

# LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter **OCTOBER 2019**



*Make a note in your diary now!*

## 2019 MISTLETOE FAYRE

will be held on

**Saturday November 30th.**

**How can you help?** - donations of bottles, gifts, homemade bakes and preserves, children's toys, books, plants, Christmas decorations - all these things make this event the great success it has become. Details of how and where to donate will be given in the November Lopen Eye.

This year all profits from the Fair are to be split equally between the church and the village – details to follow. This makes the sale of raffle tickets even more important to our fund raising.

We will therefore be sending out raffle tickets with the November Lopen Eye, instructions will be included.

## ROAD GRITTING



Somerset county council have announced that the (old) A303 to Ilminster and the road into South Petherton to the hospital will now be gritted again this coming winter. Filling of grit bins will be done by the Parish Council but we are not sure if the road into South Petherton town centre will be treated by highways as it's not highlighted in green on the map. Also roads to Crewkerne via Lopen will be treated again.

## SUNDAY WALKS WITH PUB LUNCH

Forthcoming Lopen walks

**6th October**

**Kings Head, Merriott**

**3rd November**

**The Lord Poulett, Hinton St George**

**1st December**

**The Brewers Arms, South Petherton**

Please meet at the Sunday School Room at 11.00am promptly as all pub tables are booked for 12.30.

All walks are dog friendly.

If you are interested in any of the walks please contact Belinda on 240 973 or email [belinda.bezance@gmail.com](mailto:belinda.bezance@gmail.com) at least one week prior so she has numbers for the pub booking.

Please  
note revised  
dates



## Village Supper Party

with 'entertainment'  
on

**Friday 15th November**

To celebrate our 'New Look' Sunday School Room. Only 40 places available so book early!

Tickets available at £5 each from  
Carolyn on 240 717.

*Please bring your own drinks.*



# LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

## COUNCILLORS WANTED

With just five of a possible seven positions occupied, the Council currently has two vacancies and needs your help. If you are interested in village matters, have a little time spare and count common sense, patience and a sense of humour among your virtues, why not consider becoming a councillor? If you are interested, we'd very much like to hear from you. Please contact the Parish Clerk Jane Collins, or one of the councillors for more information.

## HIGHWAYS SMALL IMPROVEMENTS SCHEME

We have had no feedback regarding the SIS but hope to be able to discuss this at the next Parish Council meeting.

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Parish Council meeting will take place in the Sunday School Room at 7.30pm on:

- Please see Lopen Village web site

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 -

[www.lopen.btck.co.uk/LopenParishCouncil](http://www.lopen.btck.co.uk/LopenParishCouncil)

## DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FUTURE LPC MEETINGS?

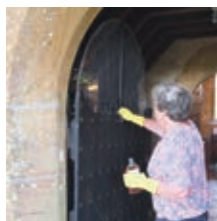
Forthcoming LPC meetings are also posted on the village notice board, which is located at the end of Church Street, and on the village page of the website. If you would like to receive email notifications, please contact Jane Collins, Parish Clerk - see back page for contact details.

## WELCOME PACK DISTRIBUTOR

Sally-Ann & Martin have, for some years, been supplying Welcome Packs to anyone who moves into the village. They feel that a 'new face' is probably appropriate now and would like to pass the service on to someone younger in the village. If you are interested please contact them on 241 765.

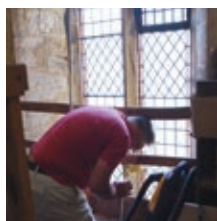
## CHURCH WORK PARTY

On August 3rd there were 12 volunteers who formed a work party for the annual church maintenance day. Andrew Duncomb's garden trailer was indisposed



with a flat tyre so instead the mountain of hedge trimmings were collected by Benjamin Norton with his big tractor & trailer. Some of the regulars had other family commitments and school holidays were in full swing,

so the ploughman's lunch was deferred this year. The Sunday School Room was awaiting the start of the internal painting, now completed, so only outside work

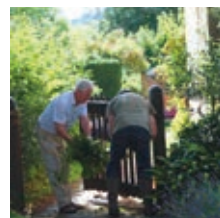


could be done. Clearing the soil that had built up against the wall over decades should help to reduce the damp ingress. Hedges and grassed areas have been cut, problem trees



discussed and

unstable grave stones identified. Inside the church, cobwebs were removed, pews polished and the organ loft dusted with the expert care of Jonathan and Ross. The



latter also provided a fabulous cake, so good with the mid morning coffee. Once again it was a chance to make and renew friendships. Thank you all the volunteers who gave their time so generously - we hope to see you next year!

