

VIADUCT MAY 2020



Thank You NHS



OPEN IN SOMERTON as at 5pm Tuesday 21st April

FOOD STORES

Co-op Supermkt	270870	Personal visit Brunel	8am-6pm Mon-Sat 10am-4pm Sun
Cobbs W'foods	274066	Phone & collect/delivery	9am-4pm Mon-Fri 9am-2pm Sat
Nature's Pantry	274372	Phone & collect/delivery	9am-4pm Mon-Fri 9am-1pm Sat
Country Stores	07578 899123	Personal visit or phone	6am-9pm Daily
Stacey's Butcher	272285	Personal visit West St	7am-5pm Mon-Fri 7am-3pm Sat
Nisa Local	272376	Personal visit Langport Rd	8am-6pm Daily
Craft Ho Choc	07702 892265	Order only	www.crafthousechocolate.com

EAT AT HOME

Spice Gallery	274666	Phone & collect	12noon-2pm 5.30pm-1030pm Daily
I Love Pizza	07778 828786	Personal visit Cox's Yd	5pm-8pm Fri/Sat
Pizzaland	274454	Phone & collect/delivery	3pm-10.30pm Daily
Unicorn Hotel	272888	Phone & collect	4pm-8pm Th-Sa, 11am-3.45pm Sun roast

GENERAL

Overt Locke	272626	Phone & collect	10am-1pm, 2-4pm Mon-Fri
Post Office	274104	Personal visit	9.30-12.30&1.30-4 Mon-Fri 9.30-12 Sat
Stationery Ho	272438	Phone for delivery	9am-5pm Mon-Fri
Brunel Pet Ctr	274980	Personal visit/delivery	9am-3pm (2pm Weds 1pm Sat)
TSB Bank	765999	Personal visit	10am-12.30pm&1.30-4pm Mon-Fri
Boots Chemist	272465	Personal visit	10am-5pm Mon-Fri 9am-4pm Sat

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

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SOMERTON TOWN COUNCIL

All council meetings are cancelled until further notice. Town Clerk 01458 272236

Somerton Town Council would like to say thank you to all the Community Lifeline Volunteers, Love Somerton for their Food Bank, the Etsome Arms for the use of their premises as a volunteer hub and to the coordination groups Churches Together and Somerton Good Neighbour Scheme. The new website is now up and running www.somertontowncouncil.gov.uk

INCREASED DOG FOULING IN SOMERTON:

The Town Council has been responding to increasing calls for 'dog bins' to be emptied more regularly and to help reduce the anti-social effect of dog fouling on pavements and verges around the town. The Town Council has requested that South Somerset District Council help by emptying bins as often as possible within their current workload. There has been an increase in dog fouling at Perry Hill Lane where a minority of dog owners who seem to be oblivious to the problems that their selfish attitude can cause. We all wish to see Somerton kept clean and tidy for all residents.

FLY TIPPERS OPERATING IN SOMERTON ARE DESPOILING OUR COUNTRYSIDE!

Somerton Town Council is becoming increasingly concerned about fly-tipping locally as the problem is escalating. Due to coronavirus the Recycling Centre is closed until further notice. This is not an excuse to tip waste and despoil our countryside! We ask our residents to act responsibly and just hang on to it until restrictions are lifted. There are reported fly tips at Somerton Door, Ricksey Lane and along Perry Hill Lane.

Clearing up fly tipping is an expensive business. Somerton Town Council works closely with all other local authorities in Somerset to drive down dumping and deter, catch and convict fly-tippers. Efforts include better cooperation with police, warning signs and training for enforcement officers. Remember, if your goods are fly-tipped, **you** are responsible, so make sure that anyone taking your waste has a waste operator's licence, get a receipt and keep notes of people, contact details and vehicles. District Council <https://legacy.southsomerset.gov.uk/indigo.aspx?caseserviceid=453143>.

NEWS

SOMERTON MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL 2020

It is with great sadness that the Music & Arts Festival Committee has decided to postpone by one year the 2020 Festival. Many of the bands we had booked and lots of our sponsors & supporters have agreed to simply roll everything forward twelve months. We hope that by the autumn the situation will have improved so Oktoberfest can take place as planned in the Edgar Hall on Sat 10th October.

Somerstock Ticket Refunds

If you bought Somerstock tickets for cash at Palmer Snell you can either roll your tickets forward to Somerstock 2021 (at this year's price) or claim a refund. To claim a refund, contact Brian Dobson by email at SMAFtreasurer@gmail.com When you have returned your ticket and provided your bank details, Brian will arrange to transfer the ticket payment to your bank account. If we have not heard from you by Sunday 31st May we'll assume that you wish to roll your ticket forward to 2021.

SOMERTON WEATHER

The rainfall for March was less than 2 inches and suspect April will be even less!

KIRKHAM STREET FIELD COMMUNITY TRUST

New website www.kirkhamstreetfield.org.uk Please take a look. Margaret Chambers - Chairman

SOMERTON COMMUNITY FOODBANK

OPEN Monday 11.00-1.00pm at Etsome Arms Community Hub. Available at other times by calling: 07884 310 950 Delivery of food boxes also available at this time.

