

in this issue

Jim Spibey Memorial Trophy (pg 1)
Aspirations Week - Somerlea Juniors
& Somercotes Infants Schools (pg 2)
Somercotes Local History Society awarded
a Heritage Lottery Fund Grant of £27k (pg 3)
Somercotes Parish Council Carol Service (pg 4)
New Christmas Lights in Leabrooks &
Pye Bridge (pg 8)

Somercotes Allotments Jim Spibey Memorial Shield Allotments Competition 2013 "GROW YOUR OWN"



This year has been an excellent year for allotment plot holders who have had some excellent gardens and bumper fruit crops. In the current economic climate there has never been a better time to "Grow Your Own" and it's an excellent way to relax and unwind. The rewards of the labour of plot holders have been recognised by the Parish Council who now held an Annual Allotment Judging Competition for the best kept allotment - The Jim Spibey Memorial Shield Competition is in recognition of the dedicated gardeners who worked so hard.

This years winner was Mr Mike Dobson (Bridle Lane) with joint runners up Mr A Brimson (Birchwood Lane) & Mr S Youngs (Bridle Lane) and it was even a joint 4th place - Mr M J Clewely & Mr T Waring (2012 winner) both from Birchwood Lane Allotments.

Certificates of Merit were presented to all those nominated for the competition. Cllr Lyttle said that "I would like to thank everyone who was nominated for the competition in memory of Cllr Jim Spibey, the efforts they have made on their entries.

I would like to thank our independent judge, Chris Beal, who judged the competition on our behalf."

Pictured above are the winners, runners-up and those receiving their certificates of merit.

Supported by
The National Lottery
through Awards for All



**Bridle Lane Allotment Association
installs new 'Compus' toilets from the
Lottery 'Awards for All' grant.**



Parish Council News:

Muga-Area South Spires Estate (Scott Drive): The council approved a £5k allocation towards the installation of a new muga-area, subject to approval of funding from DCC & AVBC.

Transfer of land & building: The Council is currently working to secure ownership of the land area of the former public toilets on Market Place and the former St John's Hut building.

Roof Repairs/Internal decoration of the Village Hall: The Council is finalising the tenders for roof repairs that will necessitate a large amount of expenditure. Internal decoration is being considered under the 'Community Pay back Scheme', to reduce cost.

Litter Bin Provision: The Council has requested that AVBC replace litter bins and install additional ones in appropriate places to reduce litter problems, but the Borough Council will not commit to the Parish Councils proposals.

Infants & Junior Schools: "I Want to Be..."/Aspiration Week 21-25 October was supported by the Council

Calendars: A limited addition of a 'Picture of the Past' calendar (now on sale)

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

Christmas in Somercotes

TOYS ADVERTISED FOR CHRISTMAS 1931

PECKING DUCK – As it runs it keeps pecking the ground as though it is eating. A very clever toy for 6/12d.

THE BOOMERANG PISTOL – Can be used three ways, to shoot and boomerang, with a cap and with a dart – 1/-

CLIMBING MONKEY – A monkey climbing a palm tree – Almost human in its movements – 2/11.

A MECHANICAL WEIGHTLIFTER is something new in toys. A CLOWN bends down and with its teeth lifts up a heavy weight and puts it back down again. A very clever toy – 1/11.

All boys who have clockwork or steam trains should complete their set by getting a STATION lit up by electric light. Two bulbs and a battery all complete for 1/11. A good toy.

LITTLE NEEDLEWOMAN – This contains lovely little linen mats transferred and ready to sew with pretty coloured silks – 1/-.

CHRISTMAS WEDDING

On Christmas Day at Ironville Miss LILLY LOUNDS daughter of Mr & Mrs J LOUNDS of 66 Pye Hill married Mr CHARLIE GIBSON son of Mr & Mrs AA GIBSON of Coupland Place, Somercotes.

