



VIADUCT

August 2017



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Somerton Town Council - August 2017

**CONTACT: TOWN CLERK 272236 OR
TOWN.CLERK@SOMERTONTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK**

Meeting	Date	Time	Venue
Full Council	No meeting in August		
Planning (if required)	1 st and 15 th August	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 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.

Did you know Somerton Town Council has a facebook page? Check it out!

Somerton Town Council welcomes four new councillors who were all co-opted at the July

Full Council meeting

Cliff (Fred) Bassett

Laura Briggs

Emily Janas

Peter Richardson

The town council has approved the updated lease for the new Unicorn car park (surgery site) and the Half Moon car park.

The loan on the surgery site and Edgar Hall will be repaid leaving the council free of any long-term loans.

A ten-year financial forecast has been approved by councillors

Work is being undertaken by Nancy Schooling to list the significant memorials at the cemetery

2018 prices for the hire of Edgar Hall will remain the same as the 2017 rates.

Work will shortly commence on the road extension at the cemetery

A by-law is to be created to allow markets in places other than the Market Place.

News

SOMERTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY - "GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM"

Edgar Hall in mid-September - see Forthcoming Events for details.

ROAD CLOSURES

The junction of Northfield and Waverley will be closed to vehicles from August 7th for around 8 weeks. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

Behind Berry will be closed to vehicles between Pinewood and North St from August 7th for approximately 3 weeks to enable the construction of footway and resurfacing works.

Access for pedestrians will be maintained as will access to the cemetery.

The other part of Behind Berry between Pinewood and Pound Pool will be closed for 3 days from Wednesday 30th August (9.30am-5.30pm) for resurfacing works. These last two closures will affect bus services. Buses of Somerset have told us that the 77 service will travel as far as the Market Square and then turn round and continue to its destination (either Yeovil or Wells). The 54 service will run both ways along West St and will not serve Behind Berry

SOMERTON JIGSAW

Somerton Tourism & Heritage Partnership has recently produced a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle featuring photos taken around Somerton. They are on sale in the LiC in the library priced £15.00

LOCAL ARTIST'S DREAM PAINTING RESIDENCY

Laura Burke has been working part-time at ACEArts whilst she completes her MA at the University of the West of England, but has been given the opportunity to be an 'artist in residence' at Butleigh-based Dove Studios. She is being funded using a grant from SSDC and funding from ACEArts, and she will hold an exhibition of her work at ACEArts during 2018. More info: 273008, email info@somerton.co.uk or their Facebook page.

LABURNUM DRIVE

Lots going on! This month - bacon butties (Aug 1st), coach trip (Aug 8th), BBQ (Aug 12th), breakfast (Aug 21st), weekly bingo (Thursdays 2.00pm). Coffee mornings, lunches, tea parties, suppers, flexicises, knitting, bring and buy, bingo, monthly quizzes, entertainers, sing-alongs, speakers, workshops, and even just a natter! See forthcoming events for details.

SOUTH SOMERSET COMMUNITY TRANSPORT (FORMERLY LINKS).

We can organise affordable transport for a hospital visit, a trip to the supermarket or just a visit to see Aunt Ethel. Telephone 01935 477399 (Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm) at least 24 hours in advance and we'll try to help.

PS Volunteer drivers are always needed. Contact the office for details.

SOMERTON FIRE STATION COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

Now available in colour: softback £18 or hardback £22. Profits will go to the Fire Fighters' Charity. Mo Fletcher will be selling them in LIC in Library each Saturday in August from 10 am to noon. For more info or to reserve a book, contact Mo Fletcher 274631 or fletcher080@btinternet.com

LIBRARY SURVEY

The latest library customer satisfaction survey will help Somerset County Council find out what's important to those who use (or don't use) the library. Questions include how often they visit, what services they use, how they find staff support, the quality of library facilities, how library services could be improved and what stops people visiting their local library. Complete the survey online at www.somerset.gov.uk/librarysurvey or ask the library staff. The closing date is 12th August.

