

# SOUTHAM NEWSLETTER

April 2020 – May 2020  
Issue No. 470



## **SOUTHAM COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP**

Following a request sent to the Residents' Email List some 40 individuals have volunteered to assist those in self-isolation. More would help fill some gaps in coverage so if you can spare the time to join the Group, follow the links on the village website at [www.southamtoday.org.uk](http://www.southamtoday.org.uk)

### **NEED OUR HELP?**

If you are in self-isolation and would like some support with shopping or collecting a prescription, as well as other activities such as posting mail, or just a friendly telephone chat, we are here to help. There is no charge.

send an email to [help@southamtoday.org.uk](mailto:help@southamtoday.org.uk)

or leave a message on any of the following telephone numbers:

**01242 516 187**

**07833 325 221**

**01242 582 846**

use the form on the website  
[www.southamtoday.org.uk/covid-help](http://www.southamtoday.org.uk/covid-help)

**Contributions for the June/July Newsletter by 15th May 2020**

# \*\*\*General Advice for Covid-19\*\*\*

## What should I do to prevent catching and spreading the virus?



Wash hands frequently with soap and water or use a sanitiser gel



Catch coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues



Throw away used tissues (then wash hands)



If you don't have a tissue use your sleeve



Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands



Avoid close contact with people who are unwell

## How to stick together, by staying apart



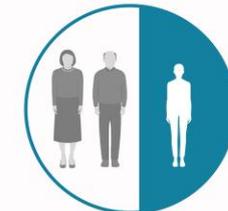
No handshakes, hugs or kisses unless you live together



Don't go to restaurants, bars, parties



Stay two metres apart where possible (trains, in meetings etc.)



Children may have to avoid grandparents for a while



Keep in touch with one another



If unwell, isolate yourself and your family

Source: NHS

BBC

BBC

## Contact

ednajsmith@btinternet.com  
Telephone – 01242 520 137  
Letters – 37 Ratcliff Lawns

*We are always pleased to receive and publish your letters. When writing, please provide a name, address and telephone number. On request, the name and address of correspondents will be withheld.*

## Edna's Epistle ...

**Brian Walker** of Southam Lane passed away unexpectedly on 31<sup>st</sup> January.

Brian and his wife Lynette, moved to Southam 42 years ago and raised their daughter, Kathryn, in the village.

Brian will be remembered by his family for his fondness for walking in the fields beside his house, with his binoculars, to watch the aeroplanes and birds.

We send our Condolences to Lynette and daughter Kathryn, family and friends.

## \*\*\*The Wizard of Gloz\*\*\*

Once again, our Panto was a great success with over **500** people able to see it, including many residents from Southam.

The children of Southam of which, and we have 11 who perform in our panto were brilliant, and are extremely sad that Southam Village Hall was not available this year. But, it is Prestbury Hall who have benefitted and are extremely pleased to have Southam Drama Group perform our Panto in their lovely old fashioned theatre complete with classic red velvet stage curtains.

“The best yet!”, were a few comments and we certainly think so, with a much larger cast, more sets and great music. The audience certainly got involved with the “Time Warp” and “We’re off to see the wizard the wonderful wizard of Gloz”. Many families from James Hopkins Trust again came and enjoyed the experience, of which **£1,346,33** will be donated to them. A tremendous effort we think you will agree.

So that's it for now, we will let you know some time in June the details about auditions for the next one.



The Wizard of Gloz  
2020



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# SOUTHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE REPORT

February & March 2020

Our February meeting was a discussion and voting on this year's WI resolutions. Factors for and against each were presented, followed by a short quiz on each.

We celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> birthday at the March meeting and were treated to some humorous poetry and drama readings by Joanna McKerlie. A birthday buffet followed with a beautiful birthday cake made by Deeno.

Our next meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April is "The Secret Life of Bees". This is an open meeting, so any partners or friends are also welcome to come along.

Our May meeting is on 5<sup>th</sup> May, the talk will be on "The History of Teddy Bears" and visitors are welcome. Remember to bring along your "special" teddy bear.

