

# Somercotes Local

A Somercotes Parish Council Newsletter

Summer Edition 2015

[www.somercotesparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.somercotesparishcouncil.co.uk)



## A Game for Gordon



On Sunday 3rd May Riddings Cricket Club held a fundraiser event as a testimonial to Gordon Blackmore. The T20 Cricket Match consisted of current Riddings 11 vs a past players 11. Some fabulous raffle prizes were on offer. A bouncy castle was set up, a BBQ was on the go and the bar was open all day. An amazing £1300 was raised for Macmillan.

Richard Fenn of Riddings CC said " We want to give Gordon a send-off deserved of a man who did so much in years gone by for the club and community".



## Gordon R Blackmore, Clerk to Somercotes Parish Council Sadly Passed Away 11th April 2015

You may all be aware of the sudden sad passing away of Gordon Blackmore, Clerk to the Parish Council and Councillor Cyril Langton, a long standing Member of Somercotes Parish Council.

Both were dedicated to improving Somercotes, giving their time and energy, to the community. It was a pleasure to have known both Gordon and Cyril and to have worked alongside them for a number of years.

We saw the build of Somerlea Park Centre, made improvements to the Recreation Ground and improved Festive Lighting. Gordon did much work on our behalf to retain the Somercotes Car Parks free of charge by getting a legal agreement with Amber valley Borough Council for the Parish Council to take over the Car Parks, this was not an easy task and involved some very skilled negotiating and complex issues.

Gordon also facilitated the improvements to the Village Hall to include refurbishments of the toilets, new roof, new entrance hall and decoration. These are just a very few of the projects and initiatives undertaken.

Gordon and Cyril were also very involved with Riddings Cricket Club. Gordon was the steer for Somercotes Local History Society (SLHS), many residents purchased calendars from the Council, which were produced by the SLHS.



Gordon facilitating the WW1 Commemorative Day on 21st September 2014.

We have lost two dear friends and valuable colleagues, who left us when they had so much more to give. All our thoughts are with their families. Our sincere thanks go to Gordon and Cyril for their great efforts. Councillor Paul Smith, Chairman Somercotes Parish Council.

## Councillor Cyril Langton Sadly Passed Away

Cllr Langton passed away on February 11th 2015. A simple private funeral was held on 10th March 2015 and attended by those who loved him. Cllr Langton served as a Member of Somercotes Parish Council for many years.

# 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



## Letter from your County Councillor

Dear Resident

I am pleased to say that Hathersage Drive footways have now been resurfaced. High Street, Leabrooks Road, Victoria Street, Lower Somercotes and Pye Bridge have been patched out and surface dressed. After a problem with yellow lining on Victoria St, the roads are now greatly improved against reducing budgets! I am still awaiting works to be carried out on Castle Drive to improve the footways.

The new speed activated signs are now installed and operating on Leabrooks Rd and Riddings, I hope this is helping to highlight that these are 30 mph zones and drivers comply. I am pleased to see that the corridor at the Junior School has now been fully enclosed. A number of parents had spoken to me about it being used as a cloakroom. I am pleased to say that I have been able to secure the funding required to make the improvement to the building.

Funding has also been allocated for roofing works at the Somercotes Infants School this financial year. If your children attend the Riddings area schools monies have been allocated for new classrooms and new roof at the Junior School.

As part of the council's budget reduction of £157m every department has to reduce its spending. Street Lighting has now commenced its programme of turning off certain lights from midnight to dawn to reduce the growing energy bill. The areas identified were subject to a review of: crime figures; OAP complexes; road traffic accident figures; before switch off. If crime figures were high in a particular area, the switch off did not apply. The Community Safety Partnership will be reviewing the crime data.

On the subject of lighting – the telegraph pole mounted lights on Sleetmoor Lane near ADASC football pitches have been replaced with new LCD lamp columns, which will provide better light due to the overhead cables being sited underground.

