

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No.292

PUBLISHED EACH MONTH SINCE 1982

September 2006

Lophams' Ladies

On a fine pleasant evening members recently enjoyed a garden meeting at Mrs Jill Brundell's home in South Lopham. The immaculate gardens and grounds were viewed before taking part in competitions and enjoying refreshments. On Tuesday 5th September, Mrs June Shephard will speak about St. Nicholas Hospice at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Visitors are very welcome

Jumble, Car Boot Sale - This will be held at the Hall on Saturday 16th September from 2pm. We are grateful for Jumble please. Car boots are £4 and can be set up from 12.30pm. There is no need to book ahead. Jumble can be brought to the Hall from 10am or can be collected. Refreshments are available. Contact 01953 681201 or 01379 687679.

Village Hall

Farmers' Market - The next market will be held on Saturday 24th September from 9am - 1pm. Contact 01379 687235.

Hall Bookings - For private parties, meetings, or other occasions please contact Jennie Vere on 01379 687679.

Don't Miss your Chance to Learn to Dance! - A series of Tea Dances will take place on Sundays from 2.30pm - 4.30pm, starting on 3rd September. Beginners and experienced dancers are all welcome. The cost is just £4 (for details, or to book lessons etc, phone 01379 783114).

South Lopham Parish Council

The Council wish to place on record their thanks to the memory of Mrs O.V. Aston. As a founder of The Lophams' News she contributed greatly to the encouragement and support of village activities and as a source of real local news. Her contribution to village life will be greatly missed by all her many readers.

The Council are pleased to report that the Passenger Transport Unit at County Hall has arranged a link via North and South Lopham for the Saturday bus service to Bury St. Edmunds. A minibus will collect passengers from both villages and connect at Garboldisham with the Simonds 338 bus. This will give passengers 3½ hours in Bury. Given that we lost our entire service to Bury recently this is good news, but villagers should be aware that this service will run for an experimental period only - from September 2nd until the end of March 2007. If there are insufficient passengers we cannot expect the service after March. So, use it or lose it!

St. Andrew's School

The Leavers' Assembly and Presentation afternoon was held on the school field this

year, the first time it has been outside. The piano was carefully transported across the back playground (thank you Mr Prentice) before the orchestra played as parents and friends watched the children come out to their places. The programme included favourite songs, items by the Singing Club and the Year 6 memories of significant events during their time at St Andrew's. There were presentations of cups and trophies for sporting, arts and classroom achievements, in addition to the gift of a Bible to each Leaver. We send very best wishes to all those who will be going to a new school in September, and look forward to welcoming new pupils to Reception, and also to the junior classes at St Andrew's.

The school buildings have been occupied most of the holidays, while a variety of important jobs have been carried out. Most obvious is the work of the painters who have decorated all the exterior woodwork. A very special thank you must go to our caretaker, Mrs Baker, who has had to fit all her summer jobs in round all these other people!

The Bacon Exhibition Endowment Fund

This is a small educational fund available to those between the ages of 5 and 25 years, who live in or attend a school in the villages of Wortham, Burgate, Gislingham, Rickingham, Botesdale, Redgrave, Hinderclay, Blo' Norton, South Lopham or Bressingham. If you wish to apply, write to the Clerk: Mrs R Powell, Fir Tree Cottage, Redgrave, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 1SD, by the end of September.

North Lopham Parish Council

Following all the recent rain, the pond is now full and overflowing through its outlet alongside Tanns Lane. Grass and tree shoots are beginning to appear through the mud in some places - though it is still very soft where there was a deep layer of mud - so the orange netting will remain in place for a long time to prevent accidents. Many

people have said that they have memories and/or photos of how the pond used to look. If you have any old photos (or even recent photos taken before or during the renovation work), or particular stories to pass on, please get in touch with Brian Frith (01379 688042). Any original photos provided will be copied and returned to the owner. When we 'open' the new pond sometime next year, it would be good to have a 'Then & Now' exhibition.

As the Autumn approaches, please could all residents make sure hedges alongside footways are trimmed, paying particular attention to brambles and other thorny plants - which can cause injury to pedestrians, especially as the nights begin to close in and obstructions are more difficult to see.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 13th September at 7.30pm in the Methodist Schoolroom. All welcome.

FUN DAY

There will be a Fun Day at the Kings Head for Village Pond (Letchmere) Restoration. Everyone is invited to a FUN afternoon at the Kings Head on Sunday 27th August, from 1pm. There will be Live Music, Fun for all ages, Stalls and a Raffle. Proceeds will go to the village pond restoration project. If you would like to have a stall, call the Pub (01379 687 320) to book your pitch (£5 plus 10% of takings). More information is on the village website: www.northlopham.org.uk (on the pub page). On the day - **Remember to Come Along!!**

Redgrave & Lopham Fen (All Enquiries & Bookings - 01379 688333)

Apple Day - Sunday 8th October, 10am - 5pm. Bring an apple or pear for identification by East of England Apple and Orchard Project with 100 varieties of apples



