

THE LOPHAMS' NEWS

No.316

PUBLISHED EACH MONTH SINCE 1982

September 2008

Breckland District Outreach

The BDC Advice Team mobile office will be at the Village Hall again, on Wednesday 17th September and Wednesday 15th October, to offer advice and practical assistance with any problems connected with housing, whether you own or rent your home, or are a landlord. A representative from Peddars Way will also come on 17th September, to deal with their tenants' particular concerns. The Team are very keen to meet people and would welcome YOU - so please don't be shy of coming. If transport is difficult, just contact 01379 687679 to arrange a lift.

Lophams' Ladies

Members and friends recently visited the **Music and Bygones Museum** at Cotton. A most interesting and enjoyable evening was spent by everyone. We learnt of the museum's origin before viewing the amazing collection of musical items and antiques. The evening was completed with tea and coffee, whilst listening to fine music played on a Wurlitzer organ.

An **Open Meeting** will be held on Tuesday 2nd September in the Village Hall, at 7.30pm, when Mr Quinten Spratt will speak about Peacocks. Mr Spratt is an experienced keeper of these beautiful birds. Light refreshments will be served. Help can be given with transport. Contact 01379 687337.

There will be a **Jumble and Car Boot Sale** at the Village Hall on 6th September from 2pm. Car Boots are £4 and may be set-up from 1.30pm. We are grateful for Jumble, Books and Bric-a-Brac, which can be left from 11am at the Hall, or can be collected. Light refreshments will be available. Contact 01379 687338 or 01953 681201.

Lophams' Ramblers

Although we normally walk around the Lophams, in August we ventured as far as Botesdale and Rickinghall. If you would like to meet new friends whilst enjoying some exercise, please contact Jackie Brown on 01379 687260 for further information about the group.

St. Andrew's School

At the time of writing, midway through the summer holiday, the big news is that the contractors have started work on the new playground and designated car park. Staff, children and parents have worked really hard over many months on the fundraising for the extras, which will make the outside of the school 'fit for purpose' - an external classroom for many kinds of lessons, with a sound surface for PE and games activities, as well as a challenging and fun environment for the children's play times. There will be an opportunity for local

wellwishers to see the new equipment at the next Open occasion. A new, separate car parking area, will be valued too, ensuring that the children are safe outside at all times of the day.

The Summer term ended on a real 'high', with a Rock & Roll afternoon for the older children on the Monday, and the Leavers' Assembly on the last afternoon. The Rock & Roll event was a great success, with the children showing how much they had learned in a variety of different modern musical styles. At the Leavers Assembly we were entertained with items traditional and new - memories of significant events, familiar songs with new words, and an all embracing panorama of the past year by Judith Jones - what an amazing array of occasions there have been! The presentation of cups, trophies and certificates showed how much has been achieved, and then the Leavers were presented with Bibles to take on to the next stage of their school career. The rest of the children were thrilled to receive the huge box of playtime equipment for next year that the Leavers then gave to them.

As well as saying "Goodbye" to Year 6 we also said farewell and many thanks to their teacher Liz Barnes, who has done so much during the last two years - organising sports fixtures, ICT developments, as well as teaching the full curriculum. We all hope she will be very happy at Narborough School. We said goodbye to Richard Ogilvie as well, thanking him for being Acting Headteacher during such an unexpectedly busy term.

Mr Simon East will be welcomed by everyone at the start of his time as Partnership Headteacher in September. He takes over a school in very good heart, with proven excellent qualities.

Community Lunches will continue throughout the Autumn term, on the third Tuesday of each month, so the first will be on September 16th. Friends from any of our villages (North Lopham, South Lopham and Blo' Norton) are welcome to join the children at 12 noon for a hot dinner with dessert and orange juice, all for £3.50. As places are limited, it's 'first come, first served'. Please contact Jennie Vere on 01379 687679 if you

would like to come. Transport can be arranged, if required.

Lophams' Happy Circle

We had lovely sunny weather for our outing to Clacton. Everybody enjoyed themselves. The next outing (the last one of the year) will be to Bay Tree Nurseries on 11th September. Anyone other than members who would like to go, please ring Daphne on 01379 687453 or Avis on 01953 681789.

Redgrave & Lopham Fen (for bookings phone 01473 892430)

Batty about Bats family evening - 19th September, 6-8pm. Children £3, Adults £1.50. Booking essential. **Herbs and Herbalists lunchtime lecture** - 24th September, 11am - 1pm. Ancient and modern medicine. £5 (concessions £4), optional lunch £4 (order by 18th). Booking essential. **Book Sale** - 27th/28th September, 10am-5pm. Free entrance.

North Lopham Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday September 10th, at 7.30pm, in the Methodist Schoolroom. Alongside the usual items on finance, roads, footpaths, planning matters etc, the Parish Council will formally approve it's response to the consultation on the Local Development Framework. We will also hear of Breckland's response to our enquiries about the possibility of affordable housing in the village.

The 'First Time Sewerage Scheme' has come upon us rather more quickly than we had dared hope (although it was originally asked for by the Parish Council in March 1963!), thanks to the excellent progress made by the Contractors (Barhale) with the Kenninghall section of the scheme. Many residents attended the public session at the Village Hall on August 13th. If you could not get to the meeting or have other questions, the main site office is at School Close,



Kenninghall, or phone Sam Baker, Anglian Water Construction Team Manager, on 07831 109707.

