

North Somerset

Life

Sept/Oct 2015

ISSUE 127

North Somerset's best kept secret



www.n-somerset.gov.uk

Free internet access at your library

Open evening

Discover a new school
for 14-18 year olds

Tuesday 22nd September
5:30-7:30pm

NSETC, South West Skills Campus, Locking Rd, Weston-super-Mare, BS22 8NL

Tel: 01934 411 611 www.nsetc.n-somerset.sch.uk

See what our current students have to say...



Caleb - Health and Social Care
Extended Diploma Level 3

NSETC's balance between work placement and theory allows me to get the best out of my learning experience. The teachers here are professional and treat us like adults.

After finishing his course Caleb wants to become a community psychiatric nurse.



Ed - Engineering Extended
Diploma Level 3

Studying at NSETC has enabled me to understand the different aspects of engineering and has given me the opportunity to experience them. This knowledge has provided me with a clear career goal.

After finishing his course at NSETC, Ed plans to complete a higher apprenticeship



Melissa - Business Extended
Diploma Level 3

The quality of teaching at NSETC is second to none and facilities here are really good; the classrooms are all very modern with multiple computer areas for independent study. My biggest achievement has been setting up my own business and winning the Best Trade Stand award at the Young Enterprise regional finals.

After the NSETC, Melissa plans to study a business-related degree at university.



Ryan - A Levels (Maths, Physics,
DT, Business Studies)

I have always had a huge passion for maths and business, and I would like to become an investment banker or become the owner of an international business. The quality of teaching here is excellent and the small class sizes allow the teachers to give each student one-to-one tuition.

After finishing his A Levels, Ryan is looking to apply to Oxford University to study Economics and Maths.

We offer:

GCSEs

Art and Design, Business Studies, Computer Science, Design Technology: Resistant Materials, Engineering, French, Geography, Health and Social Care, History, ICT, Mathematics, Spanish, Mathematics, Science (Double), Science (Triple), and the English Baccalaureate

A Levels

Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Computer Science, Design Technology: Food Tech/Product Design/Textiles, Economics, English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Further, Geography, History, French, German, PE, Psychology, Physics, Spanish, and the Extended Project Qualification

BTEC Extended Diplomas

Applied Science: Medical Science or Forensics, Business, Civil Engineering, Engineering, Motorsports, Health and Social Care: Health Sciences, IT Practitioners, Sports and Exercise Science



Dear reader,

By the time this edition of *Life* reaches you, you will probably be aware of all the activity going on at the Tropicana in Weston-super-Mare. This is a major coup for North Somerset and one that we should all be extremely proud of.

It will, I hope, also explain why some people may have perceived the council to be inactive about plans for any redevelopment of the rest of the old Tropicana building. With an event of this nature, it had to be developed entirely in strictest confidence. This must have been the best-kept secret in local government, with only four people at the council aware of what was happening. At times, that made it very difficult to carry out all the detailed preparatory work but, from the moment it was announced, we have been doing our utmost to help the organisers ensure the success of the event and to see that North Somerset also gets maximum benefit - both while it's here and by way of legacy activities.

I hope that during the coming weeks you will get the chance to visit the site yourself, but if you don't, look out for what will be major media interest. We will also feature the event in the next printed edition of *Life* as well as our new electronic news round-up.

Business growth

Following the good news that North Somerset has some of the lowest unemployment in the country, another poll has been published, showing that we are in the top 10 most popular places to move to. We are now working with a number of agencies to bring more businesses to the area, and with Weston College and local universities to ensure we have even more opportunities for people to acquire the skills needed in the future. We should all be delighted at these positive signs and be prepared to celebrate the success of individuals, communities and businesses, more than we do.

Impact on us all

While I was lucky enough to be enjoying a quiet holiday in southern Italy, I was made very aware of the real difficulties in parts of Europe and North Africa which may sometimes seem remote from our daily lives, but have got to affect all of us. Whatever your political views are, the financial crisis in Greece and the Eurozone, or the number of people escaping conflict in the Middle East or North Africa, and the horrific sight of thousands being cast adrift in the Mediterranean in unseaworthy vessels, has got to have an impact on us all. Thousands will need help, as governments struggle to find a solution. In my experience, solutions start with being honest about the real causes of the problems.

Councillor Nigel Ashton, Leader of North Somerset Council



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This publication is available in large print, Braille or audio formats on request. Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English.

Life editor: 01275 884 139

Could you be a governor?

The hunt is on for new school governors who can become strategic decision-makers and vision-setters in schools across North Somerset.

The governing body is a key part of any school and governors can make a real difference to the education of children and young people.

Commitment and enthusiasm are needed but skills such as financial management, human resources and data analysis would also be useful.

Governors need to commit about six hours a month.



To find out more about joining a school near you visit www.sgoss.org.uk/volunteers or contact governor services: **01934 427 381**
governorservices@n-somerset.gov.uk

Devolution developments

Discussions about devolution in the West of England are moving forward.

In July, North Somerset Council Leader Nigel Ashton met the other members of the West of England Strategic Leaders Board and they agreed to undertake a review of governance on how the four unitary authorities can strengthen their joint working, with a view to obtaining devolved powers from government.

Any proposal to establish a combined authority would have to have the support of all four councils – North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset, and Bristol.

It would only oversee specific areas of responsibility where there is opportunity to draw powers from central government, and would not be a return to Avon.

If the review concludes there is a case for establishing a combined authority, a proposal will be put to the Secretary of State.

This will then be consulted on before a draft order is put before Parliament for approval. The whole process could take about 12 months.

Keep reading *Life* for further updates.

Funding for neighbourhood projects



Residents in parts of Weston-super-Mare can bid for funding to establish projects which will help improve the health and wellbeing of local residents.

North Somerset Council has commissioned not-for-profit organisation Curo to deliver the community development project Your Neighbourhood, which is now being piloted in the Bournville, Potteries, Oldmixon and Coronation areas of Weston.

The project aims to increase opportunities for people to become more connected to their local community by supporting residents to develop new activities.

Residents can bid for funding of up to £200 and activities set up so far include art and photography drop-in sessions, summer games in the park, table tennis, a forest school overnight camp, and a community website.

Ian Carvell, who helped set up the summer games, said: "It was so refreshing being empowered to set up an activity we wanted, rather than being told what we needed."

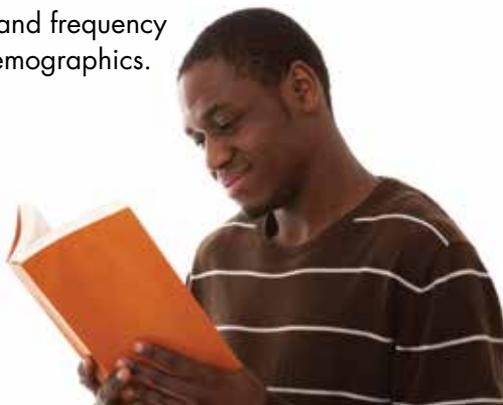
Anyone with ideas of local projects they would like to run or get involved in can contact Robin Woodward:
07967 344 588 • robin.woodward@curo-group.co.uk or
dean.marriner@curo-group.co.uk

Have your say about your library

Libraries across North Somerset will be inviting people to have their say about how they use the services during a national survey.

The national adult Public Library User Survey takes place from Sunday 20 to Saturday 26 September to gather information on satisfaction levels, the nature and frequency of library usage and customer demographics.

The survey, for anyone aged 16 and over, runs every three years and enables libraries to monitor opinion, develop services to ensure they are meeting the needs of users, and help plan projects to encourage new customers.



i For more information contact Andy Brisley: **01934 426 658**
andy.brisley@n-somerset.gov.uk

Pensions guidance to help people plan for the future



Free and impartial guidance about pensions is now available in North Somerset to help people plan for their future.

Pension Wise, delivered by Citizens Advice Bureau, is a new Government service to help people make sense of their options and enable them to make the right choices.

Changes to pensions regulations mean people approaching retirement have greater freedom over how they can use their pension pots, either taking a lump sum, annuity or mixture of both.

The 45-minute Pension Wise appointment is available to all over-50s with a defined contribution pension.

Sessions run on Thursdays and Fridays at the Citizens Advice Bureau, based in the Badger Centre, Wadham Street, Weston-super-Mare.

i Appointments must be booked. Call **01823 448 970**
 For more information visit www.pensionwise.gov.uk



Warming up rented homes

Landlords can make their rental properties warmer, safer and cheaper to run thanks to a new scheme recently launched in North Somerset.



Warm Up North Somerset, run by North Somerset Council in partnership with Bristol City and South Gloucestershire councils, aims to improve the energy efficiency of homes in the private rented sector.

Landlords who have properties with a low energy rating are entitled to discounts of up to two thirds on energy-saving measures, up to a maximum cost of £3,000.

This could include insulation, heating, lighting, water heating or energy generating installations such as solar panels.

Warm Up North Somerset is government-funded but money is limited so applications will be considered on a first-come first-served basis.

i For more information call **08000 480 727** or email info@warmupnorthsomerset.co.uk • www.warmupnorthsomerset.co.uk



Go behind the scenes at council offices



Find out what goes on behind the scenes of the two main North Somerset Council buildings in North Somerset.

Public tours will take place at the Town Hall in Weston-super-Mare and at Castlewood in Clevedon on two afternoons in October as part of National Customer Services Week.

At the Town Hall you can see the civic chambers, CCTV room and look around the re-modelled office space.



At Castlewood you will find out about the history of the site, including the council's purchase and occupation of the building, and have a look at the open-plan office space.

- Monday 5 October - Town Hall
- Tuesday 6 October - Castlewood

If you would like to attend, please reserve a place by calling **01934 426 826** or email **customer.services@n-somerset.gov.uk**

Places are available on a first-come first-served basis. Tours are accessible for disabled people.

Support for veterans

A lifetime of support is available for ex-military personnel in North Somerset thanks to a national charity.

The Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Families Association (SSAFA) was formed in 1885 and last year it helped 77 veterans in North Somerset and raised more than £48,000.



Help included simple advice from how to claim benefit entitlements to getting funding for stairlifts, rent deposits, debts, bankruptcy costs or central heating systems.

For more information call SSAFA: **08458 500 510** (local call)



Re-sale properties currently available – call 0117 949 4004 to arrange a viewing

Time to explore your retirement living options?

Why not come along to our open day at our award-winning Sandford Station retirement village?

You will be escorted on a guided tour by one of our residents to view the wide range of facilities we have to offer, including the Pullman restaurant, pool and gym, indoor and all-weather outdoor bowls, as well as a variety of leisure activities and social events.

For those with care needs, 24-hour care and support is available, as well as specialist nursing and dementia care.

Call **0117 949 4004** to book your place or find out more. www.stmonicastrust.org.uk | info@stmonicastrust.org.uk



Delivering well-being
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St Monica Trust

Volunteers needed for aviation project

Aviation enthusiasts are needed to help contribute to a project at North Somerset's popular Helicopter Museum.



The museum, in Locking, Weston-super-Mare, wants to hear from people who worked at Westland, BAJ, RAF Locking, Weston Airfield or the gliding club and have knowledge, stories or photos of aviation in Weston over the years.

