

A Joyful and Triumphant Carol Service

The Somercotes Parish Council Carol Service was held on Friday 12th December 2014.

The Somercotes Guides, Brownies and Rainbows and the Heage Band provided some excellent entertainment, with their medleys of traditional Carols and some Festive music and songs.

The Service was held in St Thomas Parish Church and seasonal refreshments were provided after the Service in Somercotes Village Hall.

The Council would like to thank the Church Wardens and Rev. Robert Quarton of St Thomas Parish Church,



Heage Band and the Somercotes Guides, Brownies and Rainbows and all those who assisted to make a very successful evening. A collection was held for Councillor Paul Smith's chosen Charity, Cancer Research UK. A big Thankyou to all who attended and helped to raise £200.

Making Space for Wildlife

Your Council has identified a second area for improvement, the roadside verge outside of B&Q on Nottingham Road (B600). This is a key route and gateway to the Somercotes area, which we aim to make aesthetically pleasing whilst being sympathetic to environmental considerations. This cultivation is in addition to the planting at the Winding Wheel on Nottingham Road.

We have been granted a licence to cultivate this verge from Derbyshire County Council and will maintain it henceforth.

We are considering a Long Season Meadow type planting which will provide a blend of both spring and summer flowers.



This is how the area looks now. By late Spring/Summer the meadow should be in full bloom.

The meadows should attract bees, butterflies and other pollinators. Bees have lost much of their natural habitat and are under assault from pesticides and intensive farming. Councillor Paul Smith (Chairman) says 'We have been encouraged to act, by the news about the serious decline of pollinating insects in Britain and are proud to be contributing to creating bee and butterfly friendly places'.

Community Area for Development

The Parish Council is committed to improving the local area and has taken on a number of initiatives; including wild flower areas, repainting the winding wheel, improving the Festive Lights displays and car park resurfacing. The next project, on Market Place, Somercotes is scheduled for 2015-16 is making a feature area, on the footprint of the former toilet area. The Council invites the community to come forward with ideas and designs – walls, planters, seats, floral displays – have you any great ideas? If you would like to suggest how best to improve this



area of land then call in at the Parish Council Office (Village Hall), with your ideas. This is a great area to improve the central area of the village, alongside the village hall.

Parish 'Council Tax' (Precept) – 2% increase

The Parish Council has held the council tax for 3 years whilst taking on increased responsibilities through careful management and implementing cost savings. In 2015 the council will be required to pay for 50% of the Parliamentary Election cost, for the first time that has put further pressure on budgets for 2015-16. Councillor Paul Smith (Chairman) said, "The council is acutely aware of the demands on household budgets and through careful management it has not increased council tax for 3 years through the implementation of cost savings, but due to the increased cost of service provision a 2% rise has been agreed." The Council tax (precept) for 2015-16 will increase from £137,676.00 to £140,410.00. The council tax increase for Band 'D' properties will be £1.99 per annum."

The Parish Council employs 6 staff (2 full time) – Responsibilities include, street cleaning, gardening footpath clearance, monthly skip provision and general maintenance services by the Parish wardens; operates the Village Hall, at affordable prices, employing a caretaker & bar supervisor. Other responsibilities include maintaining Market Place & Mill Yard car parks, the lighting columns on the recreation ground, 11 bus shelters; festive lighting, a quarterly newsletter and providing local services for the benefit of the community. The administration of the Council is the responsibility of the Clerk/RFO & Assistant Clerk to the Council.

Let us know!

We would like to include any interesting stories or photographs you have about your community or any local events, which you would like advertising.

If you have anything that you would like to share with other readers please contact Soo on 01773 603810 or call into the Parish Council Office at the Village Hall between 10:30 am to 2:30 pm Tuesday to Friday.

Competiton! Win a £40 Argos Voucher



Calling all aspiring landscape and garden designers – create a design for the area approx 6m x 2m (see article on the left). The design should celebrate the community you live in! You will need to think of ways to reflect your community's heritage, buildings, people or other aspects of local life. We are looking for something special to create impact and make the best use of the space.

The design nearest to the one designed by professional Landscapers will be judged the winner.

All Entrants welcome and the closing date is 30th April 2015. Please send entries on A4 sheet to:

Soo Massey, Assistant Clerk to the Council, Somercotes Parish Council, Nottingham Road, Somercotes, Derbys, DE55 4LY or email somercotespc@btconnect.com

ALLOTMENTS: CHILDRENS GARDENING COMPETITION - JULY 2015

Somercotes Parish Council invites young gardeners to use allotment land to produce a floral display in July 2015. The display can be of any floral type but should not use more than 3 sq metres of land. All competitors will have their plot or display professionally judged and prizes will be awarded to all participants.



