

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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October 2007

## New Facilities for Botesdale Health Centre

The centre is expanding the range of services provided for its patients with the addition of a Diagnostic Suite, including both x-ray and ultrasound systems. The practice doctors will fund the £150,000 x-ray machine, while £30,000 for the ultrasound equipment will be raised locally with the help of the Friends of Botesdale Health Centre. They are planning an Auction of Promises event in Rickinghall Village Hall on Friday 16th November and are seeking willing participants. The idea is that donors contribute promises to provide a service or goods to the highest bidder. For more information please contact Pauline on 01379 898279 or Sara on 01379 898642.

### St. Andrew's School

The new term started just as a wonderful spell of sunny weather was beginning - the children looked very smart as they came into the bright and shining building, and so far there have been no muddy feet to spoil the floors! (Thank you, Mrs Baker, for all your hard work throughout the holiday).

It is good to see the new children settling in so well with their new teacher Mrs Caroline Gionis, and we are very pleased to have Mrs Barnet in school with us too. As the Partnership develops, there is more staff 'sharing' - Mrs Ebbs spends some time at Bressingham, and we welcome Mrs Common to North Lopham each week.

Everyone worked incredibly hard to put on a very polished Harvest Festival service in South Lopham Church less than two weeks into the new term. The children used the letters of the word HARVEST to make new words, as we thought about all the things we HAVE to EAT, and the need to SHARE so that others do not STARVE. The goodies brought to the service will be shared with local people next week; the collection will help with providing Seeds for Africa - the school charity for this year.

Children from the schools at Lopham, Bressingham and Roydon will take part in a concert at Diss High School on Thursday 11th October, alongside various adult groups, as we celebrate the formation of the Upper Waveney Benefice - our still rather new group of church parishes. We look forward to seeing lots of parents and friends there too!

The whole school community was very sad to hear the news that Sharon Teteris had died recently - she was a much loved mum to Rocky, and a welcome face at school, helping in the dining room, or working in the school grounds. A real friend to everyone. We will miss her lovely smile, and send sincere sympathy to Martin, Rocky and all the family.

### Lophams' Happy Circle

There were 27 of us on the coach to Lowestoft. We had a lovely time and the sun was shining all day. The next meeting will be the Birthday Party at the Village Hall on 11th

October. If anybody wants to know anything about the Club please contact Daphne on 01379 687453 or Avis on 01953 681789.

### North Lophams Playgroup & Parent, Baby, Toddler Group

**Playgroup** is back after a nice summer break, and we welcome some new children to our group. Sessions are weekdays from 9 - 11.30am (£5), with Lunch Club 11.30am - 1pm (£3.50). There is government funding available for all 3 year olds. We will be holding a Fancy Dress Halloween Disco on Wednesday 31st October, from 5.30 - 7pm in The Mess. All children from 2 - 11 years are welcome. **Parent, Baby, Toddler Group** meets every Thursday from 2 - 3.15pm in The Mess. Please come along for a chat, and play with lots of nice toys. For more information please contact Julie on 01379 687769 or Cherilyn on 01379 688116.

### Lophams' Village Hall

**Bonfire & Fireworks Evening:** This will be held on Saturday 3rd November from 7.30pm. Admission is £6, children £1. There will be all the usual attractions - children's competition and bonfire night accessories, hot pork rolls, soup and drinks etc. The firework display will begin at 7.30pm and promises to be really spectacular. Burnable material may be taken to the field, but please do not deposit metal or plastic items. The children's competition is 'AGuy Fawkes Hat', which can be decorated in any way. There are two classes, 6 years and under, and 7 years and over. Contact 01953 681201 for more details.

**Fashion Show:** Lophams' Village Hall committee are presenting a very special Fashion Show on Thursday 18th October at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Given by Lesley Jackson of Harleston, the evening includes champagne and canapés within the ticket price of £10. Tickets are available from the Farmers' Market or on 01379 687515.

**Concert:** An evening of traditional English music by the Old Hat concert party is on 17th November at 8pm in the Hall. There will be a bar and tickets will be £6, available from the Farmers' Market or on 01379 687515.

**Garden Club:** Members had an interesting evening when Ken Samman spoke on Autumn Delights. The October meeting on the 3rd at 7.30pm will have the radio gardener Ian Rooft's talk on Exotics. This meeting will be held at Blooms Garden Centre. Further details on 01379 688121 or 01379 687515.

### Lophams' Ladies

There was an excellent attendance at the September meeting when Mrs Gloria Daines spoke about Victorian and Edwardian clothes. An amazing collection of items were viewed, many having an amusing and interesting history. On Tuesday 2nd October, at 7.30pm, Mrs Jean Collins will speak about the charity parachute jump she made. Visitors are welcome, and help can be given with transport. Contact 01379 687337 for more information.

### 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, 43 The Street, North Lopham.

### Redgrave and Lopham Fen

(All enquiries & Bookings - 01379 688333)

**Apple Day:** Sunday 7th October, 10am - 5pm. Adults £2, children £1. Bring an apple, pear, plum, quince or even a nut for an expert to help identify it. Apple and juice samples and sales, plants and fruit trees, gifts, games and crafts. **The Role of Photography in Conversation lecture:** Wednesday 17th October, 11am - 1pm. £4, optional lunch £3 - book by Sunday. **Rap to the Fen:** Monday 22nd October, 10am - 4pm. £7. Explore sounds of the environment, create your own rap music. Ages 10 - 16. **Swanning About:** Tuesday 23rd October, 10am - 12 noon. £3.