## COFFEE STOP

A reminder that the Coffee Stop takes place on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month in the Sunday School Room. Coffee (with FREE refills) and a slice of lovely homemade cake for just £1! The proceeds go to the chosen charity, which changes every time we have raised £150. Why not come along for some good company and friendly chat. The number of people attending throughout the summer has dwindled somewhat, so please come along and keep this informal & enjoyable event going - if you don't use it you may lose it!

See the advertisement on the back page for details.

## BOTTLE TOPS & BISCUIT WRAPPERS

Milk bottle tops are being collected - fundraising through recycling is going to the Dorset Air Ambulance.

Fundraising with the biscuit wrappers is for the National Trust. Lopen collection point is 2 Church Street (Crown Cottage).



Do you have any news, or a story, that would interest our readers?

Items can be sent in for consideration no later than the 23rd of the month preceding cover date.

# HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

Sunday 20th October  
at 11.30am

All Saints Church, Lopen

with the 16 Bells Choir

***followed by lunch in the Sunday School Room***

If you have produce, tins and flowers for decorating, you can leave them in the church on Friday 18th.  
Help with decorating the church on Friday or Saturday would be appreciated.

All are welcome to the service and the lunch in the Sunday School Room. Please let us know if you or any of your family friends have food allergies.

All of the fresh produce will be taken to The Pilsdon Community, the destination of store cupboard goods and money are to be confirmed.

Information about the organisations involved are in the church porch.

For more information contact Angela 240 921.

## **PET SERVICE**

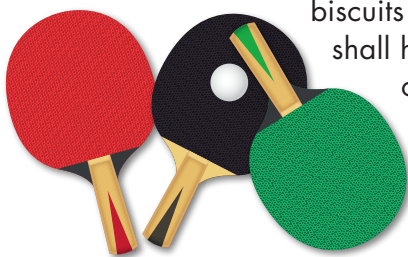
Perfect weather, very well behaved pets and their minders weren't too bad either. Thanks to Richard for being the alfresco organist facilitating singing by people, with an occasional contribution from a canine or two! The calming influence of the hamster from its vantage point on the table ably supported Issy leading the service. The quality of baking skills clearly demonstrated by the enthusiasm of the consumers. Thanks to all involved.



## **TABLE TENNIS DATES**

Remember the fortnightly table tennis 'Club' will be held on Sunday **October 13th & 27th** from 3pm until 5pm. Open to all ages from little ones to elderly ones. We have a kettle and some cake/biscuits for a 'Tea Stop'. We shall have to make a charge of £1 to cover the cost of the hall and the electricity.

I look forward to seeing you - *Carolyn*.



**There is a Defibrillator in the porch of All Saint's Church, Church Street.**

Sarah Lethbridge is the advisor for this and will be happy to run through the theory of it's use if required. Please contact her on 249 219 or sarahmason6@yahoo.com

## **WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN DESKTOP PUBLISHING?**

As our editor, Les Morton, is away from time to time we are looking for someone to prepare artwork for the Lopen Eye, maybe 2-3 times a year. Full tuition and software is available. If you are interested please contact Les on 391 574 or email [lesmorton26@gmail.com](mailto:lesmorton26@gmail.com)

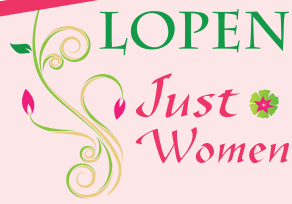
## **SHOE BOX APPEAL 2019**



It's that time of year again to think about 'The Shoe Box Appeal'. For those who are not aware of the appeal, it's filling a shoe box for Christmas, to give joy

to people who are less fortunate than us. Further info if required please ring Sally-Ann on 241 765 .

**EVERYONE WELCOME**



Our next meeting will be on

**Tuesday 8th October  
at 7.30pm  
Sunday School Room**



### **A Year in the Dorset Countryside**

An illustrated talk by the Dorset-based photographer Colin Varndell. Best known for his evocative images of local wildlife and landscapes, his work is reproduced widely in both national and international media. To get a taster for the evening, visit his site - [www.colinvarndell.co.uk](http://www.colinvarndell.co.uk)

Entry £2 for members, £5 for visitors, children free - to include refreshments after.

