

VIADUCT

February 2020

Somerton

Town Council



working with the community



Opening times :
Mon - Sat 7 am - 9 pm
Sun 10 am - 4 pm
Tele No 01458 270870
Email info@somertoncoop.co.uk

Hello neighbour
Your new
Somerton Co-op
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It's what we do



Tony Morris, formerly of



is now testing at Aardvark Motors' **BRAND NEW MOT BAY!**
Catsgore, Somerton, TA11 7HY (near Podimore)

Booking not always necessary! Trade also welcome
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(If your vehicle does fail we offer
free re-tests within 10 working days)

Somerton Town Council - February 2020

Meeting	Date	Time	Venue
Full Council	11 th February	7.00pm	Edgar Hall
Land & Properties	11 th February	7.00pm	Edgar Hall
Planning (if required)	11 th & 25 th February	7.00pm	Edgar Hall

Everyone is welcome to attend and there will be opportunities to ask questions. Planning applications may be viewed on the SSDC website and details are displayed on the notice board outside the Parish Rooms and on the STC website.

All agendas and minutes are on the STC website www.somertontowncouncil.gov.uk. Requests for items to be added to the agenda to the Town Clerk by the first Monday of the month. Town Clerk tel: 272236 email: town.clerk@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk.

Did you know Somerton Town Council has a Facebook page? Check it out.

Claire Lucas is confirmed as Deputy Town Clerk after a successful 6-month probation period. Congratulations.

Finance 2020/21: Councillors approved the budget for next financial year. The precept (council tax) for 2020/21 will be £377,409 - a 6.93% increase overall on the previous year but because there are more houses, this represents an increase of 0.3% for a band D property - approx. 58p per week.

The STC Community Awards for 2020 have been launched, nomination forms can be found in Somerton Library and from the Somerton Town Council office. Closing date for nominations is 30th April 2020, with the winners being announced at the Parish meeting on 28th May 2020.

Councillor Laura Briggs has resigned from the Town Council. Laura was chair of the P&C Committee, Chairman of the Council, Dean Ruddle, paid tribute to the work completed by Laura during her time on the council and thanked her for her contribution to Somerton.

Our congratulations go out to the newly appointed internal and external STC representatives:

- Councillor Taylor will be the STC HR Chair.
- Councillor Flowers will be the STC representative on the Somerton Speed Watch
- Councillor Flowers will be the STC representative on the Buttercross Surgery PPG
- Councillor Pither will be the STC representative on the SSDC Environmental Champion
- Councillor Raybould will be the STC representative on the Primary Care Network

A372 will be closed between Duck's Hill and Pibsbury from 3rd-7th and 10th-14th February between 0730 and 1730 for resurfacing work

Sutton Road, Somerton, will be closed between Polham Lane and The Bakeries from 3rd-6th February for utilities work

TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION

An election will take place on February 6th to fill a vacancy on the town council. The two candidates were asked for a brief write-up to let us know about themselves.

Vince HOLLAND: Having spent just under 30 years in Somerton Fire Brigade, many years as a Station Officer, I would like to continue serving the community as a town councillor. I've run a business in the town for 24 years and in my spare time enjoy walking, cycling and travelling.

Peter RICHARDSON: I am privileged to have lived in Somerton for 22 years. A retired armed forces officer, I am an active member of the Somerton Speed Watch Team and the Christmas Lights Team. My aim is to make a positive impact for all within our community.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

The winners of the domestic Christmas Lights competition 2019 were Mr and Mrs Clive Dyer and at the January full council meeting, Mr Dyer received a cash prize of £50 and the trophy.

News & Reports

CARERS INFORMATION

Somerton Carers group is growing rapidly, providing a place where unpaid carers can meet, share experiences and help each other. We meet at West Street Church at 10.30 am on 2nd Friday of the month, alongside 'Coffee and more...' which provides a safe space where you can leave the one you care for while you attend our meeting. Please drop in or call Ivor on 01458 250603 for more details.

Help with Forms contact the health coaches at the Buttercross Medical Centre 272473 for a carer's pack or Somerset Carers Service on 01823 331222. If you have help filling in these forms you are more likely to be successful. Don't give up!

MUSIC BUDDIES AT LONG SUTTON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our 'Music Buddies' group for 0- 4 year olds meets every Monday in the school hall during term time from 9.30am until 11am, which includes a sing, play and snack in the school hall. It costs £2.00 per family. It's a friendly and informal group and all are very welcome.

SOMERTON RUGBY CLUB

Senior training is Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7.00pm at the Eirian Williams Memorial Pitch. New players are very welcome. Contact Gary Saunders 07870 861 731 for details. Under 18s & U15s Girls training/fixture details contact Steve Benn 07919 153 205. For latest news, results and events see www.somertonrfc.co.uk.

