

Somersham **4U**

A VOICE FOR THE COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 2018 - JANUARY 2019



Inside this Edition

- *New Somersham Friendship Club*
- *Christmas By Candlelight Concert*
 - *Bus Survey*



Parish Council

Chairman's Report

December 2018-January 2019



Dick Sutton - Chairman

It is very pleasant to be able to start my report on a positive note. I know that the clocks have gone back and winter is trying its best to

intrude upon us, but the Parish Council is now up to full strength of fifteen members as eight new people have joined us. Thank you to those people and you can find their names on page 15. We also have a bus survey that we need a response on the back page.

Congratulations to all those people who put up the Remembrance display, including those who made poppies and mounted them by the War Memorial. It is a fitting tribute to all those who served in the conflict. Thank you to Bob Bainbridge and Tracey Atkin from The Royal British Legion, Katie Ixer Timebank Co-Ordinator and Megan Blewett Deputy Clerk for organising this community display, and especially Pru and Chris Leah for use of their wall.

Father Christmas's gnomes have been busy putting up the lights ready for the switch on for the 1st December, so make sure that you have bought your raffle tickets to help ensure future years displays. I have had it confirmed that a certain gentleman with a white beard and red suit will make time in his busy schedule to come and attend as usual.

If you missed the Christmas Tree Festival in the church, the trees will remain on show until after the switch on, so go and see them as they have always been a magnificent sight.

It is now time for us to set the precept for next year and this should be easier now we have more people to think about it and what is needed.

This is my last report before Christmas, so may I wish all of you a Happy Festive Season and in the words of the Irish comedian, Dave Allen, "may your God go with you".

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2019

Parish Council meetings are held in the Millennium Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham PE28 3JS with a prompt start of 7.30 pm. Agendas and Minutes can be found on the council's website somersham-pc.gov.uk

14th January	8th July
11th February	5th August
11th March	2nd September
8th April	30th September
13th May Annual	28th October
20th May Annual Parish	25th November
10th June	16th December

Parish Office 01487 841359 Open 9:00AM-3:00PM
Monday-Thursday

www.somersham-pc.gov.uk
www.somersham4u.org.uk
@SomershamParish



Katie's Page

Christmas in the Timebank

December 2018-January 2019



The Timebank has been invited to take part in the Christmas Tree festival once again at St John the Baptist Church. As I write this we have not participated yet, so I can not give you a picture of our tree, but I can tell you about it! One of our members had the wonderful idea of decorating it in 'smoothie hats'. You may have seen these little knitted hats on top of smoothie bottles in the shops in past years. Every bottle sold with a hat on top the smoothie company gives 25p to Age UK. Our members are busy knitting these hats and once we have finished the Christmas tree festival we shall be donating them to help raise money for Age UK! I hope you were able to visit the church and enjoy seeing all the trees!



The Timebank Christmas coffee morning is on Monday 17th December, 10:30 at the Millennium Pavilion. Why not come along to enjoy a warm drink, some mince pies and this year we are being treated to some songs being sung by the children of First Steps playgroup. It promises to be a lovely event full of warm Christmas cheer! Finally I wanted to share this Christmas poem written by one of our members, it really does sum up the Timebank!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

For further information on any events or about the Timebank please contact Katie Ixer on the below details -

Website [www.https://somershamtimebank.wordpress.com/](https://somershamtimebank.wordpress.com/)



'Somersham and Pidley Time Bank'



01487 841359



Community News



Summer and Autumn Update

December 2018-January 2019

Our August Trip

We decided to do something completely different for our Annual trip this year and chose a river boat trip. It was nice to have the company of some ladies from the National Women's Register who joined us for the afternoon. We set out on our chosen river boats from lovely Fen Ditton. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon, just right for a leisurely cruise along the River Cam to Jesus Lock at Cambridge, where the boats turned to come back to Fen Ditton and we enjoyed a cream tea on board whilst taking in all the sights along the river.

How to sort out your plumbing

Err, could plumbing really be interesting? Well actually, surprisingly, yes it was. Our guest speaker for September was Sarah Oliver, better known by her business title "Sarah the Plumber". One of only 18 female registered plumbers in the UK, her success story fits so well with the WI's ethos of Inspiring Women. After qualifying she established her business in what is still very much a 'Man's world' and has never looked back. She brought along lots of charts and explained simply how our various plumbing systems worked from all aspects to providing our water hot and cold and our central heating. She gave us lots of tips on maintenance, taking lots of mystery out of it all. Sarah was a down to earth really entertaining speaker and had us in fits of laughter at some of the awkward and potentially disastrous situations she had found herself in.

