



Jim Spibey Memorial Shield Allotments Competition 2014

The 2014 allotments competition was a great success with a very high standard of entrants from the 3 Council allotments. There was only one mark between the winner and runner-up. The winner for the 2nd year in succession was Mike Dobson (Bridle Lane) and the runner-up was J. Burton. Cllr. Brian Lyttle (Allotments Sub Committee Chairman) thanked all the competitors and Chris Beal Competition (Judge) for their hard work and he presented the winners shield and awards to all participants.

Little Sunshines Pre-School Nursery for Two Year Olds, at Somerlea Park Centre

Somercotes welcomes Anna Connelly – Childs. Little Sunshines Pre-School Nursery, starting on 5th January 2015, at Somerlea Park Centre (Sherwood Street, Leabrooks). Some families are entitled to up to 15 hours' free childcare a week for their two year old children if they are on low incomes or certain benefits. At the current time 77 families in Somercotes qualify for the free childcare and this is an ideal opportunity for signing up to the free child care provision.



Flying the Derbyshire Flag

Somercotes Parish Council raised its new Derbyshire Day Flag, on Sunday 21st September 2014 to commemorate Derbyshire Day.

Core Strategy Update

The Parish Council has been very proactive in making representation on the proposed Core Strategy and has been successful in having the Birchwood Lane and the Lower Somercotes (Rugby Club) sites removed from the core housing strategy. Furthermore, the industrial land use site off Birchwood Lane has now been moved to the second part of the core strategy relating to Industrial sites. The Somercotes Hill site will remain in the core strategy. Chairman, Paul Smith said, 'The Parish Council listened to what the community said at the Annual Parish Meeting in May and the members have remained proactive throughout the process making representations to AVBC on the proposed Core Strategy and at the Planning Application stage for the Rugby Club site. The Council trust that the community appreciates the council's proactive approach, on their behalf.'

HLF Grant for the "Least We Forget A Village at War" Project



Somercotes Parish Council has received a Heritage Lottery Fund Grant of £3,700.00 to research the fallen servicemen from the Parish (includes Leabrooks & Pye Bridge). The project will research how the village supported the war, working in the Ironworks, factories and on the land. Anyone who has any photographs, letters, information, WW1 memorabilia or anything of interest should contact Gordon Blackmore (Clerk to the Council) (01773) – 603810 or call in at the Parish Council Office, at the Village Hall.

Somercotes VILLAGE HALL
Available for Weddings, Dances, Parties etc.
Hall or Lounge available

Use of kitchen (by arrangement) included in hire cost

Licensed Bar available
Ample car parking available
We cannot take bookings for 18th Birthday Parties

Somercotes Village Hall, Nottingham Road,
Somercotes DE55 4LY Tel: 01773 609397



Derbyshire Ancestral Research Group

Thanks to Margaret Brooksbank of DARG for an entertaining article on

The Connections between St Thomas' Church and 'The War Horse'

WARRIOR was born in spring 1902 at Yafford, Isle of Wight. His mother was a beautiful thoroughbred named Cinderella and the stallion an exceptionally bright chestnut name Straybit. It was the exploits of this brave horse and his exceptional brave rider during World War 1 that were the inspiration for the book WAR HORSE by Michael Morpurago, which was made into the film of the same name.

JOHN EDWARD BERNARD 'JACK' SEELY was born on 31st March 1868, at Brookhill Hall, Pinxton. He was the son of Sir CHARLES SEELY OWNER OF Babington Colliery, benefactor of St Thomas' Church and of the community, building both schools and the houses on Nottingham Road, Somercotes, known as Seely Terrace. His wife EMILY, Jack's mother is commemorated on the pulpit in the Church. JACK moved to Brook, near Mottistone, Isle of Wight where he grew up, who became a remarkable man.

JACK was educated at Harrow and Cambridge becoming lifelong friends with Winston Churchill, a favourite of QUEEN VICTORIA who gave a dinner in his honour before he went to the 2nd Boer War.

When WW1 broke out Jack and his horse WARRIOR left England on 11th August 1914 on a boat to LeHarve. The exploits of JACK and WARRIOR became the stuff of legend and he was a tremendous character, a born leader of men and brave beyond words.

WARRIOR died at Easter 1941 and had the distinction of being the only animal ever to have an obituary in the Times newspaper.