There will soon be a 'materials and machinery' compound on the land in front of Meadow Farm (just north of the pond), and it's hoped that by late September there will also be a Site Office there. Everyone in the area covered by the scheme (broadly speaking those living within the 30 mph speed limit area, unless they are already on another Anglian Water scheme such as King's Head Lane) should have received a booklet about the scheme in the post early in August. If you did not get one, call at the Site Office or phone the above number to check whether you are in the 'service area'. You should also have a letter about road closures, but please note that the contractors will endeavour to maintain access to all properties at all times.

Although pipe laying will begin in the village very shortly, there is much other work to be done, installing pumping stations, connecting to Kenninghall and ultimately the treatment works at East Harling (which itself will have to be upgraded), so it is estimated that actual connection to the main sewer will not be possible until Spring 2009. So there are several months available to make plans for the work necessary on your property to connect to the sewer. Please note that if you wish to connect, your signed agreement must be received by Anglian Water by Friday 3rd October. If you are uncertain let Anglian Water know in good time so that they can help sort out your queries.

The disruption over the next few months will be a difficult time for the village but, after so many years of campaigning, there will be huge benefits of having the main sewer and for many, winter and wet weather drainage problems should be a thing of the past!

North Lopham Methodist Chapel

Harvest Festival Service on 7th September;

- 10.45am - Preacher Rev Eileen Ritchie of Garboldisham.
- 6.30pm - Songs of Praise conducted by Mr David Freeman, on keyboard, from Rickingham. Coffee served after service.

Continued on Monday 8th September;

- 2.30pm - Speaker Rev Colin Telfer of Diss. Sale of produce after. All proceeds for Chapel funds.
- Sunday 21st September at 10.45am; Preacher Mrs Chamberlain of Thetford.

Everyone welcome.

St. Nicholas' Church (North Lopham)

The **Scarecrow Festival** was great fun, despite poor weather most of the weekend. The range of scarecrows was impressive - and showed how ingenious North Lopham people can be. There was special praise for the mini-crows and the picture gallery provided by St. Andrew's children to decorate the church. A barbecue in the church porch was a first - the heavens opened as they were about to be lit - but it was enjoyed by all the participants, and the stalls did good trade. The weekend raised £474 for funds, so a big thank you to all who helped in any way or who came along to share the fun.

The **Holiday Club**, with an Olympic theme, is in full swing, and a great success so far. We are grateful to Rev Rob and Jan for the overall organisation and to all their helpers. **Buggy Club** will return in the second week of September, on Tuesday 8th at 10.30am, when all parents and pre-schoolers are invited to come and discuss the best time for future sessions. There will be a free session at Monsters in Diss, in the afternoon of 23rd, to which 'tinies' and parents from all our parishes are invited.

There are just a few tickets left for "**Ryan Lewis in Concert**" on 30th August, with Anastasia. Tickets are available from 01379 687679 at £6. There will be wine and a light supper and souvenir programmes.

N.B. HOLY BINGO is postponed one week in September, and will be on 8th at 2pm.

The 25th Anniversary **Sponsored Bike Ride** will be on Saturday 13th September. To share in this great "Silver" Ride, be sure to get your sponsor form soon from church or church members. Plan a great day out, visiting local churches, which are no normally open, whilst raising money for the Churches Trust and your local church (we retain 50% of the sponsorship).

Our **Pet Service** will be on 21st September at 11am. All pets and their owners are warmly invited to a short informal service (but Rob isn't very keen on tarantulas!).

The **Harvest Festival** season is a bit earlier than usual this year. **Lophams' Harvest Supper** will be on Saturday 27th September in the Village Hall at 7.30pm prompt. By request there will be a Hog Roast with all the trimmings, plus Apple Pie & Ice Cream. Fruit juice & hot drinks will be provided, but you are asked to provide your own alcohol and glasses. Tickets will be available throughout the month. Call 01379 687679 or 687273 to book. **Harvest Services** are on Sunday 28th September. **Family Communion** is at 11am and **Festival Evensong** with the Choir is at 6.30pm. We hope to fill the church twice

over. To ensure the church looks it's best, we would be very grateful for produce, foliage and flowers, plus help with arranging, on the Friday or Saturday.

Gift Day will be on 29th. Envelopes can be brought to the Sunday services or to church on Monday from 2pm, when produce surplus will be available.

St. Andrew's Church (South Lopham)

This year's **Harvest Festival Services** at St. Andrew's will be on 14th September at 11am and 6.30pm. If you would like to help decorate the church for Harvest Festival please just turn up on 12th or 13th September, or contact Monica Reeder first. **Lophams' Harvest Supper**, which will include a Hog Roast, will be in the Village Hall on Saturday 27th September. Please contact Monica Reeder on 01379 687273 if you would like to attend.

Calling all cyclists - this year the **Sponsored Cycle Ride** to raise money for Norfolk churches will be on Saturday 13th September. Once again, please contact Monica Reeder for a sponsor forms and full details.

The renovation project is now on hold until tenders for the work have been agreed. Don't forget the Rector's message - you can still raise money towards the cost of the roof by "buying" a tile.

Services for September

North Lopham South Lopham

7th September

9.30am HC	11am HC
11am Fam S	-

14th September

-	11am & 6.30pm
-	Harvest

21st September

11am Fam Pet S	9.30am HC
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28th September

11am Harv Fam C	-
6.30pm ES	-

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