

SOMERTON NEWS



June 2017



The 15 tonne revolving cap and brake wheel of Horsey's windpump was lifted back into place on 16th May as part of a National Trust project to restore the windpump to working order for the first time in 75 years. John Downes of Horsey, who watched the whole process, kindly provided Somerton News with this photograph of the delicate operation.

The monthly magazine for the parish of Somerton, distributed free-of-charge to residents and friends.

From the Editors

I am writing this on a chilly May Bank Holiday Monday for you to read on another May Bank Holiday Monday, but hopefully it will be a hot and sunny one! This is because while my co-editors are frantically cutting, pasting, editing and proof reading to meet the printing deadline, I will be laying on a sun bed soaking up the Aegean sunshine, book in one hand *mojito* in the other!



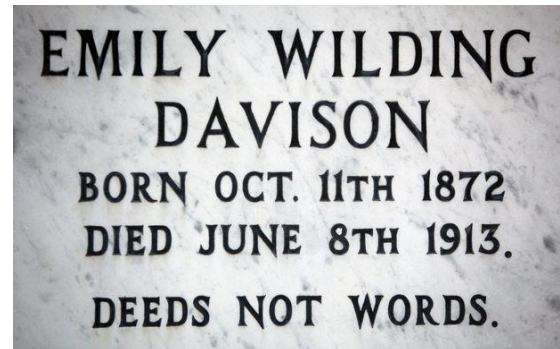
By the time we land back at Norwich Airport, Election fever will be raging with polling day just around the corner. Mrs May has coincidentally, (or maybe not), chosen to send the nation to the polls on the anniversary of the death of Emily Wilding Davison who died on 8th June 1913 from injuries sustained whilst campaigning for the right of women to vote.



Emily Wilding Davison

On 4th June at Epsom Racecourse she stepped in front of King George V's horse Anmer during The Derby, intending to draw attention to her cause by waving her Women's

Rights banner, but was trampled by horses' hooves and suffered fatal internal injuries. She died in hospital 4 days later.



Emily's gravestone in Morpeth Church

Last June, the EU Referendum produced the largest turnout for many a year. It will be interesting to see if the electorate turns out in force yet again for the parliamentary Election.



The summer solstice falls on Wednesday 21st June, the longest day of the year! If you can't get to Stonehenge or Glastonbury, what could be better than a picnic on the beach or an open air performance of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*? I can't find one nearby on the actual day, but the Pantaloons are at Fairhaven Gardens on the evening of 7th July with their version of the Bard's play and on the evenings of 14th & 15th July, The Lord Chamberlain's Men will be performing Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors* in Norwich Cathedral Cloisters as part of this year's Norfolk and Norwich Festival.

I am looking forward to reading this with fresh eyes and hope you all do too. Linda

News from Somerton

News from the Staithe

The pre-fishing season Weed Clearance and Dyke maintenance working parties will take place on Saturday and Sunday June 10th and 11th from 10:00am to 12 noon.

Those people with a mooring in the Dyke are expected to help, as part of the mooring agreement, but anyone else is welcome to come and join in. It can be fun, and as the old saying goes, *"Many hands make light work!"*

Nobody has fallen in for years and years. Cromes and grapple hooks are available for removing blanket weed, and if you have a strimmer or hedge trimmer, they would be useful for land based tidying.

If you cannot manage those dates, the grapple hooks, cromes and wheelbarrow are kept at my house* on the Staithe, for use at any time.

"Many thanks in advance to those who come and help." *Judy Clift,*
(Chairperson Somerton Staithe Trustees.)

*Free Staithe Cottage, Somerton Staithe, NR29 4EB. (Tel. 393464).

Village Hall AGM & 2017 Fete Meeting

Somerton's Village Hall is a registered charity and will be holding its AGM on Wednesday 7th June. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and will be followed by a Fete Meeting.

The Village Hall trustees are always on the lookout for new people to be involved with running and maintaining this village asset so, if you're want to get involved, please come along.

This year's Fete is on Saturday 19th August and Grand Draw tickets will soon be on sale (1st prize is £200).

If you're a long-time resident who hasn't yet been involved in the annual fete or a newcomer to the village why not come along – new helpers and new ideas are always welcome.

It will be a busy couple of days for the village hall in early June. On Wednesday 7th June the monthly Coffee Morning at 10:00am is followed by the Village Hall AGM and Fete Meeting in the evening and on Thursday 8th June the hall becomes a polling station for General Election.

Parliamentary Election

Somerton Village Hall is the local Polling Station for the General Election on Thursday 8th June. The hall is open from 7:00am until 10:00pm for registered voters to cast their vote. The 5 candidates standing to be MP for Great Yarmouth are; Catherine Blaiklock (UKIP), James Joyce (Liberal Democrat), Brandon Lewis (Conservative Party), Mike Smith-Clare (Labour Party) and Harry Webb (Green Party). The Conservative Party had a majority of 6,154 in the election in 2015.

Forthcoming events in neighbouring villages

Winterton Church Spring Fayre

at Church Room, Winterton
on Saturday 10th June
10:00am to 1:00pm

Cake stall, bric-a-brac, books,
puzzles, refreshments & raffle

*Raising money for flowers for
the Flower Festival which is on
For 3 days at the end of July*

Friday 28th, Saturday 29th and
Sunday 30th July

10:00am to 5:00pm each day

LEAF Open Farm Sunday
11th June 2017
11:00am to 4:00pm

Chapman Farms Ltd
Clarkes Farm
Martham NR29 4PT

*Free entry but a charity donation would
be welcome*

Visit a farm and discover the world of
farming

Many farm activities and related
businesses represented, machinery
demonstrations, farm tour, animals
and tractor & trailer rides. BBQ and
Teas & cakes



LINKING ENVIRONMENT AND FARMING



www.farmsunday.org

MIDSUMMER MARDLES

Horsey Church
Saturday 24th June 3:30 pm

*a light-hearted afternoon of poetry and prose
appropriate for the time of year*

Readers: Cassie, Selwyn, and friends
from around the benefice

Tickets £7.50 including canapés and fizz at the interval
from Jenny (393314) or Selwyn (393430)

All proceeds to Horsey church funds

Jubilant June at the Museum of the Broads

The longer days are upon us and it's a great time to visit the Museum of the Broads at Stalham. The hours of opening are extending to 10:00am to 4:30pm Sunday to Friday and 10:00am to 1:00pm on Saturday.

Why not pop in and catch this year's 'Broadland in Pictures' exhibition, featuring contemporary and historic art and souvenirs from the Broads? We also have a number of new exhibits this year including our airborne lifeboat simulator, so yet another reason to #makeitstalham this June.

This month sees two of the year's great events, the Steam Day on 11th June and the Jazz Evening on 24th June. Added into this is free entry to all accompanied fathers on 18th June for Father's Day.