ADVERTS FOR CHRISTMAS SPIRITS

Scotch whisky JOHNNY WALKER, BLACK AND WHITE, TEACHERS, AND HAIGS GOLD LABEL 12/6
Liqueurs CHERRY BRANDY 11/6 CRÈME de MENTHE 15/- MARTINI VERMOUTH 3/3.

SOMERCOTES EMPIRE

The Somercotes Empire have engaged that well-known London variety act "THE TWO SCAMPS" for Boxing Night and the rest of the week.

OLD ENGLISH GAME

34 entries were on view at a show of Old English Game at the Royal Tiger on Boxing Day. Mr G DAKIN staged the BEST BIRD in show on an OLD ENGLISH GAME COCK and Mr W BOOTH runner up with a PARTRIDGE WYANDOTTE COCK.

1891. ANNUAL SOIREE

On New Year's Eve the Somercotes Conservative and Constitutional Association held its fifth annual soiree in the Boys' Schoolroom. There was a large and fashionable attendance which included Mr JAMES OAKES C.C. and other gentlemen. The room was tastefully decorated for the occasion with evergreens and Patriotic Banners and the two appropriate mottoes "Peace and Honour" and "Prosper our Country" were prominently allocated. Mr STEWARD acted as M.C. An efficient band rendered an excellent programme of dance music, and songs and recitations were heartily received. A successful and enjoyable evening was spent and the proceedings terminated about two o'clock on the morn of the New Year.

1915. SICK AND DIVIDING SOCIETIES

There are several societies in Somercotes and at Christmas paid their members in the DERBYSHIRE ARMS 7/6, leaving a balance of 2/6; the society has 142 members. The SUN INN paid 6/- each and the NEW INN paid 8/- after meeting all liabilities.

Aspiration Week at Somercotes Infant School

This event was held from Monday 21st to Friday 25th October. Headteacher Sarah Sissons said the event was arranged in order to give the children an early idea of the kind of opportunities there are for them in the outside world, and the type of jobs in their own community. She said the children should know that for them "the sky's the limit – if they want to be astronauts they can be".

On Wednesday people from several local organisations attended the school, including Nathan Hutchinson from Amber Valley CVS, who, when he wasn't blowing up balloons for the children, was handing out leaflets about various volunteering schemes, including Befriending & Home from Hospital, and Help at Home. Staff from Futures Homescape gave out leaflets about their various services, including Money Advice, Community Rangers, and Resident Involvement. Derbyshire County Council Children's Centre and Adult Education Centre were also present, with displays and leaflets for children and their parents. Derbyshire County Council also gave out leaflets on healthy eating, and alcohol awareness, and also provided fun but educational games and puzzles.

PCSO Chris Bannister of our Safer Neighbourhood Team, together with Meikel Miller, a PCSO from Riddings and Ironville, brought leaflets on various matters including Neighbourhood Watch and a Highway Code for young road users. Vicki Swift, Family Project Manager of the Derby Centre of DBS Training attended with information on the organisation's training schemes. Paul Williams, Louise Cooper, Mark Cooper and Stacey Stoppard of Somercotes Scout Group entertained the children with games. County Councillors Paul Smith and Borough Councillors John McCabe and Brian Lyttle attended the event during the week.

NOW ON SALE



PARISH COUNCIL

2014 CALENDAR

Our 2014 Calendar is on sale in the Parish Council Office at the Village Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes, between 10.30am and 2.30pm Tuesday to Friday, at a cost of

£3.00 per calendar



Somercotes Local History Society Grant Award from the Heritage Lottery Fund



Derbyshire County Council - Community Leadership Grant:
 Derbyshire County Councillor Deputy Leader, Brian Ridgway presented a cheque for £300 to the Somercotes Local History Society from the DCC Community Leadership Grant thanks to Cllrs Paul Smith and Steve Marshall-Clarke. The funding was used towards the promotion of the Heritage Day and equipment.
 Pictured left to right: Cllr Paul Smith; Cllr Brian Ridgway, Sharon Wint (Treasurer), Steve Youngs, HazelMors (Vice Chair), Gordon Blackmore (Secretary), Cllr Steve Marshall-Clarke, Tony Fisher (SLHS Member)