Letter from your County Councillor

Dear Resident

I am pleased to say funding has been secured for speed activated 30 mph signing on Leabrooks Road with one sign being sited on the junction of Victoria Street on the approach to Leabrooks and another one near to Wood Street/Sherwood Street on the approach to Somercotes. They are the same as the ones on Sleetmoor Lane and Somercotes Hill.

We have recently had improvements made to bus shelters throughout Somercotes with the glass areas reduced and solid panels put into the bottom half of the shelters to reduce the cost of replacing the glass, if damaged.

In terms of highways, Victoria Street will be surface dressed in the Spring/Summer. Leabrooks Road is due to be patched out with that again being surface dressed, in due course. Castle Drive footways will be resurfaced this year, as well as Hathersage Drive footways in February/March this year.

The work on the drainage system outside the medical centre (Nottingham Road) has been completed to stop the road and pavement from flooding in the future. We have also improved the drainage on Sleetmoor Lane that has also experienced flooding.

Works on Sleetmoor Wood have been taking place to create a circular route from the new entrance to link both of the bridleways together.

New benches have been installed the Pennytown Ponds Nature Reserve, as part of to improve the seating areas around the ponds. The floating reed beds are to be replanted and a new one installed and work is taking place with the Environment Agency and Severn Trent to install a filtration system at the top pond to capture the water to take out any possible pollutants and silt before it gets into the ponds. This is all to help improve the water quality.

Yours sincerely

Paul Smith

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



Your Competition – Your Display. Open to children 14 or under, on 1st March 2015

Friends of Pennytown Ponds

Keep Britain Tidy is proud to announce that the Friends of Pennytown Ponds has been registered as a WatersideCare Group dedicated to looking after and keeping Pennytown Ponds clean and litter free.

Pennytown Ponds is a haven for people and wildlife in the middle of Cotes Park Industrial Estate and includes nearly five hectares of precious parkland. As a Local Nature Reserve managed by Amber Valley Borough Council, Pennytown Ponds is a crucial centre for wildlife, historical walks and is a natural play area for children.

The Friends of Pennytown Ponds are a small group of volunteers who help to keep the site clean and litter free by working with Groundwork Derby and Derbyshire and now with Keep Britain Tidy. The group is always looking for new members who care about the environment and want to make a difference to wildlife and nature, to encourage more people to appreciate the beauty and splendour of the Nature Reserve.

If you are interested in helping the Friends of Pennytown Ponds you should contact Somercotes Parish Council on 01773 603810 or email somercotespc@btconnect.com

“Keep Britain Tidy has been involved with Pennytown Ponds as a Green Flag park and we are really pleased to have registered the Friends as a WatersideCare Group and look forward to working with the Friends to keep Pennytown Ponds a beautiful, clean and treasured local space. Groups like this depend on volunteers, so I would encourage people to come along to one of the meetings and see for yourself how you can be involved”, said Les Warren from Keep Britain Tidy.



Hi,
I had a walk to Pennytown, after our Christmas Day lunch, as we do every year. We were unsure new seats had been sited, since our last visit in September.
Just wanted to say, "Job's a good 'un". On the one hand, the seats have a look of the 'here and now' about them, yet they blend in so well with the surrounding ancient woodland. I'd like to add also, how grateful we are, for Denise and Nisha's plaque having been transferred to its stylish replacement.
Well done managers, staff and volunteers for your continued hard work. It is appreciated by so many.
Thank you
Eileen & Phil Kirk.



Another Big Thank you to the public and local businesses Somercotes

Salvation Army Corps have been busy over the Festive Period. On Christmas day a Christmas dinner was provided by volunteers to a number of lonely and isolated people. Volunteers cooked a meal, provided transport and befriended those who would otherwise have spent Christmas day alone.

Food parcels were distributed over the Christmas period and toys donated by Tesco, Alfreton were provided to Alfreton, Somercotes and Ironville Sure Start centres for distribution to young families suffering extreme hardship.

The Salvation Army Corps thanks the generosity of the public, where a collection of £529.00 was made on 6 December. A big thank you also to the continued support from the public and local businesses for their financial generosity and donations of food, toys, and goods received at Christmas and throughout the year.



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

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.

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.