SOUTH SOMERSET NEWS

SSDC's newsletter is now available at www.southsomerset.gov.uk/ssn
You can get a copy in the post by calling 01935 462130.

AVOID A "BINFERNO"!

Enjoy that summer barbecue but take care to not start a fire by discarding the ashes into your rubbish bin or black sacks, Drench ashes with water or let them cool completely to avoid a rubbish fire which might threaten your home and family or cause a blaze in a waste truck or at a landfill site.

SOMERTON COMMUNITY PLAN 2017

The updated community plan is now available in draft form following the public meeting on 17th July. It is available in the library, Williams' supermarket, post office, Buttercross surgery and STC office, or online at www.somertontowncouncil.gov.uk, www.somerton.co.uk or www.somertonsentinel.co.uk YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT! Feedback can be returned by e-mail to somerton5ycp@gmail.com or by using the blank page found at the end of the draft plan. Deadline for feedback is midnight on Friday 18th August

CITIZEN'S ADVICE

Will be closed in August and re-open on 5th September. There's lots of help on the website www.citizensadvice.org.uk

SOMERTON PUPILS BUILD 'POD' SCULPTURES

Earlier this year Jan Niedojadlo's interactive 'podule' exhibition was on display at ACEArts in Somerton and received positive comments from visitors of all ages. ACEArts managed to secure funding from the Mid-Somerset branch of the Arts Society for him to visit King Ina Academy and work with the pupils to build their own 'pods', which will remain at the schools for them to use and enjoy. Nina Gronw-Lewis, Curator of ACEArts, commented: "We hope that Jan's visit will inspire the next generation of art lovers!"

RECYCLING SITE PERMITS

The permit scheme began in October and restricted hours for large vehicles to reduce queues and congestion. The scheme has proved so successful that hours have been relaxed to allow vans, pick-ups and car-towed trailers access whenever recycling sites are open. Further details on SWP's website: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

CHARITY THEATRE TRIPS TO BRISTOL HIPPODROME

The big news is the arrival of "Beautiful" - the Carole King Musical at Bristol next April and we are going on Wednesday 4th April. This has had rave reviews from everyone who has travelled to London to see it and features many hits including some you didn't even know she'd written!! At the moment the last booking date is the end of August.

August also brings payment dates, and the last chance to be sure of a ticket, for My Fair Lady and optional theatre tour, War Horse, Crazy for You and English National Ballet's Nureyev production of Romeo and Juliet.

Our coach picks up in Curry Rivel, Langport, Somerton, then either Street, Wells or Keinton Mandeville, Shepton Mallet.

Book at www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk or email coxtheatretrips@btinternet.com, or phone 273085.

Reports

FLOWERS

We received this letter from Pamela Miley, a resident of Somerton: -

"I'm sure the residents of Somerton cannot fail to notice, both winter and summer, the colourful flower displays and flower beds around the town. These are all grown, planted and watered by Mr Jeff Dyer and we all owe him a big thank you for making our beautiful little town even more attractive. I do hope that the sad person or persons, hopefully not residents, are enjoying the geranium stolen from one of the library tubs and the entire contents of the tub on the Langport Road, which Jeff has had to replant."

SUMMER EXHIBITIONS AT ACEARTS

Following on from Lydia Needles' hugely successful 'Fifty Bees' exhibition, ACEarts will be welcoming two new shows over the summer.

On 29th July an exhibition from the Artists' Book Club of Dove Studio (ABCD) opens, for one week only (closing 5th August). 'A Book in the Hand' combines words, images and materials to create imaginative book construction, and visitors will be able to see how the books are made.

This will be followed by Pennie Elfick's show 'Contradictory Space', which runs from 12th August until 16th September. Pennie's abstract work explores how the use of linear elements with colour can create a visual conundrum. To complement her exhibition Pennie will be leading a workshop, 'Drawing the abstract', on 11th September (10am-4pm).

