

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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July 2010

## Scarecrow Festival

The **St. Nicolas Church Scarecrow Festival** will take place on **Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th July**. We hope a record breaking number of creations representing local activities, or characters from TV and film will appear in front gardens that weekend. PLUS, this year, residents are invited to make a "garden in a wheelbarrow" to stand alongside. Maps of the village will be available at church both days, from 10.30am - 4.30pm, where there will be stalls, refreshments raffle & tombola too. It should be a great opportunity for everyone to be out & about, renewing friendships and having fun. On the Saturday there will be a barbecue and games round the church, from 5pm. Tickets for this will be just £5; wine or beer will be provided (if you require other alcohol, please bring your own!)

### Garden Club

At the beginning of June we had an evening visit to the beautiful garden of Mervyn Lambert. A truly lovely setting on a lovely evening was greatly appreciated by all. On **July 7th** we have Mr Don Andrews who will talk on Dahlias and on August 4th we have a day out to Southwold and to Henstead Exotic garden. Our regular meetings take place in the restaurant area of Blooms Garden Centre at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday each month. New members and visitors always welcome. For more information or tickets for the August visit phone 01953 681989.

### South Lopham Village Society

The barbeque which was scheduled to take place on Saturday 17th July has been postponed until the evening of Saturday, 21st August at the Village Hall.

### Lophams' Village Hall

At the **AGM** the chairman, Malcolm Birchall, reported on the activities of the last twelve months, and the treasurer, Tim Colyer, on the finances to the end of February 2010 and the progress of the Village Hall Lottery, before an opportunity for questions from the floor. Sadly there were few people there to ask anything!

**The Lottery** - our opportunity to support the Village Hall and have a bit of fun too - is now in its second six months, and practically all those who first signed up have renewed their support. New members, and those who still need to renew, are urged to get in touch. Copies of the full rules and entry forms are available from promoter, Eileen (01379 687515), Village Hall Treasurer, Tim Colyer (01379 687718), and other Village Hall Committee members (see the website for details), or at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events. The winners for May were: 1st - A Colyer (£1540); 2nd - R. Bell and L. Inglis who received £38.50.

**Charity Fun Day** on the field on Saturday 10th, 11am-4pm, organised by Dog Learning Zone, in partnership with Pathfinder Guide

Dogs, to include a Fun dog show, Tractor rides, 'Have a go' at Agility, Obedience, Clicker Training, Tellington Touch, Grooming, Raffle, Refreshments etc. Do come! Raffle 1st prize is a night in the best room of the house at The Four Horseshoes, Thornham Magna.

**Farmers' Markets** continue on the 4th Saturday each month - the next one is 24th July from 9am till 12.30pm. For details call Mike on 01379 687235. Through the summer months **Car Booters** are welcome. **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](http://www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk)

### Lophams' Ladies

**Pakenham Water Mill** was the venue for the June meeting. Members were amazed at the knowledge and expertise, both of those who took us round, and of those who constructed such an efficient yet 'simple' mechanism. Coffee and delicious cakes made with Pakenham flour made a satisfying end to the visit. On **July 6th** we meet in Brian & Sue's garden at Low Common, South Lopham, at 7.30pm. New friends will also be welcome - just ring 01379 687337 or 687679 for details.

### Happy Circle

We had a splendid day out in June, firstly to Ipswich, where we shopped and had lunch, then on to Felixstowe. The weather was lovely. Anybody wishing to know more about the Happy Circle can ring Avis on 01953 681789 or Daphne on 01379 687453.

### St. Andrew's School

The older juniors had a wonderful time on their residential visit to How Hill at the end of May; on their return they made powerpoint presentations of the highlights - including

the boat trip, the reed-man, thatching and so much more. Their own photos and captions showed just how much they had learned. There are sports fixtures, outings, and many other summer specials in the coming weeks. We hope friends from the community will come and share our **Sports Afternoon** and the Juniors multi-panto musical entertainment (watch for posters with details of timings). Year 6 invite family & friends to their **Leavers' Assembly** on the last afternoon of term - July 23rd at 2pm.

**Grateful thanks** go to many local people as well as the FOSTA members for their support throughout the school year, including saving tokens & vouchers. The order for items from the Tesco voucher scheme has just been sent, and includes equipment to help us develop Eco-themed activities; sporting items will be ordered from the Sainsburys Active Kids scheme, and we are about to receive books from the Nestle Box Tops promotion. Donations from Yard Sales are coming in well; we are grateful to everyone who took part on a rather cool and cloudy day. The FOSTA team have held several fund-raising events, including Bingo, and a Beetle Drive, and have worked hard on a summer clean up of the grounds. We are fortunate to have all this local good will.

The last **Community Lunch** of the school year is on Tuesday 20th July at 12 noon. Year 6 relations are specially invited this month - just contact Jennie on 01379 687679 by Friday 16th to book, then come along for a hot meal served by hosts from Class 3, who always give everyone a very warm welcome. The charge is £3.50, and there is a raffle, organised by the children, with tickets just 10p each.

**FOSTA (Friends of St Andrews School)** - Thank you to everyone who took part in the **yard sales**. Over thirty stalls on the day was brilliant. If anyone else would like to make a donation to FOSTA please drop it in to the school office. Our final event of the year is



the **schoolmin-fete** on Friday July 9th. This takes place in the school from 2pm to 3.30pm. The afternoon is organised by the children in class 3 and they are very busy already thinking of exciting and fun games to have during the afternoon (and may feature a well known face or two in the stocks!). Everyone is welcome.

