

LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish
Newsletter
JULY
2013



The 2013 LOPEN VILLAGE PICNIC

Sunday 25th August
at Canton's Field
from 2.30pm until late

Is it in your diary?

Held every other year on August Bank Holiday, almost everyone in Lopen makes a point of attending this friendly get-together. Visiting friends and family are most welcome!



Canton's Field (used by kind permission of Michael and Valerie Canton) is at the top of School Lane.



Fun for all ages
with games,
children's
races, cream
teas, a hog
roast and live
music for
dancing.

HELP NEEDED

on Saturday 24th and Monday 26th to erect and dismantle the marquee, staging, etc. Please volunteer your help to Carolyn White on 240 717. Thank you!

TICKET PRICES to include a cream tea and the Hog Roast

Under 10s Free
10-15 year olds £3
Over 15 £6

Tickets available from
Carolyn White (240 717) in Church Street
Peter & Penny Little (242 474) in Frog Street

Lopen Eye is sponsored by Chris Pitcher, who can provide all your gardening and home decorating needs, call 01460 240 506 or 07714 631 007. Also Autohouse Cars. If the car you want is not in stock, I will be able to find it through my used car locator service.

REPORT BACK from PARISH CHAIRMAN BARRY DAVOLLS

David Laws Advice Centres

Our Local MP, David Laws, is to visit Lopen to meet local residents and offer advice on local and national issues. David will park near the junction of Church Street (normally in the lay-by next to the telephone booth) at approximately 10am on the 29th July 2013. Take this opportunity to meet David and raise any relevant issues face to face.

Speed Indicator Device (SID)

We have now received the results from the SID installation in Lopen (both north and south bound) during May and early June. May appears to be our busiest period for total vehicle movements through the village when compared with other scheduled installation dates. For this latest period, the average movements per day (counting both directions) was in the region of 2600. Due to the varying timing of each installation, it's difficult to draw too many conclusions from the figures other than to note that speeding remains a significant issue but total vehicle movements do not appear to have increased over the last year or so.

Planning Application Responses

A quick note to remind local residents that not all Lopen PC's planning responses are agreed during a public meeting. To avoid numerous extraordinary meetings for seemingly uncontentious planning applications, Lopen PC has adopted a scheme of delegation that allows the Clerk to respond in consultation with the members outside of any formal meeting. This is a two stage process that allows any member of the Council or the public to object to delegation in which case, a public meeting will be called. Public notices are posted on the official notice board (junction of Church Street and Holloway) and, when possible, on the Lopen website.

We also email, free of charge, the public notice to anyone who has subscribed to Lopen PC's email alert system.

To subscribe, visit the Lopen website Parish Council section at www.lopen.btck.co.uk.

South Somerset Local Plan 2016-28

One of the last stages before adoption of the District wide development plan to 2028 has just been completed. The three week public examination of South Somerset's local plan has now finished and the plan inspector is aware of all the relevant local issues and concerns. Whilst it will be some time before the inspector's conclusions will be published, he did give a short statement on the last day indicating his concerns over some aspects of the plan. He stated that some changes being proposed by the District Council may be regarded as a major modification (which I understand will require re-drafting and further public consultation). He also expressed concerns over the soundness of some aspects of the plan the extent of which will not be known until further discussions have taken place between himself and the District Council. I will report further on this as matters become clearer.



LOPEN VILLAGE WEBSITE

Have you looked at our excellent village website? Designed and managed by Parish Clerk Kim McDonald, it carries a wealth of information about such things as the history of Lopen, the parish council, village interest groups, local links and police news. The current and back issues of Lopen Eye can also be found on the website at

www.lopen.btck.co.uk



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL LOPEN FLOWER FESTIVAL



Despite poor weather, June's Flower Festival on the theme of *Children's Fantasies* raised an impressive total after costs of £1,122. Judging by the comments of visitors to those overseeing the event, and entries in the visitors book, this year's Festival was also a great success in artistic terms - and a credit to all who contributed designs.

