

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No.353

PUBLISHED EACH MONTH SINCE 1982

OCTOBER 2011

St Andrew's School

It was wonderful to start the new school year in a gleaming building - the newly decorated classrooms with furniture and equipment in place, and the hall cleared of all the items that had been stored there temporarily. The staff were all determined that Mrs Baker, our caretaker, should have time with her family following her father's sad death and willingly gave up holiday days to complete the jobs that had to be left until the decorators had finished. We are very grateful to them all.

The term began smoothly, with a warm welcome for new support staff, for Miss Mitchell in Endeavour Class and for the new reception children in Discovery Class. The children have settled into their new routines and begun to meet the demands of their new year groups. Across the Partnership, staff have met and begun planning an exciting term of activities. For our school, the first special date is Wednesday 28th September, when we celebrate Harvest Festival in South Lopham Church at 9am. Families and local friends are warmly invited to join us.

Monday 3rd October sees the start of Book Week, with extra activities and visitors, ending with the chance to come to school dressed as a book character. On the 10th, years 3 and 4 are going with their Winfarthing friends to the Cathedral on an educational visit.

Community Lunches continue on the third Thursday each month - the next will be on 20th October. Local friends from both Lophams and Blo Norton are warmly invited to join the children at 12.05 for a roast dinner costing just £3.50. To book a place, please phone Jennie on 687679 by Monday 17th.

N Lopham Yard Sales, arranged by FOSTA, are on Sunday 25th September, from 9am to 1pm. If you are reading this in time, do take part, either selling or visiting those who are doing so. FOSTA would be very grateful if participants would donate 10% of any profits to their funds.

Lophams' Ladies

In August we enjoyed an evening in the lovely garden of Robert and Madeleine McCaw. Many thanks to them for their hospitality. In September we had our annual Jumble and Car Boot Sale. This raised £142 after expenses, and we thank all who contributed in any way. We also had an afternoon guided tour of St Edmundsbury Cathedral. A very knowledgeable guide told us the story of King Edmund and the beginnings of the Abbey through to the Reformation and how the small cathedral church of St James was enlarged in the 1960's, continuing up to the completion of the Millennium tower and visitors' accommodation in 2009. Our October meeting is open to all. A talk on the "**East Coast Truckers**", well known for their convoy of trucks taking children with special needs to Gt Yarmouth. The meeting will be in the Village Hall on Tuesday October 4th; 7.00pm for 7.30. For any further details phone 01379 687337.

Lophams' Village Hall

It is good to report that a new **Art Class** is to start. Susie Turner invites all who are interested to come to a free 'taster' drop-in morning on Wednesday 28th September; classes will run for the following four weeks, then a further five-week 'term' from mid November. Details from 01379 687434. **BONFIRE** event - During October, the gates will be open at weekends so that burnable garden prunings and surplus wood can be brought to the site. Do please remember that no other items are allowed; Environmental Health can ban the bonfire if they visit and discover unsuitable materials have been dumped. There were over 90 members in **The Lottery** (the fun way to raise money for the hall's Development Fund) in August, a new record. The winners were: 1st M & L Collier (£184.00) 2nd D Somers and J Farren Bradley (£46.00 each). The lottery draw time is moving to 12 noon on Market days. 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 Tim Colyer (01379 687718), from other Village Hall Committee members (see website), or at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events. **Farmers' Markets** are on the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am till 12.30pm, the next on October 22nd. For details, call Mike on 01379 687235. **Judo** is on Mon & Weds - (Details from Howard on 01379 688258). **Dog Training** is held most Tues evenings, Information from trainer Elaine (07845 776110). The new hall charges are now published on the website and displayed locally. **To book the Hall**, please contact 01379 687679. www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk

Garden Club

On 7th September we welcomed Dr Chris Grey-Wilson who gave a most enjoyable presentation entitled "Bulbs". He accompanied his talk with a colourful display of slides showing the many forms of flowering bulbs for the garden.

Our next meeting is on October 5th when we look forward to welcoming Hilary Thomas who will be giving a presentation entitled "Vertical Gardening". Looking further forward, the subject of our meeting on 2nd November will be "Orchids" with Colin Thorburn.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the restaurant area of Blooms Garden Centre.

New members and visitors are always very welcome.

