

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No.357

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FEBRUARY 2012

St

A Happy New Year from St. We have enjoyed a fantastic start to the New Year. Within the first week of 2012, children partnership school All Saints, enjoyed a trip to the Theatre Royal to see the pantomime Sleeping Beauty, staying behind afterwards to ask the cast questions. **Congratulations** December. They organised Pass on Christmas and raised **£32 for Quidenham Hospice**

Key Stage 1 have been invited to take part in a dance festival and year 5 to Sportshall Athletics, year 4 - road cycling and there is a Chinese New Year lunch on January 24th. **Community lunch** for February is in the fourth week because of half term, on Thursday 23rd at 12 noon (price £3.50). To book a place, just contact Jennie or 687679 or the school office by Monday 20th.

Fosta

Friends of St. A organising a family Beetle Drive on Friday 27th January at 6pm and would welcome your participation.

Our Preschool children have had a great start to the new term thinking firstly about our New Year and then at the end of January celebrated the Chinese New Year. We have also enjoyed the unseasonably mild weather by having lots of walks near to school looking at how the scenery is changing throughout the winter. Preschool opens on a Monday (8.45am to 11.45am) and Wednesday and Thursday (8.45 am to 3.15pm). We welcome children at Preschool from their second birthday, even if still in nappies.

We are having an **Open Morning on Tuesday 28th February** from 9am to 11am so come along and see the fantastic facilities we have to offer our children. Visits are always welcome either come along during our opening hours or call the Preschool manager on 07962 219523 to arrange a visit. If anyone with a head for figures has a few minutes to spare each week, **Preschool are in need of a new Treasurer** after Easter. If you think you might be able to help, please call Tonya on the above telephone number to see exactly what is involved with the position.

David Copperfield: a new production by Mad Dogs & Englishmen: will be shown at the Hall on Saturday 24th March, at 7.30pm. All those who have seen previous productions by this team, based in Quidenham, will know that a professional, fast moving treat is in store. Tickets are available throughout February & March, from Jennie and committee members, £7 for adults, £5 for children & students. Refreshments will be available. **Lottery** - our opportunity to support the Village Hall and have a bit of fun too - starts a new Bonanza Fund now that 2012 has arrived. **Will it reach £300 this year?** Everything depends on the number of participants! 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), Tim Colyer (01379 687718), Committee members (see website for details), or at the Farmers' Market and Village Hall Events. **Markets** are on the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am till 12.30pm, the next one is **25th February**. 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. **Art Classes** on Wednesdays, from 9.30 am; the tutor is Susie Turner on 01379 687434. **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

Lophams' Ladies

At our first meeting of the year, Andy Malcolm from the "Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen" came to talk to our group. An interesting afternoon was enjoyed by all but we were reminded of the very dangerous work our fishermen do and the work of this charity; not only when emergencies arise but in the long term support they give to fishing community. Our meeting on **6th February** will be at 2pm in the Village Hall when **Roland Buggy** will speak on his **visit to Antarctica**. We shall also have a **Bring and Buy Stall** Visitors and new members always welcome - phone 01379 687337 for details.

Garden Club

After our usual break in January, we are looking forward to our first meeting of the year on **1st February** when Mr Rodney Tibbs will give a presentation on "**Restoring a Cottage Garden**". On **March 7th** we have our **AGM**. This will be followed by "Gardeners Question Time".

Our meetings take place in the restaurant area of Blooms Garden Centre on the first Wednesday of the month starting at 7.30pm. Visitors and new members are always very welcome. Tel 01379 687833 for further information.

