

LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter

MAY 2019



Lopen Village Plant Sale Saturday 11th May 10.30am to 1pm at Lopen Church

For a wonderful selection of locally sourced flower and vegetable plants at special prices for your garden, vegetable plot, tub and basket.

The Sunday School Room will be open from 11.00am for delicious cakes & refreshments.

Donations of plants are most welcome for this fund-raising event and will be gratefully received at the Sunday School Room on the Friday afternoon or before the event on Saturday.

All profits to the Lopen Church and Old School Room Fund.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM



The PCC felt that it would be helpful to give you all an update on the improvements to the school room.

Last year the unstable chimney and fireplace were removed and the roof void thatched over. In March,

taking advantage of the additional space, the kitchen work space was extended and the floor will be professionally sanded and sealed in June. This has been funded by a lottery grant, a generous personal donation and the Waitrose Green Token Scheme, all at zero cost to All Saints Church.

The PCC is keen to make further improvements to the school room and its facilities to benefit the community. As a result it has initiated the setting up of a small group of PCC and non PCC residents to investigate and recommend improvements in the facilities to the PCC.

At its first meeting in February the focus was on health and safety items and in April longer term items such as lighting, greener heating, wi-fi and audio-visual aids. The objective will be to formulate a costed plan of improvements for the room to recommend to the PCC.

The group is keen to hear your ideas on improving the facilities. Please contact any of the following with your suggestions:

Angela Naunton - Davies on 240 921
Stephen Crane on 241 412
Philip Harper on 240 688
Steve Chapman 249 549



SUNDAY WALK WITH LUNCH

The first Sunday Walk was a great success with 13 walkers and two dogs. Leisurely walk to Royal Oak Over Stratton to work up an appetite for a very tasty lunch enjoyed by all.

**The next walk will be
Sunday May 5th.**

Meet at The Sunday School Room at 11.30am and enjoy a sociable walk to The Feed Station, Merriott for lunch. If you are interested please contact Belinda on 240 973 or email belinda.bezance@gmail.com at least one week prior so she has numbers for the booking.

LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS WANTED

With just four of a possible seven positions occupied, the Council currently has three 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 Lisa or one of the councillors for more information.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

As you will know, this is election year for South Somerset District and Parish Councils. There are seven vacancies for Lopen Parish Council however, as only four people came forward prior to the cut off date to stand, all four candidates will be elected unopposed thus negating the need for a full election.

Therefore, at the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 13 May 2019, the existing Parish Council will stand down and the new candidates will take their place. Obviously, it is not ideal to have a reduced number of Councillors, so we are actively seeking people to fill the vacant positions and would encourage interested parties to come forward. Please contact the Parish Clerk who will be happy to give you any information you need or answer your questions. The statutory Annual Village Meeting will also take place on 13 May starting at 7pm. This is an informal meeting giving villagers the opportunity to raise any matters of concern to them about the village. The Parish Council Meeting will then follow at 7:30pm, though villagers are welcome to stay as observers to the Council meeting.

FROGMARY GREEN FARM

The LPC discussed a planning application from Sustainable Energy Generation Ltd, to increase the amount of Feedstock imports and digestate exports to and from their Frogmary Green Farm biogas plant. The application requests a variation of the conditions to the original permission to increase the imports from just under 20,000 tons

per annum to just under 70,000 tons per annum with exports of digestate to increase from 0 to nearly 60,000 tons per annum! LPC has sent a letter of objection to The Planning Officer, on the grounds that increased traffic movement - from the applicant's own figures - equates to an additional 8,500 heavy vehicle movements per year, bringing the total to over 10,000, with harvest-time peaks of 170 vehicles per day. Based on a 10 hour day, that is something in the region of one vehicle movement every 3.5 minutes on harvest days. This was considered excessive given the width and condition of the service road from Lopen Head and the surrounding road network. There is also concern that the existing plan is not actually able to process that much feedstock making further applications to expand it likely if this permission were to be granted.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

- Monday May 13th.

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

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FORTHCOMING 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 Lisa Wilson, Parish Clerk, at lopenpc.clerk@gmail.com or telephone 07587 211150 and add yourself to the Parish Council mailing list.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR SOMERSET

We are currently expanding our team and are looking to recruit individuals who want to support their local area. We want to reach people who don't necessarily have a background in similar work or relevant qualifications, but are supportive, approachable people who are passionate about their community, can use their initiative and have bucket-loads of

common sense.

The link to the website is:

<https://somerstrcc.org.uk/recruitment/>

All of the roles are listed along with the relevant application forms. The roles particularly aimed at South Somerset include the South Somerset Village Agent and the South Somerset Carers Agent.



