VIADUCT January 2021



working with the community



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Aardvark Motors

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"Dear Aardvark, thank you for your kind service to me on Weds (26th Aug), I came home feeling extremely happy through the service you provided. Your garage is the cleanest and nicest I've ever seen and the waiting room is equal to any practitioner's"

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GOOD GARAGE SCHEME

Aardverk Motors Ltd, Catagore, Somerton, TA11 7HY office@sardvarkmotors.co.uk

(between Lime Kiln Pub and Podimore Roundabout)

Somerton Town Council - January 2021

| Meeting | Date | Time | Venue |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|------|----------------|
| Full Council (Planning if required) | 12 th Jan 2021 | 7 pm | Remote Meeting |
| Promotions and Communications | 19 th Jan 2021 | 7 pm | Remote Meeting |
| Accessibility and Highways | 26 th Jan 2021 | 7 pm | Remote Meeting |

If you wish to attend the Zoom meeting and to ask questions, please contact the Town Clerk. Planning applications may be viewed on the SSDC website with application details displayed on the notice board outside the Parish Rooms and on the STC website. All agendas and minutes are available on the STC website

www.somertontowncouncil.gov.uk

Requests from the public for items to be added to the agenda should be notified to the Town Clerk in writing by the first Monday of the month.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL AT SOMERTON TOWN COUNCIL

If residents have any issues or questions about anything within this report, or in general, please direct them to the Clerk who will ensure they are answered or forwarded to the relevant councillor or organisation to respond.

ELECTRONIC NOTICEBOARDS:

The electronic noticeboards are currently only displaying messages and information. Due to Covid 19 the interactive aspects of the noticeboards have been disabled. **SOLAR PANELS:**

STC have endorsed the IDDEA Renewable Energy Systems Solar Panel Initiative. The Council is endorsing this initiative, not recommending or guaranteeing the product. Residents should, during January, see flyers setting out the initiative and how to sign up.

CENSUS 2021:

The Census is a survey that happens every ten years and gives a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. The first census was in 1801 and the most recent in 2011. Census Day will be March 21st 2021. More information can be found on the Census 2021 website www.census.gov.uk

TELEPHONE BOXES:

Distinctly British but rendered obsolete by the use of mobiles, the telephone box is finding a new purpose. Somerton's two telephone boxes are now owned by the Town and we are looking for the views of residents on how they could be used. We would like to house a defibrillator in one but are open to suggestions for the one opposite the Royal Oak. A book swap box, a mini information centre or a place to remember an aspect of the history of Somerton, are a few of the ideas so far. If you have any views or ideas please contact the Clerk's Office or any councillor.

| VEOVILION AVERAGE WEATHER S | STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER 2020 |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|

| | Average Max temp | Average Min temp | Rain mm | Sun hrs | So November 2020 was slightly drier and |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|--|
| Nov Average | 12.8 | 5.7 | 59.8 | 62.5 | warmer than the long-term average, but with a normal amount of sunshine |
| 55yr Average | 11.2 | 3.9 | 72.8 | 62.9 | |
| | | Figures : | from Met O | ffice Yeev | iltan website |

News

FESTIVE SEASON WASTE COLLECTION

Somerset Waste Partnership have issued the revised collection days for refuse over the festive period:

There will be no garden waste collections Friday 25 December to Friday 8 January inclusive. Friday 8 January collections will be on Saturday 9 January and usual garden waste collections resume from Monday 11 January 2021.Decoration free real Christmas trees which can't be composted or added to a garden's wild corner, along with any other excess festive waste, can be taken to any of the county's recycling sites which are open as usual except for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day. You can also check your collection dates with My Collection Day at somersetwaste.gov.uk.



SOMERTON U3A

A warm welcome to all our new members. Due to the current restrictions we are unable to hold our monthly meetings in Edgar Hall, but we are now enjoying a monthly Zoom meeting. "A Fisherman's Tail" with Kevin Little, a fishmonger for 50 years and now a small holder, will share his tales on Friday 22 January at 11.00.

