

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No.344

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January 2011

The Lophams' News

The Lophams' News is delivered to every house in the two villages. Its aim is to inform us all of what is to happen, and has happened each month, covering all activities. News items are therefore welcomed from every organisation, club or committee, which are of general interest. We thank all our contributors, and those who give such willing and practical help each month. The Editor and publisher is Mr S Milbourne, and our distributors are; in South Lopham - Mr R Carter, Mr R Demoore, Mrs S Frizzell and Mrs Howard; and in North Lopham - Mr C Berry, Mrs R Cook, Mrs D Green, Mrs J Keylock, Mrs J Tate, Mrs J Vere and Mrs T Vernon.

Lophams' Village Hall

December has been a quieter month for the Hall, but it has been the venue for various seasonal celebrations. During the coming months we plan to have the kitchen decorated, so that it matches the high standard elsewhere in the building.

The Lottery - our opportunity to support the Village Hall and have a bit of fun too - was one year old in November! At the draw, the birthday winners were: G Rednall first (£158.00), and runners up M Cox and L Quinn (£39.50 each). The December draw will have an extra bonus prize of £250+, open to all those who have been members for six months, and will take place at the Christmas Market. 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 for details), or at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events.

January Farmers' Market is on Saturday 22nd, 9am-12.30pm. 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. Trainer Elaine (07845 776110) will provide information. **To book the Hall** for private functions please contact 01379 687679 or to find out more about the Hall generally visit the website at www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk

Lophams' Ladies

Our Christmas lunch was enjoyed by all at the Kings Head on December 7th. Thanks to Angie and George and staff for feeding us so well. **The meetings for January and February will be at 2.30pm.** On January 4th we welcome Mr D Eddershaw who will talk on "The Real Lark Rise" - sure to be of great interest to all those who watched the recent television series, and wondered where fiction and truth met! On February 1st

we have Norman Groves to talk about the Kenninghall Land Trust. Visitors are very welcome to join us. The venue is the Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month. Tel: 01379 687337 for further details.

Lophams' Ramblers

As the road from the A1066 to Knettishall Heath was extremely slippery and the weather was dreadful, our Christmas walk was unfortunately cancelled this year. However, we still all managed to get to the King's Head at North Lopham in time for our annual lunch. We enjoyed a lovely meal and celebrated another year of walking together. Our new programme starts in February 2011 and if anyone wishes to join us please telephone Jackie Brown on 01379 687260.

Garden Club

Unfortunately our Christmas Dinner planned for December 1st had to be cancelled due to the freezing conditions. We hope to rearrange another date in the New Year. As we do not meet in January, February 2nd is our first meeting for 2011 when we welcome Mr Julian Turner who will talk about potatoes - "Varieties and Cultivation". Visitors and new members always welcome. We meet in the restaurant area of Blooms Garden Centre on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. Tel: 01953 681989 for further information.

St. Andrew's School

The end of a very long Autumn term is almost upon us as this is written, and will have arrived as you read it. Staff and children, supported as always by our teams of parents and volunteers, have worked incredibly hard to achieve some excellent results, both in the school building and out on the sports field.

The new murals have been greatly admired and provide a stunning welcome to all

visitors; the decorations made by the children complement the setting for the Infants' Nativity play, and all the preparations for that play and the Carol Service ensured very professional productions. During a special assembly for St Andrew's Day, led by Revd. Rob in the light from the stained glass St Andrew's panel in the school hall, the school standard was paraded, then led a march round the building as everybody sang. Thank you to Lucy, the standard bearer, and her escort Rosie and Thomas.

The Infants' play, "Come to the Party" was a delight. Narrators and cast spoke clearly & confidently and the songs and dance movements added to the impact of the story. The Carol Service, held at South Lopham Church, included poetry, a playlet and performance by the recorder players and singing club. All the collections from these events will go to the Air Ambulance, this year's chosen charity. It was good to have a day out to celebrate the Christmas season - everyone went to Bressingham for a Craft morning, followed by Christmas dinner and Carols fun.

We are especially proud of the tag rugby team who came third in the recent competition for all the local schools, against teams from much bigger schools. They will now play in the Area finals in January. Good Luck to everyone of them.

Everyone connected with St Andrew's School thanks those from the local communities for their support - the voucher collecting and coming to events as well as practical help are all greatly appreciated. Happy New Year to you all!

Community Lunches resume in January, on Tuesday 18th at 12 noon. If YOU would like to join us, just contact Jennie on 01379 687679 by Friday 14th to book a place. The meal is £3.50, and the children run a 10p raffle.



Redgrave & Lopham Fen

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

Folklore on the Fen - New Years' Day

Guided Walk: Sat 1st Jan. Gentle amble, learning about the myths and legends of the Fen, with a seasonal theme. Festive fare available in the café. 11am-12.30pm. £3 adult, children £1. Booking advisable.

New Year Walk at the Fen: Wed 5th Jan.

