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January 2016



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**South
Somerset**

Citizens Advice Is Coming To Somerton

Citizens Advice is opening in Somerton in early 2016 in the meeting rooms at the rear of the Church in West Street (previously known as the Methodist Church) on Tuesdays between 10.00 am and 12 noon.

No appointments will be necessary.

We are looking for volunteers to help as Information Assistants.

Training will be given. If you would like to help this exciting project, please contact June june.carty@southsomcab.org.uk or Pat patcolyer@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk

Reports

SOMERTON TOWN COUNCIL - PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: TOWN CLERK 272236 OR

TOWN.CLERK@SOMERTONTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK

SOMERTON RECREATION GROUND NEXT STEPS

The trustees of the Somerton Recreation Ground have announced that following extensive consultation and the publication of the proposed master plan for the existing recreation ground in November 2015 they are reviewing the possible relocation of the organised sporting activities to another site in Somerton.

The primary objectives of the master plan are to provide improved changing facilities and car parking, along with other opportunities identified as part of the consultation. The implementation of the master plan received outline approval, with overall costs provided by the consultants Swan Paul of circa £2.2M. Before developing this project the trustees would like to be clear that the current site offers the best value for money to meet the future recreational needs for the people of Somerton over the next 50 to 100 years.

The potential new school for Somerton provides an opportunity to work in partnership and provide a cost effective solution to meet the needs of both school age children and recreational / leisure users from Somerton. One option is a combined venture, which is being explored with a site of approximately 15 acres required. Other options will be reviewed by the newly formed project group which will meet in early January 2016 to define the scope of the review and recommended timescales.

The project group will consider the sale of approx 5 acres of the current recreation ground for housing development, which would fund the development of the new facility.

Town Clerk Terry Philpott said ' It is early days with the review of this very exciting project. At this stage there will be more questions than answers, but it is important that people are aware that this opportunity is being reviewed and that all members of the community will have the opportunity to input their views in due course. We will not progress this without a mandate from the people of Somerton'.

Part of the proposal includes creating an informal park space to include the skate park, children's play area and the multi-use games area staying in the current location at Gassons Lane on the 10 acres site to be retained.

Chair of Council Dean Ruddell said ' with more planned housing for Somerton it is essential that we review the recreational requirements, not for now but for future generations and we put those plans in place.'

Further information can be obtained from Terry Philpott, Clerk to Somerton Town Council.

MINDLINE SOMERSET IS OPEN OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD

Mindline Somerset is open out of hours for people in Somerset who feel isolated, distressed or upset and need to talk to someone. We can also give basic information about mental health and local services. Mindline Somerset has been run by Mind in Taunton and West Somerset for 15 years and has been supporting thousands of callers increasing to over 6,000 per year. We are currently open between 8pm-11pm Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun on 01823 276 892.

We are pleased to announce that we will continue to keep the line open over Christmas and New Year and provide that listening ear for people that need to talk to someone. We all know Christmas and New Year can be hard for some people and it can be a lonely time for some.

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VIADUCT ADVERTISING RATES

Quarter page: £20; half page: £30; full page: £50. Advertisements may be booked for 12 issues.

Special offer - 10% discount for 12 months and 5% discount for 6 months.

Outer back cover £60 and full centre page spread £80.

From May we have to charge VAT for adverts but will not be increasing our ad rates.

Ads should be provided in pdf format and sized at full, half or quarter A5 page size as appropriate.

To advertise in Viaduct, telephone 01458 272236 or email viaduct@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk.

WE HAVE MOVED

Andrew Roff HPC Registered Chiropodist / Podiatrist.

Is now practising at:

The Bodyworks Physiotherapy Clinic
11 Camelot Court,
Somerton,
TA11 6SB (opposite Royal Mail).

Home visits also available.

Please Note - Our new phone number is 07773 888440

NEW GOAL POSTS AND NETS SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2015

New goal posts and nets were provided for the Somerton youth football team by the Rotary Club of Langport and Somerton, financed from the profits made providing refreshments during the Tour of Wessex Cycle event held at the Somerton Recreation Ground on the late May bank holiday. (See photo on inside back cover).

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR BUSES

Here's a summary of how our buses will be running over the Christmas & New Year period.

