

# LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish  
Newsletter  
APRIL  
2012



**SUNDAY 3rd JUNE  
LOPEN'S  
JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

**TRADITIONAL  
STREET PARTY  
12.30pm - 5.00pm**

Further details to follow in  
the next LOPEN EYE  
Meanwhile, please make a note  
of the date!.

**OLYMPIC TORCH  
- LATEST**



**Sadly, it has been confirmed  
that the Olympic Torch will not  
now be carried by a runner  
past Lopen Head, as reported  
earlier. It will, however, be  
touring Ilminster early on May  
22nd.**

***See local press for details.***

**EASTER CHICKS.....  
WITH A DIFFERENCE**



**Do you know what they are?  
Answer on the back page.**

**The Sweet, Refreshing Rain -  
well, not much so far this year**



Jeremy Rook of Church Street is an official recorder of rainfall. Jeremy reports that this February's rainfall was just 14.7mm. That compares to 48.5mm last year and the Long Term Average for February of 62mm. "February Fill-Dyke" it wasn't. January's figures were better but still way down. Time to install a waterbutt; or perhaps an extra one.

Lopen Eye is sponsored by Chris Pitcher of County Car Company Tel 01935 412 828. Over 40 cars in stock. [www.countycarcompany.co.uk](http://www.countycarcompany.co.uk). ***If we haven't got the car you want in stock we will be able to source one via our Used Car Locator service.***

## ***Parish Council Chairman Barry Davolls writes....***

### **SSDC guilty of maladministration**

South Somerset District Council (SSDC) have been found guilty of maladministration for failing to adhere to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations in respect of various planning applications relating to the Lopenhead industrial development. Many locals who have monitored events at Lopenhead will not be surprised by this as most would agree, SSDC drove a coach and horses through many national and local planning policies in allocating the site in the first place. Add to that the brushing aside of EU led EIA regulations and as far as I am concerned, that's a full house!

### **SSDC to reconsider?**

I would like to think this latest development will encourage SSDC to re-consider their approach to Lopenhead as, I believe, a correctly executed EIA screening process would have led to the requirement for an Environmental Impact Assessment that would, at the very least, have resulted in significant mitigation of the visual, light and noise impacts in a way the current approach will not.

### **New green field planning application at Lopenhead**

Probiotics who occupy the two buildings already developed at Lopenhead have applied to build a third on an adjacent green field site. This application will be the subject of an extraordinary meeting of Lopen Parish Council (LPC) at 7pm on Monday 16th April in the Schoolroom.

### **Good News!**

Paul Maxwell, our Somerset County Councillor, recently reported that the previously threatened number 91 bus service has, at the last minute, been saved. Not only will the service remain unchanged, it will now also stop at South Petherton hospital too. Thanks to Paul and all those involved who worked hard on our behalf to keep this vital service.

### **Parking Charges on the Increase**

SSDC have recently announced their intention to increase parking charges at various locations across South Somerset. The proposed changes include cost increases and, in some instances, the charging periods being extended too. Full details can be viewed on the village website.

### **Are you obstructing pavements?**

There are a few locations across the village where pavements and highways are being obstructed by poorly maintained hedges and shrubs etc. Please take the time to frequently check that the footpaths and highways outside your property are not being throttled by vegetation (or anything else come to that) that should be confined to your boundary.

#### **PLEASE NOTE - APRIL 16th**

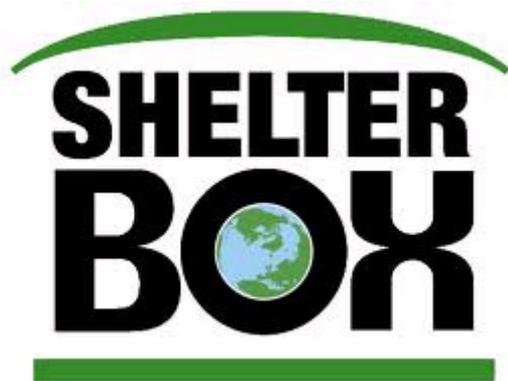
**There will be an extraordinary Parish Council Meeting to discuss the new Lopenhead planning application on Monday 16th April at 7.00pm in the Schoolroom.**

**You are invited to attend.**



## Playing Bridge in Lopen

Contract Bridge is taking off in Lopen. Amongst the known players are Natasha Wibroe, Chris & Judith Payne and Helen Kearney who are playing under the watchful eye of Michael Canton and also Malcolm & Sally-Ann Howell and Brian Drinkall. Anyone wishing to play, or to learn this fascinating game (which is said to keep dementia at bay) should contact any of the above.



