

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No.313

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June 2008

Summer Fayre

See the Red Admirals Fly! - We cannot afford to have the "Red Arrows" but we are sure to have the Red Admirals giving their summer display at our grand country event. On Sunday 29th June, The Little Ouse Headwaters Project are holding a "Summer Fayre" on The Frith, Redgrave Road, South Lopham. A celebration of the restoration of the wildlife and landscape of two beautiful fields at the head of the Little Ouse valley. The gates will open at 1pm to reveal a host of interesting country pastimes and displays, together with stalls selling local produce. Entry for cars and passengers £5, pedestrians and cyclists come for free. Attractions will include working sheep dogs, a thatching demonstration, photographic display, barn owls, craft stalls, children's activities, Morris dancing, live music and, of course, information and guided walks. There will be a hog roast and beer tent but you are also welcome to bring a picnic. For more information and directions visit www.lohp.org.uk and follow the 'event and guided walks' link.

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, 4 The Street, North Lopham.

Lophams' Ladies

As the planned speaker for the May meeting was unable to attend, Mrs Gillian Brown kindly stepped in at short notice. She spoke about the amazing journey she made with her husband, some years ago, in an elderly car throughout the Far East and European countries. Members are looking forward to attending a garden meeting in June. If anyone would like to join us please contact Mrs Sarah Frizzel on 01379 687337.

Lophams' Village Hall

The **Spring Garden and Craft Fair** held recently was a great success. The weather remained fine and stall holders displayed a wide variety of plants and accessories. Members of the Diss Symphonic Band gave a fine performance, with visitors able to sit on the Hall verandah and enjoy the music. Home-made refreshments were served in the Hall and a raffle drawn. Committee members would like to thank everyone for their support.

St. Andrew's School

At the beginning of the term Mr Richard Ogilvie took up the post of acting headteacher to look after the school until the new head arrives. At the end of April the governors were able to appoint Simon East, an experienced partnership head, to become our Partnership Headteacher from September. On 8th May the school was visited by an OFSTED inspector. The

children and teachers had a great day and we hope that the inspector left suitably impressed. The report should be available by the end of May and we are hoping for good things.

The children have been working on gaining ECO status for the school and to this end they, together with an adult working party, cleared some ground to enable the growing of vegetables to take place. Everyone is enthusiastic about this project and await the first taste of their produce. School Sunday is one of the Summer term traditions - this year the children will be responsible for every aspect of the 11 o'clock service at South Lopham on 22nd June, and hope to see lots of local residents as well as family members and friends.

Spanish lessons for adults have started in the Mess this term and are proving popular. If you would like to have a go at learning the language in a practical way, please contact the school office (687235) for more details. The Community lunches are becoming a fixture in the monthly calendar. As The Mess is particularly full on Thursdays, we are going to try holding the June & July lunches on the third Tuesday of the month, when the Playgroup table will not be occupied (the meal will still be a 'gravy' dinner, but not necessarily a roast). Please contact Jennie Vere (01379 687679) by Friday 13th June to book lunch on 17th.

Lophams' Happy Circle

We had 36 people on the coach to Lowestoft last week, including members, visitors and 2 children. Our next outing will be 12th June, firstly to Gressenhall Museum and then on to Sandringham. If anybody else would like to go, please get in touch with Daphne on 01379 687453 or Avis on 01953 681789.

North Lopham Parish Council

The Annual Open Parish Meeting was attended by about 20 people. Breckland Councillor William Nunn gave a summary of

what will be happening with the 'Local Development Framework' and possible major changes to the status of Breckland and Norfolk County Councils due to Boundary Commission instructions that plans should be drawn up for 'Unitary Authorities' in Norfolk. Parish Council Chair, Brian Frith, gave a report of activities during the past year and gave the latest news on the Mains Sewerage Scheme, planning and highways issues etc. A summary of accounts was presented. Immediately following the Meeting, the Parish Council held its AGM. Brian Frith was re-elected Chair and Jan Tate was re-elected Vice-Chair.

Wednesday July 9th is the next Parish Council Meeting. This will start at 7pm with a presentation by a member of the 'Local Development Framework' team from Breckland on 'site specifics' for North Lopham. This will include any possible changes to the village settlement boundary, as a result of landowner requests to include (or exclude) land from possible future areas for development. There will opportunity for discussion on this important topic - which will shape possible development in our village for the next 20 years.

Breckland District Council Community Outreach is a mobile office for residents in rural communities that are suffering from housing problems; - rent/mortgage arrears, overcrowding or in need of property adaptations, insulation etc. It will come to the Village Hall for the first time on Tuesday 27th May at 10am, and then on the last Tuesday or Wednesday for the next five months. On 29th May at 7.30pm, there is a meeting for all residents of both Lophams' and Blo' Norton, to hear about the work of the Emergency Community Co-ordinators, who would be the points of contact in the event of sudden very severe weather, or local emergencies. If getting to the Hall is a problem, please phone 01379 687679, or Parish Clerks.