We have over 50 interest groups and each month more of them are meeting by Zoom. Our monthly online newsletter gives members the opportunity to see what activities have been taking place. For further information, or if you are interested in joining visit the Somerton U3A website or email membership@SomertonU3A.uk. Sue Haigh. Secretary, Somerton U3A.

LINE DANCING

I have now retired from teaching line dancing and would like to thank everyone who has supported the classes over the years, we have all had such a lot of fun together. However, I have found teachers to take over my classes and if you visit my website lindaslineup.com there are details for the relevant classes which means you can carry on enjoying dancing. Wishing everyone all the best for the future. Linda Garrett.

KINDNESS

I wish to thank the people who cared for me when I fell in the road on Saturday morning. Such kindness from Jane for caring and listening, to Jim for helping me off the road, and the Estate Agents who made me coffee and warmth, thank you all so much. Christine Burnham.

FROM THE BUS STOP....

I wrote this series of twelve walks about ten years ago and I have recently been revising them. They are being checked by Angela and David Locke, for which I offer my grateful thanks. The idea is that you catch a number 54 bus (Yeovil to Taunton) to a certain bus stop and then do the circular walk (each is about 10km or 6 miles), then catch the bus home. However, full details of where a car could be parked are included, as well as notes on points of interest and links to mapping via www.mapmyrun.com. The walks which have been checked will be available on the Community website www.somerton.co.uk - and thanks to lan Laker for that. As more walks are checked, more will appear on the website, so keep looking! I have also written a similar series from the 77 bus route (Yeovil to Wells) and they will be updated and start to appear in spring. If you have any comments or suggestions, do send me an email: martynandsue@hotmail.com. Martyn Smith.

DOG FOULING REPORT FOR SOMERTON

Following a long absence, due to medical problems, Dylan the Dog and Brian Davenport (his best friend) resumed their "watches" in mid summer 2020. They both cover a large area of the Town, although Bancombe Road is off limits as it is just too far away from the kennel and just too far for Brian to manage since recovering from having several falls. There continues to be a number of areas of concern around the town. Everyone is reminded that any black waste bin may be used to dispose of the faeces and that it is a public order offence to allow fouling on footpaths and verges. Quite simply this is "anti-social behaviour" on the part of a small number of dog owners. On most of my daily walks, members of the public do approach me to express their concerns and disgust at the behaviour of those who do not clean up after their dogs. If you do see Dylan and I about, you are welcome to approach us and give us details of any individuals and their hounds that you have witnessed offending and we will follow up where possible. Brian Davenport & Dylan

SLIMMING WORLD

I think it's fair to say, 2020 was a year like no other. Nothing stayed the same and if you are anything like 78% of the population in the UK, neither did your weight! During the 2nd period of Lockdown, the Slimming World community in Somerton were losing an incredible 10 stones every week. I saw men and women eat themselves back from Diabetes Type 2, High Blood Pressure, Depression to name but a few things and the confidence that is refreshed when you feel better about yourself is just amazing.

Slimming World isn't an organisation that offers you a diet to follow, but it offers you a way of life that means you can SLIM and never be hungry, with friendship, strategies to aid success, support, a website, blog, magazine, ready meals if you are too hectic to make from scratch, delicious recipes and a fun podcast. It also gives you access to a trained, award winning consultant who genuinely cares about your health and wellbeing, your happiness and your success.

If you are coming into 2021 feeling unhappy about your weight, the best thing to do is to make a call to Annya and she can tell you how Slimming World runs in Somerton. There is no obligation to join with that call but she is waiting to hear from you. 07971 957691 Together we can make amazing things happen in 2021!

