

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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St Andrew's School

St. Andrew's pupils and staff have enjoyed a restful summer break and are now looking forward to the new academic year ahead.

The school is pleased to welcome fifteen new children to Reception, Class Teacher **Miss Wood** to Victory and Teaching Assistant **Mr Gregson** to Endeavour.

The whole school theme this term is Changing Britain. In Discovery Class the children will learn about Dinosaurs, in Victory they will focus on Romans and in Endeavour they will study Anglo Saxon's, Scots and Vikings.

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

The end of the summer term was full of special events - a very active Sports Day, a Barbecue in the sunshine and a great leaver's party on 20th July; our last day. The oldest children enjoyed their time getting to know the Discovery Class children and staff and are looking forward to 'big school'. We send very best wishes with them.

We look forward to meeting new younger members of Pre School. 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 at the start of term, 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

Judo Star. The hall was the setting for a recent feature on Look East, about North Lopham's own **Colin Oates**, as he showed his book about Judo and spoke of his aim to represent Britain at the Olympics in Rio in 2016. We'll all be rooting for him in the coming months as he takes part in qualifying events round the world. After a short summer break, Judo returns to the hall in September.

Now that the Hall and surroundings are looking smart and cared for, the committee is keen to keep it that way - especially as the autumn approaches, and the attendant pruning takes place. **We hope to have a bonfire once again**, so that residents can dispose of all the garden refuse easily during October; details of times for bringing your burnables will be published in the next issue.

The Lottery. It is good to have a full complement of 100 members again, with a corresponding monthly 1st 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 July were: 1st prize £200 - M & D Tipple and 2nd prizes of £50 each - J Bernard and D Blanchard.

In addition to the Lottery draw, there is a monthly raffle with one superb prize, which includes an item from every stall; 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 **26th September**. (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.

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.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk.

Lophams' Ladies

At our last meeting on August 4th, Robert Maidstone gave an illustrated talk on "Our Little Lodgers"; the small mammals and insects that find a cosy place to feed and breed in and around our homes. We may live in a modern home that will have deterred many species, but have encouraged others by our "modern way of living!".

On September 1st, Gabriel from "Gabriel's Garden" will talk about her homegrown flower business in Gissing and on October 6th, Celia Stevens; a female racing driver, will talk to us.

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 Saturday 1st August we enjoyed our outing to **Beth Chatto's Garden and Nursery**. We were blessed with good weather and were able to stroll round the gardens, visit the nursery to purchase any plants which had taken our eye and also enjoyed tea, cake and more in the cafe.

Our next meeting is on 3rd September when Sarah Cook will give a presentation on "**Suffolk Heritage Gardens**" and the on 1st October Simon White will talk on "**Chrysanthemum Growing**".

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

The Lophams' Society

On Saturday the 18th July The Lophams' Village Hall was once again filled with the sound of smooth classics when the jazz trio **Pork Pie Hat** paid a return visit. An appreciative audience was treated to an evening of standards such as "Stranger On The Shore" and "Ain't Misbehaving" and once again we were blessed with a perfect summer evening, allowing those patrons who wished, the opportunity to enjoy the music in the cooler surroundings of the verandah.

We were pleased to be able to welcome a number of new faces; especially those who had travelled in from beyond the Lophams' to be with us for the evening. We hope that having had an enjoyable time, they will continue to come along and support future Lophams' Society events, the next being the **Autumn Quiz** on **Friday 9th October**.

North Lopham Parish Council

Next meeting: 9th September 2015.

A special message to all readers.

In an endeavour to reduce speeding in our village, please be aware that a CSW (Community Speed Watch Scheme) is now operating at various locations along The Street and The Green.

This entails the use of a speed camera and warning signs. Don't be caught out!!

St Nicholas' Church.

The Hymn Marathon. We had a fantastic day on 8th August. The first visitor came at 8.31am and there was a non-stop stream of people thereafter, some from previous such events, but several groups of brand new residents in North Lopham.

By 5.10pm the number on the hymn board was 608; everyone present then stood to sing the last two; traditionally they are "Great is Thy Faithfulness" and "The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended", making the final total 610.

Top of the pops this time was "All Things Bright & Beautiful" with 19 requests, followed by "Jerusalem" on 12. "How great Thou art" and "Morning has broken" tied for third place with 10 requests each.