South Lopham Parish Council

The Annual Village Meeting took on a new format when 66 residents met with council members in the Village Hall on the evening of April 25th. Parish Council Chairman Peter Coster sought to foster a greater feeling of 'belonging' in the village by inviting residents to an informal gathering to hear not only about the work of the council over the year but to listen to talks from leaders of village organisations. Those present heard that Meetings with Planning and Housing officers have taken place, the appearance of the village was improved by a village 'clean up' and footpaths and hedges have been surveyed. The council continues to monitor road safety and is in constant touch with Highways. A question and answer session followed and discussion focused on the volume and speed of traffic through the village, with residents expressing their concern at both. The Chairman assured those present that the council would continue to seek measures to deal with speed and safety on the A1066 and B1113.

District Councillor William Nunn and County Councillor John Baskerville gave the meeting their perspective of council work at a higher level. Of particular interest was information on the Local Development Framework and the chance now given to residents to set the shape of the village for the next 20 years. A proposal was accepted to form a South Lopham Village Society. Peter Coster explained that he sought to form a society that would foster good community spirit, encourage civic pride and create a discussion forum for matters of interest to the village as well as providing social occasions. It was generally felt that the evening had been a success, with many residents meeting each other for the first time and learning about aspects of our village life in which they can participate.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Services for June at 10.45am;

- 1st June, Mr Cedric Wells of Garboldisham.
- 15th June, Mr P Mottram of Eye.
- 29th June, Mrs S Martin of Wicklewood.

A welcome to all. There will be a Supper & Raffle on 11th July.

Redgrave & Lopham Fen (for bookings phone 01473 892430)

Botanical Illustrations, Wednesdays 10am-1pm, June 4th & 18th, July 9th: With Christine Grey-Wilson, a professional

botanical illustrator and experienced tutor. £33 for 3 sessions or £12 per session. Placed limited. **Observation and Experimentation on Art for Beginners, Thursdays 10am-1pm, 5th June & 3rd July:** Use still life objects to experiment with textures to observe, draw and paint shapes. £7.50 per session. **Wide Skies and Wildlife, 24th-26th May and 31st May-1st June:** An exhibition of local landscape and wildlife photography by Drew Mellowship and Dawn Monrose. Entry by voluntary donation.

St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

At the recent annual meetings, Jean Stringfield and Richard Vere were re-elected as church wardens, and we welcomed Alan Briggs as a new member of the PCC.

St George's Day was marked by a Celebration of All that is England sung in a flag bedecked church, followed by a Bring & Share supper at Jean & Chris' home. **Pentecost - on 11th May** was celebrated with two services, the second one being "Music, Praise and Worship". It was great to have so many folk there to share this event. **The Coffee Morning** at Josie Gilbert's is on 4th June at Gables Farm, from 10am. If you aren't sure of the location or would like a lift, just contact 01379 687679. We guarantee the company, the refreshments, the raffle and the Bring & Buy stall, and to date, the weather has always been good too - so please come along and meet everyone! Please remember too **Holy Bingo**, with Rob & Jan in the Village Hall on 2nd at 2pm. **Advance notice: Scarecrow Festival - Sat & Sun 19th/20th July.**

St. Andrew's Church (South Lopham)

Scaffolding will be going up very soon for phase 1 of the roof works. This will involve taking off two sections of the roof to examine the underside to see what condition it is in. This phase has to be completed by the end of June. We understand scaffolding will be going up in the nave (the pulpit will have to be moved), both sides of the chancel arch and in the corresponding places outside the church. Depending on what is found will determine how they proceed. The Rector hopes that during this operation the church will continue with services in the chancel of the church, unless we are told otherwise. We will be very much in the hands of English Heritage and the Architect.

On Thursday 8th May, at the Archdeacon's Visitation to Wymondham, Peter Reeder and David Huggins were sworn in for duty as churchwardens for the coming year. We welcome David as our new churchwarden and thank Peter for carrying on and Archie

Wright for helping Peter as churchwarden last year.

The next session of the **Lophams' Holy Bingo**, run by the Rector and his wife Jan, is on Monday 2nd June, 2-4pm. There are normally six full games, which costs £1.50 (extra cards 50p each) and include a cup of tea and biscuits. We play for prizes and there is a raffle. All the money raised goes to North and South Lopham Churches.

The Upper Waveney Benefice has a website: www.upperwaveneybenefice.com with news about each church, services, forthcoming events, Rob's Blog, a user's poll and a forum for open discussion. The Rector is looking out for interesting pictures of the church and South Lopham in general.

Friends of South Lopham Church

The Friends of South Lopham Church would like to remind you that the **Strawberry Tea** is on Sunday 29th June this year and due to the possible restoration work going on at the church it will be held in the Village Hall, 3pm-5pm, with a cake stall, which is always very popular. We look forward to seeing you all once again. Thank you to all who braved the very cold windy Saturday morning and supported our **Car Boot Sale**. We made £210 for church funds - a very good morning's work under the circumstances. Also a big thank you to all those who helped in so many ways, it is very much appreciated.

Services for June

North Lopham South Lopham

1st June	
9.30am HC	11am HC
11am Fam S	-
8th June	
11am & 6.30pm	-
15th June	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
22nd June	
6.30pm H Com	11am School Serv

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