The Heritage Lottery Fund has made a grant of £27k to Somercotes Local History Society (SLHS) for a 3 year project titled: Somercotes 'An Industrial Corridor through a Community' – the project will research the industrial history and changes through just over 200 years from 1800 to the present. Many people are unaware of the industrial significance of Somercotes that includes Pye Bridge and that the Riddings Iron Works that was located within the boundaries of the Somercotes Parish. A booklet will be published at the end of the 3 year project, as well as CD's and a comprehensive website www.somercoteshistory.co.uk will be on-line for everyone to view our local heritage.

The SLHS chairman, Paul Curran-Bilbie, said, "We are absolutely delighted to receive the HLF grant that provides a wonderful opportunity to research the industrial history of Somercotes. I would like to thank our secretary, Gordon Blackmore, for his tremendous enthusiasm and efforts in preparing and submitting a successful application to HLF. If anyone wishes to join the Somercotes history society and be part of the project, they will be most welcome, and can contact Gordon at the Parish Council Office."

Vanessa Harbar, Acting Head of Region for the Heritage Lottery Fund East Midlands said 'This is a great opportunity to research an important part of Somercotes industrial heritage. It will enable local people to develop new skills whilst recording the evolution of local trades and its impact on their local area.'

Pictured right from left to right: Somercotes History Society Terry Tomlinson, Vice Chairperson Hazel Mors, Committee member Tony Fisher, Secretary Gordon Blackmore and Committee member John Hales.

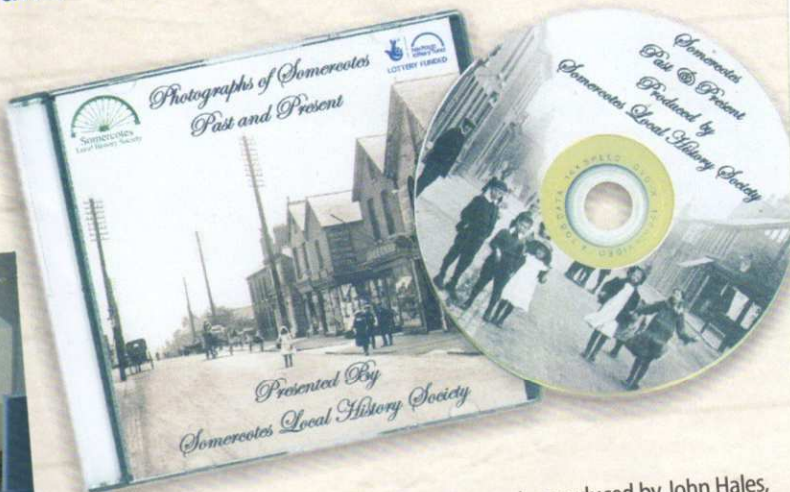


Supported by
The National Lottery[®]
 through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Heritage Day:

The second Somercotes Annual Heritage Day was held on Saturday, 9th November 2013, at the Village Hall, Somercotes, as part of the 3 year history project. The event will continue to be held annually in order to research local history, collect photographs and information, as well as update the community on progress.



A CD with a compilation of Somercotes photographs, produced by John Hales, was on sale and copies can be obtained for only £3.95 from the Parish Council Office – what a wonderful Christmas present!

The Councillors and Staff of
Somercotes Parish Council
wish everyone a Merry
Christmas and a Happy,
Healthy & Prosperous 2014

*Come and join
us for the*

Somercotes Parish Council *Christmas Carol Service*

on Friday, 13th December, 2013, at 7.30pm

Heage Band have again agreed to play for us, and we're looking forward to hearing the Choir of the Somercotes Guides, Brownies and Rainbows sing for us. The lesson will be read by Michael Woods, Churchwarden.

