

# VIADUCT

September 2021

Bradley Lane, photographed by John Rickard



# Editor's Letter



## Hello,

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My name is Paula and I am the new editor of Viaduct. I have a hard act to follow after the great work that initially Mo Fletcher, Martyn Smith and their team and then more recently Laura Pinkney have put in to make Viaduct the popular magazine that it is. But it's really the contributors who deserve the praise, and in this month's issue there are some great articles.

You'll also notice that there are a couple of new things about the magazine. A list of local clubs has been introduced and all adverts have been collected into a directory. I hope this makes it easier for you to find what you may be looking for if you wish to join a club or find a service.

So please dip in and take a look. And if you have a contribution or anything you wish to say, please send it to me at [viaducted@gmail.com](mailto:viaducted@gmail.com).

Editor, Viaduct

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Opinions expressed in this publication may not necessarily represent those of the editor or Somerton Town Council. Nor can we be held liable for loss, damage or omission caused by errors in printing of advertisements which we assume are reasonable and fair. Submissions may be included, changed or modified at the editor's discretion. All articles for inclusion must be received by 18th of each month.



# News from your town council

## Residents' Hedges

We would like to remind residents that hedges, shrubs and foliage that become obstacles on footpaths and affect visibility on the highway are the legal responsibility of the property owner. Overgrown foliage that restricts access for pedestrians on footpaths, or visibility for motorists, needs to be dealt with by the property owner. Please ensure that foliage is cut back to the boundary of your property.



## Want to help us?

We're looking for someone to take on caretaking duties at Edgar Hall for at least two months. Unfortunately, our regular caretaker is unwell. The position is open now, and offers a minimum of 7½ hours per week.

Please contact the Town Council Offices for further details and an informal chat. You can call on 01458 272236 or email [clerk.assistant@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk.assistant@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk).

## Keeping safe from Covid

Along with the rest of the South-West, we have unfortunately seen our case numbers of Covid rise over the last few weeks. To keep yourself and those around you safe, we continue to strongly recommend you get both doses of the Covid-19 vaccine, participate in testing and self-isolate when required. Although it's no longer a legal requirement, we also recommend you continue to wear a face covering, keep your distance, meet outdoors and let plenty of fresh air into indoor spaces.





# News from your town council

Meeting	Date	Time	Venue
Full Council (Planning if required at 6.30pm)	14 Sept	7.00pm	Edgar Hall
Promotions and Communications	21 Sept	7.00pm	Edgar Hall
Land and Properties (Planning if required at 6.30pm)	28 Sept	7.00pm	Edgar hall

Everyone is welcome to attend and there will be opportunities to ask questions. Please refer to the Somerton Town Council (STC) website for Covid 19 related information.

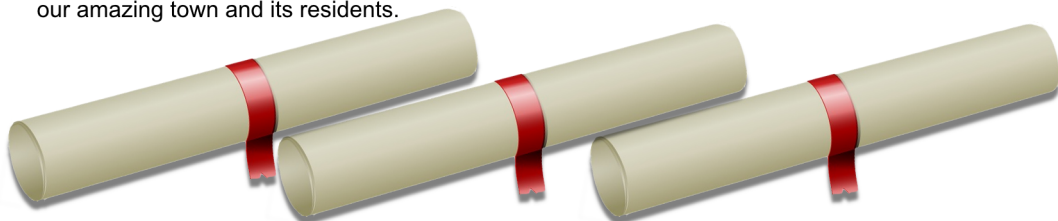
## Somerton Community Awards

STC is planning to hold its annual Somerton Community Awards on the evening of Tuesday 14 December 2021. We were not able to host an event last year due to the pandemic so we are looking to make this year's event an extra special evening, celebrating the best of Somerton. The pandemic has been a difficult and challenging time. We have had a number of our residents shielding, many others in key worker roles in the NHS, care homes and other essential services. As expected Somertonians showed real community spirit during this tough time, with many residents stepping forward to help those who needed support. We want to recognise those people who went above and beyond by way of a special Recognition Certificate. These certificates will be awarded to all those who receive a nomination in the Covid category and will be presented at the Awards evening in December.

