

LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter **SEPTEMBER 2017**



TWO ROAD INCIDENTS ON ONE DAY!

On 1st August there were two separate incidents in Lopen, both causing the main road through the village to be closed. The first happened about lunch time outside Little Orchard on the Merriott Road, where a car ran into the back of a parked car. The impact pushed Ella Cranes car up across the path and into the wall of the house, putting the drivers car into the hedge opposite. The Police attended but luckily the driver only had minor injuries.

Later in the day, about 5pm, there was a more serious accident where a cyclist coming down the hill, through Holloway, collided with a vehicle coming out of a driveway. The Police closed the road as the incident was attended by paramedics, an ambulance and then the air ambulance. The cyclist suffered significant



facial and head injuries including three skull fractures, as well as a broken hand and a variety of more minor scrapes and bruises. Luckily, Nicki Middleton and Sarah Mason, both trained nurses, and who live opposite the scene of the accident, were able to attend to the cyclist until the medical teams arrived. He was subsequently taken by land ambulance to hospital in Taunton and, despite early concerns, is expected to make a full recovery. The road remained closed until around 7pm.



RELAY FOR LIFE

The Village Supper, hosted by Madeleine Bennett, in July 2017, raised (along with some very generous donations) a grand total of £205.00 for Cancer Research. Madeleine's team raised over £1,000 and the whole Relay for Life event held at Wadham School, Crewkerne, raised over £52,000. A fantastic effort by all who walked for 24 hours.



Whilst it's almost too simple to suggest that both these accidents might have been avoided, or at least mitigated, had the long awaited road safety improvements in Lopen already been carried

out. But who knows? SLOW has consistently campaigned, in conjunction with the Parish Council, for lower speed limits, particularly a 20mph zone along the sections of both Holloway and Merriott Road in the centre of the village. It has always been our view that this, together with suitable road width markings, would make the most easily achieved and cost effective contribution to reducing the often very high speeds of through traffic. We still await details of the revised scheme from Highways, but perhaps at the very least these unfortunate events might yet prompt a response more appropriate to the requirements and feelings of the residents and without further delay. But, whilst we wait, please continue to lobby our MP, Councillors, Highways, etc. or even join Speedwatch.

HARVEST FESTIVAL WEEKEND

4th & 5th October

The Church will be open on both days. Donations of produce to decorate the church are invited. Volunteers are welcome to arrange flowers, fruit and vegetables on Wed 1st, Thurs 2nd & Fri 3rd. Store cupboard goods are needed to help support the local charity, yet to be announced by the PCC.

HARVEST SERVICE with Songs of Praise at 6pm

to be followed by an Harvest Supper.

No tickets needed but contributions of money or store cupboard foods are welcome.

If arrangers can sign up on the list in the porch by September 30th, it will help us make sure all corners of the church can look Autumnally beautiful.

For more information contact Liz 240 912 or Angela 240 921.

LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH CLERK

It is with regret that I have announce the resignation of our Parish Clerk Lisa Wilson after just over a year in the post. This means that we are again looking for a Parish Clerk. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please see the advert in this edition giving more details.

NEW COUNCILLORS

The Council has one further vacancy so there is still the opportunity to join if you wish to put yourself forward.

ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

The Council and SLOW have responded to the written follow-up to our meeting with County Highways. We have suggested some additions and improvement to their draft revised proposal and continue to press for a reduced speed limit. Feedback on this is expected soon. No sooner had this had been sent off, when we had "Black Tuesday" with not one, but two road accidents within the village on the same day - see the front page for further information. We have made sure that County Highways are aware of both incidents.

FLY-TIPPING

There have recently been two incidences of fly-tipping with garden waste being dumped in a gateway off Higgins Grave Lane and at the junction of the same lane and Lopen Lane. If you spot other examples of this please let a councillor know or report it directly to SSDC via their website.

<https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/environment/environmental-health/environmental-protection/fly-tipping/>

Should you spot anyone in the act of tipping, please try and make a note of the registration number or any vehicle sign-writing.

FOOTPATHS

Saturday 5th August saw the second footpath clearance day of 2017 at the same time as the annual churchyard tidying day. In spite of a couple of sharp showers a very respectable amount of work was done, both in the churchyard and on the footpaths, followed by a welcome ploughman's lunch in the Sunday School room .

A pleasant and useful morning spent in good company without being too onerous. If you missed out this time, don't worry, I'm sure it'll be repeated at least once next year!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

- Thursday September 14th.

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



PARISH CLERK VACANCY

With Lisa having tendered her resignation we have an urgent need for a replacement Parish Clerk. This is a vital role,

providing administrative support to the council and needing approximately 4 hours a week. There is a modest salary available and training will be given. If you are interested, please contact Nick or Lisa for details.