AGM the committee members

Our AGM always takes place in October, when our year is reviewed and election of committee members takes place. After the business is completed it's fun time. We had a Mouse and Cheese theme, which involved members sporting Ears, Tails and Whiskers and bringing along a large piece of unusual cheese, cut into cubes. The idea behind this being a competition to guess the type of cheese. An unusual theme which turned out to be amazingly good fun and we were pleased to see so many members joining in the spirit of it.



*For details of our future meetings
Contact Hazel McElligott Tel: 01487 741 666*

Come and join in!

New Friendship Club opening in Somersham

Somersham Victory Hall has been selected as a location for a new Over 60s lunch club sponsored by Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

In addition to companionship, established club activities typically include traditional board games, crafts, quizzes and possibly away days, etc, to be chosen by the members.

The new club needs volunteers for its leadership team who are willing to give a few hours most Tuesday mornings to help with the routine management of the club. We are hoping to find enough volunteers to enable a rota to be set up to allow for days off, holidays, etc.

Typical volunteer tasks might include setting up tables and activities, cooking and serving meals, meet and greet to collect payments.

Training for a treasurer could be supplied.

The new club will be hosting a taster session on Tuesday 11th December between 10:30 and 1pm at the Victory Hall. Entry is £3 which includes tea, coffee and a lunch of fish and chips.

Why not take this opportunity to enjoy the company of others and join in with the activities on offer – helping yourself and your community.

If you would like to attend to find out more, and for catering purposes, please contact Stewart on 01733 352213 or email stewart.goodacre@ageukcap.org.uk

Community Information



**CHANGING
LIVES**

December 2018-January 2019

The Programme

Seated/standing Exercise:

Tuesday afternoons starting at 2pm, The Millennium Pavilion, off The Trundle (PE28 3JS). Each session, led by Becky Adams, will be approximately 45 minutes followed by refreshments.

(No classes on 25/12 or 02/01)

T'ai Chi (adapted half seated/half standing)

Wednesdays at 2.30pm, at the Victory Hall (PE28 3HE). Each session, led by Mike Tabrett will be approximately 1 hour and will be followed by refreshments. **(No classes on 26/12 or 02/01)**

Nordic Walking:

Thursdays mornings led by Sam Godfrey. Step 1 starts at 10am and Step 2 (Intermediate) starts at 11.15am. Each Step is approximately 30 minutes of walking and is followed by refreshments. Meet at the Millennium Pavilion (PE28 3JS). **(No classes on 27/12 or 03/01)**

All sessions £4. Subsidised transport can be provided on request.

For more information call 01487 841359
or email changing.lives@somersham-pc.gov.uk



Somersham Walks

FREE walks for everyone to enjoy their local area:

- ◇ **Nature Rambles** A gentle paced walk taking in the Nature Reserve. **1st Tuesday of each month.**
- ◇ **Health and Well-being Walks** A faster paced walk lasting around 30 minutes. **3rd Tuesday of each month.**

No need to book, just turn up at 10am at the Station Approach entrance to the Nature Reserve.



Turn spare time into shared time.



Remembrance

December 2018-January 2019



The community poppy display was originally designed to be a wave flowing behind the Tommy figure as a representation of all those who did not come home, but were still following on, they are never forgotten and will always be with us. We also encouraged those who visited us on the day to place their own poppies or some of our community made ones, as this is not just for one group or person, but for everyone.

There were so many new and familiar faces who came to see what was happening at the War Memorial on Saturday 3rd November, it was very inspiring to see and listen to those families and friends who were affected. There are many different types of poppies from various groups and individuals who have been put up by themselves or by the volunteers who wanted to help. (We loved seeing the poppies put all over! Including the rocks and plants!) We were there from 10am to 1pm on Saturday 3rd November with Megan Blewett (Deputy Clerk) returning Monday morning with some laminated and a few additional poppies to finish off with two ladies from Timebank who helped immensely Annie and Shirley. This display will remain up for roughly one month and hopefully it will be rehung next year with new poppy additions.



Somersham Book of Remembrance

The Great War 1914 - 1918

Over the past 4 years the Parish Church have been honouring all the men from Somersham who gave their lives during the First World War. Each man who died has been remembered on the Sunday following the 100th Anniversary of his death. A great deal of work and research has gone into the project and we are now working towards putting this into a book which we hope to publish early in 2019.

The book will have approximately 140 pages with a lot of colour photographs and early indications are that it will cost just under £10.

It is difficult to gauge how much interest there will be in such a publication so we are asking people who think they might be interested in purchasing a copy to contact Alan Draper on 01487 741531 or email alan.draper38@googlemail.com to express their interest. This will enable us to determine the correct print run and help to maximise any profits which will be divided equally between Somersham Parish Church and The Royal British Legion.