Yours sincerely

**Paul Smith**

Councillor Paul Smith  
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

## Damage caused in March to Bus Shelter

Your Council owns and maintains Bus Shelters in Somercotes. Vandalism is a continuous problem and approximately £2000.00 was spent in 2014/2015 repairing damage caused by vandals.

Please report any damage as soon as possible to the Police. Whilst regular inspections are carried out, it is difficult for us to find out about every damaged shelter. If you see that a shelter that has been vandalised or damaged in some other way, please let us know by calling the Parish Council Office on 01773 603810. Please provide as much detail as possible including the Bus Shelter name, which is on the side of the Shelter or on the Bus Stop sign.



## ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR(S)

### SOMERCOTES

Date of Election: THURSDAY, 7 MAY 2015

### STATEMENT OF PERSONS NOMINATED AND NOTICE OF UNCONTESTED ELECTION

I hereby give notice that the following persons have been and stand validly nominated for election to the said parish council and are hereby declared to be elected as PARISH COUNCILLOR(S) without a contest -

NAME OF PERSON(S) ELECTED	NAME OF PERSON(S) ELECTED
Colin ADDISON-LEES	John Terance MARRIOTT
Martin BARRON	John MCCABE
Tracy COLE	Sian MCCABE
Paul Anthony CURRAN-BILBIE	Paul James SMITH
Sydney GROTIER	Scott WALKER
Brian John LYTTLE	

Dated 9 April 2015

Sylvia Delahay  
RETURNING OFFICER

Printed and Published by the RETURNING OFFICER, AMBER VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL TOWN HALL RIPLEY DERBYSHIRE DE5 3BT

## Annual Parish Council Meeting Chairman's Report

At the Meeting on 15th May 2015, the Chairman reported on:

The refurbishment of the Village Hall toilets, a much better toilet facility now available for users of the Village Hall. The continued facility of free car parking and the provision of monthly skips has continued.

The Parish Wardens have weighed in the scrap metal from the skips, this is to be donated to a Charity of their choice. The Market Place Car Park has been re-surfaced and re-lined. The wildflower meadow on Nottingham Road (Winding Wheel) is now seeded and plants ordered for planting the verge outside B&Q.

The Chairman thanked Les & Colin (Parish Wardens), who are an asset to the Council, who approach their work as no job too big or too small. Due to their excellent work in partnership with DCC (Sleetmoor Woods), DCC are now offering additional work to them under the same terms.

The Chairman thanked all returning councillors and new councillors for their support in making the Somercotes area a better place to live, work and visit.

## Please respect spaces for Disabled Parking

The Council appeals to drivers to respect the disabled spaces that are provided for those with reduced mobility.

Following the works carried out to the Market Place Car Park, drivers are requested to respect all disabled parking bays. Amber Valley Borough Council (AVBC) is responsible for the enforcement of traffic management on all car parks, including Market Place & Mill Yard, Somercotes. AVBC Wardens may issue Penalty Charge Notices, where appropriate, when parking breaches and other offences occur.



# Derbyshire Ancestral Research Group

Thanks to Margaret Brooksbank of DARG for this contribution on the 70th anniversary of VE Day  
**SOMERCOTES AT THE END OF WORLD WAR 11 in 1945**

- Jan 12th** A domino drive was held in Somercotes Church Hall for the local LADS SOCK FUND. Winners – Ladies 1. Mrs Booth, 2. Mrs C Hall 3. Mrs Ball. Gentlemen 1. Mr H Taylor 2. A Parkin 3. F Riley MC Mr C Pichford.
- Jan 19th** Mrs Shooter has received information from her husband L/CPL Shooter to say he was wounded in the arm and leg when he landed with the Paratroopers at Arnhem in September and was taken prisoner. Mrs Shooter resides with her parents Mr & Mrs Millington in Coupland Place and has a one week old daughter.
- Jan 19th** Robert Townsend 34, a miner of Smedley Avenue Somercotes was fined £10 with £1 6s 4d costs for stealing 4 fowls valued at £5 10s between December 22nd and 25th from Mrs Gladys Mabel Bond of Somercotes. He admitted to having killed 3 Rhode Island Red pullets and a cockerel and he gave one to an 'evacuee from Southend'. In Court Townsend said he was sorry.
- May 11th** The War against Germany lasted 2094 days. 526 longer than WW1.
- May 11th** Somercotes Church Hall was the venue for a Victory Dance. Wylie Price & his All Star Band – 10 musicians and 3 vocalists.
- June 29th** Somercotes and Leabrooks Wardens joined by representatives of Lower Somercotes & Pye Bridge wound up their ARP activities in magnificent style with a grand farewell party on Wednesday evening. The Church Hall under the capable chairmanship of the Head warden Mr E Best and some 100 persons attended.

