

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No.301

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June 2007

## Lophams' Ladies

**The Royal Molecatcher** - Lophams' Ladies are holding a special open meeting on Tuesday 5th June, at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, when Mr Vic Williamson will speak about his work as a mole catcher and pest control, accompanied by a fine display of agricultural tools and traps. His knowledge and expertise in this field has brought him recognition throughout a wide area of North Norfolk and beyond, including Her Majesty the Queen, who has watched him working on the Royal Sandringham Estate and awarded him an Honour. Mr Williamson assisted naturalist Bill Oddie in the making of the TV film "The Life of the Mole". His talks are in aid of the Breast Care Unit, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn. Admission is £2, light refreshments will be served. Enquiries to 01953 681201 or 01379 687337. There will be a **Homemade Cake & Produce Stall** at Letchmere, North Lopham, on Saturday 2nd June, 10am - 12 noon.

### St. Andrew's School

The half term break will give staff and children alike a well earned rest after several extra-busy weeks. The children have taken the annual round of tests in their stride; the football and netball teams have played really well against other local schools, and Class 3 will spend the last four days at the Hill Top centre. They still found time to prepare for two important special occasions: The school musicians, and some from Bressingham, took part in the Chyme Spring Concert at St Mary's Church in Diss. The Partnership Orchestra played two items - "Yesterday", by Lennon and McCartney, and "The Birdie Song", which had the audience clapping along to the bouncy rhythm. The Partnership Choir, some as young as 5, provided the Finale to the evening's entertainment. They sang "Seek ye First", a cappella, then a powerful modern song "No Wars will Stop us Singing", before concluding with "Consider Yourself" from the musical "Oliver".

The next morning, most of the school went to Blo Norton Church for the annual School Sunday Service. The orchestra and recorder groups played before the service began. The children led the worship, on the theme "Forgiveness", including their own version of "Zaccheus" as performed in Norwich Cathedral earlier in the year. FOSTA served refreshments while more recorder music was played to the appreciative congregation after the service.

During June, work on the outdoor Area for the Early Years pupils should be completed. There will be expeditions for individual classes, Year 6 will take part in a Giant Sleepover, and rehearsals will continue for a Partnership production of 'Oliver'.

FOSTA members are very active this term. Their stall at the Spring Garden Fair, and the 10% sales from the Lopham Yard Sales raised about £200. A Quiz night at the Village Hall made £300. They are now busy planning a mammoth "It's a Knock Out" challenge day at the Hall and Playing Field on Sunday 15th July. Watch for details!!!!

### Village Hall

**The AGM** will be held at the Hall on Friday 22nd June at 7.30pm. This is an open meeting and we invite representatives from organisations using the Hall, and those who are interested in the running, of it to attend. Contact 01379 687515. The **Farmers' Market** is on Saturday 23rd, 9am onwards.

**EXTEND** classes continue on Wednesdays, but starting at 9.45am. New members are always welcome - over 60s or younger people with impaired mobility.

### North Lopham Trustees

Each year the Trustees are pleased to award financial help to young people who have lived in the village for more than a year, and are genuinely having difficulties with the cost of books, materials, or transport for a course of study. If you would like to be considered for financial help please write, giving details, to Mr W Vernon, 5 The Street, North Lopham.

### Lophams' Playgroup

We are holding a Summer Fair on Saturday 23rd June, 11am - 2pm at The Mess (building in front of North Lopham School). Come along for a strawberry tea, lots of arts & crafts, face painting, homemade cakes etc.

Spaces are still available for September. Come and see Julie, Sally & Jo and have lots of fun, in a safe & friendly environment. Open every weekday morning from 9 - 11am (£5), with Lunch Club 11.30am - 1pm (extra £3.50). Please contact Julie on 01379 687769 or Cheryln on 01379 688116.

### Lophams' Happy Circle

The outing to Bay Tree Nurseries went very well. I think everybody enjoyed themselves. The next outing will be on the 14th June to Sheringham. Anyone wishing to go will they please ring Daphne on 01379 687453.

### Redgrave and Lopham Fen

(All enquiries & Bookings - 01379 688333)

**Guided Walk: Saturday 26th May, 11.30am.** Join us on a guided walk and experience the beauty of the fen in late spring. Please book. Adults £3, children free. **Adult Course - Market Weston Fen in Bloom: Friday 8th June, 1.45pm - 4pm.** Discover this gem of a fen with Field Officer Andrew Excell and Warden David Poulter. Booking essential. £4 including teas. **Spiders: Wednesday 22nd June, 10am - 1pm.** This course is an introduction to the biology of spiders; how spiders live, weave webs and catch their prey, with experienced tutor Paul Lee. £20. Booking essential. **Beginners Art Course - Experiments and Exercises in how to Draw and Paint, Wednesday 27th June, 10am - 1pm.** This class will focus on texture in still life and ways of using pencil. £6. Booking essential.

### North Lopham Parish Council

The Annual Open Meeting, held on May 9th, was attended by all Parish Councillors and 8 members of the public. Reports were received from the School, Church, Chapel, Village Hall, Playgroup and Parish Council. A summary of the Parish Council accounts for 2006/07 was also presented. All present agreed that the new format (encouraging the submission of reports from any village institution or group) was worth continuing in future years.

