

LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter **SEPTEMBER 2018**



LOPEN FLOWER FESTIVAL A HUGE SUCCESS!

With the theme of Birds of the Bible, the flower festival in All Saints Church was a huge success. There were many impressive floral displays accompanied by appropriate bird song to greet the visitors, some from as far afield as Bridport and Axminster. What a talented group of ladies we have! Supporting the flower displays were a plant stall, raffle, cake stall and refreshments in the Sunday School Room. The weather was kind to us so we had many visitors and the event raised a total of £1,834.81 for the church - a stunning result! A big thanks to Liz Constable and her team of volunteers.



SOMERSET OPEN STUDIOS 2018

Somerset Open Studios 2018 will run from 15-30th September and draws Art Weeks back to its roots, focusing on artists in their working environment. Featuring over 300 artists in 192 venues, visitors will be able to see how artists make their work; their process, practice and inspiration. There will be two locations in Lopen - Pauline Rook will be mostly showing new photographs using a rather different photographic technique - Infra red - with some dramatic photographs taken in Kenya alongside her more usual Somerset based rural photography. She is joined this year by Jo Mills with her Somerset baskets, Peter Thomas with his lovely wood turning and James Crowden with his books. Everyone is welcome to come to the opening night on Friday 14th September 5pm-8pm at the **Old Cider Shed behind Lopen Farmhouse, Church Street.**

Inspired by her charming natural garden at **Manglehouse, Denman Cottage Church Street,** Angela Naunton Davies explores a close relationship between plants, ink, paper and press, producing individual monoprints of exquisite detail and form. She will be joined by Marcus Jubb who designs unique solar powered garden chandeliers to enhance outside spaces and gardens scattering light and rainbows; handcrafted with recycled materials. And Heidi Warr who designs and creates hand-built and hand-thrown earthenware vessels, intricately decorated using traditional techniques. Her collectable artworks are bold statement pieces merging the traditional with the contemporary.

FOOTPATHS PROJECT

Please join us for the

FINAL FOOTPATHS MAINTENANCE PARTY 2018

on Sunday September 23rd at 2.30pm

We will be spending a couple of hours walking the footpaths and undertaking minor clearance, cutting back and tidying to ensure the local paths are in good order for all to enjoy.

We will be meeting at 2.30pm at Holloway Cottage and conclude with some well-earned refreshments.

It would be great to see you!

*Please let us know if you can help
by contacting Ed Moore:*

ed.moore.lopenpc@gmail.com or 394 583

GARDEN FIRES



There were reports of problematic garden bonfires earlier in the year, with smoke and ash drifting into neighbours gardens. With the autumn coming, and the need for bonfires to burn off your garden waste, could we remind readers to give due consideration to their neighbours and ensure the wind is in a direction that will not cause a nuisance - especially the danger of flying sparks where thatched properties are nearby!

LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

After the month's break in the 'Eye' schedule it is difficult to recall all that happened at our last meeting! The highlight of the meeting is that the Parish Council took the decision to purchase a Speed Indication Device (SID) for the village to use. I am pleased to say that the SLOW Campaign managed to convert all of the pledges into funds, which have been paid into the Parish Council bank account. This has enabled the Parish Council to place the order and we hope the SID will be with us soon - hopefully by the end of September!

The second matter that stands out from the last meeting was the interim report given by Simon Frackiewicz on the results of the Village Survey. Although it was only a preliminary report it was most interesting and I for one certainly look forward to the final results; it will go a long way to informing the Parish Council of the views of Lopen residents and helping us to make future decisions. The full results of the village survey will be posted on the village notice board in the near future.

ADOPT A FOOTPATH

Many thanks to all those who helped with footpath maintenance on the recent 'Care For Your Village' day and again we would also like to extend our thanks to the many within the village who regularly work to maintain the footpaths in their own time. With this in mind we would like to develop an 'adopt a footpath' scheme within the Parish. If you have a footpath near you and you feel you could spare some time to maintain this with some simple cutting and pruning please let me know. There is no obligation to commit on a regular basis (as we have the village ranger and we will continue to run footpath afternoons) but any help, however small will keep the village looking its best for everyone to enjoy. If you would be interested in putting your name down or would like further information please contact Ed Moore on ed.moore.lopenpc@gmail.com or 394 583.

FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE

Please join us for the final footpaths maintenance party of 2018 on Sunday the 23rd September. We will be spending a couple of hours walking the footpaths and undertaking minor clearance, cutting back and tidying to ensure they are in good order for all to enjoy. We will be meeting at 2.30pm at Holloway Cottage and will conclude with some well earned refreshments.

It would be great to see you! Please let us know if you can help by contacting Ed Moore - ed.moore.lopenpc@gmail.com or 394 583.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

- Tuesday September 18th.

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.

Further to the Nippybus ceasing trading in November 2017 Transport Somerset are now in a position to provide a timetabled bus service in the Ilminster area, including Lopen, using their in-house fleet Slinky bus. Operating from Martock the bus will provide a Demand Responsive Service in the same area as the previous Nippybus Demand Responsive service. Unfortunately they have no records of the registered users of the previous Nippybus service so would appreciate it if residents could register to use the service once again by calling **01935 411572/477399**. Initially the service will operate on a first come first served basis, but as passenger numbers grow they



may want to target the service in certain areas on certain days of the week as they do with other Slinky bus services in the County. This will ensure that all residents in the area have access to the service. The Slinky service will commence on Monday 3 September 2018. The service will operate on Monday

to Fridays between the hours of 0900 and 1700 and, after registering to use the service, bookings can be made by contacting SSVCA at least 24 hours in advance on 0844 800 9646 Monday to Friday between 0900 and 1700.

