

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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St Andrew's School

St. Andrew's pupils and staff are thrilled to be back after their summer break and are already enjoying the autumn term. The school welcomes nine new pupils in varying year groups and topics for learning include toys and Stone Age history. During the summer holiday the school underwent a significant refurbishment in the servery equipping it to meet the increased take up in Universal Free School Meals for all 4 – 7 year olds.

St. Andrew's reflects on it's success of the summer term. Pupils achieved fantastic results at the end of Key Stage Two in their national tests and St. Andrew's pupils took part in a phenomenal partnership production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

St. Andrew's now looks forward to exciting opportunities in the term ahead. These include Harvest Festival, book week, educational visits to Grimes Graves and Strangers Hall and a range of sporting events.

If you would like further information about St. Andrew's Primary, or wish to bring your child to visit, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 01379 687253 or by e-mail head@st-andrews-pri.norfolk.sch.uk. We would love to hear from you!

St Andrew's Pre School

Pre school children and staff have settled well in to the new term and are busy getting to know each other and have fun with all the equipment, both indoors and outside. 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.

Our sessions are on Mondays 8.45-11.45 and Wed/Thurs 8.45-3.15. Do note that all 3 year olds are entitled to 15 hours free sessions each week.

As always, just drop in, view the setting and meet our team. Please note our new contact number is 07854 091257.

We are running a mobile recycling initiative, so if any reader has an old mobile languishing in a drawer, let us take it off your hands and turn it into much needed pennies and pounds for the pre school.

Lophams' Village Hall

Two very special dates are nearly here - **The Osiligi Troupe of Maasai Warriors** will perform at the Hall on 11th October, starting at 2.15pm, with two sections and a refreshment interval. Tickets at just £6 for adults and £4 for children are already selling very fast, so **please** get yours in good time to be sure of a seat. Phone Jennie on 01379 687679, e-mail jennyvere@btinternet.com, or phone 687718 or 687608. The Troupe's music is incredible, mesmerising to hear and certainly fascinating to watch. Come to experience and enjoy the diverse culture of the Maasai.

The Lophams' Bonfire and Firework Event is on 1st November; the gates open at 6pm and the fireworks will start about 7.30pm. Tickets are £7 adult and £3 child, with a family ticket at £20. There will be soup, hot food and drinks in the hall and on site, plus stalls. So tell all your friends and come for a great night out.

- **Bonfire:** The field gates will be open on Saturdays & Sundays during October, from 10am to 2pm, so do bring along all your old wood, autumn prunings and burnable garden rubbish. A nominal charge of £1 per load will go towards the firework costs. As ever, please **DO NOT** bring other items - Environmental Health officers keep a close watch, and will **ban the bonfire** if unsuitable materials are detected!

- The summer's **changes to the storage & cloakroom area** have improved the Hall and its usability greatly. Thank you Paul Sturman & Co for doing such an excellent job.

The Lottery is a fun way to support the hall development fund, with three chances each month of winning a prize. If you aren't already "in" you need to act soon to be eligible for December's extra Bonanza draw. In August the winners were:- 1st prize £184.00 - C Yule; 2nd prizes of £46 - L Inglis & J Vere. Copies of the full rules and entry forms are available from promoter, Eileen, tel; 01379 687608, from Village Hall Treasurer, Tim Colyer, tel; 01379 687718, from other Village Hall Committee members (see website for details), or at the Farmer's Market and at Village Hall Events.

Farmer's Markets are on the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am to 12.30pm. The October Market is on 25th. 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 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 687882 for more details.

Yoga with P: We hope will return in the autumn – watch this space!

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.

Lophams' Ladies

Meeting on the first Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall; 7.15pm for 7.30pm.

At the September meeting, Christine Humphries' talk about researching her family tree really lived up to the 'Tears & Laughter' of the title - the stories uncovered were both moving and very amusing. Christine also provided many tips for those still thinking about taking up genealogy.

A warm welcome is extended to anyone interested in **London's Pearly Kings And Queens** to come along for Gerry Baxter's talk on 7th October - with authentic costumes to see.

On 4th November, we have another deceptive title - Mr David Mitchell promises to make **'Trees and the Law'** interesting, as he talks about conservation & farming. Visitors are very welcome to come and find out just how interesting! Contact 01379 687337 for further details.