General J. E. B. Seely on Warrior painted by Sir Alfred Munnings January 1918

In 1927 JACK's uncle Lieut. Colonel F. E. SEELY unveiled the War Memorial outside St Thomas' Church.

The Vicar of St Thomas' between 1944 and 1948 was the Rev. ROBERT JOSCELYN BOWYER. He left Somercotes for St Luke's, Derby and later became Rector of Brook with Mottistone, Isle of Wight, living there for the rest of his life with his wife ELIZABETH and is buried in Mottistone Churchyard.

Local musician John Tamms, who resided at Muchram wrote two pieces of music for the War Horse film.

WW1 Remembrance Day Service



On Sunday, 21st September 2014 the Parish Council held a WW1 Commemorative Service at St Thomas' Church, Somercotes followed by an Exhibition in the Village Hall. The roll of honour of the WW1 servicemen who lost their lives was read out by a Girl Guide and a member of the Army Cadets. A flag lowering ceremony was held as part of the service. The young groups were represented by Girl Guides, Brownies, Scouts, Cubs and Army Cadets and they are thanked for their participation and excellent conduct in the way they represented our young people.



Parish Council Carol Service

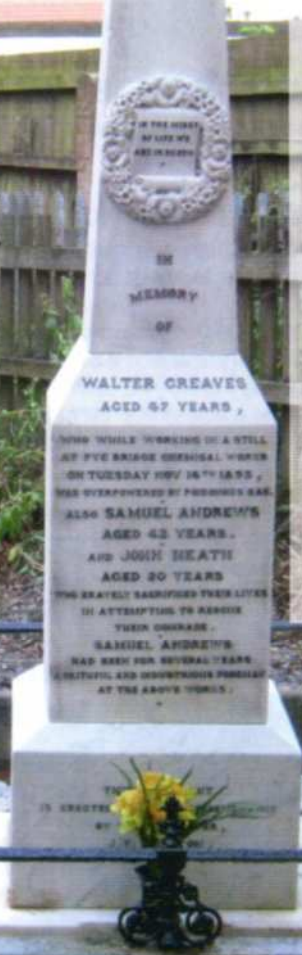
The Annual Parish Council Carol Service will be held at St Thomas Church, at 7.30pm, on Friday, 12th December 2014.

Once again you will be entertained by Heage Band and the singing of the St Thomas Guides, Brownies & Rainbows. Everyone who attends is welcome to come along to enjoy this festive event to welcome in the Christmas period. After the service those attending are welcome to come along to the village hall for light refreshments.



Somercotes History Society Restore Memorial

Thanks to Terry Tomlinson and his crew of helpers the Pye Bridge Chemical Works Memorial in St Thomas Church Yard has changed from a black unrecognisable object into a beautiful marble memorial dedicated to the 3 workers who died in a tragic accident on 14th November 1896. Walter Greaves (47 yrs) was overcome by poisonous gas whilst working in a still and Samuel Andrews (42 yrs) and John Heath (20 yrs) bravely sacrificed their lives in an attempt to rescue their comrade. The memorial was erected by their employer F J Kempson.



Somercotes Heritage Day

Somercotes Local History Society held its 3rd Annual Heritage Day, on 8th November 2014, and this year had new exhibitors including Amber Valley Camcorder Club; Ripley Heritage Trust; Princess Margaret Rose Trust; Heanor History Club; 1939-1945 Notts/Derby's Living History Group who put on an excellent exhibition.

The history society continually seeks information/photographs/memorabilia that enhances the heritage collection of the Parish of Somercotes. Currently the main project relates to the Heritage Lottery Fund focus on the industrial corridor through the community of which much has been discovered. The hardest area to discover information is the more modern companies & businesses from 1965 onwards on Cotes Park & Alfreton Trading Estates e.g. textile companies (Aertex, Dalkeith, English Rose, Courtalds), the Milk Marketing Board building; Guilford's; NHS Direct and other large engineering companies. If you have worked at any of the companies, have photographs or documentation SLHS would be pleased to hear from you. E-mail: info@somercoteshistory.co.uk or contact Gordon Blackmore (secretary) 07753304621.