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CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, 14-20 MAY

A huge thank you to everyone who gave generously to help refugees, contributing to a magnificent £3,816, which with Gift Aid should grow to £4,084! There are many calls on our money, so it is wonderful that many people in Somerton still think of those who have practically nothing at all.

My grateful thanks, as ever, to the lovely friends who are brave enough to knock on your doors (and thank you if you gave them a smile!), to Michael Green, who spent many hours counting the money, and to Kim Johnston and the staff at Somerton Post Office for checking and verifying it all.

Rowena Wallace, CA Week Organiser for Churches Together in Somerton

SOMERTON WEATHER REPORT FOR JUNE

Our local resident has recorded rainfall was 60.5 mms - nearly 2.5 inches.

You can find up to the minute reports for Curry Rivel on the website www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=ISOMERSE7 or put wunderground curry rivell into your search engine. Similar results for Chilthorne Down at www.chilthorneweather.co.uk

RIDE OUT FOR ROSIE

The Ride Out for Rosie charity motorbike ride on Sunday 2nd July raised £750 for St Margaret's Hospice. Ken Knight would like to thank all those who helped on the day, as well as Williams' Supermarket, the White Hart and friends who donated prizes. Ken would also like to thank the Sports Club for their support and of course all the riders who participated!

GREAT WALL WALK

Mary and Bev raised over £1000 for Cystic Fibrosis with a BBQ at Mary's house. Watch out for more fund raising projects.

Forthcoming Events

PARDOES SOLICITORS LLP TUESDAY 1ST/22ND AUGUST

9.00am-12noon Parish Rooms Need advice about wills, probate, powers of attorney, tax planning or trusts? Come to one of our legal clinics for a free chat with one of our solicitors. Also in Langport on 14th August.

LABURNUM DRIVE TUESDAY 1ST AUGUST

10.00am Bacon butties & a cuppa £1.20 more info: 272620

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE TUESDAY 1ST AUGUST

No evening meeting.

HEALTH WALKS THURSDAY 3RD/17TH AUGUST

11.30 am Somerton Library. We walk for about an hour and socialise at the same time. At the end those that wish go to a local pub for refreshments. Wear appropriate clothing! More info: Mo Fletcher 274631.

ARTHRITIS CARE THURSDAY 3RD AUGUST.

7 for 7.30pm Pinney Room, Parish Rooms. Dr. Francis Burroughes, "Don't Put Your Daughter On The Stage". Visitors welcome.

SPORTS CLUB LEASE

This press release is issued reluctantly and earlier than had been intended, as 'negotiations with the Sports Club' are not yet complete. However there is the need to provide certain information to the wider public following recent comments in the press and at public meetings.

The Recreation Ground is administered solely by the Recreation Ground Trust, which consists of members of the town council, acting as Charity Trustees, and it is this Trust that is responsible for leasing the Sports Club.

Following the Audit Report in early 2012, it was agreed that a review of all leases would be undertaken, including the 2002 lease for the Sports Club.

On detailed inspection it became apparent that both parties had entered into this lease when they were not legally able to do so, this point being confirmed following legal advice obtained.

This lease called for the Sports Club to pay £1,000 per month to the Recreation Ground Trust by way of rent, with a similar sum being made available to the Sports Club from the Trust to cover the cost of maintaining the grounds. No payments were actually made, either way, and until 2008 the Sports Club duly maintained the ground. However, since 2008 the ground has been maintained by the Recreation Ground Trust and not the Sports Club, but no money has been received by the Trust from the Sports Club since then in terms of rent.

As the ground is for the use and benefit of the residents of Somerton, the Trustees feel that the situation needs to be rectified, ensuring an appropriate level of funding for the use of the Sports Club, having had an independent valuation carried out to establish rental values. On this basis a new lease was offered to the Sports Club at the beginning of March 2013, with new conditions (compared to the 2002 lease) with the liability for all works on the Recreation Ground being met by the Trustee, but with the Sports Club paying a fair rent for their tenancy, the funds being used for the maintenance and improvement of the Recreation Ground site.