Christmas Eve (24 December): Normal timetable

Christmas Day (Friday 25 December): No service

Boxing Day (Saturday 26 December): Sunday timetable

Sunday 27 December: Sunday timetable

Bank Holiday Monday (28 December): Sunday timetable

Tuesday 29 & Wednesday 30 December: Monday to Friday timetable except on Taunton Park & Ride where a Saturday timetable will operate

New Year's Eve (Thursday 31 December): Monday to Friday timetable except on Taunton Park & Ride where a Saturday timetable will operate

New Year's Day (Friday 1 January): No service

Normal timetables will resume from Saturday 2 January

SOMERTON'S BUSINESS AWARDS 2015

Somerton Business Awards: The best of Somerton's business community have been recognised by the Somerton Business & Trades Association, with three awards highlighting some of their outstanding contributions to the local community. The winners were named at the Association's AGM on Monday 9th November, held at the Globe Inn in Somerton.

Mike Gillingham of M B R Gillingham Ltd Building Contractors was awarded the Community Support Award

Mike has been a keen supporter of the Somerton Music and Arts Festival for the last 27 years and has been an active member of the local Rotary Club raising funds for needy causes.

Mike Mitchell of M & M Contractors (S W) Ltd was awarded the Outstanding Contribution to Local Business Award

Recognising his help towards decorating the town and providing the machinery to help put up the Christmas lights, also the flags and bunting at the Somerton Music and Arts Festival which is held in July each year.

Geraldine Jones of Stationery House Ltd was awarded the Business Personality of the Year Award

Geraldine, amongst other things, has been in the forefront this year, of producing the jute Somerton shopping bags and organizing the Hunt the Reindeer competition, with over 40 shops and businesses taking part. She has also gained a lot of press coverage promoting the town.

News

SOMERTON & LANGPORT HEALTH WALKERS CANCER FUND RAISING EVENT

Thank you to all the participants who took part in the Langport Walk Group fund raising event on Sat 21st November at the Ridgway Hall, Langport, to raise funds for specialized cancer treatment for one of our fellow walkers.

We would also like to thank the ladies who manned the tea/coffee/cake bar and all the individuals and organisations who generously donated magnificent raffle prizes for this event. Thanks to everybody's generosity, we are pleased to announce that we raised just over £350 for this much needed treatment.

The prize donors were: Carrie Johnson; Janet Gray; The Langport Library Staff; Pitney Farm Shop; Langport Stores; Linda Dickens Tai Chi.

SOMERTON & LANGPORT AREA BRANCH RNLI

Fund raising is always hard work especially when the charity you are helping costs £410,000 a day to run! A very successful lecture evening generously given by Richard Kay of Lawrences, at Long Sutton Village Hall in November raised £1,600. The lecture was entitled "Delightfully Deceived" 500 years of Trompe L'Oeil; wine & canapés were served. The Cross Keys Inn at Keinton Mandeville held a weekend event in the summer to celebrate their second anniversary where they turned their land-locked pub into a beach, complete with deck chairs and a lighthouse. The event supported the RNLI, the Air Ambulance, the Burnham Area Rescue Boat and Mark Newton who is documenting war graves in Somerset. At a presentation evening on November 21st Matt French, the chairman of the Somerton & Langport Area Branch RNLI was delighted to receive a cheque for £600 and the branch is extremely grateful for their support. A coffee morning in Somerton by kind invitation of Mrs Esther Locke raised £245. The branch has also received a very generous donation from Mr Des Haynes in memory of his wife Joy, who died in October; they both worked tirelessly to help raise money for the institution. The branch will be holding an antique valuation day by Lawrences at Long Sutton village hall on Wednesday 24th February 2016

THANK YOU

Enid and David Thresher and Jayne Dunlop would like to thank everyone for their messages of condolence on the death of Colin. We wish also to thank all who attended his Service of Thanksgiving and all who have given donations. £500 has been sent to Langport Surgery in Colin's memory. This will be added to the fund for new automatic doors.

CITIZENS ADVICE IS COMING TO SOMERTON

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ON TOP OF THE WORLD FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS TRUST!

Yes, I am privileged to say that I have stood on top of the world!