The Steam Day focuses on everything steam from engines and vehicles to our lovely Victorian steam launch! Maybe it's a nostalgic thing, but what's not to love about the smell of steam and the fascinating old engineering which formed the basis of the Industrial Revolution?

The Jazz Evening is a great evening. We are delighted that *Savoir Faire's* sublime jazz will again be floating across our beautiful riverside location and *Tipple's Brewery* will be running a beer tent too. Personally I hope that the lady with the 3 tier cake stand will be there! Why not bring a picnic and make an evening of it?

Dates for your diary – Saturday 1st July is our 16th Art Challenge. Call the Museum if you want a day by the river, with expert tuition and a chance to win a prize! Saturday 8th July is a charity auction of promises and items. If you have anything you can donate to the Museum, please let Nicola or Reg know. Every little helps, thank you.

Just check out our Trip Adviser reviews or keep up to date with all the latest news at www.museumofthebroads.org.uk or Twitter @MuseumBroads or our Facebook page.

Museum of the Broads, Stalham Staithe, NR12 9DA. (Tel. 01692 581681)



Make yourself a cup of tea and fruity tea cake

What could possibly go better with a cup of tea than a fruity, moist tea cake? This recipe is quick and easy to prepare and can be stored in an airtight container for about a week – but it never lasts that long in my house! You can use any teabags you like – even Earl Grey for a different taste!

Ingredients

500g mixed dried fruit
8 Tea bags
300ml boiling water
500g self-raising flour
325 g butter
250g caster sugar
3g mixed spice
Pinch of salt
5 eggs



Method

1. Preheat oven to 155°C. Grease and line a 23cm springform cake tin
2. Place the teabags in a large bowl and add the boiling water to make a very strong tea. Add the mixed fruit and leave to soak until cold, or preferably overnight. Then remove the teabags and stir the mixture well
3. Place the flour and butter in a large bowl and rub together with the fingertips until it looks like breadcrumbs.
4. Add the sugar, salt and mixed spice and stir well. Add the eggs and soaked fruit, along with any remaining tea liquid and stir well
5. Pour the mixture into the prepared cake tin and level the top. Bake in the centre of the oven for around an hour or until the cake is golden, well risen and a skewer inserted in the middle comes out clean. Remove from oven and leave to cool in the tin.
6. Remove from tin.

and enjoy! Linda

Mad Hemsby Vintage Tea

at Hemsby Village Hall
on Saturday 3rd June, starting at 2:00pm
Individual ticket price £5.99

This special *Vintage Tea* event is organised by Hemsby Events Committee and all proceeds will be towards holding the Hemsby Music Festival on 19th August where a charity will be nominated to run alongside.

Bird Life by Judy Clift

Six stalwart members of the Hobby Club assembled on the Staithe at nine am on the first Saturday in May. By rights it should have been five am for the dawn chorus.....but at that time of the morning it was cold, and though it was less windy it was raining. And none of us could be called spring chickens.

By nine, it was less cold, with a slight breeze. The sun did graciously come out for a couple of minutes when we eventually got to Dungeon Corner. Nothing daunted, however, we saw and heard all manner of birds. Immediately there were wood pigeons and collared doves, goldfinches and greenfinches; in the fields before the mill, were greylag and Canada geese, jackdaws, rooks, crows with a few starlings; a pied wagtail perched on the quay heading. We were just past the boathouse when a sparrowhawk swooped low across the reeds and flew swiftly northeast; our first sedge warbler chattered at full tilt and then flew up and parachuted back down into not the reeds; before long, the slightly different, slower song of a reed warbler sounded from low within the reeds. Always confusing calls at first these two at first, but should you see them there is no confusion: the Sedge warbler has a white eyestripe, and a bright red gape when singing, the reed warbler is a uniform buff brown with a paler throat.

By the South Broad, chaffinch, willow warbler, chiffchaff and black cap were singing in the trees, while on the broad we spotted a dozen or so swans, a great crested grebe, some mallard, several tufted duck, a pochard and a handful of coot. Some greylag geese flew off, squawking loudly and a few swallows and a house martin swooped overhead.

Robin, dunnoek and a blackbird sang in the hedges, and blue and great tits busied themselves in the trees along the path towards Dungeons, a great spotted woodpecker drummed in the distance.

On arrival, green and goldfinches were flitting from tree to tree, singing; a Cetti's warbler called explosively from the undergrowth; an arctic tern flew gracefully

towards us and on, and three whimbrel, smaller relatives of the curlew, and on passage at this time of year, flew low over us calling. Whimbrel are also known as seven whistlers, because, surprise surprise, as well as a curlew like call, they emit a series of seven whistling notes.

A shelduck flew over, a green woodpecker called, a crow sat on its treetop nest as six lapwing wheeled behind it over the Starch Grass, cormorants flew over and a heron flew lazily eastward. We were turning to retrace our steps when there was a very faint but unmissable boom: a bittern! What a treat. We heard it twice more, and louder each time as we neared the South Broad.



Throughout the walk there were marsh harriers: two apparently on the nest, two more still displaying to each other; reed buntings perched, calling, on top of reeds and small willow bushes, numerous wrens calling loudly from deep in the reeds and a pair of buzzards soaring overhead.

It was good in fun and in good company. Such was the concentration that it took an hour longer than expected.

Needless to say, the following day there were five black terns over the broad and whitethroats had returned, while the previous week a white tailed eagle had been seen over West Somerton.....but that is birding for you: the ones that get away.....

Death in the dunes by Linda Lewin

If, like me, you've found yourself holding your breath whilst watching an episode of one of the gripping murder/mystery thrillers which have been on TV recently, you've probably also wondered where the writers get their ideas from!

Many are based on true stories and I recently came across a report of a local unsolved crime of the early 1900's in which Great Yarmouth was the centre of the nation's attention!

Fleet Street descended on the town in search of the gory details surrounding the murder of two young women whose bodies were discovered on the South Beach. The chief suspect was Herbert Bennett. He was a bit of a chancer, good looking and with a reasonable standard of education he fooled people into thinking he was a successful businessman. In reality he just got involved in any "get rich quick" scheme that came his way.

Whether his wife, Mary Jane, who he married in 1897, was a party to Herbert's dodgy dealings, or whether she only realised after the wedding what kind of man she had married is not clear, but it may have been her influence which led Herbert to getting a job at the Woolwich Arsenal.

This could have been an attempt on his part to toe the line, now that Mary Jane had a baby, or was it a cover for something more sinister?

After all, the Woolwich Arsenal was at the time making ammunition to be used in the Boer War. Apparently Herbert had recently visited Cape Town so could he have been a spy for the Boers?

Before long, Herbert told Mary that travelling to Woolwich from their home in Bexleyheath, Kent was getting too much and he decided to take lodgings in London. Mary Jane and baby Ruby appeared to be quite happy with this arrangement and it suited Herbert as he was living a double life, also being in a relationship with a young parlour maid named Alice Meadows.