- July 13th** Crich Beacon has been illuminated after an absence of 5 years.
- July 27th** The Walter Scott Lodge RAOB Somercotes, entertained 50 children and their parents to a VE Celebration with tea & social at the Devonshire Arms. Nurse Brewster made a cake an all children received 1s and crisps and ice cream were distributed. Mr Bradley was C for the games. An enjoyable time was sent.
- July 27th** During the War 1400 high explosives and 8350 incendiary bombs were dropped on Derbyshire, excluding Derby & Chesterfield. The highest casualties were at Tupton with 11 fatalities.
- Aug 10th** The most fearful weapon mankind has ever known was released against Japan on Monday morning. It was the world's first Atomic Bomb. It is expected to bring the Japanese War to a sudden end.
- Aug 17th** Bonfires and fireworks celebrated the surrender of the Japanese on Wednesday night, in Somercotes and Leabrooks.
- Sept 7th** Dorothy Dawes has been awarded a free place at Swanwick Grammar school and will commence next term with pupils who have won scholarships.
- Sept 28th** In the presence of thousands cheering & flag waving people of all ages, the King & Queen opened the new £6 million reservoir of the Derwent Valley Water board (Ladybower).

Notes. Announcements through all editions.  
 The Minister for Food announces "I propose as I did last year to issue 1lb of sugar per ration book for domestic jam making, but this year make it available in time for the soft fruit season.  
 The Minister for Food has agreed on medical grounds to arrange for Chimney Sweeps to receive an extra allocation of soap.  
 The Board of Trade announced that by next spring there should be more carpets, linoleum, radio sets, corsets and brassieres available.

## Birchwood Lanes Allotment Association

A better place to garden

# Open Day

## Sunday 16th August 2015

### 10am - 4pm

50p entry at the lower gate includes raffle ticket for Veg Hamper

Children's activities including: face painting, hook a duck, puzzle sheets etc. toy stall, veg stall, tombola, barbecue, refreshments, cakes and escorted tours.

You can grow up to £1500 of vegetables and fruit on an allotment every year.

Come and see how we garden and how much you could save, having your own allotment.

Food tastes that much better home grown, it's totally different to that sold in supermarkets and shops. We have plots available. Most are £12.50 per year including NSALG Membership.

[www.birchwoodallotments.co.uk](http://www.birchwoodallotments.co.uk)

# A year of Somercotes Guides - 2014

What do Guides do best? CHOCOLATE, lots of it. First port of call - the Thornton's factory tour and all the chocolate you can eat, which made dressing in the funny suits worth the loss of street cred. We didn't quite make ourselves sick, so inspired by Thornton's we completed our confectioner badge, just for the opportunity to eat even more chocolate.



We did some Go For Its during which we managed to use glitter virtually every week for reasons unfathomable to the leaders.



Particularly perplexing was how Camp Out, Globalistic and Green all needed such copious amounts of it. We informed the leaders that we were being creative being creative with the resources.

Which brings us on nicely to the Midlands Art Explosion upon which we worked throughout the year. We have learnt all kinds of crafty new skills such as felting, clay modelling, encaustic art, fabric painting and origami. We did lots of singing too, when we went to the Big Gig in Liverpool, when we sang Christmas carols at the old people's home and around the campfire at Drum Hill, once we had learnt to light it and cook our tea on it.



