

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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Little Ouse Headwaters Project

Hey Ho, they came to the Fayre! The crowds poured into the Summer Fayre at The Frith, South Lopham on Sunday 29th June. More than 600 arrived by car, bicycle and on foot. The event was held by the Little Ouse Headwaters Project to mark the end of a very successful funding project with the Heritage Lottery Fund and to celebrate the restoration of the wildlife and landscape of two beautiful fields at the head of the Little Ouse valley. We are still an entirely volunteer-run organisation, based in the local community, and are very grateful to the HLF, our other funders, the local contractors who have worked with us, and all our volunteers and local supporters for their help in making the project such a success.

The crowds enjoyed perfect weather and a wide variety of real country activities, great entertainment for adults and children, including Dennis Jenkins sheep dogs and his Southdown Ram & Ewe (breed champions at The Royal Norfolk Show), Julie Finnis and her birds of prey and a team from the British Trust for Ornithology who gave a demonstration of bird ringing, Morris dancer and much more.

Lophams' Ladies

The July meeting was well attended. We were shown an excellent collection of **Botanical Illustrations** by our speaker, Mrs Sarah Holt Wilson, who spoke of her work as an illustrator and the importance of detail and light. We look forward to an outing in August, and having Mr Quinten Spratt, a well known expert on Peacocks, speaking on 2nd September. Our **Annual Jumble and Car Boot Sale** will be on Saturday 6th September. Please save your jumble for us. Enquiries to 01379 687339.

Farmers' Market - This will be on 23rd August, 9am-12.30pm, at the Village Hall. New stallholders are welcome. Please contact Mike Shipperlee on 01379 687235. For Village Hall bookings contact Mrs J Vere on 01379 687679.

A Message from Mike Cox

Mike, Debbie and Harry Cox would like to thank everyone for their overwhelming support following Mike's recent heart attack (and North Lopham residents want Mike to know how good it is to see him out and about again around the village).

Lophams' Ramblers

Our June walk was from Southwold to Walberswick. After an excellent pub lunch we walked back to have tea on Southwold pier. The weather was very kind and we all enjoyed the day. We normally walk around the Lophams' or nearby villages and if you would like to join our group please contact Jackie Brown on 01379 687260.

St. Andrew's School

The end of one of the longest and busiest terms ever is almost upon us, and the whole

school community is ready for a well deserved holiday. The second Inspection Report, of RE and Collective Worship, was good. A real accolade for staff, children, families and everyone from the community who is involved with St. Andrew's School. Congratulations to everyone.

The School Sunday Service, with 'The Environment' as a theme was a delight for all those who came along to South Lopham Church. **The Summer Show**, "Prodigal Rock", was truly amazing. The story of the Prodigal Son was retold in a mix of modern and biblical settings, with wonderful songs throughout. The money collected after the show will be used for future Arts provision in the school. **The Partnership activity** for this term was spread over two days at Thornham Park. The Juniors had a wonderful time, sharing four very different activities. The favourite was using forest 'debris' to build shelters to accommodate all the children in each group of about five. There were some amazing structures, all made in less than 20 minutes and all housing their inmates quite safely. The infants from the two schools had activities more suited to their age, but just as exciting.

The children had great fun organising the **Summer Fayre**, and managed to include some messy, as well as innovative, competitions alongside the traditional stalls and refreshments. In just over an hour well over £200 was raised. Thank you to all. **The Leavers' Assembly** will be reported next time. **Community Lunches** have been greatly enjoyed by all who took part. The children's raffles have made £35, which they donated to the church. Lunches will start again in September.

Lophams' Happy Circle

We went to Wisbech Rose Fair on the 3rd and what a delight it was. The flowers were fantastic, and so many to look at. The next

outing will be to Clacton on 14th August. For anyone wishing to book a seat, please contact Daphne on 01379 687453 or Avis on 01953 681789.

Redgrave & Lopham Fen (for bookings phone 01473 892430)

Activity Days for children 6-12 (£5), 10am-2pm. 7th August - Birds of Prey, 14th August - Butterflies and Moths. **Sharing Nature for children 4-8 (£3), 10am-12noon.** 6th August - Spiders. **Suffolk Wildlife Trust Photography Competition exhibition** - 23rd-25th and 30th-31st August, 10am-5pm.

North Lopham Parish Council

The last meeting was attended by over 50 residents, eager to hear about the 'Site Specifics' elements of the **Breckland Local Development Framework**. Andrea Long, from Breckland Council, gave a short presentation, followed by a wide range of questions and comments about village facilities and the gradings that have been provisionally given to the 16 sites nominated by landowners. It was made clear that North Lopham is not a village which is earmarked for major development. On this basis many of the sites have been deemed 'unreasonable' because of their size or position. There was some talk of the need for affordable housing and the Parish Council will pursue this with the Housing Strategy Team at Breckland. An outline of the situation is posted on the noticeboard at the pond (Letchmere) and full details are available online at www.breckland.gov.uk. For anyone needing further detail who does not have access to the web the Parish Council has a single copy of the Breckland Document. Please phone Brian Frith on 01379 688042.



Any member of the public can make comments (in general, or about a specific site proposal) online, on a printed form (again, phone 01379 688042) or just by letter addressed to the Planning Policy Team at Breckland Council. All comments must be received by 26th September 2008.

