

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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St Andrew's School

There have been some beautiful days this half term, enabling the children to use the outdoor areas to the full for lessons and for playtimes on the field. We were very grateful to South Lopham Church for keeping their Harvest displays in place for the school Harvest Festival service. Speaking in such a huge building is very difficult - well done to all the children for "having a go". By the next big event, the new PA system will be available to boost their voices. **Book Week** provided many extra experiences, for example hearing a professional author read stories and working across the age groups to make mobiles; the costumes for 'come to school as a favourite book character' were wonderful to behold. The Y3 & 4 pupils had a fascinating day at Norwich Cathedral, with their friends from All Saints, Winfarthing, seeing the **King James Bible exhibition**, and trying their hands at various activities, including type setting and printing. All the older pupils enjoyed their visit to **Southwold**, comparing the geography and activities there with those of our local villages. **Finding our about China** - the country, the people and the customs - was the focus of a Partnership Day to round off the half term - another great opportunity to get to know our Winfarthing friends better too. **Community Lunches** continue on the third Thursday each month - the next will be on 17th November. 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 14th.

FOSTA - N Lopham Yard Sales. Many thanks to all who took part, and helped raise just over £200 for funds, which will be shared with the pre-school. **Festive Treats & Treatments** - in School on Friday 11th November from 7 to 9pm is a chance to start getting ready for THAT season, with a whole host of stalls to browse as you enjoy a glass of mulled wine & a mince pie. The refreshments are included in the admission price of just £3, so do come along and join in!

Lopham Preschool are settled in again after the summer break and have had a busy half term thinking about autumn, going on walks to see the changing countryside and making delicious Gruffalo crumble! Preschool opens on a Monday morning and all day (8.45am to 3.15pm) Wednesday and Thursday. We welcome children from their second birthday at Preschool, and children still in nappies are very welcome. Preschool runs in 'The Mess' (the large cream building close to the road) at St Andrews School. We have a fantastic range of toys and equipment for the children, and much of this will be on display at our **Open Morning** on Tuesday November 1st, 9am to 11am. Come along and meet the team and see our fantastic setting. On Saturday December 3rd, we will be holding our **Christmas Fair** at St Andrew's School. Lots of fun activities for the children and a chance for some Christmas shopping. Open from 1pm to 4pm.

North Lopham Parish Council

The pond/village tidy will commence at 9am on **Saturday 29th October**, meeting at the pond. Reflectives, collecting bags, tools etc will be provided. Anyone with a strimmer will be welcome to cut round the edge of the pond. George and Angie at the pub have offered free coffee and tea to round off the morning. Lesley Bird on 01379 688372 is organising the event, which always proves to be a friendly occasion. Contact her direct for more details.

The Agenda for the meeting on 9th November will include Youth Club, Bonfire and Electricity Cables fouled by trees.

Lophams' Village Hall

Bonfire & Firework event is on Saturday 5th November. Gates open at 6pm, the fireworks will be at 7.30pm. The usual hot food - pork rolls, soup etc will be served in the hall; there will be stalls including candy floss. The children's competition is a model of Guy Fawkes in any medium. Entry charges are unchanged this year - £6 per adult and £2 per child. The gates are open at weekends from 10 till 2pm, 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. **The Lottery** (the fun way to raise money for the hall's Development Fund) had 92 entries in September, another new record! The winners were: 1st Mr & Mrs Young (£186.00), 2nd L Cox and P Moralee (£46.50 each). The lottery is drawn at 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 Treasurer, 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 will be November 26th. 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** are most Wednesdays, from 9.30; contact Susie Turner on 688128. **The new hall charges** are now published on the website and displayed locally. **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

The "**East Coast Truckers**", well known for their convoy of trucks taking children with extra needs to Great Yarmouth, came to the October meeting, bringing the film of one special day for many disadvantaged children and telling us about the other events they organise throughout the year. The film brought a tear to many a watching eye; hearing about the determination of the truckers and their supporters to continue their good work despite the difficulties caused by excessive bureaucracy encouraged us to support them wholeheartedly in their efforts. The next meeting will be in the Village Hall on Tuesday November 1st, 7.00pm for 7.30, when Mrs Tann will talk about cross stitch samplers (and a probable connection with Lopham Linen). Visitors will be very welcome. For further details please phone 01379 687337.