North Lopham Parish Council

Robert Carley was in the Chair. The last minutes were corrected to show that NCC will adopt the footpaths to the west of the street this year. Grit bins have been placed by the school and in Kings Head Lane. **Planning**; an application has been received for a 5th house on the Meadow Farm development. **Highways and footpaths**; damage to various road signs has been reported to highways. A deep pothole opposite Linen Lane (the new development near the war memorial) will be reported. The blocked drain in Church Road is to be cleared. Church Road/The Street/The Green and Harling Road are scheduled for resurfacing this year. A dangerously rotten tree near the school will be reported to the relevant landowner. **Community Matters**; Village car scheme; details of the new Kenninghall voluntary scheme were submitted for consideration. Councillor Tate proposed that Jubilee, if the PC agrees to maintain it. Agreed; to liaise with Mr. Bush who currently looks after that area. Councillor McManus reported that a local family who lost their tied house - housed locally. The Council sympathised but have no say in Housing Policy. **Next meeting; 14th March**; reports on Jubilee Bench, Car Scheme.

South Lopham Parish Council

The following points arose from the Meeting held on Thursday, 12th January 2012. **1)** The appointment of Stephen Reynolds as the new Parish Clerk was approved. He has accepted the post on a temporary basis pending a more permanent appointment. **2)** The issue of footpaths and public rights of way was discussed. In particular, it was decided that Council members would undertake a walk of Rolfe's Track on Saturday, 10th March 2012, meeting at the Visitors' Centre for Redgrave and Lopham Fen. Any resident of South Lopham is welcome to join the walk. **3)** Efforts are still being made to persuade Norfolk CC to move back the 30 m.p.h. sign on the A1066 entering the village from Diss. A further meeting has been arranged, the outcome of which will be reported after the next PC meeting. **4)** The telephone kiosk in Primrose Lane is now being used for a book exchange. Residents of South and North Lopham are encouraged to both lend and borrow books. **5)** The Parish Council website is well worth a visit as its scope has been expanded under the management of Steve Reynolds. Comments and contributions are welcome. **6)** It was reported that preparations for the Jubilee celebrations to take place at the Village Hall on 2nd June 2012 are continuing (see separate entry). **7)** The new Church notice board (complete with a plaque on the back) is now finished. This has used up nearly all the £1,000 legacy from Beatrice Malson. Approximately £150 remains to be spent. Ideas would be welcome - contact Chairman, Robert McCaw on 01379 687776 or robmad@btinternet.com

Starters & Sweets- Friday 3rd February at 7.30pm.

As a little break from the post Christmas drabness, come along to the Village Hall on 3rd February to sample some delicious Starters and Sweets. Tickets, at just £5, available from PCC members, entitle you to taste as many of the goodies as you wish, and try your luck in a (mainly) foodie themed Raffle. You can go for mainly savoury, or indulge your sweet tooth, and there will be several vegetarian options. Fruit juice and hot drinks will be available, but if you wish for alcohol, please bring your own, plus glasses.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

No Services will be held in February and March.

St Nicholas' Church

After a 5 years wait, having the **Christmas Midnight Communion** was extra special. The church was full for a memorable service led by the Rev Reg Dakin. St Stephen was celebrated on Boxing Day with a sung Matins service led by the rector, the Rev 'd Rob Mellowship. 2012 was welcomed with a Group Communion service, also led by the Rector. **Epiphany Sunday**: was the occasion for the first visit by The Bishop of Thetford the Rt Rev Alan Winton, for a Benefice Communion service, followed by a bring and share lunch at St Andrew's School, with a chance to meet and speak with Bishop Alan. People from all five parishes in the Upper Waveney Benefice came along, and brought delicious eats! At 6.30pm the Epiphany Carol Service was a further helping of special music and readings for everyone. Many thanks to all who took part. The Christmas season continues until 2nd February, known as Candlemas. **The Christingle service**: 29th January at 4pm will round off the celebration season. All are welcome to join in an short informal service which will be our chance to support the work of the Children's Society. **Ash Wednesday** marking the start of the Lent season is on 22nd February this year. A Communion service, including the 'ashing' ceremony, will take place at 7.30pm.

The Lophams' Society

The dates for this year's events are 17th March St. Patrick's Day Quiz, 2nd June Jubilee Celebrations (with other groups), 22nd September Music Event with food and bar, 17th November Autumn Quiz and 14th December Christmas Drop In.