SAFER Neighbourhoods

Your needs are our priority

Dates for your diary: Somercotes and Swanwick Community Panel Meetings 2015

Would you like to help set policing priorities or have any concerns about your neighbourhood?

Residents are invited to discuss any issues or concerns at the next set of Community Panel Meetings which will be hosted by the team at the Somerlee Centre on Sherwood Street, Somercotes. The meetings will take place from 6pm on:

- Thursday, January 15;
- Thursday, April 23;
- Wednesday, July 29;
- Thursday, October, 22.

The meeting is also a chance for you to meet officers from your local Safer Neighbourhood policing team and catch up on current issues and priorities.

If you cannot attend the meeting but have concerns that you would like to raise then please contact the Somercotes and Riddings Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team by calling 101.

You can also follow the team on Twitter: @SomercotesSNT

101 In an emergency always call 999

find us on **facebook** follow us on **twitter**

www.derbyshire.police.uk

Warning!

To leave parked cars locked following thefts in the area **THEFTS** from vehicles in the Somercotes Area could be avoided if more people remember to lock their cars, according to the local Police.

PCSO Davis told a Somercotes Parish Council meeting in January that there had been a spate of thefts and attempted thefts from vehicles. Many are opportunist thefts when drivers leave their car doors unlocked. They are targeting insecure cars and it can be easily prevented.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Alfreton Area Neighbourhood Watch Groups

My Name is Alan Carter Member of the "C" Division, Derbyshire Neighbourhood Watch Association Trust. (DNWAT)

Since the amalgamation of "A" Division into "C" Division based in Chesterfield, and the loss of some key members in the Alfreton area I have been asked to re-establish the good relations with N/W in your area and to seek your co-operation in doing so.

As well as sitting on the DNWAT committee I chair the Ripley area NW Support Group, and would like to hear from all Co-ordinators if their watch is still active, passive, no longer in existence, or could be revitalised with a little effort. To enable me to achieve this I need your HELP AND CO-OPERATION by asking you to contact me on one of the following.

FOLLOWING YOUR REPLY I shall then arrange a general meeting in Alfreton with local Councillors, Police, & N/W representatives. Look forward to hearing from you.

Alan Carter
29 Amber Heights, Ripley, Derbyshire. DE5 3SP
Tel. 01773 742798 or leave a message
Mob. 07821964338
E-Mail alancarter71@btinternet.com

Alan Carter
A Carter



PARISH COUNCIL

Your Parish Councillors

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

Annual Parish Meeting & Parish Council Meetings

The Council is now entering a very busy period as it nears the end of the Financial Year (31 March 2015) and commences the next period 2015-16.

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting:
6.30pm, Friday, 20th March 2015.

Annual Parish Meeting (Not a Parish Council Meeting):
6.30pm, Friday, 15th May 2015.

This would normally be on a separate night to the Parish Council Annual General Meeting & Ordinary Meeting, but due to the Parliamentary & Parish Elections on 7th May 2015, all meetings have been allocated for the same evening. Should the Annual Parish Meeting become protracted then the Parish Council Meetings will be deferred.

Annual Parish Council Meeting:
7pm, Friday, 15th May 2015:

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting:
7.30pm, Friday, 15th May 2015

Parish Council Staff

Clerk to the Council	Gordon Blackmore
Assistant Clerk	Soo Massey 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
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 7th February 2015 11 am - 12 noon
Saturday 7th March 2015 11 am - 12 noon
Saturday 4th April 2015 11 am - 12 noon
Saturday 2nd May 2015 11am - 12 noon
Saturday 6th June 2015 11am - 12 noon

County Councillor Paul Smith will also be present



**Dog fouling
Clean it up**

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 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.

Designed and printed by Printscene Print and Signs Ltd for the Somercotes Parish Council.



www.printscene.com

Got Something to Celebrate?

Somercotes offers two attractive venues to hold any kind of social event, no matter what size or budget.

Both are conveniently located with ample Car Parking. Hire charges at both venues have not been increased since 2013.

You are very welcome to have a look around either venue.

Somercotes Village Hall

Somercotes Village Hall has a large Hall with stage, licensed for the sale of alcohol with a well stocked bar. The Hall has seating capacity for approx. 120 people.

For smaller events/meetings a Lounge, which has a seating capacity for 40 people is available. Both rooms have easy access to a generous sized, fully equipped kitchen, which is included in the hire cost. The Village Hall has disabled access and disabled toilet facilities.

For Enquires or to make a Booking contact: the Village Hall Caretaker on: 01773 609397 or 07516493430



Somerlea Park Centre, Sherwood Street, Leabrooks.