Garden Club

On October 5th we enjoyed an interesting presentation by Hilary Thomas entitled "Vertical Gardening". Hilary illustrated how height can be introduced into our borders using a varied selection of plants and shrubs and accompanied her talk with many colourful slides.

Our **next meeting** is on **November 2nd** when Colin Thornburn will give a presentation entitled "Orchids". We are also looking forward to December 7th when we shall enjoy our Christmas Dinner. This is a very festive occasion held in the restaurant area of Blooms of Bressingham Garden Centre and tickets are now on sale - telephone 01953 681989 for further details. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at Blooms Garden Centre.

New members and visitors are always very welcome.

The Lophams' Society

The Society held a Quiz Night in the Village Hall on Saturday 15th October. The evening was enjoyed by the eighty, or so, villagers who attended (and by a couple of German holidaymakers who were curious to investigate this strange British phenomenon!) A hearty supper was provided and the bar was well patronised. The profits are being given to the Jubilee Committee of the two villages to help finance the celebrations to be held on 2nd June 2012.

The next function is the Christmas Drop-In at the Village Hall on Friday, 16th December commencing at 6pm. Entrance is free. We are hoping for a good turnout from the two villages.

Samaritan's Purse

Those who would like to send Christmas cheer to a deprived child from Eastern Europe or further afield, who would otherwise have no treats at all, are asked to bring filled shoe boxes to Jennie at Southlands by 12th November, so that they can be collected in time to ensure delivery before December 25th. For further details, and a list of suitable items to use, please telephone 01379 687679.

South Lopham Parish Council

Vacancy For Parish Clerk

We are sorry to report that, for personal reasons, Lynn Perry is resigning as Clerk to the South Lopham PC with effect from 31st December 2011. Applications for the post (which carries modest remuneration) are invited. Please contact the Chairman, Robert McCaw, on 01379 687776 or email robbad@btinternet.com.

Lopham Links

There was a fantastic turn out to the first Lopham Links Talent evening. Three judges (J Vere, L Baker and J Holdsworth) had a task that Simon Cowell would have found difficult! In the end after much hula hooping, dancing, stand up comedy, music recitals and singing an overall winner was decided - **Alfie Barnes'** Diablo act was brilliant - in addition to his prize he has a chance to perform at the Diss Christmas lights switch on. All other performers received prizes. Thank you to all who supported us at this event, especially Brown's Butchers Diss for the tasty sausages & the Lophams' Society who donated £100 towards the event. Prizes were donated by:- Diss Swimming Pool, Banham Zoo, Waterworld Thetford, Mid Norfolk Railway, High Lodge, LK school of Dance and Hunstanton Sea Life Centre. The event raised £200! It may become an annual fundraiser, so start practising for talent evening 2012!

The next event is a **Flower Arranging** class by Angela Perry on November 17th. Places are very limited, so contact Elaine (688342) or Donna, to book your place.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Services for November 10.30am

6th November
Rev G Eastwood of Thetford.

20th November
Mrs S Mann of Wicklewood.

Refreshments served afterwards.

A warm welcome to all.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust Valley Fens Local Group South Lopham

Tuesday 29th November 2011. Talk by Michael Strand: Bradfield Woods and its New Centre. Redgrave and Lopham Fen Visitor Centre at 7.30pm - £2 includes Tea/coffee and biscuits.

St Nicholas' Church

Remembrance Sunday is on 13th November. The local branch of the Royal British Legion have their service at South Lopham Church, at 10.50 with Silence at 11. There will be a short ceremony in St Nicholas' Church at 6.30pm. Pupils from St Andrew's School will join local veterans, residents and representatives of the RBL at the War Memorial for a Remembrance ceremony at 11am on 11.11.11 - a unique combination of numbers, paying tribute to those from our village and from the USAF who gave their lives in the two World Wars, and those who have perished since. **A Festival of Nativity Crib scenes** will take place from 18th (setting up) to 25th November in the church, from 10am to 4pm each day. Crib sets have already been promised by local churches, schools and individuals, and there is still room for more (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, including seasonal goodies and refreshments too. Admission is free, so please tell your friends.

Advent Sunday is on 27th November. Do join us at 11am to mark the start of a new Church Year.