We will also have a number of other awards, some we have presented before, others are new. You can see the list on the nomination form overleaf, which can be completed, removed and put in one of the Awards Boxes. These boxes can be found in Somerton Library, Coop and Cobbs Wholefoods.

We would ask you to complete one nomination form, but please nominate in as many categories as you want to, giving a short reason as to why you feel your nominee is worthy of an award. Nomination forms are also available online at [somertontowncouncil.gov.uk](https://somertontowncouncil.gov.uk) or you can scan and email the form opposite to [awards@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:awards@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk). Everyone who lives, works or has a business in Somerton is eligible to be nominated apart from current serving Town, District or County Councillors.

Voting closes on Sunday 10 October 2021. Please help us make this event a true celebration of our amazing town and its residents.





# News from your town council

## Community Awards Nomination

To nominate someone, please complete the form below and return it by Sunday 10 October. Details are on page X. Please note, your data will be used only in connection with these awards.

Your Name		
Your Phone Number or Email Address		
Category	Person or Organisation Nominated	Reason for Nomination
Covid Care Supporter		
Business of the Year		
Youth Enterprise Award		
Environmentalism of the Year		
Good Neighbour Award		
Volunteer of the Year		
Young Person of the Year		
Community Group of the Year		
Sports Person of the Year		



# News from around town

## VERSUS ARTHRITIS

In consultation with the Head Office of Versus Arthritis, it has been decided that the meeting planned for Thursday 2 September will not now take place. We hope to be able to meet up with friends in the not too distant future.

## Health Walks and Friendship Club

This month's Health Walks will be on Thursday 2 and 16 September meeting at 11.30pm outside the Library.

The Friendship Club will be on Thursday 9 September at Somerton Sports Club at 10.30am.



Come in via the french door side and bring a pen for bingo. Please wear a mask until seated. We will provide refreshments. Entry is just 50p.

## Red Cross Centre re-opens

The volunteers of Langport and District Red Cross hope to re-open Langport Centre on Monday 6 September. We are sorry that Covid concerns have led to such a long shut-down but now look forward to welcoming our friends back between 10.00am and 12 noonish each day, Covid considerations permitting.

If you have not visited our Centre/Shop before you will find the entrance in the large Langport car-park. Donations for the shop may be brought to the Centre during opening hours or to Somerton by arrangement with Chris Cox, Langport and District Red Cross Leader, on 01458 273085. We do not have room for large items such as furniture.

We are usually happy to re-home mobility aids such as wheel-chairs, raised loo-seats and walking aids.



## Live and learn at the WI

The August meeting of Somerton WI was very well attended and we were pleased to welcome several new members. Everyone enjoyed a relaxed quiz, mainly around Somerset and, as no-one got full marks, most of us were able to learn a little more about our local area. There was lively discussion while enjoying our usual refreshments.

# News from around town



## Would you like to help?

Langport Red Cross Centre is in need of a volunteer one morning a week. We serve hot drinks and sell donated goods whilst providing a meeting place for a chat and company. If you can spare a few hours, please contact Chris Cox on 01458 273085 or email him at [cox.cj@btinternet.com](mailto:cox.cj@btinternet.com).

## Artists get together



We are holding our last summer "Painting Together" day on Wednesday 15 September.

Meet at the Parish Rooms in Market Square, between 10.00am until 4.00pm. Bring your chosen materials for a creative day when we work together, painting outside, "do your own thing" indoors, or join a drawing workshop table for mark-making and sgraffito!

Fee is £5 on the door. Bring a packed lunch although tea and coffee will be provided. Current Covid safety regulations will apply, numbers may have to be limited, so come early!

