

Southam Town Council Newsletter

www.warkcom.net/visitsoutham

October 2009



The Mayor's Civic Evening

will take place at The Grange Hall, Coventry Road, Southam on Friday 27th November 2009. There will be a Pimms reception at 7.15pm followed by dinner at 8.0'Clock.

Tickets cost £19.00 and are available from the Town Council Offices, between 9.00pm and 1.00pm Monday to Friday, or by telephoning 01926 814004 during those hours.

The evening is one of the Mayor's events to raise funds for his charities St John Ambulance and Friends of the Children of Tanzania.

The Mayor & Mayoress, Reverend Councillor Wayne & Mrs Lesley Hawkins, extend a warm welcome to all those of you who would like to attend and look forward to seeing you there. Carriages at 10.45pm.

VICTOR HODGES HOUSE

At its last meeting, the Town Council resolved to find out if a Deed of Covenant had been placed on the Victor Hodges House site preventing the land being used for any other purpose. The Town Clerk is looking into this and would be pleased to hear from anyone who might have any information Telephone 01926 814004

THE MOP FAIR - ROAD CLOSURE

Wood Street Car Park Closure

As in previous years, Coventry Street, High Street and Market Hill will be closed on the occasion of the Mop Fair on **Monday 19th October 2009** from 9.30am to 12 o'clock midnight. During the time of the road closure vehicular access will not be allowed to premises except for emergencies.

The roads will be closed at the following points:-

The bottom of Market Hill to allow free movement to traffic from Warwick Road and Oxford Street.

Outside the Bowling Green car park to give access to Heather Close and Meadow Road.

Daventry Street junction with High Street, - Pendicke Street, Bull Street and Craven Lane will only be accessible from Daventry Street.

No access to Market Hill from Park Lane.

No access to Wood Street car park from High Street or Daventry Street

Stratford District Council has permitted the Mop Fair to use the Wood Street car park from Sunday lunchtime. Please make sure your vehicle is moved from Wood Street car park by 12 noon on Sunday 18th October.

MOP FAIR TO BE OPENED BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jane Soni will open the Mop Fair at 3.30pm on Monday 19th October 2009. **FREE** rides for all children for the first half an hour!

CASUAL VACANCY SOUTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Following the resignation of Councillor Carol Pratt, a casual vacancy for the Mill Hill Ward Southam was advertised on the 11th September 2009.

Electors from the area have submitted written requests for an election to Stratford District Council by the 30th September deadline, therefore, an election will take place; subject to more than one candidate putting their name forward.

If you are interested in becoming a Town Councillor contact Darren Whitney at SDC on 01789 260210

SOUTHAM IN BLOOM WINS GOLD!



Congratulations to all the volunteers who worked so hard to achieve this award and to make Southam a pleasant place to live and work.

WELL DONE SOUTHAM IN BLOOM!

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 8th October 2009 7.30pm at the Grange Hall, Southam
The meetings are open to the public!

THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT ON REQUEST

HOW MUCH ARE TOWN COUNCILLORS PAID?

Town and Parish Councils are the most local level of government in England. They are independent of other levels of local government though maintaining a close working relationship with both District and County Councils.

The government recognises that "Being a town or community councillor is a very rewarding role that requires a high level of commitment." Councillors have to abide by a local government Code of Conduct and declare a personal or prejudicial interest if they have an interest in any matter under discussion at a Town Council meeting.

Since the Local Government Act 2000 Town Councillors may be paid for their services. It will be reassuring for the townsfolk of Southam to know that **members of the Southam Town Council receive no remuneration . Their commitment and time is given freely without reward or favour.**

STOP THE DROP! Litter Litter Everywhere!

£540m - is the cost to you, the public, via local Authorities, to clean and clear streets of litter and refuse every year.

www.litteraction.org.uk

Litter Action is all about helping you to take action against litter. The aim is to offer you a range of actions that you can take, from joining (or even forming) a local volunteer litter-collecting group to collecting litter on your own, to exchanging views on the Litter action forum and reporting litter to your council. Good luck on being a litter activist!



Southam Safer Neighbourhood Team led by Sgt Darren Fretwell can be contacted on 01926 684984 the team Includes Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers and Special Constables. The next Community Forum Meeting is at **Southam Primary School on 4th November 2009 at 7.00pm.**
www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE COMMUNITY LINKS BUS SERVICE?

It is door to door service for all residents who are 'stuck for transport'. Community Links is designed for all residents of Stratford on Avon District who:

- Have genuine need for local transport
- Cannot access public transport because of mobility or other reasons
- Live in an isolated location with no other form of transport available

Does this apply to you, or someone you know? If so then please read on....

