

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

The Lophams' Society convened a meeting of most of the groups active in the two villages to determine whether there was general support for the villages to organise celebrations of the Jubilee next year. The meeting was held on Thursday, 4th August in the Village Hall and was attended by approximately 25 representatives of such groups. There was in fact unanimous and enthusiastic support and extensive discussion took place as to the type of celebrations and how they could be organised and financed. A committee consisting of representatives of most of the groups was appointed to carry the project forward. Its first meeting is due to take place at the **Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, 25th August.**

It was emphasised at the meeting that the viability and success of such celebrations depend upon the support of the inhabitants of the two villages. Although we are talking about the first week of June next year, it is not too early to alert the community to keep these local proposals in mind when planning diaries for the Jubilee.

Lophams' Village Hall

One of the few drawbacks to holding social events in the hall has been 'the washing up' so the Trustees have decided to use some of the money in the Development Fund to improve the kitchen facilities by installing a dish-washer in the near future. Money comes into the fund each month from **The Lottery** so we hope all the members will be pleased! The lottery is drawn at 11.30am on Market days. The winners for July were: E. Jacob -first prize (£180.00), with M Cox and M Birchall winners of the second prizes (£45.00 each) 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, tel; 01379 687608, from Village Hall Treasurer, Tim Colyer, tel; 01379 687718, from other Village Hall Committee members (see the website for details), or at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events.

Farmers' Markets are on the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am till 12.30pm, so the next one will be on September 24th. 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.

All the hall charges are being reviewed this summer, the first time since 2009; a new list will be published on the website and in the hall as soon as possible.

To book the hall for private functions, please contact 01379 687679. To find out more about the hall generally, visit the website: www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk

"**Singing is good for you**" writes Natalie Sullivan, who is connected with many local choirs and singing groups. A copy of her article is available in the local churches, but readers may like to know of a couple of local groups that would welcome visitors who might become members:

2's Company, 3's a Choir is a Community Choir and meets on Tuesday evenings, in term time, at the East Harling Social Club in the Rudd Room downstairs at 7:30. Everyone is welcome, we do not use music notation, we sing many styles of music, we sing in parts depending on the repertoire and we are informal and very supportive to in-comers. We have fun and work on our voices at the same time. Contact Natalie on 07956 609450 or 2scompany3sachoir@gmail.com.

Young Singers in and around Thetford, from 8 years old, are warmly welcomed at **Thetford Music Project**, which offers both individual singing tuition and singing group sessions on Thursdays at Queensway School between 4pm and 6:30pm. See the website www.thetfordmusicproject.org.uk for details.

Look out too, for holiday singing workshops from **Thetford Voices** advertised locally.

Garden Club (meeting at Blooms)

On Saturday 6th August we enjoyed our eagerly awaited trip to RHS Hyde Hall gardens. We spent a leisurely time strolling through the many different gardens and enjoying the varied plants and shrubs. Even the weather was kind to us, no rain until it was time for the coach to leave! Our next meeting is on Wednesday 7th September 2011 when we welcome Dr Chris Grey-Wilson, who will be giving a presentation entitled "Bulbs", and looking further forward, the subject of our October meeting will be "Vertical Gardening" with Hilary Thomas.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the restaurant area of Blooms Garden Centre and new members and visitors are always very welcome.

St Andrew's School

The last school year ended with a flourish with most of Endeavour Class on a residential visit to Hill Top until the day before breaking up for the summer, so a huge amount of sorting out took place on the last morning, before a large number of parents gathered for the Leavers' Assembly in the afternoon. It was lovely to have Mrs Heads and baby Phoebe present for the service. This occasion included the presentation of cups and awards, and gifts of bibles and special St Andrew's mugs for the leavers. Year Six then gave the school a new St Andrew's flag, to be flown from the start of the new school year. The service included contributions from Singing Club and the junior recorder players, and concluded with everyone singing "One more step along the world I go", for all those moving to a new year group, but especially for those going to new schools.

During August, school has been a hive of activity as the classrooms are being decorated and the equipment stored in the hall is being cleaned and put in its rightful place. Inevitably, this means extra work and disruption for Mrs Baker - so grateful thanks go to her for making everywhere bright and welcoming for September.

A warm welcome awaits Miss Mitchell in Endeavour Class in September and all the new reception pupils who will join Discovery Class. We hope they will be very happy. September also sees the formal start of the Partnership with All Saints, Winfarthing; we look forward to exciting times under Mrs Norgate's leadership.

Community Lunches will resume on the third Thursday each month - the first will be on 15th. Local friends are warmly invited to join the children at 12 noon for a roast dinner costing just £3.50. To book a place, please phone Jennie on 687679 by Monday 12th.

North Lopham Yard Sales, arranged by FOSTA, take place on Sunday 25th September, from 9am to 1pm. All residents are invited to take part, sorting out no longer used items for sale. Non-residents can set up a stall in the school playground. FOSTA would be very grateful if participants would donate 10% of any profits to their funds.

southlopham.co.uk

A new Webmaster for www.southlopham.co.uk - Steve Reynolds has taken over responsibility to manage the South Lopham web pages. Please contact Steve at webmaster.southlophampc@gmail.com with news, comment, dates etc. for insertion on the site.

