

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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July 2008

## Lophams' Village Hall

**Ballroom Dancing** - Practice Ballroom Dancing at the Hall on the third Thursday each month from 7-9pm at £4 per session. Beginners are welcome. Contact Mrs E Jacobson 01379687515.

**Farmers' Market** - The monthly market remains popular, with a wide choice of local produce available, including meat, bread, cakes, wine, jam, plants and organic fruit and vegetables. We are grateful to everyone for their support. The next market will be held on Saturday 26th July, 9am - 12.30pm. The contact is Mike Shipperlee on 01379 687235.

### Lophams' Ladies

**Garden Meeting** - Members spent a very enjoyable evening recently visiting a beautiful garden in Redgrave. We are grateful to Mrs Sarah Frizzel, who arranged the visit for us and provided refreshments.

On Tuesday 1st July at 7.30pm, Sarah Holt Wilson will speak about **Botanical Illustrations** at the Village Hall. There will also be a Bring & Buy stall. Visitors are welcome. For help with transport please contact 01379 687337 or 01953 681201.

### EXTEND

Shape up for summer at your local EXTEND class! Gentle exercise to music for the over 60's now takes place every Wednesday at the Park Hotel, Diss, 12-1pm This is fun, and helps maintain and improve heart health, mobility and strength, with a friendly group. If you are interested and would like to find out more, come and join in, or phone Polly on 01379 643212.

### St. Andrew's School

Everyone at St Andrew's was thrilled when the official **Ofsted Report** confirmed what we all hoped it would say - that it is a good school in which pupils achieve well. There were several areas in which the word "outstanding" was used - especially the leadership and management of assistant headteacher Judith Jones and the personal development of pupils - the result of the exceptionally high level of care, support and guidance they receive. The standards achieved in the core subjects, especially Literacy and Science were praised, as were the high standards in Music, Sport and Art. Richard Ogilvie, acting headteacher, said that the well deserved report reflects the hard work and talent of everybody involved with the school - staff, children, parents, governors and local friends from the community - so well led by Mrs Jones and the previous headteacher Mrs Penny Sheppard. As we enjoy this report, a second inspection is upon us - this time Religious Education

and Collective Worship are in the spotlight, because St Andrew's is a Church School.

The school hums with activity every day - in lesson time and during club time - but there are even more extras than usual just now. Tuesday 17th June was the busiest day of all. After Assembly in Church with Revd Rob, the whole school shared in a 'Sponsored Sing' to boost the funds for the new Playground, and managed to sing twenty songs and hymns, all chosen by the children, in just 44 minutes and 3 seconds (thank you Martin for the accurate time keeping!). The children welcomed their community guests to lunch in The Mess before everyone changed into their team colours for Sports Afternoon. The first half was devoted to team challenges, using a variety of PE skills to earn points; after the refreshment break (thank you FOSTA members), the children took part in traditional races to gain further points for their teams. After a hard fought battle, the Yellow team had most points, closely followed by blue, red and green. Well done to them all, and many thanks to all those who helped with the events, or who cheered the teams on.

More thanks are due to all those who have worked so hard to plan, prepare and plant the new Veggie Garden - the Eco team, parents, governors, and friends from the local community too - a wonderful team effort!

We hope to see lots of people from the community at the **School Sunday Service** on 22nd June, then at the Village Hall on 14th and 15th July for the Musical "Prodigal Rock". Tickets will be available soon from the school office.

The **FOSTA** team have worked incredibly hard this term, fund raising for the Playground. As well as the Yard Sales, they have held a Family Bingo evening, a Raffle on Sports Day, and are currently planning a Summer Fayre on Friday 4th July. Do please come along and support them. After all this - Happy Holidays, Everybody!!

**Community Lunches** - The last lunch before the holiday is on Tuesday 15th July,

in The Mess at School. If you would like to come and enjoy a cooked meal (at £3.50) alongside the children, don't wait to be asked, just phone Jennie on 01379 687679.

### Lophams' Happy Circle

There was a lovely crowd of us that went to Gressenhall Museum. For some, it was the first time, but we all enjoyed it. In the afternoon we left for Sheringham, which we also enjoyed. The next outing will be to Wisbech Rose Fair, on 3rd July. Anyone wishing to go, other than members, please contact Daphne on 01379 687453 or Avis on 01953 681789.

### North Lopham Parish Council

**Allotments** - The Parish Council has received a couple of enquiries about the provision of allotments. Before we investigate this in detail it would be useful to know the extent of any likely demand. If you might be interested please contact our clerk, Mike Cox (01379 688355). Apart from the provision of 'official' allotments, people are sometimes happy to let someone else use part of a large garden (maybe they are finding it difficult to look after) as an 'allotment' on an informal basis. Again, please let Mike Cox know and maybe we'll find some 'matching pairs'!

**Reminder** - The next Parish Council meeting, on Wednesday July 9th, in the Methodist Schoolroom, will start at the earlier than usual time of 7pm, with a presentation by officers from Breckland Council about the Local Development Framework. There will also be opportunity for public discussion. This will be followed by the usual Parish Council agenda.