St John the Baptist Church

December 2018-January 2019

Advent is a season of light, a spiritual preparation for Christmas. It is fitting therefore that the first weekend of December begins with the 'Christmas light switch on' at 7pm on Saturday 1st December when there will also be the opportunity to come into the church and view the Christmas Tree Festival if you didn't make it the previous weekend.

Christingle Service of Light on Advent Sunday (2nd December) 4pm the light theme continues. The children get to hold an orange (representing the world) surrounded by a red ribbon (the blood of Jesus) and a candle (Jesus is the light of the world) and in the orange are 4 cocktail sticks with an assortment of fruit and sweets! (representing the 4 seasons or the fruit of the Spirit). Do come, all welcome.



Children's Christmas Festival with Messy Church in the church from 2 – 4pm on Saturday 8th December. This is becoming a regular feature of Advent, when we welcome families to take part in Christmas Crafts, The Christmas Story, visit Santa, play games, sing carols and visit different stalls with plenty of refreshments. We raise money for the children's activities and sponsor a young boy from World Vision.

'Little Acorns' Our regular baby/ toddler group is on Thursday Mornings in term time. Officially from 9.30am - 11am but you can come straight from the school run. Home made cake for grownups and snacks for the children, play and craft, a bible story, prayer and plenty of time for the children to choose their favourite nursery rhyme.

Bereavement Support Coffee Mornings – 10am – 11.30am Tuesday 18th December and 15th January at the Rectory

Creative Minds 'mindful artistic activities and coffee' Thursday 20th December and 17th January 2.30 – 4pm at the back of church.



Messy Church will be part of the children's festival on 8th December and 13th January for crafts, story, prayer and food.

Traditional Carol Service by candlelight. Sunday 23rd December at 6.30pm

The 'Live Nativity'/Crib Service Christmas Eve 4pm. We love the children to take part too, so get dressed up as an angel, shepherd, King or an animal and be part of the nativity.



Midnight Communion 11.30pm on Christmas Eve
Christmas Day Family Service with Communion at 10.30am.

I hope you have a good Christmas and discover for yourself the peace and joy of Jesus as we remember his birth.

Many Blessings, Rev. Sue
Rector Somersham Parish Church

Sunday Services are at 10.30am (Evensong 6pm 1st Sunday).
Sunday School on the 1st and 3rd Sundays
All Age Service on the 4th Sunday.
Midweek Service – 9.30am followed by coffee.

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact me on 01487 840676
Rector@somershamparishes.org www.somershamparishes.org.



Baptist Church

December 2018-January 2019

Well time passes so quickly! Another two months gone and we are coming to the end of Autumn with all its lovely colours in the hedgerows and fields.

Winter is almost with us but looking on the bright side it is the season of Christmas Trees and Lights along the High Street. These will be switched on from the 1st December at 6pm and are put up by volunteers from the village. "Thank you" to them for their hard work for our enjoyment.

During November we are collecting Shoe Boxes from the local shoe shops etc. and we start getting them covered in bright shiny paper so that they can be filled with toys plus items that are in short supply where the young boys and girls live. For example, Toothbrushes, Pens, Coloured Pencils, Writing Paper, Colouring Books. Soap and a Flannel, Woolly Hats, Cuddly toys etc. We must remember they are living in war torn countries and where hurricanes and earthquakes have destroyed their houses and they have NOTHING! Some of them do not even have a Mum or Dad to look after them.

In December, of course, we start to prepare for our Christmas Celebrations. On Sunday, December 16th at 6pm we have our Carols by Candlelight Service where all members of the village are very welcome to come and sing their favourite Carols.

On Christmas Day itself we have a short service at 10am where we celebrate the birth of Jesus and our young children come with their gifts to show off to their friends.

Finally, for 2018 all of us at *"The Church on the High Street"* wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and we hope to see you at our Sunday Morning Services commencing 10.30am in 2019.



Community News

December 2018-January 2019

Does vehicle speed concern you in Somersham?

Community Roadwatch are looking for the village to find volunteers for a village Sid Support Team (SST) to take on the battery changes every 2 weeks for the SWARCO SID and 3 every week for the Westcotec ones.

Full training will be given.

For more information on vehicle speed in Somersham visit

www.roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/somersham



Police Commissioner hosts community celebration to mark Hate Crime Awareness Week

POLICE and Crime Commissioner, Jason Ablewhite hosted community organisations, dignitaries and celebrities at Cambridgeshire Constabulary Headquarters as part of a community celebration on Friday (October 19th).