SOMERTON WEATHER FOR DECEMBER

Total rainfall for December was 135.5 mm or 5.5 inches. The total rainfall for the year 2019 was 858 mm or 34.5 inches and we had rain on 155 days out of 365 in Somerton.

COVER PHOTO FOR JANUARY

Many thanks to Colin Brown for this seasonal photo. Apologies for not mentioning you in January issue.

COVER PHOTO FOR FEBRUARY

Supplied by the Etsome Arms, Somerton. The Etsome Arms organised a collection of presents for the children in the Children's Ward, Yeovil Hospital for Christmas. They are grateful to the terrific response from their customers.

SOMERTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Wishes to advise that it is planning to put on a play in late June 2020; the auditions will be held in mid-March, so look out for more details in the March edition of the Viaduct.

ROMAN BURIALS AT NORTHFIELD

When the site for the new Junior School at Northfield was being prepared for the building to begin, Wessex Archaeology were asked to check the site for archaeological remains. They found about 50 human burials dating from the Roman period and circular ditches which had surrounded earlier round houses of Iron Age date.

The excavations have finished and work on building the school is beginning. Many people in Somerton would like to know more about what has been found and what it means, so we have contacted the Somerset Heritage Trust in Taunton and asked for a talk later in the year and perhaps a display in the library or the Parish Rooms about what was found. Meanwhile the archaeologists are studying the fifty or so skeletons they have found and the pottery and other finds from the site. This will take several months. We will tell everyone as soon as we have a date for a talk and some plans and photographs to illustrate the discoveries.

However, there is nothing to see on the school site, so please do not try to go and look; you will put yourselves in danger and delay the work on building the new school.

Nancy Schooling (Somerton History Society) and Martyn Smith (Somerton Town Council).

WINTER TIMES FOR SOMERTON RECYCLING CENTRE, BANCOMBE

It is now open Wed – Sun, not Mon or Tues. The opening times are Wed/Thurs/Fri 9 am – 5 pm. Sat/Sun 9 am – 4 pm.

SOMERSET SIGHT

Somerset Sight is the local independent charity for blind and visually impaired people in Somerset. Unfortunately, we don't currently have enough volunteers in the Somerton to reach everyone who needs our help, so we're urgently seeking volunteers to offer companionship and practical support to people living with sight loss in the local area.

Our volunteers visit people living with sight loss in their own homes. They can offer companionship and support, help with paperwork and correspondence, or a trip out for a cup of coffee.

In return for your time, Somerset Sight will offer full training and cover all reasonable expenses. This is a rewarding and flexible role, and an excellent opportunity to make a real difference to the lives of people living with sight loss in your community.

If you have a few hours a fortnight free to provide companionship and practical support to a person living with sight loss in Somerton, please get in touch with Somerset Sight on 01823 333818 or email admin@somersetsight.org.uk.

GREEN GARDENERS

Would you like to join a friendly group of people interested in all aspects of gardening, listen to interesting speakers, share ideas and activities and visit other gardens?

From September to April Green Gardeners meet on the last Monday of the month at 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms. There is usually a speaker and time to discuss various topics, followed by refreshments. From May to August outings and events are organised. In May there will be an 'Open Gardens' afternoon around Somerton with plant sales and teas. Why not join us at one of the next meetings and find out more?

February 24th 'Alluring Alpines' talk by expert Paul Cumbleton,

March 23rd 'Plants to Plate' with Sue Applegate

April 27th 'The History and Development of the Bishop's Palace Gardens' with James Cross.

Visitors are always welcome £3. For further details take a look at our website www.greengardeners.org.uk or phone Anita 272333.

SOMERTON MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL 2019 AND 2020.

The organising committee is in the process of confirming bookings for the 2020 Festival. The Art & Photography Exhibition will once again include workshops running in parallel with the Exhibition and include activities for all ages. The Summer Festival will open with a "Two Choirs Concert" in St Michael's Church and close with an evening of Gilbert & Sullivan on Friday 10th July.

Somerstock music festival returns in 2020 with three stages, 18 bands and even more choice of high-quality food, bars and family fun. This event takes place on Saturday 11th July at Somerton Recreation Ground with continuous music from 11am through to midnight. The headline act this year on the Treble Roofing Stage is The Christians renowned for an endless string of soulful yet socially aware hits including Forgotten Town, Ideal World, Born Again and Harvest for the World.

This year we have the added attraction of a display of dance taking place throughout the day and which will kick off with Motionhouse performing Captive. Captive premiered in May 2013 at Salisbury Festival and has been touring ever since visiting numerous European festivals as well as North Africa and the USA. In July we welcome them to Somerton.

Big thanks to both companies and individuals who are sponsoring this year's Somerton Music and Arts Festival events. If this is something where you'd like to support your community please contact us via either our Facebook pages or through our website at www.somertonartsfestival.co.uk. Early Bird tickets for Somerstock are now on sale online at www.somerstock.com/tickets and at the office of Palmer Snell in Somerton. These tickets are at a discounted prices and when they've gone, they've gone!