The service operates on weekdays between about 9.30 am and 2.45 pm, focusing on various parts of the district on different days. Customers' phone the office three days in advance to book a journey and the team will then plan travel routes for each day. They will do their best to meet your needs, but cannot always do so. Community Links does not work to a set timetable as do other bus services but changes daily according to demand.

All vehicles have disability access and the necessary safety features and customers are charged a flat rate of £1.30 for a single journey and £2.60 return (prices correct at 1st April 2009) Family or informal carers, who wish to travel with the person they are supporting, can travel free of charge.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE SCHEME OR TO REGISTER FOR THE SERVICE PLEASE PHONE 01789 264491

MET OFFICE EMAIL ALERT SERVICE

The Met Office now offers its web site visitors an email alert service for weather warnings.

Visit the web site at

www.metoffice.gov.uk to subscribe

Weather warnings are issued by the Met Office as **Flash, Early or Advisory** warnings.

Warnings are issued and updated on a regular basis and cover a range of dates and times. During an active spell of severe weather, especially heavy rain, it is possible that you will receive a number of alerts on a daily basis which reflects the dynamic weather situation as it evolves.

It is not currently possible to receive warnings for just one Unitary Authority and you will receive all warnings for the Region that you have subscribed to.



RAFT (Residents Against Flood Threat)

A meeting of the Southam RAFT group took place on Monday 21st September 2009.

On the agenda was flood alleviation, the proposed installation on an early warning system in Southam, the setting up of a network of contacts to receive and pass on warnings when the River Stowe rises to a dangerous level and the obtaining of the best prices for insurance in flood risk areas.

Volunteers are being sort to serve on the committee, ideally at least one from each flood risk area, and to take an active role in future RAFT projects including a 'River Watch Group'.

Contact John Smith on 01926 815658 or email jssedshome@aol.com for more information.

SOUTHAM IN BLOOM GARDEN COMPETITION WINNERS 2009

Area One

First	Mr & Mrs Calcutt	44 Springs Crescent
Second	Mr & Mrs Franklyn	81 Mayfield Road
Third	Mr & Mrs Hancox	6 Linley Road

Area Two

First	Mr & Mrs Griffin	36 Orchard Way
Second	Mr & Mrs Hinkinson	1 Coventry Road
Third	Mr & Mrs Armstrong	40 Orchard Way

Area Three

First	Mr & Mrs Washbrook	28 St James Crescent
Second	Mr P Ball	15 Gorse Lea
Third	Mr & Mrs Crane	3 Old Ford Avenue

Area Four

First	Mr Andrews	47 Little Park
Second	Mr & Mrs J Smith	4 Warwick Place
Third	Mrs D Duckett	34 Park Lane

Area Five

First	Mr R Underhill	22 Abbey Lane
Second	Mr & Mrs Swallow	73 Abbey Lane
Third	Mr & Mrs Colledge	34 Beech Close

Area Six

First	Mr & Mrs Lines	64 Banbury Road
Second	Mr & Mrs Cleaver	11 Browns Bridge Road
Third	Ms James	76 Banbury Road

Area Seven

First	Mrs Brewer	32 Hodnell Drive
Second	Mr & Mrs Croxon	1 Holt Leys
Third	Mr & Mrs Godfrey	5 Priors Meadow

Area Eight

First	Mr & Mrs Hudson	6 Shepherds Hill
Second	Mr & Mrs Tooby	42 Barkus Close
Third	Mr & Mrs Kettleborough	9 Rainsbrook Close

Overall Garden Winners - Calcutt Trophy

Mr & Mrs Calcutt	44 Springs Crescent
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Hanging Basket - Presentation Cup

Mr & Mrs Poulton	30 St James Crescent
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Chairman's Award

Mr & Mrs Mcbay	15 Hodnell Drive
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Commercial Section—Southam Garden Centre Shield

First	The Mart
Second	Bowling Green
Third	Country Stores

Public & Community—Henson Bamford Memorial Trophy

First	Galanos House
Second	Wattons Lodge
Third	Jam Kangaroo

**THE GRANGE HALL
YOUR COMMUNITY VENUE**

Cubbington Silver Band

Friday 6th November 2009 7.30pm
A patriotic evening with many of your favourite tunes!

