

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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June 2010

Garden Club

In April we welcomed Anne and John Bridge who showed us slides of their visits to the flower auctions at Aalsmeer and the gardens at Keukenhof: giving us an interesting insight into Holland's vast flower industry. At our May meeting we welcomed Graeme Simmonds who brought along some extremely interesting artefacts from his collection. Together with his experience and archaeological knowledge Graeme intrigued us all and made us so much more aware of how rich a part of the country we live when it comes to the history buried in our fields and gardens.

On June 2nd we have an evening visit to "Three Gates Farm" in Bressingham and on July 7th we have Mr Don Andrews who will talk on Dahlias. On August 4th we have a day out to Southwold and to Henstead Exotic garden. Our meetings take place in the restaurant area of Blooms Garden Centre at 7.30pm. New members and visitors always welcome. For more information or tickets for either the June or August visits phone 01953 681989.

Lophams' Ladies

On 4th May, members learned about DNA, its intricacies and its potential, forensic as well as medical, in a talk that was both understandable and good humoured - quite an achievement for a complex subject!

On 1st June a visit to Pakenham Mill has been arranged. Visitors, both men and women, are welcome to join us; admission to the mill is £2.50. To book a place please ring 01379 687337 or 687 679.

Lophams' Village Hall

The **Village Hall AGM** on 21st May will be reported next time.

The Lottery - our opportunity to support the Village Hall and have a bit of fun too - has been running for over six months and the prize fund now supports a first prize each month of over £160. The winners for April were: first - G Rednall (£162); second - J Bernard and W Nunn, who received £40.50 each. Copies of the full rules and entry forms are available now from promoter, Eileen Jacob (01379 687515), from Village Hall Treasurer, Tim Colyer (01379 687718), from other Village Hall Committee members (see the website for details), at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events.

Farmers' Markets continue on the 4th Saturday each month - the next one is 26th June from 9am till 12.30pm. For details, call Mike on 01379 687235. Through the summer months Car Booters are welcome, along the road edge of the playing field. Market Customers - do have a look at the goods on offer!

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. *Advance notice:* **Dog Learning Zone**, in partnership with Pathfinder Guide Dogs plan a Charity Fun Day on the playing field on Saturday 10th July 11am to 4pm.

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

St. Andrew's School

The Summer Term is always a busy one and this year's is no exception! There is a great deal to look forward to, now that all the "tests" have been completed.

Our oldest children are looking forward to a residential visit to How Hill before we break up for the half term holiday. This is a beautiful house by the broads where the children enhance their learning about nature and wild-life, plus their management. We look forward to welcoming parents and grandparents for lunch during 'Families Week'. This provides an opportunity for families to eat together and for parents to see what happens in school during the lunch hour. They will also be able to see how attractive the schools' grounds have looked throughout the Spring - the result of all the work put in during the Autumn clean up and planting day.

Across the partnership there are groups of children who read a selection of books and then meet together for a reading workshop. In the Autumn Term we were fortunate to be visited by Sally Blows (Librarian) and in June Robin Gregory from the school library Service will be holding a solar system and planets workshop for the group. In June the children will be preparing and performing 'Play in a Day', and working with their friends at Bressingham on a design and technology workshop.

Community Lunches continue on Tuesday 15th June at 12 noon. Guests from both villages and Blo Norton are all welcome - just contact Jennie on 01379 687679 by Friday 11th 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.

St. Andrew's Pre-School

The children at Pre-School are very happy with their colourful new furniture and equipment. Things are brightening up outside too at last, and a visit to feed Mr and Mrs Nunn's lambs was a big hit again this year. We hope to visit Lopham Fen again too if we can, though it is extremely popular!

We have an Open Morning planned at St Andrews, for new parents wishing to have a look at our colourful and happy little setting. This will take place on Thursday 17th June. All are welcome, pop in anytime between 9am and 11am. Parents are indeed welcome any time by appointment to view our friendly pre-school group, which meets Monday to Friday 8.45am-11.45am with extra lunch clubs on some days. Just call Julie on 01379 687769 or 07549154473, and arrange a day to suit you.

Redgrave & Lopham Fen

(for bookings phone 01379 688333)

Activity Day for 8-12 yr olds - Underwater wonders: Tue 1st June, 10.30am-2.30pm. £6. Booking essential. **Wildlife Watch group for 6-12 yr olds:** Sat 12th June, 10.30am-12.30pm. £1.50. **Quiz night:** Sat 12th June,



7.30pm. Teams of up to 4 or individuals may enter our general knowledge quiz night. Please bring own drinks and glasses. £5 each including ploughman's supper. Booking essential. **An Introduction to Wildlife photography:** Sun 14th June, 10am-3pm. £20/C £17. Booking essential. **An introduction to plants of the Fens:** Mon 21st June, 10am-3pm. Suitable for beginners. Free - over 18s only. Booking essential.