SMAF: ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION 2020

Book the dates in your diary now 22nd-30th May. More exciting details in next month's Viaduct but if you can't wait, keep up-to-date by the website www.somertonartsfestival.co.uk.

CHARITY THEATRE TRIPS NEWS FOR FEBRUARY 2020

Contacts: coxtheatretrips@btinternet.com, www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk; 01458 273085

Lots of great trips to Bristol Hippodrome planned for 2020/2021. Two new additions are Dreamgirls and Strictly Ballroom. Full details at www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk.

Two other trips will run if there is enough demand; In August to Sunny Afternoon, featuring The Kinks music and a Sunday matinee of the Snow White pantomime. Details at <https://www.atgtickets.com/venues/bristol-hippodrome/> or of course via Miss Google. Contact me if interested.

Planned trips, all evenings except 1 April:

Thu 5 Mar The Red Shoes £39/£61; Fri 14 Mar Carmen (Welsh N. Opera £55; Wed 18 Mar We Will Rock You £45/£58; Thu 26 Mar & Wed 1 Apr matinee The King and I £53/£70; Mon 20 Apr & Tue 5 Apr Les Miserables £62/£70/£85; Mon 8 Jun Mamma Mia £49/£61; Wed 30 Sep Dreamgirls £47/£60; Tue 3 Nov Strictly Ballroom £36/£50; Tue 16 Feb 2021 The Commitments £50. Prices include transport. Pick-ups in Curry Rivel, Langport & Somerton, then either Keinton Mandeville & Shepton Mallet OR Street & Wells.

KIRKHAM STREET FIELD COMMUNITY TRUST (KSFC TRUST)

On 9th October the Charity Commission registered Somerton's new CIO Trust with the number 1185712.

We wish to thank St Michael's Church for their kind donation of £244 towards the purchase fund for the field from their carol service.

You have now received a leaflet detailing the developments for the Trust.

DONATIONS TO PURCHASE THE FIELD

We now have a bank account and can receive donations for the purchase of the field. £10 pays for approximately one square foot!

We need to build up funds from the local community for the purchase of the field to gain credibility with national grant funders that the people of Somerton fully support this project.

We hope to receive your donations now for the purchase of the field which can be left as cash or a cheque to Kirkham Street Field Community Trust in an envelope with your contact details in a box in George James Properties Est Agents office in West Street or directly by bank transfer to: sort code 608301, account number 20418119. Providing we have your details, if we do not raise enough to purchase the field, your money will be returned to you. Thank you for your donations so far (10th Jan) which total over £2,000.

Once a month on Saturdays 22nd February and 20th March we will be available to accept your donations in West Street Church from 9.30 am till noon. There will be light refreshments.

Somerton has a dream – now is the time to get working together to make the dream come true. If you want more information please contact Margaret Chambers on chambers_margaret@hotmail.com or Mo Fletcher on fletcher080@btinternet.com.

Margaret Chambers: Chairperson of Kirkham Street Field Community Trust.

DON'T WASTE YOUR WASTE!

Please save your Christmas postage stamps – just tear them off the envelopes leaving a small amount of paper around the stamp so that it is not damaged and either pop them into Jane at Cobbs or put them through my letter box!

We can also make use of the following items – Do you have a few old coins in a drawer or tin? Any broken jewellery or watches, old mobile phones. All these items can be turned into vital funds to help support the Marie Curie Nurses in Somerset. A Marie Curie Nurse provides hands-on nursing care in the home over-night to anyone terminally ill – and not cancer but for any terminal illness. The service is proved totally free of charge, there's no cost to the patient or the family. To get a Marie Curie Nurse you have to contact the District Nurse or GP.

If you have any items to donate they can be taken to Jane at Cobbs Wholefoods or contact Judy Glossop – 01458 270265 – who is willing to collect. If items will fit through a letter box – they can be taken to The Old Saddlery, New Street (black & white house). Should you have lots of items I am happy to collect.

SOMERTON NEWS

Somerton News, the biennial publication listing clubs and societies in and around Somerton and other useful information, will be produced in January for distribution with the March edition of Viaduct. During October, we contacted local organisations for a brief outline of their activities and contact details and also local businesses for their support by placing advertisements. Thank you for all your support for this important publication. Mo Fletcher & Martyn Smith, Editors.

NATURE'S PANTRY (GREENGROCERS) UPDATE.

Now that Williams supermarket has become a Co-op, Nature's Pantry is stocking the following items: A selection of cheeses (including some of the popular ones from Williams Deli). Along with Wykes Farm, we also have Devon Ham, Hurdlebrook Yogurts and Cream, Longley Farm items, Longmans Butter Rolls, Maryland Butter, Delaware Goats Butter, Sausage Shed Sausages, Cheddar Water, Mrs Darlington's preserves, Wilkin & Sons 'Tiptree' preserves and much more. Our fruit and veg is package free, so you can choose as much or as little as you need, eliminating food waste and helping the environment. Pop in and take a look. We're more than just a Greengrocers!