To celebrate his "engagement" to Alice, who had no idea that her new "fiancé" was a married man, let alone a father, Herbert took her on holiday to, where else, but Great Yarmouth. They stayed in single rooms in a respectable hotel and from all accounts seemed a normal happy pair of young lovers.

It seems likely that Herbert had another source of income as he was apparently sending money to Mary as well as buying clothes and jewellery for the new love of his life.

Things must have become rather complicated for Herbert with talk of marriage to Alice on the horizon, so when Mary indicated that she thought a holiday by the sea would be nice for herself and Ruby, perhaps this looked like a good opportunity to remove Mary from his life – or did Mary have her own secret agenda?

Had she got wind of what was going on in Woolwich and knew about the earlier holiday with Alice?

Naturally, Great Yarmouth was again the chosen venue for Mary and Ruby's trip to the seaside. They arrived on the 15th September 1900 and stayed at a B&B owned by a Mr & Mrs John Rudrum at Row 104, between South Quay and Middlegate. Strangely, Mary gave her name as Mrs Hood and described herself as a widow from York.

Mother and daughter appeared to be enjoying their holiday, even being snapped building sandcastles by a beach photographer! On the evening of 22nd September Mary put Ruby to bed and got herself dressed up to go into town. She was seen outside the Town Hall, possibly waiting for someone to arrive on a train? Later she was reportedly seen in the town kissing a man, but whether it was Herbert or someone else is a matter for speculation.

The following morning, young John Morton went to the beach for an early morning swim and stumbled across Mary's body,

Coming to your TV soon?



Mary Jane Bennett

laying in the sand dunes. She had been strangled with a mohair bootlace.

Having given a false name it was several weeks before police were able to identify Mary's body. They traced her from a laundry mark in her clothing, which led them to the Bennett residence in Bexley Heath. By this time, Herbert, seemingly unconcerned by his wife's absence, had removed all his belongings from the marital home.

A search of his lodgings revealed a necklace belonging to Mary. The Yarmouth landlady testified that Mary had been wearing this when she left to go out on that fateful evening.

The conclusion was that Herbert had travelled to Great Yarmouth, killed Mary and returned to London with her necklace. He was arrested for her murder and tried at the Old Bailey.

The case became notorious as the London newspapers seemed hell bent on waging a campaign to convict Bennett, disregarding any evidence in his favour and even paying witnesses to tell their stories prior to the trial.

In Bennett's defence, records seemed to prove that he was working at the Woolwich Arsenal at the time Mary was murdered some 120 miles away and a further witness said that he had spoken to Herbert on the night in question, well after the time that the last train to Yarmouth would have steamed out of Liverpool Street. And there was nothing to suggest that he had ever owned a pair of boots with mohair laces!

His downfall was the photograph taken on the beach which was found in Mary's B & B. This clearly showed Mary wearing the necklace found at Herbert Bennett's lodgings in London. His counter argument was that it was a duplicate necklace which he had purchased as a gift for his new girlfriend. This was one of the first trials in which photographic evidence was used.

Despite his continued protestations of innocence and lack of confession, the jury remained unconvinced and Bennett was convicted of murder and hanged at Norwich gaol on 21st March 1901. As the black flag was raised, signifying that the death penalty had been carried out, the flag pole snapped, viewed by many as an indication that an innocent man had been hanged.

Mary was laid to rest in the cemetery between Kitchener and Estcourt Road and her grave is marked by a coffin shaped stone with her name on it.

Many people remained unconvinced of Herbert Bennett's guilt and a sense of unease prevailed in the town for some years with the underlying fear that there may still be a killer at large.

Unsurprisingly then, the news of the discovery of the body of 18 year old Dora Green on 14th July 12 years later, found on the dunes and strangled with a mohair bootlace, spread around the town like wildfire.

This caused quite a furore both locally and nationally as it appeared that quite possibly an innocent man had been hanged for a murder he did not commit. The crime reporters flooded the town in search of a story, well aware of the grave doubts about the conviction of the man whose life had ended at the gallows in Norwich prison 11 years earlier.

Yarmouth was once more in the limelight, but not for the best of reasons.

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A short history of British coins

On July 1st 1690, two armies faced each other across the River Boyne, just to the north of Dublin in Ireland. The commander on the north side was William of Orange, a Dutch Protestant, who had recently been crowned King of England, Scotland and Ireland. The commander on the south side was James II, the deposed Catholic king, who had lost his throne to William only the year before. The two men were linked by blood and family ties. James II was both the uncle of William of Orange and his father-in-law. In 1688, William was invited to seize James II's throne by Protestant nobles who feared James was founding a Catholic royal dynasty.

After four hours of fierce fighting James gave the order for his army to retreat and William's victory ended James II's hope of regaining his throne and he fled to exile in France. The Battle of the Boyne was for the last time, two crowned kings of England, Scotland and Ireland would meet in battle. William was now securely in control of England, Scotland and Ireland and he ruled jointly with his wife Mary (James II's daughter). Their reign marked an important transition from the direct rule of monarchs like James towards a more parliamentary system.



William and Mary on a coin from 1694

During the reign of William III and Mary II coins were issued in their name featuring conjoined busts of husband and wife together for the first time since the reign of the first Mary and her husband Phillip. When Mary II died of smallpox in 1694, William's portrait was featured alone until his own death in 1702. During this period, a great recoinage was implemented, with the

intention of replacing all the worn and usually very badly clipped issues with good milled issues. The old hammered issues were recalled at face value for a short time before they were demonetised, with the difference in their face and intrinsic value made up for by a new window tax, which was implemented to finance the recoinage (and which wasn't repealed until the 1850s).

When William died in 1702 he was succeeded by Mary's younger sister Anne. Despite seventeen pregnancies by her husband, Prince George of Denmark, she died in 1714 without any surviving children and was the last monarch of the House of Stuart. Under terms of the Act of Settlement 1701, she was succeeded by her second cousin George of the House of Hanover, who was a descendant of the Stuarts.

During Anne's reign the currencies of England and Scotland were finally unified. For a short time, the Edinburgh mint continued to issue coins with the letter 'E' under the bust, until it was finally closed in 1709. No half-pennies were issued during her reign, and the only farthing issue was a pattern struck in her last year, 1714.



A Vigo issue coin from 1703

Also notable are the 'Vigo' issues, struck in the year 1703 featuring the word 'Vigo' under the bust, which were made from bullion captured by the Royal Navy from the Spanish and French at the Battle of Vigo Bay. During George I's reign (1714 – 1727) Sir Isaac Newton was, for a time, Master of the Royal Mint and he informally placed Britain on the gold standard in 1717, fixing the value of the Guinea at 21/-.

