

The Sunday School Room, All Saints Lopen

Renovation and Reopening

With all the major works complete the room was available once again after the Easter Church Service. Just Women held their AGM there on 6 May and Pauline Rook emailed to say:

“Just to say a big thank you, we had a lovely meeting in there last night. The heating worked brilliantly and we were able to dish out crockery and cutlery with gay abandon for our ‘luxury’ refreshments, knowing the dishwasher was there – that really was a joy. We loved the new silent safe hot water dispenser which removed the conversation stopping noise of the old huge kettle and of course so much safer to pour from. Looked so bright and cheerful. I know it has been the most tremendous hard work and we do thank you very much”.

Thank you from the team Pauline, much appreciated.

This refurbishment has only been possible due to donations from residents, the Parish Council, the Lopen Church Council, our brilliant fundraisers and a number of grant bodies including £20,000 from the National Lottery. Thank you to the team, Jonathan Delbridge, Ross Isbell, Belinda Bezance, Jean Morton and Nicki Middleton for all their hard work and support and to those who helped with all the decorating. And finally to Colin Bennett for all his work and skill installing the new floor, the kitchen and improved drainage and to Marc Smith for installing the kitchen electrics, infrared heating and lighting.

Further work is on hand, replacing a decayed wood window, possible acoustic improvements and thanks to the Parish Council, an audio visual system.

In the next addition there will be photos of the official opening at 3pm on Saturday 31 May by distinguished lifelong Lopen resident Colin Cable and dedication of the benefactor plaque by our Revs Julia and Bob to which all residents were invited.



Extracted from Lopen Life, April–July 2025

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Sunday School Room - Grand Reopening - Steve Chapman

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the opening of the rejuvenated Sunday School Room on Saturday 31 May. The Rev Bob welcomed everyone and Colin Cable cut the ribbon declaring the building officially open. The Rev Julia unveiled the benefactor plaque which represents over £70,000 of donations and grants. Steve Chapman then thanked the many people involved in the project and Trevor Power presented a number of gifts.

Refreshments and cakes were then enjoyed by all in the tranquil setting of the churchyard. Pictures of the project's extensive renovation stages were on display and will remain so for the next few weeks. The building with its new thatch, robust floor, excellent kitchen facilities, stylish lighting and infra red heating will now serve Lopen for many, many years to come. With the proposed audio/visual system, generously funded by the Parish Council, it will be a superb facility to use and enjoy.

Sunday School Room Managing Group - The renovation of the room was overseen by a small project group of volunteers. Now with its enhanced facilities and modern and attractive interior it will appeal to a much greater number of users. All Saints PCC is now wishing to form a small enthusiastic team to manage and promote this valuable community asset. If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please contact one of the following for more information: Jonathan Delbridge 07719 187508 or jonathandelbridge@gmail.com Steve Chapman 07710 235249 or jsteve.chapman249@gmail.com

Footnote from Steve Chapman. "Thank you so much to all of you who contributed to the very generous gift vouchers. Mary and I look forward to our visit to Holm".

Pictures of the event opposite



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What you may have missed...



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