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER IN MARCH

The Women's World Day of Prayer is being held on the 6th March at St Cleers Chapel at 2 pm, with refreshments to follow. The theme is 'Rise Take Your Mat and Walk'. The service has been written by the ladies of Zimbabwe. Thank you to St Cleers for hosting the event. There are a number of churches involved with the service so do come along and give them your support. Louise Mortimer, Secretary to WWDOP, contact number 273309.

SOMERTON AND DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB

The club will be looking to strengthen the squad for the 2020 season. So the club extends a warm welcome to both new and accomplished bowlers who want to belong to a friendly but competitive lawn bowls club. For up to date information check out the club's web site www.somertonbowlsclub.co.uk.

SOMERTON SPEEDWATCH

Oh dear, Somerset has the worst record in the country for speeding and motor offences although it doesn't surprise me or my colleagues who monitor traffic in Somerton during our SpeedWatch sessions. Why don't you slow down and obey the speed limit? It really isn't difficult. We note that more drivers are doing their bit to keep within the limits but there are still too many drivers oblivious to signage and assume accidents only happen to other people. This year why don't you all help make Somerton a safer and more pleasant place to live by staying within the speed limits. If you don't we will catch you on our radar and you will hear more from the police as they will not tolerate speeding. If you are interested in coming out to observe or join the team please contact David Cundle on 897224.

SOMERTON U3A

If you have recently given up full time employment or just moved to the area, you might be interested in joining Somerton U3A. We have over 500 members and 52 interest groups where you can learn new skills and make new friends as well. It is a group that is run by the members, for the members. On the fourth Friday of every month, we hold a coffee morning followed by a guest speaker at the Edgar Hall, Somerton from 10.00 to 12 pm. If you would like to find out more, why not come along on Friday 28th February and talk to our committee members. You will be made very welcome. Alternatively, look at Somerton U3A website for details of activities or phone Kay on 01458 448694.

Forthcoming Events

ACEARTS EXHIBITIONS FOR 2020

25 January – 21 March SMALL WORLDS: Jan Niedojadlo and all students of 'Imagine, Learn & Create'. Interactive large-scale sculptures known as podules, creating excitement and intrigue within an imaginative space, enhanced by the work produced by talented and committed ILC artists, all of whom have learning differences.

COFFEE IN CHURCH SATURDAY 1ST AND 15TH FEBRUARY

10 am-12noon, St. Michael's Church. Our popular coffee mornings (with yummy cakes!) are increased this month, when we welcome Father Teddy Sichinga, priest at our link parish of Chibondo in north-west Zambia, for the long weekend of 14th – 18th February. You are warmly invited to come and hear him tell us something about himself and life in Chibondo at around 11am on Saturday 15th February. You might also spot him at the first night of the Dramatic Society's pantomime, Aladdin – a new experience for him!

SOMERTON SPORTS CLUB EVENTS

Bingo Sun 2nd and 16th February (over 18s) 7.30 pm
Quiz Thurs 27th February 8.00pm (Teams of up to 6).

SOMERTON GARDENERS CLUB MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

7.30pm Parish Rooms Somerton. After a very enjoyable meeting in January (quiz by Midney Dave and a shared supper) we welcome Laura Batt who will present "Hedgehog Awareness". Do join us – non members £2 - any way we can help these highly endangered creatures has got to be good! Mike Prewett (Gen Sec)

LABURNUM DRIVE RESIDENTS COMMITTEE

Our AGM is on 3rd February. 10 am. (All welcome, to learn more of how we operate.)

Welcome to our first event, fish & chips supper, quiz and prizes. Tuesday 11th. 5 pm £6. No Coach trip till March 17th.(Ottery in Devon.) Our Flexercises continue weekly Fridays 10-11am In our Hall. (Don't miss out, it's good for you!) Our full programme (got a lot to plan!) will be on the Hall notices. We will fill your new diaries for you! Or phone 01458272620.

SOMERTON WI TUESDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY

Brian Wright will talk about The Dragons of Somerset. 7 pm in the Parish Rooms. Visitors very welcome to join us. Sue Long: 01458 274038 / Pauline Saunders: 01458 272769.

CREATE AND CONNECT AT ACEARTS WEDNESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

Our next meeting will be on Wed 5th February. Join us in the exhibition space and make alongside other makers. Bring a project that you are working on, knitting, drawing, collage, crochet. Grab a coffee and enjoy the surroundings. First Wednesday of the month 11-1 & 2-4pm Wed.