Somercotes St Thomas Brownies

On Thursday, 16th October 2014, the Somercotes Brownies celebrated 50 years. The Brownies, was set up on 14th October 1964, by Barbara Osborne, becoming the first Somercotes St Thomas Brownies. Initially the Brownies used the Salvation Army building on Sleetmoor Lane, and then later moving to the nearby Church Hall. Since Barbara started the Brownies in 1964 there has only been three Brown Owls, Barbara 1964 – 1982; Gill Manning (Davis) 1982 – 1997 and Izzy (Isobel) Clarke 1997 to date. All three ladies were present for the 50 year celebrations and despite her age Barbara is still an active member of the Brownies, and long may it continue. Barbara still has the subs books, from the outset that showed the names and subs paid by the Brownies.

Somercotes Local History Society presented a WW1 Exhibition for the Brownies on 6th November 2014, at the Village Hall so that young people were given an insight into the loss of life and commitment of so many during the 4 years of war that devastated Britain.



'Businesses that have stood the test of time'

Despite many changes over the years some local businesses have stood the test of time and still operate in Somercotes and Leabrooks.

Owen Taylor & Sons Ltd, Family Butchers Since 1922

Owen Taylor & Sons have been butchers since 1922 and are proud to supply both retail and catering customers across the East Midlands. Owen Taylor is a family owned business which strives to provide our valued customers with the finest quality produce, locally sourced, wherever possible.

The vast majority of our beef, pork and lamb is sourced from farms in the Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire counties, and then brought to our site for maturation and preparation to our customer's specifications. Other livestock is routinely sourced from neighbouring areas including Staffordshire, South Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Rutland to satisfy our customers from the wider region. The business is a member of the national Butchers Q Guild, which represents 110 butchers from the Scottish Highlands to the South Coast. It is considered to be the elite end of UK's retail butchery sector.

In 2014 Owen Taylor & Sons, is celebrated success in the Meat Management Industry Awards as finalist in Britain's Best Butcher Shop awards category, also getting through to England's Best Burger final with their 'Champion Lamb Burger'. The company picked up England's Best Burger Award Food Service Category.



Bailey & Sons Limited (Printers)



The Somercotes area has seen a vast amount of changes in the last 130 years, yet one name remains a constant part of the local scene. Bailey & Sons Limited, Printers (Somercotes oldest business). Baileys has now passed through five generations of the same family. Christopher Brandon, the current owner. "William Bailey, the founder of the Company moved to Somercotes in the 1870's and after working in the mines he started the business full-time in 1881. A much respected man, he worked many years establishing the business before passing it on to his sons, William and Thomas. William had no children; Thomas had three, Frederick, George, Evelyn. Christopher Brandon took over the business in 1991 from Frederick's son Gordon".

Bailey's have been at their present site in Langley Avenue since 1914, many local people have been unaware of the terrific amount of work created from their unassuming premises. Their reputation for poster printing is known throughout the U.K. industry.

Tarlton's Boot Store, Nottingham Road, Somercotes

Arthur Tarlton (great Uncle to Elsie) founded the shop in 1902. Arthur Tarlton's nephew (also Arthur) made the cycling overshoes for the Bronze Medal winning British cycling team, at the 1928 Olympics.



Miles Furniture Store

Quality Home Furnishings - Somercotes, Derbyshire



Situated on Somercotes Hill, Somercotes, Derbyshire, Miles Furniture supplies an extensive range of quality home furnishings. Established for over 90 years, Miles Furniture are specialists in sofas, feminine floral or chic contemporary and soft Italian leather, dining in oak, pine, mahogany and teak, bedroom department with wardrobes and lovely comfortable beds at very competitive prices.

One of the largest choices of electric rise and recline chairs in the area. Miles' have a wide choice of reclining chairs, sofas, dining room furniture, beds, mattresses, wardrobes, mirrors, pictures and lamps.

Co-operative Stores



The Co-operative stores have long been a part of the local businesses, the first in the Parish being No 24 Branch at Lower Somercotes, photograph taken around 1910. If you visit the location of the shop the boarding of the co-op sign can still be seen above the current premises. Co-operative stores still operate in Somercotes and Leabrooks and one of the oldest shop businesses still in existence, although they have modernised into small supermarkets, including new modern premises at Leabrooks Corner.