When the sun came out, we made the most of it with mini rafts on Pennytown ponds. We enjoyed the wildflower spotting although the leaders nearly went wild themselves when we accidentally lost one of the rafts in the middle of the pond, but we treated it as an opportunity to practice our lassoing skills.

The village hall was abuzz with drilling and sawing when the senior patrol decided to make a pirate ship for our Spring Bank camp gateway. With the aid of power tools and of course girlpower, they transformed a boring pile of wood into an amazing PINK, glow in the dark pirate ship!

If we weren't already the talk of camp, we were when we performed our latest song creation in the talent show; a song all about the difficulties of texting and doing your hair on camp. Getting glammed up was on the minds of the senior patrol when they went to the Clothes Show Live in Birmingham, especially for the celebrity selfies. Embarrassingly the leaders got in there first, but the celebrity didn't mind, even when they got his name wrong.



When we told the leaders that we wanted to go to the cinema we think they got a bit carried away, as they booked us an ENTIRE cinema. Afterwards, we decided that it was about time we were on the other side of the stage and began practicing our panto ready for a showbiz start to 2015. But we couldn't end the year without the traditional ice skating trip with the Brownies followed by, you guessed it, hot CHOCOLATE!

## Summer in Switzerland



1st Somercotes Guides adventured from river deep to mountain high in the summer during their trip to Switzerland. Eighteen Guides, accompanied by five leaders enjoyed whizzing over a river on zip wires, hiking through valleys and gorges, swimming in a glacial lake, abseiling from a scarily high bridge, a train ride up a mountain, a picnic in the snow and hair-raising toboggan rides. Squeezed between the high adrenaline escapades were pockets of sedateness; ambling through picturesque villages, a boat ride across a turquoise lake, basking in the sun at the outdoor pool, catching frogs in a meadow stream and taking selfies with cows!

Highlight of the trip was the girlguiding World Centre, Our Chalet. We felt so proud when our group badge joined the others pinned up from around the world. We also presented our necker to Our Chalet to hang in the international room so that Somercotes Guides will have a small part in the history of Our Chalet.



Our Chalet is already a part of the history of 1st Somercotes as Mrs Osborne, cheering us on back in Derbyshire, brought a group of Guides here in 1983... a group which included the mothers of three of the Guides on this trip! We had such an amazing time, met so many Guides and Scouts from all over the world and shared so many special moments as a group. It truly was a trip of a lifetime. We would like to say a special thank you to the Parish Council and to Councillor Paul Smith for all the support given to help us make this trip happen.

# Weekly Events at Somercotes Village Hall

Day	Times	Event	Contact
<b>Mondays</b>	1.30 pm – 4.00 pm In the Lounge 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm In the Hall	<b>Welfare Rights</b> (Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre) <b>1<sup>st</sup> Somercotes Guides</b> Group for girls aged 10-15 years	No appointment needed Call into a meeting for more details
<b>Tuesdays</b>	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	<b>Watercolour Classes</b> Newcomers always welcome. Lovely atmosphere, friendly people. <b>Somercotes Beavers</b> Group for Boys and Girls aged 6 to 8 <b>Somercotes Ladies</b> Every Tuesday except 1 <sup>st</sup> in each month	<b>Norma Gent</b> 01773 836907 <b>Paul Williams</b> 07768 109674 <b>Eileen Wilkinson</b> 01773 603177
<b>Wednesdays</b>	10.00 am – 12.00noon In the Hall 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm In the Hall 8.00 pm – 9.00 pm In the Hall	<b>Cameo Coffee Club</b> Pop in – have a coffee – make new friends <b>Weight Watchers</b> <b>Zumba Fitness</b> Latin inspired, calorie burning, dance fitness	<b>Just call in</b> <b>Just call in</b> <b>Dey and Liz</b> dlzumba@hotmail.co.uk 07812 837969
<b>Thursdays</b>	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	<b>Watercolour Classes</b> All abilities welcome. Lovely atmosphere, friendly people. <b>1<sup>st</sup> Somercotes (St.Thomas) Brownies</b> Group for girls aged 7-10 years <b>1<sup>st</sup> Somercotes (St.Thomas) Rainbows</b> Group for girls aged 5-7 years <b>Classical Yoga</b> Philosophy & Posture, relaxation and breathwork. Newcomers welcome	<b>Norma Gent</b> 01773 836907 Call into a meeting for more details. <b>Linda</b> 01773 528264
<b>Fridays</b>	10.00 am – 11.30 am In the Hall 5.00 pm – 6.30 pm In the Hall 5.00 pm – 6.30 pm In the Hall 8.00 pm – 9.00 pm In the Hall	<b>Hatha Yoga</b> Calms your mind and strengthens your body. All ability class <b>Somercotes Cubs</b> Group for boys and girls aged 8 to 10 <b>Somercotes Scouts</b> Group for boys and girls aged 10 to 14 <b>Zumba Fitness</b> Latin inspired, calorie burning, dance fitness	<b>Rav Paul</b> 07963 350868 <b>Paul Williams</b> 07768 109674 <b>Paul Williams</b> 07768 109674 <b>Dey and Liz</b> d/zumba@hotmail.co.uk 07812 837969
<b>Saturdays</b>		<b>None at Present</b>	
<b>Sundays</b>	9.30 am onwards In the Lounge In the Hall	<b>Parish Church of St. Thomas</b> <b>Sunday School</b> <b>Coffee after Church Service</b>	<b>Rachel Watson</b> (Churchwarden) 01773 607131

