

LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter FEBRUARY 2019



LOPEN VILLAGE PICNIC

The Lopen Picnic is held every other year and customarily attracts most of Lopen's residents - a great village occasion.

The event originally started in 2002 to celebrate the Queens' Jubilee. However as it proved so popular it has been held biennially since, with Carolyn & Liz doing all the planning and running of the event (with a great group of volunteers).

After the 2017 Picnic they announced they would be stepping down (although still available to assist) and hoped that others within the village would take over.

You are therefore invited to attend a meeting at

7.30pm on

**Wednesday 13th February in
The Sunday School Room.**

We need volunteers to come forward as the band needs to be booked, a date for the event to be agreed - and maybe some fresh ideas? I'm sure we all want to ensure this lovely community event continues, so please do make the effort to come to the meeting.

If you are unable to attend please register your interest by contacting Les Morton on 391 574 or email lesmorton26@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM DONATION

Waitrose in Crewkerne kindly donated £266 to the Lopen Sunday School Room. We were one of the three options for a Community Grant before Christmas - the amount being decided by customers placing

the green plastic coins in a slot as they leave the store. Laura is seen presenting the cheque to Stephen Chapman.

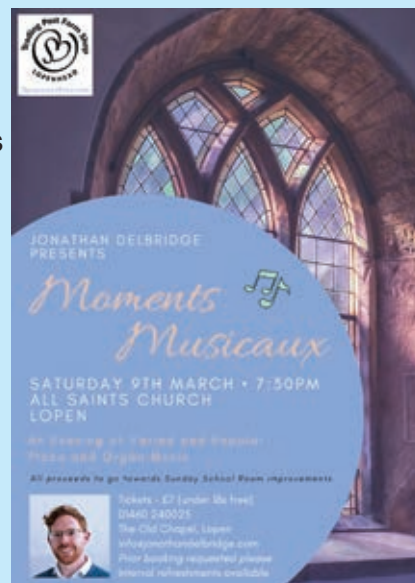


MOMENTS MUSICAUX

Pianist and organist Jonathan Delbridge recently moved to Lopen and having been warmly welcomed to the village, he hopes to give something back to the local community with this concert, to raise funds for the Sunday School Room improvements.

The varied programme will include Beethoven's famous Moonlight Sonata and Scott Joplin's Maple Leaf Rag on the grand piano being hired for the event. And music from Handel's Organ Concerto in F and Wesley's much-loved Choral Song on the church's organ. Seating is

limited and tickets are expected to sell quickly so please do book in advance. The concert is being generously sponsored by the Trading Post Farm Shop (tradingpostfarmshop.co.uk).



YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!



With just five of a possible seven positions occupied, the Lopen Parish 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 Lisa or one of the councillors for more information - see page 2 and the contact details on the back page.

LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

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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.

This year is an election year for the Parish Council, so anyone interested in standing should please contact Lisa, the Parish Council Clerk, for the relevant paperwork. We are at present down by two councillors so please give it some serious thought and maybe put something into your community?

Following our latest meeting on Monday 21st January 2019, I am able to tell you that we are well on our way to resolving the teething troubles with our Speed Indicator Device (SID). After some very exhausting conversations with the supplier's Technical Section between Nick and Simon, it has now been possible to limit the display of excessive speeds to 40 mph but to still record the actual speeds. Hopefully this will deter those drivers intent on seeing how fast a speed they can register on the SID. Also, we are now able to download data in a more usable format which is easier to interpret. We will keep you posted on our progress.

ATTEMPTED FUEL THEFT?

Sometime on Friday night, January 18th, a car parked in the lay-by in Kitchens Lane was tampered with. On Saturday morning it was discovered that the locking fuel cap had been forced and was lying in the road. It's thought that whoever did this was looking for petrol, whilst this car was diesel, or that they were disturbed in the act. Please be vigilant around the village and if you see anyone acting suspiciously or anything unusual please report it to the Police immediately.

WELCOME PACK DISTRIBUTOR

Sally-Ann & Martin Howell have, for some years, been supplying Welcome Packs to anyone who moves into the village. They feel that a 'new face' is probably appropriate - could it be you? If you are interested please contact them on **241 765**.