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Pauline Cook-McAnoy Tel. 01242 520133

Isabel Henchy - Tel. 01242 221440 - Email: [issy@henchy.uk](mailto:issy@henchy.uk)

**Secretaries**



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# The Church of the Ascension, Southam

## \*\*\*Church Opening Times\*\*\*

The Church will only be open on Sundays between 9am and 12pm (noon) for individuals or couples to use for prayers, reflection or just to sit peacefully. Please note that the door must remain wedged open to avoid the risk of contamination through touching of the handle. Users are requested to maintain social distancing protocols when in the Church.



Usually at this time of the year we are Spring cleaning our lovely church. Due to the situation in the country this gathering has been postponed until further notice.

## \*\*\*Bereavement Support Group\*\*\*

This Friendship Group was set up by Audrey and Noel Hemming and a small team of helpers over ten years ago.

It exists for bereaved family members from the parish area to meet for a coffee morning once a month to socialise, make new friendships and share experiences and feelings in these new and different phases of their lives. A number of members who came to the first meetings still attend every month and find it a valuable item on their social calendar.

We do not provide counselling but can advise where this available. The parish clergy include an invitation to attend when making funeral visits. One does not need, however, to be a member of any church - anyone is warmly welcomed, the cakes are delicious and three or four times a year we meet together over a pub lunch. The monthly meeting is on the second Saturday and is held at St Michaels's Centre, 10.30am - 12.00pm.

**Beryl Davey - 01242 526232**

## \*\*\*Food Banks\*\*\*

Before the 2008 credit crunch Food Banks were almost unheard of in the UK. Since then need and awareness have grown. We now recognise that ending hunger is about more than just food. As a nation we don't expect anyone in our country to be left hungry or destitute. But illness, disability, family breakdown or the loss of a job can happen to anyone.

The Food bank has depended upon the generosity of so many over the years, and in this uncertain time will continue to rely on our donations. Although the church doors have had to be closed, we have had three people kindly offer their porches where gifts can be received:

**Penny Liddiard** – in 'Poppies' off School Lane

**John Donovan** – in 'Monks Well' off Southam Lane

**Linda Jones** – in 'Woodstock', Haymes Drive, off Cleeve Hill

Should you need directions please call me on 01242 516187 or E-mail me at [foodbank@southamtoday.org.uk](mailto:foodbank@southamtoday.org.uk)

**Linda Jones**

# Parish Council News

April/May 2020



## Highways

Following the spells of heavy rainfall experienced in February the Parish Council has been liaising with Gloucestershire County Council regarding potholes and blocked drains and all reports were actioned. Some patching work was also carried out on Southam Lane before Race Week. The re-surfacing works on Southam Lane had to be delayed due to works being carried out by Wales and West Utilities. This will now be carried out in the 2020/21 financial year. The works schedule is not yet available but residents will be advised in due course once the date is known.

## Website

New regulations have been introduced which require local councils to review and update their websites to make them as accessible as possible. The Southam Today webmaster, David Jones, is in the process of updating the website and the new version will be launched in due course. This has also provided the opportunity to give a fresh, modern look to the website.

## New Primary School – Petitions

The Chairman and Clerk attended a meeting in January between local parish councils and representatives of the County and Borough Councils to discuss the recommendation to build a new primary school on the site of Cleeve School. This land lies within the Green Belt and if this goes ahead the access would be sited on Kayte Lane which will have traffic implications for Southam residents. If you wish to add your names to the petitions these can be accessed via the following links:

<https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?ID=66&RPID=49030786&HPID=49030786>

<https://www.alexhegenbarth.com/cleeve-school-petition>

## Community Speedwatch

The team of volunteers has carried out two surveys each week since November. During half term Gloucestershire Constabulary monitored speed on Kayte Lane and identified five drivers exceeding the speed limit. More drivers now appear to be observing the speed limit than in November when monitoring commenced.