Gentle amble learning about the Fen as part of the 50th Birthday celebrations. Refreshments available. 11am-1pm. £3 donation. Booking advisable.

Botanical Illustration: Wed 12th Jan,

10am-1pm. Covering a range of illustration techniques with an emphasis on botanical accuracy with Christine Grey-Wilson. £14 (£50 for 4). Booking essential.

Little Ouse Headwaters Project

Winners of - Living Wetlands Award 2006

Suffolk Greenest Community Award - 2009

Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership - Site Award 2010

A Two Rivers Walk. Sunday 2nd January

Starting from the Redgrave Activity Centre, Churchway, Redgrave at 10.30am. Car parking available. Lunch can be booked at the "Cross Keys" (01379 898510). Wear suitable footwear & clothing for the prevailing weather conditions.

Our AGM was held on 9th December in Garboldisham. The bad weather did not deter and 70 members and guests attended to hear of the continuing progress and success of this local project. The last year has seen LOHP develop westwards along the valley with the long term lease of Broomscott Common and the purchase of Scarfe's meadows in Garboldisham so it was appropriate that we met in the village where we will be doing a lot of restoration work in the coming year. We were delighted to be recognised by the site award from the Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership and to be shortlisted for the Environment Agencies inaugural Environmental Pioneer Awards which has helped us raise funds for the work that we are doing. Following the formal part of the meeting Paul Read gave the annual talk on "Old Orchards in the Waveney and Little Ouse Valleys". Paul captured the attention of the audience with his most interesting explanation of the history and importance of orchards and the fruit varieties found in our area.

As well as managing sites for the benefit of wildlife, the LOHP are committed to increasing public access and enjoyment of the project area by creating new footpaths, providing guided walks, and encouraging

people to become involved in practical conservation work as volunteers. New members and volunteers are welcome contact at www.lohp.org.uk

North Lopham Parish Council

Roads - some potholes have been repaired but further work still needs to be done. Councillor McManus will investigate and report to the Council. The main road might be resurfaced in June 2011. Complaints have been received about slippery fallen leaves and dangerous overhanging branches on footpaths; dog fouling is still a problem. Residents are asked to do whatever they can regarding the paths near their own properties.

Allotments - the proposal to use some of the ground behind the Chapel is still under consideration by the Methodists. **Letchmere** - on 30th November, eleven volunteers tidied the area round the mere and cleared the drain. Thanks to organiser, Tim Colyer, and all his co-workers. **The fallen Churchyard wall** has been repaired, and years of debris have been cleared. Funds from the Bernice Malson legacy will be used to pay for this work. **The precept** is to remain unchanged, helped by bottle bank receipts of about £300. **Speeding** and "near misses" should still be reported, phone 0845 456 4567. **Early plans for a play area** at the Village Hall are moving forward.

Past PC Chairman, Brian Frith, wrote to thank everyone who contributed to his leaving gift for their generosity. He now has some plants that will always remind him of North Lopham.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Preachers for January at 10.30am are;

- 2nd January; Mr Roy Sayer of Diss.
- 16th January; Mrs Janet Brown of Mildenhall.
- 30th January; Rev Brian Trudglain of Diss.

Awelcome to all.

St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

The Toy Service on 5th December was a delight. Abigail, Maddy and Kennedy were a tremendous help in bringing up all the extra gifts that had been delivered in advance. A car full of exciting parcels has been delivered to Prospect House in Thetford, to

ensure that the families they support will all be sure of some special treats on Christmas Day! Many, many thanks to all those who gave them.

Members of the Benefice Choir provided the central section of the **Advent Carol Service** on 12th December, based around a new song by Bernadette Farrell "Christ, be our Light". The Rector led the service and gave a special message for the season. All the other seasonal events will be reported next time.

Meanwhile, we say a huge thank you to all those who have cleaned and decorated the church so beautifully for the main part of the season. The decorations will remain in place throughout January, as the Church celebrations continue until Candlemas.

The Group Christmas Communion is at 10am on Boxing Day - also the feast of St Stephen, so we will definitely sing 'his' carol! **The Epiphany** is on 6th January. **The Epiphany Carol Service** will be on Sunday 9th, at 6.30pm - time to sing about the Wise Men, and use some more wonderful but less well known carols. Do come and join us!

Advance Notice: There will be a **Christingle Service** at North to celebrate Candlemas, on the first Sunday in February. **A Starters & Sweets evening** will be held at the beginning of February also - well after all the Christmas meals, so look out for posters with details in the preceding weeks.

Services for January

North Lopham South Lopham

2nd January

9.30am HC -

9th January

6.30pm Epip Carol S -

16th January

11am Fam S 9.30am HC

23rd January

11am Fam HC 6.30pm ES

30th January

10am Group HC -

Contributions for next issue by;

18TH JANUARY

Post to;

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

or e-mail to;

news@thelophamsnews.co.uk