From William and Mary to George III

The reign of George II (1727-1760) saw another interesting issue of coins, the 'Lima' issues of 1745/46, which were struck from gold and silver captured from the Spanish by Commodore Anson and his squadron of ships operating in the Pacific during the War of Jenkin's Ear.



A Lima issue coin from 1746

The reign of George III (1760 – 1820) saw a major crisis in the state of Britain's currency. Relatively few issues of silver or copper were struck and a high-proportion of those circulating were poor quality counterfeits (counterfeiting had always been a problem down the ages, and still is, but it was particularly rampant in this period). The rising price of metal and the decrepit state of the Royal Mint, which used machinery and technology that had changed little since 1662, meant that the mint was no longer capable of striking large numbers of coins to the required standard to meet demand. The only coins which were struck consistently and regularly in the early part of George III's reign were gold issues, required for foreign trade and by the better-off (such as those who served in the higher levels of government) for higher level transactions.

The Government made attempts to alleviate the shortage of silver by countermarking Spanish dollars and circulating them at 4/9d, but for smaller change, merchants, tradesmen and local public institutions were compelled to take matters into their own hands by issuing their own copper tokens. Known as 'Conder' tokens (after James Conder, an Ipswich Drapery owner who collected and catalogued tokens as well as issuing his own), these tokens were used as a form of advertisement or self-promotion for those individuals and institutions issuing them and, being manufactured using the latest technology of the industrial revolution, were usually struck to a much higher standard than official legal tender issues! Unfortunately, a lack of proper coinage remained a problem, partly due to the fact that the token issues were generally not accepted outside the area where those issuing them were based.



A Coventry halfpenny token depicting Lady Godiva who is reputed to have ridden naked through the city as a protest against taxes imposed by her husband on tenants.

Eventually, The Government turned its attention more seriously towards the dearth of copper change by contracting Matthew Boulton (a token manufacturer based in Birmingham) to strike copper penny and two penny pieces at the Soho Mint. Known as 'cartwheels', these large-sized coins had a copper content close in intrinsic worth to their face value as a deterrent to forgery, but their large size and rising copper prices ensured that they were of limited success as currency.

(To be continued)

Figgies at Felbrigg and clean skirting boards

Housekeeping has never been high on my agenda and life is too short to do it just for my benefit, so in an effort to "Keep up Appearances" I have been letting my spare room through Airbnb. A real incentive to get the polish out and avoid bad reviews!

I heard about Airbnb through friends and on a couple of occasions stayed in flats in Manchester which were part of the redundant warehouses redevelopment scheme. Manchester is a popular place to visit and the guys I stayed with had plenty of guests. I remember a conversation with one host who grew several different types of tomato on the balcony outside my room, 6 floors up. I liked the original concept it was set up for – staying in people's homes relatively cheaply and far from the impersonal nature of motels.

Airbnb has had some bad press recently. Properties being wrecked by wild parties and worse. If my mother was alive she would have a lot to say on the subject of them being used for ill repute.

My experiences, after frantic efforts to keep the house clean and tidy, have been very different.

I've met a variety of interesting people, usually there is a lot to talk about and it seems more like having friends in the house.

Moira and Nigel, who visited in May in their car "Roddy" were no exception. Roddy is Moira's pride and joy. Named after her father, he is a 1991 Nissan Figaro, affectionately known as Figgies. They were in Norfolk to meet up at The Dunes Cafe at Winterton with other members of the Figaro Car Club and then drive in convoy to Felbrigg for lunch. The event given the title of "Figgies at Felbrigg".

Needless to say, there was a lot to talk about, especially when I discovered that Moira was a fellow lover of charity shops with a good eye for a bargain. Figgie owners dress up in retro clothes to match their cars and Moira had found a lovely leather coat in black with a white trim. All this resulted in them being the last to arrive, even though they were staying the closest, when eventually they drove off with a smart wicker hamper for picnic lunch strapped on the back. Many people waving as the convoy of 13 quirky, colourful little cars eventually wound its way along the coast road and through the Norfolk countryside to Felbrigg.





Nigel and Moira in their retro gear at The ACE Cafe in London this in April with an immaculate “Roddy”

The Nissan Figaro was built to cash in on the classic car boom in Japan in the early 1990's. It was marketed in four colours to represent the four seasons. Spring - Emerald Green. Summer - Pale Aqua. Autumn - Topaz Mist. Winter - Lapis Grey. Since then they have been customised in a variety of colours including bright pink. A fun car, luxuriously equipped with leather seats, air conditioning, CD player and complete slide back open roof and that was over 25 years ago. 20,000 were built with prospective purchasers having to enter a lottery to purchase one.

There are around 4,500 Figaros in the UK, most are “grey imports” as the model was never officially sold here. The cars range in price from around £2,000 to over £20,000. However, you

might struggle to find a Figaro for sale; once you've bought one, it seems you're unlikely to sell it. I wonder how many other nineties cars you can say that about...

As roadsters go, Nissan's wilfully retro Figaro is a remarkable success story and enjoys cult status largely due, in this country at least, to the super-enthusiastic owners club that Moira and Nigel are members of.

I wonder who I will meet next? Among my guests, I've had an author, whose book I have; long distance cyclists, a nuclear scientist, wedding guests and several overseas visitors.

My skirting boards have never been so clean!

News from St Mary's Church

Services at St Mary's West Somerton and All Saints Horsey in June 2017

| | | | |
|--------|------------------|---------|--|
| Sunday | 4 th | 10:30am | Holy Communion (BCP) – Somerton Church |
| Sunday | 11 th | 9:30am | Holy Communion (BCP) – Horsey Church |
| Sunday | 18 th | 10:30am | Family Service – Somerton Church |
| Sunday | 25 th | 6:00pm | Evensong – Horsey Church |

Weekday Service

Tuesdays 9:00am Morning Prayer – Somerton Church

Everyone is welcome at all our services.

For further information please ring the churchwardens on 01493 393579 or 01493 393314

Flowers in the Church – During May flowers were placed in the church in memory of RICHARD ASHTON, ADRIAN SHEPHERD and DORIS SKOYLES.

From the Registers – The baptism of AVA CATHERINE MARGARET WRIGHT, aged 1 year old, took place during the Family Service at St Mary's on Sunday 21st May. Revd Albert Cadmore conducted the baptism and service.

Archdeacon's Visitation Service – Pauline Burckitt and Peter Cator along with elected and re-elected churchwardens from the other 3 churches of the Flegg Coastal Benefice joined other churchwardens in a packed Norwich Cathedral on Tuesday 16th May at the Archdeacon's Visitation service to admit them to their year of office.