## Overgrown hedges

It was noted at the March Council meeting that there were a number of hedges which were encroaching on the pavement, causing pedestrians to walk in the road. Please would all residents who have hedges on their boundaries ensure that these are kept cut back to ensure the safety of pedestrians.

## Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Parish Council meetings may need to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We will try to continue the business of the Council though some matters may need to be deferred to a later date. Information about meetings will be publicised on the website and the noticeboards. However, we would ask that, if residents have any queries which they would normally raise at the next Parish Council meeting, they send these to the Clerk as they occur. This will enable any operational matters not requiring a Council decision to be actioned promptly.

The **Clerk** can be contacted by email on [clerk@southamtoday.org.uk](mailto:clerk@southamtoday.org.uk) and by phone on 01242 224 562.



# An update from Cleeve Common Trust

What a very soggy winter we have endured and we all look forward to a much drier and brighter spring. We have welcomed a new ranger on to the team, Court Clarkson, which takes us back up to a full staff contingent.



The cattle have been busy in their winter paddocks eating their way through tougher grasses and plants the sheep (back on from April) like to leave behind.

Our new volunteer ranger team started in January and meets monthly to complete conservation tasks alongside our team. They have already been invaluable clearing scrub, coppicing and restoring grassland at various sites on Cleeve Common.

Our events remain popular and well attended. We are busy planning the 2020 programme of family activities and guided walks. Check out the section

## Dates for your diary

Cleeve Common Easter Trail

Good Friday

10th April 1-4pm. £2.75 (+booking fee) per child. Adults free.

For full details and booking.

[www.cleevecommon.org.uk](http://www.cleevecommon.org.uk) or email

[hello@cleevecommon.org.uk](mailto:hello@cleevecommon.org.uk)



Stay in touch with all things Cleeve Common by signing up to our eNewsletter—just drop an email to [hello@cleevecommon.org.uk](mailto:hello@cleevecommon.org.uk)

Or find us on Facebook and Twitter @CleeveCommon or on Instagram @Cleeve\_Common

## Walking Buddies – NEW Walkers Welcome...



A well-established friendly group that is now in its third year.

We regularly meet twice a week for a leisurely walk across the fields (by the racecourse) – approx. 1 hour.

**Monday & Thursday at 9.45am.** Meet at the gate off Southam Lane by “Meadowsweet”, just turn up.

Recently we enjoyed a walk over Cleeve Hill to Winchcombe followed by a well-earned light lunch. We plan to introduce these occasional longer walks over the summer period (every 6 weeks or so).

**Diana** - eMail: [irwingsing@aol.com](mailto:irwingsing@aol.com) -Tel: 07790 208 505 or 01242 523 661

**Hazel** – eMail: [hazelphanson@googlemail.com](mailto:hazelphanson@googlemail.com)

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# Southam Village Hall

April - May 2020



**Due to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, the Village Hall have decided to suspend all forthcoming social events. Please see the Southam Today website for updates or you can email [chairsouthamvh@gmail.com](mailto:chairsouthamvh@gmail.com)**



## Gold Cup Café

The total profit this year was **£1,584.40**, this compares with a profit of £1,801.49 in 2019. We think this is a good result given the challenging situation this year.

The numbers were helped by a very good day in the café on Friday, when it was heartening to see several villagers sampling our wares.

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the car park, in the café and making cakes. It was a great village effort which is much appreciated by the committee and the regular racegoers.

The Committee's aim is to use the Hall as a Community Centre so ideas and suggestions for Village events are always welcome.

**Please share your ideas via [chairsouthamvh@gmail.com](mailto:chairsouthamvh@gmail.com)**

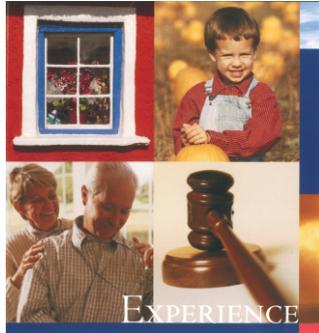


**DROP-IN** to the Village Hall for a cup of tea and slice of cake and join the increasing numbers dropping in once a fortnight.

