday 28th, between 11am and 5pm and on Sunday 29th from 12 noon until 4pm, when Mary, Joseph and the donkey will set out on their journey round the area seeking a night's shelter with willing hosts - *Posada* - before they return to the church for the Crib service on Christmas

Eve. **NB** The Festival is Free for everyone!

There will be a great number of Crib scenes to view, plus the interactive corner, refreshments and a stall with seasonal items. Please note, **You** are invited to create a crib scene or a Christmas Carol scene, using your own ideas.... peg dolls, paper crafts, or and bring it along on Tuesday

The Lophams' Autumn Lunch

Sunday 1st November at the Village Hall, 1pm for a prompt start at 1.15pm. The menu will be delicious pork, jacket potatoes & salads, or veggie option, then apple desserts & ice cream plus fruit juice / hot drinks. As usual, please bring your own alcohol if desired & glasses.

Tickets at £8.50 are available from churchwardens, PCCs or Jennie. Please contact 01379 687679 for more details.

North Lopham Parish Council

Footpath at North End. The Parish Council thanks the residents who have already responded to the letter about making a promise for the footpath at the north end of the village. Please would any others, who wish to do so, contact a member of the Parish Council as soon as possible, advising of the amount of their pledge.

Redgrave and Lopham Fen

Wildlife Watch Group. Sat - 14 Nov, 12 Dec, 9 Jan. 10.30am-12.30pm. A club for 6-12yr olds, £2. Contact marcus.halmshaw@btinternet.com or call 01379 688333.

Introduction to low relief sculpture in clay. Thurs 19 Nov, 10am-4pm. A hands-on course, suitable for beginners using garden birds as a starting point. With tutor Glenn Holman. £35, inc materials. Booking essential 01473 890089.

Botanical Illustration. Sat 28 Nov, 10am-3pm. Illustration techniques with the emphasis on botanical accuracy. With botanical illustrator, Christine Grey-Wilson. £25/£21.50 Booking essential 01473 890089.

Weave a festive willow wreath. Sat 5 Dec, 10am-1pm. With local basketmaker, Karen Lawrence. £20, inc willow & some decorations. Booking essential 01473 890089.

'Geodiversity of the Upper Waveney Valley' a talk by Tim Holt-Wilson. Tues 24 Nov, 7.30pm. Organised by the SWT Valley Fens Wildlife Group. £2 per person (includes refreshments). All welcome, no need to book.

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 10.30am.

The November gathering is on 25th, at the launch of the church Crib Festival.

Holy Bingo

Continues in the Village Hall, 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 **2nd November**. Please telephone 01379 687679 for further details or for help with transport.

St Andrew's Church

Thank you to all who gave to the very successful **Harvest Gift Weekend**. The Coffee Morning on Saturday 26th September raised £207, thank you to everyone who came to support this event, it was lovely to see so many there including parishioners from within the wider Benefice, who we were very pleased to welcome. Our Harvest Gift Weekend concluded with the **Thanksgiving Service** on Sunday 27th September, led by Angie Gardner. So far a total of £1013 has been raised for St. Andrew's Church, its still not too late for anyone wishing to make a donation.

On Sunday 8th November the **Service of Remembrance** will take place in St. Andrew's Church. Please note that this service will start at **10.50am**.

On Saturday 28th November there will be a **Coffee Morning** in the Church 10am to 12 noon with a Tombola, Bring and Buy, Cake Stall and Raffle, we hope you will be able to join us.

Friends of South Lopham Church

The Friends will be holding a Slide Show entitled Lophams' through the 20th Century on Friday 30th October in Lophams Village Hall at 7.30pm. Refreshments of cake and coffee, tickets £6 per person. We look forward to seeing you there.

LOHP (Little Ouse Headwaters Project)

Annual Talk, AGM and Members' Evening. 7.30pm, Wednesday 25th November at Garboldisham Village Hall. All welcome, for further details please see website: www.lohp.org.uk

Join us for our annual winter bash, with another great talk in prospect. Richard Woolnough, from the Suffolk Mammal Group, will be taking about **Otters** and encouraging us to monitor their very welcome return to the Little Ouse Headwaters. With a hands-on (though optional!) opportunity to examine the content of otter spraints under the microscope, this promises to be a memorable evening. As usual, our AGM and annual update will start at 7.30pm. The annual talk will start at 8pm and be followed by seasonal refreshments. Contributions of finger foods will be much appreciated. Members and friends all welcome - the evening is free but a non-members' contribution of £2 towards costs will be welcomed.

North Lopham Charities

The trustees of this local charity are able to make financial grants to local residents who have difficulty meeting essential expenses. For example young people travelling to their college courses, or needing to buy expensive books and specialist equipment, and folk of any age facing unexpected but necessary expenses.

To apply, please write to the Chairman, Mr Mike Cox at Linden House, The Street, North Lopham, setting out your particular problem, in good time before the Trustees meet at the beginning of December.

Services for November

North Lopham South Lopham

1st November

9.30am HC

11am Fam S

8th November

11am Fam Rem 10.50 for 11am Rem

15th November

11am Fam S

9.30am HC

22nd November

11am Fam S

9.30am MS

On 29th, a fifth Sunday, a Communion service for all parishes is at Diss, at 10.30am

Contributions for next issue by;

18th NOVEMBER

Please email to lophamsnews@gmail.com