Volunteers with practical skills such as painting, carpentry, DIY or grounds maintenance are also needed to help with the restoration of the 1930s control tower and pilots' block. This work is being funded by the Coastal Community Fund and will open in late 2016 to showcase aviation history.

Any companies willing to donate materials are also invited to get in touch.

Contact Alison Page: **07341 836 097**
helimarketing@hotmail.co.uk

ACORNS NURSERY (at Ashbrooke House School)

celebrating **21** years!



- Thriving family atmosphere
- Early Years Funding
- Use of main school music and computer rooms
- A sound educational foundation



ASHBROOKE HOUSE



Acorns Nursery

Tel: **01934 629 515**

www.ashbrookehouseschool.co.uk

9 Ellenborough Park North, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1XH

Cut your energy costs

Learn how to cut your energy costs during free and impartial drop-in advice sessions in Weston-super-Mare.

Bristol-based charity the Centre for Sustainable Energy is hosting the free sessions at the Town Hall, in Walliscote Road, on the third Thursday of each month during autumn and winter.

Find out about new key or card meter technologies which can be cheaper and more convenient, information about grants for heating

systems and insulation, how to tackle condensation, damp and mould, or how to find a better deal for your gas or electricity.

Sessions run from 1-4pm, on 17 September, 15 October, 19 November and 17 December.

To avoid waiting on the day, appointments can be booked in advance by emailing **home.energy@cse.org.uk** or texting ENERGYADVICE to **60777** with your preferred time. If you cannot get to the Town Hall, call CSE directly for advice: **08000 822 234**

Sign up to digital *Life*...

News, features, events and more can be delivered straight to your inbox with a new digital digest of North Somerset *Life* magazine.

This new bite-size digital edition contains original stories and complements the printed version. It will be sent out in the months that the paper copy is not.

Visit www.northsomersetlife.co.uk to sign up.

New app records motorbike routes

Motorcyclists can now pick up an award-winning NHS-linked safety app to log their journeys around the country.

The free RealRider social network app for smartphones enables riders to record, upload and share their best local rides and stop-off points.

It does not record speed but it does track your rides and alerts the NHS if you've had a crash.

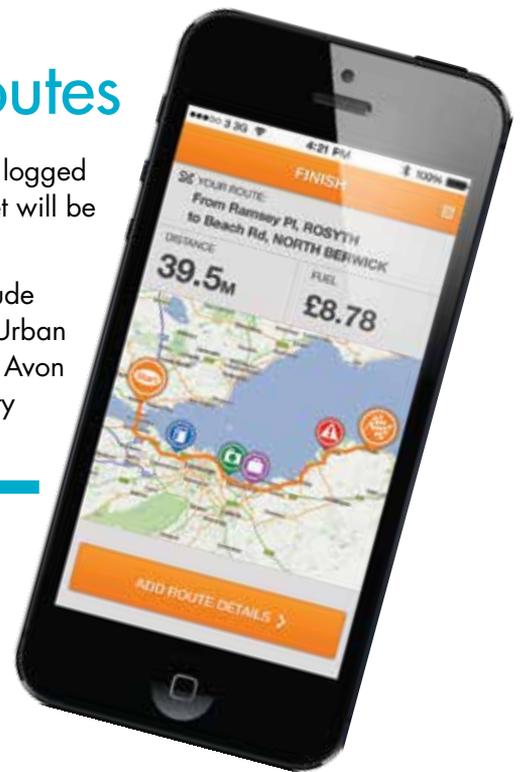
The app is being promoted at this year's Weston Bike Nights, which take place every Thursday evening on the Beach Lawns until 24 September.

All eligible journeys which are logged onto the app in North Somerset will be entered into a prize draw.

Prizes promote safety and include Urban Glow jackets and £10 Urban Glow vouchers, courtesy of an Avon and Somerset Police Community Trust Road Safety grant.



Find out more at www.realrider.com or speak to officers at Bike Nights. roadsafety@n-somerset.gov.uk



Time to apply for school places

Now is the time to apply for school places if your child is due to start or transfer school next year.

Children born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012 can start at a primary or infant/first school from September 2016.

Applications can be sent in from Saturday 12 September and the closing date is **Friday 15 January**. Parents of children due to transfer to a junior or middle school should also apply by this date.

Pupils now in their final year of primary or junior school are due to transfer to a secondary school in September next year.

The closing date for applications is **Saturday 31 October**. Parents of children who are transferring to an upper school or a new Year

10 provision, such as North Somerset Engineering and Technology College, should also apply by this date.

Parents must apply by the closing date or they may not be considered in the first round of allocations. Late applicants have less chance of being offered their preferred school.

Parents can name up to three preferences and may apply for schools both within and outside North Somerset.

Apply online at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions Paper forms are available from School Admissions and Transport Team, North Somerset Council, Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ.



01275 884 078 or **884 014**
admissions@n-somerset.gov.uk



Remember to register to vote



Registering to vote is now a two-stage process and residents in North Somerset are being reminded to return their forms on time.

In August the annual household enquiry form was sent out which lists all people who are eligible to vote in each household.

Residents need to inform the council of any changes, or confirm if nothing has changed. This can be done by text, internet, telephone or by post and all contact details are on the form. Reminders will be sent to non-responding properties. The household enquiry form is not a registration form.

People who are not yet registered under the new Individual Electoral Registration system will also receive an invitation to register.

This can be completed online at www.gov.uk/yourvotematters or returned by post. Reminders will be sent to non-responding electors.

 Electoral services: **01934 634 909**

New community bus for Felton, Winford and Dundry



A new community bus has been introduced to serve Bristol Airport from Felton, Winford and Dundry.

The service, introduced by North Somerset Council, replaces service 21 which had previously been operated by First in Felton and Winford.

The community bus also provides Dundry with a new link to neighbouring villages and the airport.

It operates from 7-10.30am and 3-6.30pm, with a £2 return fare. Diamond Travelcards are accepted after 9am.

 www.travelwest.info/winfordbus
01934 426 715

New rules for food businesses

Food businesses must now tell their customers whether their food contains any of the 14 most common allergens.

During the last 10 years there has been an 87 per cent rise in food allergy cases in the UK, 10 deaths and 5,000 annual hospital admissions due to allergic reactions.

Accurate information about allergens should either be written on the menu or, if it's not displayed, a member of staff should be able to tell the customer.

To help businesses comply with regulations, North Somerset Council is offering a half-day, level 2 allergen awareness course for food business owners for £40 per person.

Allergies or intolerance to food can affect five to eight per cent of children and one to two per cent of adults.

Allergen reactions can range from an irritating rash to longer-term symptoms, or even, in extreme cases, an Anaphylactic shock.

To book on the course contact Council Connect: **01275 888 802**



Building strong links between

Schools and colleges will be opening up their doors again this month and many students will already be thinking about what their next steps could be.

Changes to the education system this summer mean that young people are now required to stay in education or training until they reach 18.

This means that from 16, they can choose to stay in full-time education, undertake work-based learning such as an apprenticeship or traineeship, or do part-time education, training or volunteering for more than 20 hours a week.

The choices can be bewildering but businesses and schools in North Somerset are building effective and long-lasting relationships to help students find their perfect career path.

Gordano School in Portishead has established a business partner initiative to build meaningful relationships which can benefit all organisations.

Last year the school received the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership employability charter mark in recognition of its work to improve pupils' employability.

Head teacher Gary Lewis said: "The charter mark is a great way to demonstrate our commitment to pupils, ensuring they really do get a head start on the employment ladder.

"The programme we have developed hones the vital skills and knowledge that are required in today's workplace."

During the last school year Gordano has hosted a careers convention with

more than 50 stands, work experience, mock interviews, business breakfasts, apprenticeship workshops and a comprehensive tutor programme for Years 7 to 10.

Vocational classes in catering and hair and beauty have been delivered by Weston College and a series of teatime networking workshops have been held, each concentrating on a specific industry.

The business partner initiative means businesses get involved in the school's careers-related events and in return they can advertise through the school's website and around the building.

From this month, Portishead Chamber of Commerce and the school will be delivering joint business breakfasts, open to all businesses in the Portishead area.

Gordano sixth-former Lewis Cheetham said: "Gordano has given me many excellent opportunities to research my future career path, from arranging work experience with local companies, learning visits to a range of professions, and talks from a variety of past students now at university.

"I have had fantastic support on choosing my future career path and feel I have had all the information and experience to make an informed decision about my future."

Churchill Academy has also recently received the employability charter mark.



schools and businesses



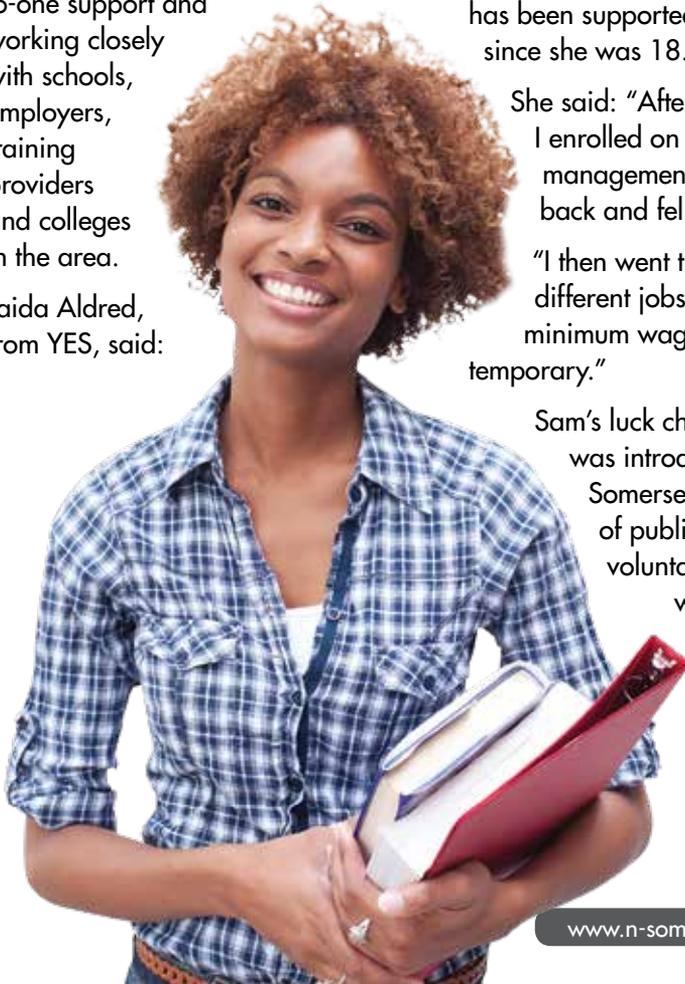
Support for young people facing barriers

Careers advice and support is available for more vulnerable young people who face barriers entering into education, employment and training.

North Somerset Council's youth employment service (YES) launched last August to provide support for young people aged 14 to 19, or 25 in certain cases.

It does this by providing intensive one-to-one support and working closely with schools, employers, training providers and colleges in the area.

Jaida Aldred, from YES, said:



"We champion the employability of young people by working with other agencies and getting young people to believe in their ability to be employed and be successful."

One young person who received help was Samantha Beer, now a community services apprentice at The Campus, in Locking Castle, Weston-super-Mare.