CHURCH WORK PARTY AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE DAY

A big thank you to all of you who helped in the annual Church Work Party and the Lopen Maintenance Day on Saturday 5 August. With over 30 volunteers, including several youngsters, we managed to complete many tasks.



It was also a great social occasion with a splendid lunch provided by Angela Naunton-Davies. So, thank you to all in helping to keep our beautiful church and village a place to be proud of.

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 VILLAGE PICNIC

The Picnic was a great success, with perfect Bank Holiday weather! With about 120 people enjoying the occasion - and good to see so many new Lopen residents too!

Special thanks to Organizer **Carolyn White** and her team - Catering: **Mike, Liz, Patrick, Andrew**, ticket sales **Jean** and the ladies of Lopen who prepared the super salads!

Kim & Mark who supplied the ice creams. Childrens Games: **Ben & Felicity. John Pitcher** for providing the hay bales. And many thanks, of course, to **Michael & Valerie Canton** for the loan of their field and the **Bennett family** for use of their water & electricity.

And a big thank you to all those people who helped set up and dismantle the marquees.



LOPEN MISTLETOE FAYRE

will be held this year on
Saturday December 2nd

The next meeting will be at
4.30pm on Tuesday October 17th at Old School
House, School Lane, Lopen.

Anyone interested taking part/helping please
contact Victoria Bennett on 240 077.

ANY TABLE TENNIS PLAYERS?

I'm thinking of starting a Table Tennis club in the Sunday School Room. It's still at the thinking stage, but perhaps 3-5pm on alternate Sundays? All ages welcome - and we could have tea! Perhaps children could also play at other times

- wet days in the holidays, etc. If it's of interest to you please contact Carolyn on 240 717 or email carorooney@talktalk.net



JUST WOMEN VISIT TO KINGFISHER FALCONRY

On 1st August a lovely afternoon at Kingfisher Falconry was enjoyed by Lopen Just Women members and followers.



SHOE BOX APPEAL 2017



We are fast approaching Shoe-Box time again and we would be delighted if you could help once more with our 2017 Appeal. We are so grateful for your generosity every year and we know that many desperately poor and marginalised people in

Eastern Europe will be deeply touched as they receive their shoe-boxes this Christmas . Boxes can be sent to every age-range, from babies to the elderly, so the choice is yours! Leaflets giving more details are available from mid September in the Church and the Broadway Garage, Merriott. Completed boxes as well as 'fillers' can be dropped off at the address below. We would also be grateful for any extra empty shoe-boxes. Thank you so much . Sally-Ann Howell Crown Cottage ,Church Street. Tel 241765 **All boxes to be ready for collection by November 4th.**



Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday 12th September
Glastonbury
Rural Museum



An afternoon visit and guided tour of the newly re-opened Glastonbury Rural Museum.

Please contact Margaret on 01460 241162 for further details.

Non-members welcome.

For further information please telephone Margaret Linton : 241 162 or email margaretlinton79@yahoo.com



Our church is open for private prayers and reflection every day. For many it is hard to cope with the news of the horrors of terrorism and violence in the World. For centuries our church has been a place of sanctuary and prayer and it is still here for everybody. You can come and sit

a while in this quiet peaceful spiritual place with your own thoughts and prayers. There is also a box where you can leave a confidential request, if you wish, for others to pray for you or for others.

Hinton St George First School & Pre-School

Open Morning

For prospective new parents & pupils

Tuesday October 10th
9.30am - 11.30am

Places available starting September 2017
 Please call us on 01460 72653
 West Street, Hinton St George, TA17 8SA

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	Nick Jones	241 643	nick.jones.lopenpc@outlook.com
Vice Chairman	Stephen Crane	241 412	scrane1@hotmail.co.uk
	Ed Moore	394 583	ed.moore.lopenpc@gmail.com
	Mark	242 889	mblopenpc@gmail.com
	Valerie Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
	Simon Frackiewicz	394 975	simon@toadhall.email

Parish Clerk	Lisa Wilson	07587 211150	lopenpc.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

JUST WOMEN

Chairwoman	Pauline Rook	240 644	prook12@gmail.com
Treasurer	Christianne Long	249 766	christianne@lopen.me.uk
Secretary	Margaret Linton	241 162	margaretlinton79@yahoo.com

POLICE CSO	Amy Douch	Dial 101	amy.douch@avonandsomerset.police.uk
		ask for PCSO 8186	

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	Peter Little	242 474	peteralittle6@aol.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
 13th & 27th

10.30am to 12.00 midday



Everyone welcome -
 including parents with young children.

All proceeds to
 Somerset Prostate Support Association