

# THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

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September 2007

## Biggest Coffee Morning in the World

All are invited to join the local Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care, in the Village Hall on Friday 28th September, from 10.15 to 12 noon. There will be a Raffle and Bring & Buy Stall in addition to the chance to chat over coffee & biscuits, while raising money for this very worth-while cause. (*J Vere & Ladies*)

### Lophams' Ladies

Members and visitors spent an enjoyable evening recently decorating Ceramic Tiles. Each person chose their own design and worked under the supervision of Tonya Attwood. A wide variety of patterns were created in a relaxed atmosphere. We look forward to having Mrs Gloria Daines at our meeting on 4th September, who will bring a wide variety of items to show us, her talk entitled 'Grandma's Drawers'. Visitors are very welcome at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

**Jumble, Car Boot Sale** - Our Annual Sale will take place on Saturday 29th September from 1.30pm. We are grateful for Jumble and can collect, or it can be left at the Hall from 10am. Car Boots are £4 and may be set up from 12.30pm. Light refreshment available. Please contact 01953 681201 or 01379 687679.

### Lophams' Village Hall

At the AGM of the Management Committee, Malcolm Birchall was re-elected Chairman. Grateful thanks were expressed to Rosemary Cook, retiring as Vice-chair. Mike Shipperlee was elected in her place, with Neil Lawson replacing him as Treasurer. Other office holders were confirmed for a further term. Before the business, a group of local youngsters put forward a plea for the provision of a skateboard park at the field. It was good to have them with us, to show us the research they have done and to listen to their views. The committee will now do its own homework into the logistics of such an undertaking, and the extent of local need from surrounding villages. **Fashion Show** is planned for Thursday 18th October, and a concert evening featuring traditional country instruments and their music on 17th November.

**Farmers' Market** - The next market is on 22nd September. New providers of fresh local produce are always being sought - contact Mike on 01379 687 235. For those looking for a great alternative to barbecues, Mike offers Hogs at Home - a hog roast using a local pig for that special family party!

**Sunday Tea Dances** recommence in September, with new people always welcome at 2.30pm. **Judo Classes** - Monday and Wednesday evenings - contact 01379 688258. **Happy Circle** - contact 01379 687453. **Dog Training** - Thursday evenings - contact Harry Carter on 01379 687527. **Extend Exercise**

**Class for the Over 60's** - Wednesday from 9.30 - 11am - contact 01379 643212. **Private Bookings** - contact 01379 687679.

### Lophams' Happy Circle

There were quite a number of people on the Yarmouth outing recently, including several children. It was overcast, but not cold. Everyone enjoyed themselves. The last outing is to Lowestoft. Anyone wishing to go should contact Daphne on 01379 687453.

### Redgrave and Lopham Fen

(All enquiries & Bookings - 01379 688333)

**Beginners Art Course** - 6th Sept, 10am-1pm: £24, booking essential. **Botanical Illustration** - Sept 12th, 10am - 1pm: £44, booking essential. **East Anglian Miscellany** - Thursdays, 2 - 4pm, 20th Sept to 18th Oct. **Too many Books?** - Donate for our annual Book Sale on 15th & 16th Sept.

### The Bacon Trust

This small Educational Fund is available once a year to those between the age of 5 and 25 years who live or attend school in the villages of Redgrave, Botesdale, Rickingham, Wortham, Burgate, Gislingham, Hinderclay, Blo' Norton, South Lopham and Bressingham. If you wish to apply, please do so by the end of September 2007 to: Mrs R Powell, 2 Fir Tree Cottage, Redgrave, Diss, IP22 1SD.

