

LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter **SEPTEMBER 2021**



CAKE APPEAL

Donations of cakes are requested for Saturday 18th September. Ross Isbell is organising coffee & cakes throughout the day, in the Sunday School Room, to raise money for the Church/SSR. At present Ross will be manning the SSR on the Saturday (18th) from 10am to 4pm, however if anyone would be able to run it on Sunday (19th) it would be welcome. Assuming that all the cakes don't sell out on the Saturday! Could you contact Ross if you are able to help - 240 025. **Could cake donations be dropped off at the Sunday School Room on the Saturday morning before 10am.**

FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS

During September there will also be a **Festival of Flowers** within the Church. All villagers are invited to join us in bringing a jug or pot of flowers and leaving them in the church porch on the morning of Sept 14th. These will be arranged inside the church by a team of volunteers - this will decorate the church at the beginning of a festival period for the village.

LOPEN MUSIC WEEKEND



A Night at the Opera!



Tickets still available

FRIDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Mezzo Soprano Louise Innes delights with an evening of favourite and popular operatic pieces as well as much loved songs from the stage and screen - an evening not to be missed!

Accompanied by Jonathan Delbridge.

Tickets - £10 Concert begins at 7:30pm

£15 for both concerts!



By George!

SUNDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Join Jonathan Delbridge as he explores the music of the incredible George Gershwin. Pieces will include:

I Got Rhythm, Three Preludes and the sensational Rhapsody in Blue!

Tickets - £6 Concert begins at 3pm

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Jonathan Delbridge on 07719187508, 01460 240025 or jonathandelbridge@googlemail.com

Venue - All Saints Church, Church Street, Lopen TA13 5JX

SOMERSET OPEN STUDIOS 2021

18 Sept - 3 Oct

Venues 58 & 59 in Lopen

Venue 58

Angela's delightful Mangle House (at Denmans Cottage) will host fabulous prints by Angela and Jacki Cundall, truly special ceramics by Heidi Warr and extraordinary garden chandeliers by Marcus Jubb, amongst other collected art and craft works.

Venue 59

Pauline's Old Cider House (at Lopen Farm House) will feature strongly her rather unusual photographic take on the Blackdown Hills, along with other mostly monochrome photography. She is joined by the highly artistic, and very much sought after, wood turner Peter Thomas.

Both venues are open from 11am to 6pm Wednesday to Sunday. Or by appointment.



We would like to invite Lopen residents to see our exhibitions on Sunday 19th September. Pauline Rook (Venue 59) from 4pm-6pm and Angela & Mangle House artists (Venue 58) from 4pm-7.30pm. Local apple juice & cider cup will be available.

LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

During the COVID lockdown LPC meetings were held online. As of May 25th, the LPC Meeting can be held in a public space with social distancing measures in place so will be held in All Saints Church - the public are welcome to join the meetings. Masks, track & trace and sanitising will be part of the meeting process in accordance with current Government guidelines. The next Parish Council meeting is yet to be decided. The date and time will be posted on the Lopen Village web site - <https://lopenvillage.org/>

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.

THANKYOU

Refugee Support Group held its Music in the Meadow fundraising event in July, seventeen months after the last fundraising concert, and I am glad to report it was a great success. There were five minutes or so of rain at its start but the sun appeared as the afternoon continued with the haunting sounds of the sitar followed by lively traditional folk music. The appreciative audience generously bought raffle tickets, delicious cakes, recycled books and guessed the name of a teddy. In all we raised £1731.51 shared between Care4Calais in France and Safe Passage, the legal charity which exists to unite unaccompanied children with their families in Europe.



Alert - Vaccine Passport Scams

Action Fraud has received over 700 reports from members of the public about fake emails purporting to be from the NHS. The emails claim to be able to provide people with a 'digital passport' that 'proves you have been vaccinated against COVID-19'. **These emails are fake**, and the links within them lead to genuine-looking websites that steal your personal and financial information. How to protect yourself:

In the UK, Coronavirus vaccines will only be available via the National Health Services of England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland. You can be contacted by the NHS, your employer, a GP surgery or pharmacy local to you, to receive your vaccine. Remember, the vaccine is free of charge. **At no point will you be asked to pay.**



Saturday 18th September 2021 - 12pm to 4pm
Sunday 19th September 2021 - 2pm to 6pm

Paintings, Rugs, Figurines, Ornaments, Glassware,
Books, DVD's, Miscellaneous....