Sam left home at 16 because of her poor relationship with her mum, moved into supported housing, and has been supported by the council since she was 18.

She said: "After my GCSEs I enrolled on an equine management course but hurt my back and fell behind.

"I then went through a few different jobs, all low-skilled, minimum wage and mostly temporary."

Sam's luck changed when she was introduced to Team North Somerset, a partnership of public, private and voluntary agencies working together to offer tailored job support.

Sam said: "My adviser introduced me to Gemma from Team North Somerset, who pointed out this apprenticeship opportunity.

"We worked on my CV, she helped me fill in an application form and I was interviewed less than a week later."

Sam was offered the position, received funding for a new uniform and shoes, and some support towards her rent and food until the first pay packet arrived.

She said: "I love this job, every day brings a new challenge. I hope when I finish my apprenticeship I can either carry on full-time here or train to be a support worker."

YES has also recently developed an innovative course for care leavers, in collaboration with Team North Somerset and Weston College, and it will soon be employing local young people for a tracker service, which tracks the participation of local 16 to 19-year-old residents.



Youth Employment Service: **01275 884 443**
yes@n-somerset.gov.uk
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/yes

Lovely sparkling

Handmade, sparkling soft drinks which began life in a garden shed have become a success story for one North Somerset couple.



Award-winning Lovely Drinks began life in 2008 as a hobby for Rick Freeman and his partner Victoria Earle when they started to make drinks at their home in Barrow Gurney using elderflowers from nearby fields.

This hobby has become a thriving family business and now Lovely Drinks can be found in independent cafés, bars, restaurants, delis, farm shops and pubs across the area.

Life spoke to Victoria to find out more...

What are the origins of Lovely Drinks?

It started as a hobby. Rick wanted to do something with all the elderflowers in our garden so he began making cordials. People kept saying how 'lovely' it was so we decided to

register a website and have a go at selling it.

We sold elderflower pressé at events and markets and soon had interest from local cafés. With no start-up capital we used the proceeds to buy bits of equipment and began experimenting with different flavours, using local or English ingredients wherever possible.

We carried on picking the elderflowers ourselves and sourced apple juice, raspberries and blackcurrants within Somerset.

**HANDMADE
SOFT DRINKS**



soft drinks

How did you get established?

We began to get enquiries from businesses and we had some lucky breaks early on. The Pony and Trap in Chew Magna began stocking our drinks, as well as Culinaria, another well-respected restaurant in Bristol. It just grew from there.

Was it daunting setting up in the middle of a recession?

Not really as we didn't intend for it to become a business. We had no start-up capital either so we had nothing to lose.

When did you move to bigger premises?

We moved from the garden shed into a unit in February 2012 and took on another unit on the same site in February this year.

How large is your range now?

We have 12 flavours and make about 7,500 to 10,000 bottles a week. All bottling is currently done by Rick but we have just taken on an assistant.

A lot of our business is still in Bristol and Somerset but we now supply Devon, Cornwall, Dorset, Cotswolds, London, the Midlands and Manchester. We also export to the EU and Middle East.

How does Lovely Drinks contribute to the local economy?

We have just taken on a third employee, Rick's production assistant. We use local suppliers for as much as we can, our main customers are other small local businesses. We also now take the Bristol pound.

What are the benefits of being based in North Somerset?

We like being so close to Bristol, which has such a vibrant food and drink scene, and love being in Barrow Gurney as it's so peaceful.

Easy access to the M5 enables us to reach customers in the Cotswolds, Devon and Cornwall.

There is a lot of support for food and drink producers here and that looks set to increase, which is great news for us.

What have been your biggest achievements to date?

We've won 11 Great Taste Awards. Last year we were awarded a West of England Regional Growth Fund grant. We were also delighted to win a Bristol Good Food Award in June for best non-alcoholic beverage.

Did you know?

- All Lovely Drinks are made from handpicked elderflowers, lemons, fresh ginger, pressed West Country apples, raspberries and blackcurrants and other English fruits and flowers.
- The drinks are free from preservatives, artificial flavourings and concentrates.
- Their mission is to produce drinks using the highest quality ingredients they can find, sourced locally or within the South West wherever possible.



What are your plans for the future?

We want to carry on growing gradually, investing in equipment and improving our drinks and our processes. We are also developing some new flavours.



Is congestion clogging up your business?

Employers in North Somerset who would like to help their workforce take more active and sustainable commutes can now apply for funding.

North Somerset Council has a limited amount of funding available to help businesses and organisations encourage their employees to use alternatives to driving alone, such as walking, cycling, using public transport or car sharing.

Grants need to be match-funded but they are available to all business in the area to help fund any size project.

Last year serviced office provider Pure Offices, based in Portishead and Weston-super-Mare, received funding to pay for pool bikes, cycle parking and lockers.

Kim Batchelor, centre manager at the Portishead site, said: "It's been great. We were keen to encourage people to cycle because the car park was always full. People don't want to cycle, though, if they don't have anywhere safe to leave expensive bikes so this money has helped provide lockable storage. The pool bikes are also proving really popular because they are free to use."

The funding has become available thanks to the council's successful bids through the Joint Local Transport Plan and the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.

Grants can be used for cycling measures such as cycle parking, showers, storage lockers and pool bikes for business journeys.

Other successful grants have included private car share groups, improved on-site walking and cycling links, and promoting public transport.



Schools gear up for travel challenge

travelwest

Schools across North Somerset will be encouraging their students to travel sustainably during a two-week challenge this October to win great prizes.

Students can walk, cycle, use public transport or car share during the challenge, which runs from Monday 5 to Friday 16 October.

Participants can record their journeys to and from school online or by downloading a free app.

Schools will be in competition with each other to win prizes such as iPod nanos, Kindles and cinema vouchers, as well as Amazon and Love2shop vouchers.

Last year hundreds of pupils at Worle Community School and Priory Community School covered a massive 13,000 miles between them during the challenge.

Contact sustainable.travel@n-somerset.gov.uk for more details and an application form or call **01934 426 629**. Closing date for applications is **Friday 16 October**.

www.travelwest.info/theschoolschallenge

Police station set to become urban apartments



Contemporary urban apartments are set to replace Weston-super-Mare's police station as part of ambitious plans to regenerate the town and make it a great place to live, learn and work.

North Somerset Council has a bold vision to attract more people to live in the town centre and improving the quality of housing is vital to making this happen.

In June, the council agreed to buy Weston police station, in Walliscote Road, and the adjoining grade II-listed magistrates' court to create contemporary urban apartments right in the town centre.

The police station, a purpose-built six-storey building, will be vacated soon and the two-storey magistrates' court has been closed since 2011.

Earlier this year the Government announced that Weston town centre had been chosen as one of just 20 locations outside London to be a Housing Zone, meaning it is a priority area for funding.

Regeneration manager Rachel Lewis, said: "Creating quality urban living is

an important part of the wider plans to improve Weston town centre.

"By buying and developing these sites, the council will be able to ensure the right quality and mix of housing is available to meet the demand and aspirations of the population as it develops and diversifies, as well as stimulating further investment."

The council has also been talking to local businesses for their views on what would help to bring new vitality and spending power into the town centre.

This could include making the planning process simpler and by developing Weston's creative industry.

Creative industry experts from organisations such as the Watershed in Bristol, the Custard Factory in Birmingham and Weston College Creative Arts Department are working with the council to develop a creative 'hub'.

This could include managed workspace and studio space to help new creative businesses to grow, which would inject new life in the town and foster an exciting urban culture.

Winter Gardens plans submitted

Plans have been submitted by Weston College to develop part of the Winter Gardens into a law and professional services academy.

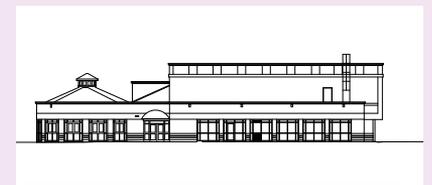
The application, submitted to North Somerset Council this summer, was for a change of use from assembly and leisure to a mixed use including a non-residential institution.

The plans outline external alterations and a two-storey extension to the east of the building, facing the Town Square.

Amendments to the ground and first floor also include roof lights, ventilation, plant and solar panels at roof level.

Consultation ran until mid-August and the application is expected to be discussed at a planning committee in the autumn.

Existing east elevation

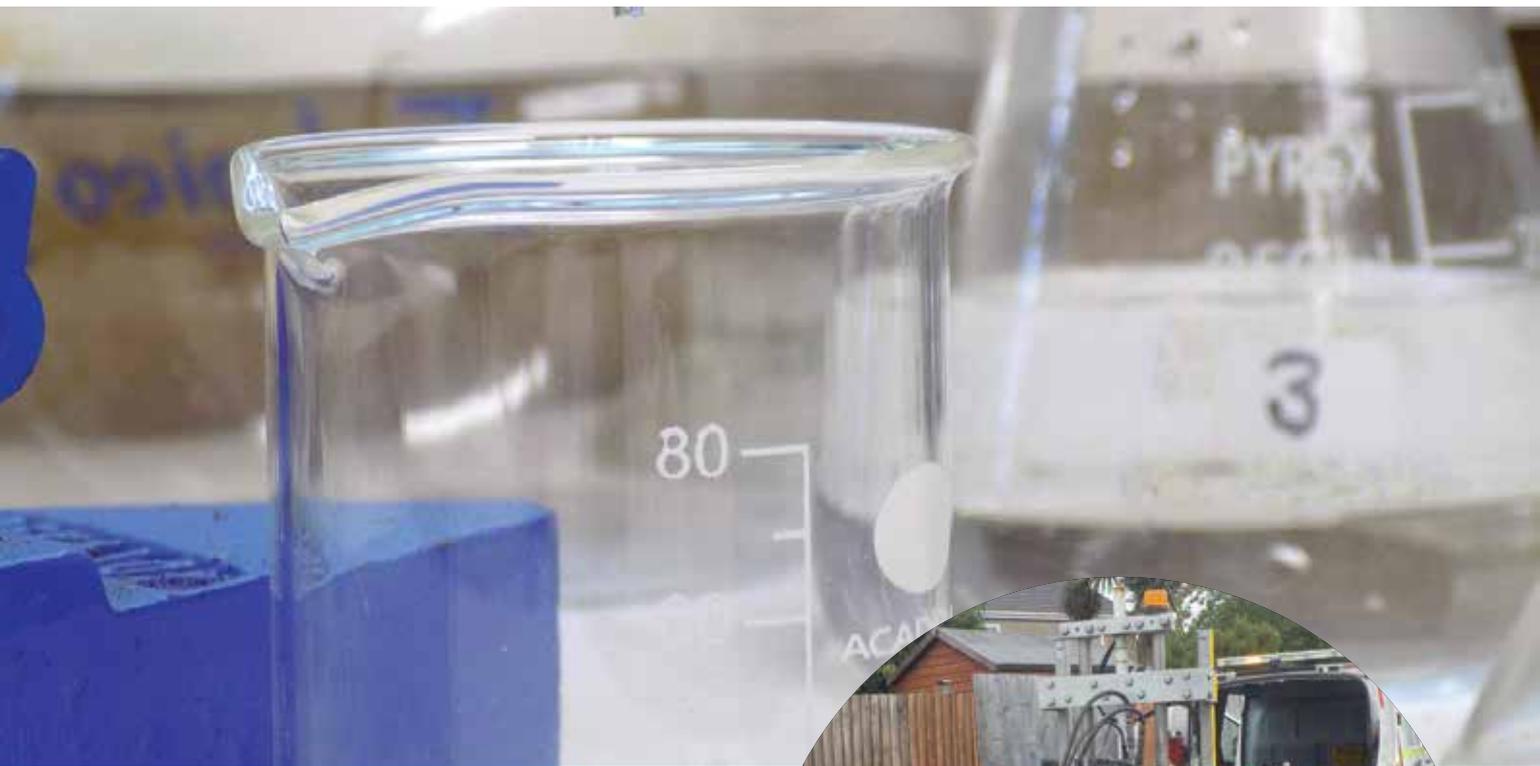


Proposed east elevation



 www.n-somerset.gov.uk/westonvision

All roads lead...to the lab



A high-tech highways material lab in North Somerset is playing a key role in making sure road surfaces are safe.