The Trust and Sports Club failed to reach agreement related to this lease and any further discussions ceased in 2014.

In December 2016 Greenslade Taylor Hunt were appointed to act on behalf of the Trust to negotiate a lease with the Sports Club. Following a meeting with a representative from the Sports Club, draft heads of terms were issued to the Sports Club for consideration in February 2017, with an acknowledgement from the Sports Club secretary that they would be considered in March 2017. Some progress was made related to the heads of terms with the main areas to be resolved being the annual rental payment and the status of the snooker club in relation to the lease. On 16th June Battens solicitors representing the Sports Club requested a meeting with the trust. The trust was agreeable to this and supplied six possible separate dates over the following month, with the final date of 14th July. As of that date no response has been received from Battens or the Sports Club. The Trust has now passed the resolution of the lease to its solicitors Weller Hedley.

The Trust is clear that the current situation needs to be resolved and hope that an agreement can be made with the Sports Club and that the two organisations can work together for the benefit of the Recreation Ground and the people of Somerton.

For more information please contact

Terry Philpott, Secretary to Somerton Recreation Ground Trust, Edgar Hall

SOMERTON RECREATION GROUND TRUST

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Recreation Ground Trust seeks to clarify the position of the chair of the trust following the Annual General Meeting on 5th July 2017.

At that meeting the first agenda item was the election of Chairman as it had been for the previous two AGM, this was based on the interpretation of the Trust Governing document. Following advice from a Trust Solicitor and Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) it transpires that this interpretation was incorrect. Where the Town Council is the sole trustee the chair of the council will be the chair of the trust.

If the trust chair is not present at the AGM then a chairman is elected for that meeting. On the basis of this advice, Dean Ruddle as chair of Somerton Town Council is chair of the Recreation Ground Trust. The Trust would like to thank Brian Raybould for chairing the AGM.

We apologise for any confusion and recognise that the governing document dated 8th March 1996 may require some updating to avoid any future misunderstanding and have asked Terry Philpott in his capacity as Secretary to the Trust to undertake a review.

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SOMERTON GARDENERS' CLUB MONDAY 7TH AUGUST

7.30pm Wessex Rooms Broad St. Bryn Bowles will give a presentation on 'Doing your bit for bees'. Brilliant - just so long as there aren't lots of drones buzzing about! (Very droll - editor)

LABURNUM DRIVE TUESDAY 8TH AUGUST

10.00am Coach trip to Sidmouth for town fete £10. More info: 272620

RUMMIKUB TUESDAY 8TH AUGUST

2.00pm Friends of the Parish Rooms present Rummikub. £3 on the door to include tea and Pam's (less fattening!) cookies. More info: 272408

FRIENDSHIP CLUB THURSDAY 10TH AUGUST

10.30am Somerton Sports Club for a chat and to enjoy each other's company. Tea 20p, coffee 30p, biscuits free and free ticket for the raffle. More info: Mo Fletcher 274631

CHARITY THEATRE TRIPS THURSDAY 10TH AUGUST

5.30pm "Sister Act" at Bristol Hippodrome. Phone 273085 or email coxtheatretrips@btinternet.com. Full up to date list at www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk.

SOMERTON OPPORTUNITIES FRIDAY 11TH/25TH AUG

10.00am-12noon West Street Church Meet friends and make new ones, share a skill or hobby or just have a coffee and chat. Free internet access and help getting online as well as various social activities. It's an opportunity to meet friends, or make new ones in a relaxed atmosphere. We are happy to welcome anyone with disabilities and their carers - there is level access and a disabled toilet. If you have a skill you can share, or would like to help the group grow and flourish, we need more volunteers. More info: Ivor Dixon 250603 or email levelopps@gmail.com

LABURNUM DRIVE SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST

2.00pm Annual BBQ. Good food, good company, good fun with Stevie P. entertaining. To book, visit our hall or tel. 272620

BINGO SUNDAY 13TH /27TH AUGUST

7.30pm Somerton Sports Club Over 18s only

EVE APPEAL MONDAY 14TH AUGUST

3.00pm Reading Room, Hillway, Charlton Mackrell Afternoon tea and information session with specialist nurse from the Eve Appeal, which helps fund research into the diagnosis and treatment of the five gynaecological cancers. The event is free but donations to the Eve Appeal are welcome. More info: 223227 or see the website www.eveappeal.org.uk.