Light refreshments will be served after the service in the Village Hall, and all are welcome.

This year the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Paul Smith, has chosen Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre as the Charity to receive monies raised from the collection taken during the service.

Places of Worship in the Parish

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

Father Peter Davis

Any Enquiries 01773 602717 or

Churchwardens Rachel Watson 01773 607131 and Michael Woods 01773 723653

Services

Sunday:	9.30am	Sung Mass
	9.30am – 10.00am	Sunday School in the Village Hall
	6.00pm	(Last Sunday in the Month) Evening Worship
Wednesday:	10.00am	Said Mass
		See Notice Board in the Church porch for other times of services

Mother's Union meets in Church on the 1st Tuesday of each month
Christmas Fayre Saturday 7th December - 10.00am – 1.00pm
Concert – Saturday 14th December – 7.30pm – Matlock Dale Woodwind Quintet & St. Thomas' Choir 'A Celebration of Christmas Music' – Tickets £5
Christingle Service - Sunday 15th December - 3.30pm
Midnight Mass – 24th December – 11.30pm
Carols at Christmas – Sunday 29th December – 6.00pm
Christmas Lunch – Friday 20th December
Parish lunch Friday, 31st January, 28th February - 11.30am to 1.30pm
Coffee Morning Saturday, 1st February - 10.00am to 11.30am

PENIEL CHRISTIAN CENTRE

67 Main Road, Leabrooks Telephone 01773 608737
www.leabrookspcc.com Leader: Mrs Elaine Whittingham
email:penielchristiancentre@leabrooks.freereserve.co.uk

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 7pm – 9pm (RIOT) 11yrs -16yrs

Saturday: Kids Club 10am – 12noon 3yrs – 11yrs
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.

SOMERCOTES SALVATION ARMY CHURCH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

Special Events

Craft, cake and Refreshments – Friday 6th December
Christmas Concert by the Pye Hill and District Male Voice Choir. – Saturday 7th December. Tickets £5, Under 16's £3
Carol Service – 22nd December 2013 at 2.30 pm – Tea/coffee and home-made mince pies
Carols by Candlelight – 24th December at 11.30pm
Watch Night Service. Tues 31st December.

Weekly Activities

Sunday: All age Family Worship 3 pm followed by refreshments.
Monday at 3 pm - Over 50's Friends and Fellowship,
Tuesday from 9.30 am – 11 am 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. 13th December – Christmas Party for children
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)

BIRCHWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Service each Sunday at 3.00pm and a morning service once a month at 10.30am

Our Carol Service will be on Sunday 22nd December at 3 pm and a tea will follow in our schoolroom.

This year the service will be our own arrangements.

Everyone is welcome.

Please see our Notice Board for further details of all events.