The office of churchwarden dates from the 13th century, originally known as 'church-reeves', they are the legal guardians of a church's movable goods, and represent the church in the local community. Historically there are two types of churchwarden, the people's warden and the rector's warden. Churchwardens are elected annually under the provisions of the Churchwardens Measure 2001 by the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, as the senior laypeople of the parish and congregation. They are the Bishop's officers, and are admitted to office each year by the Archdeacon, on behalf of the Bishop. Their first responsibility is to the Bishop, usually via the Archdeacon. They, with the parish priest, are generally responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the parish. Churchwardens' responsibilities encompass many aspects of church life, including giving support to their priest, caring for the congregation, encouraging people in the Christian faith, ensuring adequate provisions are in place for administration and finance of the parish and care and upkeep of the church building, its contents and the churchyard.

Have you thought of helping out at St Marys? – During the year there are many routine maintenance jobs to do both inside and outside the church and in the churchyard. Would you like to volunteer to help a small dedicated team with hedge cutting, grass strimming, car park upkeep and spring cleaning the church. If you would like to help please give Pauline (393579) or Peter (749816) a call.

Revd Selwyn Tillet writes

Two years ago with an election imminent the bishops of the Church of England wrote to all its members expressing the hope for politicians to find a fresh moral vision of the kind of country we want to be. Now both the archbishops have written a similar letter reminding Christians of our responsibilities at this time.

They remind us that the first obligation for Christians is to pray for those elected. We recognise the responsibilities and the complexity of the issues that political leaders face. Our second obligation is to set aside apathy and cynicism and to participate, and encourage others to do the same. The Christian virtues of love, trust and hope should guide and judge everyone's actions and the use of our votes, as well as the actions and policies of all those who are seeking election to Parliament and to lead our country.

Christians have particular reasons, based in the undisputed teaching of Jesus in the gospels, to share - I quote - a deep sense of living not only for ourselves, and a deeper concern for the weak, poor and marginalised, and for the common good. In our modern society that will include education for all, the need for urgent serious solutions to housing challenges, and a confident and flourishing health service that gives support to all, especially the vulnerable, not least at the beginning and end of life. We welcome strangers in need, and we are obliged to offer a generous and hospitable welcome to refugees and migrants, recognising that this is not without cost.

These deep virtues and practices of love, trust and hope are not the preserve of any one political party, but go to the heart of who we are as a modern country in all its diversity.

So, to quote what I wrote before - if you're a Christian then there's no part of your life that isn't open to God's interest and influence. You try to shape your conduct and attitudes in accordance with what we know of Jesus's own teaching and example. This is true of what we think and do politically as much as in any other sphere. Just being a Christian in the first place is a political statement; it's a clear declaration of the kind of world you believe to be God's intention. Jesus after all talked about what he called 'the kingdom of God' becoming a social reality on earth – in people's real lives – and not just in heaven.

If you're a Christian, you don't leave Jesus outside when you go into the polling booth. You take his teaching and example with you, and use your vote thoughtfully, prayerfully, and with the good of others in mind. Look again at Jesus's standards and see how the manifestoes match up. And if you're not a Christian, but you care about the things our society is based on now and into the future – ask yourself what the candidates really mean by words like justice, freedom, and equality.

Selwyn

Gardener's Corner with Richard Walters

As the weather finally starts to really warm up and the last risk of frost fades away, with a bit of luck and planning your garden should really start to look great and provide fragrance throughout the summer and autumn.

Nothing happens by chance alone though, and there's loads of time left to make amends if you think your garden needs something to lift your spirits. Annual summer bedding, although much maligned in some quarters, is inexpensive and provides instant colour and warmth whilst you wait for other later flowering perennials to establish.

Hanging baskets are great fun too, and you've still got time to plant up your own with plugs from the garden centre for a wonderful long lasting display. I love hanging baskets and if I forget to plant them it's annoying, so I shall be making this a 'hanging basket year', for sure.



Making your own hanging basket is so much more satisfactory than buying one.

I have been busy in May lifting, dividing and transplanting spring planted bulbs such as crocuses, snowdrops and snakehead fritillaries. Like so many things in gardening, this involves planning and looking forward to what's coming, whilst never forgetting to enjoy the here and now (or mindfulness as I believe it's referred to these days...).

Garden maintenance still needs ongoing work however, and spring flowering shrubs such as Kerria and Forsythia should be pruned now, if not already. Try pruning at different levels for layered flowering next year. Other shrubs needing pruning include Weigela, Photinia, Camellia and evergreen Euonymus amongst others.



Kerria pruned at different levels ensures flowers are produced at all heights.

There's still time to plant annual seeds directly outside. Why not try Calendula (marigolds), Godetia and Larkspur for a late summer and autumn flower display? For the truly far-sighted amongst you, planting spring flowering seeds such as Aquilegia, Bellis, Campanula and Delphiniums for overwintering indoors will give you great early colour next spring.

Lastly, but definitely not least, don't forget to keep sowing seeds in the vegetable garden. As Del Boy used to say "You know it makes sense"!

For any practical assistance or advice feel free to give me a call (07801 252 972) or email richard@thenorfolkgardener.com.

Death in the dunes by Linda Lewin

Rumours began to circulate relating to Mary Bennett's death, including a sighting of a man running through the town with only one bootlace and a couple in a dishevelled state one of whom was overheard to say "you didn't have to go and kill her!"

A couple of men confessed to the murder of Dora Green but they were proved to be attention seekers who were elsewhere at the time.

The murder of Dora Green remains unsolved to this day.

I wonder what happened to little Ruby? What did the future hold for the orphan of a murdered mother and a father hanged for killing his wife?

Perhaps the story will form the basis of a major TV series and then we will find out!

Peeping out of the corn on Chapel Field



Mike Lees snapped this little fella (with his smartphone) peeping out of the growing corn on Chapel Field on 17th May. We don't know who was the more surprised at this encounter but it does highlight the unexpected joys out there when strolling around the village or walking the dog. So, keep your smartphone at the ready.

Is my duck dead? – A cautionary tale

A woman brought a very limp duck to a veterinary surgeon. As she laid her pet on the table, the vet pulled out his stethoscope and listened to the bird's chest.

After a moment or two, the vet shook his head and sadly said, *"I'm sorry, but your duck has passed away."*

The distressed woman wailed, *"Are you sure?"*

"Yes, I am sure. Your duck is dead," replied the vet.

"How can you be so sure?" she protested. *"I mean, you haven't done any testing on him or anything. He might just be in a coma or something."*

The vet rolled his eyes, turned around and left the room. He returned a few minutes later with a black Labrador retriever. As the duck's owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his front paws on the examination table and sniffed the duck from top to bottom.

He then looked up at the vet with sad eyes and shook his head. The vet patted the dog on the head and took it out of the room.

A few minutes later he returned with a cat. The cat jumped on the table and also delicately sniffed the bird from head to foot. The cat sat back on its haunches, shook its head, meowed softly and strolled out of the room. The vet looked at the woman and said, *"I'm sorry, but as I said, this is most definitely, 100 percent certifiably, a dead duck."*

The vet turned to his computer terminal, hit a few keys and produced a bill, which he handed to the woman.

