



# LOPEN EYE

Lopen Parish Newsletter **OCTOBER 2015**



## HARVEST & FLOWER FESTIVAL WEEKEND

**3rd & 4th OCTOBER**

at

**All Saints, Lopen**

The Church will be open 10.30am until 4.30pm on both days, with refreshments, raffle tickets and home-grown and locally-prepared produce on sale.

The Harvest Festival Service will start at 6pm on Sunday followed by Cheese & Wine - all proceeds to WaterAid.

*The Flower Festival in the Church will feature the arrangements made under the tutelage of Angie Blackwell of Cottage Flowers of Ilminster.*

**LOPEN VILLAGE PICNIC**

*See inside for pictures*

## LOPEN MISTLETOE FAYRE

*will be held this year on*

**Saturday 14th November**

the fun starts at 10.00am

**All Saints' Church, Lopen.**

Do come along and enjoy searching for Christmas gifts, buying plants in readiness for an early Spring, attempting to win on the Bottle Stall, finding a book to read and maybe a bargain on the bric-a-brac stall and then after all that enjoying a cup of coffee or tea with a bite of something to eat.

There will be lots to do for the children and the main prize in the raffle is a beautiful hand crafted hen kindly donated by George Hider!

Plus there are lots of other lovely raffle prizes available, so do buy your tickets early!

*If you have any suitable items you would wish to donate for sale, please contact Ian Benfield on 01400 929205 to arrange collection or delivery.*



# LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

## **ANAEROBIC DIGESTER FROGMARY GREEN FARM**

We have now seen and reviewed the latest planning application which includes another large structure on the site, a tall gas holder, though the applicants claim that the tonnage of feedstock, and therefore the traffic movements, will not change. We have raised a number of queries with the planning officer and received a presentation from Greener for Life Ltd, the applicants, at the last parish council meeting. We still have a number of questions about the size and output of the plant and are seeking more information before sending in a response.

## **BREACHES OF 7.5 TONNE WEIGHT LIMIT**

We have been approached by the Somerset Association of Local Councils seeking information about traffic issues, as they had a request from another parish suffering from heavy traffic, particularly farm vehicles, asking whether any other villages were experiencing similar problems. As you can imagine, we were able to respond that it was also a problem in Lopen and indeed the PC members continue to receive complaints about vibration, noise and speed. Stephen and Sarah both live on The Holloway and know only too well the extent of the problem which was discussed at our meeting on 16th September.

We all see lorries and tractors with large trailers taking short cuts through the village. We have a number of families with children living along the road and with very limited pavement, pedestrian safety is becoming of increasing concern, as is the damage caused to houses. Banks and verges are being churned up, particularly on the northern end where there is clear evidence of the gouging of the steep banks. Teresa is willing to undertake periodic traffic surveys but needs assistance to record the lorries travelling through. Please contact her if you can spare some time to do this.

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

We still have had no volunteers for the Parish Council so we are renewing our plea! If anyone is interested, please contact any of the members listed on the back page.

## **WAR MEMORIAL**

You may be aware that it has come to light that there are other Lopen men who died in World War I whose names are not on the memorial in the churchyard. Stephen has been researching this further and has even been to South Wales to see if two local-born men are remembered on the memorial there. He is liaising with the PCC about adding their names and the next step is to advertise to see if any relatives come forward.

## **NEW PARISH CLERK**



At our September meeting it was agreed that Roger Gurner be appointed as our new parish clerk. We express our thanks to Kim McDonald for all the work she has done over the past three years and anticipate that the formal changeover will be on 1st October.



# LOPEN VIL

The Picnic was a notable success, despite the weather, everyone was enjoying the occasion. Good



Special thanks to Organizer **Carolyn Belinda, Andrew** and the ladies of Childrens Games: **Nigel, Karen & Lauren. Julie** of **Guy & Louise**. And many thanks, of course, to the **Bennett family** for use of the field. A big thank you to all those people who

# VILLAGE PICNIC



Despite the less than perfect weather, with over a 150 people and to see so many new Lopen residents there!



**Ann White** and her team - Catering: **Mike, Liz, Patrick**, families of Lopen who prepared the super salads!  
**John Pitcher** for providing the hay bales. Wine was courtesy of **John**, to **Michael & Valerie Canton** for the loan of their field and for their water & electricity and their Portaloo!  
**John** who helped set up and dismantle the marquees.

## A WARM WELCOME!



To Nicola Murphy & son James, who have moved from Curry Rivel to 2 Holloway.

## LOPEN HAS A BRITISH CHAMPION!



Guy Anderson has become the British Paragliding Champion after the conclusion of the second round in St André-les-Alpes in southern France.

## CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL



Just a reminder that once again we will be collecting Shoe Boxes this Christmas. An explanation for new villagers who perhaps are not familiar with this charity - a shoe box,

or box of similar size, is filled with small gifts for children and wrapped. The charity collects the boxes and they are shipped to end up in the hands of underprivileged children somewhere in the world.



If you would care to help, please contact Sally-Ann at Crown Cottage in Church Street or call 241 765.



Our next meeting will be on  
**Friday October 16th**

at

**Ilminster Arts Centre**

An evening of Jazz

**Mike Denham's 'Speak-Easy'  
with Mike Piggott**

Tickets are £12 per person - guests are invited.

The evening begins at 8pm.

*For further information please telephone Margaret Linton : 241 162.*

## NEW EDITOR

New resident Les Morton (featured in last month's EYE with his wife Jean) is taking on the job of editing and producing our village newsletter. Please give Les the support you have given me over the past six years or so. Les Farris, ex-editor.

## VILLAGE WEB SITE

As Kim will be leaving the village, Michael Canton has taken over responsibility for keeping our web site up-to-date.

## HANG GLIDING ACCIDENT

John Milner of Cross Tree House in Church Street suffered a serious accident whilst hang gliding in Devon a short time ago. Initially he was under the care of Derriford Hospital in Plymouth but is now recuperating at Lyn's home in Chiselborough. Our best wishes go to John for a complete recovery and also to Lyn at what must be a difficult time.



*Milk bottle tops are still being collected, and when sold, the money goes to 'Air Ambulance'. Lopen collection point is 2 Church Street (Crown Cottage).*

## CONTACTS

Village website - [www.lopen.btck.co.uk](http://www.lopen.btck.co.uk)

### PARISH COUNCIL

Chairwoman	Teresa Sienkiewicz	241 363	tsloopenpc1@btinternet.com
Vice Chairman	Stephen Crane	241 412	scrane1@hotmail.co.uk
	Sarah Mason	249 219	sarahmason6@yahoo.com
	Nick Jones	241 643	nick.jones.loopenpc@outlook.com
	Barry Davolls	242 297	b.davolls.loopenpc@btinternet.com
Parish Clerk	Roger Gurner	249 253	its@btinternet.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 Christopher Le Hardy	01935 850 212	clehardy@somerset.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

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	Dial 101	ceara.sturt@avonandsomerset.police.uk
		ask for PCSO 8340	

### 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	lesliefarris23@aol.com
	Michael Canton	242 751	mvcanton@talktalk.net
Proof-reading	Peter Little	242 474	peteralittle6@aol.com

## COFFEE MORNINGS at the SCHOOLROOM



*Everyone welcome - including parents with young children.*

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