

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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## Little Ouse Headwaters Project

**Public Meeting** - A public launch of this new venture for the Little Ouse Headwaters Project will take place on Wednesday 13th April at Garboldisham Village Hall at 7.30pm. Following initial presentations, individual project leaders will be on hand to explain and discuss the details with members of the public and invite their participation.

This exciting new project offers a wonderful opportunity for local people to indulge their interests in a wide range of activities while at the same time contributing to preserving our heritage and records for future generations. There will be scope to learn and become enjoyably involved. While the main priority is landscape and wildlife conservation the project will also investigate local social history and the creation of a community archive, old maps, architecture and the capture of oral memories, natural history and ecology. There will be room for creative art and writing as well as photography. Both the University of East Anglia & the Sainsbury Centre for the Visual Arts are involved in leading parts of the project. Garboldisham Church Primary School is already actively involved. The project has been approved and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and will last for three years. Further details can be obtained from the website at [www.lohp.org.uk](http://www.lohp.org.uk)

### Lophams' Village Hall

**The Hall kitchen** has just been transformed, with moisture resistant paint and new tiles, and looks really attractive. Grateful thanks go to David Hall for an excellent job, and to the groups who have had to manage with the facilities in the store room while the kitchen was out of action.

**Farmers' Market** was ten years old last month, so we celebrated with a super cake (thank you, Roger!) and a really good attendance. Markets are on the fourth Saturday each month, 9am-12.30pm, the next on 23rd April, a good day to get goodies to celebrate St. George's Day and the Easter weekend! For details call Mike on 01379 687235.

**The Lottery** had a record number of entrants (88). The February 1st prize (£176) was won by I Bowden, 2nd prizes (£44) by M Birchall and S Rice. New members, and any 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 Village Hall Treasurer, Tim Colyer (01379 687718), from other Village Hall Committee members (see website), or at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events. **Judo** is on Mon & Wed. Details from Howard on 01379 688258. **Dog Training** is held most Tue evenings, and also on some Sat thanks to growing demand. Details from Trainer Elaine (07845 776110). **To Book the Hall** for private functions contact 01379 687679 or to find out more about the Hall go to [www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk)

### Lophams' Ladies

At our March meeting Rosemarie Jacob talked to us about her experiences as a "Corset Consultant", a career she found very fulfilling by meeting and helping many people with various needs. On April 5th we have our AGM which will be followed by a talk on "**Action for Children**". Meetings

take place in the Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. New members and visitors always welcome. Phone 01379 687337 for further details.

### Garden Club

At our AGM in March thanks were expressed to Anne Frith for her time as Treasurer. Alan Briggs takes over and Pat Young is the new Secretary. The meeting continued with a talk on Green Gardening given by Angela Youngman. We have two outings planned for the year: On June 1st we have an evening visit to Gooderstone Water Gardens and on August 6th, a day at RHS Hyde Hall. Tickets will be on sale from the next meeting onwards. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the restaurant area of Blooms Garden Centre. New members and visitors always welcome. Phone 01953 681989 for more information.

### Lophams' Happy Circle

At our March meeting we had our Bring & Buy stall, with tea & biscuit and Bingo to follow. The April meeting will be on the 14th, with an afternoon tea provided by Brenda Hart, followed by entertainment from David Freeman. Anyone wishing to go to Bay Tree Nurseries could you please ring Avis on 01953 681789 or Daphne on 01379 687453.

### St. Andrew's School

The two weeks since half term have been as action packed. The older children have received their certificates for Cross Country and other sports contests, the younger children had some too, for a Dance morning at Diss High School. Most of the school responded to Mrs Lewis' Book Reading challenge and collected awards for reading at home for anything up to 80 times in the last few weeks. **FOSTA** and other volunteers have made a wonderful

difference to the school grounds with a Spring Tidy Up, which has enabled all the bulbs and emerging blossom to show to really good effect. Staff and pupils are all eager to see a very special new baby - Mrs Heads gave birth to Phoebe at the end of February, and plans to come and introduce her to us all very soon.

