

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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June 2009

Benefice Festival - 5th July

The Lopham churches, along with Roydon, Bressingham and Fersfield will be open from 10.30am to 5.00pm, with floral displays and various stalls. Nine gardens within the five parishes will also be open. Refreshments and live music will be part of the day, which will conclude with a Songs of Praise service in one of the gardens at 5.30pm. Admission to the gardens will be £3 for adults, with children free, and all proceeds will go to church funds.

Lophams' Village Hall

County Council & European Elections are on 4th June. The Village Hall will be used as the Polling Station for the Lophams' after all - no need to travel to Kenninghall!

The Village Hall AGM is on Friday 26th June, in the Hall at 7.30pm. Everyone from the Lophams' is invited to come along.

The Garden & Crafts Fayre took place on a very cold and windy day, which forced some of the stalls to relocate inside. Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard to ensure that there was a warm and welcoming atmosphere, and to members of the New Buckenham Silver Band, and the Drumming Band, who provided entertainment. **The Mad & Merry Monarchs** production was greatly enjoyed by an audience of all ages. Congratulations to the talented 'Mad Dogs & Englishmen' company who worked so hard to put on such a good show. Their next production is "Othello" - look out for details of performances in the area.

Car Boot Sales accompany **Farmers' Markets** on the 4th Saturday of the month during the summer. The next one is on 27th June, from 9am to 12.30pm. For full details for potential stall holders, call Mike on 01379 687235. Car Boot details from Eileen on 01379 687515.

Judo continues on Mondays & Wednesdays - details from Howard on 1379 688258. **Dog Training** is on most Tuesday evenings - details from trainer Elaine on 07845 776110. **Ballroom Dancing** sessions are now on the 3rd or 4th Sunday of the month from 2.30pm. Contact Eileen on 01379 687515 to find out more. **Keep Fit** on Thursdays between 10 & 11am, with Ali Metcalfe from Hopton. She will add an extra session to help develop suppleness during June from 11 o'clock.

To book the Hall for private functions, please telephone 01379 687679.

Garden Club

At the end of April a few members spent a morning with a North Lopham resident

helping to put her garden "back on track". On Sunday May 10th members and guests enjoyed an excellent visit to Stody Lodge. The Azaleas and Rhododendrons in all their glorious colours set a spectacular scene. Topics for our next meetings at Blooms Garden Centre are: June 3rd - Hanging Baskets, July 1st - Fuschias. As always, new members and guests are very welcome. Phone 01953 681989 for more information.

Lophams Happy Circle

32 members enjoyed the trip to Bay Tree Nurseries and Springfields. The next trip will be to Kings Lynn and Sandringham on Tuesday 9th June. If anybody would like to go, please contact Daphne on 01379 687453 or Avis on 01953 681789.

Lophams' Ladies

At April's AGM, Sarah Frizzell agreed to serve a further year as chairperson. After the business, we heard a talk about Fair Trade and bought goods from an amazingly well stocked stall. Julian Flood spoke about Clematis at the May meeting - with amusing anecdotes and lovely slides which made the time flash by. Members are out to Adrian Bloom's Foggy Bottom Garden on 2nd June at 7pm, and on a Treasure Hunt by car in July. Visitors would be very welcome - please contact Sarah on 01379 687337, or Jennie on 687679, for times and further details. Members produced a wonderful array of cakes and goodies for a stall at the recent Garden Fayre and were thrilled to raise £96 for funds. Thank you all!

South Lopham Estates Charity

2½ acres of pasture land to rent called Carrs Allotment situated along Pooley Street, South Lopham. Please contact the Secretary on 01379 687337 for further details.

St. Andrew's School

The school is fortunate to have good friends in children's families and members of the

village communities. At present a local team is working very hard on the wild area of the grounds to establish a boggy area, rather than a pond, so that the children can learn about the plant and animal life that flourish in moist conditions. Thank you to the team, and to the Barhale contractors who have donated materials to help with the project.

We are grateful too to all those who collect tokens and vouchers throughout the year. Gardening equipment for the veggie patch has recently been delivered, books have been ordered for the reference library, and we will be searching the catalogues for ICT and sports goods after half term.

It is good to have all the statutory and other tests for this year completed in good time so that everyone can enjoy the half term break. Grateful thanks to the staff who had to rearrange timetables, and to those who gave up time to help with the organisation.

Community Lunch - June 16th. Please contact Jennie by Friday 12th on 01379 687679 if you would like to come along. The charge remains at £3.50, and the children run a raffle, with tickets costing 10p.

FOSTA members are very grateful to all those who joined in with the Yard Sales day on May 10th and donated 10% of their profits to FOSTA funds. St Andrew's Pre-School provided refreshments at Letchmere.

Redgrave & Lopham Fen

(for bookings phone 01379 688333)

Lane Arts brings you the **Insect Extravaganza, with the Insect Circus and more!** Sunday 31st May, 11am - 4pm. £4 adults, £2 children. Insect Circus performances at 12 and 3. All day activities including artist workshop, bug hunts, insect trails and Insect Circus. Food available.