Weekly Events at Somercotes Village Hall

Day	Time	Event	Contact	Contact Number
Monday	1.30 pm – 4.00 pm In the Lounge	Welfare Rights (Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre)	No appointment needed	
	6.30 pm - 8.30 pm In the Hall	1st Somercotes Guides Group for girls aged 10-15 years	Call into a meeting for more details	
Tuesday	10.00 am – 11.30 am In the Hall	Hatha Yoga Calms your mind and strengthens your body. All ability class.	Rav Paul	07963 350868
	10.00 am 12.00 noon and also at 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm In the Lounge	Watercolour Classes Newcomers always welcome. Lovely atmosphere, friendly people.	Norma Gent	01773 836907
	4.45 pm – 6.45 pm In the Hall	Somercotes Beavers	Paul Williams	07722 323129
	7.30 pm – 10 pm In the Hall	Somercotes Ladies Every Tuesday except 1 st in each month	Eileen Wilkinson	01773 603177
Wednesday	10.00 am – 12.00noon In the Hall	Cameo Coffee Club Pop in – have a coffee – make new friends	Just call in	
	6.00 pm – 7.00 pm In the Hall	Weight Watchers	Just call in	
	8.00 pm – 9.00 pm In the Hall	Zumba Fitness Latin inspired, calorie burning, dance fitness	Dey and Liz dizumba@hotmail.co.uk	07812 837969
Thursday	9.00 am – 11.00 am In the Lounge	Watercolour Classes All abilities welcome. Lovely atmosphere, friendly people.	Norma Gent	01773 836907
	6.00 pm – 7.15 pm In the Hall	1st Somercotes (St.Thomas) Brownies Group for girls aged 7-10 years	Call into a meeting for more details.	
	6.00 pm – 7.00 pm In the Lounge	1st Somercotes (St.Thomas) Rainbows Group for girls aged 5-7 years		
	7.30 pm - 9.00 pm In the Hall	Classical Yoga Philosophy & Posture, relaxation and breathwork. Newcomers welcome	Linda	01773 528264
Friday	10.00 am – 11.30 am In the Hall	Hatha Yoga Calms your mind and strengthens your body. All ability class	Rav Paul	07963 350868
	4.45 pm – 6.45 pm In the Hall	Somercotes Cubs	Paul Williams	07722 323129
	8.00 pm – 9.00 pm In the Hall	Zumba Fitness Latin inspired, calorie burning, dance fitness	Dey and Liz d/zumba@hotmail.co.uk	07812 837969
Saturday	None at present			
Sunday	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

HEARING CLINIC

Hearing Help (Amber Valley) will be holding clinics in the Lounge of Somercotes Village Hall (formerly the Parish Hall) on the following dates:-

Tuesday 10th December 2013 2.00pm – 3.30pm

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO WEDNESDAY MORNING HEARING CLINIC DURING DECEMBER

Tuesday 14th January 2014 2.00pm - 3.30pm

Wednesday 22nd January 11.00am - 12.30pm

Tuesday 11th February 2.00pm - 3.30pm

Wednesday 26th February 11.00am – 12.30pm

Home Library Service

The Home Library Service now delivers to almost 120 people in the Somercotes area and the number is increasing. 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. For further information, please contact Alfreton Library on

01773 833199

Somercotes Library

Bank Street, Somercotes DE55 4JE Tel. 01773 540514

Email: Somercotes.library@derbyshire.gov.uk or look on the website www.derbyshire.gov.uk

Opening Times:

Mondays	2pm – 5pm
Thursdays	9am – 1pm & 2pm – 7pm
Fridays	9am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm
Saturdays	9.30am – 1pm

Come in and see what activities we have during the winter



Letter from your County Councillor

Dear Resident

We are pleased to announce the re-introduction of the evening and Sunday service Rainbow1 bus services through Pye Bridge into Alfreton, Eastwood and Nottingham. This service was removed four years ago and is being trialled from 1 December 2013 to July 2014 to gauge passenger numbers. It will be a two hourly service as the route will also cover Riddings and Ironville. Timetables can be obtained from the Parish Council Office at the Village Hall, and are also on the Parish Council's website, somercotesparishcouncil.co.uk.

We have also secured funding for the introduction of a Breakfast Club which will run from the Infants School, but it will also serve the Junior School pupils as well. This money has come from Public Health and Children's Services and will be funded for at least the next two years with evaluations and monitoring taking place to see what a difference it makes to children's learning. More funding has been allocated for Somerlea Park Junior School for new windows and improvements to the Dining Hall. This is further investment for the school.

By the time you receive this letter the B600 will have been resurfaced from the Tiger Public House through to the car wash.

A lighting scheme is being designed for the service road on Philipway/Peterway.

For those people who use the Cricket Pavilion on Riddings Park we have secured £50k from Derbyshire County Council for the refurbishment of the building with £20k coming from Amber Valley Borough Council. This will mean real improvements for the cricketers and will also allow for the facility to be used by other groups.