Huge thanks to all of the donations from the Coop collection box/Brunel Precinct and donations of money that we are receiving to help people in Somerton.

LOVE SOMERTON Facebook Page

We are putting up community information all of the time on the Facebook page. This includes answering questions, helping to make links within our community, promoting businesses in Somerton, community groups, supporting families and finding fun! Please feel free to contact us.

SOMERTON FRANÇAIS online evening classes for all ages and abilities. For details, email somertonfrancais@gmail.com or find us on Facebook

BUSES & TRAINS Services severely reduced. Check before you travel

LIBRARY SERVICES DURING LOCKDOWN The scope of online services and activities has been expanded; details are at: www.librarieswest.org.uk/client/en_GB/default

SOMERTON LIFELINE

Thought from a church Lifeline contact

In circumstances which none of us could have imagined or wanted it was a great privilege when Mo invited me and other church leaders as well the council and many other interested parties to meet and get involved in setting up a community support system as the threat of the pandemic loomed ever larger. I was very happy to act as one of the keyholder contact points and be part of the team as procedures and forms were developed and a system put in place. Thus thanks largely to Mo's inspiration we had a team of coordinators and volunteers called the Somerton Community Lifeline in place even before the 'lockdown' came into effect on Monday 23rd March.

Since then it has been hectic as each day I have received many calls asking for help in getting prescriptions or shopping at the same time having a chat, then processing them into the system whilst reassuring those who are anxious that that they will be getting what they need. Occasionally glitches need sorting usually through Mo as over the weeks the operation is fine tuned. Always there is a positive can do attitude nothing is too much trouble with an emphasis on the team working together, with encouragement coming from many directions including those we serve who invariably are so appreciative for the help given.

This has made the whole experience to date enriching in so many ways. Talking to so many people in the community many I don't know personally both on the lifeline and in the team has reaffirmed what a great place Somerton is to live. The good neighbourliness which exists all around evidenced by so many volunteers stepping forward to help the hundreds of folk using Lifeline but also so many supporting their next door neighbours. It lifts my spirit.

It also causes me as a Christian to give thanks to God for his image seen in so many ways in so many people whether of faith or not. As I write this it will be Good Friday tomorrow a reminder that the God I love volunteered to give his life for the many in order to save them and on Easter Sunday rose from the dead bringing new life and hope to the world. As I finish these somewhat profound reflections about being a keyholder (forgive me!) I want to celebrate being part of a team which expresses real love for all around them.

From someone who has received help

Many thanks to Somerton Community Lifeline and all its volunteers for collecting our prescriptions whilst we self isolate. You have allowed us to stay home and safe. We appreciate all your support.
Thank you. X
Karen and Gary

A Volunteer's Thoughts

It has been very rewarding helping the community where I have lived for only 2 years. As well as providing an essential service, it has also helped me feel more a part of Somerton.

NEED HELP?

Somerton Community Lifeline

Take HM Government's advice seriously-listen to the daily 5.00pm update. If you have medical issues ring NHS Direct on 111 or your surgery through Ask my GP. Please do not visit your surgery or A&E unless told to do so.

Here is a list of emergency numbers that you can ring if you need help getting food or prescriptions or something putting in the post box

Safe Contact Numbers (all 01458) :-

273403, 273568, 223094, 253414, 272029, 273653

You will be asked what you need, how you intend to pay and for a password. Your request will be passed to a volunteer who will try to deal with your request and if a visit is needed they will have your password. If you cannot phone, please contact a neighbour or someone else who will phone for you and pass your needs on to the team.

Shopping We have 2 teams of Shopping Coordinators, They go and get "Big Shops" on Mondays and Thursdays (**ORDERS BY 12 NOON LATEST**) and sort into individual orders which they then price up and deliver with a designated team of volunteers.

Prescriptions Boots in Somerton are informed the day before of our prescription requests, which the staff then make up for our volunteer Prescription Coordinator to collect at 10.00am the next day. Allocated volunteers are then called to collect and deliver the items.

District & County Council helpline 0300 790 6275 (7 days) 8.00am-6.00pm

If you care for someone and need additional information and guidance, please contact
Somerset Carers 08003 168 600 (24 hrs)

UPDATE FROM MO FLETCHER, CO-ORDINATOR OF SOMERTON LIFELINE

Somerton Community Lifeline answered its first request on 18th March and since then it has grown to over 100 volunteers and answered 400 requests. Many thanks to the town's churches acting as contact points, the Shopping Team, the Prescription Team and all the volunteers.

Main shops are on Mondays and Thursdays after 1 pm (**ORDERS BY 12 NOON LATEST**)

We need prescription requests in the day before they are due, so as we can pick up at 10 am the next day and do not need to queue - although emergency requests can be done. Ian Bellamy, Manager at Boots thanks all volunteers for their help and work for the people of Somerton.

Love Somerton has also started a food bank at the Etsome Arms Mondays 11.00am-1.00pm.

Many thanks to Somerton Town Council for their financial support and advice.

We've just received a £300 grant from Somerset Community Foundation. Many thanks!

Viaduct is published by Somerton Town Council

This month's editor Martyn Smith email:martyn.smith@somertontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cover photo: Applause for the NHS in Sevenacres taken by Phil Flowers