For more details go to our website [somertonartists.co.uk](http://somertonartists.co.uk) or visit us on Facebook. New members always welcome.

## SOMERSET OPEN STUDIOS

18 Sept - 3 Oct 2021

Travelling around Somerset in the coming weeks, you will notice the distinctive yellow signs announcing one of the largest Open Studios events to date. Somerset Open Studios 2021 presents work from more than 300 Somerset Art Works Members in over 200 studios and spaces across the county this autumn.

Visitors have the opportunity to go behind the scenes and meet the artist, experience the working process and find out what inspires them – engaging with creativity at the source. Studios occur in a variety of unique situations and the event is the perfect opportunity to discover hidden locations and workspaces including in and around Somerton!

For full information visit [somersetartworks.org.uk/what-we-do/art-weeks/](http://somersetartworks.org.uk/what-we-do/art-weeks/) or look out for maps in cultural venues, or download the app. And to find venues, just follow the bright yellow signs. We look forward to your visit.

# News from around town

## Get ready for Christmas

The Christmas Artisan Market will return to The Bishop's Palace in Wells for its sixth year.

This hugely popular event will take place on 6 and 7 November, 10am-4pm, and visitors can head along to the medieval site to get their Christmas shopping started with a bang.

There will be a plethora of unique, unusual and inspirational artisans in attendance, curated from throughout the heart of the West Country, to get everyone in the mood for a spot of seasonal retail therapy.

The medieval rooms of the Palace, upstairs and downstairs, will be filled with a variety of enticing stalls, offering hand-made and unique gifts that are the perfect inspiration for those difficult to buy for friends and family, whilst also supporting local small businesses from the South West of England.

This year, the team has sourced a number of new artisan stalls, alongside a few regular favourites, and offerings will include handcrafted goods such as: Stained Glass by Debra as well as Echo Candles and Jewellery by Small Print. There will be plenty of gift inspiration, decorations, cards and much more.

If all the shopping means you're in need of refreshment, then head over to the café for a choice of seasonal drinks or enjoy some of our live musical performances.

This event is in aid of The Bishop's Palace and ticket price is £8 for adults, £4 for children 5-17 years old, while under 5s and Palace Members have free entry. Ticket price also includes entry to the whole site (normally £15). You can buy tickets from the ticket office, by calling 01749 988111 or online at [bishopsplace.org.uk](http://bishopsplace.org.uk).

The Bishop's Palace & Gardens is open daily. Tickets are available online and on site. For the latest news, events, videos, pictures and information see our Facebook, Instagram, Twitter pages, and our website.





# News from around town

## New jobs for autumn

Independent local food brand, Charlie Bigham's, has launched a recruitment drive to welcome a further 30 people to its 300 strong team in preparation for the busy autumn period. Bigham's has been dishing up premium food at its Quarry Kitchen near Wells since 2017 and has continually led to the creation of new jobs within the local area.



Bigham's has also announced plans to increase the wages of all colleagues across the business with entry-level pay increasing to £10.35 per hour, with the opportunity to progress depending on skill level and experience. Earlier this year, Bigham's introduced a range of new working patterns designed to enable colleagues to get the right work-life balance including 4-day week shifts (Monday to Thursday), 4 on 4 off rotational shifts and a 3-day weekend shift working across Friday to Sunday.

Richard Bain, General Manager at Bigham's said: "We have a fantastic team here at the Quarry Kitchen – they have done an incredible job over the last year and have really lived up to their key worker status. We are very proud to have been recognised earlier this year as one of the UK's Best Large Workplaces and to be in a position to welcome more people to our team."

Bigham's prides itself on offering its team the best opportunities within the workplace including fantastic progression opportunities and training delivered by the Bigham's Academy, competitive bonus scheme, pension, subsidised café, discounts at high street retailers, cycle to work scheme and of course lots of delicious Bigham's meals to enjoy at home amongst other perks.

