

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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Captain M.A.N. Mansbridge

It is with great sadness that I report the recent death of Captain 'Leslie' Mansbridge. Known to many in our villages, he founded The Lophams' News in 1982, and supported it passionately ever since, only relinquishing his role as editor late last year. He was a unique character, wonderful in conversation, and a good friend. I shall miss him greatly, as will many others. *(Steve Milbourne - Editor)*

Postal submissions for The Lophams' News should now be sent to my office address at: *Profile Business Supplies, Old School Hall, Well Street, Bury St. Edmunds, IP33 1EQ.* Thank you.

Lophams' Village Hall

Winston, the Singing Farmer provided a non-stop evening of songs and gentle humour in September. The appreciative audience were particularly impressed with the range of sounds produced by one man's voice and mouth organ!

The **Bonfire & Fireworks Event** is on Saturday 7th November. Many thanks to all those who are bringing garden prunings and wood for the fire each weekend, and thanks for not bringing unacceptable materials! On the day, the fire will be lit in time for the gate opening, about 6pm, and the fireworks will begin about 7pm. Admission is £5 for adults and £2 for school children. There will be the usual pork rolls, soup and drinks, fun items to buy, and the usual children's competition inside the Hall. Once again, a fun evening for all ages is planned, so do come along.

The organisers hope the first draw for the **Lophams' Village Hall Lottery** will take place at the **Farmers' Market** on 28th November. Remember, you've got to be in it to have a chance of winning! Full details and entry forms are available at the Market and events, or via committee members (contact 687515 or 687718). For Market details, call Mike on 01379 687235.

Judo continues on Mondays & Wednesdays (details from Howard on 01379 688258). **Dog Training** is on most Tuesday evenings. Trainer Elaine (07845 776110) will provide information. **Keep Fit** is on Thursday's from 9.45am, followed by **Stretch & Tone** at 11am with Ali Metcalfe. **To book the Hall** for private functions please contact 01379 687679. To find out more about the Hall generally, visit www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk

Lophams' Ladies

It was a real privilege to have Paul Read speaking about 'Orchards & Fruits of the Waveney Valley' at the special Open Meeting, and good to welcome so many guests. In

November we are off to the Theatre Royal at Bury to see 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. The bus will leave North Lopham at 6pm.

Garden Club

Apologies to all who turned up for the October meeting. Due to unforeseen circumstances the meeting had to be abandoned. However, we hope that members, old or new, and guests will come along to hear Mr Mike Learner speak on "The Sex Life of the Honey Bee", on Wednesday 4th November at the Bressingham Garden Centre restaurant at 7.30pm. Tickets for our Christmas Dinner, on 2nd December, will be on sale. Phone 01953 681989 for further information.

Lophams' Happy Circle

Nearly all members of the Lophams' Happy Circle were able to enjoy the superb meal, cooked by the South Lopham White Horse, to celebrate the Clubs 60th Birthday. The cake was cut by Mrs Gilbert. Entertainment was provided by The Stringalongs, who were excellent. The next meeting will be a Bring & Buy on November 12th. For further information please ring Avis on 01953 681789 or Daphne on 01379 687453.

St. Andrew's Pre School

The children all enjoyed Chocolate Week, where they found out about the beans from which it is made and the different types, as well as enjoying that special taste in their own home-made treats! Now there is no BT phone line to The Mess, please call Julie on 07549 154473 if you would like to know more about the group, have a story to tell, or a skill to share with the children.

St. Andrew's School

The Harvest Festival Service in South Lopham Church gave the children

opportunities to sing special songs, write a Harvest acrostic poem and re-tell a Bible story, before the Revd Ben Sasada used one small matchbox of wheat seeds to illustrate God's great generosity. All the tins, jars and packets the children brought to the service have been taken to the Norwich Night Shelter to help homeless people.

Book Week was exciting, with teachers swapping classes to tell stories. There was a book cover design competition, with winners from each year group presented with a prize, donated by FOSTA. **Autumn Planting Day** saw every class and lots of volunteer parents helping with a mammoth clear-up of the grounds before planting began. Many thanks to everyone involved. Thanks too for the 'grow your own' vouchers being collected to help with restocking and caring for the veggie plot.

In November, Class 3 will share in the **Remembrance Ceremony** at the War Memorial and plant their crosses. Nearer the end of the month an **Open Afternoon** will give folk the chance to come and see all the children at work in our lovely airy rooms.

The Community Lunch for November will be on Tuesday 17th. If you haven't been before you would be most welcome. To book, just contact Jennie on 687679 by Friday 13th, then come to The Mess at 12 noon. The cost is £3.50, and the children organise a raffle, with tickets just 10p each.

Redgrave & Lopham Fen

(for bookings phone 01379 688333)

Art Exhibition: Sat 31st Oct & Sun 1st Nov, 10am-4pm. **Youth Forum for 10-16 year olds:** Sat 21st November, 11am-3pm. Free. Booking essential. **Christmas Workshop:** Sun 29th November, 10am-4pm. Make a wreath or table decoration. Material supplied. £10 or £7.50, including coffee and mince pie. Booking essential.