The duck's owner, still in shock, took the bill. *"£550!"* she cried, *"£550 just to tell me my duck is dead?!"*

The vet shrugged, *"I'm sorry. If you had just taken my word for it, the bill would have been £50, but with the Lab Report and the Cat-Scan, it's now £550."*

It pays to "shop around"

Many in Somerton rely on oil for their heating and finding the best price can be difficult. A number of 'local' suppliers have common ownership, so do not compete with each other. My method of obtaining the best deal is by looking up online prices and getting my preferred supplier to match or beat the price.

For example – 1,000 litres on 3rd May – total including 5% VAT. The local supplier's *normal* price was given as £439.95. An online search produced the following prices,
www.boilerjuice.com £429.87
www.directoil.co.uk £415.80
www.fueltool.co.uk £393.75 (subsequently matched by my preferred supplier)

I have looked at fuel clubs but have been unable to get lower prices through them.

If anyone has a method of obtaining better prices please let me know.

Mike

John Scotney (1924 – 2016) by JHF

Somerton News has received the sad news that John Scotney who wrote several pieces for the newsletter about his time in the Merchant Navy in WWII died, aged 92, in late December in hospital in Ontario, Canada. John's long-time friend John Finnie of Martham, who provided illustrations to the WWII stories, passed on the sad news after receiving a call from Freda Scotney. John Finnie has written these words for Somerton News about his friend.

My friend John Scotney has died. I've just heard. I am inclined to sadness, but not too much. He was 92 and had lived a full life, not lacking in adventure, danger, happiness and tragedy and his simple Christian faith sustained him until the end.

I first met him in person whilst walking back from Leicester city centre when a little car skewed to a stop and offered me a lift. It was a long walk back, about 4 miles, so I was glad to say "yes please". John was a regular at Glenfield Methodist Church and, although I'm an Anglican of sorts I probably knew more Methodists in Glenfield than Anglicans and was often in their church. I had seen John walking about in his white baseball cap but never to speak to. John's Christian faith was, I think, without deep theological perplexities. It had taken him through the horrors of war, experiences he seldom mentioned and the profound sadness he and Freda suffered at the death of their son, a teacher, and then the death of their daughter in Canada, where they moved to in the 1990s to be with her.

John hid his organising ability and logical mind wonderfully. Although he gained a place at the grammar school the cost was prohibitive and his parents could not afford to kit him out. His father was an engine driver, a fine looking man known to his colleagues as *Mechanical Jack* because of his encyclopaedic knowledge of railway engines.

After elementary school John moved to London and worked as a barber cutting hair. Then came the war and service in the Merchant Navy, as a steward to officers on a

troopship; as a helmsman steering a ship through the Suez Canal with someone armed to shoot him if he tried to sabotage and block the canal by steering into the bank; then being torpedoed and having his pay stopped – if you're off your ship and in the water you're not working! Then peace and night school studying for accountancy qualifications.

He had a calm, unruffled good nature and courage, facing the vicissitudes and limitations of getting old with the same good qualities. Freda had these qualities too. She told me how the hospital looked after John "wonderfully" and how her new one-bedroom apartment had been newly decorated for her and she still had the same lovely view across the lake (Ontario) toward Toronto. "I know" she said "that GOD is looking after me." It has been a privilege to know these good people.



Mechanical Jack
John Edward Thurlby Scotney

Man cannot live by flapjack alone – but it does help sometimes.

One Saturday morning a few weeks ago my husband thought we should go out, in spite of the fact that we or rather he, had just taken delivery of two tonnes of top soil mixed with mushroom compost which he had begun to move from the front drive around to the back garden using a shovel and a wheel barrow.

I packed a picnic and after having to make a visit to our daughter's we were off in the general direction of a nearby market town, that has quite a bit to offer on a Saturday morning and while I was wondering to which particular part of the town we were heading, my husband drove straight through. It's not that we don't communicate with each other but there are times and this was one of them, when I like to be taken by surprise as to our destination. By this time I had guessed where we were heading and sure enough we were at a large mansion but not with the intention of wandering inside the house but rather walking around the grounds. It was colder than we had hoped so we plumped for eating our picnic in the car. My husband is always fascinated by the comings and goings of the general public and often quotes Shakespeare's Anthony and Cleopatra Act 1, Scene 1 where Anthony declares *"Tonight we will wander through the streets and note the qualities of the people."* Needless to say my husband doesn't really take this too literally.

Having eaten our picnic I had the idea of visiting the coffee shop housed in a barn a few yards away from where we had parked. If we didn't do that I fear we would have fallen asleep. As it happened I seemed to be ordering and paying for the coffee as I was the one with the money. While I was queuing at the counter I wondered whether or not my husband would like a piece of flapjack to accompany his coffee. By this time he was a few yards away in a different part of the barn. Fortunately I was able to catch his eye, this is a rare occurrence. Seizing the moment I flapped one arm by my side and drew a "J" in the air. Amazingly he knew what I meant, nodded enthusiastically and then shook with laughter. Anyone watching him must have wondered what on earth he was doing.

As we were enjoying the coffee and flapjacks I spotted someone who had lived in the village that we left two years ago. We chatted for a bit as you do to people who have lived in the same village about whether or not we had been back to the area. She went on to talk about how they were enjoying a coffee after their long walk to see the bluebells. I was amazed, I love bluebells but hadn't found any since moving to our present home.

After trying to remember the route that she had given us we set off to find the woods where the bluebells were growing. I don't think that we took the most direct route but it didn't matter because we walked over the type of terrain that we hadn't walked on for a long time. Walking through a field that had not been ploughed but where thistles and nettles were just emerging and walking alongside a field where sugar beet plants were just poking through the soil was to us a wonderful prelude to what we were approaching. Arriving in the wood the site of so many bluebells seemed unbelievable, the perfume was amazing as was that particular deep blue of the petals as the unfold their heads. It was such a good place to be at that moment, the sort of place that you promise yourself you will return to and make it an annual event. After taking the inevitable photos we made our way back to the car, taking a slightly different route.

Knowing that there was a plant sale at another grand mansion not far from our home we moved on to it. Somehow buying plants after seeing the bluebells seemed an irrelevance so we just looked around the stalls to get ideas and my husband suggested we retire to the tea shop. Sitting down to a cup of tea this time and another piece of flapjack my husband gave me the idea for this piece. He said, *"Man doesn't live by flapjack alone but sometimes it helps."* After all the walking we had done I was inclined to agree with him.

Margaret David

Cassie's 26 mile marathon walk

Cassie Tillett raised over £750 in donations and gift aid for Pancreatic Cancer UK from friends who supported her challenge of completing the Thames Bridge Trek in September – when she walked over 15 miles.