CALLPAPERSWIDE.COM

## 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 9th June	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday 14th July	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday 11th August	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday 8th September	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday 13th October	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday 10th November	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday 8th December	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:

<b>Mon:</b>	2pm – 5pm
<b>Thursdays:</b>	9am – 1pm & 2pm – 7pm
<b>Fridays:</b>	9am -1pm & 2pm – 5pm
<b>Saturdays:</b>	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) 540514  
E-Mail: somercotes.library@derbyshire.gov.uk or view the website www.derbyshire.gov.uk

# St Thomas Church: Swan & Emblem

Mr Peter Bird of Chesterfield has kindly contributed this article in response to a request by Mrs Phyllis Smith of the swan's origins:

The china swan is what is generally referred to as 'crested china'. It is very poignant that this item has appeared now as it dates from around or just after WWI

Collecting crested china was a craze that started during the Edwardian period when the general population started to travel more, by railways and the proliferation of motor transport. These items were bought and collected as cheap souvenirs. Originally they were made in Germany but it wasn't long before the potteries of Stoke on Trent started to produce them and then solely once WWI had started. Representatives of the manufacturers went round towns & villages all over the country selling their wares to shops large and small, from Post Offices and Stationers to Gents Hairdressers and Fancy Goods Dealers. Crested china came in all shapes and sizes, small vases, buildings, historical items, animals, comical figures, the list is almost endless. The most well-known and easily recognisable pieces are those made of items from WW1.



Tanks, guns, Fighterplanes, Battleships, ammunition, Soldiers and Sailors etc. etc. Pieces often have a retailer's mark underneath as well as the manufacturer and sometimes if you look carefully you can still see the original price in pencil on this unglazed area! Where a town or village didn't have a Coat of Arms, like Somercotes, the manufacturer invented one using a local landmark or similar with a combination of other armorial devices such as the crown and rose. The crest 'invented' for Clay Cross is identical to that of Somercotes except for the church! The popularity of crested china waned during the 1920's and most companies had ceased producing by 1928. Quite why anyone would want a souvenir of the horrors of WW1 or a souvenir of a visit to Somercotes seems odd to us today. Other crests that can be found are Riddings, Leabrooks, Alfreton, Ironville, South Normanton & Ripley to name just a few in the locality. Some of these items are now prized by collectors, whilst not generally of great value they are a fascinating piece of social history. The swan was probably made by Arcadian China and would be worth £10 - £20.