The pedestrian refuge on Hockley Way is to be rebuilt; we won't be using the kit form this time as it will be constructed using more robust materials to hopefully reduce damage by heavy goods vehicles accessing the industrial estate.

Due to concerns raised by residents about the rubbish, trees and shrubbery being overgrown on Beauchief Gardens and the Recreation Ground and people loitering in the shrubbery, I have met with Cllr Brian Lyttle and Amber Valley Borough Council and am pleased to say that all the rubbish has gone and the area has been tidied up. The trees and shrubs have been cut back which has opened up the site and we are now working to put in a footpath link from Birchwood Lane to Beauchief Gardens which will make it easier to use.

Yours sincerely

Paul Smith

Councillor Paul Smith
Deputy Cabinet Member for Health and Communities



MERRY CHRISTMAS OR HAPPY CHRISTMAS IN OTHER EUROPEAN LANGUAGES

Belgian	Vrolijk Kerstfeest
Bulgarian	'vesela 'koleda
Croatian (& Bosnian)	Sretan Božić
Czech	Prejeme Vam Vesele Vanoce
Dutch (Netherlands)	Prettige Kerstfeest or Vrolijk Kerstfeest
French	Joyeux Noël
German	Frohe Weihnacht
Greek	Kala Christouyenna
Hungarian	Kellemes karácsonyi ünnepeket
Italian	Buon Natale
Polish	Wesołych Świąt
Portuguese	Feliz Natal or Boas Festas
Romanian	Craciun Fericit
Spanish	Feliz Navidad
Swiss	Schöni Wiehnachte
Turkish	Mutlu Noeller



DERBYSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Derbyshire Police are asking people to take extra safety steps to protect their personal files from computer fraudsters.

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau has recently received a number of reports relating to malicious software known as CryptoLocker. The ransom-ware virus is mainly spread through emails attachments and can take over personal files such as images and documents. After the malware scam has been downloaded onto a computer a pop-up page will launch asking for a payment to remove the software.

Detective Constable Julie Wheeldon from the East Midlands Fraud and Financial Investigation Unit said: Malicious software, such as CryptoLocker, can be destructive but thankfully there are simple steps that you can take to prevent yourself from becoming a victim.

"Installing security software on your computer and ensuring that you discard any emails from unknown address without opening them are just some of the ways that you can prevent yourself against this type of fraud.

Advice includes:

- Install anti-virus and firewall software for your computer and set these to update automatically.
- Do not open email attachments from unknown sources, especially if it is something that you are not expecting.
- Set your web browser to the highest level of security to prevent against malware and computer crime.
- Try to make regular backups of your files and store them safely.

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

Surgery/Coffee Morning
Monday 16th December 2013 10am - 12noon
At the Community Centre, Pennytown Court

Panel Meeting
Thursday 19th December 2013 6.00pm to 7.00pm
At Somerlea Community Centre, Sherwood Street

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.

Did you know
that Derbyshire County Council has a TRUSTED TRADER SCHEME?



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.

more than just print

www.printscene.com

BE ON YOUR GUARD!

Christmas should be happy and joyful time for all, so don't become a victim of crime, 'Be on Your Guard'. Remember when you are out shopping the opportunist criminal will be looking to steal from you - Keep your purse and other valuables in safe places and don't be distracted by children or others around you. If you place presents in your car make sure they are not on display inside (put them in the boot) and ensure you 'lock' your car if you are doing other shopping. Remember someone may be watching you.

We all love to display presents under the tree or in places visible in our homes, often leaving the curtains open to display Christmas lights, so either draw the curtains or put presents in safe secure places. Please don't tell everyone on the social network sites what you are doing over Christmas, or the presents you are buying, as someone may take advantage of this information and ruin your Christmas and that of young children.

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THE HANDY VAN SERVICE?

