

LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter

MARCH 2022



The Blackdown Hills: A Photographic Portrait by Pauline Rook running until 19 March 2022



If you haven't been to see Pauline's exhibition you still have time! And the museum itself is well worth a visit.

A photographic exhibition documenting two decades of farming life on the Blackdown Hills.

Pauline Rook has photographed this hidden landscape for almost 20 years. Includes a selection of Pauline's most recent work which has been captured using an infrared sensitive camera.

Somerset Rural Life Museum, Chilkwell Street,
Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 8DB

Open 10.00 am – 5.00 pm Tuesday – Saturday

LOPEN CHURCHYARD PLANTING

In continuing our efforts to improve the diversity, and extend the species of plants in the churchyard, the Eco Group will be meeting on **Saturday March 12th at 10am – 12 noon** to plant snowdrops and primroses.

If you will be thinning your snowdrops and digging primroses which have seeded in the wrong place, we would be very pleased to receive them. Please bring them on the day (bring a trowel if you would like to help).

If you are not able to do this but will have some plants available around this time, please call Philip Harper on 240 688 and he will arrange collection.

A short survey of the churchyard at the end of January showed ten different flowers in bloom and nine birds, including blue tits already using one of the bird boxes there. Later, when their young have hatched, the parents will need to find each day around 100 caterpillars for each chick, so our avoiding using pesticide sprays and slug pellets is crucial to their survival. Some quite effective alternatives to pellets around plants are ash, soot, sawdust and sand. Please let us know if you have any other good solutions. There is a board in the church porch to jot down your ideas.

LOPEN VILLAGE FUND

At the Mistletoe Fayre, the Lopen Village Fund sought to engage with the community to get ideas on how to raise more money and decide how monies raised should be spent for the betterment of the village as a whole. The feedback was very positive, with the following:

Village Community Ideas:

- Pop up shop & pub - building on the earlier successful pop-up pub scheme.
- Permanent Pub - maybe a longer term prospect
- Community field - variations included with/ without play equipment, but all with goal posts, needs parking space.
- Village Hall (possible on the above field)
- LED lighting in the Sunday School Rooms (They also have their own fund to support this).
- Lopenhead Roundabout maintenance team.
- Bus service.
- Traffic control chicane system like Merriott in the village. This is maybe a Highways issue not the Funds, but can escalate to the Parish Council.

- The need for a new large marquee to replace the L shaped one for village use at the picnic etc.
- Queen's Platinum Jubilee Event/Village activity.
- Village web site.

Ways to raise money:

- A Sconeathon (done before and raised £7500 for Air Ambulance).
- Tying in with other Village fund raising initiatives.

It will be important to co-ordinate with the other village fund raising events to make sure we can jointly support each others initiatives, for example the LED lighting in the Sunday School Room, and share volunteer resources on some of the ideas.

Anyone interested in following this up or joining the Village Fund Team should contact Sue Champion (sue_champion@hotmail.com), Michael Armstrong (md.armstrong@btinternet.com) or Chris Marsh (chrismarshlpc@gmail.com). In the near future we will look to revisit the large Lopen Map used at the Fayre to investigate possible land/space rental/purchase opportunities for a communal village space.

LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Due to the ending of Covid rules LPC meetings can now resume in the Sunday School Room. The public are welcome to join the meetings.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Parish Council meeting will take place in the Sunday School Room at 7.00pm on:
- Monday March 28th

Please contact a councillor or the Parish Clerk at least one week before, if there is a matter you would like added to the agenda.

MEETING MINUTES

Please note that Parish Council minutes, audited accounts and other statutory information, which must be made available to the public, are available on the village website - <https://lopenvillage.org/council>

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FUTURE LPC MEETINGS?

Forthcoming LPC meetings (listed above) are posted on the village notice board, which is located at the junction of Holloway (the main road) and Church Street and on the village page of the website. However, if you would like to receive email notifications, please contact Jane Collins, Parish Clerk, at lopenpc.clerk@gmail.com to add yourself to the Parish Council mailing list.



WIFI COMES TO THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM

Thanks to a grant from South Somerset District Council and Somerset Community Fund, Lopen has been able to fund

a 50Mbps fast fibre broadband service to the Sunday Schoolroom and hopefully soon after to the Church. This is now available in the Sunday School Room

to use free of charge and the password is on the noticeboard there. It is funded for the next two years and will hopefully

be used for Coffee Stop tutorials, presentations, meetings and accessing internet information. We hope you will enjoy this new facility.



VILLAGE WEB SITE - URGENT HELP NEEDED

Due to unforeseen circumstances the new web designer can no longer help us with our new village web site. It can still be hosted for the time being but unfortunately we can no longer access it to update items such as Parish Council information, the Lopen Eye, Just Women, village events etc. We therefore urgently need someone who knows how to manage web sites and can arrange hosting and transfer existing content to a new provider. Design improvements would also be useful. Contact Les Morton on 391 574 for more information.

LOPEN EYE - NEW EDITOR NEEDED

I have been editor of the Lopen Eye since October 2015 - almost six and a half years. It's been enjoyable meeting so many of our lovely residents and being the bearer of news and events in our special village. However other commitments mean that am finding it more difficult to prepare the Lopen Eye for the ten issues a year. Plus it would also benefit from a new editor with new ideas and design input.

So I plan to make the June 2022 issue my last - only 3 issue after this one!

We urgently need a volunteer or the Lopen Eye will cease to be published!

For more information and a chat please contact me on 391 574.

Les Morton - Editor

ONLY
3
MORE
ISSUES!



Pooper Snooper is a free smartphone application and website that aims to build public awareness of the issue and in

turn increase social pressure, while also identifying 'hotspots'. It's designed to encourage dog owners to take responsibility for tackling dog fouling in their local area.