CHARITY THEATRE TRIPS FOR 2021

We hope to resume our trips to Bristol Hippodrome this year. Most of the trips we have had to cancel have moved to a later date, but as ever there is no problem cancelling bookings up

to the day I buy the tickets, which is usually two months before the show date, so do plan ahead; early bookers receive the best seats. The situation keeps changing but www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk will give you the latest situation and a booking form. You can also e-mail me: coxtheatretrips@ btinternet.com. I am not reserving any new shows until things settle down, but those already reserved are:

Wed 31 Mar 21, Il Trovatore, £46/£56; Tue 18 May 21, Les Miserables, £62/£70 ; Wed 9 Jun 21 We Will Rock You, £45/£58; Tue 20 Jul 21, School of Rock, £52/£62; Tue 2 Feb 22 Bourne's Nutcracker £41/£51; Tue 10 May 22 Strictly Ballroom £36/£51; Mon 20 Jun 22 Mamma Mia; £49/£61; Tue 21 Mar 23, The Commitments £50.

SPEEDWATCH

It's always someone else. Or is it?? Within a couple of days a speeding car took out the 20mph sign, concrete and all at Pauls Bridge and an elderly resident was crossing at the Unicorn when a car hit her and knocked her down. It took over an hour for the ambulance to arrive, meanwhile she was lying there on a day when the temperature didn't rise above 5 degrees. The driver didn't return to the scene and seemingly drove away! If you can help with identifying the car or driver, I am sure the police would like to receive any information you might have. If the person who was driving reads this, I hope they do the decent thing and contact the police directly.

Other incidents have been reported and I take this opportunity to remind you that on average five people leave home every day in their cars but unfortunately fail to return home due to a fatal accident. Hundreds of others are injured every day but of course it doesn't happen to me, it's always someone else. I ask you to think again and SLOW DOWN it's dangerous out there and if you don't believe me come out and see what we see - I expect some of you would think more about driving safely. We will continue to cover the roads and press the Council to do more to make our town safe. The police have been extra busy contacting persistent speeders and are supporting us while out and about and I reiterate what I have said previously that any abuse is taken seriously, is an offence and will be dealt with. Let's please make the New Year a safer one for everyone with the virus hopefully under control, and even safer by driving carefully and thoughtfully. David Cundle

DOG FOULING OUTSIDE SCOUT HUT

Somerton Scout Group are planning on re opening Face to Face meetings from the 11th January 2021 and part of the preparations has been making the outside of the building suitable for outside meetings. During these preparations it has been discovered that while we have not been using the hall the outside area has become infested with dog fouling which we are now having to clear. Can I please ask that you do not let your dog use the area outside of the Scout HQ as a doggy toilet. This makes it unsafe for us to use the area for outdoor activities for our young people especially in the dark where fouling is difficult to identify. Thank you. Fiona Bayles, Group Scout Leader.

MESSAGES FROM THE PATIENTS' PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

Have you seen the new practice website (https://www.buttercrosshc.nhs.uk/)? It has been designed – together with those for the other practices overseen by Symphony Healthcare Services – in association with the PPGs. There will be more information added and we will be monitoring both the content and use of the site to ensure it is up to date and supporting patients.

Phoning Buttercross Health Centre often means joining a queue but given the number of calls the staff have to handle, (almost 6000 during November alone!), we have to expect

some delays. While every day is busy, the 'response time' tends to be greater between 8am and midday so delaying your (non-urgent) call until the afternoon is advisable. Doing so will probably result in a swifter reply and – equally important - spread the workload and thereby take some pressure off staff. BUT (where appropriate) you can bypass the telephone system and get your message straight to a doctor who can respond swiftly to your enquiry or concern.