SUMMER PLAYDAY TUESDAY 15TH AUGUST

10.00am-1.00pm Recreation Ground. For the younger members of our community to come and enjoy a fun morning with the Play-Days team.

SOMERTON GROUP OF ARTISTS ANNUAL EXHIBITION & SALE TUESDAY 15TH- SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST

Parish Rooms. There will be many pictures in a variety of media - pencil, watercolours, acrylics, oils, pastels and prints - both framed and unframed. Please come and support your local artists; browse, enjoy and maybe even buy! Admission is free. 10.00am to 6.00pm Tuesday to Friday; 10.00am to 2.00pm Saturday.

WESSEX HOUSE CREAM TEAS TUESDAY 15TH AUGUST

2.30pm Wessex House volunteers would like to invite you to their cream tea event. There will be a raffle and tombola. Donations would be gratefully received and we thank all of those that support us.

CREAM TEAS WEDNESDAY 16TH AUGUST

3.00pm West Street Church in the garden

LABURNUM DRIVE MONDAY 21ST AUGUST

9.30am Breakfast £3 (pre order). More info: 272620

GREEN GARDENERS MONDAY 21ST AUGUST

6.00pm Guided visit to "no-dig" organic garden. Members only

YOUTH DAY TUESDAY 22ND AUGUST

11.00am-3.00pm Recreation Ground Lots of activities, for the youth of the area. See www.facebook.com/PlayYouthSouthSomerset

SHORT HEALTH WALK THURSDAY 24TH AUGUST

11.30am Somerton Sports Club. Walk for about 30 mins and return to the club for refreshments.

U3A ENROLMENT DAY FRIDAY 25TH AUGUST

10.00am to 12noon Edgar Hall. This is a chance to see what we have to offer in the way of interest groups and maybe sign up for one or two! Existing members can renew their membership but please have the forms filled in beforehand. New members will be very welcome to join. There is no entry charge for this event and you may come at any time during those hours but please - not before and not after! Parking is very limited on these occasions so if possible, please walk or car-share to the hall.

Normal monthly meetings take place on the fourth Friday of each month at the hall starting at 10am with coffee (30p) and chat. After any notices the main event begins at 10.30am and finishes by 12 noon latest. Meetings are free for members, visitors £1.50 each.

SOMERTON GARDENERS' CLUB SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST

2.00 pm King Ina School. The club's ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW. Everyone is very welcome, either to enter the many and various classes or to admire the entries and enjoy Carole and Ann's tasty refreshments. All proceeds go to charity. Schedules available from Overt Locke, West Street.

STAPLING AND FOLDING OF VIADUCT TUESDAY 29TH AUGUST

2.00pm Parish Rooms

SOMERTON SINGS FOR FUN

None in August. Next event Monday 25th September

SOMERTON HISTORY SOCIETY

No meeting in August. Next meeting Thursday 28th September

SOMERTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY 12TH/13TH/15TH/16TH SEP

7.30pm Edgar Hall "Goodnight Mister Tom". This is the first time that the Dramatic Society has put on a production at the Edgar Hall and we hope that you will support us there, as you have in the Parish Rooms. Looking forward to seeing you. Tickets from Palmer Snell from Wednesday 2nd August, Adults £8 children 12 & under £6 Further info: Monica 272023 email nichomo46@gmail.com

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Will host the

SOMERTON FLOWER, VEG AND CRAFT SHOW

SATURDAY 26th AUGUST 2017

King Ina Academy,
Kirkham Street, Somerton

open to the public from 2.00pm
50p Admission - Children Free

Competition entries welcome from everyone living in Somerton and surrounding
districts