Actor Warwick Davis and High Sheriff Dr Andrew Harter joined the Commissioner at 'Celebrating Us', marking the end of National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2018.

The event offered an opportunity for communities from across the county to come together, whatever their background, to celebrate their religions and cultures and learn something about each other.

The event was held in conjunction with Cambridgeshire Constabulary, with newly appointed Chief Constable Nick Dean and Hate Crime Officer DC Tiff Lane speaking.

After a brief presentation from Voicebility Speak Out Councillors Bill Jones and Sean Nightingale and a special video message from disability rights campaigner Sir Tom Shakespeare, guests were invited to make a pledge in support of hate crime awareness.



The celebration was supported by a number of national groups, including the Guide Dogs Trust, the Alzheimer's Society and Little People UK (LPUK). A 'marketplace' allowed guests to interact with national and local community groups to share ideas and raise awareness for their causes.

Jason Ablewhite, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough said:

"It was truly wonderful to see so many people come together, from so many of the communities that make up our county, to celebrate life and love in all its forms. We have a diverse community in Cambridgeshire that I am proud to represent, and it is vital that we recognise everyone's right to live free from harassment and the fear of hate crime.

"As long as there are those who seek to spread hatred, we shall come together to fight it."

The Opening of the



New Somersham FRIENDSHIP CLUB

For the
over 60s

Come Along to the
Taster Session £3
including a Fish & Chip lunch

At Victory Hall, Somersham
Tuesday 11 December 2018
10:30 until 1pm

If you would like to attend please let Stewart
know (*for catering purposes*)
Transport can be arranged

Telephone: Stewart on 01733 352213
or email: stewart.goodacre@ageukcap.org.uk

www.ageukcap.org.uk



Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales with registered charity no. 1165856 Registered Office: 2 Victoria Street, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, PE16 6AP. T: 01354 696650

Can **YOU** come and **HELP** at
the



New Somersham **FRIENDSHIP** **CLUB** For the over 60s

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The new club needs volunteers for its leadership team who are willing to give a few hours most Tuesday mornings to help with the routine management of the club. Tasks might include setting up tables and activities, cooking and serving meals, meet and greet to collect payments.

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Why not take this opportunity to enjoy the company of others and join in with the activities on offer – helping yourself and your community

If you would like to attend to find out more, and for catering purposes, please contact Stewart on **01733 352213** or email stewart.goodacre@ageukcap.org.uk

www.ageukcap.org.uk



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Community

December 2018-January 2019

Somersham History Society

Our next event including raffle will be on Tuesday 22 January 2019
7.30pm in the Baptist Church. Tickets £3 on the door.

We are lucky to have Sophie Rowe, Curator of the Scott Polar Institute, who will give an illustrated talk on "Historic sites in Antarctica".

This should be a very interesting subject and I expect will generate a lot of questions about Antarctica in the past and what the future holds for this amazing area.

All welcome.

For further details or
to join the SHS emailing list contact the
Secretary David Knights on Tel: 01487 841 642



Huntingdonshire District Council Household waste and recycling collection arrangements for **Christmas & New Year 2018-2019** **Bin collection**

Normal

Monday 24th December
Tuesday 25th December
Wednesday 26th December
Thursday 27th December
Friday 28th December

Change to

Saturday 22nd December
Monday 24th December
Thursday 27th December
Friday 28th December
Saturday 29th December

Monday 31st December
Tuesday 1st January
Wednesday 2nd January
Thursday 3rd January
Friday 4th January

Monday 31st December
Wednesday 2nd January
Thursday 3rd January
Friday 4th January
Saturday 5th January



Community News

December 2018-January 2019

The Victory Hall 25th Anniversary Celebration 26th January 2019

Come and celebrate 25 years of this invaluable facility!

Meet the hirers and see what classes and groups run here regularly. See if something new takes your interest!

In addition, there will be -

- ❖ Live music
- ❖ Demonstrations
- ❖ Tea & cakes
- ❖ Hot food
- ❖ Licensed bar
- ❖ Face painting & glitter tattoos
- ❖ Raffle
- ❖ More to be announced



Do you run a club in the village and would like to be involved? Please contact somershamvh@outlook.com for further information 1pm to 4pm
Saturday 26th January
Parkhall Road, Somersham
PE28 3HE



Somersham Parish Church



a Christmas by Candlelight Concert

'An Evening of Music for the Festive Season'

Friday - 14th December - 7 pm

Tickets available from Strands Hairdressers, Somersham Library & Alan (Tel:01487 741531)