For more information on the current vacancies available at Bigham's visit [bighams.com/all-jobs/](https://bighams.com/all-jobs/) or email your CV to [people@bighams.com](mailto:people@bighams.com).

## How well do you know Somerton?

Did you get it right last month? The photograph was of the chimneys on the Parish Rooms in Somerton. And did you know, the correct name for the rooms is the Lady Smith Memorial Institute? A big thank you to Rachel Mason for the chimneys photograph, and Peter Simmonds for posing the question and this month's photo. And as you wander around Somerton, keep your eyes open for this month's challenge. All will be revealed in the next issue of Viaduct.



# News from around town

## Normal service is almost back

The library has resumed 'near-normal' operations that include:

- No set restrictions on numbers in the library
- Browsing, borrowing, reservations and returns
- Public Network computers have been reinstated
- Staff and volunteers are wearing masks
- Wearing masks is strongly encouraged for library users
- Hand sanitiser is available at the entrance and around the library
- The Local Information Centre will not reopen

More details are available on our website at [somertonlibrary.com](http://somertonlibrary.com).



**SOMERTON**  
**COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

### OPENING HOURS

Day	Times
Monday	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm
Tuesday	Closed all day
Wednesday	10.00 am - 1.00 pm
Thursday	10.00 am - 1.00 pm 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm
Friday	10.00 am - 1.00 pm 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm
Saturday	10.00 am - 1.00 pm



## Let's meet, chat and laugh

At u3a, we will be holding our first monthly meeting back in the Edgar Hall on 24 September starting at 10.00am. Coffee, tea and biscuits will be served and there will be a chance to meet and chat. Our guest speaker will be comedy writer Brad Ashton. If members do not wish to meet face to face, the meeting will also be available in your own home via Zoom.

It's also time for membership renewal and enrolment and, like last year, this will not be face-to-face. Instead, you can renew or join online at [u3asites.org.uk/somerton/welcome](http://u3asites.org.uk/somerton/welcome) where there are links to the relevant forms. Or if you prefer, you can download and print the form to fill in by hand.

Payment can be made by a bank transfer, and the account details are on the online form, or you can pay by cheque made payable to Somerton u3a. Cheques must be sent to Marilyn Muffett, 4 Meadow Close, Somerton, TA11 6AS.

If you are renewing, either online or by post, you must also send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Marilyn so that you can receive your membership card (this will also be your receipt for payment). If you have any questions or difficulties, please call Marilyn on 01458 899773 or email her at [membership@SomertonU3A.uk](mailto:membership@SomertonU3A.uk).

# News from around town

## Getting creative with ACEarts

Our Summer School went fabulously with lots of people attending all the different classes. We are looking forward to being able to put on more workshops including family friendly sessions during October half term. Thanks to everyone who has put ACEarts as their preferred Co-op charity.



Weekly Life drawing starts again on Wednesday 8 September, 10.30am to 12.30pm, these will be held upstairs in The Courthouse – for more details look on [acearts.co.uk](http://acearts.co.uk) or drop into the gallery.

Completed Community Surveys have been coming in well but the more responses we receive, the better able we are to understand which workshops everyone would like to see return. You can pop in and pick up a copy of the questionnaire to complete or there is a link to the survey on our website, along with lots of information on all the other things we do.

## Somerton Market

The next Somerton Market will be held on Friday 3 September and we are hoping to have a good range of stallholders as there has been lots of interest from traders to attend – why not pop along and see us between 9am and 2pm.



## Being neighbourly

Somerton Good Neighbours are here if you need help with shopping, collecting prescriptions, or simply for a friendly chat if you're feeling a bit lonely or anxious. We hope in the near future to be able to visit people in their homes, and offer lifts for essential journeys. This is not just for Covid-related situations, Good Neighbours is a permanent service, available to anyone in Somerton of any age.