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

Village Hall Toilet Refurbishment Project

Village Hall Toilet Refurbishment Project

Somercotes Village Hall will have its ladies and gents toilets refurbished in the coming months. It is the intention to complete both ladies and gents toilets in February 2015 (half-term period). This is part of the on-going programme of improvements to upgrade the village hall to make it more user friendly for the community.

The Council is committed to upgrading the chairs and tables, at the Village Hall, in the coming financial year, as part of the improvements programme.



Derbyshire Ancestral Research Group

Thanks to Margaret Brooksbank of DARG for an entertaining article on

Sickness and Cures

1916 January 28th GEORGE SIMPSON of Sleetmoor Lane was charged with exposing his daughter DORIS, while suffering with SCARLET FEVER. Dr ROBSON said the girl would be in a state of peeling when she went out in a cab. ENOCH GOULDER cab proprietor said he disinfected the cab and put it temporarily out of use. The defendant who did not appear was ordered to pay £2.14s.

1917 September 7th At Alfreton Court on Wednesday JENNY POYSER of Somercotes and JOHN WILLIAM SEVERN of Sleetmoor Lane were each ordered to pay 5s.6d for exposing their children whilst suffering from MEASLES.

1916 December 8th To Deaf People – 'FRENCH ORLENE' absolutely cures DEAFNESS & NOISES in the head no matter how severe and longstanding. Hundreds of persons whose cases were supposed to be incurable have been permanently cured by this new remedy. Try a box today only 2s/9d.

W PURDY Chemist BLINDNESS & DEAFNESS, all sufferers should consult W PURDY who has cured upwards of 9000, many of which defied medical skill of the highest degree.

BURDEN'S S.R. SKIN OINTMENT will cure itching after one application and destroy every form of ECZEMA, RINGWORM & SCURVY 9d a box.

HOLROYD'S GRAVEL PILLS. A positive cure for pains in the back, DROPSY, BRIGHT'S DISEASE, GOUT & SCIATICA 1s 3d.

DR PRIESTLEY'S COMPOUND is not a QUACK MEDICINE it will enable you to eat anything. All stores sell it for 1s.3d.

WIDOW WELCH'S FEMALE PILLS. A well known & valuable remedy for FEMALE COMPLAINTS & ANEMIA 1s 3d at all chemists.

TUBERCULOSIS its Treatment & Cure by DR ADRIAN SECHEHAYE (translated from the French). No one interested in TB can afford to miss reading this book order now price 5/-.



'Lest We Forget - A Community at War'

Somercotes Parish Council has been awarded £3,700.00, by the Heritage Lottery Fund, to research WW1 in Somercotes and how the local community played its part. Intense research will be conducted on the fallen servicemen whose names appear on the Somercotes War memorial, as well as, other who do not.

The research group are asking if anyone has any photographs of any of the named servicemen, service records, enlistment papers, demob papers, letters or postcards or any other WW1 memorabilia. Other important aspects of the war research revolve around what those left behind in the community did to support the war effort, particularly the women. We know that many women worked at the Ironworks whilst others went to work in munitions factories in Nottingham, or worked on the land, but have little information about this. This is a 2 year project and a booklet will be written in 2016 to commemorate the Parish of Somercotes (includes Pye Bridge & Leabrooks) contribution to WW1. The research group is asking for your help so please bring along anything you have that can support the research to the Parish Council Office, at the Village Hall, Somercotes.

Somercotes Local History Society Presents:

John Hales (SLHS) has been working with group members and Dennis Lemon (son of the last miller, at the Mills) to produce a presentation on the famous Riddings Windmills, built in 1877. There are a lot of rumours and tales about the mills and this makes a compelling historical story. William Lemon made a matchstick model of the mills (around 2000) and his brother Dennis has presented this to SLHS and this is a feature of the presentation. The Mills were a landmark for miles around and towered above Somercotes. It is planned to hold the presentation on the Riddings Windmills in early April 2015, so look out for posters providing the date & location – 'Don't Miss It'.



The Windmills History



Somercotes Local History Society

The History Society has funding to help people, of all ages, to learn computer skills.