## North Lopham Parish Council

At the September meeting there was discussion of the level of Precept (the money collected by the Parish Council through the Council Tax) for next year in view of the additional expense of the contract for maintenance of the Burial Ground. All present agreed that it was important to maintain a good impression of this area as it is the first part of the village seen by most visitors and felt that the extra expense was worthwhile. It is likely that the Precept will need to be increased by £200 (about £1 per household) to cover this. A final decision will be taken at the meeting in November. Unfortunately, to add to our financial concerns, the 'bottle bank' will not be arriving in the foreseeable future, due to problems with the proposed site at 'The Kings Head', caused by the sale of the pub by the group which currently owns it. We hope that we will be able to re-instate the scheme when the situation becomes clearer.

You may have noticed teams of surveyors in the village preparing for the Mains Drainage Scheme, on which work is scheduled to commence next summer. Anglian Water have told us that they hope to hold a 'surgery' at which residents can find out more detail and seek answers to any questions they might have. The date has not yet been fixed, but we will do our best to let everyone know as soon as possible. There was also discussion at the last meeting of a Norfolk County Highways proposal to introduce a 7.5 tonne 'Loading Only' restriction on roads through the village. Although all present thought that a reduction in the number of heavy vehicles using the narrow roads would be welcome, there was concern from some members of the Council that this could have very adverse effects on some businesses and on similarly narrow roads which would have to be used as alternative routes. Our comments have been submitted to Norfolk Highways and we await a further round of consultation. The next planned meeting of the Parish Council is Wednesday 14th November.

## North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Members of the Chapel are grateful to all those who helped in any way with the flower "Festival of Seasons" over the Harvest weekend, either by producing beautiful floral displays or by assisting with the publicity, refreshments and practical arrangements. It was a great pleasure to welcome a steady stream of visitors to admire the building as well as the flowers. To date, over £600 has been raised. The supper in August was well attended and raised £354. Services for October at 10.45am (everyone welcome);

- 7th October, Preacher Mr Freeman.
- 21st October, Preacher Rev Colin Telfer of Diss.

## Lophams' "Harvest" Supper

On Saturday 20th October (7.30pm prompt), by popular demand, there will once again be a Hog Roast at the Harvest Supper, courtesy of Mike Shipperlee and 'Hogs at Home', with a vegetarian option, and the usual accompaniments. Tickets at £7, obtainable from PCC members in both villages, are selling well so please order yours soon; we look forward to seeing you there!

## Samaritan's Purse - Shoe-box Appeal

As the colder days arrive and thoughts turn to winter festivals, would you spare a thought for the children, especially across Eastern Europe, for whom the winter is a long, cold endurance test with little enjoyment in prospect? Samaritan's Purse arranges the transport of gaily decorated shoe boxes filled with gifts to brighten their days. If you would like to fill a box, but need more information, please contact 01379 687 679 for details. Filled boxes can be brought to St. Andrew's School, or to St. Nicholas' Church, any time up to mid November, in time to be transported in early December.

## St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

**The Super Six - Reunion Concert**, fully met every expectation. The programme included classical solos, an amazing piano duet and songs from a host of well known shows, as well as more songs from "Wicked" - the latest smash hit West End musical, already a firm favourite. The concluding selection from "Les Miserables" demanded an encore - appropriately, "One more day" from the same show. It was a thrill to give the Six substantial cheques as our 'thank you'. **The Pet Service** was once again a happy and successful event, with a good array of pets there to receive a blessing (and a treat). **Buggy Club** continues on the second & fourth Tuesday each month at 10.30am. We were pleased to make paper butterflies for Summer at the Chapel festival. At the time of writing, **Harvest Thanksgiving** time is almost here - many thanks to everyone who is involved in any way - decorating church, attending services or contributing to Gift Day. Your support is greatly valued.

**The Upper Waveney Benefice Concert** at Diss High School on Thursday 11th October, starting at 6pm, will involve all age groups, and the audience too, in a lighthearted celebration. Please come and join the fun.

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

This year's **Harvest Supper** will be on Saturday 20th October in the Village Hall.

The meal will include a Hog Roast followed by a homemade pudding. Please contact Monica Reeder on 01379 687273 to book a place. Wednesday 28th November is the date of the next **Coffee Morning**. On this occasion there will be a Christmas flavour with homemade mince pies. Please come along and bring your friends - everyone is welcome. The PCC wishes to thank Ken Hatton for organising this year's excellent craft fair. In total, the weekend raised £1,438 towards the church restoration funds.

## Friends of South Lopham Church

The Friends are pleased to report another successful Craft Fair raising £1174.06. In addition the PCC raised £264.00 with their lovely refreshments and by opening the tower. Lots of people came to support us and it is very much appreciated. We would also like to thank the many people who supplied cakes, raffle prizes etc. and the many crafts people for making it a special event. Many thanks too to the people who put so much effort into making it the success it was. All in all a very good weekend, even the weather was kind to us! The Friends would like to remind you of the next event which is **Afternoon Tea and Bingo** in the Village Hall at 2pm- 5pm on Wednesday 3rd October. Come and join us and hopefully a good time will be had by all. On the evening of Friday 14th December we are holding a **Dickensian Christmas Evening** when we hope to serve mince pies and mulled wine; please make a diary note. Full details will be advertised later.

## Services for October

### North Lopham South Lopham

#### 7th October

9.30am HC	-
11am MS	11am HC

#### 14th October

11am Fam Serv	11am MS
6.30pm ES	-

#### 21st October

11am Fam Serv	9.30am HC
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#### 28th October

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