Since then Winterton people have often seen Cassie, in all weathers, striding around the village, on the beach and surrounding countryside. This has been as part of a long-term health and fitness drive, but also working towards her target to “walk a marathon” – as opposed to running it.

On Saturday 3rd June Cassie and several friends will undertake a 26 miles walk on part of The Ridgeway in Berkshire – from Wendover to Wallingford.

Often described as Britain's oldest road, the Ridgeway follows ancient tracks and paths previously walked by herdsman and soldiers as long ago as 5,000 years.

For Cassie this is another personal challenge and she is also fundraising in memory of Clare, a dear girlfriend and business colleague, who died in December aged 59. A “living legacy”, in the form of a fund to help people who “change direction” in mid-life, as Clare did, has been set up and this is the fund that Cassie is supporting.

If you would like to support Cassie and the fund please visit;

www.gofundme.com/marathonforclare
or you can drop a donation in to The Rectory in Winterton.

Ludham Players – a new theatre group launched

Ludham Players is a new theatre group which has been formed due to the retirement of Gill Jackson and Judy Ingram, who have decided to wind up their company, The Broadland Hams. The new group is mounting a production of Cinderella in December, so if you fancy “*treading the boards*”, back stage, scenery/prop making and painting, makeup, sewing or front of house, there is something for everyone. They would really appreciate a call from you. Come and be part of a social group of people who will be more than just “*am drammers*” and who will probably be affectionately known as the “*L.Ps*”.

As a fledgling society they have very limited funds and so there will be an annual membership fee (£10 per adult) to cover insurance and a small weekly sub to pay for the hall rental (during rehearsal period), which includes tea, coffee and biscuits and often cake if there is a birthday to celebrate!

The new group will be fund raising throughout the year and their first extravaganza is a quiz night on the 1st July at 7:00pm in Ludham Village Hall. £3 per head or £10 for 2 adults and 2 children. Bring your own refreshments. Think of a team name (max 6 people) and go along and have some fun.

Please contact Jan on 07786 124095 or Val on 07543 904635 for more details.

Draft Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting on 2nd May

Cllr Richard Starling (Chairman) and Cllr Daniel Van de Bulk (Vice Chairman) were present together with Cllrs Judy Clift, Diane Crane, Brian Barker and Norman Grayling and Gill Lack (clerk). Borough Councillors Shirley Weymouth and James Bensly and PCSO Dent and one resident were also present. Cllr Trevor Jones and County Councillor Jonathon Childs had sent their apologies. The minutes of last year's Annual Parish Meeting had previously been approved and signed at the Parish Council meeting held on 5th July 2016.

Somerton Parish Council Minutes and Accounts were presented to the meeting. No comments were noted.

Somerton "Poors" Trustees Minutes Book. The Minute book was laid out. It was noted that Charity Land must be registered but it was stated in the minutes that the cost to do this was excessive. It was agreed that an email be sent to Mike Lees thanking him for making the minute book available and asking if the cost of registering the land could be further investigated and reported back to the Parish Council.

Somerton Staithe & Boat Dyke Trustees Minute Book & Accounts and to receive Trustees Annual Report. Minutes and accounts were circulated. No comments noted. **Somerton Village Hall** Accounts were not available at the meeting and it was agreed that Cllr Grayling should contact the secretary.

The Chairman of the Parish Council presented his report. The Parish Council continued to meet every two months and last year the council commented on 7 planning applications. It had been a somewhat frustrating year with Broads Authority related matters. There had not been any real progress with the Conservation area review. The Parish Council had responded to various consultation documents including the Broads Plan and the Local Plan. It is unfortunate to say the least that the Authority commissioned Staithe Report was undertaken without any consultation amongst the Parishes with the report not made available to the public during the limited consultation period. References to Somerton Parish Staithe were inaccurate. There may be an opportunity to correct this and other issues as the Authority's Planning Department wish to meet later this month but, it is my opinion that without elected representation, the Broads Authority remains an unaccountable quango with little interest in local people's concerns.

I thank our County Councillor Jonathon Childs for all his assistance throughout the year and in particular arranging with Karen O'Kane to give a presentation and answer questions on the future provision of broadband in Somerton. Also, help with highways related matters and in particular road safety concerns.

Likewise, thanks also to our Borough Councillors Shirley Weymouth and James Bensly for their attendance and help during the year. We do attend the Borough's Parish Liaison meetings but often information comes quicker and issues resolved by contacting Shirley and James.

We were again able to organise litter picks in the autumn and spring covering all road side verges in Somerton and we have purchased more pickers and hoops. The volume of litter and rubbish collected does not appear to be declining.

Barrie Sharrock must be thanked for carrying out the internal audit of Parish Council accounts again.

The Parish Council was able to obtain funding for the purchase of a new computer and printer/scanner and also 50% funding from the County Council for the purchase of a vehicle activated speed sign. This was mainly done thanks to our hard working Parish Clerk Gill who sadly will be leaving us after the September meeting. We must all thank Gill for having attended to Parish Council matters so professionally during her time as Clerk.

There has been a small deduction in Parish council tax for this coming year, however, future funding for the Parish from the Borough Council remains uncertain. We are fortunate to have a community fund paid by the Collis Lane wind turbine operators and this year we have been able to refurbish the Parish notice board, 3 seat benches on the Parish Staithe, contribute towards an electrical inspection at the Church and fund 50% of the forthcoming vehicle activated speed sign.

There have been problems getting footpath No.7 (river bank east side path) cut during the summer months and also the pollarding of the roadside willows on the Horsey Road. All we can do is to keep asking but at times communication with NCC highways department has been difficult especially the use of their online reporting system.

At last year's May meeting, the Parish Council agreed 7 priorities for Somerton. These priorities were briefly: to maintain effective sea defences; replace waste/refuse collection facility for visitors; provision of good broadband for residents and visitors; the establishment of an annual water quality report for the Thurne catchment; elected representation on the Broads Authority; reduce flood risk to properties from rainwater run-off and to keep light pollution to minimum levels to maintain dark skies/rural living expectancy.

Finally, I thank all members of the Parish Council for giving their time in attending the meetings and all those in the Parish who volunteer their time to continue to make Somerton a good place to live and visit.

Draft Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting on 2nd May

Those present at the preceding Annual Parish Meeting (see top of page 22) were present at this meeting which followed on immediately from the Annual Parish Meeting. Apologies were also the same.

Election of Chairman of Parish Council. The Clerk asked for nominations for a new Chairman and Cllr Barker nominated Cllr Starling which was seconded by Cllr Crane. It was resolved that Cllr Starling be re-elected as Chairman of Somerton Parish Council.