### St. Andrew's School

We had an impressive Leavers' Service at the end of the Summer term, with contributions from the choir and our talented orchestra, - and with some very proud parents there to see their children receive cups, shields and certificates of many kinds. Well done to them all! We said "goodbye, but not goodbye" to Chris Knight during that service. After 26 years of close involvement with St. Andrew's, as a parent, volunteer, student and class teacher, she is going to Bressingham School in September as the teacher of the Year 3/4 pupils, but will still be at St. Andrew's one afternoon each week in connection with her work with Special Needs across both schools. We will miss her day by day presence, but hope she will be very happy, down the road. In her place we look

forward to welcoming Caroline Gionis as our Class 1 teacher. She has been in on several days and is already making lots of friends among both children and staff. In addition to all the presentations to Mrs Knight and the leavers, our leavers gave the school an impressive music centre. We send them off to their various High Schools with very best wishes for continuing successes.

All the visitors at the end of term admired some of the wonderful stained 'glass' panels, designed and made by the children, following the cathedral visit, when they saw the exhibition "The life of Jesus through the eyes of an artist". The hall glowed with the coloured light as the sun shone through. The panels were made for a Cathedral competition, and several of our entries were on display there. Just into the holidays, the wonderful news arrived that our pupils had been awarded prizes - Lily Nunn was placed first, and Luke Owen joint second. Congratulations - We are all basking in the reflected glory!! They were both able to go to the prize presentation at the Cathedral in early August.

As the new school years begins, we give a warm welcome to all the new children that arrive for their first day at St Andrew's. We hope they will settle in quickly and be very happy with us all.

### North Lopham Parish Council

The next meeting will be on Wednesday September 12th (7.30pm in the Methodist Schoolroom). As well as the usual items on the agenda, there will be a discussion of the financial state of the Council. The contract for cutting the grass at the Burial Ground has worked well, but, as we expected, it is more expensive than when the job was done, as for many years in the past, by local residents. This leaves us with a likely 'overspend' this year. Although our reserves could stand this for the time being, this should not be allowed to continue indefinitely. Do you have a view on what we should do? If so, come along and join in the discussion!

There will soon be a '**Bottle Bank**' at The Kings Head (by kind permission of licensees, Owen and Sarah Clark). Evidence from other Councils indicates that, over a full year, we



should gain several hundred pounds in 'recycling credits'. It has been agreed that half of this will go to Parish Council funds (maybe helping to solve the problem detailed above?) and the rest to village 'good causes'. Please save up your bottles and jars and make good use of this facility. We have been promised that the Bank will arrive in the next week or two.

**A reminder to cut back hedges** - in several places the footways are being obstructed again. As school begins again in September and the darker nights are coming this becomes more important, so please check the path outside your house and do your best to keep it clear.

## South Lopham Parish Council

At July's meeting, speed limits, footpaths and verges were the main topics of discussion. Despite some gentle reminders to landowners, several of our footpaths remain impassable owing to overgrowing hedges and fallen trees. The County Footpaths Officer has been contacted for advice on how we should proceed further. On a similar theme, discussions are ongoing with SWT as to the future of Rolfe's Track on the Fen. Verges around the village have deteriorated in the recent wet conditions and steps are in hand to rectify the problem. The council is also looking into schemes to manage the wide verge in Blo' Norton Road. At a site meeting, Highways decided not to move the 30mph limits on the A1066 but have agreed to put 30mph roundels on the road at both ends of the village in an attempt to curb speeding vehicles.

Volunteers are needed to help in a **Litter Picking/Village Clean Up Day** to be held on Sunday 16th September. Full instructions, equipment, gloves etc will be provided and refreshment will be available after all the hard work! All help will be greatly appreciated but owing to Health and Safety considerations we can only ask for volunteers aged 16 and over. For more information contact Steve on 01379 688229 or 07786 068 125. Details will also be posted in the Bus Shelter.

## North Lopham Methodist Chapel

The Flower Festival over Harvest Weekend runs from **September 15th to 17th**. Refreshments available each day. Services at 10.45am on Sunday and 2.30pm on Monday, with Chapel open 10am- 5pm. All proceeds for upkeep and repairs. Everyone welcome.

- 2nd September at 10.45am. Mr P Mottram of Eye.
- 30th September at 10.45am. Preacher Mr Ron Coxford of Rickinghall.