The laboratory, in Flax Bourton, tests the materials used on the highways to ensure they are safe, of a high enough quality and provide value for money.

It is playing an important role in North Somerset Council's promise to invest £40m in the 1,100km road network over the next five years.

The lab specialises in testing Asphalt and stone, as well as arranging testing of soil, concrete and paint.

The three main types of test carried out are...

- testing existing surfaces to help engineers choose an appropriate treatment and decide how to dispose of a removed surface. The thickness and type of new surfacing depends on what is there already and how deep the failure is.
- sampling new material to make sure it meets the required standards and specifications.



- testing surface dressings to check the quality of the laying and chippings.

The lab also provides these services to neighbouring authorities including South Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset and Bristol City councils, as well as conducting some testing for developers.



By using scientific knowledge and expertise, the team at the laboratory help to make sure that materials used on North Somerset roads are durable and safe.

Highlighting highways

North Somerset Council is one of only a few local authorities in the country which has its own materials laboratory.

This means residents get extra value for money because the research is carried out 'in house' by engineers who are familiar with the area's roads, so it costs less than it would for an outside organisation to do the same work.

Testing carried out at the laboratory plays a crucial role in helping engineers understand why and how road surfaces can fail.

It might be that a surface is simply worn out or there could be an underlying problem which has caused or added to the failure.

By testing the materials, the lab team can find out why a surface has failed and engineers can then use this information in planning future highways schemes and deciding which materials to use.

The team also monitors trends in the quality of highways material and is gathering information about North Somerset's highways network by looking at how surfaces have previously been made, their thickness and material types.

This data is then taken into account when making decisions about future investment, to make sure that they provide even greater value for money.

As well as testing existing surfaces, the work carried out in the laboratory contributes to the development and design of new materials, helping to select resilient, long-lasting surfaces that provide value for money.

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/roads





Children's centres at the heart of the community

North Somerset
children's
centres

Family life can sometimes be a struggle and you may need a listening ear to guide you through the tough times.

Whether you are trying to establish breastfeeding, worried about your toddler's sleeping habits or looking for fun activities for pre-schoolers, North Somerset's chain of children's centres can help.

Centres are located throughout the area and offer weekly activity groups, clinics and events to help families with day-to-day life.

Alongside this, the buildings are also used by groups for all ages, such as slimming clubs, so they offer something for the whole community.

The support begins even before a baby is born, with ante-natal classes held for parents-to-be.



Once the baby arrives, midwife and health visitor sessions provide an opportunity to talk about any concerns.

Jenie Eastman, community family team leader, said: "It is always best to intervene early to stop things escalating.



"Anyone can have post-natal depression, or endless broken nights with a child who won't sleep. Sometimes children have delayed speech development or are reluctant to walk.

"Early identification of an additional need can be critical in getting the right support."

There is a dedicated speech and language therapy team and most staff are trained in mental health first aid.

Every centre runs stay and play sessions with messy play or outdoor activities and during the school holidays there are activities for under-fives in various locations.

Parenting programmes are also offered, such as how to establish a bedtime regime or setting acceptable behaviour boundaries.

Family support workers can also work with people on a one-to-one basis in their own home.

Could you volunteer?

Volunteers play a vital role in helping to deliver the wide range of services offered at North Somerset's children's centres.

Whether supporting baby groups, fundraising, helping at health visitor clinics, putting up displays or organising open days, there is plenty to do to help events run smoothly.

Mother-of-one Sarah Pinnell began volunteering at Nailsea and Backwell children's centre last year.

She said: "I'd been using the children's centre since my daughter was born and when she went to pre-school I wanted to work but was struggling to find something that would fit in around childcare.

"I was doing a course at the children's centre at the time and someone asked me if I'd thought about volunteering, so it just went from there."

Sarah has volunteered twice a week since January, helping out with messy play sessions and baby clinics. She is now hoping to start an early years qualification.

Sarah, who previously worked in a pub, said: "I didn't have any experience of children before my daughter was born but this has started a whole new career for me. I love it.

"I would encourage everybody to use children's centres, they are for the whole family – mums, dads and siblings.

"There are lots activities and also lots of support when you need it."

Volunteers are recruited by VANS volunteer co-ordinator Claire Payne, who works closely with staff to identify opportunities.



Sarah Pinnell, left, receives her volunteer certificate from Natalie Hawtin, children's centre leader for both Nailsea and Backwell, and Long Ashton.

Claire said: "Our volunteers come from various backgrounds but all have a shared vision - to support families with young children."

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Claire Payne:
01275 885 328
claire.payne@n-somerset.gov.uk



Where is your local children's centre?

Ashcombe: Stepping Stone Walk, Weston-super-Mare, 01934 426 380

Banwell, Winscombe and Sandford: West Street, Banwell, 01934 426 774

Castle Batch: Bishop Avenue, Worle, 01934 427 242

Clevedon: The Barn, Great Western Road, Clevedon, 01934 426 440

Crockerne: Crockerne Primary School, Westward Drive, Pill, 01275 884 002

Locking Castle and Locking: The Campus, Highlands Lane, Locking Castle, 01934 426 679

Long Ashton: Hollis Close, Long Ashton, 01275 888 555

Milton and Old Worle: Mendip Avenue, Locking Castle, 01934 426 618

Nailsea and Backwell: Pound Lane, Nailsea, 01934 426 710

Oldmixon: Monkton Avenue, Weston-super-Mare, 01934 426 881

Portishead: St. Barnabas Centre, West Hill, Portishead, 01275 884 001

South Weston: For All Healthy Living Centre, Lonsdale Avenue, Weston-super-Mare, 01934 427 550

Weston Central: Meadow Street, Weston-super-Mare, 01934 426 794

Yatton Moor: Yatton Infant School, High Street, Yatton, 01934 426 633

Yeo Valley: St Andrews Primary School, Station Road, Congresbury, 01934 426 643

Community groups are welcome to use the facilities. Contact your local children's centre for more information.
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/fis

Building a safer and stronger community

Low-level anti-social behaviour and environmental issues will be targeted in September during a week of action to highlight the work being done to improve community safety.



Get involved... Follow the week of action through social media and get live updates from the team on Twitter @NorthSomersetCR

North Somerset Council has joined forces with Avon and Somerset Police for a two-year community response programme to create a safer and stronger North Somerset.

The area is now part of the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme, which means council officers have been granted a limited but targeted range of police powers.

To showcase the work involved, officers from community response, environmental protection, licensing and trading standards teams are joining local police community support officers (PCSOs) for the week of action, which runs

from Monday 14 to Saturday 19 September.

A roadshow will tour North Somerset to give the public the chance to meet officers and talk about any concerns they have, whether school parking issues, noise nuisance, fly tipping or more.

Community response officer Chris Joannou is responsible for the north of the district.

He said: "We have undertaken patrols in a variety of areas where local parish councils and residents have raised issues. Patrolling these regularly and working with partner organisations has seen visible improvements and a reduction in a variety of anti-social behaviour."

What are the new powers?

Both council and police officers can now share and access information between each other to enhance community safety.

Community response officers have the power to issue fixed penalty notices for disorder, cycling on a footpath, dog fouling, graffiti, fly-posting, littering and dog control offences.

Officers also have the power to require someone to give their name and address because of anti-social behaviour, to surrender alcohol if they are drinking in a designated place, to surrender alcohol if they are under 18, to remove abandoned vehicles, stop vehicles for testing, or stop cycles.

PCSOs will also be given equivalent enforcement powers to help resolve street scene, environmental and anti-social behaviour issues that are currently dealt with by the council.



 Residents can now report incidents of anti-social behaviour on the council's website by visiting www.n-somerset.gov.uk/connect • Council Connect: 01934 888 802

Take time out

Tickle your tastebuds...

Food and drink takes centre stage in September with a super festival in Weston and a local produce showcase throughout the rest of North Somerset.

Find out about the Weston Super Food Festival here and see the special four-page pull-out in the centre pages for the Made in North Somerset festival listings...

Inside

Walk	24-25
Local events	26-27



Feast on local food

Atasty celebration of real food will be returning to Weston-super-Mare this month.

Weston Super Food Festival returns for its third year on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 September with a focus on local and regional produce from award-winning and artisan producers.

There will be indoor and outdoor markets, gourmet street food stalls, real ale and cider bars, and live music.

This year's event will also support Marks and Spencer's Forever Fish campaign with the Marine Conservation Society so visitors can pick up a free copy of the MCS sustainable fish guide and get tips on which fish to buy and cook.

The demonstration kitchen will focus on fish dishes too.

The free event runs from 10am to 5.30pm each day in the Winter Gardens and Town Square.

www.westonsuperfoodfestival.co.uk

What else is on?

Sun 4 October

Weston Triathlon, Marine Lake, Weston-super-Mare

This seafront sprint triathlon consists of a 400-metre open water swim, a 20km bike ride and a 5km beach run. Suitable for beginners. Individual entry £39.