If you like the idea of becoming a Good Neighbours volunteer, please contact the scheme coordinator, Annette Sparks, on 01458 258947 or [annettes2853@gmail.com](mailto:annettes2853@gmail.com) for more information. Our volunteers tell us they enjoy their role, particularly getting to know the people they help through regular contact. Annette is the new co-ordinator, taking over from me, Sheila Crothers, as I will be moving to Burnham on Sea in the very near future. I wish everyone involved all the best for the future, and am pleased to know that Somerton will continue to benefit from this important service.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call the coordinator for your area: 01458 253414 West Somerton (incl. Patch Meadows and Northfield); 01458 258947 South Somerton (incl. St. Cleers and Polham Lane); 01458 274101 North Somerton (incl. Etsome and West End); 01458 273367 East Somerton (from Behind Berry to Pestors Lane).



# News from around town

## Calling all green fingers

Are you an occasional gardener or an experienced gardener? Do you enjoy looking at flowers or eating fresh vegetables? Do you like visiting other people's gardens?

Somerton Gardeners' Club is simply a collection of people who are interested in gardening: age and experience are no barrier.

We meet once a month at the Edgar Hall on the second Wednesday evening. We often have a speaker, but we always have tea or coffee – and cake of course!

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 8 September at 7.30 pm, when we will enjoy a light-hearted quiz, but mostly we are looking forward to meeting our friends who we've not been able to meet over the past months. A warm welcome is waiting for you – remember, age and ability are no barrier – and visitors and new members are particularly welcome.

What else is on offer? We enjoy contact with other garden groups – joint visits, shared speakers, and links with the Somerset Federation of Garden Clubs. We also have arrangements with local businesses who generously offer our members discounts – keeping it local and of benefit to everyone.

Through our club membership of the RHS we are able to enjoy occasional coach trips to nationally known gardens.

Our annual show has been held for many years, and we intend to make the next one in the Edgar Hall on 3 September 2022 a very special one. As well as all the traditional classes, we have introduced some novelty classes as well as special sections for children. There really is something for everyone.

If you're interested or simply curious, come and find out more. In the meantime, you can always contact members of our committee by email at [somertongardenersclub@gmail.com](mailto:somertongardenersclub@gmail.com).



# News from around town



## Keeping it green for the community

Since 2019, Kirkham Street Field Trust has been working to protect Kirkham Street Field as a green space for the people of Somerton and have investigated all available options with the support and encouragement of the community.

To date we have raised £130,000 from donations and promises which is amazing. However, this falls short of the £750,000 purchase price. We are pleased therefore to now have the opportunity to work with a not-for-profit organisation who are keen to explore the best way forward to fulfill the community's wishes and the objectives of the Trust by:

- Working with the whole community
- Providing and protecting a public green space for Somerton – access for all
- Promoting environmentally-friendly solutions

The proposal, if acceptable to the community, and of course Somerset County Council, will protect two thirds of the field as a community green space. The remaining third would be used as a sustainable community housing scheme.

After over two years, the Trustees are excited to have a viable way forward. Further details will be publicised, including on the Trust website; and a public meeting will then be arranged as a first step in the community consultation – watch this space. For further information contact the Trustees – see [kirkhamstreetfield.org.uk](http://kirkhamstreetfield.org.uk).

## And a little bit of fun

ArchiesXtra Somerton thank everyone for a very successful Activity Day held on the Recreation Ground on 17 August. Fifty young people enjoyed the Climbing Wall, Sumo Suits, Giant Jenga and Connect 4, as well as ball games and a splendid BBQ – our thanks to Staceys for sausages and burgers, and the Sports Club for the use of their excellent facilities. We hope 11 to 18 year olds will come along to ArchiesXtra on Thursdays, 7.30 – 9pm, beside the MUGA. We offer free refreshments, a listening ear and a safe space, plus lots of activities provided with the volunteer team and our lovely Youth Worker. For more information call Judith on 01458 273079 or Alex on 01458 272047.