**The LENT LUNCH for ShelterBox was very well supported.**

**So much so, writes Sally-Ann, that a total of £547 was raised which, with the addition of Gift Aid on the donations, will raise enough to pay for Lopen to send another family in desperate need a ShelterBox.**

### DISCLAIMER

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of Lopen Parish Council or its members.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There has been a slight increase in reports of bogus callers and police would like to highlight the need to take care over such callers. The following are brief examples of incidents this week.

1. Resident saw a male waving through the window and went to investigate. He spoke jibberish and pointed to the rear of the property. Victim followed the male round the house but left the front door open. Victim later found that a bag and contents had been stolen.
2. Resident contacted on the phone by a company alleging to be working in conjunction with the police and that they had police-vetted staff in the area able to give householders a security check. The telephone caller tried to persuade the householder that they had to make an appointment straight away in order to be eligible for the discount.

Whether its a stranger at the door, a stranger on the phone, unsolicited Email or post - then it should all be treated with care. **Please also remember that the police do not endorse companies of any type.**

If you have information about any crime, phone the police on 101.

## LITTER LOUTS

This lovely spot in Broomhill Lane was someone's idea of a suitable place to dump their household rubbish recently. Flytipping, and throwing out stuff from vehicle windows, are selfish and anti-social practices.

**Flytipped rubbish should be reported to the district council on 01935 462 462, when its collection will be arranged - at council taxpayers' expense, of course.**



*Postscript. These bags were collected promptly by the council but were soon replaced by an old sofa. This, too, has now been collected - at further expense.*



## TUESDAY 17th APRIL at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom

MONTACUTE HOUSE is a magnificent, glittering 16thC mansion built for Sir Edward Phelips. There are many renaissance features and the Long Gallery, the longest in England, displays over 60 of the finest Tudor and Elizabethan portraits from the National Portrait Gallery collection. The State Rooms display a fine range of period furniture and textiles. **This evening's talk will be given by Sonja Power and is an opportunity to learn more of Montacute's history.**



Visitors are most welcome at all meetings and entry is £2.50 for members and £3.00 for visitors to include coffee and cake afterwards. **Andrew Kearney 240 287**

## Lopen JUST WOMEN

## TUESDAY 10th APRIL at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom

### MOTHER of PEARL

A talk by Francis Watson with a display of Mother of Pearl pieces.



Further information from Carole (01935 824 595) or Helen (240 287)

## 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	tsloopenpc1@btinternet.com
	Peggie Finlayson	240 059	finpix1@btinternet.com
Parish Clerk	Carole Mansfield	01935 824 595	cgmansfieldpc@talktalk.net

### 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 Paul Maxwell	271 155	pmaxwell@somerset.gov.uk
-------------------	---------	--------------------------

### MEMBER of PARLIAMENT

The Rt Hon David Laws	01935 423 284	david.laws@yeovil-libdems.org.uk
-----------------------	---------------	----------------------------------

### ALL SAINTS CHURCH Benefice Office 73226 Issy Welsh

Rectors Rev. Julia Hicks, Rev. Bob Hicks 76406

Churchwardens Angela Naunton Davies 240 921 & Liz Constable 240 912

**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
Events Secretary	Andrew Kearney	240 287	andrewfkearney@aol.com

### JUST WOMEN

Chairman	Carole Mansfield	01935 824 595	carolegrace@tiscali.co.uk
Vice Chairman	Lynn Benfield	929 205	lynn.ian@virgin.net
Treasurer	Zena Morgan	77259	zenam1@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary	Helen Kearney	240 287	hfkearney@hotmail.com
<b>POLICE CSO</b>	Kym Rudge	<b>dial 101 and ask for PCSO 9275</b>	
		kym.rudge@avonandsomerset.police.uk	

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Martin Howell	241 765	samhowell2@talktalk.net
---------------	---------	-------------------------

### LOPEN EYE

Editor	Les Farris	242 254	leslifarris23@aol.com
	Michael Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
	Peter Little	242 474	peterlittle6@aol.com
Distribution	Andrew Kearney	240 287	andrewfkearney@aol.com

## COFFEE MORNINGS at the SCHOOLROOM



in APRIL

Wednesday 11th and Wednesday 25th  
10.30 until 12.00 midday.  
Only £1 for a hot drink (and refill) plus a slice of home-made cake.

The Easter Chicks shown on the front page are EMUs. Not a type of fowl often seen in Somerset. These little beauties were reared from eggs hatched in an incubator by Barry and Kim of Broomhill Lane.