

# LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish  
Newsletter  
OCTOBER  
2014



## HARVEST FESTIVAL

will be celebrated in Lopen Church at  
**5.00pm on Sunday 12th October.**

Produce, and other food and gifts used to decorate the church will, as is customary, be donated to the Pilsdon Community which offers a refuge to people in crisis, welcoming those from all backgrounds and from many different walks of life.

**HARVEST SUPPER will follow in the Schoolroom.**

Only 40 diners can be accommodated so  
**please book places as soon as possible with Carolyn White on 240 717.**

There is no charge for the supper but donations are requested to the small, local charity *Horseshoes & Handprints* which promotes the use of contact with horses to help children and adults cope with autism and sensory disorders.



**The Open Studios event continues until Sunday 5th October.**

You are invited to visit the Church Street studios of photographer PAULINE ROOK and print-maker ANGELA NAUNTON DAVIES where work by other artists will be also be on view. Please check opening times with Pauline on 240 644 and Angela on 240 921.

### REFRESHMENTS IN THE SCHOOLROOM

On the Saturdays and Sundays of Art Weeks teas and light refreshments will be available from 11am until 5pm.

All proceeds to *Horseshoes & Handprints*.

### HARRY HORLOCK STRINGER

*A display featuring the work and times of this nationally renowned potter, tutor and Lopen resident who died earlier this year can be seen at the workshop of Angela Naunton Davies during Somerset Art Weeks.*

SEE PAGE THREE for details of a sale at bargain prices of Harry's pots.

# Parish Council Report Back

## Parish Ranger

*(Nicola Norman writes)*

The District Council run Parish Ranger Scheme is now set up and replaces the defunct village lengthsman scheme. Lopen will have a ranger working in the village every 3rd Tuesday in the month maintaining the high standards we have grown to accept. If you feel something needs to be done, please let me (01460 240458), or the Chairman know and we will try to sort the problem out with the Ranger.

## Update on lorry problem

*(Teresa Sienkiewicz writes)*



Sarah's photo taken this month shows a typical instance of lorries on Holloway. We have contacted Ceara Sturt, our local community support officer, and it appears that unless traffic police follow a vehicle through the village, there is no realistic chance of prosecution. However, if we report persistent offenders, it may be possible for the police to take up the matter with the culprits. We have invited Ceara to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss the issues with the community and in particular those who live on or near the Holloway who are so badly affected.

We are considering a community initiative, whereby volunteers man areas at the start and finish of the restriction to take details of vehicles breaching the weight limits. If we capture offenders on camera, we can report on the scale of the problem and provide proof to support our attempts for constructive intervention. There is a model letter on the village website which you as individuals can use to report transgressions to Ceara. If you are interested, please contact Stephen, who is the PC member for highways, or Teresa, who has volunteered to help with this initiative.

## Dog Fouling

*(Nicola Norman writes)*

I am aware that dog walkers in the village feel they have had some bad press over "dog poo" problems. I know there are many caring dog walkers and I love to see them enjoying our beautiful countryside. This year has been a bumper harvest and many foxes and badgers are also leaving their trade marks on the footpaths and lanes. If all dog walkers cleaned up after their dogs, there would be no need for bad press and the wildlife problem will probably settle down as the year goes on. Meanwhile, let's all enjoy this glorious Autumn.

## Parish Bulb Planting Scheme

*(Kim McDonald writes)*

Lopen, along with other parishes, will be provided with 2000 mixed bulb for planting in public areas in and around the village as part of SSDC's district wide planting scheme. For 2015 these bulbs will be a random mix of Grape Hyacinth, Loddon Lily, Snowdrops, Snakes Head Fritillary, English Bluebells and Star of Bethlehem - no daffodils this time around. Your ideas for where planting should happen would be most welcomed and please contact me if you are able to volunteer for some planting. Bulbs will be delivered in mid-October.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

## DOORSTEP CALLERS

Be suspicious of any offers to do gardening, roofing, guttering, drainage, driveway or electrical work from anybody who turns up uninvited at your door. Don't invite unexpected callers in to your home and never pay any cash up-front. Always obtain a receipt.