## Redgrave & Lopham Fen

(for bookings phone 01379 688333)

**Wildlife Watch group:** Sat 10th July, 10.30am-12.30pm. A club for 6-12 yr olds. £1.50. **Aquatics in detail:** Mon 12th July, 10am-3pm. Join Plantlife's Tim Pankhurst for a day on the Fen to discover the aquatic and marginal plants. Suitable for beginners. Free (over 18s only). Contact: 01722 342730. **Spiders at the Fen:** Sun 25th July, 11am-4pm (café open 10am 5pm). Explore the variety of spiders, including the rare fen raft spider. Guided walks and children's activities. Adults £2, children £1. **Dragonflies and Damselflies:** Fri 30th July, 10am-3pm. A day with Nick Mason, looking at identification of common species, general ecology and biology. Suitable for beginners. £20 (conc. £17). Contact: 01473 892430.

## North Lopham Parish Council

Now that **Brian and Ann Frith** have moved out of the area, we must express the gratitude of the residents of North Lopham for Brian's work as Chairman of the Parish Council - the renovation of the Letchmere site is a lasting visible sign of his years in office, as is the creation & subsequent maintenance of the village website, but there is much that is not seen. So, "Thank You Brian", we wish you many happy years in your new home. The Parish Council currently needs a new member to fill the vacancy left by Brian's departure. Anyone interested in this role is asked to contact the clerk, Mike Cox, (see below) to find out more and obtain the necessary forms.

The Parish Council is working with the school, the church and other individuals to try and increase **road safety** through North Lopham. To this end a team is attending the SNAP (Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel) to discuss action with other interested parties - Highways, the Police etc. - and what measures can be taken to achieve this.

**www.northlopham.org.uk** - the North Lopham website, is currently maintained by Brian. Now that he has left the village it would clearly be more appropriate if someone with more direct connections could take over. Anyone with an interest in this role is asked to contact Parish Council Clerk, Mike Cox (01379 688355) as soon as possible. Previous experience with websites would be an advantage but not essential as plenty of help is available if required!

## North Lopham Methodist Chapel

The **Bun & Basket** afternoon was a good effort with many visitors, with a grand total of £176.70 raised.

*Preachers for July at 10.45am are;*

- 4th July, Rev G Eastwood of Thetford.
- 18th July, Mr MBrown of Roydon.

A warm welcome to all. On 30th July there will be a **Supper (Pie, Pickle, Pudding & Punch)**, with a Raffle, 7pm for 7.30pm. Names by Monday 26th July please.

## St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

**Friday Night was SNYSB Night** once again on 28th May, when the South Norfolk Youth Symphonic Band, under conductor Mike Booty presented an evening of wonderful music, to a highly appreciative audience. The very varied programme included songs from favourite shows and music written specially for wind bands. During the interval, there was time to talk to band members about their music, and plans for the future, which include a second trip to the Far East in 2012, to the Tsunami area they helped some five years ago. The final item was followed by an extra one - "Swing the Mood", a mix of Glen Miller tunes conducted by Penny from Fenners, with incredible style and rhythm. The mood was captured perfectly by everyone present - audience and band members all joined in! After the concert, which raised £255 for the church, a collection raised funds to help SNYSB buy instruments for a school band in the Far East, as well as money for the band itself. Many many thanks to everyone involved!

The weather was perfect for the annual **Coffee Morning** in Mrs Josie Gilbert's garden last Wednesday which was attended by a large number of people. A mix of stalls, raffle and tombola did brisk trade while people enjoyed the home made scones and coffee. Mrs Jean Stringfield continued to sell the hanging baskets and planters which have been available from her own home for the last month, and raised over £500 towards the final total of £1,250 - a magnificent result. We are very grateful to all those who made this possible by donating money or goods, helping on the day, or by coming along to share the event, but the biggest thank you must go to Josie herself for an amazing morning!!

**Ivy** is an ever present problem for churches - anyone willing to help remove growths in the graveyard is invited to ring 01379 687679 and come to lend a hand (the growth on the church building needs more

specialist treatment, to avoid damage to the flint work).

Richard Jones, area rep for **Biblelands**, whose carol sheets are used in church, village and pub every year, will give a presentation about their work after a shortened Evensong at 6.30pm on 11th July. Biblelands is a charity working with handicapped and orphaned youngsters in the Middle East.

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

The PCC will be holding two **Coffee Mornings** this summer in the church on Wednesday 18th August and Wednesday 15th September, 10am to 12 noon. Come along and enjoy a coffee and a chat in this beautiful historic building with its lovely newly restored roof. There will also be a cake stall and a bring and buy.

*Notice:* The **AGM of the Friends of South Lopham Church** will be on Monday 26th July in St. Andrew's church at 7.30pm. Everybody is most welcome. We are a very small group who strive to raise money for our beautiful church but who desperately need some new blood. Our numbers are falling due to other commitments, hence this year we are unable to circulate a bulletin to every house in South Lopham. We would love to meet anybody who feels that perhaps they have something to offer in the way of help. Please think carefully and come along to meet us and have a chat.

### Services for July

North Lopham	South Lopham
<b>4th July</b>	
9.30am HC	-
11am Fam S	-
<b>11th July</b>	
11am Fam S	-
6.30pm Biblelands	-
<b>18th July</b>	
11am Fam S	9.30am Group HC
<b>25th July</b>	
11am Fam HC	6.30pm ES

### Contributions for next issue by;

**18TH JULY**

*Post to;*

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

*or e-mail to;*

**news@thelophamsnews.co.uk**