

# LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter

JUNE 2018



## ROADSIDE 'SID' FOR LOPEN



As you may be aware the question of the continuing provision of SIDs in the village has been the subject of much discussion over recent months. The choice finally coming down to accepting a reduced scheme from

Somerset County Council using mostly old equipment at a cost of £100 per session, with perhaps 4 to 6 two week sessions per year, or providing our own device that could possibly be in use for at least 40 weeks of the year at an initial cost of between £2,500 and £3,500, dependent on the type of device purchased. There would be a further cost of at least £600 for the cost of essential training by SCC approved providers, with currently up to £150 being covered by the County. These options have been the subject, both within and outside, of recent LPC meetings. At the Annual Parish meeting on the 12th May broad agreement was reached that the village might go ahead with a self funded solution. The final details of the legal positions of both the LPC in such a scheme and any monies raised will be decided in the near future. At the Annual meeting Roger Gurner, as Co-Chair of SLOW, volunteered to be responsible for raising the money from the village for the purchase of a device, and he has been very encouraged by initial indications of support, with the LPC undertaking to meet the cost of any training required and assuming legal ownership in order to ensure insurance cover for both the equipment

and public liability cover for its use and installation

Although there is little doubt that the scheme will go ahead, and hopefully very soon, it would seem more appropriate

to request pledges, at this stage, for any sum that you might be prepared to offer, rather than become involved in collecting any actual funds, until the position of the LPC is completely clear.

Roger is therefore asking that should you feel able to make a contribution of any amount you could indicate to him, in complete confidence, the sum you might have in mind. Any figure from £1.00 to £1,000 will help, and would be very gratefully received, to achieve the target to help reduce the speed of traffic through our village and personal safety of anyone using, or crossing, the roads in Lopen. Once the legal positions are satisfactorily established, he will approach all who have offered 'pledges' to ask that they make their donations directly to the LPC, who will act as fund holder to ensure complete financial transparency. Thanks to you all for your generosity and concern for the safety of life in our village.

**Roger can be contacted at - [slow@freeola.com](mailto:slow@freeola.com) or 07831 597611.**



## LOPEN FLOWER FESTIVAL

Planned for the weekend of 18/19th August,  
10am-5pm both days.

The next meeting for flower arrangers will be on  
Thursday 26th July at 4.30pm in the  
Sunday School Room.

Anyone who would like to help with flowers  
is welcome to join us.

*For more information call Liz Constable on 240 912.*

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>



## FOOTPATHS PROJECT

Please join us for the

**FOOTPATHS MAINTENANCE PARTY on  
Sunday June 10th  
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 a well-earned cream tea.

***It would be great to see you!***  
*Please let us know if you can help  
by contacting Ed Moore:*

*[ed.moore.lopenpc@gmail.com](mailto:ed.moore.lopenpc@gmail.com) or 394 583*

# **LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING**

The recent annual general meeting has brought a change of management with Stephen Crane taking the Chairmanship and Simon Frackiewicz supporting as vice-chairman.

Council duties were allocated as follows:

Footpaths - Ed Moore

Highways and Ranger Liaison - Stephen Crane

Planning Matters - Nick Jones & Jenny Feeney

Social, Health & Wellbeing - Valerie Canton

## **NEW COUNCILLOR**



We are also delighted to welcome Jenny Feeney back to the council after some time away. Her practical common-sense and forthright approach will further strengthen the team.

This brings us to back up to six councillors, which is a very much better position. This does leave one further vacancy though, so there is still the opportunity to join if you wish.

## **VILLAGE MEETING**

Saturday 12th May was a very busy day. In the morning the spring plant sale brought many people from the village and further afield to the Church and Sunday School room. Helped by excellent organisation and fine weather, this turned out to be extraordinarily successful with good trade done in both plants and refreshments! It also provided plenty of opportunity to chat and get people's views on local matters. I was also delighted to see people posting their completed surveys, with a number taking a second sheet after failing to come to a household agreement!