South Lopham Estates Charity

Following the sad death of Alan Howard and the imminent move from the district of Ben Collins the Charity has two **vacancies for Trustee**. Sarah Frizzell has given notice of her resignation as **Secretary**. Anyone interested in filling any of these vacancies should contact the Chairman, Robert McCaw on 01379 687776 or robmad@btinternet.com

Lophams' Harvest Supper

A happy crowd from both villages and a considerable area all around gathered for the traditional Harvest Supper in October. After the welcome and Grace offered by Canon George, the meal was served - in response to repeated requests the centrepiece was a Hog Roast (courtesy of Hogs at Home), with vegetables and all the trimmings. Two veggie options proved popular too - several meat eaters sampled them as "seconds"! Apple pie and ice cream was the universal choice for afters, with coffee and plenty of time to chat as tickets were sold for a wonderful array of Raffle prizes. When all the prizes had been drawn, all those who had contributed to the success of the evening were thanked - Mike for the hog roast, Cynthia for the main cooking, and all who baked potatoes and pies, made table decorations, donated prizes or helped behind the scenes and, of course, all who came along to share the occasion.

Borderhoppa are continuing to run a local friendly dial a ride service in the area.

We have 6 buses operating in the Diss & Harleston areas. 5 of our buses have lifts for wheelchair users or passengers who are unable to manage the steps. We pick up members from their door and take them to their required local destination, eg: doctors, dentist, hairdressers, shopping or just to visit a friend. **Membership is still free & anyone, any age can join.** All you pay for is your travel. (Suffolk bus pass holders travel free.) We have several outings coming up in the next couple of months:

31st Oct - Pulham Garden Centre & lunch at the Jolly Farmers. 7th Nov - Norwich. 14th Nov - Lowestoft.

21st Nov - Bury St.Edmunds. 28th Nov - Highway Nurseries. 5th Dec - Dickleburgh Xmas trees & lunch at Jolly Farmers. 12th Dec - Xmas lunch at the Apollo, Harleston.

To book your place on any of these trips or **to become a member**, please call 01379 854800 or email : borderhoppa@btconnect.com.

We also hire our mini buses for private hire, days, evenings or at weekends. For any enquires, please do not hesitate to contact us.

St Andrew's Church

On Sunday 25th September we had a Family Harvest Service at 11.00am and Harvest Praise at 6.30pm. Thank you to all those who tastefully decorated the Church and gave Harvest gifts. We welcomed St. Andrew's School on Wednesday 28th September for their Harvest Festival and thank them for the produce that they brought. The perishable produce went to Fenners and the non-perishable items went to the Night Shelter in Norwich.

Just a reminder that there will be a **Coffee Morning** in the Church on St. Andrew's Day Wednesday 30th November 10.00am to 12.00 noon. There will be a Cake Stall, Bring and Buy, Raffle and Tombola. Please come and join us for a coffee and a chat.

On Friday 14th October we said goodbye to a faithful friend of St. Andrew's Church, Mr Alan H. Howard. His dedication to serving St. Andrew's Church for so many years was invaluable.

The Little Ouse Headwaters Project

As part of LOHP's major three-year **Conservation & Learning** project and in conjunction with the **History Department of the University of East Anglia** the trust is holding a local history day on Sunday 20th November.

The aim of the day is to introduce local people, to the rural and social history aspects of this **Heritage Lottery Funded** project; and also to encourage them to bring material they might have that can be assessed for its historic and archival value. LOHP hopes that this antiques road show approach will winkle out some interesting material and be a good way of engaging some local interest. Local history societies as well as the public are all invited to attend.

The programme for the day will include;

A talk on the work of the **UEA History Department**, why it is relevant to local people, and how interest groups and the public can become involved. UEA can help with courses, research and advice. This will be followed by a discussion session.

A talk by **Lucy Wilgress** on the history of land management in the Little Ouse Fens.

The work of **LOHP**, the current history project and getting involved.

Following a break for lunch an **Archive Surgery** - to which local people are invited to bring along old photographs. Local experts will be present to give an opinion about related material and archives. A scanner will be available to capture any useful material.

Tea and coffee will be provided but attendees should bring a packed lunch.

More information from 08432 892 849 or enquiries@lohp.org.uk

Services for November

North Lopham South Lopham

6th November

9.30am HC -
11am Fam S -

13th November

6.30pm ES with Rememb -

20th November

11am Crib Fest Serv 9.30am HC

27th November

11am Fam HC (Adv) 6.30pm E.S.

Contributions for next issue by;

18TH NOVEMBER

Please email to
lophamsnews@gmail.com