Election of Vice Chairman of Parish Council. The Chairman asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Cllr Barker nominated Cllr D Van de Bulk which was seconded by Cllr Clift. It was unanimously resolved that Cllr Van de Bulk be re-elected as Vice Chairman of Somerton Parish Council.

Minutes of Annual Parish Council meeting held on 10th May 2016. The Minutes had already been approved and signed at the Parish Council meeting held on 5th July 2016.

Review of delegation arrangements to committees, sub-committees, local authorities and external bodies. Cllr Clift agreed to continue as the Parish Councillor representative on the Patient Participation Forum, Cllr Starling agreed to continue to attend meetings of the Upper Thurne Working Group, Cllr Barker would continue to attend the meetings of the Broads Forum and Cllrs Starling and Crane agreed to continue to attend the Parish Liaison meetings. All members of the Parish Council agreed to the above arrangements.

Report from Borough Councillors/County Councillor if present. Cllr Weymouth noted that she had had discussions with the Broads Authority regarding the Local Plan. It was noted that Natalie Beale from the Broads Authority would attend a meeting with Cllrs Starling and Weymouth in the village hall on the 15th May at 2:00pm.

Report from PCSO. PCSO Dent reported that one crime of theft of heating oil had been reported since the last meeting and 6 calls for advice had been received; A resident had complained that drivers were mistaking her drive for the highway because of a misleading sign to Hemsby. This would be reported to Highways to ascertain if the sign could be relocated. The Chairman thanked PCSO Dent for attending the meeting and for delivering his report.

To confirm minutes of the previous meeting held 7th March 2017. Cllr Crane proposed the minutes of 7th March 2017 be confirmed and this was seconded by Cllr Grayling and unanimously agreed by the Council. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

To report matters arising not already on the agenda, for information only. Item 13. Sea Defences. Trampling of Marram Grass. A long and detailed response had been received from Rick Southwood (Natural England) which had already been circulated, together with a response from the Chairman of Horsey Parish Council and the Environment Agency. The reply from the Environment Agency is appended to these minutes (Appendix 1) and it was proposed that a copy also be published in the newsletter. Item 17. Correspondence. Item 1. It was noted that the Borough Councillor representative on the Broads Authority had done very little to take forward the Parish Council's concern. It was further noted that the meeting with the Broads Authority and Brandon Lewis had not been minuted and concern was expressed about the lack of minutes and notes.

Finance. To agree payments in accordance with the budget. Cllr Clift proposed a Motion that payments totalling £405.05 be made in accordance with the budget. This was seconded by Cllr Barker and unanimously agreed by Councillors. It was resolved that the Motion be carried.

The renewal for the insurance premium had not been received but it was agreed that the payment be approved as long as the premium was within budget. The cheque would be formally approved at the next meeting. It was also agreed that the payment for the SAM2 sign be made to Westcotec as long as the amount was between £3,100 and £3,400. The cheque would be formally approved at the next meeting. Cllr Clift proposed that Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement) and Section 2 (Accounting Statements) of the Annual Return and Accounts for the Year Ended 31.3.2017 be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Grayling and unanimously agreed by the Council. Thanks were given to Barrie Sharrock for his timely internal audit and signing of the accounts.

Recruitment of New Clerk. Update. It was agreed that an advert be placed in the Mercury in the situations vacant/jobs section and the clerk would provide details to Cllr Grayling. A deadline for applications would be set for the end of May with interviews to be held in June.

This report has been compiled by Somerton News from the **Draft Minutes** of the meeting held on 2nd May which were passed to Somerton News on 14th May. The clerk posted a definition of **Draft Minutes** on 16th July 2015 – *Draft Minutes are minutes which have been prepared by the Clerk, approved by the Chairman but **not yet approved** by the Parish Council. Once approved, the minutes will be amended, if necessary, and republished.*

SOMERTON DIARY JUNE 2017*You will receive a warm welcome at all these events!*

| Day | Date | Time | Event | Location |
|------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sunday | 4 th Jun | 10:30am | Holy Communion (BCP) | Somerton Church |
| Wednesday | 7 th Jun | 10:00am | Coffee Morning | Somerton Village Hall |
| Wednesday | 7 th Jun | 7:00pm | Village Hall AGM & Fete Mtg | Somerton Village Hall |
| Thursday | 8 th Jun | 7am - 10pm | Voting in the General Election | Somerton Village Hall |
| Saturday | 10 th Jun | 10am - midday | Weed Clearance | Somerton Staithe |
| Sunday | 11 th Jun | 10am - midday | Weed Clearance | Somerton Staithe |
| Sunday | 11 th Jun | 9:30am | Holy Communion (BCP) | Horseley Church |
| Sunday | 18 th Jun | 10:30am | Family Service | Somerton Church |
| Wednesday | 21 st Jun | 7:00pm | Hobby Club | Somerton Village Hall |
| Saturday | 24 th Jun | 3:30pm | Midsummer Mardles | Horseley Church |
| Sunday | 25 th Jun | 6:00pm | Evensong | Horseley Church |
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SOMERTON DIRECTORY**St Mary's Church Somerton**

| | | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------|------------------|--------|
| Priest in Charge | Revd Selwyn Tillett | 393430 | Church Warden | Pauline Burckitt | 393579 |
| | | | Church Warden | Peter Cator | 749816 |

All Saints Church Horseley

| | | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------|--------------|--------|
| Priest in Charge | Revd Selwyn Tillett | 393430 | Church Warden | Jenny Downes | 393314 |
| | | | Church Warden | Reg Payne | 393308 |

Village Hall

| | | | | | |
|----------|----------------|--------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Bookings | Deborah Ashton | 393784 | Chairman | Richard Starling | 393823 |
| | Jan Bowyer | 393514 | Vice Chairman | Daniel Van de Bulk | 748668 |
| | | | Clerk | Gill Lack | 01263 513925 |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|------------|--------------|--------|
| | | | Councillor | Brian Barker | 393826 |
|--|--|--|------------|--------------|--------|

Local Press Correspondent

| | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------|------------|-----------------|--------|
| Mercury & EDP | Norman Grayling | 393929 | Councillor | Trevor Jones | 393715 |
| | | | Councillor | Judy Clift | 393464 |
| | | | Councillor | Norman Grayling | 393929 |
| | | | Councillor | Diane Crane | 393641 |

Homewatch

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------|--|--|--|
| Coordinator | Diane Crane | 393641 | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------|--|--|--|

Borough & NCC Council

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|--------|--------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Somerton Staithe Trustees | | | Borough Councillor | James Bensley | 07715 678138 |
| Chairperson | Judy Clift | 393464 | Borough Councillor | Shirley Weymouth | 731625 |
| | | | NCC Councillor. | Ron Hanton | 720070 |

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| Lion Public House | | 393861 | Linda Lewin | | 393533 |
| | | | Gary Burckitt | | 393579 |
| Horseley Village News | | | Mike Lees | | 394926 |

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