**All Drop-In sessions are currently suspended until further notice due to the COVID-19 situation.**

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## USEFUL NUMBERS

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Glos CC Roads – Hazards & Repairs	01452 425 000
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Dental Help Line – info on dental access centers for pain relief	01452 318 858
Care Direct – benefits, appliances and care enquiries	0800 444 000
Vicar – Rev Richard Reakes	01242 675 559
Village Agent – Oliver Lamb	07701 281 906
Southam Footpaths Co-Ordinator – Anita Wilcox	footpaths@southamtoday.org.uk
Southam Webmaster – David Jones	01242 516 187
Neighbourhood Watch – John Donovan	01242 526 011
Southam Village Hall	chairsouthamvh@gmail.com

Email Addresses	
Parish Council	<a href="mailto:clerk@southamtoday.org.uk">clerk@southamtoday.org.uk</a>
Southam Website	<a href="mailto:webmaster@southamtoday.org.uk">webmaster@southamtoday.org.uk</a>
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Newsletter Production	<a href="mailto:chaoswalsh@gmail.com">chaoswalsh@gmail.com</a>
Facebook	Southam Village, The Cotswolds, England

Southam Parish Council		
<b>Chairman</b>	Mrs A Wood	525 966
<b>Clerk</b>	L Dowie	224 562
<b>Members</b>	Mrs A Holloway	663 709
	Karen Licence	07786 911 085
	Mr S Lennon	07973 335 427
	Mr J Workman	07768 693 807
	Ken Davey	01242 526 232
	Vacancy	

Tewkesbury Borough Council		
Mrs A Holloway	663 709	
Mr M Dean	07973 138 043	
Glos County Council		
TBC		
Newsletter Team		
Editor	Edna Smith	520 137
Production	Jamie Walsh	243 851

**Neighbourhood Watch** has a number of stickers for attaching to Wheelie Bins to remind drivers of the speed limit. If you are prepared to affix one to your bin(s) please contact John Donovan at - [nhw@southamtoday.org.uk](mailto:nhw@southamtoday.org.uk)



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[ednajsmith@btinternet.com](mailto:ednajsmith@btinternet.com)  
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## **Church of the Ascension Services**

### **CHURCH SERVICES SUSPENDED**

The **Archbishops of Canterbury and York** have asked that church services are suspended for the time being. Accordingly, services at the **Church of the Ascension** in **Southam** will not take place until further notice.

**Richard Reakes** remains available for anyone who needs to contact him either direct (see below) or through the Church Office on 01242 673612 or email [parishchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:parishchurchoffice@gmail.com)

**The Revd. Richard Reakes**

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# WHAT'S ON in Southam Village Hall



## SOUTHAM WI

First Tuesday of each month  
7.30 – 9.30pm  
Village Hall  
Visitors Welcome



## Sequence Dances

Every Thursday – 8.00pm to 10.15pm  
£5.00 pp coffee/tea & biscuits  
Ring Rachel on 07970 705 827 for more details



## SOUTHAM ART GROUP

Every Thursday morning  
10.15am – 12.15pm  
Village Hall



## BRIDGE CLUB

Wednesday  
7.00 – 10.30pm

## SOUTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETS AT 7.30PM, 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH  
MONTH - SOUTHAM VILLAGE HALL



## KEEP FIT – Over 50's

Each Wednesday – 9.30am – 10.30am  
Phone: 01242 674 935

## VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Southam Village Hall Reservation procedures:

To book the Village Hall go to the Hire the Hall page on the village website ([www.southamtoday.org.uk/hire-the-hall](http://www.southamtoday.org.uk/hire-the-hall)) and follow the instructions. If you do not have internet access please text or call the bookings secretary on 07712 695 207.

## 2020 HIRE CHARGES

“Occasional Bookings” – for one off bookings - £25/hour  
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