The 'askmyGP' system has been running for several months. Well over half of Buttercross and Ilchester patients are now registered with the system and feedback has been very encouraging. Registering can be completed online via the practice website where you will find some helpful information. Alternatively, if you have to call the surgery, a staff member can complete the registration with you. The system is designed to assist patients with both ailments and questions and you can use it to submit information (e.g. home blood pressure monitoring readings or images). On receiving a message – which can be sent any time of day or night, seven days a week - a clinician applies a triage assessment and may refer the patient's request to a colleague to ensure the most prompt and appropriate response. The response itself, initially, may be a phone call, an email or could even be a video call but should a consultation at the surgery be required, an 'in-person' appointment will be scheduled. We do encourage all patients to register with 'askmyGP'. If nothing else, it gives patients another option to get the assistance they are seeking. And for those who are unsure about the technology, once restrictions are lifted, the PPG plans to host induction sessions to assist patients with registration and use of the system.

National Covid-19 Vaccination Programme. At the time of writing, plans are in hand for the vaccination programme in Somerset but please do not contact the surgery directly. Be assured, you will be contacted when it is time to have your vaccination.

We would love you to help us make a difference in local healthcare. We are keen to recruit new members and would especially encourage folk in the age bracket 20-45 and/or those with a young family to enable the PPG membership to better represent the community as a whole. You can find out more by contacting us via email at somppg@gmail.com.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW SOMERTON?

As this is the start of a new year, this month we will be starting a new monthly item which will include a photo and question along the lines of where is it, what is it or similar. Viaduct readers have until the following month to contemplate their answers before the following edition when Peter Simmonds, the photographer and originator, will provide the answer and some interesting facts about the photograph. Here is January's picture with the question. Where is it? Good Luck!





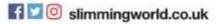


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MONDAY EVENINGS AND TUESDAY MORNINGS SOMERTON

Somerton Sports Club Covid-19 Secure Booking is essential

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RED CROSS FUND RAISING

To help raise funds for Langport & District Red Cross Group whilst our usual openings are suspended I have written up the story of my year teaching in the bush of Jamaica. With chapter titles including Rule Britannia in the Blue Mountains, How Not To Make Tea, Another Lovely Funeral, Mirror on the Ceiling, Five in a Bed, Gold Teats, The Gut Buster, Taking a Machete to a Banana, There's a Crocodile Behind You, and Birthday Suits in Hedonism laugh along with the author and his wife as they fall in love with Jamaica and its peoples. This is now available as an e-book or a paperback from Amazon. Just type in Total Experience Corner and it should come up. In advance I thank you for your support. If you enjoy reading it please tell all your friends. If you don't..Sorry!! Chris Cox.

SERVICE DOGS UK

Service Dogs UK is a South Coast based charity which aims to partner rescue dogs with veterans of the Armed Forces and Emergency Services who have been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Service Dogs UK are pleased to announce the opening of the new South West Hub based in Somerton and West Camel, Somerset. The team have been recruited and we have our first two dogs, Patch and Bella, who are rescues from The Dogs Trust. The teams have been busy out and about in Somerton on Saturdays.

The dogs will soon be paired with their veterans and together they will begin a nine month training programme leading to the dogs becoming fully accredited assistance dogs under the guidance of our experienced training team led by Nigel Rousell. Nigel has been with the charity since it's start up 5 years ago and says 'It is a challenging and incredible journey which has been so successful on the South Coast and we are now looking to bring that success to our new based in her Somerset".

We would encourage interested Veterans or Veteran Support Teams to get in touch either via our website www.servicedogs.uk.org or contact Nigel Rousell directly at nigel@servicedogs.uk.org. We are also interested in hearing from potential volunteers and fundraisers. Here's a photo of Nigel and Audi, one of our ambassador dogs.



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

I live in Fairfield, and on behalf of the roads residents, I would like to say a big thank you to Numbers 10 and 17 for their Christmas displays. Making our lives a little brighter in these difficult times. Edna Holland.

