

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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June 2011

An Evening of Music at The Fen

Suffolk Wildlife Trust is bringing together the extraordinary voices of opera singers from the Guildhall School of Music in London with the beautiful natural delights of the largest remaining valley fen in England. Ticket holders are invited to enjoy a picnic or an early evening stroll around the Fen before being seated for the open air performance, sung from a balcony overlooking the 325 acre reserve. A classical operatic repertoire will be supplemented with one or two surprises and is sure to delight music lovers and opera aficionados alike. The concert will take place on **Sunday 17th July, 7pm - 9pm**. Gates will be open from 6pm. Tickets, which need to be booked in advance, are £12.50 and include a complementary glass of wine or fruit juice at the interval. Tickets are available from Redgrave and Lopham Fen Visitor Centre, open at weekends and bank holidays 10am - 5pm, or by post. Please ring 01379 68833 for more information.

Lophams' Village Hall

At the recent AGM the officers gave their reports on the past year and were confirmed in office. They encourage members of both villages to come forward with ideas for different events and would be pleased to welcome new people willing to help with their planning and organisation. **The Lottery** winners for April were: 1st - P Reeder (£174.00), 2nd - R Miller & D Colyer (£43.50 each). 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 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, 9am to 12.30pm, the next on June 25th. For details call Mike on 01379 687 235. **Judo** is on Mon & Wed. Details from Howard on 01379 688 258. **Dog Training** is most Tues evenings, information from trainer Elaine on 07845 776110. **To book the Hall** for private functions please contact 01379 687679. www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk

Lophams' Ladies

At our May meeting we were given great insight into the behind the scenes construction of the Millenium Tower of St Edmundsbury Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds. Speaker Horry Parsons was project manager for the building which was constructed using original fabrication techniques. In September we have a guided tour of the Cathedral. **On June 7th** we have Jackie Clark from the BTO to talk on "why ring birds" and on **July 5th** Christine Clark, a make-up artist, to give a talk and demonstration. We meet in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday of the month. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Phone 01379 687337 for details.

Garden Club

In May, Anne Etheridge shared with us "A Passion for Plants", bringing with her a

selection of some of her favorites. Her talk provided us with so much useful information and guidance. Our next meeting will be at Blooms of Bressingham on July 6th when Graeme Proctor will give a talk on "Growing Apples". Newmembers & visitors welcome.

Lophams' Happy Circle

There was a good number on the coach to Bay Tree Nurseries, which is always a popular outing. On 9th June we will be heading for Gt Yarmouth. Anyone wishing to go should contact Mrs Avis Wells on 01953 681789.

St. Andrew's School

As part of the preparation for the partnership with All Saints, Winfarthing, which starts in September, the schools joined together for a Partnership Street Party to celebrate the Royal Wedding on 28th April. On arrival at All Saints, St. Andrew's received a Royal welcome from both children and staff. They shared in making bunting and crowns before a picnic lunch, then enjoyed a party afternoon of singing, dancing, piñatas and competitions. A very happy day concluded with ice creams for everyone before the coach back to Lopham. Thank you, Winfarthing.

The whole school went to **Norwich Cathedral** in early May, and enjoyed discovering some of the wonders of this marvellous building and its grounds. News of a **fire in the school hall** on 8th May was a dreadful shock. Thanks to quick thinking by Denise, our caretaker, two fire crews quickly put the fire out, and there was very little damage to the building, other than that caused by smoke and water. Everybody at St Andrew's has been overwhelmed by the offers of help from families and the community - thank you all! However, most of the cleaning, repair & redecoration is being carried out by contractors. If you would like to see the school in action, or wish for further information about St. Andrew's Primary, please do not hesitate to visit. Either contact the school on 01379 687253 or by e-mail head@st-andrews-pri.norfolk.sch.uk

FOSTA members plan a **Grand Summer Fete on Saturday 18th June**, 1-5pm, and hope YOU will come along to share in a Barbecue and lots of fun as they raise funds for the school. **Community lunches** are on Thursdays now. The next, costing £3.50, is on 16th June at 12 noon. To book a meal we need to know by the morning of Monday 16th. Phone Jennie on 01379 687679.

Parent and Toddler Group

My name is Jessica Meek, and I have taken over the Group. I have 4 children, my youngest just 4 months. The Group meets in the "Mess" (in front of the Primary School). Everyone is welcome. Just Pop in for a chat and a cuppa while your pre schooler enjoys playing in a safe. Fun, friendly atmosphere! There are lots of toys plus a baby area. Open 9-11am on Tuesdays, Term time only! This is also an ideal place for new mums to meet too!! If you have any questions please givemearingon01379687994.

St. Andrew's Pre School

We are having an **Open Morning on Tuesday 14th June** for anyone interested in the Pre School. If you have children under 5, please drop in to The Mess (in front of the school) between 9-11am and see what we, and the Parent & Toddler group, get up to. We are a friendly bunch aiming to provide a caring, learning environment for our children. If you can't make the 14th, drop in anytime or ring Pre School Leader, Tonya Manning on 01379 688566.

Even if you haven't got children under 5, that's no excuse not to get involved! Help support your community and have a fun evening out come to our **Fundraising Quiz Night on Friday 24th June** at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Admission is £6, including food (barbecue and cakes available), and are available from Joe (687284) or Gillian (687225).