## Places of Worship

### PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

Churchwardens Rachel Watson 01773 607131  
and Michael Woods 01623 723653

#### Regular Services:

Sunday: 9:30am Sung Mass  
9:30 - 10:00am Sunday School in the Village Hall  
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 24th July, no lunch in August

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

#### Services and Events

Sunday 16th August 2015 Sponsored Walk to raise money for Church funds. Starts from Church at 11.00am

For more details please contact Churchwardens

All are welcome to join any of our services and events

### 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.

Through August we have all morning Services at 10:30am

Sunday 20th September - Harvest Festival at 3.00 pm, this will be taken by Rev. M Dilley

Please see our Notice Board for details of Services and forthcoming events, everyone welcome.

### SOMERCOTES SALVATION ARMY CHURCH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Sleetmoor Lane Tel. Terence Carpenter on 01773 606945 or 07948 998507

#### Weekly Activities

Sun	10.00am - 11:00am 'The Jam Club' (Sunday School) 3.00pm Sunday Worship
Mon	3.00pm Friends and Fellowship (Except Bank Holidays)
Tues	from 9.30am - 11.00am Care and Share Coffee Morning (Except Bank Holidays) Sale of donated items. Come and find a bargain!
Wed	10.00am Timbrel Practice
Wed	11.00am Band Practice

#### Regular events of Big Sales, Plant Fayres, and Salvation Army concerts.

There is always something happening at Somercotes Salvation Army, so why not come along? Your life will be better for the experience and you have the chance of helping other people who are less fortunate, in so many ways. If you feel you can contribute, please contact Terry Carpenter, as above.

### PENIEL CHRISTIAN CENTRE

67 Main Road, Leabrooks, Telephone 01773 608737

www.leabrookspcc.com

email:penielchristiancentre@leabrooks.freereserve.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 - 12pm 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 7pm - 9pm (RIOT) 11 yrs -16 yrs
Saturday:	Kids Club 10am - 12noon 3yrs - 11 yrs Games, projects, bible story, lunch More than a Meal A meal provided for senior citizens once a month on a Monday. No charge but a donation appreciated.

## Local Churches have been Fundraising!

Over the Lent period the Churches of St Thomas and Birchwood have been holding Parish Lunches in Somercotes Village Hall, every other week, all monies raised (nearly £300) have been donated to Christian Aid. A Coffee Morning was also held on 13th May in the Village Hall for this worthwhile cause. Christian Aid and its partners work to bring an end to poverty around the world - tackling its root causes as well as its effects.

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](http://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](http://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	



### 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](http://www.derbyshire-fire.gov.uk)

[www.derbyshire-fire.gov.uk](http://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](http://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.



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](http://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](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/approvedpa)
- Email us at [derbyshireapprovedpa@penderelstrust.org.uk](mailto: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.

## Derbyshire Constabulary encourage Derbyshire residents to spruce up their garden security

With the winter months slowly becoming a distant memory and spring approaching, it may be time to think about digging out your tools and turning your attention to the garden now that the weather is improving.

Many people store their gardening equipment, tools, bikes and BBQs in their shed and, unfortunately, this means that these outbuildings are often seen as an easy target by thieves.

- Thankfully, there are steps that can be taken to boost your security and help to protect your tools and gardening equipment from being targeted by criminals.

### Crime prevention advice includes:

- Fit a good quality lock to secure your shed, garage or outbuilding and make sure that it is appropriate to the strength of the door and frame;
- Consider purchasing a shed alarm to help to deter a thief and secure any bikes with a quality chain even if they are inside the shed or garage;
- Ensure that valuables are kept out of view from passers-by and consider covering your windows from the inside to prevent thieves from taking a look;
- Mark all valuables with a property marking system such as SmartWater as this makes your belongings much less attractive to thieves as they realise that the goods can easily be identified as stolen and traced back to the original owner;
- Don't leave items in your garden that could make the life of a thief any easier. For example, a ladder left out in your garden could be used to get into the upper floor of your home or onto the top of your shed. Likewise, other tools and gardening equipment left outside could be used to break into your home. Just taking a few minutes to lock these items away will greatly increase your security.