On the 8th of October I went to Africa to take the Challenge of Kilimanjaro to raise much needed money for Cystic Fibrosis Trust, and what a challenge it was!

On Wed 14th Oct at midnight we started up this amazing mountain standing at 5,756 metres.

Seven hours later I reached the top, feeling shattered as the pictures in Cobbs Health Food Shop window showed.

The whole challenge took seven days of very long and hard trekking but I did it and I have the T-shirt to prove it! But what is even more amazing, Somerton, you have now raised £6,369. Thank you so much. Thank you also for your support and best wishes. Please can I have sponsor money in and if you would still like to give you can bring donations into Cobbs. Thank you and a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Bev Squire

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to the volunteer Lights Brigade for the very festive display in the town - the best ever! Thank you also to the Sedgemoor Lions for bringing Santa to town and to all the children who took part in the carol singing, the country dancing and the singing of songs from Oliver. (See photo on inside back cover).

CHARITY THEATRE TRIPS TO BRISTOL HIPPODROME

A Happy New Year theatre-goers. Sixteen trips booked in for 2016, and one for 2017!

There are still a few places available for Snow White, Swan Lake, Mamma Mia and The Bodyguard. I am buying the tickets this month for Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty and Welsh National Opera's, The Marriage of Figaro. New bookings are for Billy Elliot, English National Ballet's Giselle, and the soul musical The Commitments.

We pick up in Curry Rivel, Langport, Somerton, Keinton Mandeville or Street/Wells, and Shepton Mallet. Full details of all our trips can be found at www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk or phone Chris on 01458 273085 to request a postal listing.

Shows are 7:30pm start unless shown otherwise. Sold out shows are not listed.

Snow White - Sun 3 Jan 5pm - £35 Adult £25 Child

Swan Lake - Thu 7 Jan 2:30pm - £29

The Bodyguard - Tues 26th Jan - £48

Last Tango- Thu 4 Feb - £39

Bourne's Sleeping Beauty - Thu 3 Mar - £39

Marriage of Figaro - 7:15pm - Sat 19 Mar - £46

Mamma Mia - Mon 25 Apr - £46

Tell Me on a Sunday - Sun 15 - £38

Guys & Dolls - Wed 13 Jul-£42

Rocky Horror Show - Wed 20 Jul - £36

Giselle - Wed 19 Oct - £46

Billy Elliot - 2:30pm - Thu 27 Oct - £56

Billy Elliot - Tue 8 Nov - £56

The Commitments - Wed 22 Feb 2017 - £58

WRONG ADDRESS

A black bin bag with various items was left at 17 Seven Acres from Rachel for Fiona. Can Rachel or Fiona contact 01458 272351 to arrange collection.

FRIENDS OF THE PARISH ROOMS ADVANCE NOTICE

An advance date for your diaries! On Saturday, 5th March, the Friends of the Parish Rooms are holding a 'Winter Warmer' luncheon. 12-2pm, with delicious homemade foods. Tickets, £7, (limited to 60), will be available from Cobbs Health foods, from 1st February.

EARLY NOTICE: WEA

The WEA will be running a course on "Birds in Spring and Summer." The course will begin on Tuesday 2nd February 2016 in Long Sutton Village Hall from 7.30 to 9.00pm and will run Tuesdays for 6 weeks (no session on Tuesday 16th). The last session will be on March 15th. The course will investigate the resident birds and visitors. We will examine their appearance, diet, behaviour and adaptations for living and breeding in different habitats. The role of birdsong and migration will be discussed. The tutor will be Dr Colin Ryall and the cost will be £31. Why not join us? Further enquiries or to enrol locally contact: Doreen Harvey 01458 241711 or e-mail doreen-royharvey@tiscali.co.uk. You can also enrol on-line at www.wea.org.uk.

EARLY NOTICE: SPECIAL CONCERT AT COMPTON DUNDON

5th February 8pm Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman, Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon

Forthcoming Events

ARTHRITIS CARE.

No meeting in January, restart on Thursday, 4th February.

JANUARY THEATRE TRIPS

Sun 3rd Snow White 5pm, Thurs 7th Swan Lake 2.30pm, Tues 26th The Bodyguard

WI: TUESDAY 5 JANUARY

Tues 5th Jan at 7.15 in the Parish Rooms. Speaker Jane Leakey, Puppeteer. Competition: Handmade Puppet.