South Lopham Estates Charity

Are you a South Lopham resident in need? Part of the purpose of this charity is to give modest sums of money (say up to £100 - but could be increased in appropriate cases) to residents of South Lopham who have a specific financial need. We are particularly interested in helping young people with the expenses of education and training, including travel. Other applications for consideration could include (a) anyone suffering as a result of a bereavement or unforeseen setback; or (b) problems or expense as a result of illness in the family such as travel to a hospital or care home; or (c) to assist any resident who has insufficient disposable income to enable him/her to enjoy the occasional treat; or (d) any other cause which the Trustees consider deserving. If you believe that you or someone in your family may qualify for such assistance please contact the Secretary on 01379 687337 for further details and a simple application form. If you are aware of any other resident in specific financial need please let the Secretary know so that we can approach that person to see if we can help. Please be assured that all applications will be treated sympathetically and with complete confidentiality.

Redgrave & Lopham Fen

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

Art Exhibition: 4th/5th June, 11th/12th June. Suggested £1 donation. **Wild About Art:** Fri 10th June, 10am-3pm. Adult learning day led by local artist Angela Rawson. Suitable for beginners or those with some experience. £25. Booking essential. **Discovering Bumble Bees:** Fri 17th June, 10am-4pm. Find out more about the fascinating world of the bumble bee. £25 / £21.50 conc. Booking essential. **Warblers and Wildflowers:** Tue 21st June, 6.30-9pm. A special tour led by reserve manager Andrew Excell to celebrate the 50th birthday of Suffolk Wildlife Trust at the site where it all began! Adults £3. Children £1. Booking essential.

North Lopham Parish Council

Details from the May AGM: Retiring councillors Mr J Barwick and Mrs L Westbrook-Lay have been replaced, unopposed, by Mrs D Eagle and Mrs. L Bird. No Chair was elected; Vice-Chair, Councillor Tate, took the meeting. **Finance:** increasing costs and the freeze on the precept mean that the deposit account balance will be partly drawn down to fund the deficit. **The Bottle Bank** contributed £321.03 to funds over the last period. Appreciation for **Bruno Brown's grass cutting** in Back Lane over the years was expressed. He is unable to continue and quotations for this work will be sought. **Planning:** The Biomass generation proposal in Kenninghall is under consideration

pending reports. The Grange Farm wind generator was approved as was the redevelopment at 'Daphnedene'. **Roads and Footpaths:** Potholes have been poorly repaired, Councillor Tate has complained to Highways who will inspect the work and report. Mr & Mrs Farren-Bradley have trimmed away foliage from and cleaned local road signs, thanks to them. Residents are reminded that overhanging branches and hedges should be trimmed to allow vision and access for pedestrians and road users. Dog fouling especially in Tanns, Primrose and Jubilee Lanes remains a disgrace. A meeting at **Harling Crossroads**, scene of recent fatal road accidents, was attended by Councillor Bird and representatives from Kenninghall, East Harling, and Breckland. Various options to improve safety were considered, no firm decision has yet been made. **Jubilee Lane** and its drain have been cleared, thanks to Councillor Potter and her husband and Councillor McManus. Mr. G West wrote to thank them for their work and asked that no-one enters his field on the lower side of Jubilee Lane as it is a DEFRA conservation area and must not be disturbed. Mike Daly has agreed to refurbish the **village sign**. Next meeting - 13th July 2011.

South Lopham Parish Council

The following are points of interest from the May meeting: **1)** Following the uncontested election on 5th May the new council took office. Robert McCaw was re-elected as Chairman and Peter Coster as Vice-Chairman. **2)** The annual accounts were approved. **3)** Residents were urged to make greater use of the bottle bank in the White Horse car park. The Council receives a modest income from this, based on the usage, there was no income last year because of lack of use. **4)** It is hoped that a children's art exhibition will appear soon in the telephone kiosk. **5)** Residents are asked to trim their verges and hedges to help with the general appearance of the village.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Services & preachers for June at 10.30am;

- 5th June, Mr Gibson of Thetford.
- 19th June, Mr Chamberlain of Thetford.

On 14th June there will be a Bun & Basket afternoon at 2.30pm. Everyone welcome.

St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

At the annual meetings the churchwardens & PCC agreed to serve a further term in office. Thank you to them all, especially the churchwardens Jean Stringfield & Richard Vere. They in turn thank all who help in any

way with the maintenance of the church, or of its ministry. **12th June is Pentecost** - the coming of the Holy Spirit. There will be a special **Birthday Family Service** at 11am, with cake, balloons and lots of fun (if the weather is kind, do bring a kite to fly outside afterwards!). In the evening, Benefice Choir members will join us for a Pentecost Praise service, and we hope that You will come too!

After a good number of years at Josie Gilbert's home, this year's **Summer Coffee Morning** will be held at Brecklands, The Green, home of Jean & Chris Stringfield, on Wednesday June 29th. We hope to see all our friends from near and far again at the new venue. There will be a Raffle, Tombola, Bring & Buy and a Cake stall in addition to the refreshments, plus plenty of time to have a chat. If transport is a problem, just phone 01379 687679 to arrange a lift. We look forward to seeing you there.

St. Andrew's Church (South Lopham)

Easter Dawn Service: It was a glorious spring morning for the Dawn Service held at Malting Farm, and taken by Revd. Robert. Our thanks go to Cynthia and David Huggins for hosting this special service and for the excellent breakfast they provided. **Coffee Morning:** This was very well attended and we were pleased to raise £211.00 for Church funds. Our grateful thanks go to all who came to support this event. Our next Coffee Morning in the Church will be held on Wednesday 6th July 10am to 12 noon.

Services for June

North Lopham	South Lopham
5th June	
9.30am HC	-
11am Fam S	-
12th June	
11am Pent Birthday	-
6.30pm Pent Praise	-
19th June	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
26th June	
11am Fam H Com	6.30pm ES

Contributions for next issue by;

18TH JUNE

Post to;

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

or e-mail to;

news@thelophamsnews.co.uk