So far, sponsorship and donations have raised over £2,400. Most of this has come from residents and friends of local residents; showing how much they value the church presence in the community, for all sorts of reasons. **Thank you all!**

The Norfolk Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride is Saturday 12th September, from 9am to 5pm. So... Pump up your tyres, dust off your walking boots, pack a picnic and plan a route from your own door to visit as many of the most beautiful churches in Norfolk as you can. **Plus** you can raise money en route to help 'The Norfolk Churches Trust' continue to preserve these buildings for future generations. Simply get sponsored for each building you visit (there are forms in Church) or make a donation. Find out more at norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/sponsored-bike-ride.

The Biggest Coffee Morning in the World is on Friday 25th September. You can join in and help Macmillan at St Nicholas' Church, between 10am and noon. There will be a Bring & Buy Stall and Raffle, in addition to tea, coffee, refreshments and a chance to chat, so do come along. (Need transport? Just 'phone 01379 687679).

South Lopham's Harvest Festival Service is at 11am on 27th September, so there will be no service at North Lopham. We hope the regulars will all go and support South! (The St Nicholas' celebrations are on 11th October).

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 September gathering is on 23rd.

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 **7th September**. Please telephone 01379 687679 for further details or for help with transport.

St. Andrew's Church

On the Weekend of 26th and 27th September, we are having a **Gift Weekend** to raise funds for St. Andrew's Church. The Church will be manned both Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm to receive Gifts. A leaflet about this Gift Weekend is included with Lophams' News.

On Saturday 26th September we are holding a **Coffee Morning** in the Church from 10am to 12noon. There will be Cake Stall, Bring and Buy and a Raffle. Please join us for a Coffee and a Scone and see the Harvest Flowers and produce.

The **Harvest Thanksgiving Service** will take place at 11am on Sunday 27th September.

Decorating the Church for Harvest will take place on Friday 25th September in the morning, we would be pleased to welcome anyone able to help or donate any flowers or produce.

The Annual **Sponsored Cycle Ride, Walk or Drive** takes place on Saturday 12th September, if you wish to take part (and help raise funds for St. Andrew's Church) and Cycle, Walk or Drive to some of our beautiful Norfolk Churches, please contact Peter Reeder on 01379 687273 for a sponsorship form.

The Bacon Exhibition Endowment Fund

If you wish to apply, please contact Mrs R Powell, 2, Fir Tree Cottage, Redgrave, Diss, IP22 1SD, by 20th October 2015.

This is an **Educational fund** available to those between the age of 5 and 25 years, who **live or attend school** in the villages of Wortham, Rickinghall, Botesdale, Redgrave, Burgate, Gisingham, Hinderclay, Blo' Norton, **South Lopham** and Bressingham.

Redgrave and Lopham Fen

Guided fen walks

Saturdays - **5 Sept, 3 Oct.** 10.30am-1pm. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fen with enthusiast and naturalist John Hill. £3 Meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

Wildlife Watch Group

Saturdays - **12 Sept, 10 Oct.** 10.30am-12.30pm. A club for 6 - 12yr olds, £2. Contact marcus.halmshaw@btinternet.com or call 01379 688333.

Adult courses

Botanical Illustration

Saturday, **26 Sept** 10am-3pm. Illustration techniques with the emphasis on botanical accuracy, using summer plants. With botanical illustrator, Christine Grey-Wilson. £25/£21.50 Booking essential 01473 890089.

Introduction to woodblock printmaking

Tuesday **29 September**, 10am-4pm. A hands-on course, suitable for beginners. With tutor Glenn Holman. £35, inc materials. Booking essential 01473 890089.

Apple Day & Autumn Plant Sale

Sunday **18 Oct**, 10.30am-3pm. Fruit identification, plants and tools for sale, recipe swap, family games, plus refreshments. £3 adults, £2 children. 01379 688333.

Children's activity: Autumn antics

Tuesday **27 Oct**, 10am-2pm. For unaccompanied 6-10 year olds. £6 per child, please book. 01379 688333. redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Family activity: All about owls

Wednesday **28 Oct**, 6.30pm-8.30pm. Dissect a pellet & go on a night walk. £2.50 per person, please book 01379 688333. redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org.

Young naturalists

Thursday **29 Oct**, 10am-2pm. Wildlife detecting & practical conservation work. £6 each, please book. For 11-15 year olds. 01379 688333. redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org.

Services for September

North Lopham South Lopham

6th September

9.30am HC
11am Fam S -

13th September

11am Fam S -

20th September

11am Fam S 9.30am HC

27th September

No Service 11am Harvest Festival

Contributions for next issue by;

18th SEPTEMBER

Please email to
lophamsnews@gmail.com