North Lopham Parish Council

24 members of the public, in addition to Parish



Councillors, our District Councillor William Nunn and outgoing County Councillor John Baskerville attended the **Annual Village Open Meeting** on May 13th. Reports were received from a total of 11 village groups and organisations and these were followed by some lively discussion of the traffic through the village (with particular reference to the effect of the 7.5 ton weight restriction) and of the plans to try to get the lanes to the west of The Street registered as Public Rights of Way. At the following AGM, Brian Frith was re-elected Chair and Jan Tate Vice-Chair. Members agreed to make an entry in the EDP 'Pride of Norfolk Awards' 2009.

It was decided to ask the police to monitor traffic through the village in answer to concerns that some **HGVs** are ignoring the weight limit and using the village as a 'cut-through'. The Chair agreed to contact the management at Crown Chicken to discuss some of the points raised in the Open Meeting. Further investigation will be made to clarify the status of the lanes; anyone who has used the lanes (over the past few years or going back many years) is asked to contact the Clerk, Mike Cox (01379 688355) to enable the extent and type of use to be analysed. Three members and the Clerk had visited two **affordable housing** schemes and had been impressed by their design and situation. It was agreed that a representative of Hastoe Housing should make further investigations into possible sites for a scheme in the village before reporting back to an Open Meeting later in the year. The Clerk reported the **Bottle Bank** had 'earned' £83 in the few months between its installation and the end of March. It was decided to allocate this sum to offset some of the cost of "The Lophams' News" - to the benefit of everyone in the village.

South Lopham Parish Council

The **Annual Village Meeting** took place in the Village Hall on April 24th. Those present heard that the village had received a bequest of £1000 from the Lord of the Manor, that councillors had joined with North Lopham for a training evening, and the Precept for this year remains unchanged. Meetings with planning officers have taken place and there are plans to enhance the appearance of the village by planting bulbs on The Green. The council continues to monitor road safety and is investigating the possibility of a footpath in Church Road and a crossing on the A1066. Links with local organisations and businesses are maintained by having representatives on several committees. A question was asked regarding the persistent use of Church Road by HGVs despite the weight limit.

In his report, County Councillor John Baskerville told the meeting of his impending

retirement after 16 years service and was thanked for his support of the village during his term of office. William Nunn spoke of a particularly challenging year for local government and said that he was intending to stand for election to NCC. Talks followed, including; the work at St Andrews School, the renovation of St Andrews Church, news of the success of the Farmers' Market and the Village Hall. A full report of proceedings is on the notice board in the bus shelter.

The dedication of **Rolfe's Track** was held in May. This was the culmination of several months of negotiations by the Trust and the Parish Council to keep this ancient path linking Little Fen with the Redgrave Road from permanent closure.

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Services for June at 10.45am are;

- 7th June, Preacher Mr D Freeman of Rickingham.
- 21st June, Preacher Mrs A Spinnall of Stanton.

On 9th June there will be a **Bun & Basket** afternoon at 2.30pm. £1 entry for tea and bun. All proceeds for Chapel Funds. A welcome to all.

St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

The **St George's Day** Celebration of All that is England - an Evensong service including hymns with an 'English' connection, was followed by a bring-and-share supper 'feast' at Jean & Chris Stringfield's home, concluding with short sing song. Thank you Irene, for the printed words! We had an opportunity to thank **Bishop David** publicly for all his help and advice over the last seven years, especially in the formation of our Upper Waveney Benefice, when we shared in a Service of Thanks & Farewell at Bressingham on 3rd May.

On 31st May we will celebrate **Pentecost** - the Birthday of the Christian Church, with a great Birthday Party service for people of all ages at 11am. Do come along & join us!

There is a **Coffee Morning** on 3rd June at Josie Gilbert's home (Gables Farm), anytime from 10am. Have coffee and scones in her lovely garden, and a chance to catch up on the news, patronise the Bring & Buy Stall or try your luck in the huge Raffle. If transport is difficult, contact 01379 687679.

Friday Night is SNYSB Night on 5th June

in St Nicholas' Church with the youngsters of the South Norfolk Youth Symphonic Band and conductor Mike Booty. They play a wonderful mix of tunes - from films, shows, classics, and some written specially for wind bands. Their energy and enthusiasm is infectious. The concert begins at 7.30pm, and there is an interval for refreshments. Tickets are £4.50 from Jennie on 01379 697679 or ask any churchmember.

St. Andrew's Church (South Lopham)

On July 5th at 10.30am there will be a short "**Thought for the Day**" service. Whilst building work on repairing the nave roof continues, the chancel is still available for services and for anyone to visit.

The **Friends of South Lopham Church** are holding a **Garden Party** this year at Sunnymead, Fersfield Road, South Lopham, from 11am to 5pm on Sunday 28th June. Food and drinks will be available all day - sausage rolls, toasted sandwiches, filled rolls, scones, ice cream, finishing with strawberries & cream from 3-5pm. There will be various stalls, a treasure hunt for the children, photo quiz for the grown-ups and many more attractions. Please come along and spend as much or as little time as you like. We're hoping to make it a special day.

Services for June

North Lopham	South Lopham
7th June	
9.30am HC	-
11am Fam S	-
14th June	
11am Fam S	-
6.30pm MPW	-
21st June	
11am Fam S	9.30am HC
24th June	
11am Fam H Com	6.30pm ES

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