CRAFT MEETING

We have a new meeting time from Wednesdays, at 2pm at the Buttercross Tearoom for any type of yarn/ thread related craft, held weekly. This could be crochet, knitting, needlepoint embroidery, portable fabric projects. We need more members, so please come and join us if you can! New Year, New Craft! Come and learn, share your knowledge! We never want to stop learning! We are great chatterboxes too! There is no charge, we just request that you purchase refreshments from the lively Helen and her staff. For more details contact Caroline on 07427 695694.

VERSUS ARTHRITIS THURSDAY 6TH FEBRUARY

Clare Meaden, First Aid with the Red Cross. 7 for 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms. Visitors very welcome to join us.

FLEXERCISE

The Flexercise is now happening at Laburnum Drive Community Room, on Fridays at 10.30 am beginning in February, kindly provided by Yarlington. Everyone welcome. There is also Flexercise on Fridays 2.30 – 3.30 pm for free in the meeting room at the Buttercross Surgery. Visitors and carers welcome.

HEALTH WALKS THURSDAY 6TH AND 20TH FEBRUARY

We meet at Somerton Library at 11.30 am. This month Mo's walks are on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month so 6th and 20th February. We walk for about an hour and socialise at the same time. Wear clothing suitable for the weather conditions.

The Health Coaches from the Surgery are going to start Health Walks in the same scheme on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month in February, starting also at 11.30 am at the Library, so on Thursdays the 13th and 27th February. At the end those that wish, go to a local pub for refreshments. For more info contact Mo Fletcher on 01458 274631.

SOMERTON GROUP OF ARTISTS

somertonartists.co.uk. There will be no meeting in February.

SOMERTON SINGS FOR FUN MONDAY 10TH AND 24TH FEBRUARY

Join us from 10.45am to 12.00 noon, in the West St Church back room. Our next meeting is on Monday 10th and 24th. It's purely for fun, and for all ages and abilities. We sing anything well known, songs from the shows, old English melodies, and songs from the 30's up to date. £1.00 a session including coffee & biscuits.

RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

Somerton Sports Club at 7 pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. We now seek applications from anybody with a genuine interest in becoming a trustee to help deliver that objective. We also need a volunteer secretary who is not required to be a trustee. If you are interested in applying please contact the current Chair, David Osmond, by phone on 07876 563411 or by email at donnyosmond1@outlook.com.

PHIL FLOWERS TOWN COUNCILLOR MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

Will be holding residents surgeries every 2nd Monday of the month at Somerton Sports Club (Lounge Bar) from 7pm until 9pm.

RUMMIKUB TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

We have a meeting on Tues 11th February 2 – 4.30 pm at the Parish Rooms. Come and enjoy good company and a bit of brain exercise, whilst being fortified with a cup of tea and Pam's famous cookies.

MID WESSEX SINGERS TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

We meet on Tuesday 11th February 7.15 – 9 pm at West St Church. Come along and try and rehearse for our forthcoming concert. Contact Rowena 07929 803097.

SOMERSET WILDLIFE TRUST EVENTS TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

Southern Reintroduction Hen Harrier Project 7.30 pm Parish Rooms. It is a project trying to save this bird from extinction. Flemming Ulf-Hansen will explain what has been involved. There will be refreshments. For more info contact Roger Dickey at roger.dickey52@gmail.com.

SOMERTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY

10.30 am at Somerton Sports Club. Come and join us on second Thursdays of the month for a chat and friendship. Tea 20p coffee 30p free draw ticket. Our activities vary but we mainly socialise and enjoy having fun. Contact Mo Fletcher on 01458 274631.

WESSEX HOUSE COFFEE MORNING THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY

Thank you to everyone that has supported us throughout the year, and we will be returning with our first Coffee Morning of 2020 on the Thursday 13th February 10 am and look forward to seeing you there.

COFFEE AND MORE... FRIDAY 14TH & 28TH FEBRUARY

Drop in for as long as you want, meet friends and make new ones. There are table and board games and other things to do, but most people just come for a chat and company. We have internet access and can help you get on-line or find information for you. We are mostly people in later life and encourage anyone living with dementia or a disability to join us, with carers, if necessary, in relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Carers meeting will be on Fri 14th Feb 10.30 am. If you want more information, or can volunteer to help, contact Ivor Dixon on 01458 250603 or email levelopps@gmail.com.

SOMERTON DRAMA SOCIETY

Present their fun packed panto "Aladdin". This show is Aladdin with an infamous cast and much singing and dancing. It is Somerton's show-piece entered for Somerset Drama Society's Cinderella awards.

Fri 14th Feb 7.30 pm, Sat 15th Feb 2.30 and 7.30pm, Mon 17th – Tues 18th Feb 7.30 pm, Thurs 20th Feb – Fri 21st Feb 7.30 pm and Sat 22nd Feb 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms. Tickets £8 adults and £6 children available from Palmer Snell Est Agents.

There will be a bar and coffee/tea available as well as sweets and ice creams.