LOPEN'S FUNDRAISING TOTAL REACHES £5,724 OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS

2012

£1,446 in September from last year's Flower Festival plus
£472 from providing teas during Somerset Arts Week
£1,733 from November's Mistletoe Fayre
£26 in December for St. Margaret's Hospice Xmas Card

2013

£150 Wednesday coffee mornings
£529 May's Plant Sale
£1,122 June Flower Festival

Much of the money raised has been put towards the costly re-thatching of the School Room roof but there has also been a sizeable award to Help for Heroes in addition to the good causes mentioned above. Although, unusually, two Flower Festivals are included in this one year period, it remains a fact that with an adult population of only about 200, Lopen has raised very nearly £29 per head. This is in addition, of course, to street collections and private giving. And then there were the 24 shoeboxes and toys collected for children in poverty in other countries at Christmas.

(It would be interesting to know if any other small village can match this level of involvement and generosity. Ed.)

This year's **PET SERVICE** at Lopen Church will be on **SUNDAY 21st JULY** at **3.00pm.**



All shapes, sizes and varieties of family pets will be made most welcome. There will be tea and animal-shaped biscuits to enjoy after the service.

**CHURCHYARD & SCHOOLROOM
WORKING PARTY on
SATURDAY 27th JULY from 9.30am
with a (free) Ploughman's Lunch
for the workers.**



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

BE VIGILANT!

Criminals were active in South Petherton last month.

Overnight **June 6/7** there was a break-in in Silver Street at a stable and tack and equipment was stolen. The same night a garden ornament was stolen from the front of a house at Stoodham and a garden hose went missing from another house in Silver Street.

On **June 9th** a vehicle parked in Roundwell Street suffered malicious damage.

Don't make things any easier for thieves and keep sheds locked.

Martin Howell

STOLEN CARS

Police believe the following stolen cars might have been abandoned locally. Please 'phone 101 should you spot any of them.

Peugeot 206

NV53 MGJ

Audi 3

YA55 VKJ

Nissan Navara

MV53 KUH

Nissan Urban

N270 CYC

£3 Members, Visitors
£3.50 - to include
refreshments and
a raffle ticket,

Guests are
always welcome.
Further information from
Andrew Kearney
240 287



TUESDAY 16th JULY
at 7.30pm
in the Schoolroom

**FIRST WORLD WAR
COLLECTIONS**
a talk by
Barbara Gilbert



Good-Bye Old Man

Lopen JUST WOMEN

Enquiries to
Margaret Linton
Tele 241 162

TUESDAY 9th JULY

A visit to
MINTERNE GARDENS
near Cerne Abbas in Dorset:
meeting there at 2.30pm.



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	tslopenpc1@btinternet.com
	Peggie Finlayson	240 059	finpix1@btinternet.com
Parish Clerk	Kim McDonald	242 297	mcdonald.lopenpc@btinternet.com

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 Christopher Le Hardy	01935 850 212	clehardy@somerset.gov.uk
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MEMBER of PARLIAMENT

The Rt Hon David Laws	01935 423 284	david.laws.mp@parliament.uk
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ALL SAINTS CHURCH Benefice Office

Rectors Rev. Julia Hicks, Rev. Bob Hicks	73226	Issy Welsh
Churchwarden Angela Naunton Davies	76406	240 921

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

JUST WOMEN

Chairman	Lynn Benfield	929 205	lynn.ian@virgin.net
Treasurer	Zena Morgan	77259	zenam1@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary	Margaret Linton	241 162	margaretlinton79@yahoo.com

POLICE CSO

Ceara Sturt	101 and ask for PCSO 8340
	ceara.sturt@avonandsomerset.police.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Martin Howell	241 765	samhowell2@talktalk.net
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LOPEN EYE

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COFFEE MORNINGS at the SCHOOLROOM



in JULY

Wednesdays 10th & 24th
10.30 until 12.00 midday.
Only £1 for a hot drink
(and refill) plus a slice of
home-made cake.

*The views expressed in Lopen Eye
are not necessarily those held by
Lopen Parish Council and its
members*