SOMERTON HEALTH WALKS: THURSDAY 7/21 JANUARY

Come along with Mo and Linda on a walk for about an hour finishing at the White Hart for tea/coffee. We leave from Somerton Library at 11.30 am.

This month they are on Thurs 7th and 21st December. Wear footwear and clothes possibly for wet, muddy conditions. For more info contact Mo on 01458 274631.

SOMERTON SINGS FOR FUN: MONDAY 11/25 JANUARY

Join us from 11.00am to 12.00noon, in the Methodist Church back room. 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 (from 10.45am)

OPEN THE BOX... ...AND SAVE MONEY: MONDAY 11 JANUARY

Somerset Libraries are running a series of workshops on using the Internet to save time and money. Learn how to use a tablet (touchscreen computer or iPad), explore money saving websites, check out how to find the best deals. Save time and money by shopping, banking and paying bills on-line. Register at Somerton Library for an introductory workshop that will be on Monday 11th January, 2016 from 2pm - 3.30pm. For more details contact: Sally Foyne, Assistant Library Supervisor, 01458 250152, sfoyne@somerset.gov.uk

RUMMIKUB: TUESDAY 12 JANUARY

At 2pm in the Parish Rooms. £3 to include tea and cookies. Details 272408.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S SURGERY: SATURDAY 16TH JANUARY

The County Councillor's surgery for January, will be held on Saturday, 16th January 2016 in the White Hart from 9.30am until 11.30am. Appointments can be made by telephone 01458 274865 or email to anne.yates@btinternet.com

MOVIOLA CINEMA: SATURDAY 16TH JANUARY

Moviola is showing "45 Years" at the Parish Rooms. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets at £6 are available from Cobb's in The Brunel Centre or on the door.

NADFAS: TUESDAY 19 JANUARY

London's changing skyline - past, present and future. NADFAS illustrated lectures, Caryford Hall, Castle Cary, BA7 7JJ, 10.30. Free parking. £6. Information 01963 350 527.

SOMERTON U3A: FRIDAY 22 JANUARY

The Somerton U3A meeting on Friday 22 January will be a talk by the Rev Tim Richards entitled "Sanctuary? - God's Spot at Glastonbury." Tim is a URC minister and is part of the religious team that support the revellers at the Glastonbury Festival. As an ex-actor this could be fun! Monthly meetings take place on the fourth Friday of each month at the Edgar Community Hall, Somerton, 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.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S SURGERY: SATURDAY 23 JANUARY

Stephen Page, District Councillor for the Wessex Ward (Somerton and Compton Dundon), will be holding his regular monthly morning surgery on Saturday 23rd January 2016 from 11.00 to 12.30 in the Full of Beans cafe, 6 West Street, Somerton. All are welcome to meet with Stephen and discuss any concerns or issues. To make an appointment kindly contact him by e-mailing stephenpage@southsomerset.gov.uk or telephoning 07519 739137

THE GREEN GARDENERS: MONDAY 25 JANUARY

The Green Gardeners will be welcoming back Neil Lovesey of Picket Lane Nurseries for a talk titled "A Year at Picket Lane." The venue is the Parish Rooms, Somerton starting at 7.30pm. Visitors are most welcome (£2) and there will be refreshments and a plant sale after the talk.

SOMERTON HISTORY SOCIETY: THURSDAY 28 JANUARY

Our January meeting, held in The Parish Rooms, begins at 7pm for coffee with a 7.30pm start. The speaker this month will be Francis Burroughs with a talk entitled "Benjamin Ferrey, the man who rebuilt Wessex." Members are reminded that annual subscriptions of £12 are due in January. Members of the History Society come for free to meetings, visitors will be very welcome at £2 each. For more information contact Nancy Schooling on 273859.

FRIENDS OF SOMERTON LIBRARY: SATURDAY 30 JANUARY

We will be holding a coffee morning on Sat 30th January from 10.30am - midday at the library. The prize giving for the winner of the festive quiz will take place shortly after 11am. There will be time to submit entries until Thursday 7th Jan; forms obtainable from the Library and it is FREE.