NEW BOOK CLUB WITH A DIFFERENCE THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

Especially for people with memory problems. Fourth meeting in the library on Thursday 20th February at 2.30 pm. Come along and enjoy books again. Contact: Carole at ryangreenfingers123@gmail.com.

ST CLEERS CHAPEL FUND RAISER FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

At the Edgar Hall on Fri 14th Feb 8pm there will be an evening of music, dancing and fun with Ray's Disco and local band Twisted Vinyl. There will also be a bar run by Wagonkered and a Hog Roast.

ST VALENTINE'S DAY AT THE CHARLTONS FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

At a delightful reading of Love Poetry by invitation of Lord and Lady Zouche at The Abbey in Top Road, Charlton Adam TA11 7BE on Friday 14th February. This stunning venue will provide you with a very seasonal experience. As you relax by an open log fire sipping a chilled glass of fizz, or hot cup of tea if you prefer, beautiful and romantic poetry will be read to you...some old and familiar, others the work of local residents but no less moving and wonderful to listen to. The poems will be read by supporters of Project Charltons Valerie Singleton of Blue Peter fame and our very own Romeo aka Mark Freestone. There will be two performances 4 – 5.30 pm and 7- 8.30 pm. Places will be limited so book your tickets now at Charlton Adam Post Office or at info@projectcharltons.org.

COMPTON DUNDON VILLAGE HALL SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

8pm The Tom McConville Band, Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon £10.

Tickets online at <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/4880469>. Further information from Simon Dore, 01458 445463 or cdvillagehall@gmail.com.

KSFC TRUST DONATION MORNING SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

Please come and support our appeal for funds to purchase Kirkham Street Field in West St Church from 9.30 am till noon. Trustees will be there to help you and there will be free light refreshments.

RED CROSS FIRST AID SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

Learn and practise life saving skills. I am running a general first aid training session on Sunday 23rd February from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Langport Red Cross Centre. Open to all, the course is entirely practical and will teach and give practice in, the basic skills necessary to preserve life and stabilise casualties until the professionals arrive. Topics will include cardiac arrest, heart attacks, strokes, severe bleeds, choking, allergic reactions, asthma, diabetes, fractures and other topics if requested. The cost is £35 which will be a donation to Langport & District Red Cross Group. Places are limited. Chris Cox. Book on 01458 273085 or e-mail cox.cj@btinternet.com.

GREEN GARDENERS MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY

Paul Gumbleton will give a talk entitled 'Alluring Alpines' Parish Rooms Somerton 7.30pm. Visitors welcome £3. Contact Anita 272333 for more info.

SOMERTON HISTORY SOCIETY THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY

Are you interested in history? Any history? Then why not join Somerton History Society. We meet in the Parish Rooms in Somerton on the 4th Thursday of every month except August and December. Beginning at 7pm for refreshments with the meeting proper starting at 7.30pm with any notices, followed by a talk of about an hour. We cover a range of subjects: this year we have heard from a medieval barber-surgeon, had a talk about Yuri Gagarin and surgery with a royal connection amongst other subjects. During 2020 we intend to have talks as diverse as the history of Great Bow Yard, Langport; Heraldry; Crime and Punishment in Somerset and Dracula (to name but a few). Do come along and join us. You can enrol for £15 for the year (£25 for couples) or come along as a guest and pay £2 per evening.

Our first meeting of 2020, is on Thursday 27th when our speakers at 7.30pm will be Janet Seaton and Barry Winetrobe from Langport History Society telling us all about The Great Bow Wharf at Langport. Members come for free, but visitors will be very welcome at a cost of £2. For more information please contact Nancy Schooling on 273859.

SOMERTON U3A MONTHLY MEETING FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

Edgar Hall Somerton, 10.00 am coffee and chat. 10.30 am, Richard Grundy, guest speaker, tells of "Splendid Isolation of Tristan da Cunha", an introduction to the island's wildlife, history and the way of life by its people. Members free, visitors £2.

MOVIOLA CINEMA SATURDAY FEBRUARY 29TH

7.30 pm Friends of the Parish Rooms present "Downton Abbey" Tickets £6 from Cobbs Wholefoods or on the door.

Forthcoming Moviola: 21st March "The Current War" 18th April "The Good Liar".

NEW WEA COURSE

Greg Morter – From Seed to Fork. We explore the extraordinary 450 million-year evolution of plants and how humans have adapted them. Tuesday evenings, 19.30 – 21.00, Long Sutton Village Hall, 28th January to 10th March 2020 (no session on 18th February).

Fee: £25 per person. Booking must be made in advance via the WEA either online at wea.org.uk or by calling 0300 303 3464, quoting course reference C3530645. Contact Kim Bailey with any questions on 01935 850077 or by email at wealongsutton@gmail.com

VIADUCT STAPLING AND FOLDING FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

We desperately need new staplers and folders to join us. Thank you to our new helpers. Many thanks to the Viaduct staplers and deliverers for all their time. This month's stapling and folding for the March issue will be on Friday February 28th back at 2 pm in the Parish Rooms. See you then. Mo and Team.