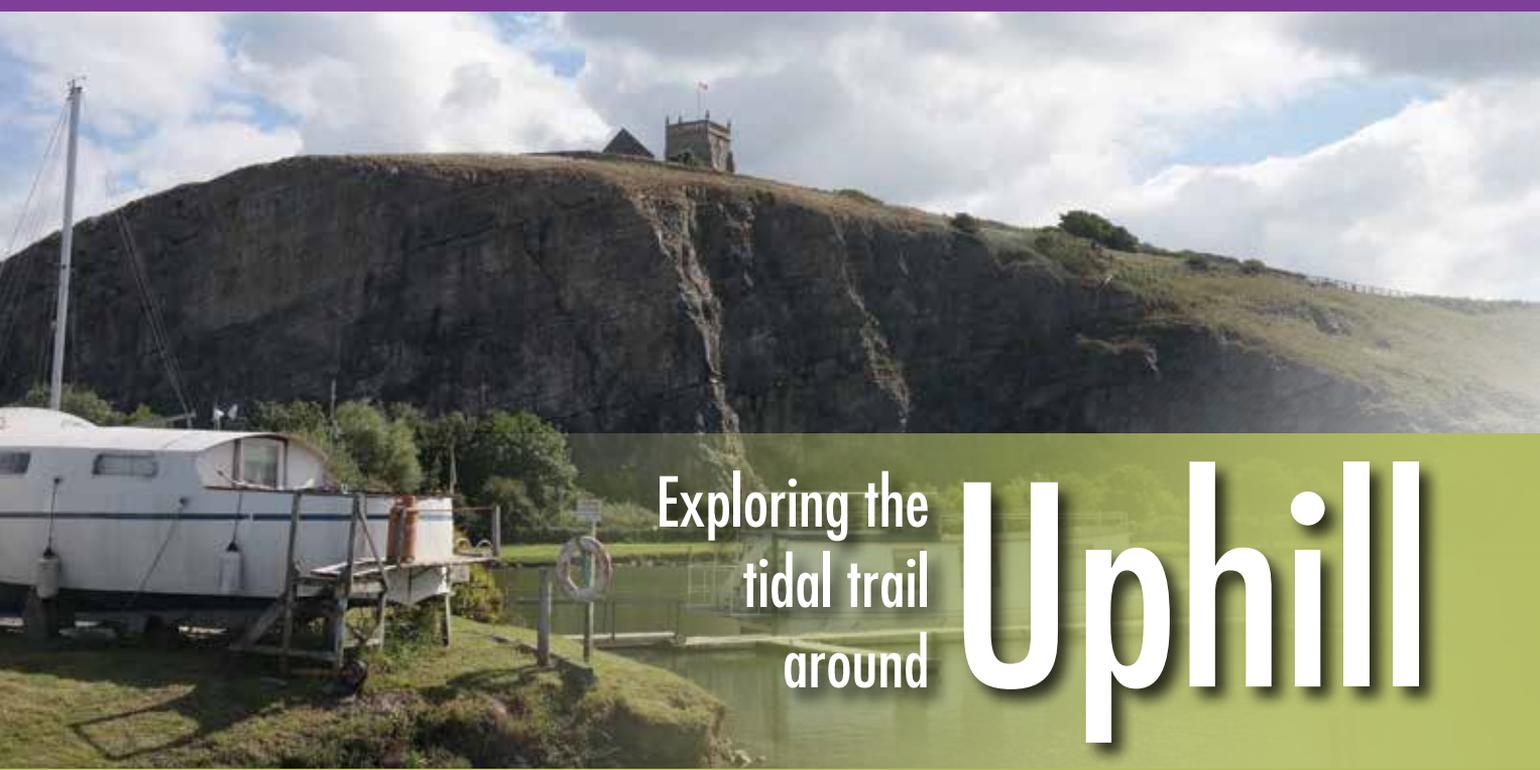
www.freakevents.co.uk

Friday 9 – Sunday 11 October

RHL Beach Race, Weston Beach

Mountains of sand are formed into a challenging motorcycle track.

www.rhlactivities.com • 01873 840 640



Exploring the tidal trail around Uphill



Take a tour through saltmarshes and open grasslands just south of Uphill to see some award-winning nature reserves.

The walk starts in Uphill boat yard, a tranquil spot alongside Uphill quarry. Wharf Side Tea Room is now open if you need some refreshments before you head off.

Continue past the preserved lime kiln, which was built between 1780 and 1850 to provide lime, through the kissing gate into Uphill Nature Reserve. The reserve has recently been awarded another Green Flag.

Uphill Quarry was used from the 1800s to 1940s and in 1826 three caves were discovered that had been used by Neanderthal people during the Ice Age. Tools and bones were discovered, including those from a woolly mammoth and cave lion.

Follow the path through the reserve, past the 19th century explosives store, which was used for blasting the quarry stone. Dogs need to be kept under close control as cattle graze in the fields.

Go through the wooden gate and follow the path up the hill. Look behind you for wide-ranging views of Brean Down, Uphill, and across the Severn estuary.

Go through the next gate and you will enter Walborough Nature Reserve. This area is named after Walborough Down, which has a Bronze Age burial mound on top. It was cleared of trees 5,000 years ago and has been an open-grazed landscape ever since.



How to get there

Start at map ref:
ST 314585

Car:
Park at Uphill Boat Yard, on the corner of Links Road and Uphill Way

Bus:
Crosville Service 105 from Weston

Public toilets:
Links Road

Continue on the path, with Brent Knoll in the distance in front of you. Go through the wooden gate and continue through the metal kissing gate along the track, following national cycle route 33.

Follow this track right to the end and you will come to a t-junction. Turn right here. You are now entering Bleadon Levels Nature Reserve and there is a car park on your right.

The wildlife habitats were created by Wessex Water when it built the new sewage treatments works in the 1990s. This includes 11.5 hectares of saltmarsh and tidal creek habitat and more than seven hectares of rough grassland, reedbed and open fresh water lagoons.

The saltmarsh has a number of nationally scarce plants, including sea barley, slender hare's ear and sea clover.

Enter the car park and you will see a new disabled-access bird hide to view the lagoons.

From the car park, walk along alongside the fence. From here you can make a detour to see another bird hide but after that, go through the kissing gate and up some steps to the sea wall path, a permissive path.

You are now heading back towards Uphill. Follow this path until you exit back into Walborough Nature Reserve.

Keep to the left, walking alongside the trees, then continue on the small, worn path on your left which continues downhill and over a stile and wooden bridge.

Follow this path back to the boatyard and your starting point.



Volunteers needed to assess public rights of way

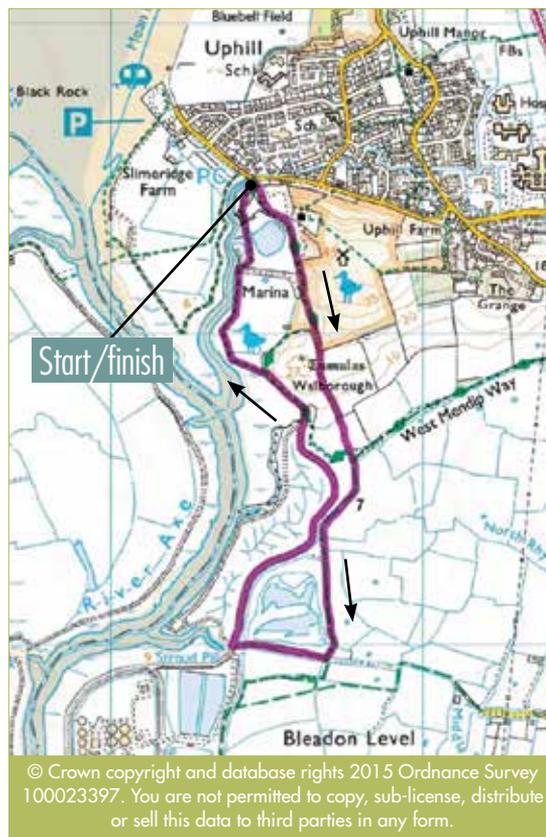
Volunteer walkers are needed to take part in a new project from the Ramblers Association to survey all rights of way.

The Big Pathwatch aims to get walkers to survey all public footpaths to say what state they are in.

Visit the website, download the free app, choose your grid square, walk every path in the grid square and then use the app to tell the Ramblers what you find.

If you don't have a smartphone you can print off a survey card, complete it and upload the results on their website.

The survey closes on 31 December.
www.ramblers.org.uk/BigPathwatch



Route information

Distance:
about 2.5 miles

Difficulty:
easy - a mostly flat route but with some steps, one stile, and narrow paths

Duration:
about an hour

Map:
OS Explorer 153

Previous walks from around North Somerset which have featured in *Life* can be downloaded from www.n-somerset.gov.uk/lifewalks

Made in North Somerset Festival



Food, drink, arts and crafts will be celebrated this month during a popular three-week festival to showcase the best of North Somerset's local producers and makers.

Made in North Somerset, co-ordinated by North Somerset Council, is the perfect place to meet the people who create the area's award-winning products.

Visitors will have chance to see behind the scenes and find out what goes into making, growing and producing some of these products, with one-off events such as workshops, brewery tours, open days and tastings.

The festival finale is the Made in North Somerset Showcase at the National Trust Tyntesfield estate on Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 October.

Over the weekend 50 producers will be selling their wares each day, along with live music, children's activities, storytelling, demonstrations and more.

For more information please visit
www.innorthsomerset.co.uk/madein

MadeInNSomerset
 /TimeOutInNorthSomerset



Disclaimer: North Somerset Council is co-ordinating the 'Made in north Somerset' festival but is not responsible for any acts or omissions by any individual businesses involved in this event. North Somerset Council does not accept any liability for any accident, injury or illness arising from visits to individual business premises so please take care on all visits. Any questions regarding accessibility should be made to the business concerned.

Whilst every care has been taken in compiling this programme and all the information is published in good faith. Inclusion in this programme does not imply a recommendation. All information is correct at the time of printing but please check the website www.innorthsomerset.co.uk/madein leading up to the event for any last minute changes.



'Meet the maker' Calendar of events

Every weekday

Yeo Valley 1

Yeo Valley HQ Canteen, Blagdon BS40 7YE
01761 461 425 • events@yeovalley.co.uk
www.yeovalleyvenues.co.uk

Renowned for our range of organic yogurts and ice cream, in March this year we opened our award-winning staff canteen to the general public. Overlooking Blagdon lake and the farm, we now welcome visitors for lunch every day.

At Yeo Valley we don't just like food, we love food! This is why we've decided to open the doors at our award-winning staff canteen to the public every day!

Times: 12.30 – 2pm

Cost: As per menu

Pre Booking essential: Call Jill

Saturday 12 September

Claire Hall Glass 2

65a West Town Road, Backwell BS48 3HG
07796 794 168
www.clairehallglass.co.uk

Award-winning glass artist Claire Hall creates sculptural vessels, wall art and jewellery, inspired by nature. Running an extensive programme of glass courses from her studio in Backwell, Claire also exhibits nationally.

Jewellery workshop: Fused glass taster sessions to create mosaic jewellery in fabulous Dichroic glass. Suitable for beginners and those with some experience.

Times: 10 – 11.30am and 2 – 3.30pm.

Cost: £25 (all materials and refreshments included).

Pre-booking essential: (max four people)

Lye Cross Farm 3

Lye Cross Farm, Redhill BS40 5RH
www.lyecrossfarm.co.uk

Three generations of the Alvis family have been making the highest quality Cheddar cheese using traditional methods and skills such as age-old 'Cheddaring'. This process of turning and stacking the curd by hand is still used alongside new technology.

Open day: Come and see what happens here at our open day. We've got our very popular cheese-making tours and local produce to sample, including our very own Lye Cross Farm Cheddar.

Times: 10am – 2pm. **Cost:** Free entry.

'19' 4

19 Alexandra Road, Clevedon BS21 7QH
www.19alexandraroad.co.uk

19 is an Artisan Interiors Emporium and workshop venue, running artisan and contemporary craft workshops.

Studio take over: Charlie Deighton will set up a pop-up shop of her gorgeous hand-crafted textile gifts. This is a great opportunity to meet this local maker, showcasing her up-coming workshops, samples and demonstrating techniques.

Times: 10am – 2pm. **Cost:** Free.