Louise and Guy Anderson's daughter, Milly, is marrying Matthew Ward on Saturday 18th May. The Wedding Service will be held at Hinton St George church followed

by a reception at Knapp House, Church Street. *Guy and Louise ask for your understanding on this exciting day, as there will be quite a lot of activity throughout the day with additional cars and guests, and merriment too!*

UPDATE FROM SLOW



You will see that only 39% observed the 30mph speed limit. And over 14% exceeding 40mph. Of the three vehicles exceeding 90mph 2 passed through the village between 2.30 and 4.00 pm in the afternoon!!

Roger Gurner - Co-Chair SLOW

Total Vehicles Recorded	85,426
Number observing 30mph speed limit	33,375
Vehicles between 31 and 39 mph	40,002
Vehicles between 40 and 49 mph	10,043
Vehicles between 50 and 59mph	1,703
Vehicles between 60 and 69 mph	260
Vehicles between 70 and 79mph	32
Vehicles between 80 and 89mph	8
Vehicles exceeding 90mph	3

LOPEN VILLAGE PICNIC

The biennial Lopen Picnic will be held on

Sunday July 14th.

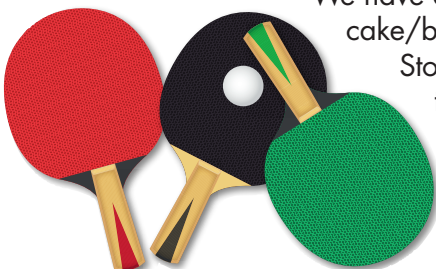
Tickets will be available from early June.

Adults - £8, children aged 4-12 - £4 and children under 4 - free of charge.

TABLE TENNIS DATES

Remember the fortnightly table tennis 'Club' will be held on Sunday **May 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.*



HINTON ST GEORGE VINTAGE VEHICLE SHOW

Sunday May 12th from 10.30am to 3.30pm.

There will be a food stall, beer tent, Pimms station, vintage clothing area, childrens area and craft circle



For more information - <https://www.facebook.com/HSG-Vintage-Vehicle-SHOW-420349408706568/>

All proceeds go to the Playground Fund for Hinton St George First School.

LENT LUNCH

A big thank you for all the support for our Lent Lunch, which was a very happy occasion and raised £365 for Refugees.

BURIAL SERVICE - LOPEN CHURCH, SATURDAY 4TH MAY AT 12 MIDDAY.

Elizabeth Harrington Lynch would welcome anyone from Lopen to come to a short service and burial of her late husband's ashes. William Mansfield Ford Lynch, was the maternal grandson of Rosina Goodland, whose father was the last family owner of Court Farm in Lopen. Rosina emigrated to the USA with her husband, William Ford, of Hook Manor, Tisbury, in about 1900, shortly after they were married at Court Farm (see picture below). One of his maternal great aunts was Violet Layzell, whose mother was Eva Goodland and Rosina's sister. (She lived at Hinton Cottage by the Mill in Lopen and was the Nursing Tutor in Yeovil Hospital). William was an extraordinary man - he was a diplomat specialising in China/Asia and the Middle East. He served in senior positions in the White House under four US Presidents.





Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday 14th May
7.30pm at
The Dawe's Twine Works
in West Coker



Dawe's Twineworks in West Coker, Somerset, dates from 1895 and is believed to be the only surviving rural twineworks with its original Victorian twine-making machinery in place. Recently refurbished, there is the main 'walk' – a two-storey structure more than 100m long and a new visitor centre. The visit will include a tour, tea and cake and is open to partners and friends.

Price payable on the evening £5 per person.

Non-members welcome.

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

SMALL JAM JARS NEEDED



Our church is making an appeal for small jam jars - typically the type Tartare Sauce or Horseradish would come in, and big enough to hold a tea light candle. These are to be used at events such as the 'Christmas by Candlelight' service in the church. If you have any could you please leave them in church or contact Angela on 240 921.

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).



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

CONTACTS

Village website - www.lopen.btck.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Stephen Crane	241 412	scrane1@hotmail.co.uk
	Nick Jones	241 643	nick.jones.lopenpc@outlook.com
	Valerie Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
	Jenny Feeney	419 569	jfeeneyloopenpc@gmail.com

Parish Clerk	Lisa Wilson	07587 211150	loopenpc.clerk@gmail.com
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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
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MEMBER of PARLIAMENT	Marcus Fysh		marcus.fysh.mp@parliament.uk
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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	Malissa Thompson	Dial 101 ask for PCSO 6827	malissa.thompson@avonandsomerset.police.uk
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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	Valerie Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
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LOPEN EYE TEAM

Editor	Les Morton	391 574	lesmorton26@gmail.com
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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.

MAY DATES
 Wednesday 8th & 22nd
 10.30am to 12.00 midday



Everyone welcome - including parents with young children.
 All proceeds to The Epilepsy Society