# Spotlight on Train4All

This month the Viaduct roving reporters met with Rachel Allen of Train4All Construction & Engineering Academy.

We started by asking Rachel about how and why Train4All started. "My husband Jon and I both worked in Further Education but wanted to provide bespoke training for people who were disadvantaged or didn't want to attend a large FE college." In 2008 Train4All was set up initially in Chard. An additional centre was established in Glastonbury to service learners in the Mendip region, and then after a move to Street, the centres reached capacity and a larger premises was built in Somerton.

The four units at Jubilee Park at Badgers Cross were fitted out by staff, trainees and apprentices to create a tailor-made training facility. It is quite magnificent and says much about the skills the trainees develop during their time with Train4All.

"We are a family business and want to support anyone who walks through the door looking for an opportunity," says Rachel. Train4All provides training for people of all ages in the engineering and construction sectors; carpentry, plastering, bricklaying, welding, mechanical engineering, but also CSCS cards, health and safety, management, and Maths and English.

Continuing, Rachel explains, "We are not a college; we are in between college and the workplace. Each learner has their own individualised programme, we do not request specific GCSE grades, we are looking for 100% commitment". Class sizes are less than 14, so some learners feel more supported and secure in this environment than they might at college.

Train4All support local and national employers with upskilling and recruitment of staff, offering apprenticeships and providing the necessary training, and Traineeship work experience programmes that can help learners who are not ready for a full apprenticeship. Bespoke training is also available.

Armed Forces Resettlement Training is available for those looking to return to civilian life. They have been awarded the Silver Covenant for commitment to providing training and employment to Armed Forces men and women and their families, and Rachel is rightly proud of this as Jon and other key members of the team have served. They have seen, first-hand, a gap to provide quality training for servicemen when they are looking to resettle to help bridge the crossover between service life and civvy street.

We were given a tour of the training areas, including the new South West Welding Academy – it is a truly impressive facility, much envied by other providers of vocational courses. Following a





# Spotlight on Train4All

Women in Welding course, Rachel commented on how wonderful it was to see females training, this has had a very positive impact and she would very much encourage girls to consider vocational trades when deciding what to do when they leave school.

One of the most exciting opportunities at the moment is that Train4All has been selected to deliver Government Skills Bootcamps. Skills Bootcamps in Mechanical Engineering and Welding are free programmes of up to 16 weeks for adults aged 19 and over who are either in work or recently unemployed, or people who are looking for a change of career. All learners are guaranteed a job interview when they successfully complete the course, and many employers are looking to employ them directly following this programme.

Rachel says, "We have so many employers looking for staff, there are real opportunities for people to get into work. We see a massive spike coming as people who are currently unemployed or looking for a change in career start looking for training."

The last 18 months have been a very difficult time for everyone, and although Train4All are flourishing, the pandemic has also affected them. The impact of the pandemic on education, especially those students in Years 10 and 11, has resulted in a reduced visibility of what many students are doing since they left school. Consequently, the number of young people accessing apprenticeships has fallen. The disruption to schools has led to a potential dilution of the impact of Careers Advice and Guidance services in some schools. The result of both these things is that there are young people more in need of the services offered by Train4All than in previous years. Taster days will be available in 2022.

Rachel ends by saying that "We want to tell Somerton we are here, we are here ready to help and support, provide guidance and advice to anyone who wants to get into work or retrain. There are so many opportunities and many free courses, you could find yourself learning a skill that you may never have imagined doing."

If you would like more information or to arrange a tour of the facilities call 01458 274043 or email [enquiries@train4all.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@train4all.co.uk). Also find them at [train4all.co.uk](http://train4all.co.uk) or via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or LinkedIn .

Photographs: opposite page: plastering course, construction, receiving certificates, bricklaying: below; women in welding graduation, Bootcamp graduation.



# Have your say

## 100 years old and still smiling

On Wednesday July 28 we celebrated Maisie Fisher's 100th birthday at Wessex House. She's a local lady who originally came to us from Langport.

