

# LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter **DECEMBER 2019**



*Lopen Parish Council and  
all the team at Lopen Eye  
would like to wish everyone in Lopen  
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

## CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 7th December 10am to 12 midday - *during the day, a Quiet Morning.***  
*Pause for a while in the pre-festive season rush, spend as little or as much time as you want.*  
*Coffee available in the Sunday School Room to share or to help yourself.*

**Wednesday 11th December from 10.30am - *Coffee Stop (the last one for 2019!)***

**Sunday 15th December at 10am - *All Age Communion***

**Thursday 19th December at 6.00pm - *Carols by Candlelight***

**Wednesday 25th December at 10.30am - *Christmas Morning Service***

**Sunday 5th January at 10.30am - *Epiphany Benefice Communion***



## LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

### COUNCILLORS WANTED

With just five of a possible seven positions occupied, the 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 the Parish Clerk Jane Collins, or one of the councillors for more information.

At the October Parish Council meeting it was reported that, after having some technical difficulties with the batteries for the Speed Indicator Device (SID), the manufacturers would be contacted about the life of the charge in the batteries. The SID has now been put back into service. As a result of discussions it was decided to change over the battery on a weekly basis, before the battery actually 'goes flat', to ensure the SID keeps working. This duty has very kindly been undertaken by members of Safer Lopen Now (SLOW). We hope the battery issue has now been resolved however, if anyone notices the SID not working, it would be very helpful to advise a member of either the Parish Council or SLOW, so that the matter may be investigated. Thank you!

*As we approach the festive season I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the whole of Lopen Parish Council, to wish each one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

**- Monday 9th December**

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](http://www.lopen.btck.co.uk/LopenParishCouncil)



**There will be no Lopen Eye in January**

## SUNDAY WALKS WITH PUB LUNCH

There will be no walk in January

Forthcoming Lopen walk

**Sunday 2nd February**

**Royal Oak, Over Stratton**

Please meet at the Sunday School Room at 11.00am promptly as all pub tables are booked for 12.30.

All walks are dog friendly.

*If you are interested in the walk please contact Belinda on 240 973 or email [belinda.bezance@gmail.com](mailto:belinda.bezance@gmail.com) at least one week prior so she has numbers for the pub booking.*



## Christmas Willow Wreath Making Class

**Saturday 14th December - 2pm to 4pm**

in the

**Sunday School Room**

Only 2 places available – price £15

This is to be an informal and fun session. Just bring your secateurs, gloves and any foliage from your garden you wish to include and I will provide everything else.

All proceeds to the new Village Fund

Places must be booked with Christianne on 249 766.



### SAND & GRIT FOR FOOTPATHS

With the colder weather coming there may be times when the footpaths are icy and in need of salt/grit. There are bags of this strategically placed around Lopen for you to use - 2 bags each with Rod Page at Pound Cottage, Church Street, with Seamus & Marian at the Old Bakehouse, with Steve Chapman at Ballarat Farm in Frog Street and with Michael & Valerie Canton also in Frog Street. These are for use on the pavements only. There are bags outside the Church which are for emergency use only.

Dorothy, Gaynor & Trevor of Hazelwood House, Rydon Lane, would to thank all the villagers for their kindness and generosity in welcoming us to Lopen, due to the terrible sadness of losing Graham only days after moving here. We have been overwhelmed with warmth and support. You are a beautiful village and community, and should be so very proud of yourselves.

*Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.*

*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 MISTLETOE FAYRE

The annual Mistletoe Fayre was a great success - plenty of stalls loaded with many items including home-made cakes, savouries & preserves, plants, local hand-made craft items, toys, books - and of course the ever popular bottle tombola - a fantastic total of over was £2280 raised! This is shared between the Lopen Church and the new Village Fund. And a special thanks to everyone for their responses to the raffle - it raised an amazing £841, whilst the plant stall raised £589! And to everyone who donated so generously towards the prizes. A special thanks to all the volunteers who gave their time to set it all up, make produce, run stalls, and the ladies who ran the refreshment area throughout the morning. And a big thank you to all who came and supported the fayre.

### VILLAGE SUPPER PARTY



We had a full house for the village supper and I believe everyone enjoyed it. I was able to send off



£138 to Children in Need. My sincere thanks to the pudding makers and as always to Liz Constable who shares all the rest of the work involved.

*Carolyn*

### A MESSAGE FROM LUCY FRACKIEWICZ

Early next year I will be going to Southern India as part of a school exchange organised between Maiden Beech Academy and TVS school in Tumkur, near Bangalore. Last month we had two girls called Monisha and Saanvi stay with us for 10 days for the first part of the exchange. This is a picture of



the Indian students who came to stay in England. We loved showing them around our village. As part of preparation for the exchange, we have to do some fundraising to cover part of the cost of the trip. One

example is the chance to have an aerial photograph of your house for just £20. For more details, contact [rob@swdroneimages.co.uk](mailto:rob@swdroneimages.co.uk). All of the money from this will go directly to the India Exchange.

We are also hopefully going to have a curry night prepared by the chef from Tiffins and Tapas in West Coker. More details to follow!

I look forward to sharing my experiences from India with you when I return home!

### REFUGEE COMMUNITY KITCHEN.

This year's Lent Lunch supported this organisation, and I felt we should show what an excellent job they are doing. They have been awarded the Observer Food Monthly Award for outstanding achievement.

### TABLE TENNIS DATES

Remember the fortnightly table tennis 'Club' will be held on Sunday **December 8th & 22nd and January 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'.



The Carols by Candlelight in Lopen Church will be at **6pm on Thursday 19th December**  
Little shepherds and angels are welcome.





# Member's Christmas Dinner

at  
New Farm Restaurant, Over Stratton

## Tuesday 10th December

7pm for 7.30pm



Our next meeting will be on  
**January 9th at 7.30pm**  
at the **Sunday School Room.**



This will be our AGM followed by 'Winter Games' with items loaned to us by Yeovil Museum.

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.



The table tennis table will be up and ready for play during school holidays - unless there is another booking. No charge but donations towards electricity welcome. Keys available from Angela 240 921, Carolyn 240 717 or Liz 240 912.

Over Christmas and New Year will you need extra glasses, cutlery or plates etc? You can book/borrow from the Sunday School Room (donations welcome) - contact Angela 240 921.

Have you 'liked' the Lopen Events Facebook page? Have a look - [www.facebook.com/Lopen-Events-277018432630673/](http://www.facebook.com/Lopen-Events-277018432630673/)

## CONTACTS

Village website - [www.lopen.btck.co.uk](http://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
	Chris Marsh	07951 239110	chrismarshlpc@gmail.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
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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

Mike Bell	Dial 101 ask for PCSO 7954		mike.bell@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
	Les Farris	242 254	leslifarris23@aol.com
	Michael Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
Proof-reading	Penny Little	242 474	penelopejlittle@gmail.com

## COFFEE STOP at the Sunday School Room

Only **£1** for a hot drink (including refill) and a slice of homemade cake.

### DECEMBER & JANUARY DATES

Wednesday 11th

Wednesday 8th & 22nd  
10.30am to 12.00 midday



Everyone welcome - including parents with young children.

All proceeds to



An international children's charity with a sustainable approach to problems with cleft lip and palate.