Somerlea Park Centre

Charity No. 1137063

Sherwood Street
Leabrooks
Alfreton, Derbyshire
DE55 1LB







**Fitness Gym • Bowling Green
Floodlit Multi Sports Synthetic Pitch
Conference and Meeting Rooms
Large Function Room available for hire**

For more information visit
www.somerleaparkcentre.co.uk
Tel: 01773 528181

working for your community
40% of net profit given back to the community by way of price subsidy, 60% of net profit retained for repairs and renewals.

Weekly Events at Somercotes Village Hall

Day	Times	Event	Contact
Mondays	1.30 pm – 4.00 pm In the Lounge 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm In the Hall	Welfare Rights (Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre) 1st Somercotes Guides Group for girls aged 10-15 years	No appointment needed Call into a meeting for more details
Tuesdays	10.00 am 12.00 noon and also at 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm In the Lounge 5.00 pm – 6.30 pm In the Hall 7.30 pm – 10 pm In the Hall	Watercolour Classes Newcomers always welcome. Lovely atmosphere, friendly people. Somercotes Beavers Group for Boys and Girls aged 6 to 8 Somercotes Ladies Every Tuesday except 1 st in each month	Norma Gent 01773 836907 Paul Williams 07768 109674 Eileen Wilkinson 01773 603177
Wednesdays	10.00 am – 12.00noon In the Hall 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm In the Hall 8.00 pm – 9.00 pm In the Hall	Cameo Coffee Club Pop in – have a coffee – make new friends Weight Watchers Zumba Fitness Latin inspired, calorie burning, dance fitness	Just call in Just call in Dey and Liz dlzumba@hotmail.co.uk 07812 837969
Thursdays	9.00 am – 11.00 am In the Lounge 6.00 pm – 7.15 pm In the Hall 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm In the Lounge 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm In the Hall	Watercolour Classes All abilities welcome. Lovely atmosphere, friendly people. 1st Somercotes (St.Thomas) Brownies Group for girls aged 7-10 years 1st Somercotes (St.Thomas) Rainbows Group for girls aged 5-7 years Classical Yoga Philosophy & Posture, relaxation and breathwork. Newcomers welcome	Norma Gent 01773 836907 Call into a meeting for more details. Linda 01773 528264
Fridays	10.00 am – 11.30 am In the Hall 5.00 pm – 6.30 pm In the Hall 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm In the Hall 8.00 pm – 9.00 pm In the Hall	Hatha Yoga Calms your mind and strengthens your body. All ability class Somercotes Cubs Group for boys and girls aged 8 to 10 Somercotes Scouts Group for boys and girls aged 10 to 14 Zumba Fitness Latin inspired, calorie burning, dance fitness	Rav Paul 07963 350868 Paul Williams 07768 109674 Paul Williams 07768 109674 Dey and Liz d/zumba@hotmail.co.uk 07812 837969
Saturdays		None at Present	
Sundays	9.30 am onwards In the Lounge In the Hall	Parish Church of St. Thomas Sunday School Coffee after Church Service	Rachel Watson (Churchwarden) 01773 607131

Home Library Service

The Home Library Service now delivers to around 120 people in the Somercotes area. The service works from Alfreton Library and delivers once a month. For people who enjoy reading or listening to books, but who cannot get into a local library, or for those who are unable to carry the items they need, the service is free and could help. Books, large and normal print, books on tape and CD and also music CD's. All are available.

Hearing Help (Amber Valley)

Hearing Clinic will be held in the Lounge of Somercotes Village on the following dates:

Tuesday, 14th October 2014 2pm – 3.30pm

Tuesday, 11th November 2014 2pm – 3.30pm

Tuesday, 9th December 2014 2pm – 3.30pm

Tuesday, 13th January 2015 2pm – 3.30pm

There is also weekly sessions at Ripley Hospital on Thursdays, from 2pm – 4pm

Somercotes Library



Somercotes Library provides an excellent service to the local community and has been doing so for the last 25 years. The library staff are very friendly and always willing to assist those using the services.

Opening Hours:

Mon: 2pm – 5pm
Thursdays: 9am – 1pm & 2pm – 7pm
Fridays: 9am -1pm & 2pm – 5pm
Saturdays: 9.30am – 1pm.

The library has a Reader's Group on the first Friday of the month. Contact the library for details of which book is currently being read.

Bank Street Somercotes DE55 4JE

Tel: (01773) 550514

E-Mail: somercotes.library@derbyshire.gov.uk or view the website www.derbyshire.gov.uk



Letter from your County Councillor

The Parish Council would like to congratulate Cllr Paul Smith on his appointment as Deputy Leader of Derbyshire County Council & Head of Adult Services.