A donation of sales will given to funds for
All Saints Church Lopen, Dementia UK and
Guide Dogs for the Blind

Hazelwood House,
Church Street/Rydon Lane, Lopen

RAINFALL UPDATE

Jeremy Rook has supplied the following data: Total Rainfall for June and July was pretty close to the Long Term Average (LTA) for both months. I recorded 59 mm in June (LTA 59 mm) and 70 mm in July (LTA 55 mm). This was the wettest July since 2017. The average figures only show part of the story since nearly half of June's rain fell in one day - the 27th. In July we had 10 days at the start of the month where some rain fell every day, and 9 at the end with similar daily rainfall, including thunder on 2 days. In the middle of July of course we had a rain-free heat wave. Luckily we missed the downpours that fell on Chard! Since the start of August we have had 10 days where some rain has fallen most days, but it has only amounted to 26.8 mm in total.

BEE BOXES FOR THE CHURCHYARD

Thanks to the generosity of several Lopen donors, bumblebees and solitary bees will soon be making a beeline for some beautiful bee hotels shortly to be placed in the churchyard - part of our eco project to encourage more pollination of flowers by butterflies and bees.



We are sure these busy bees will be very happy with their new B&B accommodation and hope they will behave!

SPARROWHAWKS NESTING IN LOPEN

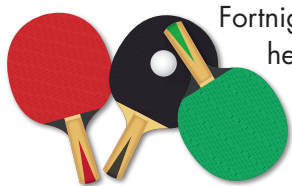
We have had a Sparrowhawk family taking residence in Lopen. Four young have been seen testing out their preliminary flying skills around the nest in one of the tall trees to the north of Church Street.



Pauline Rook even pictured one of the adults making the kill of a pigeon in her garden! It seems the eggs take about a month to hatch, and the young fledge after a further month. Judging by the reappearance of small birds in the garden it seems the chicks have fledged and the Sparrowhawks have now left Lopen.

TABLE TENNIS DATES

Fortnightly table tennis 'Club' will be held on Sunday **September 12th & 26th** 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.**



KATES BIKE RIDE

Kate Jones, from Church Street, embarked upon a sponsored bike ride in July - this is her story:



Last year during lockdown I took my bike out of retirement - it hadn't been used for many years. I enjoyed being able to travel further afield than walking would take me, and gradually increased the miles I could do in one ride - although the first pull up to Lopen Head is still a chore!!

Back in June I saw the St Margaret's Hospice 40 mile cycle ride advertised, and decided I was up for a challenge. The route started at the hospice site in Yeovil, and ended at the Taunton Hospice - via a slightly roundabout route.

I wasn't counting on July 18th being the hottest day of the year, but 30 degrees and sunny was preferable to wet and windy and I completed the ride in just under 3 hours. It was a very pretty route, and we were well supported with water and snacks.

Thanks to my very generous sponsors I raised over £700 for St Margaret's Hospice. The whole event has so far raised about £15,000 for the charity.

LOPEN PLANT FAIR - £643 RAISED

A big thank you to all who supplied plants, and for those who came to buy, at the Lopen Summer Plant Fair on Saturday 3rd July. A healthy sum of £643 was raised! Together with the Spring Fair a total of £2,044 has been raised this year, which has been split between the All Saints Church and the Hinton St. George Primary School Appeal.

A special thanks to those who were the driving force behind all this - you know who you are!

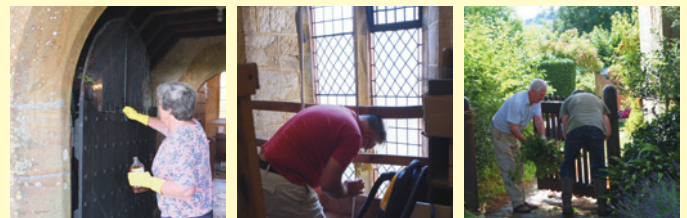
HELP NEEDED FOR THE CHURCH WORKING PARTY

Can you spare some time to join the annual working group on Saturday 4th September to do maintenance jobs in and around our church?

We will meet at 10.00am to give the church and grounds a belated spring clean and spruce up!

A ploughmans lunch will be provided at 12.45 for all volunteers. More information is available from Angela on 240 921 - or just turn up on the day please.

This is also a great opportunity to make and renew friendships - so please do join us!





Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday 14th September
Open Gardens
in Lopen



A leisurely stroll around the Open Gardens of Lopen. Please meet at All Saints Church at 2.30pm with any jug or vase of flowers you may have for this year's Festival of Flowers.

Tea and cake will be available afterwards.

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

All Saints Church
Services in Lopen:

Sunday 5th September
at 9am
Holy Communion

Sunday 19th September
at 10.30am
Parish Communion

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.lopenpc@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

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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.

SEPTEMBER DATES

Wednesday 8th & 22nd

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.