North Lopham Parish Council

The **Annual Village Open Meeting** was attended by about 20 members of the public along with all Parish Councillors, our District and County Councillor William Nunn and Peter Coster from South Lopham PC. The meeting heard reports from various village groups and organisations, William Nunn and Brian Frith, as Chair of the Parish Council. A summary of the Parish Council accounts for 2009 / 2010 was circulated. There was discussion of traffic hazards in the village, particularly in the area around the School. At the AGM following the Open Meeting it was decided that a rep from the Parish Council should meet with other interested parties to make representations to SNAP (Safer Neighbourhoods Action Panel) at a meeting in June to investigate measures to improve road safety in that area. There was also further discussion of the need for an accessible play area (possibly involving the Village Hall and South Lopham in a combined project).

The Open Meeting was followed by the Parish Council AGM. Brian Frith announced his resignation from the Council due to relocation, creating a vacancy. Official notices will be posted and, unless there is a sufficient demand for an election, nominations for cooption will be considered and decided at the next Parish Council meeting in July. Anyone interested in joining the Council is asked to contact the Clerk, Mike Cox (01379 688355) as soon as possible. There was no nomination for Chair of the Council at the AGM so Brian Frith accepted the Chairmanship for the duration of the meeting, leaving the appointment of a permanent Chair to the next meeting on 14th July. Jan Tate was re-elected Vice-chair.

South Lopham Parish Council

At the **Parish Council AGM** on May 13th both the Chair and Vice Chair tendered their resignation. Peter Coster thanked councillors for their support over the years and will now serve on the council as Vice Chairman. Evelyn Logsdail is stepping down after many years on the council and her experience and enthusiasm will be sorely missed. Our new Chairman is Robert

McCaw and he led the meeting in thanking Peter for his work on behalf of residents, especially in promoting a sense of community within the village. A new councillor will be co-opted as soon as possible. The May meeting of the council followed on from the AGM.

Following concerns over recent planning decisions the Chair and Vice Chair will join with councillors from North Lopham in meeting with members of Breckland Planning and Development Committee in an effort to better understand the planning process.

At a site meeting with the Highways engineer it was agreed that a dangerous bend sign would be erected on the A1066 at the Diss end of the village but there would be no extension of the 30mph limit. Trees obscuring the signs will be cut back. Adoption of the red telephone kiosk will go ahead as soon as possible. Following the decision taken at the village meeting, some of The Lord of the Manor's bequest will be spent on a new village notice board outside the church. The next meeting is on July 8th.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

The 200 year celebration, held in May, was well organised by the Rev Edna Buggey and husband Roland, and was well supported. The Salvation Army Band provided a lovely selection of songs. 100 people filled the Chapel on the Sunday, with the Upper Waveney Choir taking part. The total raised over the two days was £570.30.

Preachers for June at 10.45am are;

- 6th June, Mr Moorman of Thetford.
- 20th June, Mrs Sayer of Diss.

On 8th June there will be a **Bun & Basket** afternoon from 2.30pm. All proceeds for Chapel funds. All are welcome.

St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

The **Music Praise & Worship** service for May relocated to St Nicholas' Church because of the building work in progress at Fersfield. Special guest and preacher was the Ven David Hayden, Archdeacon of Norfolk, always a welcome presence among us. It was good to have people from the benefice choir contributing, in addition to the Benefice Band and Young People's wind ensemble. On **Ascension Day**, the evening Holy Communion was held in church to avoid any risk of hypothermia

setting in! The **Pentecost Party Service** will be reported next time. Services for June follow the usual pattern.

Josie's Famous Coffee Morning at Gables Farm is on Wednesday 2nd June, from 10am. This is always a summer favourite - with home made scones to accompany the coffee (or tea), plus Plant Stall, Bric a Brac & Cakes, Tombola & Raffle, and a chance to catch up on the news with friends from far and wide. If transport is a problem, please phone 01379 687679.

Advance notice: **SCARECROWS** are invited to invade the village over the weekend of July 10 & 11th. There is no set theme this year - creations representing local activities, or characters from TV and film would all be very welcome, making appearances in front gardens or open spaces. Do use the long June evenings to plan and make your visitor(s)!!

St. Andrew's Church (South Lopham)

At the **AGM of the Parochial Church Council**, Peter Reeder as a Churchwarden, thanked everyone who has helped in any way during the past year, particularly the teams of flower arrangers and cleaners.

St Andrew's is open every day and visitors are always welcome, either to worship or just to view our lovely church.

Services for June

North Lopham	South Lopham
6th June	
9.30am HC	-
11am FS	-
13th June	
11am FS	-
6.30pm ES	-
20th June	
11am Fam S	9.30am Group HC
27th June	
11am Fam HC	6.30pm ES

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18TH JUNE
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