**If you would like more advice or to contact your local Safer Neighbourhood policing team call 101, the non-emergency number for Derbyshire police.**

# Think Business!



Over the past couple of years I have formed a local business support / networking group called "Think Business group". We are a Somercotes based business networking group who meet every 1st and 3rd week of each month.

Currently we consist of around 15 local businesses that not only look out for leads for other members of the group but also support each other in business and have speakers to come in and educate us about all manner of business related items.

We are totally non-profit making and offer that prospective visitors can visit us for free for a month before making a decision to join. Our membership is on a "pay as you go" basis, we are not interested in taking money off you like other groups but just want to build up a good little network group.

We are on social media and our website is

[www.thinkbusinessgroup.co.uk](http://www.thinkbusinessgroup.co.uk)

We meet each 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Leabrooks Gallery in Somercotes. Visitors can come along for free and enjoy a free breakfast for a no obligation opportunity to check us out to see if this could be a benefit to your business.

If you ever want to come along to check us out then that would be most welcome.

Regards **Chris Froggatt**

# Somerlea Park Centre

Somerlea Park Centre has a large Function Room, two Conference Rooms and a Licensed Bar area located just outside its main Function Room. The main Function Room on the first floor has seating capacity for 160 people with capacity for 40 people in the Bar area.

A disability lift is available for the first floor rooms. Its Conference/Committee Rooms are located on the ground floor and are the perfect venue for small meetings or smaller corporate events.



**For Enquires or to make a Booking contact: 01773 528181**  
Sherwood Street, Leabrooks.



## Your Parish Councillors

Councillor Paul Smith  
Councillor Brian Lyttle  
Councillor Colin Addison-Lees  
Councillor Martin Barron  
Councillor Tracy Cole  
Councillor Paul Curran-Bilbie  
Councillor Sydney Grotier  
Councillor John McCabe  
Councillor Sian McCabe  
Councillor Terry Marriott  
Councillor Scott Walker  
Two Vacancies

## Parish Council Meetings

Ordinary Parish Council Meetings:

Friday 17th July 2015  
Friday 18th September 2015  
Friday 20th November 2015  
Friday 15th January 2016  
Friday 18th March 2016

All Ordinary PC Meetings commence at 6:30pm

Local residents are welcome to attend our Council Meetings at: The Village Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes.

## Parish Council Staff

Interim Clerk to the Council	Soo Massey
Assistant Clerk	Vacant Post Tel: 01773 603810
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](http://www.somercotesparishcouncil.co.uk)  
e-mail: [somercotespc@btconnect.com](mailto: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 4th July 2015 11am - 12noon  
Saturday 1st August 2015 11am - 12noon  
Saturday 5th September 2015 11am - 12noon  
Saturday 3rd October 2015 11am - 12noon  
Saturday 7th November 2015 11am to 12noon  
Saturday 5th December 2015 11am to 12noon

County Councillor Paul Smith will also be present.



## Dog Fouling & Litter

The Parish Council takes the offences of dog fouling & litter very seriously, and would ask that people pick up their dogs mess - The Council provides FREE Poop Scoop bags and these are available at The Village Hall, Ruby's Nottingham Road and Somerlea Park Centre (on the Recreation Ground). There is no reason why the Recreation Ground should not be free of dog mess (that can cause serious illness to children), as a visit to Somerlea Centre will allow you to obtain FREE Poop Scoop Bags.

Litter is another problem that need not happen, but there is an element of many, particularly younger people who seem to think chucking down litter is normal. Keeping a clean environment is essential for future generations to be able to enjoy green space. So please put litter in the nearest litter bin or take it home.

Amber Valley Wardens have been instructed to prosecute offenders, for dog fouling & litter in public places, so you have been warned.

## 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 2015-16, 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 - Contact details for the allotment associations:

**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 Colin Addison -Lees Tel: 07912887904

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

## Somercotes Parish Council Waste Disposal Facility

Somercotes Parish Council Waste Disposal Facility will be 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**



## 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](http://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.

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