English National Concessionary Bus Passes will be accepted for travel on this service at all times.

ROAD CLOSURES



Gigaclear will be continuing their broadband cabling in the area from September 10th. Of particular interest to Lopen are:

Water Street and Frog Street, Lopen - from the junction with Holloway Road to the junction with Water Lane, a distance of 217 metres. The proposed start date is 15th September 2018 for 5 days.

Church Street and Rydon Lane, Lopen - from the junction with Holloway Road to 130 metres east of the property Hazelwood House, a distance of 480 metres. The proposed start date is 26th October 2018 for 7 days. Access to properties will be maintained.

School Lane, Lopen - from the junction with Holloway Road to outside of the Old School House, a distance of 80 metres. The proposed start date is 28th October 2018 for 5 days. Access to properties will be maintained.

Full information will be posted on the village notice board.

A WARM WELCOME!



Rachel has moved to The Cottage, Church Street from Axminster - welcome to Lopen!

VILLAGE WORK PARTY



A big thank you to those of you who helped this year. Although small in number, many tasks were achieved to keep our beautiful church and Sunday School Room in good shape. One of the benches in the churchyard needs a bit of TLC - would any volunteer(s), please contact Steve Chapman on 249 549.

DOG POO PROBLEM!



There seems to be an increase of dog owners NOT clearing up after their dog leaves an unwelcome deposit! It has certainly been noticed in Church Street where various deposits have been made, including in the church grounds. We know that wild animals such as foxes and badgers are also doing this but it is easy to spot the difference. So would all dog owners please ensure they keep an eye on their dog, especially when they are off the lead, and ensure they clean up after them!

YOU DID IT!



To enable the Parish Council to purchase a SID for the village SLoW asked you to help raise £3,500 and you did. In fact the total raised was £3,560 which, together with the small discount we were able to negotiate on the unit price, will cover the cost of an additional mounting bracket. To everyone who helped, our thanks, for your generosity and support. Ben and I look forward to seeing the SID in use very shortly, and to continue being involved with the reduction in speed and improvement in safety of everyone in the village where ever we are able.

Roger Gurner - Co-Chair SLoW

Chocolate Tasting Event

Steve Chapman, a former Waitrose chocolate buyer, will take you on a journey through chocolate with tastings of lots of yummy samples.

Saturday 13 October

from 7pm to about 8.30pm

at

The Tithe Barn, Merriott

£10 per person, under 12s £5

Tickets in advance from either:

Issy Welsh, The Benefice Office, Church Street, Merriott. Tel: 01460 73226 or

Steve Chapman, Ballarat House, Frog Street, Lopen. Tel: 01460 249 549

Tickets numbers will be limited to 60 so book early!

Proceeds in support of the Benefice of Merriott, Hinton St George, Lopen and Dinnington.

RAINFALL UPDATE

Jeremy Rook has kindly supplied the following data - 18 mm of rain was recorded in June - almost all was a thundery shower on the 1st of the month. This is the driest June since 2000, when we had 13 mm - which was followed by a wet July. July was another dry month with a total of 19mm of rain, however it was not as dry as July 2016 when we had only 3mm in the month. The two months combined was only 37 mm which together with the long heatwave caused the only too visible drought.

As a matter of interest on a rolling 12 month basis we are almost spot on the Long Term Average of 790 mm, due to the very wet March we had this year. The wet March is why the reservoirs have held up during the drought.

Looking back to see if there were any drier periods of 2 consecutive months, August & September 2003 - 29 mm in total and May & June 1989 - 30 mm. "I didn't record the rainfall in 1976 though!"



Our next event will be a visit on
Tuesday 11th September
 to start at 6.30pm



**Oxford's
 Artisan Bakers, Alweston**

There will be a light supper, followed by a tour of the bakery and a talk from Steve Oxford, the 4th generation of baker.

This is an OPEN EVENT to include partners and friends.
 Price £5 per head plus drinks and any other purchases on the night.

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

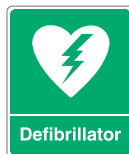
BOTTLE TOPS & BISCUIT WRAPPERS

Milk bottle tops are still being collected - at present the fundraising through recycling is going to the Yeovil, Sherborne and District MS Society.

We have now added plastic film biscuit wrappers, any brand, so come on biscuit connoisseurs!

Fundraising with the wrappers is for the National Trust.

Lopen collection point is
 2 Church Street (Crown Cottage).



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

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



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
Vice Chairman	Simon Frackiewicz	394 975	simon@toadhall.email
	Nick Jones	241 643	nick.jones.lopenpc@outlook.com
	Ed Moore	394 583	ed.moore.lopenpc@gmail.com
	Valerie Canton	242 751	mvccanton@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	Joshua Weldon	Dial 101	joshua.weldon@avonandsomerset.police.uk
		ask for PCSO 6103	

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	Valerie Canton	242 751	mvccanton@talktalk.net
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LOPEN EYE TEAM

Editor	Les Morton	391 574	lesmorton26@gmail.com
	Les Farris	242 254	leslifarris23@aol.com
	Michael Canton	242 751	mvccanton@talktalk.net
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.

**SEPTEMBER
 DATES**

Wednesday
 12th & 26th

10.30am to 12.00 midday



Everyone welcome -
 including parents with young children.

All proceeds to the
 British Heart Foundation