As you can imagine after my appointment as Deputy Leader recently my life has become rather hectic, but I look forward to the challenge.

DCC will be installing new speed activation signs in Somercotes and Leabrooks at the junctions of Leabrooks Road/Victoria Street; Main Road/Wood Street & Greenhill Lane/James Street that will warn drivers of their speeds.

DCC is currently considering the resurfacing programme for the next financial year (2015-16) that will include, Leabrooks Road, further work on Victoria Street, footpaths on Castle Drive, as well as Heathersage Drive (possibly February 2015).

May I wish everyone a great Christmas and a happy New Year.

Paul Smith



Cemex Team who provided valuable Environmental clean-up at Pennytown Ponds

Residents - Thank you letter

We, the residents of South Spire Estate, would like to thank Councillor Paul Smith for all the effort he put in for our deprived area. We would also like to say a big thank you to Derbyshire County Council for the £40k, to Somercotes Parish Council for the £5k and Futures Homescape £2k.

Paul worked hard to secure the money for our Multi Use Games Area and we, the above would like to say a personal thank you.

The children would also like to say thank you to all who donated the money to us. We now have somewhere to play football, basket ball and cricket.

Places of Worship

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

Churchwardens Rachel Watson 01773 607131 and Michael Woods 01773 723653

Regular Services:

Sunday: 9:30am Sung Mass
6:00pm Evening Worship (Last Sunday in the month)
Wednesday: 10.00am Said Mass followed by refreshments

Mother's Union meets in Church on the 1st Tuesday of each month

Parish lunch Friday 21st November, 12th December, 2014 11:30am to 1:30pm

Coffee Mornings -1st Saturday in the month 10.00am - 12noon

Services and Events for Advent and Christmas 2014

Sunday 30th November 6:00pm Evensong
Saturday 6th December 10:00am to 1:00pm Christmas Fayre
Sunday 7th December 2:30pm Storer's Memorial Service
Friday 12th December 7:30pm Parish Council Carol Service
Tuesday 23rd December 8:00pm Ladies Group Carol Service
Wednesday 24th December 11:30pm Midnight Mass
Sunday 28th December 4:00pm Carols at Christmas Time

2015

Sunday 1st February 3:30pm Candlemass and Christingle
All are welcome to join any of our services and events over the Christmas period

Wishing you all a very Happy and Blessed Christmas

BIRCHWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Minister - Rev. M. Dilley Tel. 01623 752349

Service each Sunday at 3pm and a morning service once a month at 10:30am.

Sunday 21st December Carol Service at 3pm.

Tea will be served afterwards in the school room.

Please see our notice board for details of services and forthcoming events. Everyone Very Welcome.

Christmas Brunch: Saturday 29th November
Everyone is welcome to our services & events - detail are on the church noticeboard.

SOMERCOTES SALVATION ARMY CHURCH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Sleetmoor Lane

Tel. Terence Carpenter on 01773 606945 or 07948 998507

Weekly Activities

Sunday: All age Family Worship 3pm followed by refreshments.
Monday at 3pm - Over 50's Friends and Fellowship
Tuesday from 9.30am - 11am Care/share Coffee Morning.

Monthly Activities

Messy Church 5pm-7pm last Friday of each month for families - bible stories, games, crafts, film, singing, meal provided.

Cafe Church 7pm - 9pm last Sunday of each month -exploring the Christian Faith in a relaxed style.

Craft/Sewing Group - 2pm-4pm first Friday of each month. (Sewing, knitting, crocheting, card making, arts)

PENIEL CHRISTIAN CENTRE

67 Main Road, Leabrooks

Telephone 01773 608737

www.leabrookspec.com

email:penielchristiancentre@leabrooks.freemove.co.uk

Leader: Mrs Elaine Whittingham

Sunday Services:

Morning Service at 10.30am
Evening Prayer Meeting at 5.30pm
Praise Time at 6pm

Tuesday: Ladies' Coffee Morning 10am - 12noon
Discussions, prayer and praise. Light lunch.
Prayer & Praise 6pm - 7pm
A visiting speaker when available from 7pm onwards.