Over 20 local people spent a beautiful sunny Shrove Tuesday afternoon looking at all the **wonderful murals** which have recently been erected round the school grounds. The visitors were welcomed into the school for tea and pancakes made with help from the ten Reception children, before members of the Singing Club entertained them with a variety of songs and rounds. By the time you read this, we will have had yet **another inspection** - this time one specifically for Church schools. All the staff will be really grateful when the end of term arrives! We do thank every one of them for all their hard work, all the year. **We had a surprise visitor** recently, when the son of Lilian Grover, a pupil in the 1930s came, bringing a photo of the then headteacher, Mr Castell, with his wife outside what was the school house. We return from the **Easter holiday** on Easter Tuesday, for a 3 day week! On the Thursday, lunch will have a Royal Wedding Street Party format and parents are invited to join in - dressed in wedding finery if they wish!

### St Andrews Pre School

We've been getting outside more this month making the most of our new gazebo and sandpit; we now have some potted herbs and have started planting seeds in the raised bed planters. We'd love to provide more for the Parent and Toddler group (Wednesdays from 2.15-3.15pm). If you have any baby toys or books you are able to donate we'd be most



grateful if you could drop them in to the Mess or ring Committee Chairman, Joe Bernard on 01379 688284 or Secretary, Josie Excell on 01379 688350 for collection. The Parent and Toddler group is open to all children 0-5 and their carers and on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, Diss Children's Centre join us for a Wiggle and Jiggle session. If you have a child aged 2 and above and are interested in finding out about the Pre School, please drop in and see us at The Mess or ring Pre School leader Tracy Stevenson on 07789 682931.

## Redgrave & Lopham Fen

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

**Plant Sale:** Sun 17th Apr, 10am-4pm. Adults £1, children free. **Family event - Search out the Signs of Spring:** Wed 20th Apr, 10am-12noon. £3.50 child, £1.50 adult. Booking essential. **Wildlife Photographic Exhibition:** Fri 22nd - Mon 25th Apr and Sat 30th Apr - Mon 2nd May, 10am-5pm. Suggested donation £1. **Easter Egg Hunt:** Sun 24th Apr, 10am-5pm. £1.

## North Lopham Parish Council

The March meeting was attended by 7 Councillors, Cllr. William Nunn from Breckland and 7 members of the public. **Highways and Footpaths:** Barhale have repaired those road surface defects attributable to them. Councillor Tate has reported 6 further potholes and some damage to road signs to Highways. The overflowing drain water in Church Road is contaminated by effluent - Environmental Health have been contacted to trace the source. The water flooding Tanns Lane has been tested. It is run-off from neighbouring fields escaping from blocked ditches. Highways will be contacted. Parked vehicles obstructing footpaths should be reported to the police. **Village Spring Clean:** It was suggested that this year clearing Jubilee Lane of fallen trees should be the focus as the litter warden is proving very effective at clearing rubbish. Date to be advised. **Other Matters: Egg throwing** - £300 worth of vehicle damage occurred in one instance alone. Egg vendors have agreed to empty or secure their stalls at night. Residents should report incidents to the police. **Allotments:** the Methodists are still considering allowing the use of the field behind the Chapel, especially if young people are involved. Thanks to Ted Young for helping to clean the benches at the mere and varnishing the notice board and to Jan Tate for painting the rail. **A Council Open Meeting** will held at the Village Hall on April 15th at 7.30pm. **Council Elections** are due in May. Any resident wishing to stand for election should contact the Parish Clerk, Mike Cox (01379 688355) for details and forms without delay. Mrs Lindsey Westbrook-Lay will be standing down after the AGM.