I asked Somerton Town Crier, Steve Davies, to attend and he was wonderful. Maisie said she felt very spoilt. We would like to thank Steve so much as she was thrilled to see him and he talked to her for ages.



## Laburnum Drive Residents' Committee

Open at last and happy to arrange events again, although keeping COVID RULES in mind. Coffee mornings Tuesdays 10.00am. Bingo Thursdays 2.00pm. Bacon Butties first Tuesday of the month, 10.00am (£1.30), Breakfast every third Monday from 20 September, 9.00am (£4), also Lunches, and Activities (with a choice). First 'Social evening' Supper and Music, Tuesday 12 October 5.00-7.30pm. Next Coach Trip is Weymouth 7 September. Depart 10.00am, fare £11. More details on notices in Hall, or ring 01458 272620. See you soon!



## Cheers!

Somerton's very own Bavarian Oktoberfest returns as one of the much anticipated events in the Somerton calendar. The event will be held in the Edgar Hall, Somerton at 7pm on Saturday 9 October. Somerton Music and Arts Festival are pleased to welcome back the fabulous Wagonkered Bar with a selection of fine German beer, as well as a wide range of other beverages. The entertainment will once again be provided by the Sherbavarian Stompers and yourselves with the usual

audience participation! This will be followed by dancing the night away to The Painkillers and DJ Ray. Tickets are available at [somertonartsfestival.co.uk](http://somertonartsfestival.co.uk). Food will be provided and is included in the ticket price. The event is sponsored by Bancombe Joinery and Nick Shore Builders.

# Have your say

## Injecting a little vaccine clarity



An update from our local Patients' Participation Group (PPG). Much has been discussed regarding 'Phase 3' of the Coronavirus Vaccination Programme. Dr Quinlan, Clinical Director for the South Somerset West Primary Care Network (PCN) writes "We were keen to sign-up to Phase 3 of the vaccination campaign, offering booster vaccinations to all our patients. Despite our best efforts, we have not been able to meet the restrictive contractual requirements necessary to provide an ongoing Local Vaccination Site. As a group of practices, we have needed to balance the current unprecedented levels of demand for medical care against the potential risks from moving clinicians into the vaccination programme.

The Phase 3 specification requires provision of an 8am-8pm vaccination service, seven days per week. We have concerns that this would negatively affect the wellbeing of our already stretched staff, whilst potentially impacting our ability to provide safe and effective patient care.

Unfortunately, the Phase 3 specification does not allow vaccinations to be run from individual practices. Vaccinations must be run from a single nominated site for the whole Primary Care Network. Now that community centres and commercial sites have returned to business as usual, there have been challenges finding a suitable venue for ongoing vaccinations.

Most of our patients will receive appointments through the National Booking Service for COVID-19 booster vaccination at one of the large county or pharmacy sites. You will receive notification when it is your turn to book an appointment.

We have offered to provide vaccinations for patients who are housebound, living in a residential care setting or who are too unwell to travel. We are awaiting further information about this but anticipate we will provide roving vaccination teams and possibly pop-up clinics for these patients. We will keep you informed once arrangements become clearer."

Further information on the Somerset COVID-19 Vaccination Programme can be found at [somersetccg.nhs.uk/health/local-services/health-services-during-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccinations-in-somerset/](https://somersetccg.nhs.uk/health/local-services/health-services-during-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccinations-in-somerset/)

The annual flu vaccination programme will be operating from 9 September. Walk-in clinics will not be available but you may book an appointment by contacting Buttercross HC or Ilchester Surgery via 'AskMyGP' or calling (01458) 272473. Please note that, when attending, social distancing measures will continue to apply.



# Local clubs and activities

If any of the details for the current list are incorrect or you would like to be added to the list, please email Claire Lucas at [clerk-assistant@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk-assistant@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk).