172nd North Somerset Ploughing and Hedging Match and 28th Craft and Produce Show 5

Cribbs Farm, Lye Hole BS40 5TB
08456 342 464 • www.nsas.org.uk
@NorthSomsShow

North Somerset Agricultural Society is a charity aimed at furthering knowledge about agriculture by communicating issues and showcasing events.

The 172nd Ploughing Match includes ploughing, hedging, roots, hay, silage, straw, grain and field crop classes. Craft and Produce show includes fruit and veg, photography, painting, baking, and more. For details and entry forms visit website. Deadline 5 Sep.

Times: 10am – 4pm. **Cost:** Free entry N.B. To demonstrate a craft please contact Tim Ledbury.

Thatchers Cider 6

Thatchers Cider, Myrtle Farm, Sandford BS25 5RA
www.thatcherscider.co.uk

Thatchers Cider has been making cider at Myrtle Farm since 1904. For four generations we have been perfecting our orchards, our craft and our cider.

Open day: Guided tours of the cider mill and the new Jubilee building; tractor tours of the orchards; cider tastings; apple pressing, entertainment and more.

Times: 11am – 3pm. **Cost:** Free entry

Sunday 13 September

Aldwick Court Farm and Vineyard

Aldwick Court Farm, Redhill, Bristol 7 BS40 5RF
01934 864 404
ella@aldwickcourtfarm.co.uk
www.aldwickvineyard.co.uk/wines

Family-farmed for five generations, Aldwick Court Farm has a long experience of farm diversification, opening its first vineyard in 2008. Our white, rosé and sparkling wines can be purchased direct from Aldwick Court Farm Vineyard or buy online.

Vineyard tours. Gain an insight into the workings of an English family-run vineyard dedicated to producing award-winning wine. Enjoy the tranquil surroundings, learn the history behind the largest vineyard in Somerset, and sample Aldwick Wines.

Times: Tours at 11am, 1 and 3pm (approx. 1.5 hours). **Cost:** £6pp. **Pre booking essential**



Tuesday 15 September

Felt by Fi 8

16 Jubilee Drive, Failand BS8 3XD
07887 944 752 • f.l.g@hotmail.co.uk
FB: feltbyfi

I make handmade felt work, including pictures, brooches, trinket pouches and jewellery using a combination of wet felting, watercolour painting, machine and hand embroidery.

Workshops: Make a handmade merino wool felt picture. All you need is wool, water and bubble wrap (all supplied) Combine with a little imagination and some friction and you'll create a unique piece of woolly art.

Times: 2 – 3pm, 3.30 – 4.30pm **Cost:** £10 **Pre booking essential:** by 13 Sep (max four people).

Wednesday 16 September

Claire Hall Glass 2

See entry under 12 Sept for more details

Tile workshop: Fused glass taster sessions with artist Claire Hall to create a decorated wall tile or coaster. Workshops for complete beginners or for those with some experience.

Times: 10 – 11.30am and 2 – 3.30pm.

Cost: £25 (all materials and refreshments included).

Pre booking essential: (max four people).

Friday 18 September

Barley Wood Walled Garden Studios 9

Barley Wood Walled Garden, Long Lane, Wroughton BS40 5SA
www.walledgarden.co.uk

Five studios set in a beautiful restored working kitchen gardens, with award-winning restaurant The Ethicurean on site. Studios open all year, displaying work for sale and offering a variety of courses. See website for details.

Workshop: Make a beautiful glass coaster or suncatcher with resident artist Becky Wills from Yellow Dog Glass. Items made need to be collected at a later date.

Times: 11am – 1pm, 2 – 4pm.

Cost: £5 per item

Pre booking essential: becky@yellowdogglass.co.uk 07970 265 433

Demonstration: Pastel painting demonstration and Q&A with resident artist Jennifer Davidson.

Times: 11am – noon.

RCH Brewery 10

West Hewish, Weston-super-Mare BS24 6RR
01934 834 447

Brewers of award-winning real ales in cask and bottles.

Tour and tasting: Come and see how traditional ales are brewed, look round our brewhouse and taste some of our products.

Times: 2 – 4 pm. **Pre booking essential:** Call Paul Davey.

Bird in the Hand 11

17 Weston Road, Long Ashton BS41 9LA
01275 395 222
info@birdinthehand.co.uk
www.bird-in-hand.co.uk

We are a food-led village pub that focuses on local and seasonal produce, serving food seven days a week. On the bar you'll find local ales, over 50 gins and carefully selected wines.

Feasting menu: The 'Feasting evening' will bring together people with a love of food. People will be seated on sharing tables and the food will go down the centre of the table for people to share and help themselves.

Times: 7pm onwards. **Cost:** £35 per head. **Pre booking essential.**

Saturday 19 September

Nailsea Farmers' Market 12

Crown Glass Shopping Centre, Nailsea BS48 1RB
www.nailseatowncouncil.gov.uk/markets.php

Nailsea Farmers' Market is a large local produce market with craft and community stalls. It runs every third Saturday.

This special 'festival' market will have 50 stalls of fresh local produce and bespoke hand-crafted goods. Talk to producers, try their tastings and discuss their craft. Activities include; cooking demos, musicians, dancers and more.

Times: 9am – 1.30pm

Cost: Free entry.

'19' 4

See entry under 12 Sept for more details
Studio takeover by Lollipop Lampshade for 19. Sarah will set up a demonstration table and pop-up shop with her Annie Sloan Lampshades. Places on her Annie Sloan rolled drum lampshade workshops will be available for booking.

Times: 10am – 2pm. **Cost:** Free event.

Sunday 20 September

Felt by Fi 8

See entry under 15 Sept for details.

Tuesday 22 September

Felt by Fi 8

See entry under 15 Sept for details.

Thursday 24 September

Growing Together community allotment 13

Entrance at St John's car park, off Coleridge Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 3UP
07813 526 342

The aim of the allotment is to grow fresh, seasonal products.

Workshop: Kokedama (Japanese hanging basket) making workshop. You'll make your own kokedama, a traditional Japanese art form which uses moss as a container for a plant, and meet the vibrant community of growers who make up the Growing Together team.

Times: 1 – 4pm. **Cost:** £3 per person.

Pre booking essential: Call Mary Conning (max 15 people).



Friday 25 September

Barley Wood Walled Garden studios 9

See entry under 18 Sept for more details

Demonstrations:

Resident artist Karen Edwards will be running her working with clay slab demonstrations.

Times: 11am – noon, 12.30 – 1.30pm.

Pre booking essential:

info@karenedwardsceramics.co.uk

Resident artist Bill Moore will be demonstrating making a hand thrown teapot.

Times: 2 – 4pm.

RCH Brewery 10

See entry under 18 Sept for more details

Saturday 26 September

Butcombe Brewery 14

Butcombe Brewery, Cox's Green, Wrington
BS40 5PA

01934 863 963 • www.butcombe.com •
@ButcombeBrewery • FB: Butcombe

Butcombe Brewery make a delicious range of cask, keg and bottled beers. The Brewery also owns and sells Ashton Press Cider.

Open day: Find out more about brewing and see behind the scenes with tours throughout the day. Sample our beer and cider while you enjoy entertainment from Mendip Morris Men and delicious organic burgers to buy from the Story Group.

Times: 11 – 3pm. **Cost:** Free entry.

'19' 4

See entry under 12 Sept for more details

Studio takeover by Stephanie Eastwood Flowers. Make button-hole arrangements to take away.

Times: 10am – 2pm. **Cost:** Free event.

The Chocolate Tart 15

The Old Malthouse, Kent Road, Congresbury
BS49 5BD

01934 876 881
info@thechocolatetart.co.uk
www.thechocolatetart.co.uk

The Chocolate Tart is a unique cookery school teaching the general public how to make professional handmade chocolates.

Chocolate Workshop: Come and make a beautiful chocolate shoe.

Times: 10am – 12.30pm. **Cost:** £25 (Discounted Made in N Somerset rate)

Pre booking essential: Leave a message or email and we'll call you back.

The Blue Room 16

The Lion, Crown Glass Place, Nailsea
BS48 2QH

www.theblue-room.co.uk

The Blue Room is a social enterprise arts and crafts gallery where local artists can showcase and sell their work

Workshop: Needle Felting – Make a Sheep with Sarah Quick, suitable for beginners. Full details online.

Times: 10.30am – noon. **Cost:** £29, **Booking essential.**

Sunday 27 September

Jacklands Fishing Lakes 17

Jacklands Fishing Lakes, Jacklands Bridge,

Tickenham BS21 6SG

01275 810 697

Trout and coarse fishery and farm shop selling our own hot smoked trout, cured trout, smoked trout pate and tarts; homemade cakes, preserves, free range eggs, honey and apple juice. Cream teas also available.

Open Day: Visit the fishing lakes, meet the animals, feed the fish, children's pond dipping and 'Have a go' catch a trout sessions. Sample smoked trout products, enjoy a cream tea and learn about the fishery.

Times: 10am – 4pm. **Cost:** Have a go sessions £15 p/p (All equipment provided), **Pre booking essential:** For 'Have a go' only.

Stephanie Eastwood Floral Design 17

Jacklands Fishing lakes, Jacklands Bridge,
Tickenham BS21 6SG

07841 043 585

www.stephanieeastwood.co.uk

Stephanie creates bespoke floral designs from her home studio using locally-grown flowers and foliage. Flowers for weddings, events, special occasions and floral workshops. Outdoor floral installations (weather permitting) and walk around the lakes.

Workshop: Create and wrap a beautiful hand-tied seasonal bouquet to take home.

Times: Between 10am – 4pm. **Cost:** £20 (Tuition and flowers provided) **Pre booking essential.**

Clevedon Craft Centre 18

Clevedon Craft Centre, Moor Lane, Clevedon
BS21 6TD

clevedoncraftcentre.co.uk
FB: clevedoncraftcentre

A local hub of arts and crafts. We make, create and sell from our individual workshops. Set in a lovely rural location with a traditional tearoom.

Open day: Come and join in the activities at our 'Art and Craft Fun Day Sunday'. Try various crafts and meet the makers at work.

Times: 11am – 4pm. **Cost:** Free but small charge to cover materials if used.



Felt by Fi 8

See entry under 15 Sept for details.

Tuesday 29 September

The Blue Room 16

See entry under 26 Sept for more details

'Meet the maker' focus on Jewellery: silver clay, fused glass, and enamelling. Demonstrations and information from our teachers and exhibitors. Find out more about how they create their unique pieces and the workshops offered. Refreshments available. Full details online.

Times: 11am – 3pm. **Cost:** Free.

Thursday 1 October

The Blue Room 16

See entry under 26 Sept for more details

'Meet the Maker' focus on Textiles: Embroidery, patchwork, home furnishings, dressmaking, and lampshade making. Demonstrations and information from our teachers and exhibitors. Find out more about how they create their unique pieces and workshops. Refreshments available. Full details online.

Times: 11am – 3pm. **Cost:** Free.

Saturday 3 October

The Blue Room 16

See entry under 26 Sept for more details

Workshop: Weave all day with Caroline Walker, suitable for beginners. Full details online.