South Lopham Parish Council

Much of the July meeting dealt with **Highways matters** and most of that was good news! You may have noticed that resurfacing and white lining has now been completed in most of the village. We are pleased to report that the flashing light at the Theftord end of the village has been replaced after it went missing, the lay-by at that end of the A1066 has been filled in and the damaged post at the War Memorial has been repaired. The leaves and overgrown vegetation have been removed from the bus shelter and around the Jubilee bench, so we hope the appearance of the village has been improved. The council is pleased to report that the extension of the 30mph limit along the Blo Norton Road has been approved but will not be in place for some weeks to conform to regulations.

In discussions with Highways the **proposals for a crossing on the A1066 and a footpath along Church Road** were not dismissed out of hand. The council now has to formally ask for an assessment for each. This will be carried out over a two hour period at a time and day of our choosing to assess the need for protection of pedestrians crossing the main road and walking along Church Road. In order to gather evidence and maximise the effectiveness of our application, it is proposed to form a sub committee comprised of residents led by a member of the parish Council. Anyone interested is asked to contact the Clerk on 687507. There has been much discussion in the past on the dangers presented by traffic in the centre of our village; it seems that now we have the opportunity to make a good case for some action. On a similar theme, there have been reports that the **new weight restriction on HGV** through traffic along Church Road is being ignored. This is a police matter and anyone spotting an offending vehicle should note the registration number and report it, either direct to the police, or to the clerk. When the police receive repeated registration numbers, they can act. **The Local Development Framework** maps, and the proposed changes in Local Government boundaries, were also topics for discussion. The closing date for consultation is September 26th. The Parish Council will have its say on both issues, but so too can members of the public via the Breckland website at www.breckland.gov.uk.

The council wished to congratulate LOHP on the success of the **Summer Fayre on the Frith** and expressed the hope that the

village might host a similar event in the future. As usual, full minutes are posted on the bus shelter notice board.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

- 10th August at 10.45am;
Rev Softley of Creeting St. Peter.
- 24th August at 10.45am;
Rev Telfer of Diss.

A welcome to all. The Supper was enjoyed by 38 people, with the total raised being £233 for Chapel Funds.

St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

The Ramble Service was a delight - especially the look of surprise when those who hadn't been there before saw the picnic destination. After a Nature Ramble, we enjoyed exploring the church, before our lunch break. At the end of the short service inside everyone voted to come again, but to do brass (and other) rubbings as the activity. **The Scarecrow Festival 44** will be reported next time. Services continue, following the 'usual' pattern in August, and we hope to welcome visitors to this area alongside our regular members. **North Lopham's Postcard**, designed and drawn by Tony Osler, is on sale in the church and Post Office at 30p. **Buggy Club** is now on a Summer break, but will return on Tuesday 8th September at 10.30am. New residents and babies are specially welcome!! **A Holiday Club**, with an Olympic theme, is planned for all children (and those who are children at heart, who would like to join in as helpers). We plan to meet in The Mess at St. Andrew's School, from Monday 18th to Friday 22nd August, 2.30-5.00pm, with a Barbecue on Saturday 23rd and Celebration Service on Sunday 24th at 4pm. There are details in the church, or direct from Rev Rob, who will mastermind the whole programme (under 5's need a parent to stay with them, school age children can be left with the team of helpers).

A Special Date for your Diary: **Ryan Lewis** will be back in the area at the end of August, and has agreed to come to St. Nicholas' Church on Saturday 30th August for a Recital from his current repertoire. He hopes to have with him Anastasia, another very gifted pianist, from Russia. For more details, or to book tickets (£6), please contact 01379 687679.

St. Andrew's Church (South Lopham)

Thank you to the Reverend Rob and his wife Jan, for organising the recent well attended **Church Coffee Morning**. As well as light

refreshments and homemade cakes for sale, there was tombola, a bric-a-bac stall plus the raffle. Remaining goods not sold were auctioned by the Rector and a total of £200 was raised for church funds. In June, the St. Andrew's **School Sunday Service** was held at South Lopham Church and, as always, the children led the service. Responding to the Rector's challenge, the pupils had chosen to work towards becoming a sustainable school. This meant they wanted to be an environmentally friendly school, working to keep our world safe for the future. During the service, families and friends enjoyed hearing the children sing Green Song, The Green Umbrella and From the Tiny Ant.

On June 30th, the writer and broadcaster, **David Self** was buried at St. Andrew's Church. Before joining the BBC as a school radio producer, Mr Self had taught in Lancashire and been a lecturer in Durham. In 1974, as freelance writer, he came to live in South Lopham and gave several talks at St Andrew's Church.

Friends of South Lopham Church

The Strawberry Tea was enjoyed by all, and the 'Friends' would like to thank those of you who supported us once again. The weather was kind this year and the different venue, i.e. the Village Hall, worked well. A big thank you to everyone who helped, and especially Cynthia for her wonderful scones. The money, as always, will go to the much needed restoration fund. Thank you very much.

Services for August

North Lopham	South Lopham
3rd August	
9.30am HC	11am HC
11am Fam S	-
10th August	
11am Fam S	-
6.30pm ES	-
17th August	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
24th August	
11am Fam HC	6.30pm ES

**CONTRIBUTIONS
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE
BY 18TH AUGUST
PLEASE TO
The Court, South Lopham
or e-mail to
news@thelophamsnews.co.uk**