

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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November 2008

## Lophams' Village Hall

The **Bonfire and Firework** evening is on **Saturday 1st November**; gates open about 6pm and the fireworks start at 7pm. Admission is £6 for adults and £1 for children. As ever, there will be pork rolls, soup and drinks in the Hall, and children's novelties outside. The Children's Competition is "A Bonfire Picture", and Rosemary will receive all entries in the Hall between 6 and 7pm. Do join us for a fun filled evening! Thank you to all who have brought the 'right' kind of material for the fire, and to those who have been on duty to receive it at weekends.

The **October Quiz Night** was a fun evening for all who attended, and raised about £200 for our funds - grateful thanks to our quizmaster and everyone who helped in any way. **Ballroom Dancing** sessions continue at the Hall on the third Thursday of the month, from 7 to 9pm, at a cost of just £4. Just contact Eileen on 01379 687515 to find out more. **Farmers' Markets** are on the fourth Saturday each month - from 9am to 12.30pm, and now have Car Boots outside - for just £5 each. Market details from Mike on 01379 687235. **Dog Training Classes** are Tuesdays, from 6-7pm. Details from Elaine on 07845 776110. **To book the hall for private functions, please phone 01379 687679.**

### Remembrance Sunday

9th November 2008

Please support the local Poppy Appeal.

### 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 or training. If you would like to be considered for financial help please write, giving details, to Mr W Vernon, 47 The Street, North Lopham.

### Lophams' Happy Circle

28 members joined in a beautiful meal at the Village Hall, once again catered for by The White Horse. The next meeting will be a Bring & Buy on Thursday 13th November. Anybody wanting to get in touch with the Club, please ring Daphne on 01379 687453 or Avis on 01953 681789.

### Lophams' Ladies

Mrs Sarah Frizzel (chairman) welcomed everyone to the very well attended October meeting. Mrs Mary Baxter spoke about Rickinghall and District Archive. She had an amazing collection of photographs to show us. We look forward to a theatre visit in November. If anyone would like to join us please contact Mrs S Frizzell on 01379 687337.

### Lophams' Ramblers

We have two more walks this year, in November and December, and then a break until February of next year. The pace is leisurely and we are usually out for about

two and a half hours. If you would like to join the group please ring Jackie Brown on 01379 687260 for further information.

### St. Andrew's School

The **Harvest Festival** service in St Nicholas' Church was a very happy occasion, with lots of parents there to enjoy the acting, readings, pictures and singing. Class 3 put on a very professional version of the Maximus (Harvest) Mouse story; Class 2 wrote their own harvest poem and Class 1 performed the Scarecrow song. Mr East helped us to understand how much we depend on ingredients from round the world for the most popular meals. Afterwards there was a chance for parents to chat with headteacher, Simon East, as they shared refreshments served by FOSTA. Simon East is to be officially "Commissioned" as Headteacher of the Partnership with Bressingham School at a service in Bressingham Church at 11am on 2nd November. Please take this as YOUR invitation to go along to support him and his family, as well as our two schools.

The newly elected **School Council** has planned a 'Pink' Day for their first fundraising event. The children are allowed to wear something 'pink' on the last day of the half term, and FOSTA will provide 'pink' goodies for sale. All profits are for Cancer Research.

The new playground equipment is partly constructed off-site, and ready for erection. After complications created by additional works required to the laying of the new playground, it is planned to complete the installation by the end of October - so everything should be in place when the children return after half term. Hurrah!!

**Community Lunches** continue, with the next on Tuesday 18th November, at 12

noon. After the October lunch, our community friends shared some of their memories of the Great Storm in 1987 with the junior children, as part of their Trees topic this term, combining science, history and geography. As places are limited, please contact Jennie Vere (01379 687679) by 14th November if you would like to come to the lunch. Transport can be arranged, if required.

**FOSTA** will hold a Ceilidh at the Lophams' Village Hall on Friday 21st November, as part of the celebrations for St Andrew, whose day is on 30th. To find out more, or to book tickets, just speak to a FOSTA member, or contact Gillian Rednall (01379 687225). It would be great to have lots of local residents joining the children and parents on the night.

### Calling all 11 to 19s?

This message is for YOU!

Breckland Council is planning to set up a '**Breckland Youth Council**', holding elections for the 15 available seats in February 2009. Successful candidates will stand on the Youth Council for one year, and will be given training and support (including travel expenses for meetings). Lopham teenagers are eligible to be candidates and to have a vote in this election, even if they attend a school which is not in the Breckland area (e.g. at Diss, Eye, Norwich). Leaflets are being distributed through schools including Diss High (contact Mrs Arnold), or you can learn more by phoning Cat Lang or Caroline Cox on 01362 656870, e-mailing youth@breckland.gov.uk or picking up a leaflet as you get off the bus at Church Corner, or from North Lopham Post Office. Don't miss this chance to 'have your say' and find out more about how Councils work.