COME AND SING THE MESSIAH SATURDAY 29 FEBRUARY

9.30am (registration & coffee)-4pm, The Parish Rooms, Somerton. Have you ever thought it would be lovely to have a go at singing one of the great choral works? Now is your chance!

Mid Wessex Singers' 'Come and Sing' events, conducted by Graham Coatman, are always popular and everyone is welcome. We do not expect you to know the work, and while some choral experience will be useful, it is not essential – just a love of the music – non music readers are welcome as long as they can sing! If you know Messiah well, you will find this day revelatory.

Graham Coatman is a freelance conductor, accompanist, continuo player and academic, with wide experience of leading workshops.

For more information please email info@midwessexsingers.co.uk, phone the Secretary on 07929 803097, or visit our website www.midwessexsingers.co.uk Cost: £16 per person, full time students £10. Please book early.

EVENTS WHICH HAPPEN EVERY WEEK ARE LISTED IN THE "WEEKLY EVENTS" SECTION

What's on In Brief

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

9.30 - 11am Life Church Toddlers Group, Edgar Hall

9.30am - 11.30am Coates Legal. Library

10am - 2pm Coffee and Co, St Cleers Chapel

10.30-11.30am Zumba Gold, low impact dance class for all, West Street Church

10.30am -11.30am Age UK Movement to Music, Parish Rooms

5.30pm Slimming World, Edgar Hall

4.30pm - 5.30pm Rainbows, St Cleers Chapel

5.30pm - 7.00pm Brownies, St Cleers Chapel

6.30pm - 8.00pm Cubs, Scout Hut

7.00pm Girl Guides, St Cleers Chapel

7.30pm Slimming World, Edgar Hall

TUESDAY

9.30am - Slimming World, Edgar Hall

9.30am - 10.30am Tai Chi (Beginners), Parish Rooms

10.00am - 12.00 noon Citizens' Advice, Somerton Library

10.30am Coffee Morning, Laburnum Drive

11.30am - 12.30pm Fitness League Exercise, Parish Rooms

11.30am Slimming World, Edgar Hall

2.00pm Crochet/Knitting and other crafts group, Buttercross Tearooms

6.00pm - 8.30pm Line Dancing (beginners & improvers), Wessex Rooms

7.00pm - 9.00pm Scouts, Scout Hut

7.30pm Mid Wessex Singers, West Street Church

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WEDNESDAY

10.00am - 12 noon Life Drawing, Pinney Room
10.00am - 12 noon Line Dancing (All levels), Edgar Hall
12.30pm Yarlinton lunch (pre-order), Laburnum Drive
2.00pm Knitting afternoon, Laburnum Drive
2pm, Craft Group, Buttercross Tearoom
2.30pm -4.00pm Foodbank at the Ridgeway Hall, Langport
5.00pm - 6.15pm Beavers, Scout Hut
6.30pm - 8.00pm Cubs, Scout Hut

THURSDAY

9.00am - 11.30am Rainbow Rascals, West Street Church (term time)
9.30am - 10.30am Tai Chi (Advanced), Parish Rooms
10.30am Wessex House coffee morning
11.00am - 12 noon Line Dancing (Improvers), Parish Rooms
2.00pm Fun Bingo, Laburnum Drive
5.30pm - 6.30pm Beavers, Scout Hut
5.45 – 7.15pm, Royal Scottish Country Dance Improvers/Intermediate Class, Long Sutton School Hall
6.00pm - 7.30pm Junior Youth Club, Wessex Rooms
7 pm - 10 pm, Somerton Bridge Club, West Street Church
7.30pm - 9.00pm Archies Xtra (11-18 years), Recreation Ground
7.30pm – 9.30pm, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society experienced class, Long Sutton Village Hall

FRIDAY

9.30am - 11.30am St Cleers Toddlers, St Cleers Chapel
10.30am, Flexercise, Laburnum Drive Hall
7.30pm - 9.00pm St Cleers Youth, St Cleers Chapel

SATURDAY

9.00am Yeovil parkrun, Montacute House
9.30am - 12noon Wessex Market, Unicorn Skittle Alley

SUNDAY

10.30am Life Church, Edgar Hall

FEBRUARY

Sat 1 Coffee In Church, 10am-12noon, St. Michael's Church.