GROUP	CONTACT NAME	MEETING PLACE	MEETING TIME	EMAIL	TELEPHONE
Ageing Well	Age UK somerset	Parish Rooms £4.50 pay as you go	Monday 10.15am Friday 11.30am	<a href="mailto:ageingwell@ageuksomerset.org.uk">ageingwell@ageuksomerset.org.uk</a>	01823 345626
Archies Extra	Alex Judith	Sports Ground, beside the MUGA	Thursdays 7.30-9.00pm 11 to 18 years olds		01458 272047 01458 273079
Create and Connect at Acearts		Exhibition Space, Old Town Hall, Market Place	First Weds of the month 11am-1.00pm and 2.00-4.00pm		
Flexercise		Buttercross Surgery	Fridays 2.30-3.30pm		
Friendship Club	Mo Fletcher	Somerton Sports Club	Second Thursday of the month 10.30am		01458 274631
Health Walks	Mo Fletcher	Somerton Library	First and third Thursday of the month 11.30am		01458 274631
History Society	Nancy Schooling	Parish Rooms £15/year (£25 for couples) £2 at door	Every fourth Thursday of the month 7.00pm		01458 273859
Martial Arts Self Defence		Somerton Infants School	Thurs 6.00-7.00pm Kids and Juniors 7.15-8.15pm Adults		
Mid Wessex Singers	Rowena	West Street Church Hall	Tuesday 7.15-9.00pm		07929 803097
Rugby Club	Gary Saunders Steve Benn under 18s & 15s	Eirian Williams Memorial Pitch	Tues and Thurs 7.00pm		07870 861731 07919 153205
Somerton Carers		West Street Church Hall	Second Friday of the month 10.30am		01458 250603
Somerton and District Bowls Club		Sports Ground, Gassons Lane	Tuesday 5.45pm Friday 2.00pm		
U3A		Edgar Hall £2 for visitors	Fourth Friday of the month 10.00am		
Womens' Institute	Sue Long Pauline Saunders	Parish Rooms	Third Tuesday of the month 2.30pm		01458 274038 01458 272769

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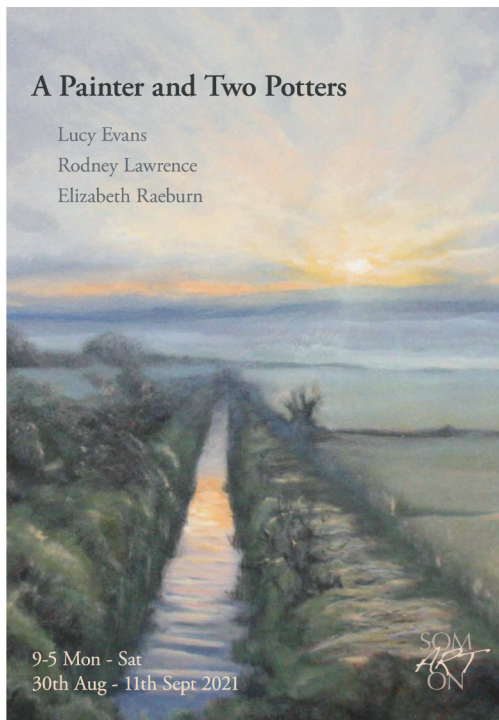
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### Chilli Jam Recipe

#### Ingredients:

8 red peppers, de-seeded and chopped  
8 red chillies, chopped  
5cm piece of root ginger, finely chopped  
5 garlic cloves, finely chopped  
400g tin of chopped tomatoes  
750g granulated sugar  
250ml red wine vinegar



#### Method:

Combine all the ingredients in a large pan. Heat gently, stirring until the sugar has dissolved. Bring to the boil and skim off any scum that has formed. Reduce the heat and simmer gently for about an hour, stirring occasionally. Raise the heat slightly and cook for a further 10-15 minutes, stirring frequently. Allow to cool slightly, then spoon into hot sterilised jars. Cover and seal.

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