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting 8am - 10am

Friday: Youth Club 7 pm-9 pm (RIOT) 11 yrs -16 yrs

Saturday: Kids Club 10am - 12noon 3yrs - 11yrs
Games, projects, bible story, lunch.

More than a Meal

1st December Christmas meal
First meal in the New Year will be 12th January 2015.
A meal provided for senior citizens once a month on Monday 9th February 2015 Monday 9th March 2015

No charge but a donation appreciated.

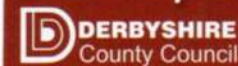
WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

McMillan's Fundraising Event

Macmillan's biggest fundraising event took place again this year and Ruby's on Nottingham Road, Somercotes held a Coffee and Table Top Sale event on 26th September and raised £250.40 to donate for people living with cancer. A very 'Big Thank' you to all who helped to make the event a success.

The Council's Parish Warden Leslie Briddon and his partner Helen raised £192.00 by taking part in Macmillan's 'Go Sober' for October campaign and abstained from alcohol for the whole month.

County Matters



If you want to report a matter to Derbyshire County Council you can ring 'Call Derbyshire' on 08456 058 058. They are open Mon-Fri 8am-8pm and Sat 9.30am-4pm



Amber Valley Borough Council,
Town Hall, Ripley, Derbyshire Tel: 01773 570222
Planning applications can be viewed and commented on using Amber Valley Borough Council website www.ambervalley.gov.uk then click on the planning application register.



Police Contact Numbers
If you want to contact the Police or Police Community Special Officers to give information or report crime you can telephone:
Non-urgent Police matters 101 (calls charged at 15p) www.derbyshire.police.uk
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Please do report incidents. We are all aware that incidents such as vandalism, theft, etc. are occurring in Somercotes. However, unless the police have reports the assumption (based on reported statistics) is that there are no problems and the end result is that police resource will be redeployed.

Other useful numbers:

Derbyshire Fire & Rescue	01332 771221
Central Networks	
(Electricity) (loss of supply helpline)	0800 056 8090
Gas Emergency line	0800 111 999
Floodline	0845 988 1188
Severn Trent Water (water leaks and bursts)	0800 783 4444
Derbyshire Neighbourhood Watch	01773 572938
Victim Support Line	0845 3030900
NHS Direct	0845 46 47
UK Flu Information Line	0800 1 513 513
Amber Valley Housing	01773 573 100
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
CRIMESTOPPERS - Call anonymously with information about crime	

Your Local Police

At present we have no information regarding upcoming Surgeries/Panel Meetings, but you can check the Police website – www.derbyshirepolice.co.uk. You can also follow them on twitter and find them on facebook.



PROBLEMS WITH PESTS? WHO YOU GOING TO CALL?

Amber Valley Borough Council offer competitive rates for treatment of pests

NEW REDUCED PRICES

DOMESTIC RATS & MICE £35



DOMESTIC ANTS & WASPS £30



COMMERCIAL COMPETITIVE RATE

COMMERCIAL ANTS & WASPS £75

Concessions available for customers in receipt of a means tested benefit.

- Experienced and professional operatives
- Same day and next day appointments often available
- Other pest treatments available
- Members of National Pest Technicians Association

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL HEIDI OR KATHERINE ON 01773 841335

*Contracts for commercial premises available on request.

WE NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD HAPPEN TO US

Question YOUR Perception...

Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service strongly advises that you consider the risk of fire to your home and family. By taking a few simple steps you can prevent a fire occurring in your home, keeping yourself and your family safe from the devastating consequences.

Make sure you have a working smoke alarm on each level of your home. Test your smoke alarm weekly.

Plan your escape. Ensure your family is aware of what to do and how to get out if a fire occurs in your home.

Plan a night time routine. Switch off appliances, close internal doors and remember to take a spare key and telephone to bed with you.

Never leave cooking unattended. And try to replace your chip pan with an electronic deep fat fryer.

Always ensure smoking materials are extinguished properly, use a deep ashtray when smoking, and never smoke when you are tired or in bed.

Never tackle a fire. Get Out, Stay Out, Dial 999.

For further information and advice please visit our website www.derbyshire-fire.gov.uk

TRUSTED TRADER

NEW LOOK DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TRUSTED TRADER SERVICE

Derbyshire County Council has a new-look Trusted Trader Service which makes it easier for you to find tradesmen you can trust. Derbyshire Trusted Trader can help you find honest and reliable traders who commit to doing a good job for a fair price. You'll find plumbers, builders, roofers, decorators, joiners, electricians, gardeners, retailers and many more.