Tickets £8.00/£7.00 (over 60s)
In aid of Galanos House
(Royal British Legion Home)

Katch 22 Productions

Saturday 5th December 2009 2.30pm
'A Christmas Carol'
Tickets £6.50 Adults/£5.50 Children U14
Family Ticket £20.00
including refreshments

A Song for Christmas
David Harrop & Carl Lewis
from London's West End
Friday 18th December 2009 7.30pm

Tickets £10.00/£9.00 (over 60s)
Children U14 £5.00
Family Ticket £25.00
Including mulled wine & mince pies

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Music with the fantastic band

The Gatecrashers

(not 'Midnite' as previously advertised)

Buffet Supper—Champagne
See In the New Year in Style
Tickets £30.00

SPECIAL OFFER!!!!

Buy before 19th October £25.00



email: carole@thegrangehall.co.uk
Tel 01926 813933

**QUEEN'S AWARD
FOR VOLUNTARY
SERVICE**



Since Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee, the Queen has awarded this prestigious national honour to hundreds of volunteering groups across the UK. The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is equivalent to the MBE and recognises the outstanding contribution that volunteers make to their local communities.

If you know of a volunteering group that devotes its time to helping others in your local community and deserves recognition, nominate them for an Award.

Its easy to nominate

Visit www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk
Or call 020 7781 2397

SWITCH IT OFF 2009

Calling on people from all over Coventry, Warwickshire and Worcestershire to take part in this years Switch It Off campaign. This will run during the week beginning the 9th of November, finishing with the Big Switch Off scheduled for Friday 13th November between 4:30-6:30. The campaign is designed to show the electrical savings that can be achieved when a lot of people turn off unwanted lights and electrical appliances left on standby. If everyone across the three regions joins in we could expect to save about £23 million a year; just by switching off items left on standby.

According to the Energy Saving Trust nationally 71% of people regularly leave items on standby in their homes and 65% of people leave lights on in rooms they are not using. Video, set top boxes, televisions and even the clocks on microwaves are using surprisingly high amounts of power everyday in our homes. The average family spends £400 a year on electricity and up to 25% can be slashed from this by being more energy aware and switching off unused appliances.

Why not run a Switch It Off campaign with your own local group? This will help promote the campaign and get more people involved. For further information and to download free posters and resources, just click on the campaigns website at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/switchitoff

FIRE SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A public consultation meeting will take place on Thursday 12th November 2009 at 6.30pm in Southam Fire Station

ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTING

Warwickshire Trading Standards Service will provide electric blanket tests **FREE OF CHARGE**, for people aged 60 or over, between Monday 5th October and Friday October 9th 2009.

Testing will take place at the following venues

Leamington Town Hall, Monday 5th October
Kenilworth Library, Wednesday 7th October
Rugby Library, Thursday 8th October
United Reformed Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, Friday 9th October

Don't miss this opportunity. Old or damaged electric blankets cause a number of fires each year, which can result in injury or death. These can be avoided by simply getting your electric blanket checked.

To book an appointment, call the Trading Standards Service on:

01926 736477 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm)



GRANGE HALL

Room Hire
for
**Weddings,
Birthdays,
Anniversaries
Children's
Parties**
in fact
**All Your
Celebrations**



**Family Functions,
Meetings &
Workshops**

**Licensed Bar Available
Competitive Rates**

Contact Carole at The Grange Hall on
01926 813933
carole@thegrangehall.co.uk

GRANTS At the October meeting the Town Council awarded grants to:

- Southam Christmas Lights Association £2000
- Southam United Football Club £500
- A new Lego Club £254
(At St James School but open to local children)
- St Mary's Children's Club £500
(At St Mary's School but open to local children)

The next grant allocation will be in February 2010

TRAVELLING ABROAD?

The Department of Health is urging everyone to check the validity of their European Health Insurance Card (the card that replaced the old E111) as many are now out of date and need to be renewed. The cards were valid for either three or five years.

Anyone travelling with an expired EHIC card is putting themselves at risk.

- **Apply online** www.ehic.org.uk
- **Apply by phone** - call 0845 606 2030.
- **Apply by post** - complete a printed form, available from your local post office.

Send it to EHIC Applications, PO Box 1115, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE99 1SW. Your card will be delivered within 21 days.

MAYOR: Revd Cllr W Hawkins, 20 Pine Tree Crescent, Southam, CV47 1EH
(Tel: 01926 810520)

EDITOR: Cllr Glesni Thomas, 9 St Mary's Close, Southam, CV47 1EW (Tel: (01926 812607)

TOWN CLERK: Mrs D Carro, Town Council Offices, Grange Hall, Coventry Road, Southam
(Tel: 01926 814004) email: clerk@southamcouncil-warks.co.uk