Garden Club

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, our meeting on 3rd September when David Bolton was due to give a presentation was cancelled at the last minute. We do hope that David will be back to talk to us in the not too distant future.

Our next meeting is on 1st October, when **Ian Limmer of Peter Beales Roses** will give a presentation entitled, of course, "Roses".

Looking further forward, we shall welcome Ian Carstairs to our meeting on 5th November; Ian will talk about **"Cornfield Flowers"**.

We meet at Blooms of Bressingham Garden Centre on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. Visitors and new members are always very welcome. Please telephone 01379 687833 for further details.

Samaritan's Purse - Shoebox Appeal

It's time to make plans once again to help very deprived children in Eastern Europe & beyond. If you would be willing to cover a shoebox in Christmas paper and fill it with little gifts, such as stationery, toiletries, a woolly hat & mitts and a small cuddly toy, you would bring great joy to one of them. Shoe boxes need to be brought to Southlands, North Lopham by about 10th November to be sure of getting to their destination in time. More info from Jennie on 01379 687679. Thanks!

Advance Notice: from the Art Group

A second Art and Crafts Sale will be held at Lophams' Village Hall on Friday 14th November 6pm - 9pm and Saturday 15th November 10am - 4pm. Free admission on both days, with mulled wine and mince pies served on Friday evening and refreshments available all day Saturday.

More information next time.

St Nicholas' Church

Methodist Service: Informal Methodist worship and Coffee Mornings are now being held in St Nicholas' Church at 10.30am on the fourth Wednesday of the month, 22nd October is the date of the next one.

The Annual **Sponsored "Bike" Ride** was open to car drivers as well this year! It will be interesting to find out what sort of a difference that made.

Lophams' Harvest Luncheon was on Sunday 21st September, in the Village Hall. We do hope all who came enjoyed the occasion. (Report next time)

The **MacMillan Coffee Morning** is in church on 26th September - grateful thanks to everyone who can come along to support this worthwhile cause.

Harvest Thanksgiving in North Lopham is on Sunday 12th October. There will be a Family Harvest Service at 11am, with a procession of token gifts, then Harvest Praise with Music & Worship (MPW with extras!) at 4pm. Everyone is welcome to either or both of these.

We would be very grateful for any offers of flowers, foliage and produce to decorate the church for the weekend, plus help with the arranging on either Friday or Saturday, so that the church looks it's autumn best for the celebrations.

Advance Notice: A part-time Team Vicar has now been appointed, and will be licensed in Diss on 6th November. On Friday 7th, from 2.15pm, we will be **welcoming the Revd Wendy Evans** to North Lopham. The children from St Andrew's School will join local residents in St Nicholas' Church for their weekly Celebration Assembly at 2.45pm, to share in that welcome.

St Andrew's Church

On Saturday the 15th November there will be a **Coffee Morning** in the Church from 10am to 12 noon. There will be a cake stall, bring and buy and raffle. Please come and join us for a coffee and a scone.

The Churchyard. The Churchwardens and PCC would like to take this opportunity to thank Ted and Kevin Pilmer for all their hard work in re-aligning the gravestones; it has made a considerable improvement to the appearance of the churchyard.

Holy Bingo

It is always good to see new faces. Do join us at the Village Hall on 6th October at 2pm for some light hearted fun and banter. Please telephone 01379 687679 if you need help with transport.

Redgrave and Lopham Fen

Saturday 4th October, 10.30am - 1pm. **Guided fen walk.** Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fen with enthusiast and naturalist John Hill. £3 Meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

Sunday 19th October, 10.30am - 3pm. **Apple Day & Autumn Fair.** Fruit identification, plant and craft stalls, free family games, recipe swap, refreshments. Adult £3, child £2. No booking required.

Tuesday 28th October, 10am - 2pm. **Hedgehog activity day.** Activities, crafts and games to find out about these prickly creatures. For 6 - 10 year olds. £6 each or 2 siblings for £10. Booking essential 01379 688333.

Wednesday 29th October, 2pm - 4pm. **Animal hibernation family afternoon.** Activities to discover who sleeps through winter. £2.50 per person. Booking essential 01379 688333.

Thursday 30th October, 6.30pm - 8.30pm. **Wild night out family evening.** Make a lantern and explore the Fen at night. £2.50 per person. Booking essential 01379 688333.