The Society requests that other groups give long notice of events so as to avoid any clashes.

Borderhoppa goes on!

December was a busy month for us. We had an outing for our members to see the Christmas trees in Dickleburgh church, which was followed by lunch at the Half Moon at Rushall. The following week we had our Christmas lunch at the Apollo in Harleston, where we raised £105 in our raffle for Borderhoppa funds. We were busy with our usual pick ups for shopping, hair & doctors appointments, as well as extra festive shopping!

Our next outings are: Mon 20th Feb to Bury St Edmunds Mon 5th March to The Black Horse at Thorndon for lunch, Mon 19th March to Notcutts Garden Centre

We are now taking booking for all these trips, some have limited spaces, so early booking is advisable.

If you'd like to book a place, become a member or privately hire one of our mini buses, please call us on : 01379 854800.

We would like to wish you all a happy & healthy 2012, & thank you for your continued support.

Ordinary People Doing Amazing Things.

Are you, Lively, Imaginative, Out going, Never give up Service orientated, Do you want to make a difference? Locally, Internationally, Or Nationally, If this is you why not become a LION,

Lions help their locally communities in many ways, from re-roofing a pre school storage shed, laying a rug for an elderly resident, providing a garden fence to keep young children safe.

Nationally they contribute to, the new shelter at the National Memorial Arboretum, and to the rehabilitation centre for servicemen at St Dunstons, plus help for flood victims in Boscastle and Cockermonth, and providing a specialist eye treatment centre in King Lynn.

Internationally we are the first service organisation on the ground at major disasters, and for many years after MOET (management of obstetric emergencies and trauma), is the continuing help the Lions provide for the former Yugoslavia, this started with lorries of shoe boxes 14 years ago and has progressed to hospitals and on going training for doctors and midwives.

We are now launching a nation wide recognition programme for 11 to 18 year olds, as we know they are not all jocks, that there are many community minded teenagers who need to be honoured.

All this is possible by people like you, in towns like yours by holding fund raising events from Bingo nights, raffles, bric a brac stalls to carnivals, street fayres and much more.

If you feel this is something you would enjoy and you want to make a difference, please give me Lion Mandy Hawksley, a ring on 01986 872710, or e-mail me on mandp.mart@virgin.net Let's start a new exciting Lions Club in your community. Male or female, any age, all you need to be a Lion is to CARE

St Andrew's Church

Carols at the White Horse. We were warmly welcomed by the new landlords of the White Horse Tony and Lesley, for Carol singing on Wednesday 21st December. The singing was accompanied by Rona Reeder on her Piano Accordion, Keith Rackham on his Guitar and Juliet on the Tambourine. The Raffle made £90.00, this was very well attended and our thanks go to Tony and Lesley for making us so welcome and for providing the refreshments.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust Valley Fens Local Group South Lopham

Tuesday 28th February 2012
Talk by Pip Wright "The Diary of a West Suffolk Woodman 1827- 1842"

7.30pm at Redgrave and Lopham Fen Visitor Centre. £2 entry includes tea/coffee and biscuits
Contact no: 01379 608313

Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Preparations for the celebrations on 2nd June, 2012 are well under way. Could you please note the date in your diaries for the afternoon and evening. Residents of South and North Lopham are encouraged to include a short personal greeting in the programme of approximately 20 words. An example might be: The Blogs family conveys their loyal greetings to the Queen on this anniversary and hope that the people of the Lophams enjoy their celebrations. This will cost £3 per entry. To arrange, please contact Robert McCaw on 01379 687776 or orrobmad@btinternet.com

Services for February

North Lopham South Lopham

5th February

9.30am Group HC -
11am Fam S -

12th February

11am Fam S -
6.30pm MPW -

19th February

11am Fam S 9.30am HC

26th February

11am Fam HC 6.30pm ES

Contributions for next issue by;

18th FEBRUARY

Please email to lophamsnews@gmail.com