South Lopham Parish Council

The following points of interest arose from the meeting of the Council held on the evening of Thursday, 8th September:

- 1) Approval was given (subject to checking with the family) for the name of **Ralph E. Bowell to be added to the War Memorial** for the Second World War.
- 2) The Council agreed to increase its contribution to the cost of The Lophams' News necessitated by the change of regime.
- 3) The Chairman reminded the meeting that the **litter-pick** will take place on **Sunday, 30th October** at 10.30 a.m. (meeting in the White Horse car park). It is hoped that many villagers will turn up to help. Could such helpers please notify the Clerk, Lynn Perry, on 01379 688336.
- 4) The Council was pleased to note that the pavement opposite the War Memorial had now been repaired and resurfaced. Road repairs had also been carried out on Redgrave Road.
- 5) The additional grit bin at the end of Blo Norton Road is now in place and has been filled with grit.
- 6) The Council approved a contribution of £200 towards the cost of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations being organised for 2nd June, 2012.
- 7) The meeting was attended by Stephen Reynolds who has kindly agreed to take over the running of the PC website. Contributions from villagers would be welcome. They should be sent to Stephen at webmaster.southlophampc@gmail.com.
- 8) It was reported that arrangements will be made for shelves to be put in the telephone kiosk preparatory to launching the book exchange. Further guidelines as to its operation will be posted in the kiosk and the notice board in the bus shelter (and in the next edition of The Lophams' News). Villagers are urged to contribute to and make use of this facility when it is up and running.
- 9) Granville Horan reported that the next meeting of the committee to organise the Jubilee celebrations will have been held on Thursday, 22nd September. He also stated that a large portion of any profits generated by the forthcoming **quiz** of The Lophams' Society will be paid to the Jubilee Committee to assist with funding. Villagers are therefore especially encouraged to attend the quiz, which is due to take place on the evening of **Saturday, 15th October**. Details will be included in posters around the two villages and in leaflets to be distributed.

Jubilee Celebrations 2012

- 1) The first committee meeting was held at the Village Hall on the evening of Thursday, 25th August. The following committee was elected: Chairman - Granville Horan, Vice Chairman - Robert McCaw, Treasurer - Peter Coster, Secretary - Paddy Miller (to be assisted by Steph Fleming).
- 2) The date for the celebrations was fixed as **Saturday, 2nd June 2012** (59th anniversary of the Coronation!).
- 3) There was a wide-ranging discussion about the organisation, content and finance of the celebrations. Various sub-committees were appointed to make recommendations on different aspects. They will report back to the next meeting of the committee to be held on **Thursday, 22nd September at 7.30pm** at the Village Hall. Any resident of either of the villages is welcome to attend.

Lopham Links needs you!

The Links Committee is fund raising to enable an exciting landscaped area for families and young people to be sited alongside Lophams' main playing field.

We've Got Talent on October 7th, in the Village Hall will give YOU a chance to show off your special talent - You can sing, dance, do a magic trick or play an instrument. Any thing will do! Fantastic prizes to be won! Open to all ages. ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TO THE LOPHAM PLAY AND RECREATION AREA.

If you're willing to get involved in the project just email lophamlinks@gmail.com or phone Elaine on 01379 688342.

North Lopham Parish Council

Mrs. Lesley Bird took the chair for the meeting on September 7th.

Lophams' News: The North Lopham share of production and printing costs - £25.50 per issue was agreed. Details of current **planning applications** are available from Parish Clerk. **Trees and hedges** overhanging footpaths are still a concern along The Street. Residents are again reminded to keep footways next to their boundaries clear.

The Clerk has volunteered to borrow a machine privately to cut Back Lane. **Tree surgery** at the pond will cost about £350. Breckland trees officer has been informed. The Clerk is currently investigating who has cut the grass for us at Church Corner. **Lophams' Celebrations** for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on June 2nd 2012 are to be a 'free day'. A provisional contribution of £200 to the costs was agreed. **A Village Clear Up** on 22nd or 29th October is to be arranged. Watch for details! **Lopham Links** requested help with maintenance of the play area once it's well established. This was agreed in principle providing SLPC are also in agreement. **A Precept** of £2700 has been requested for 2012/13. **Bruno Brown** thanked the PC for their gift in relation to his work keeping Back Lane clear. **The Agenda for the meeting on 9th November** will include Youth Club, Bonfire and Electricity Cables fouled by trees.

Redgrave & Lopham Fen

For bookings phone 01379 688333 or redgrave.centre@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Guided Fen Walk: Sat 1st Oct. 10.30am-12.30pm Adults £3, Children £1.

Wildlearning - Botanical Illustration. Weds 5th Oct. 10am - 3pm. An adult learning course in capturing the beauty of flowers in paint. £20. Booking essential.