Visit the website: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/community/trusted_trader and follow the instructions. Businesses can use the pages to find out more about the benefits of being a Derbyshire Trusted Trader and learn how to sign up.

Be Alert

Christmas is coming so please don't let the burglars and thieves prosper from your presents. If you are out shopping and buy any presents and return them to your car, put them in the boot and do not leave them on display for others to take. Make sure your purse and credit cards are well guarded as they are fair game for the 'would be' opportunist and pick-pockets. Be careful at cash points both people behind you watching you insert you PIN and the opportunity to distract you and steal your cash. Many people love to leave the front curtains open at home and show the presents under the tree – so does the criminal as they love to take you presents and make a miserable Christmas for you. 'Be Alert' don't let criminals spoil your Christmas.



Derbyshire Approved Personal Assistant Register
Are you looking for a personal assistant for your support needs in Derbyshire?



If you are looking to employ someone to meet your support needs, we know it can be a daunting and sometimes expensive task. Finding the right personal assistant is important and it can be difficult to know where to begin to find that right person.

As a resident of Derbyshire, you can now access a list of approved personal assistants looking for work in your area. Simply click on to www.derbyshire.gov.uk/approvedpa and use the criteria to find the right personal assistant for you.

Developed jointly by Penderels Trust and Derbyshire County Council, we have launched the Derbyshire Approved PA Register. All PAs on the register have been vetted and checked by our staff and meet our standards of training and aptitude. We will also have checked their history and references.

The register is free to use for everyone living in the Derbyshire County Council area, whether you are receiving community care funding or paying for your own support.

You will still be able to choose which person you employ and they will work for you, not for Penderels Trust or for Derbyshire County Council.

Benefits to you

- You can access a list of potential personal assistants 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- You can use the selection criteria to ensure you find the right person for you
- You know that all PAs listed on the register have met our high quality standards and passed our screening procedure
- You will be recruiting a PA who has signed up to our code of conduct and has met the minimum training criteria
- Accessing the register is free of charge

Are you a personal assistant or interested in a career in support in Derbyshire and looking for work?

Join the Derbyshire Approved Personal Assistant Register and make finding the right job much easier.

- Joining the register is free of charge.
- Potential employers can see your profile at any time
- You can say where and when you would like to work
- Employers will know you have met our high quality standards
- You will be provided with a PA handbook and other information to support you

The Register will be accessible to potential employers via the Derbyshire County Council website and will be promoted throughout Derbyshire.

All PAs must be approved to go on our register. This does mean that you will have to meet certain standards and maybe do some training (we can help you with this). For the potential employer, they will have peace of mind that we have approved all PAs, making this register an appealing option.

Applying to be part of the Register is free and easy - choose one of the following options:

- Go to the website at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/approvedpa
- Email us at derbyshireapprovedpa@penderelstrust.org.uk
- Call us on 0845 6000 683



Please note you will not be employed by Derbyshire County Council or Penderels Trust, your employer will be the person you support.

2015 Calendars now on sale



£3.50 each or 2 for £6.50
available from the Village Hall

'Free Car Parking' extended for Amber Valley Residents

Amber Valley residents will benefit from extended free parking in Council car parks, after 4pm (before 10am Hleanor). Every household will be issued with an annual parking permit (included with Annual Tax Return sent out in January).

For a £2 fee residents will also be able to upgrade to an enhanced permit for free parking on Sunday. Over 60's will have the addition benefit of free parking from 2pm, on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

In addition the Council has extended the Christmas free parking period to 27th December to support local trades and enable residents the benefit of free parking on the traditional first day of the sales.

Allotments

The Parish Council recognises the importance of healthy eating and the demand for allotment plots so people can "Grow their Own" vegetables. The Council has resolved not to raise the rent to the allotment associations for 2014-15, so why not take on your own allotment and 'grow your own' vegetables?

Plots are available at Bridle Lane (Leabrooks); Birchwood Lane and Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes.