Times: 10am – 4pm. **Cost:** £60

Pre booking essential: via website

The Wine Shop 19

21 Woodborough Road, Winscombe BS25 1AB
www.thewinetastingo.com

Independent wine merchant offering a wide selection of wines and spirits from all over the world. We support locally produced wines, ciders, beers, juice, cheese and chutney.

Meet the producers: Come and meet Somerset wine producers. Discover the award-winning wines. Find out which grapes grow best in this climate and what it takes to be an English winemaker.

Times: 10am – 4pm
Cost: Free, just pop in



Sunday 4 October

The Blue Room 16

See entry under 26 Sept for more details

Workshop: Furniture painting with Vanessa Webb, suitable for beginners. Full details online

Times: 10am – 4pm. **Cost:** £65

Pre booking essential: via website

The Chocolate Tart 15

See entry under 26 Sept for more details

Workshop: Champagne truffle and caramel nut chocolate class

Times: 11 – 11.45am. **Cost:** £15

Pre booking essential: Leave a message or email and we'll call you back to process your booking.

Yeo Valley 1

Yeo Valley Canteen – Yeo Valley HQ, Blagdon
BS40 7YE and Yeo Valley Organic Garden and
Café – Blagdon BS40 7SQ

www.yeovalleyvenues.co.uk

Producers of fine yogurt and ice cream from within the Yeo Valley – outstanding in our field (like every good cow). Visit our two wonderful venues, both in the village of Blagdon.

Yeo Valley Yeopen Day: Two venues, twice as much fun! A rare chance to visit Yeo Valley venues on a weekend. Full of food, fun, and mucky veg! Demos, tasting, brunch, lunch and afternoon tea.

Times: 11am – 5pm **Cost:** £1 entry on gate covers both venues





'Made in North Somerset Showcase 2015

Tyntesfield,

3 and 4 October, 10am – 4pm

Enjoy fantastic finale weekend with events and activities for all ages. Bring your picnic rug and stock up on goodies at the market or relax in the National Trust's Cow Barn restaurant. Additional charges and garden entrance fees apply where indicated.

Stories and Rhymes – have fun with stories and rhymes from North Somerset Library Service for children up to the age of six accompanied by a parent or carer. In the Foyer area – Sat only 10.30am and 11.30am.

'Crazy Creatures' – stories with a Splash of Theatre and a Medley of Music by director of Somerset Storyfest, Michael Loader. Listen and join in storytelling fun. In the foyer area – Sat only at 1.30 and 2.30pm (£1 donation appreciated)

Apple Pressing with Transition Portishead – have a go at apple pressing and sample your efforts! Please bring your own apples and a container for the juice. 10am – 4pm in the Lower Courtyard (£1 donation appreciated)

Walled Kitchen Garden Tours – join us for a guided tour around the glorious Walled Kitchen Garden and greenhouses in Tyntesfield's Jubilee Gardens. Tours every 30 mins. 10.30am – 3.30pm, tours last 25 mins. *

Fun Foodie Trail – In celebration of the Made in North Somerset Festival, we have put together a Foodie Trail which takes you around the estate to help you get to know Tyntesfield's foodie history. To complete the trail and redeem your prize use our map to find eight foodie objects hidden around the estate. 10am – 3.30pm, £2.50 per trail.*

Meet the Garden Team and plant it, grow it, eat it – head to the Jubilee Gardens to meet the Garden Team to get seasonal tips and find out how to make your garden as beautiful as Tyntesfield's. Noon – 4 pm (£1 donation appreciated)*

Children's activities in the Home Farm Courtyard – 'Drop in' kids' activities. 10am – 4 pm (£1 donation appreciated)

Music – local musicians will be performing live throughout the day. See the website www.innorthsomerset.co.uk/madein for details. 10am – 4pm

The Somerset Boddgers – based at Tyntesfield, produce a variety of products made from green timber. They will demonstrate a variety of traditional and modern techniques.

Bee Keeping Talk – learn more about bees and bee-keeping with resident beekeeper Dick Berry. 2 – 3.30pm (£1 donation appreciated)*

Stallholders

		Sat	Sun
Abigail Mill	Embroidered textiles	✓	✓
A Lot A Choc	Artisan chocolates using ethically sourced cacao	✓	✓
Aldwick Court Farm Vineyard	Selection of white, rosé and sparkling wines	-	✓
Amy R Lee Jewellery Design	Contemporary silver and gold jewellery	✓	✓
Banwell Pottery	Ceramic tiles and gifts	✓	✓
Barbara Langdon	Organic wheat bags and cushions	-	✓
Barefoot Stonebaked Pizza Co	Wood fired oven cooked fresh pizza	✓	✓
Barley Wood Walled Kitchen Garden	Organic vegetables	-	✓
Barley Wood Walled Garden Studios	Studio pottery, pastel paintings, prints and cards, ceramic sculptures and planters	✓	✓
Bengrove Market Garden (Guest)	Organic vegetables and herbs	✓	-
Blackberry Lane Designs	Enamelled copper pictures and gifts	✓	✓
Butterflies	Gluten free muffins, quiches and frittatas	✓	-
Carolyn Williamson Jewellery	Silver jewellery	✓	✓
Chew Moo's Ice Cream Company	Artisan ice cream	✓	✓
CJ's Home Baking	Gluten, wheat and dairy free sweet and savouries	✓	✓
Claire Hall Glass	Glass jewellery and art glass	✓	✓
Clevedon Craft Centre	Pottery, glass, textiles and jewellery	✓	✓
Coburg Crafts	Jewellery and accessories	✓	✓
Dragonfly Jewellery	Jewellery in silver, copper, hand fused glass and semi-precious beads	✓	✓
FeltbyFi	Feltwork including pictures and jewellery	-	✓
Get Noticed	Memo/pin boards, cushions, bags	✓	✓
Great British Country Preserves	Artisan chutneys, marmalades, jams and jellies	✓	✓
Handmade by Charlie Deighton	Cards, rag dolls, homeware and gifts	✓	✓
Hand painted Stuff	Hand painted furniture and objects	✓	✓
Images by Simon	Landscape photography	✓	✓
Jacklands Fishing Lakes	Smoked trout products	-	✓
Jammy Picklers	Homemade preserves	✓	✓
Jane's Flower Pots	Hanging baskets and planters	✓	✓
JoeJoe Handmade	Hand sewn gifts	✓	✓



		Sat	Sun
John Smythe – Beekeeper	Bee and honey products	✓	✓
Kate Sawtell	Woodturning and woodcraft gifts and home accessories	✓	-
Lucy Routh Art	Original artwork and prints	✓	✓
Mayringues	Meringues and marshmallows	✓	✓
Missycards	Handmade cards and framed gifts	✓	✓
Moda Glass	Bespoke stained glass work	✓	✓
Mydsomer Studio	Fused glass jewellery, dishes and panels	✓	✓
Pear Tree Arts	Ceramics, mixed media and paperclay jewellery	✓	✓
RCH Brewery	Micro Brewery: real ale and cakes	✓	✓
RT Bear	Hand thrown porcelain ware	✓	✓
Rugs of Art	Rugs, wool pictures and embroidery	✓	✓
Saunders Creative	Bespoke designs/illustrations, cards, prints, artwork and decals	-	✓
Serious Treats	Chocolate brownies	✓	✓
Somerset Boddgers	Green timber products	✓	✓
Somerset Charcuterie	Salami and chorizo, Cured meat	✓	✓
Stephanie Eastwood Floral Design	Seasonal hand tied posies and arrangements	-	✓
The Story Group	Organic beef and lamb burgers, sausages and bacon baps	✓	✓
Tinkuleles	Tinkuleles, kazoos, ukulele ear rings, badges and key rings	✓	-
A Touch of Glass	Hand crafted stained glass gifts	✓	-
Trethowan's Dairy Ltd.	Gorwydd Caerphilly	✓	✓
Westcountry Wood Design	Bespoke furniture makers and restorers	-	✓
Whitegates Apple Juice	Apple and pear juices. Medium and dry cider	✓	✓
The Wicked Chilli	Locally produced original chilli sauces	-	✓
Wight & Wight	Jewellery, scarves, bags, fused glass and decorative items	✓	✓
Winnies Bakery Ltd.	Bread, cakes, pastries, rolls and flavoured breads	✓	✓
Woodnthings	Mirrors, boxes, bud vases, crafts and small items –	✓	✓

* Normal admission fees to the garden also apply





LOCAL EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 5

Long Ashton Horticultural Society 90th Flower Show 2.30-5pm, Village Hall. 166 different classes to enter. www.lahortsoc.co.uk

Thursday 10 - Sunday 13

Gordano Open Days. Organised with English Heritage as part of their nationwide Open Days. Venues include Black Horse Inn, Clevedon Lane, Clapton-in-Gordano. An unspoilt 14th Century inn. Open 11am-11pm (Thurs, Fri, Sat), noon-10pm (Sun). St Michael's Church, Clevedon Lane, Clapton-in-Gordano. A 14th Century church. 11am-6pm (Thurs-Sun). Also visit St Paul's Church, Black Nore Lighthouse, The White Lion and The Royal Inn. www.gordano.org

Friday 11

An evening of popular classics by Richard Lennox 7.30pm, Theatre In The Hut, off Milton Avenue, Weston-super-Mare (also an evening of Music from The Shows, Saturday 12) £8 per concert. 01934 626 349

Saturday 19

Sea cadets jumble sale 10.30am-noon. Sea Cadets HQ, off Sunnyside Road, Weston-super-Mare.

Sunday 20

North Somerset Vintage Tractor Club ploughing match 10am, Birches Farm, Cambridge Batch, Flax Bourton. Vintage tractors, demonstrations, dry stone walling, stalls and crafts. Supporting Marie Curie Cancer Care UK. £2 adults, children free. Free parking. 01275 474 649 www.nvtec-northsomerset.org
Friends of The Playhouse Open Day Playhouse Theatre, High Street, Weston-super-Mare. From 10.30am-3pm. First tour 11am.

Saturday 26

Mendip Society walk around Sand Bay, Middlehope Beach and Woodspring Priory Meet 2pm in the NT Sand Point car park, Beach Road, Kewstoke. Moderate 5-6 miles, some hills. 01934 842 868

OCTOBER

Saturday 3

Aquinas Piano Trio 7.30pm, St Johns Church, Churchill. Inc Mendelssohn's Trio in D minor. £14.50; Champions of Churchill Music! £10.50; under 18s £4. From 01934 852 919, 01934 852 245, info@churchillmusic.org.uk or on the door.

Monday 5 - Saturday 31

Harvey's Scarecrow Trail In aid of the Harvey Hext Appeal. Trail map £2.50 from Winford Village Shop, Chew Magna Co-op, Chew Stoke Shop, Chew Lake Tea Rooms, Bowdens of West Harptree, and Wrington Pharmacy. www.justgiving.com/HarveyFundraising

Thursday 15 - Saturday 17

Spring and Port Wine by Portishead Players Somerset Hall, Portishead. Tickets from 03336 663 366, www.portisheadplayers.ticketsource.co.uk, or Morgan-Westley/Mother Nature in Portishead High Street.