THANKS TO PEOPLE OF SOMERTON

Mrs Peggy Moore, the lady who was knocked over in the car park about 10 days ago, has been in contact with Somerton Town Council. She would like to thank all of the members of the public who came to her aid, most sincerely. People were very kind and considerate, providing aid until the ambulance arrived. She would like to also thank all of the concerned

SOMERTON MUSIC AND ART FESTIVAL UPDATE

We are very much looking forward to the summer when things should be starting to return to normal. Confident that we can comply with all the regulations and guidelines necessary to ensure everyone can stay safe, we are pressing on to arrange the Festival for 2021. This includes our one family friendly music festival Somertsock on July 10th where we have the Christians as our headline act and 16 other great bands, including up and coming and local acts. A limited number of tickets for this event are still available at the Early Bird prices before they go up in the New Year, so why not buy a little ray of sunshine for Christmas! We are also working on completing plans for all the events that take place in and around the town from the 4th to the 9th July so watch out for announcements early next year. Happy New Year to all.

www.somertonartsfestival.co.uk www.somerstock.com

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This months cover photo is: "Nuts about nuts!" (8th Dec. 2020), Daily visitors keeping me company in a Somerton garden. By Colin Brown.

Potential cover photos can be sent as email attachments to viaduct@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk. Please include some details about the picture: place, subject and date taken, and your full name.

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FISH

Large, Fish & Chips (Pean & Tartar Secon) - £11 Regular, Fish & Chips (Pean & Tartar Sauce) - £8 Decen Scampi & Chips (Pean & Tartar Sauce) - £11 Whitebait & Chips (Pean & Tartar Sauce) - £10

FAVOURITES

Horsenade Lasague, Orips & Gartic Gabatta - £11 Slow Roasted Belly Port, Math, Peas & Horsenade Gravy - £12 1/2 830 Roant Oxician. Origin & Com - £11 BBQ Rack of Port Ribs (Propared & Slowly Cooled in our Kitchen) - £12 Hontern Chiclen & Chips - £10 (Chicken Filet Stuffed with Clevers, Laced with BBQ Sauce & Wropped with Eacon) Homenade Cottage Pin Topped with Clevers, Laced Vith BBQ Sauce & Wropped with Eacon) Homenade Cottage Pin Topped with Clevers, Mack Gated Cheese, Pass & Homenade Gravy - £152 Entrish Earl Stanis & Cuit? All Pin Full. Mach, Pass & Homenade Gravy - £15 Butcher: Gave Figgets (Wreisen), Mach, Pass & Homenade Gravy - £11

BURGERS

Beef Burger (7 as Hard Pressel) & Orige - (10 Burger, Orenes, Lerters & Berger Steven in a Britche Bus Unicam Beef Burger (2 x Hard Pressel Partice) & Chipe - (12 59 Stealy Barce, Nortenry Lett. Covers, Lett.co & Barger Scales a Britche Bun Butternik Orikeer Fillet Barger & Orige - (10 Ohieten Fillet Depart & Extremit Hwn Oxided in Birthe & Deep Fried) Britche Bus, Fried Oxizer, Prepare & Chill Jan

Halleami Borger, Sweet Chill Sasce, Bricche Bun & Chigo - £10 New Yorker Chicken Durger & Chigo - £11 (Costedin Brand Crumbs & Deep Fried) Bacon, Mazzarella Cheese, Lettore & Chill Jane in a Britche Bus

Ultimate Dirty Fries - £12.50

Sliced Rump Steak, Homensade Ovion Rings & Reppercent Sauce Diny Fries Topped with Palled BBQ Brisler - £12,50 Homensade Onion Rings, Owerse Sauce & Drizpy Bacon

WITHRICE

Homemade Chill Con Caron, Rice & Tantil an - 19:50 Homemade Chillen Korne, Rice & Nargo Crustey - 19:50 Homemade Childen Kates, Caro, Bios & Wargo Chartey - 29:50 Homemade Childen Kates, Caro, Rice & Edute Pot of Sauce - 19:50

SUNDAY ROAST 12PM 4PM

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