What's on In Brief

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

Age UK Movement to Music 10.30am–11.30 Parish Rooms
Bridge Club (Chicago) 2–5pm Methodist Church Hall
Slimming World 5.30pm and 7.30pm Edgar Community Hall
Senior Youth Club 7–9pm Wessex Rooms

TUESDAYS

Therapeutic Art Group 10am–noon Wessex Rooms
Coffee Morning 10.30am Laburnum Drive
Fitness League Exercise Class 11.30am–12.30pm Parish Rooms
Line Dancing (Beginners & Improvers) 7 - 9pm Monteclefe Academy
Mid Wessex Singers, 7.30pm, Methodist Church

WEDNESDAYS

Line Dancing 10am–12noon Edgar Community Hall
Knitting afternoon 2pm Laburnum Drive
FOODBANK at the Angel, Langport, 2.30 - 4.30

THURSDAYS

Rainbow Rascals 9am–11.45am Methodist Ch Hall
Weight Watchers 9.30–10.30am Parish Rooms
Coffee Morning 10.15am Wessex House
Line Dancing (Improvers) 11am–12noon Parish Rooms
NetBuddies 2–4.30pm Methodist Ch Hall
Fun Bingo 2.30pm Laburnum Drive
Beginners Tai Chi 2-3pm Parish Rooms

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Credit Union (LLAST) 5–6.30pm Methodist Ch Hall
Martial Arts and Self Defence class 6pm Infants School
Junior Youth Club 6pm–7.30pm Wessex Rooms
Bridge Club (Duplicate Bridge) 7–10pm Methodist Church Hall
Ceroc le Beat 7.30pm Edgar Community Hall

FRIDAYS

Flexercise 10.45am Laburnum Drive
(in term time) ReZound Youth 7.30–9pm Life Church, Northfield

SATURDAYS

Yeovil Parkrun 9am Montacute House
Wessex Market 9.30am–12 noon Unicorn Skittle Alley

SUNDAYS

The Rock Activity Church 10.30am–12noon Wessex Rooms

JANUARY

Sat 2nd Jan Somerton Town Council surgery lib 10.30am - noon
Sun 3rd Snow White 5pm
Mon 5th WI Talk by Puppeteer 7.15pm PR
Thu 7th Swan Lake 2.30pm
Somerton Health Walk 11.30am at the Library
Mon 11th Somerton Sings for Fun 11am West St Church
Open the Box 2pm - 3.30pm Somerton Library
Tue 12th Jan Rummikub 2pm PR
Sat 16th CC Surgery White Hart 9.30am - 11am
Moviola Cinema "45 Years" 7pm PR
Tue 19th NADFAS 10.30am London's Changing Skyline Caryford Hall, Castle Cary
Thu 21st Theatre trip The Bodyguard
Somerton Health Walk 11.30am at the Library
Fri 22rd U3A meeting "Sanctuary at Glastonbury" 10.30am Edgar Hall
Sat 23rd DC Surgery Full of Beans Café 11am - 12.30pm
Mon 25th Jan Green Gardeners Picket Lane Nurseries West St Church 7.30pm
Somerton Sings for Fun 11am West St Church
Tue 26th Theatre trip The Bodyguard
Thu 28th History Soc meeting 7.00pm "Benjamin Ferrey" PR
Sat 30th Festive Quiz results and Coffee Morning 10.30am at Library.

This months cover photo was provided by John Watts. Photos can be sent by email to viaduct@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk.



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by Catherine Colyer, FHT, ACMT, ITEC, CNHC



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SOMERTON YOUTH FOOTBALL TEAM,

Oscar Howard, Nathan Peach, Jago Eccle, Callum Payne

Groundsman Wayne Foote, Rotary Members Richard Hampton, Jane Redfearn, President Tony Russell, Stan Jones, Groundsman Andy Billing.



Well done to the volunteer Lights Brigade for the very festive display in the town

Viaduct is published and printed by Somerton Town Council and is distributed FREE to residents. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors, for which the Council and the Editors cannot be held responsible. Items for inclusion should be sent in by 12th of the month previous to the edition of Viaduct in which the item is to appear.

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