Sun 2 Bingo 7.30 pm Somerton Sports Club

Mon 3 LDRC AGM 10 am

Gardeners Club Hedgehog Awareness 7.30 pm Parish Rooms

Tue 4 WI the Dragons of Somerset 7 pm Parish Rooms

Wed 5 AceArts Craft 11am – 1 pm and 2 pm – 4 pm

Buttercross Tearooms Craft Group 2 pm

Thu 6 Mo's Health Walk Somerton Library 11.30 am

Versus Arthritis Red Cross Talk 7 pm Parish Rooms

Somerton Bridge Club 7 pm West St Church

Mon 10 Somerton Sings For Fun 10.45 am West St Church

Somerton Recreation Ground Trust meeting 7 pm Somerton Sports Club

Tue 11 Rummikub 2 pm Parish Rooms

LDRC Fish and Chip Supper and Quiz 5 pm

Mid Wessex Singers 7.15 pm West St Church

Somerset Wildlife Trust Hen Harrier Project 7.30 pm Parish Rooms

Wed 12 Buttercross Tearooms Craft Group 2 pm

Thu 13 Friendship Club 10.30 am Somerton Sports Club

Wessex House Coffee Morning 10 am

Health Coaches Health Walk 11.30 am Somerton Library

Somerton Bridge Club 7 pm West St Church

Fri 14 Coffee and More with Carers meeting 10 am West St Church

Valentine's Event at the Charltons 4 pm and 7 pm

St Cleers Chapel Outreach Fund Raising Disco 8 pm Edgar Hall

Somerton Drama Society Panto "Aladdin" 7.30 pm Parish Rooms

Sat 15 coffee in church, 10 am-12 noon, st. Michael's Church.

Somerton Drama Society Panto "Aladdin" 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm Parish Rooms

Compton Dundon Village Hall Concert The Tom McConville Band 8 pm

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Sun 16 Bingo 7.30 pm Somerton Sports Club
Mon 17 Somerton Drama Society Panto "Aladdin" 7.30 pm Parish Rooms
LDRC Coach Trip to Ottery in Devon
Tue 18 Somerton Drama Society Panto "Aladdin" 7.30 pm Parish Rooms
Wed 19 Buttercross Tearooms Craft Group 2 pm
Thu 20 Mo's Health Walk 11.30 am Somerton Library
Book Club with a Difference 2.30 pm Somerton Library
Somerton Bridge Club 7 pm West St Church
Somerton Drama Society Panto "Aladdin" 7.30 pm Parish Rooms
Fri 21 Somerton Drama Society Panto "Aladdin" 7.30 pm Parish Rooms
Sat 22 KSFC Trust Donation Morning 9.30 am – noon West St Church
Somerton Drama Society Panto "Aladdin" 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm Parish Rooms
Sun 23 Life Saving Skills Course 9 am – 1 pm Langport Red Cross Centre
Mon 24 Somerton Sings For Fun 10.45 am West St Church
Green Gardeners Alluring Alpines 7.30 pm Parish Rooms
Wed 26 Buttercross Tearooms Craft Group 2 pm
Thu 27 Health Coaches Health Walk 11.30 am Somerton Library
Somerton Bridge Club 7 pm West St Church
Somerton History Society Great Bow Wharf 7.30 pm Parish Rooms
Somerton Sports Club Quiz 8 pm Somerton Sports Club
Fri 28 U3A Splendid Isolation of Tristan da Cunha 10 am Edgar Hall
Viaduct Stapling and Folding 2 pm Parish Rooms
Sat 29 Moviola Cinema Downton Abbey 7.30 pm Parish Rooms
Mid Wessex Singers' 'Come and Sing' 9.30 am – 4 pm Parish Rooms

See also weekly events list

MORE DETAILS ON EVENTS IN SOMERTON AT WWW.SOMERTON.CO.UK

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Editors Mo Fletcher and Neal Barton email: viaduct@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk

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**DO YOU KNOW A SPECIAL PERSON
WHO DESERVES TO BE RECOGNISED FOR THE
CONTRIBUTION THEY MAKE TO OUR COMMUNITY?**

**Why not nominate this person for the Town Community Awards to be
presented at the Parish meetings on 28th May 2020?**

The categories are:

Youth • Art • Sport • Business • Community

**Nomination forms are available in the Viaduct, Somerton
Library and via the Somerton Town Council Website**

Parish Meeting on 28th May 2020 | Closing date 30th April 2020

Nominations will be reviewed in early May 2020.

**The winners of each category will be invited to the annual parish meeting
where the community award ceremony will take place.**

★ Thank you ★



Do you know a special person who deserves to be recognised for the contribution they make to our community?

The categories are:

Youth • Art • Sport • Business • Community

Please complete the form below and return to Deputy Town Clerk by 30th April 2020 or scan and email to clerk.assistant@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk or complete on line at www.somertontowncouncil.gov.uk

YOUR NAME
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CATEGORY
NAME OF NOMINEE
REASONS FOR NOMINATION (100 words maximum, please)



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The Wessex Rooms, Somerton

Monday Evenings at 7pm & 8pm (2 classes)
Wednesday Mornings at 10am

The Methodist Chapel Hall, Keinton Mandeville

Thursday Evenings at 7.30pm
Friday Mornings at 10am

The Parish Rooms, Somerton

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