At our previous meeting it was decided that we would purchase some bags of rock salt for spreading on the pavements (only in icy conditions). The bags are now here and are being distributed around the village. So far – and thanks to the kindness of the householders – they are available at Ballarat House (Frog Street), Shore's Farm (Main Street), 'Oswalds' (Church Street) and Cobwebs (Church Street).

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Parish Council meeting will take place in the Sunday School Room at 7.00pm on:

- Monday March 11th.

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 loopenpc.clerk@gmail.com or telephone **07587 211150** and add yourself to the Parish Council mailing list.

RAINFALL UPDATE

Jeremy Rook has kindly supplied the following data: after a wet November and December, 2018 ended up as an average rainfall year. We had a dry, warm summer but we also had a very wet March, so the damp end and beginning of the year gave us an average year for rainfall. I believe our local reservoir at Sutton Bingham is full now.

The 6 month period 1st May to 31st October was the 5th driest 6 month period in my 30 years of recording. To date in January we have had only 25mm - about 30% of the Long Term Average for Lopen for January. January in 1997 and in 2000 were drier than that but 1997 ended up average and 2000 wetter than average which goes to show that prediction is difficult from one month's figures.

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.

Lopen Plant Fair Plants Needed!



We're busy getting ready for the next Plant Sale and are on the look-out for more plant material with house plants at the top of our list for February. If you are getting rid of tired, tatty or unwanted house plants, Marian would be very interested in them to divide, propagate or, alas, remove to the happy compost heap at the end of the garden - collection is possible. Contact Marian - Tel: 240 179 or email: marianobrien@me.com

For your diaries this years event will be held on
Saturday 11th May from 10.30am to 1pm

UPDATE FROM SLOW



There has been quite an upheaval of the activities of SLoW and Community Speed Watch over the past 3 to 4 months. More on CSW next month but for now a brief look at the situation with the SID.

Having been in use for about 4 months now we have progressed through the usual start up issues of Personnel, Equipment and Operators to where we believe a routine has been established that will give us accurate and regular data from now on.

Better analysis will also be possible as we move on but just give a flavour of the last recorded session over the first 2 weeks of 2019.

Roger Gurner - Co-Chair SLoW

Total Vehicles Recorded	26,357	
Number exceeding 30mph	18,481	<i>Just over 70% of all traffic</i>
Number exceeding 40mph	5,182	<i>Almost 20% of all traffic</i>
Number exceeding 50mph	889	<i>Over 3% of all traffic</i>
Number exceeding 60mph	151	<i>Almost 1% of all traffic</i>
Number exceeding 70mph	36	
Number exceeding 80mph	4	<i>1 of these passed through the village at 2.55pm i.e. School Time. The rest and the one 90 mph were either late evening or very early in the morning.</i>
Number exceeding 90mph	1	

A WARM WELCOME!



Tim & Lisa Farley, who have moved into Manor Farm Cottage in Kitchens Lane, from Donyatt. Tim is an Accountant and Lisa is a Headteacher.

TABLE TENNIS DATES

Remember the fortnightly table tennis 'Club' will be held on Sunday **February 10th & 24th** 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*.



THE FEED STATION IN MERRIOTT



My wife and I recently visited the newly opened cafe at the old School Room, next to the church in Merriott - called The Feed Station. We enjoyed the lovely

atmosphere, service and quality of food & drink and we felt that others within Lopen should know about it. Opened in December by Jenny & Louise, it has proved popular with cyclists, who were there aplenty.

Lopen Eye back copies are available on the Lopen web site as downloadable PDF files from this link:

<http://www.lopen.btck.co.uk/LopenEyeNewsletter>





Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday 12th February
 at 7.30pm in the
Sunday School Room



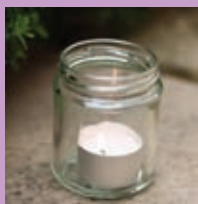
Our talk and slideshow for the evening will be given by Katia Marsh, a photographer, who accompanied a writer studying a remote tribe in Papua New Guinea who specialize in the making of bark-based artefacts.

This will be preceded by the AGM.

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
	Ed Moore	394 583	ed.moore.lopenpc@gmail.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	Teresa Lines	Dial 101	teresa.lines@avonandsomerset.police.uk
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ask for PCSO 3672

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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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.

FEBRUARY DATES

Wednesday 13th & 27th
 10.30am to 12.00 midday



Everyone welcome -
 including parents with young children.

All proceeds to
 The Epilepsy Society