For further information please contact Pauline Rook T: 240 644 E: [prook12@gmail.com](mailto:prook12@gmail.com)

### **THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM**



This thatched room, previously two small cottages, was the village school until the new one was able to be built at the top of School Lane, over 100 years ago. Since then it became a

Sunday School and village meeting place. It is available for bookings, and serves well for meetings, of up to 40 people, for Just Women, our Parish Council and the PCC meetings. It has good facilities for serving refreshments for weddings, baptisms and funerals and other services in the church and for fundraising events and parties. Much of the equipment used in the room is also available on loan, including wine and water glasses, crockery and cutlery etc, chairs and tables. There is a charge for the use of the room and we ask for breakages to be replaced and donations made for the loans.

**For details please contact:**

**Liz Constable (240 912) or Angela (240 921).**

Have you 'liked' the Lopen Events Facebook page? Have a look - [www.facebook.com/Lopen-Events-277018432630673/](http://www.facebook.com/Lopen-Events-277018432630673/)

### **CONTACTS**

Village website - [www.lopen.btck.co.uk](http://www.lopen.btck.co.uk)

#### **PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman	Stephen Crane	241 412	<a href="mailto:scrane1@hotmail.co.uk">scrane1@hotmail.co.uk</a>
	Nick Jones	241 643	<a href="mailto:nick.jones.lopenpc@outlook.com">nick.jones.lopenpc@outlook.com</a>
	Valerie Canton	242 751	<a href="mailto:mvcanton@talktalk.net">mvcanton@talktalk.net</a>
	Jenny Feeney	419 569	<a href="mailto:jfeeneyloopenpc@gmail.com">jfeeneyloopenpc@gmail.com</a>
	Chris Marsh	07951 239110	<a href="mailto:chrismarshlpc@gmail.com">chrismarshlpc@gmail.com</a>
Parish Clerk	Jane Collins	07967 218478	<a href="mailto:loopenpc.clerk@gmail.com">loopenpc.clerk@gmail.com</a>

<b>DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>	Cllr Adam Dance	07767 224 213	<a href="mailto:adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk">adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk</a>
	Cllr Crispin Raikes	07968 291 588	<a href="mailto:crispin.raikes@southsomerset.gov.uk">crispin.raikes@southsomerset.gov.uk</a>

<b>COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	Cllr Adam Dance	07767 224 213	<a href="mailto:adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk">adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk</a>
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<b>MEMBER of PARLIAMENT</b>	Marcus Fysh		<a href="mailto:marcus.fysh.mp@parliament.uk">marcus.fysh.mp@parliament.uk</a>
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#### **ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

Benefice Office	Issy Welsh	73226	
Rector	Rev. Julia Hicks	76406	<a href="mailto:juliahicks1@gmail.com">juliahicks1@gmail.com</a>
Rector	Rev. Bob Hicks	76406	<a href="mailto:bobhicks66@gmail.com">bobhicks66@gmail.com</a>
Churchwarden	Angela Naunton Davies	240 921	<a href="mailto:nauntondavies@btinternet.com">nauntondavies@btinternet.com</a>

#### **JUST WOMEN**

Chairwoman	Pauline Rook	240 644	<a href="mailto:prook12@gmail.com">prook12@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Christianne Long	249 766	<a href="mailto:christianne@loopen.me.uk">christianne@loopen.me.uk</a>

<b>POLICE CSO</b>	Malissa Thompson	Dial 101 ask for PCSO 6827	<a href="mailto:malissa.thompson@avonandsomerset.police.uk">malissa.thompson@avonandsomerset.police.uk</a>
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<b>NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</b>	Valerie Canton	242 751	<a href="mailto:mvcanton@talktalk.net">mvcanton@talktalk.net</a>
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#### **LOPEN EYE TEAM**

Editor	Les Morton	391 574	<a href="mailto:lesmorton26@gmail.com">lesmorton26@gmail.com</a>
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### **COFFEE STOP at the Sunday School Room**

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

**OCTOBER DATES**  
Wednesday 9th & 23rd  
10.30am to 12.00 midday



Everyone welcome - including parents with young children.

All proceeds to



An international children's charity with a sustainable approach to problems with cleft lip and palate.