Bridle Lane Allotments, Leabrooks
To register an interest in an allotment, please contact
Mrs Louise Calow
Tel: 01773 609485

Birchwood Lane Allotments
To register an interest in an allotment, please contact
Christian Tonnies, Secretary
Tel: 07841 471043
email: secretary@birchwoodallotments.co.uk

Sleetmoor Allotments
To register an interest in an allotment, please contact
Georgie Butt on 07950 537210

Dispose of Needles Safely

Modern Living involves many hazards. One problem can be needles and syringes that have been discarded without care. If you find a needle, **DO NOT PICK IT UP**. Please call Amber Valley Borough Council's needle hotline 08000 92 51 31 free anytime day or night. Their aim is to collect a needle within two hours of any reported incident.

Don't forget

The Parish Council can be found online at www.somercotesparishcouncil.co.uk for details of local services, forthcoming events and up to date news. The website can be used to send us information you would like included on the website. We are also on Facebook; just click the like button on our website to be taken to our Facebook Page. Minutes of Parish Council Meetings are now available for perusal on our website.

Somercotes Parish Council Office Christmas Closing

The Council Office will be closed from 25th December 2014 to 1st January 2015
Normal office hours will resume on Friday 2nd January 2015



The Chairman and Members of the Council extend Season's Greetings and Good Wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all.

Parish Council continues to raise concerns on Dog Fouling & Litter



The Parish Council has raised its concerns about litter and dog fouling in the Somercotes Parish. Amber Valley Borough Council has asked its Wardens to prosecute any dog owners allowing their dogs to foul in public areas and on the streets, and those dropping or throwing litter, as opposed to issuing warnings. The Parish Council provide 'FREE' poop scoop bags that are readily available at the Village Hall, Ruby's Shop and Somerlea Park Leisure Centre, so the public should make use of the poop scoop bags and clean up after their dogs. Dog fouling is becoming the scourge of some areas of the Parish and particularly in the park areas where people walk and young people play. Dog excrement can cause health problems particularly for children if rubbed in the eyes (can lead to blindness). Please bag up the mess made by your dogs - THANK YOU

Somercotes Parish Council Waste Disposal Facility

on Somercotes market place between 8am and 10am the first Saturday in every month.
No waste accepted after 10am
This facility is for the residents of the parish of Somercotes only. Please bring some form of identity.

**NO TRADE WASTE NO TOXIC WASTE
NO ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
NO ASBESTOS**

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PARISH COUNCIL

Your Parish Councillors

Councillor Paul Smith
Councillor Bryan Lyttle
Councillor Martin Barron
Councillor Paul Curran-Bilbie
Councillor Sydney Grotier
Councillor Cyril Langton
Councillor John McCabe
Councillor Terry Marriott
Councillor Jason Parker
Councillor Paul Price
Councillor Scott Walker
Two Vacancies by Co-option

Parish Council Meetings In the Lounge of the Village Hall Ordinary Meeting

Friday, 16th January - 6.30pm 2015
(Council sets its precept for 2015-16, at this meeting)
Friday 20th March - 6.30pm 2015
Members of the Public are welcome to attend.

Parish Council Staff

Clerk to the Council	Gordon Blackmore
Assistant Clerk	Soo Massey Tel: 01773 603810
Caretaker	Vacant Post Tel: 01773 609397
Relief Caretaker	Carol Hopkinson Tel: 01773 609397

Parish Wardens: Colin Rick
Les Briddon

Bar Supervisor: Victoria Jones
Somercotes Parish Council, Somercotes
Village Hall, Nottingham Road,
Somercotes, DE55 4LY
www.somercotesparishcouncil.co.uk
e-mail:
somercotespc@btconnect.com

Booking forms for the hall or lounge can be obtained by calling in or telephoning
01773 609397 or 07516 493430

Your Amber Valley Borough Councillors

Councillor Brian Lyttle and Councillor John McCabe will be holding surgeries in the lounge of Somercotes Village Hall on:

Saturday, 6th December 2014	11am - 12pm
January 2015 - No surgery	
Saturday, 7th February 2015	11am - 12noon
Saturday, 7th March 2015	11am - 12noon
Saturday, 4th April 2015	11am - 12 noon

County Councillor Paul Smith will also be present.

Next issue

If you have any forthcoming local events you would like to advertise in the Parish Newsletter, or if you have any interesting stories to tell about the Parish, or pictures you would like to share with other readers, you can contact Gordon on 01773 603810 or call into the Parish Council Office between 10.30am and 2.30pm, Tuesday to Friday.