The first meeting and AGM of the new Parish Council was held on May 16th. Councillors made their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct. John Barwick was co-opted onto the Council to fill the vacancy which had been advertised in the last issue of 'Lophams News'. Brian Frith was re-elected Chairman and Jan Tate was re-elected Vice Chair. The Annual



Account statement was formally approved by the Council, and Chris Stringfield was thanked for his checking that all was in order. Members formally recorded their thanks to Joan Muncila, who had served 16 years on the Council before 'retiring' this year. A 'Thank You' card and gift had been sent to Joan by her fellow Councillors.

Recent work at Letchmere has installed the base for the extra seat and the notice board (with thanks for the expert assistance of local builder Paul Wright). The whole project should be complete and ready for 'opening' in a few weeks' time. Watch out for the notices!

We are already at the time of year when we need to appeal to everyone to ensure that hedges, overhanging trees and debris do not obstruct the footways in the village. Please take a good look, especially when branches are wet and heavy, and ensure they are cut back accordingly, leaving the paths clear and free from hazards.

The Council discussed problems with the disposal of dead flowers, discarded wreaths, wrappings etc at the Burial Ground. It was decided to remove the existing waste basket and erect a notice asking that all these items be taken away - in accordance with the regulation that has been in place for many years.

## South Lopham Parish Council

Reports from the South Lopham Estates Charity and the Lophams' Village Hall were received with interest by those attending the Village Meeting and Parish Council AGM on 17th May. In fact it has been decided that next year there will be a separate Village Meeting where it is hoped that all organisations within the Parish will be able to share the achievements of their year with a wider audience. Peter Coster was re-elected as Chair of the Council with Evelyn Logsdail as Vice-Chair. Steve Morley was welcomed onto the council, filling the vacancy left by Alan Howard. Otherwise, the members remain unchanged from last year.

Many of the footpaths in our parish have become overgrown or have not been reinstated after cropping. It is the duty of the landowner to keep footpaths on their property clear, and the council would urge those with paths on their land to cut back brambles and nettles so that the many users have no need to stray from the marked paths.

On a similar theme, plans for a walker's map of the parish are going ahead and it is hoped it will be available soon.

Speeding vehicles on the A1066 remain a problem and there is a meeting with

Highways in June to discuss the possible re-siting of the 30mph signs at the Diss side of the village.

## North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Services for June at 10.45am.

- 10th June, Preacher Mrs Goodwin of Botesdale.
- 24th June, Rev Edna Buggey of Diss.

Everyone welcome.

On Tuesday 12th June, at 2.30pm, there will be a Bun & Basket afternoon. Tea and buns to enjoy. All proceeds for Chapel Funds.

## St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

**Ascension Day** was marked with a Communion Service, followed by refreshments. In the evening, we joined a large congregation for the start of Revd Philip's ministry at St Thomas' Church, Heigham, in Norwich. On the following Sunday we shared in Bishop David's visit to the Benefice. After the morning service at Roydon, there was a bring & share lunch. The highlight of the afternoon was a Confirmation in South Lopham, with 11 candidates from the parishes.

**Pentecost** - The Birthday of the Church is on 27th May. We hope to SEE YOU at the 11am Service - with cake, candles, balloons and some surprises. Local notices will advertise future specials, such as the Pet Service, Ramble Service and a Barbecue afternoon.

At the recent annual meetings, Jean Stringfield was elected Churchwarden alongside Richard Vere (Archie Wright is still very much part of North Lopham, but is helping Peter Reeder out at South Lopham). Grateful thanks were expressed to all those who help the church and its community in any way.

The Social Season really gets going in June: **Friday Night is SNYSB Night** on 1st, at 7.30pm. If you haven't heard them before, this fantastic group of youngsters set out to prove that "Music is Fun" - for them, and for the audience. Tickets are just £4.50 (big concessions for young musicians!), including refreshments, and there will be a few on the door.

**The Annual Coffee Morning** at Gables Farm is on Wednesday 13th from 10.15am, by kind invitation of Josie Gilbert. This is a great occasion for meeting friends new and 'of longer standing' - from all the local villages. There will be a Bring & Buy and

Raffle too. For help with transport, please contact 01379 687 679.

## Friends of South Lopham Church

There will be a **Strawberry Tea** on Sunday 24th June, 3 - 5pm in the church. The price remains the same at £3 for strawberries, cream scone, jam and a drink of tea or coffee. The **AGM** is on Tuesday 17th July at 7.30pm in the church. On Friday 27th July, at 9pm, **Clive Paine - Historical Churches** - will give a tour/talk on the history of our church. Tickets cost £5. Please call 01379 687260 or 01379 687579, or just turn up on the day.

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

A group from South Lopham joined others from the Upper Waveney Benefice on a pilgrimage and visit to Lincoln Cathedral. After a tour of the cathedral some attended the Eucharist service. The afternoon was spent having lunch and enjoying the sights of Lincoln.

On the 20th May the Bishop of Thetford spent the day in South Lopham and officiated at the confirmation service. A full report next month.

The PCC will be holding Coffee Mornings at St. Andrew's at 10.30am on 18th July and 15th August.

## Services for June

### North Lopham South Lopham

#### 3rd June

9.30am HC	-
11am Fam Serv	11am HC

#### 10th June

6.30pm Evensong	11am MS
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#### 17th June

11am Fam Serv	9.30am HC
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#### 24th June

11am Fam Comm	6.30pm ES
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**CONTRIBUTIONS  
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE  
BY 18TH JUNE  
PLEASE TO  
The Court, South Lopham  
or e-mail to  
news@thelophamsnews.co.uk**