If you are suspicious about a doorstep trader or feel threatened in any way, report it to the Police as soon as possible (ideally while they're still in the area). Telephone 101 for all non-urgent reports and enquiries or 999 in an emergency. Also consider displaying a door sticker to say 'we do not buy or sell to callers at the door.' (available through the NHW office at 25p each).

*Martin Howell*

**SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER**  
from 10am - 12noon  
at the **SCHOOLROOM**  
a **SALE of BEAUTIFUL,**  
**HAND-MADE POTTERY** by  
**HARRY HORLOCK STRINGER**  
at *bargain prices.*



Unique pieces by the late, nationally-recognised potter will be offered from £1 to clear. All proceeds to the **STROKE ASSOCIATION.**  
*Shop early for Christmas!*

## LOPEN'S MISTLETOE FAYRE on NOVEMBER 15th

Items for sale needed urgently by the following people -



**BRIC a BRAC**  
Liz (T. 240 912)



**CHRISTMAS PRESENTS**  
Lynn (T. 929 205)  
Margaret (T.241 162)



**PLANTS**  
Helen (T. 240 287)  
Marian (T. 240179)



**CAKES & PRESERVES**  
Joan (T.242 254)  
Carolyn (T. 240 717)



**BOTTLES**  
Peter (T. 242 474)  
Les (T. 242 254)



**BOOKS**  
Martin (T.241 765)



Guests are  
always welcome.  
Further information from  
**Andrew Kearney**  
240 287

**TUESDAY 21st OCTOBER**  
7.30pm in the Schoolroom

**Stories of local and our own family connections with the First World War in this centenary year and advice about researching military records**



## Lopen JUST WOMEN

For further information  
please call  
**Margaret Linton**  
Tele 241 162

**TUESDAY 14th OCTOBER**  
**Meet 2.00pm at**  
**BRYMPTON d'EVERCY HOUSE**  
**near Yeovil**  
for a tour followed by tea.  
Call Margaret to share transport



## CONTACTS

Village website <http://lopen.btck.co.uk>

### PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Barry Davolls	242 297	b.davolls.lopenpc@btinternet.com
Vice Chairman	Nicola Norman	240 458	n.norman.lopenpc@btinternet.com
	Stephen Crane	241 412	scrane1@hotmail.co.uk
	Teresa Sienkiewicz	241 363	tslopenpc1@btinternet.com
	Sarah Mason	249 219	sarahmason6@yahoo.com
Parish Clerk	Kim McDonald	242 297	mcdonald.lopenpc@btinternet.com

### DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr Barry Walker	242 894	barry.walker@southsomerset.gov.uk
Cllr Paul Thompson	240 510	paul.thompson@southsomerset.gov.uk

### COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr Christopher Le Hardy	01935 850 212	clehardy@somerset.gov.uk
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### MEMBER of PARLIAMENT

The Rt Hon David Laws	01935 423 284	david.laws.mp@parliament.uk
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### ALL SAINTS CHURCH Benefice Office

Rectors Rev. Julia Hicks, Rev. Bob Hicks	73226 Issy Welsh	76406
Churchwarden Angela Naunton Davies	240 921	nauntondavies@btinternet.com

Services are listed on the Church noticeboard

### LOPEN HISTORY GROUP

Chairman	Joan Farris	242 254	joanfarrisuk@googlemail.com
Archivist	Nigel Potts	240 369	nigelpotts@talktalk.net

### JUST WOMEN

Chairman	Lynn Benfield	929 205	lynn.ian@virgin.net
Treasurer	Zena Morgan	77259	zenam1@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary	Margaret Linton	241 162	margaretlinton79@yahoo.com

### POLICE CSO

Ceara Sturt	<b>101 and ask for PCSO 8340</b>
	ceara.sturt@avonandsomerset.police.uk

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Martin Howell	241 765	samhowell@sky.com
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### LOPEN EYE

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## COFFEE MORNINGS at the SCHOOLROOM

**PARENTS WITH YOUNG  
CHILDREN WELCOME**



in **OCTOBER**

Wednesdays **8th & 22nd**  
10.30 until 12.00 midday.  
Only £1 for a hot drink  
(and refill) plus a slice  
of home-made cake.

*The views expressed in Lopen Eye  
are not necessarily those held by  
Lopen Parish Council and its  
members*