The service is available to those who are aged 60 and over or if you are referred by Derbyshire County Council - Adult Care, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service, the District or Borough Council, Derbyshire Police, or Derbyshire Primary Care Trust. Each eligible household can access this free service twice a year. Please note, some materials may need to be purchased by the occupier.

You can phone and ask for a free visit to your home by your local Handy Van for the following:

- Home fire safety checks
- Smoke alarms provided and installed
- Home security checks
- Security equipment provided & installed
- Energy efficiency advice
- Practical tasks - for example: Changing light bulbs
- Securing carpets and Rugs
- Removing and handing curtains
- Checking stair rails are secure and appropriate
- Path and door access clearance
- Securing tap washers to reduce dripping taps, and other tasks as appropriate.



For more information or to arrange a visit, please call your Handy Van Provider by calling Amber Valley - 01773 604426

Question YOUR Perception...
Is the risk of FIRE something you ever consider?

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.derbys-fire.gov.uk



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 Alan Stringer
 Councillor Scott Walker
 One Vacancy

Parish Council Meetings

In the Lounge of the Village Hall
 Friday 17th January 2014 from 6.30pm
 Friday 14th March 2014 from 6.30pm

Parish Council Staff

Clerk to the Council Gordon Blackmore
 Assistant Clerk Glynis Kenney
 Tel: 01773 603810

Caretaker Suzanne Fieldsend
 Tel: 01773 609397 or
 07516 493430

Parish Wardens Colin Rick
 Les Briddon

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



Amber Valley
 Borough Council

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 7th December from 2013 from 11am-12pm
 Saturday 1st February 2014 from 11am-12pm

County Councillor Paul Smith will also be present

POOP SCOOP BAGS



Many residents are taking advantage of the supply of **FREE** poop scoop bags by the Parish Council. There is, however, still a problem with dog fouling and it is hoped that those people who have not bothered in the past to clear up after their dogs will now do so using the free poop scoop bags. These are available from your Parish Wardens, Colin and Les, or you can call into the Parish Council Office between 10.30am and 2.30pm Tuesday to Friday, and ask Glynis for a supply. Ruby Fashion Shop on Nottingham Road and Somerlea Park Community Centre also have a supply of bags.

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
 NO WASTE TO BE LEFT BEFORE SKIP
 ARRIVES**

Councillor Vacancy

There is currently a Parish Councillor Vacancy on Somercotes Parish Council. Do you have an interest in your local community? The position requires you to attend 6 bi-monthly meetings a year with a commitment to be open and transparent in serving your community. If you would like to become a local Parish Councillor please contact the Parish Council Office (01773 603810) or call in for more information. The Clerk to the Council will meet with you to discuss your role, if required.

Christmas Lights



The Parish Council has approved an additional cost of lighting for shops and businesses in Leabrooks, as well as a feature at the Three Horse Shoes Public House, Leabrooks and the Dog and Doublet, Pye Bridge as these are the entry points to the Parish of Somercotes. The Chairman, Councillor Paul Smith, said that "it is important to ensure the Parish as a whole is included rather than just the central Christmas display in Somercotes. We hope that the extended Christmas display of lights will be appreciated by the community following the council's commitment to incorporate as much of the Parish as possible.

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.



t: 01773 608071 f: 01773 541980 e: sales@printscene.com
 The Workshop 18 Victoria Street, Somercotes, Alfreton, Derbyshire. DE55 4HA

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.

Allotments

Bridle Lane Allotments, Leabrooks
 To register an interest in an allotment, please contact Mrs J Smith, Secretary/Treasurer
 Tel: 01773 605438

Birchwood Lane Allotments
 To register an interest in an allotment, please contact Christian Tonnies, Secretary
 Tel: 07841 471043

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



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 Glynis on 01773 603810 or call into the Parish Council Office between 10.30am and 2.30pm, Tuesday to Friday.