£5 Adults £3 Children

Family Ticket (2 Adults + 2 Children) £12

Complimentary Interval Drinks supplied by the
CENTURION CLUB

Editor's Snippets

December 2018-January 2019

		5				1		
			4		5			
3				9				6
	5			1			6	
		7	6		9	2		
	2			3			1	
8				5				4
			3		7			
		4				7		

Contact the Editorial team:
Somersham4u.newsletter@btconnect.com

Deadline for the February/March 2019
 Edition of SOMERSHAM4U
 Monday 31st December (3:00PM)



STALLS AT THE CROSS

1st September	Friends of Somersham Parish Church	£96.00
16th September	Friends of Somersham Library	£68.00
6th October	Friends of Somersham Parish Church	£129.50
13th October	Somersham Allotment Association	£135.40
20th October	Somersham Over 60s	£61.00

1	6	7	9	2	8	4	3	5
5	8	9	7	4	3	1	6	2
4	2	3	1	5	9	6	7	8
7	1	6	4	3	5	8	2	9
3	5	2	9	8	9	7	1	4
8	6	4	2	1	7	3	5	9
6	7	5	8	9	1	2	4	3
2	3	8	5	7	4	9	6	1
9	4	1	3	6	2	5	8	7

OUT



We urgently need a volunteer to deliver our S4U Newsletter to the Station Approach, Bank Avenue and The Bank area (72 copies, 6 times per year). Could you take on this really worthwhile task for our community?

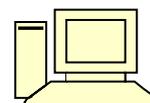
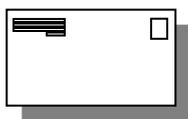
For details, please contact the Chairman of the Comms Working Party via the S4U Inbox or the Parish Clerk on 841359

Contact Page

December 2018-January 2019

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

John Blundell	john.blundell@somershamparishcouncil.co.uk	841 359
Steve Criswell	steve.criswell@huntingdonshiredc.gov.uk	740745
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Mervyn Greaves	mervyn.greaves@somershamparishcouncil.co.uk	842255
Kevin Hawkins	kevin.hawkins@somershamparishcouncil.co.uk	841 359
Tony Hulme	tony.hulme@somershamparishcouncil.co.uk	840152
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Richard Sutton (Chairman)	dick.sutton@somershamparishcouncil.co.uk	840150
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Ray Woolway	ray.woolway@somershamparishcouncil.co.uk	840256
Geoffrey Wooster	geoffrey.wooster@somershamparishcouncil.co.uk	841 359



Somersham Parish Council Penny Bryant, Parish Clerk,
Tel: 01487 841359 Email: clerk@somersham-pc.gov.uk

The Norwood Building, Parkhall Road,
Somersham PE28 3HE

County Councillor & District Councillor Steve Criswell
Tel: 01487 740745 Email : steve.criswell@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

23, The Bank, Somersham, PE28 3DJ

District Councillor Graham Bull
Tel: 07780 511928 Email: graham.bull@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

2, Lancaster Close, Old Hurst , PE28 3BB

Local MP (North West Cambridgeshire) Mr Shailesh Vara -
Email: Shailesh.vara.mp@parliament.uk

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Police - non-emergency calls - Dial 101

BUS SURVEY



All bus services in Cambridgeshire are run by commercial operators and rely on sufficient patronage to be economically viable. Traditionally the County Council has had oversight of public transport and has allocated a set budget to subsidise services where a lack of rural provision would be likely to leave people isolated.

The responsibility to consider public transport has now passed to the Combined Authority under the leadership of The Mayor. He has commissioned a Review of Public Transport. Rather than await the outcome, it would be helpful to gather information on bus usage and transport needs, so we are ready to respond on behalf of local residents. It will also help inform the Parish Council, who may need to consider what they can do to help in future.

The information you provide will help with decisions on destinations, frequency and the vehicle size required to best use the limited resources available.

Please only respond if you would actually use a service, not because you support provision being available for others.

A.) Destination (s)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

B.) Frequency (*daily/weekly/monthly*)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

C.) Time of travel- out and return (*Specific, eg. for work, otherwise am/pm/eve*)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

D.) Purpose of travel

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

E.) Length of time spent at destination

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

F.) Your alternative, (*please circle*) -- CAR OWNER / CAR PASSENGER / TAXI / NONE

G.) Age range, (*please circle*) -- STUDENT / WORKING AGE / RETIRED

**H.) Contact details (*optional*) -- would allow a targeted further exchange of information;
NAME**

I.) EMAIL (*or postal address if not*)

PLEASE SEND REPLIES TO.....

Somersham Parish Council, The Norwood Building, Parkhall Road, Somersham PE28 3HE