Free to enter

see schedule for details – available from Overt Locke or the Library

Show Secretary – Mr Ian Burton 01458 273668

What's on In Brief

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

10.30am -11.30am Age UK Movement to Music, Parish Rooms
2.00pm - 5.00pm Bridge Club (Chicago) West Street Church
5.30pm Slimming World, Edgar Hall
4.30pm - 5.30pm Rainbows, St Cleers Chapel
5.30pm - 7.00pm Brownies, St Cleers Chapel
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 - 12.00noon Citizens' Advice, West Street Church
11.30am - 12.30pm Fitness League Exercise, Parish Rooms
10.30am Coffee Morning, Laburnum Drive
2.00pm Crochet/Knitting and other crafts group, Full of Beans cafe
6.30pm - 7.30pm Line Dancing (Beginners), Junior School
7.00pm - 9.00pm Scouts, Scout Hut
7.30pm Mid Wessex Singers, West Street Church
7.30pm - 9.00pm Line Dancing (Improvers), Junior School

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

9.00am - 11.00am Weightwatchers, Parish Rooms
9.00am - 11.30am Rainbow Rascals, West Street Church (term time)
9.30am - 10.30am Tai Chi (Advanced), Parish Rooms
11.00am - 12noon Line Dancing (Improvers), Parish Rooms
2.00pm Fun Bingo, Laburnum Drive
6.00pm - 7.30pm Junior Youth Club, Wessex Rooms
7.00pm - 10.00pm Bridge Club (Duplicate), West Street Church
7.30pm - 9.00pm Archies Xtra (11-18 years), Recreation Ground
7.30pm - 9.30pm Scottish Country Dancing, West St Church (term time)

FRIDAY

9.30am - 11.30am St Cleers Toddlers, St Cleers Chapel
10.45am Flexercise, Laburnum Drive
7.00pm - 8.30pm Rezound Youth, Edgar Hall
7.30pm - 9.00pm St Cleers Youth, St Cleers Chapel

SATURDAY

9.00am Yeovil Parkrun, Montacute House

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9.30am - 12noon Wessex Market, Unicorn Skittle Alley

SUNDAY

10.30am Life Church, Edgar Hall

AUGUST

No meeting in August for: - Citizens' Advice, WI evening meeting, Sports Club quiz, Somerton sings for fun, Somerton History Society, County Councillor's surgery, District Councillor's surgery

Tuesday 1st 10.00am Bacon butties Laburnum Drive

Friday 4th Somerton Market 10.00am-2.00pm Market Square

Thursday 3rd Health walk 11.30am Somerton Library

Thursday 3rd Arthritis Care 7 for 7.30pm Pinney Room

Monday 7th Gardener's Club 7.30pm Wessex Rooms

Tuesday 8th Coach trip to Sidmouth 10.00am Laburnum Drive

Tuesday 8th Rummikub 2.00pm Parish Rooms

Thursday 10th Friendship Club 10.30am Sports Club

Thursday 10th "Sister Act" Depart 5.30pm for Bristol Hippodrome

Friday 11th Somerton Opportunities 10.00am West St Church

Tuesday 15th Summer Playday 10.00am Recreation Ground

Tuesday 15th SGA Exhibition & Sale 10.00am Parish Rooms

Tuesday 15th Cream teas 2.30pm Wessex House

Wednesday 16th Cream teas 3.00pm West St Church

Monday 21st Breakfast (pre-order) 9.30am Laburnum Drive

Monday 21st Green Gardeners 6.00pm No-dig garden visit

Thursday 24th Short health walk 11.30am Sports Club

Friday 25th U3A Enrolment Day 10.00am Edgar Hall

Saturday 26th Gardener's Club Annual Show 2.00pm King Ina School

Tuesday 29th Viaduct S&F 2.00pm Parish Rooms

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

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