Then, in the evening the "official" part of the village meeting took place, though with plenty of cheese and wine on hand to dispel any sense of formality. This was an enjoyable and very useful evening with plenty of lively discussion. Though many matters were discussed, the one that is clearly at the forefront of people minds is that of the main road, traffic speed and the need for a speed indication device. While the Council has been looking at this for a while, there was a clear message that the process needs to be speeded up, and if cost is a problem, there are ways around it.

## **SPEED INDICATION DEVICE (SID)**

Further to the feelings expressed at the village meeting, a SID working party was formed at the May PC meeting - comprising Stephen Crane, Roger Gurner, Nick Jones and Jenny Feeney. As we now know that no neighbouring parishes are

interested in a shared scheme, the immediate emphasis is on getting an accurate idea of costs and thus how much will need to be raised from private donation, business donation and grants to supplement available Council funds.

## **VILLAGE SURVEY**

After the hard work put in by Simon Frackiewicz and his family in the production and distribution of the village questionnaire, I'm very pleased to say that, at time of writing, well over 30 have been returned - a great result. As the closing date was the end of May the results are not yet in, but Simon will be working to collate them as soon as possible. Your supportive comments have been much appreciated!

## **FOOTPATHS MAINTENANCE DAY**

With some warm weather finally following on from previous very wet weather, the weeds are really growing well, meaning the footpath maintenance day scheduled for Sunday 10th of June will not be a moment too soon. As with previous sessions run last year a couple of hours of work in good company - followed by a well earned cream tea!

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

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

- Monday June 11th.

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)

## **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](mailto:lopenpc.clerk@gmail.com) or telephone 07587 211150 and add yourself to the Parish Council mailing list.

## **YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!**

Lopen Parish Council currently has a vacancy - 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.

*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 PLANT FAIR EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS - AGAIN!

A brilliant result was achieved again on Saturday May 12th by all involved in the running of the annual Plant Fair - a total of £1,623.70 was raised from the plants, teas and raffle; up over 27% from 2017's excellent result! This is quite an achievement for a small village like ours. So, A huge thank you to Christianne Long, Marian O'Brien and all the team who put in so much time and effort to create such a stunning display and to provide



refreshments, and to all of you who so generously supported the event. These proceeds are a very important contribution to the cost of maintaining All Saints Church and our Sunday School Room.

### RECYCLE YOUR PLASTIC POTS

We now have a container by the side steps at the church for the collection and recycling of any plastic garden pots, trays and containers. Please feel free to claim any for that garden project or just leave any that are now unwanted. The idea is recycle these items as much as possible to avoid them going to landfill. Terracotta pots, whole or broken, are also welcome, however please leave these outside the crate.



### A WARM WELCOME!



Chris, Sylvia & their son George have moved into Sunnyside Farm in Broomhill Lane from Yeovil Marsh.



Nicola & her daughter Elisha have moved into 3 Church Street from Mosterton.

### AUSTRALIAN VISITORS



On May 3rd Lopen received a visit from Ann and Robert Allen from Bonbeach, Australia, who were delighted to look around the church and to see Ballarat House in Frog Street. Ann is a

descendant of Edward Gundry, son of John Gundry, and it is said that a Gundry built Ballarat House, some 200 years ago on his return from the Australian town of the same name. He had emigrated to make his fortune - Ballarat had been a small sheep station but transformed during the Victorian Gold Rush. Ann's 92 year old mother has researched the family's history and will be thrilled when told of the visit to Lopen. Gundry is a local name and there are still several people of that name listed in the local telephone directory, and at least one family gravestone in Lopen Church.

### 16 BELLS CHOIR AT LOPEN CHURCH

The 16 Bells Choir joined the congregation at All Saints Church in Lopen on Sunday 20th May for the Pentecost Songs of Praise. The choir is drawn from people of the four churches of Dinnington, Hinton,



Lopen and Merriott and they always welcome new members - if interested please contact the Lopen Church Warden, Angela Naughton Davies, on 240 921.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN DESKTOP PUBLISHING?