## Redgrave & Lopham Fen (for bookings phone 01473 892430)

**Hedgelaying** - Wednesday 19th November, 11am-1pm. Including photos, tools, and demonstration. £5 (optional lunch £4 - please book by Friday 14th). **Arrangements for Christmas. Make a door hanging or a table decoration.** Sunday 30th November, 10am-4pm. £7.50 (all material provided, including coffee and a mince pie). Bookings at half hourly intervals.

## North Lopham Parish Council

The next meeting of North Lopham Parish Council is on Wednesday 12th November, in the Methodist Schoolroom. The presentation on 'Affordable Housing' has been postponed until the January meeting, so our November meeting will start at the usual time of 7.30pm. As always, members of the public are very welcome to attend.

You may have noticed that work on the sewerage scheme is now in full swing! With most of the work taking place in 'The Street' (and eventually 'The Green'), it is inevitable that there is traffic disruption during the working day, but the contractors do their best to leave the road accessible in the evenings and overnight. Many people have already had quotations for making the connection from the main (public) sewer to their own system. Don't forget that there is a list (for information only - no guarantees or recommendations!) of some contractors wishing to quote for the work on the noticeboard at Letchmere.

After several months of uncertainty we have heard that the pub is 'Under Offer'. We hope that will turn into an actual sale in the not too distant future, so that The Kings Head will once again be open for business. It's clear that there is much to be done to return it to its former glory, but we hope that new owners will be able to do what is necessary in the short term to get it back to a usable standard and that there is then plenty of support from the village to make it a viable commercial venture and make further improvements possible in the future.

## North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Services for November at 10.45am;

- 2nd November,  
Preacher Mr D Freeman of Rickinghall.
- 16th November,  
Preacher Mr Browne of Mildenhall.
- 30th November,

Preacher Mrs Cole of Thetford.

**Preliminary notice:** There will be a **Carol Service** on 7th December at 2.30pm, with proceeds to National Children's Home. A very warm welcome to all at these services.

## St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

**Harvest Weekend:** Two well attended services led by the rector, Revd Rob Mellowship, took place in a beautifully decorated church. We were grateful to the choir members who led the music and sang their new anthem in the evening. And many thanks go to all who supported our Gift Day on the Monday. It is good to have such goodwill in the community. Funds are still coming in, so the result will be published next time.

**The Songs of Praise** gave us the opportunity to sing a baker's dozen of great hymns. It was lovely to have so many there to join in, and stay on for fellowship afterwards. **North Lopham's Pet Service** will be reported next time. Thanks to all who came!!

We are very pleased to have new babies in the village again, and invite them and their mums to join the **Buggy Club** - but in a new venue - in The Mess, during Playgroup sessions for older siblings. Please come along on alternate Tuesdays, starting on 4th November at 10.30am, to get to know each other and share a drink and a chat. It would be lovely to welcome mums-to-be, in advance of their happy event.

**November's services have some changes** to the published programme. Please note the details below. No 11am on 2nd (due to Mr East's Commissioning) or on 9th (due to RBL Remembrance service), but a 9am Communion on 9th. **Armistice Day** - 11th at 11am. We plan to hold the annual ceremony at the War Memorial, with the juniors from St Andrew's and personnel from Lakenheath joining local veterans. The Barhale contractors will do their best to enable the event to proceed as smoothly as usual. On 30th, **Advent Sunday**, we have a very special day - The Group Communion at 10am, a double Baptism at noon, then our **Advent Carol Service** at 6.30pm. Please join us at the beginning and end of this very exciting day! (Phone 01379 687679 for transport).

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

**Teddy Bears** had a lovely time at the picnic and some were brave enough to abseil from the tower. It was beautiful weather and

visitors who managed the climb enjoyed some terrific views from the tower. The day was enjoyed by everyone, children and grownups alike.

Don't forget the **Coffee Morning**, with a taste of Christmas, on Wednesday 26th November, 10am to midday. Please come and bring your friends and enjoy coffee and a mince pie. There will be plenty of homemade produce for sale plus a bric-a-brac stall.

**The Harvest Supper** was a great success. A particular thank you to Cynthia Huggins and Mike Shipperlee for their hard work providing suppers for 84 people and to everyone who helped make the evening so enjoyable.

**A message from the Rector:** The Rector and the Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist Church, Bressingham, invite you and your partner, your members or a representative of your organisation to a commissioning service of Mr Simon East, the new Head Teacher for the Partnership of St Andrew's CEVA School and Bressingham School on Sunday 2nd November at 11am in Bressingham Church. Please R.S.V.P. to the Rector. If you cannot attend you may wish to send a message of support and encouragement to be read out at the service.

## Services for November

North Lopham      South Lopham

### 2nd November

9.30am HC      -

### 9th November

9.30am HC      10.55am RBL  
6.30pm ES+Rem      Remembrance

### 16th November

11am Fam S      9.30am HC

### 23rd November

11am Fam HC      6.30pm ES

### 30th November

10am Group HC      -

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