**Mains Drainage** - We have been informed by Anglian Water that all households can expect to receive a booklet about the scheme in late August or September. This



will be followed by an opportunity to raise queries with Anglian Water, Contractors and Breckland Council at a meeting, most probably in the Village Hall. Our neighbours in Kenninghall (whose scheme is a few months ahead of ours) have told us that the meeting is a very useful occasion to raise issues and make enquiries which are particular to your situation. We do not know the date yet, but watch out for the notices about the meeting nearer the time. The anticipated start date for the actual work 'on-site' is November 2008.

**Garden Waste** - After a relatively trouble-free period, there are signs that garden waste is again being dumped along some of the lanes and footpaths around the village. You are reminded that this is regarded as 'fly-tipping' which carries a hefty penalty. Compost the waste in your garden, use a brown bin, or take it to Snetterton. Many people work very hard to keep the village clean and tidy - please don't spoil it!

### South Lopham Parish Council

At the AGM on May 22nd Peter Coster and Evelyn Logsdail were re-elected as Chair and Vice Chair respectively. At the following meeting much of the council business centred on the traffic problems through the village, and it was resolved to put the case to Highways for a footpath on Church Road, along with a crossing on the A1066. The speed of through traffic shown in the SAM data was alarming and should provide good supporting evidence in our efforts to deal with the issue. Councillors were pleased to hear of a successful meeting with the Breckland Planning Officers, where representatives of the council asked for its voice to be heard more strongly in planning decisions. Other business included the approval of the accounts for the annual Audit, the accessibility of footpaths, and reports from councillors sitting on other village committees.

There is now a holder in the bus shelter for many of the informative leaflets sent to the council, which previously could not be displayed because of their size.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on July 10th.

**The Local Development Framework (South Lopham) Special Meeting** - A representative of Breckland council will be attending a special meeting in the village to discuss the implications of the development proposals for South Lopham. The meeting will take place on Wednesday 30th July at 7.30pm at a venue to be announced later. Anyone interested in attending is asked to contact the Parish Clerk, Lyn Llewellyn, on 01379687507.

### North Lopham Methodist Chapel

The Bun & Basket afternoon raised £166. Thanks to all who came to support us. Services for July are;

- 13th July at 10.45am; Preacher Mr Freeman of Rickingham.
- 27th July at 10.45am; Preacher Mr J Moorman of Thetford.

On 11th July there will be a Supper & Raffle, 7pm for 7.30pm, at a price of £5. Names by 5th July please.

Awelcome to all.

### St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

Members of the **South Norfolk Youth Symphonic Band** proved once again that "Friday Night was SNYSB Night" when they entertained us to a feast of musical treats from stage and screen, and original tunes for wind bands. As Mike Booty was away, Leigh Sharpe wielded the conductor's baton - very effectively. About sixty band members are off to the Far East in August to play in a community centre they helped to fund after the Tsunami, so a collection at the end of the evening will boost their travel fund.

It might have been raining in villages all round, but the 4th of July was fine at Gables Farm, where crowds gathered for **Josie Gilbert's Coffee Morning** - very pleasant for sitting outside, chatting, munching delicious scones and drinking coffee after choosing plants to take home or patronising the stalls and Raffle inside. The proceeds so far amount to an amazing £630 - huge thanks to all who helped in any way - providing goodies and prizes, coming to buy, or serving and washing up. And 'special thanks to our hostess for making everyone so welcome. (Please remember **Holy Bingo**, with Rob & Jan in the Village Hall on 7th at 2pm.)

**Scarecrow Festival** - Sat & Sun 19th/20th July. North Lopham is the place to be for the third weekend in July - for a Scarecrow Festival. We hope for Scarecrows all through the village, and refreshments, stalls & raffle at church. It would be great to see scarecrows dressed as characters from Stories or Rhymes, but all will be welcome, whatever the size or shape! Maps will be available at Church, where the children's competition entries will be on show. A Grand Barbecue behind church will be held at 5pm on Saturday, with fun & games. Do get your ticket in good time.

The **Summer Ramble Service** is on

Sunday 13th July, leaving church by car at 11am. Bring a picnic lunch and a car load of people and come to find the special location.....

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

As you will probably have noticed, scaffolding was up for a short time recently whilst a small area of the roof was investigated. Unfortunately, during that time, the church had to be closed for health and safety reasons. It appears things were not quite as bad as had been initially feared, nevertheless, the whole project will still be a massive undertaking. The next stage is obtaining tenders to carry out the work. The good news is, until work commences, St. Andrews is once again open.

Don't forget **Holy Bingo** with refreshments, in the village hall on the first Monday of the month from 2-4 pm, with the Rector as caller.

### Friends of South Lopham Church

The Friends are holding their AGM in the church at 7.30pm on Tuesday 22nd July. Everyone is very welcome and we look forward to seeing you there, particularly if you have lots of new ideas for raising money.

### Services for July

North Lopham	South Lopham
<b>6th July</b>	
9.30am HC	11am HC
11am Fam S	-
<b>13th July</b>	
11am Ramble S	-
6.30pm ES	-
<b>20th July</b>	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
<b>27th July</b>	
11am Fam HC	6.30pm ES

**CONTRIBUTIONS  
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE  
BY 18TH JULY  
PLEASE TO  
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or e-mail to  
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