As our editor, Les Morton, is away from time to time we are looking for someone to prepare artwork for the Lopen Eye, maybe 2-3 times a year. Full tuition and software is available. If you are interested please contact Les on 391 574 or email [lesmorton26@gmail.com](mailto:lesmorton26@gmail.com)

### SENIOR SIREN PUBLICATION

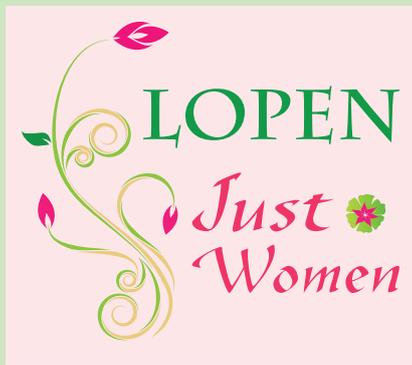


The Senior Siren is the free, bi-monthly magazine produced by the Senior Citizen Liaison Team. The latest edition features an exclusive interview with the well known actress, Nerys Hughes, as well as a variety of other lifestyle and senior safety advice.

You can download a PDF of the latest issue now:

<http://www.sclt.us/senior-siren/4573598653>

The magazine will now be published twice a year and the next edition is expected in the Autumn of 2018.



Our next event will be on  
**Tuesday 12th June**

Visit to  
**Stoberry Gardens, Wells**

With breathtaking views over Wells and the Vale of Avalon,  
 a 6 acre family garden of great variety.

Includes a tour with the Head Gardener and Refreshments.



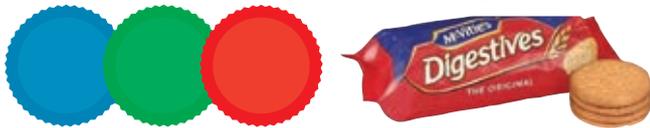
For further information please contact Pauline Rook T: 240 644 E: prook12@gmail.com

### **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).*



### **Childrens' Workshop**

is to be held on

**Saturday 7th July**  
 from 2.00 to 4.00pm

in

The Sunday School Room, Lopen

Pre Sea Sunday Workshop, all things nautical for the Seamans Service the following day. Making boats, etc.

All welcome.

For more information please contact Christianne Long on 249 766, or email christianne@lopen.me.uk

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          |
| 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 | mvcanton@talktalk.net          |
|               | Jenny Feeney      | 419 569 | jfeeneylopenpc@gmail.com       |

|              |             |              |                         |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Parish Clerk | Lisa Wilson | 07587 211150 | lopenpc.clerk@gmail.com |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------|

|                         |                     |               |                                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>DISTRICT COUNCIL</b> | Cllr Adam Dance     | 07767 224 213 | adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk     |
|                         | Cllr Crispin Raikes | 07968 291 588 | crispin.raikes@southsomerset.gov.uk |

|                       |                 |               |                                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>COUNTY COUNCIL</b> | Cllr Adam Dance | 07767 224 213 | adam.dance@southsomerset.gov.uk |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------------|

|                             |             |  |                              |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--|------------------------------|
| <b>MEMBER of PARLIAMENT</b> | Marcus Fysh |  | marcus.fysh.mp@parliament.uk |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--|------------------------------|

#### **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@lopen.me.uk |

|                   |               |                   |   |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>POLICE CSO</b> | Joshua Weldon | Dial 101          | joshua.weldon@avonandsomerset.police.uk |
|                   |               | ask for PCSO 6103 |   |

|                            |                |         |                       |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------------------|
| <b>NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</b> | Valerie Canton | 242 751 | mvcanton@talktalk.net |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------------------|

#### **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    |
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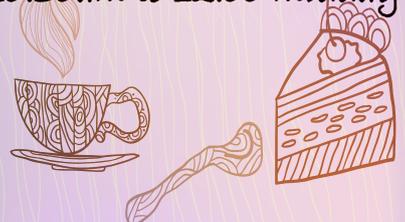
## **COFFEE STOP** at the **Sunday School Room**

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

### **JUNE DATES**

wednesday  
 13th & 27th

10.30am to 12.00 midday



Everyone welcome -  
 including parents with young children.

All proceeds to AKAMBA AID  
 sight-saving eye clinics in Kenya  
[www.akambaaidfund.org](http://www.akambaaidfund.org)

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