Apple Day and Autumn Plant Sale. Sun 16th Oct. 10am - 4pm. Apple identification, fruit trees and plants for sale. Plus seasonal produce, demonstrations crafts and family games. Adults £3, children £2.

Film Flurry. Tues 25th Oct. Family event with screening of 'My Neighbour Totoro' followed by activities on the Fen. £2.50 per person. Booking essential.

Myths and Magic. Weds 26th Oct. 6pm - 8pm. A great family evening. Children and accompanying adults £1.50.

Volunteering Taster Session Tues 8th Nov 10.30am - 12.30pm. A welcoming, no-obligation coffee and chat for anyone who is thinking about volunteering at the Fen. - Free

Bacon Exhibition Endowment Fund

This Fund is available to those between 5 and 25 years who live or attend schools in Redgrave, Botesdale,

Rickinghall, Wortham, Burgate, Gisingham, Hinderclay, Blo Norton, **South Lopham** and Bressingham.

Please apply by 30th September 2011 to The Clerk, Mrs R Powell, Fir Tree Cottage, Redgrave, Diss, IP22 1SD.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Services for October

9th Oct Service at 10.30am
- Mr Roy Sayer of Diss.

23rd Oct Service at 2.30pm
- Rev Brian Trudgian of Diss

Refreshments served afterwards.

A warm welcome to all.

Lophams Ramblers

We have now completed our 8th year of walking in and around the Lophams and continue to enjoy the monthly exercise. Some people have left the area but return to walk with us, whilst others have moved too far away. Generally the weather is kind to us but in the winter or when it is too wet we can use the "quiet lanes" instead of footpaths.

Lophams' Harvest Supper: October 8th.

A Hog Roast with all the trimmings (or a vegetarian option) will be served in the Village Hall at 7.30pm prompt, with apple pie & ice cream to follow. Tickets at £8.50, including fruit juice & tea or coffee, are available from PCC members. If you wish to have alcohol, please bring your own drinks & glasses.

St Andrew's Church

On Sunday 31st July St. Andrew's Church held a Summer Songs of Praise with favourite hymns chosen by the congregation. Thank you to all who came to enjoy their favourite hymns.

On **St. Andrew's Day** Wednesday 30th November there will be a Coffee Morning in the Church from 10.00am to 12.00noon. There will be a Cake Stall, Raffle and Tombola.

The Parish Council have erected a much-needed new Church Notice Board as part of a bequest from the Lord of the Manor to the village, and made by Nigel Martin. The Church Wardens and PCC are extremely grateful for the gift.

St Nicholas' Church

Music to Make you Smile: A very appreciative audience was treated to an evening of lighthearted music by 'The Smiley Seven' on 10th September. Only their accompanist is making a career in Music; of the rest three are Engineers, the others are studying Biological Sciences, English and History! They used guitars, a mandolin and a trumpet in addition to their own lovely voices, but had **no** microphone support - rare at concerts these days. Their aim was to 'Make us Smile' - and we did! All the money raised is for Smile Train, the charity that funds operations to cure the Cleft Palate condition suffered by many children. £320 was raised on the night; the total will rise to £450, enough to operate on three children, so grateful thanks to the Smiley Seven and all those who supported the event.

Pet Service (11th Sept) Our Rector, Rev'd Rob, blessed six dogs, large and small, plus a rabbit and a tortoise during the Pet Service in September and sent blessings home to a mini zoo of 26 animals ranging from horses and a pony to 12 dalmatian puppies and another tortoise. All the animals (and owners) behaved beautifully, and most enjoyed some extra petting afterwards while we enjoyed drinks and home made cake!

Many thanks go to all those who decorated the church so beautifully for the **Harvest** weekend and to everyone who took part in either of the services.

Advance Notice & Request: A Festival of Nativity Crib scenes is planned for 18th to 25th November in the church. Crib sets have already been promised by local churches, schools and individuals. If YOU have a set we could borrow, please phone 01379 687679 to make arrangements. The church will be manned each day during the festival, and locked in between, for security. The aim is to have the maximum variety of sizes, materials and styles, and there will be lots of linked attractions. All details next time!!

Services for October

North Lopham South Lopham

4th October

9.30am HC -

11am Fam S + Bapt -

9th October

11am Fam S -

6.30pm MP&W -

16th October

11am Fam S + Bapt 9.30am HC

23rd October

11am Fam S 6.30pm E.S.

30th October

10am Benefice Communion

6.30pm MP&W - both at Roydon

Contributions for next issue by;

18TH OCTOBER

Please email to
lophamsnews@gmail.com

Please note new email address