South Lopham Parish Council

Meeting 4th September 2014 at Valley Farm Low Common.

John Crisp was in the Chair, acting Clerk Mr Gary Phillips, four councillors and three members of the public were present.

Apologies were received from two councillors. Gary Phillips gave a financial report and confirmed the Council's current balances.

All Saints Hapton and St Andrews Primary Schools partnership: John Crisp confirmed that the consultation document had been read and had nothing to add or report to the Council.

Planning: It was noted that the application for the erection of two agricultural buildings on land at Pooley Street had been withdrawn.

Highways: NCC Highways have now carried out repairs on the Blo Norton road and to potholes on Low Common, although there is still a drainage overflow onto the A1066 east of the White Horse public house. NCC Highways will again be notified and asked to action. The speed of traffic entering from the east is a major concern; each of the three members of the public present are directly affected and addressed the Council. After considerable discussion it was agreed that the Council would again request NCC Highways to move the speed limit sign to a position east of the bend in order to make it more visible to motorists and correspondingly the flashing 30 mile per hour sign. There was also a discussion amongst councillors in regard to an additional sign to restrict the size of site traffic leaving the A1066 in a northerly direction along Church Road.

Footpaths: A quotation is awaited from North Lopham Parish Council for trimming of Primrose Lane. Nothing had been heard from the adjoining landowners. The cost of one or more dog waste bins for Primrose Lane is to be investigated and presented to the Council.

Councillors were reminded that items for next year's budget were to be brought to the next meeting on 6th November 2014 at Valley Farm.

North Lopham Parish Council

Meeting on 10th September, with six councillors, the parish Clerk and four members of the public. Councillor Bird sent apologies. **Election of Chair:** A 'rolling chairperson' is not recommended practice therefore an election for chair was held. Two nominations were received, Councillor Hammond and Councillor Tate. Councillor Tate did not wish to stand, a vote was taken and Councillor Hammond was elected by four to one. **Matters arising from previous meetings. Footpath.** The redundant footpath between Jubilee Lane and a private property in The Street is in the process of being extinguished by NCC. **War memorial;** the 2nd quotation for cleaning, £895 + VAT, was accepted subject to assurances about public liability insurance. **Biomass plant.** Assurances are to be sought that construction site traffic will not violate the 7.5 tonne exclusion zone, to liaise with SLPC about possible extra signage. Risk assessment and possible contingency planning documentation for the biomass plant will be sought from BDC. **Open spaces.** Enquiries have been made about improving pedestrian access to the village hall; awaiting further developments. **Grass and hedge cutting Primrose and Jubilee lanes;** Mr West has done some work in Jubilee lane, thanks to him. In conjunction with SLPC two quotations have been sought for clearing Primrose Lane (£600/£500). It was agreed to share the cost with SLPC. **Thanks** to Mike Cox and Eric and Lesley Bird for cleaning the telephone box and to David Hammond and Eric Bird for saving NLPC £300, by removing another dangerous tree branch. **Methodist Chapel.** Councillor Makowski-Heaton is arranging a meeting between NLPC and Methodist representatives to discuss the chapel's future. It was suggested that a sub-committee be formed as this could be a long and complex business. **Financial report.** it was disclosed that proposed expenditure on the war memorial and footpath clearance would necessitate withdrawing some reserve funds. **Correspondence.** A relative reported that one grave has been damaged by grass cutting, to inform the contractors. Should small photographs of the deceased be permitted on memorials? For further discussion. **AOB.** Councillor Makowski-Heaton asked if the 'Quiet Lane' scheme is still in existence and could it be extended to High Common Road? To enquire at NCC highways. Green Lane is impassable in places; NCC has adopted it but is not maintaining it. Councillor Makowski-Heaton suggested researching and compiling a historic village walk to commemorate the ending of WW1. To be followed up. In response to numerous complaints about speeding, a letter will be sent to Norfolk Constabulary asking for their assistance to reinforce the current traffic calming measures. **Next meeting** 12th November 2014.

Services for October

North Lopham South Lopham

5 th October	
9.30am HC	-
11am Fam S	-
12 th October	
11am Harv Fam S	-
4pm Harv MPW	-
19 th October	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
26 th October	
11am Fam S	4pm ES

Contributions for next issue by;

18th OCTOBER

Please email to
lophamsnews@gmail.com