## South Lopham Parish Council

The following points of interest arose at the meeting held on 10th March. **The Village Meetings of South and North Lopham** will be held at the Village Hall on Friday 15th April at 7.30pm for both villages (not 8pm for North Lopham as previously advertised). The meetings will be followed by the AGM of The Lophams' Society which has kindly agreed to provide complimentary wine for the evening. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance. Nominations to the Committee of the Society would be welcome, particularly from residents from North Lopham. Such nominations can be made at the meeting.

## North Lopham Methodist Chapel

The **Chapel Anniversary is on 10th April** at 3pm, with speaker the Chairman of the District, the Rev. Graham Thompson. The Church Choir will also be taking part. Tea after will be available to all. Hope to see you there.

- 24th April. Service at 10.30am; Preacher Mr P Mottram of Eye.

## St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

**The Women's World Day of Prayer** local service, written by the women of Chile, was led by Kate Briggs, with a very thought provoking address by Jennifer Dennis. It was good to have so many of the congregation joining in the readings, and a large contingent from the Benefice Choir leading the singing. The collection, of £101 was sent to the WWDP organisation for relief work in many areas of the world.

**Lent Lunches** - Bread, cheese and pickles, plus fruit juice and hot drinks are available every Tuesday during Lent, at homes round North Lopham, between 12 noon and 2pm. Please come along and join us for informal chat as you eat, and help us to raise funds to assist in a project to provide Nurses for Nepal. The venues are displayed on local posters. If transport is a problem just phone 01379 687679.

**A Pre-Easter Party** for all up to 11 years old, will be held in The Mess at St Andrew's School on Saturday 9th April from 2.30-5pm, with fun, food, and craft activities. Young people from all the local villages are welcome to join us. **Palm Sunday is on 17th.** It would be wonderful to see the Crafts made on 9th at the Family Service at 11am. Perhaps a home made donkey...? **On Good Friday,** the Last Hour at the Cross service begins at 2pm. After this, there will be an opportunity for children as well as older folk to begin decorating the church, ready for the wonderful celebration of Easter. Any gifts of

spring flowers and foliage, or help with the arranging, will be gratefully received. **The First Light of Easter** will be from a bonfire behind Church, during the Easter Vigil service on Saturday 23rd at 7.30pm. **Our Easter All Age Communion** is at 11am on Easter Day, with an Easter egg hunt to follow. It would be great to have the church filled for this joyful occasion.

## St. Andrew's Church (South Lopham)

**Church Windows** - The East window has been completed and the scaffolding removed, it looks splendid, the West window has now been taken away for renovation. **Easter Services - The Dawn Service** will be held at Malting Farm, Blo Norton Road, on Sunday 24th April at 6am, followed by a light breakfast of Bacon sandwiches, by kind invitation of David and Cynthia Huggins. Please wear suitable attire for an outdoor service, wellies etc. **Easter Praise on Easter Day** will be in St. Andrew's Church at 6.30pm. **Flowers** - The church will be decorated with flowers for Easter on Saturday 23rd April in the morning. We welcome anyone able to help. **Cock Crow** - Harry and Irene Carter have delivered the Cock Crow for many years but due to ill health have had to retire. The PCC would like to express their sincere thanks to them both for their help over many years, it has been very much appreciated. **Coffee Morning** on Wednesday 18th May in the Church, 10am-12 noon, with cake stall. Please come and join us for a coffee and a chat.

## Services for April

### North Lopham South Lopham

#### 3rd April

9.30am HC -  
11am Fam S -

#### 10th April

11am Fam S -  
6.30pm Mus Praise & worship -

#### 17th April

11am Fam Palm Sun S 9.30am HC

#### 24th April

6am Dawn Service  
11am Fam Easter C 6.30pm Easter Praise

**Contributions for next issue by;**

**18TH APRIL**

Post to;

**Profile Business Supplies,  
Old School Hall, Well Street,  
Bury St. Edmunds, IP33 1EQ**

or e-mail to;

**news@thelophamsnews.co.uk**