## St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

**Music, Music, Music** - has been the theme

of this summer. Ryan Lewis gave us a magical evening of classical piano music, plus songs with Jilly Stockdale at the end of July. Audience members wanting more bought tickets for the next event before they left the church!! Thanks to a large raffle, and donations at the door, we were able to donate £500 towards Ryan's university fund. We will help his friends too afterwards.

**Reunion - The Super Six** in church on 25th August, this time starting at 7pm. The Six are planning to present some of the most popular items from previous concerts, alongside new material destined to go on our list of favourites. There will be a few tickets on the door, still just £5, or from Jennie. As ever, we provide a light supper in the interval & there will be a raffle. Do Come!

**The Hymn Marathon** on 4th August, was amazing - especially for the support from the Village. A huge thank you goes to everyone who sponsored, who helped with hospitality or who came along on the day. After 535 hymns played, the fund is still growing - at present over £2,125. Thank you ALL. The most popular hymn once again was "All things bright & beautiful"; the runners up have still to be counted.

**The Sponsored Cycle Ride** is on 8th September and there is still time to sign up and join in. Sponsor forms are available in church or from PCC members.

**The Annual Pet Service** is on Sunday 9th September at 2pm. Last year's array of pets will take some beating - feathers & fins are welcome, alongside four-footed friends - so do come and join our short informal service.

**Buggy Club** returns on 11th September after the summer break. Parents and tiny's are all welcome at 10.30 for a hour of fun, with coffee and a chat.

**Harvest Thanksgivings** are earlier this year - at North Lopham, on 23rd September, then Monday 24th is **Gift Day**. We would love offers of flowers, foliage & produce, plus help with arranging it all, on the Friday or Saturday. Gift envelopes can be brought to the Services at 11am & 6.30pm on the Sunday, or to church on Monday afternoon, when produce surplus to gift parcels will be available. Do please come and join our thanksgiving weekend. NB: The Lophams' Harvest Supper will be held in October - all details next time.

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

Although at times the weather was dreadful, £107.50 was raised at the **August Coffee Morning**. Thank you to everyone who contributed. The next Coffee Morning, including mince pies, will be on Wednesday 28th November from 10am - midday. As usual, there will be homemade cakes for sale,

plus the chance to win a raffle prize. This is an ideal venue to meet neighbours and friends, whilst supporting your church and community.

**The Harvest Services** at St. Andrew's will be at 11am and 6.30pm on Sunday 16th September.

**Both posts on the PCC** have been filled and it now has a new Treasurer and a new Secretary. As far as the lottery application is concerned, one hopes that no news is good news.

Saturday 8th September will be the 25th annual **Sponsored Bike Ride** for the Norfolk Churches Trust. Cycling around the local villages is the perfect way to see the countryside and get some exercise, as well as raising money for this worthwhile cause. Please contact Monica Reeder on 01379 687273 for details and sponsor forms.

**The Friends of South Lopham Church** are holding an Afternoon Tea, with Bingo, in the Village Hall from 2-5pm on Wednesday 3rd October. Do come along and enjoy a game, tea and chat with friends. **The Clive Paine** evening was a most enjoyable and informative evening and it was nice to see the church so full. Thank you to all who supported us and to those who helped in any way to make the evening the great success it was. We raised £263 towards the church restoration fund.

## Services for September

### North Lopham South Lopham

#### 2nd September

9.30am HC	-
11am Fam Serv	11am HC

#### 9th September

11am Fam Serv	11am MS
2pm Pet Serv	-
6.30pm Evensong	-

#### 16th September

-	11am, 6.30pm Harv
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#### 23rd September

11am Harv HC	-
6.30pm Harv Fest ES	-

#### 30th September

10am Group HC	
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**CONTRIBUTIONS  
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE  
BY 18TH SEPTEMBER  
PLEASE TO  
The Court, South Lopham  
or e-mail to  
news@thelophamsnews.co.uk**