The mobile app allows users to quickly and accurately record the locations of dog fouling on an interactive map, providing an overview of problem areas in neighbourhoods.

https://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/pooper-snooper-app-allows-public-to-report-dog-fouling-hotspots/?utm_source=inyourarea.co.uk&utm_medium=Referral

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration

Come & join us everyone

on **Saturday June 4th**

From 3pm in the Canton's field.

Live music from Jeroka - with dancing. Bring your own picnic, drink & chairs.

Childrens' Games will be fun!

A working group has been formed and we are arranging entertainment for children and adults - the picnic will be a 'bring your own' event. We are working on other activities such as some pre-weekend activities to create a village atmosphere, so watch this space for more information - all ideas and volunteers welcome.

Contact Jenny on 419 569 for further information.

Open Plant Fair - Plants Needed!

As Spring begins to make itself known and thoughts turn to the garden, please remember us should you be lifting and dividing plants. We are happy to accept or collect unwanted clumps of things to divide, pot up and bring on for sale. We would also welcome offers of seedlings as well as of unwanted houseplants and garden items.

Marian - Tel: 240 179 or
email: marianobrien@me.com

Christianne Tel: 249 766 or
email: christianne@lopen.me.uk

For your diaries this years event will be held on
Saturday 7th May from 10.30am to 3.30pm
at The Old Bakehouse, Holloway, Lopen

Platinum Jubilee Celebration Concert



An evening of music with a Royal connection to include works by Elgar, Purcell, Tallis and more. Bring your flags and be ready to sing along!

Stuart Paul - Trumpet
Jonathan Delbridge - Organ
Mosaica - Choir

Friday 3rd June 2022 at 7:30pm



ALL SAINTS CHURCH
LOPEN, TA13 5JX

£10 per ticket
Booking essential

For more information and to book tickets contact Jonathan Delbridge on 01460 240025 or info@jonathandelbridge.com

Lopen's Pop-up Pub!



Friday 18th March
from 7.30pm
in the Sunday School Room
Informal Quiz
to begin about 7.45pm

Please bring your own glass and drink and perhaps a few nibbles for an informal social evening.

For more information please contact
Philip Harper 01460 240 688

Come along to our



LENT LUNCH



at the Sunday School Room

WEDNESDAY 30TH MARCH

12:00 - 14:00

Enjoy a variety of homemade
Soups, Bread Rolls & Cheeses.

Donations to local charity
Somerset Safe Families.

Contact Sally-Ann 01460 241765



Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday 8th March
at 7.30pm
A History of The Palace
Gardens in Wells



This will again be a Zoom meeting. James Cross, head gardener at the Grade 11 listed historic Bishop's Palace Gardens in Wells, will be giving us his very interesting talk about the history of the garden, well-pools and moat. James has been Head Gardener there since 2004. We plan to visit these gardens later this year.

A link to the meeting will be sent out nearer the time.

For further information about Just Women please contact Pauline Rook T: 240 644 E: prook12@gmail.com

All Saints Church Services in Lopen:

Sunday 6th March at 9am
Holy Communion

Sunday 20th March at 10.30am
Parish Communion
(followed by APCM)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM



To hire the Sunday School Room, by the Church, or for loan of equipment, please contact Angela on 240 921.

Have you 'liked' the Lopen Events Facebook page? Have a look -
www.facebook.com/Lopen-Events-277018432630673/

CONTACTS

Village website - www.lopenvillage.org

PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Stephen Crane	241 412	scrane1@hotmail.co.uk
	Nick Jones	241 643	nick.jones.lopenpc@outlook.com
	Jenny Feeney	419 569	jfeeneyloopenpc@gmail.com
	Chris Marsh	07951 239110	chrismarshpc@gmail.com
	Caroline McKendrick	359 201	caroline.mckendrick.loopenpc@outlook.com
Parish Clerk	Jane Collins	07967 218478	loopenpc.clerk@gmail.com
DISTRICT COUNCIL	Cllr Adam Dance	07767 224 213	adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk
	Cllr Crispin Raikes	07968 291 588	crispin.raikes@southsomerset.gov.uk
COUNTY COUNCIL	Cllr Adam Dance	07767 224 213	adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk
MEMBER of PARLIAMENT	Marcus Fysh		marcus.fysh.mp@parliament.uk

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Benefice Office	Issy Welsh	73226	
Rector	Rev. Julia Hicks	76406	juliahicks1@gmail.com
Rector	Rev. Bob Hicks	76406	bobhicks66@gmail.com
Churchwarden	Angela Naunton Davies	240 921	nauntondavies@btinternet.com

JUST WOMEN

Chairwoman	Pauline Rook	240 644	prook12@gmail.com
Treasurer	Christianne Long	249 766	christianne@loopen.me.uk

POLICE CSO

	Mike Bell	Dial 101 ask for PCSO 7954	mike.bell@avonandsomerset.police.uk
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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

	Caroline McKendrick	359 201	carolinemckendrick@outlook.com
	Carron Richards	242 640	carronrichards@yahoo.co.uk

LOPEN MANOR FARM

	Steve	07769 657 168	For loose or fallen cattle in Lopen
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LOPEN EYE TEAM

Editor	Les Morton	391 574	lesmorton26@gmail.com
	Les Farris	242 254	lesfarris7@gmail.com
	Michael Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
Proof-reading	Penny Little	242 474	penelopejittle@gmail.com

COFFEE STOP at the Sunday School Room

Only **£1** for a hot drink
 (including refill) and a slice
 of homemade cake.

MARCH DATES

Wednesday 9th & 23rd
 10.30am to 12.00 midday



Everyone welcome -
 including parents with young children.

All proceeds to



The Lord's Larder: providing emergency food
 supplies for people in need.