If you are interested in local history or improving your skills using photo-shop imaging, audio editing, web design, creating DVD Slideshows or research training courses will be available later in the year. Please register your interest with Somercotes Local History Society. If you would like to volunteer to work for the History Society please contact Gordon Blackmore on 07753304621 or E-Mail: info@somercoteshistory.co.uk

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 5.30 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 5.00 pm – 6.30 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, 10th February 2015	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday, 10th March 2015	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday, 14th April 2015	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday, 12th May 2015	2pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday, 9th June 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

£5k funding to help tackle youth offending

An initiative for diversionary sports activities, by Somerlea Park Community Centre, to help to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the area has been successful in receiving funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner grants of £3k. In addition, at its meeting on 21st November, the Parish Council resolved to support the initiative with a further grant of £2k. Together with funding of £1k from the Community Centre itself, the sum of £5k will be of great benefit in designing structured sporting activities for young people to divert those from crime and anti-social behaviour and help to increase community safety.

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.

SOMERCOTES PARISH COUNCIL Councillor Vacancies

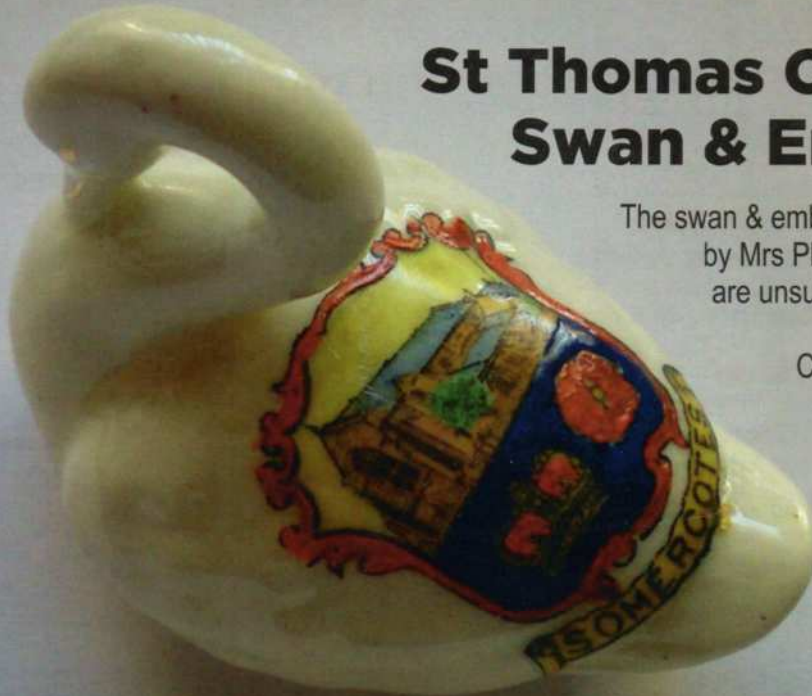
Currently, the Parish Council has three vacancies for Councillors. Parish Councils are an important part of local government and make decisions that are important to the Parish. Do you have the commitment to attend 6 Ordinary Meetings (the Council meets bi-monthly) a year and provide your experience and enthusiasm to help make a difference?

The Parish Council has 6 members of staff and has responsibility for street cleaning, car parks, flower beds, festive lights, village hall, allotments and general local improvements.

If you would like to find out about becoming a Councillor, in Somercotes (includes Pye Bridge & Leabrooks) please contact the Clerk to the Council at the Village Hall or telephone (01773) 603810.

St Thomas Church: Swan & Emblem

The swan & emblem was provided by Mrs Phyllis Smith but we are unsure of the origins of this item. Can anyone assist?



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
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 20th March, 17th April, 15th May 2015, 19th June 11:30 am to 1:30pm

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

Services and Events for Lent 2015
Friday 27th February 11.30am to 1.30pm Lent Lunch
Friday 6th March 11.30am to 1.30pm Lent Lunch
Friday 13th March 11.30am to 1.30pm Lent Lunch
Friday 27th March 11.30am to 1.30pm Lent Lunch

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.

Sunday 15th March – Mothering Sunday Service at 10:30 am taken by Mrs M Matthews

Friday 3rd April – Good Friday Service at 10:30 am taken by Rev. M Dilley

Sunday 5th April – Easter Sunday Service at 10:30 am taken by Rev. M Feast

Sunday 10th May – Anniversary Day at 3:00 pm
Tea will be served afterwards in the Schoolroom

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

Sunday: Sunday School 10am
All age Family Worship 3pm followed by refreshments.
Monday: at 3pm - Over 50's Friends and Fellowship
Tuesday: from 9.30am – 11am Care and share Coffee Morning (Including sale of donated items)
Wednesday: 10.00am Timbrel Practice
Wednesday: 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.freeserve.co.uk
Leader: Mrs Elaine Whittingham

Sunday Services: Morning Service at 10.30 am
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.