Saturday 31

Yatton and District Horticultural Society Autumn Show 2-4.30pm, Yatton Village Hall

MUSIC

Mondays

Portishead in Harmony (E) (women only) 10.30am-12pm, The Folk Hall, Portishead High Street. £5 per session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Clevedon A Cappella (E) (women only) 1.15-2.45pm, Kenn Road Methodist Church, Clevedon. £5 per session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Mixed Company Community Choir (E) 7.30-9.30pm, Golden Valley Primary School, Nailsea. £6 per session with free taster

Clevedon Choral Society (E) 7.15 pm, Methodist Church Hall, Kenn Road, Clevedon. www.clevedonchoralsociety.org.uk

Clevedon Light Opera Club (E) 7.30pm (Juniors Thu 7pm) Princes Hall, Clevedon Community Centre. 01275 791 556

Vocalise Choir (E) 7.30-9.30pm, United Reform Church, Waterloo Street, Weston. £5 inc refreshments. 01934 627 709



Clevedon Players (and Wed, Fri) (leading up to a play) 7.30-10pm, the Stables, behind Princes Hall, Princes Road, Clevedon. 01275 853 975

RAFA Concert Band (E) 8pm, Blakehay Theatre, Weston-super-Mare. www.rafaconcertband.org.uk 01934 820 205

Tuesdays

Cadbury Wind Band (E) (term time only) 7.15-9.15pm, Yatton Rugby Football Club. 01275 792 300

Lyrical Ladies Choir (E) 7.20-8.20pm, Nailsea School. £4 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Waves of Harmony (E) 7.30pm, Victoria Methodist Church Hall, Station Road, Weston-super-Mare. Women's 4-part acapella group. www.wavesofharmony.co.uk

Cheddar Male Choir (E) 7.30pm, Draycott Village Hall. New members welcome. www.cheddarmvchoir.co.uk

Winscombe Community Choir (E) 7.30pm, Winscombe Primary School, Moorham Road. www.winscombcommunitychoir.org.uk

Weston Choral Society (E) (term time only) 7.30pm, Milton Methodist Church Hall, Milton Hill, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 813 255

Clevedon Music Club (3) 7.30pm, Community Centre, Princes Road. Classical concerts by professional musicians. £8 per concert on the door. 01275 879 099

Nailsea Choral Society (E) 7.30pm, Vestry Hall, Christ Church, Nailsea. 01275 875 533 www.nailseachoral.org.uk

Portishead Town Band (E) 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, High Street. New players welcome. 07816 544 474, 01275 818 575

Pill Community Choir (E) 7.45-9.15pm, Pill Community Centre. £5 per session or £4 if paying for a term. Free taster session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Congresbury Singers (E) 7.50pm, Old School Rooms, Congresbury. 01934 876 104

Samba Drumming (E) 8-10pm, Kingsley Hall, Clevedon. Beginners welcome, £6 with free taster session. 07786 753 198

Weston Brass Band (E) (and Thu) 8pm, Church Road Methodist Church, Upper Church Road, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 842 461

Nailsea Folk Club (2) Grove Sports Centre, Nailsea. (4) Prince of Orange Inn, Yatton. All musicians and singers welcome. 01275 857 784

Wednesdays

Clevedon Ladies Choir (E) (September-June) 2.15-3.30pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Alexandra Road. £25 per year. 01275 876 131 or 01275 858 246

J-uke Box Ukulele Club (E) 6.30-8 pm, St Mark's Primary School, Worle. £5 per session. All abilities welcome. 07870 788457

Somerset Singers (E) 7.30pm, Meeting House, Sidcot School, Sidcot. 01934 743 965

Yatton Ladies Choir (E) 7.30-8.30pm, Yatton Infants School. £4 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Portishead Community Choir (E) 8-9.30pm, Avon Way Hall, Portishead. £5 per session or £4 if paying for a term. Free taster session. www.wendysergeant.vpweb.co.uk, 01275 814 220

Weston Music Appreciation Society (A) 7.30pm, St Jude's Hall, Baytree Road. 01934 814 752

Upstaged Drama Group (E during term time) 7-8.30pm, Theatre in the Hut. Sessions and workshops for 16 to 25-year-olds. upstaged@hotmail.com

Thursdays

Music Is Fun (E) (babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers) Methodist Church, Nailsea. 30 min session £3, 40 min session £3.40. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Singing Mums Choir (E) 7.10-8.10pm, Nailsea School. £4 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Portishead Choral Society (E) 7.30 pm, St Joseph's Catholic Church, West Hill, Portishead. 01275 849 278

Weston Music Appreciation Society (A) 7.30pm, St.Jude's Hall, Baytree Rd. 01934 814 732

Cantiamo Ladies Choir (A) (grade 8+ musicians only) 8.15-9.30pm, Nailsea School. £5 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Weston Organ and Keyboard Club (1) 7.30pm, Somerset Suite, Weston Football Club. £5 members, £6 non-members. 01934 812 759

Muskrats Jazz Band (1) 8.30pm, Clarence House, High Street, Portishead. £3. Bar and dancing, all welcome. 01275 814 434



Traditional jazz night (2)
8.30pm, Salthouse pub, Clevedon. Resident band, the Dixieland Rascals. Free entry

Fridays

Singing for Pleasure (E – 20-week course starts 26 Sept)
1.30-3pm, Tickenham Village Hall. 01934 512 669

Singtastics Junior Choir (E)
(Y3-Y7) 3.40-4.30pm, Hannah More School, Nailsea. £3 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Lions Brass 4 Youth (E)
5.30pm/6.15-7.45pm, 1st Clevedon Scout Hall. County brass band. 07815 733 886

Weston Youth Orchestra (E)
6-7pm (8-12 yrs), 7-9pm (12-20 yrs). Boulevard United Reformed Church, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 622 519 or 07787 520 230

Male Choir (E)
7.30-9pm, Victoria Methodist Hall, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 529 728

North Somerset Community Brass Band (E) 7.30-9.30pm, Puxton and Hewish Village Hall. 01275 397 582

Congresbury Brass Band (E)
7.30-9.30pm, Methodist Church Hall, Congresbury. 01275 849 611 / 07986 007 829

Nailsea Concert Orchestra (E)
(term time only), 7.30-9.45pm, Christ Church, Nailsea. www.nailseaconcertorchestra.org.uk

Clevedon Gilbert and Sullivan Society (E)
7.30-10pm, St Peter's Church Hall, Alexandra Road, Clevedon. New members welcome. 01934 838 713

West Mendip Orchestra (E)
(term time only) 7.45-10pm, Lynch Chapel, Winscombe. 01275 463 480

Nailsea Concert Orchestra (E)
(term time only) Nailsea Methodist Church. New players welcome. 01179 248 313 or 01275 866 192

Nailsea Theatre Club (E)
8pm, Nailsea Little Theatre, Union Street. 01275 852 275 (Box office: 07772 981 037)

Saturdays

Pret A Chanter Ladies Choir (A)
9.30-11.30am, Southfield Church, Nailsea. £8 per session. 07722 298 550, gillatkinson15@blueyonder.co.uk

Cadbury Saxophone Band (A)
10.15am-12.30pm in Cleeve/Yatton. 01934 830 072 or www.cadburysaxband.co.uk

Sundays

Barley Rye choir (E)
6.30-8.30pm (winter) 7-9pm (summer), Ring o' Bells, Nailsea. New members welcome. 01454 411 052

DANCE

Mondays

DB's Dance Club (E)
10-11am, Clevedon Community Centre. Line dancing. 01275 854 375

Ballroom and sequence beginners dance lessons (E)
10am-noon, Corpus Cristi church hall, Weston. 01934 510 749

Latin and jive for absolute beginners (E) 2-3.30pm, Bacwell Parish Hall. £4.50. 01275 876 314

Egyptian Bellydance (E)
(term time only) 7.30-8.30pm, Dance Studio, Nailsea School, Nailsea. 01275 855 016

Easy Strollers line dancing (E)
7-8pm (intermediate), 8-9pm (improvers), Clevedon Triangle Club, Old Church Road. 01275 875 235

Social dancing (E)
7.45-10.15pm, Lady of Lourdes Church Hall, Milton. 01934 644 691

Portishead Square Dancers (E)
8-10pm, Folk Hall, Portishead. 01275 817 964
£2.50 each class

Tuesdays

Social Morning with Historic and Country Dancing to Live Music (E) 9.30-11.30am, Folk Hall, Portishead. £2 per person. 01275 847 909

Movement to Music (E)
10-11am, Methodist Church, Portishead. 07899 754 937

Shake-a-Leg Social and Dancing (2) 2-4pm, Lady of Lourdes Church Hall, Milton, Weston-super-Mare, £1.50 inc tea/cake. 01934 413 571

DB's Dance Club social tea dance (E) 2.30-5pm, Clevedon Community Centre. 01275 854 375

Avon Dance Club (E)
8-10pm, Somerset Hall, Portishead. Ballroom and Latin practice night. 01934 823 128

Weston Folk Dance Club (E)
8-10pm, Corpus Christi Church Hall, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 514 226

Portishead LeRoc (E)
8-10.30pm, Portishead Primary School, Station Road. Modern jive. 01275 846 247

Ceroc dance lessons (E)
8-11pm, Banwell Village Hall. www.ceroclebeat.net, ceroclebeat@outlook.com

Ballroom and sequence (E)
8-11pm, Town and Country Lodge, Bridgwater Road. 0117 9778 200

Wednesdays

Easy Strollers line dancing (E)
improvers 9.15-10.15am, 1st Clevedon Scout Hall, Great Western Road. 01275 875 235

DB's Dance Club line dancing (E)
10.45-11.45am, Clevedon Community Centre. 01275 854 375

Sequence tea dance (E)
2-4pm, Avonway Hall, Portishead. 01934 644 745

Latin and jive for absolute beginners (E)
7-8pm and 'next steps' from 8.15pm. (Also Thurs 2-3.45pm) St Peter's Church Hall, Clevedon. £4.50. 01275 876 314

Easy Strollers line dancing (E)
beginners 7-8pm, 2nd Clevedon Scout Hall, Coleridge Vale Road North

Abanico Salsa Classes (E)
7.30-10.30pm (3 classes, beginners to improvers), Clevedon Triangle Club. Call in advance: 07971 565 406

50s and 60s rock 'n' roll (E)
8pm-late, Tavern Inn the Town, Regent Street, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 412 826

Thursdays

Easy Strollers line dancing (E)
9.15-10.15am (improvers)
10.20-11.20am (intermediate)
1st Clevedon Scout Hall. 01275 875 235

New and Old Sequence dance class (E)
10.30am-12.30pm, Kewstoke Village Hall. 07437 203 642

DB's Dance Club line dancing (E)
11am-1pm, Folk Hall, Portishead. 01275 854 375

Yatton Sequence Dance Club (E)
2-4.30pm, Claverham Village Hall. 01275 851 221
yattonsequencedanceclub@mail.com

Egyptian Bellydance (E)
(term time only) 7.15-8.15pm, Mead Vale Community Centre, Redwing Drive, Worle. 01275 855 016

Social dancing (E)
7.45-10.15pm, Lady of Lourdes Church Hall, Milton. 01934 644 691

Nailsea Le Roc (E)
8-10.30pm, Scotch Horn Leisure Centre, Nailsea. Beginners/intermediates. £6. 07816 649 077

Portishead Ceilidh Club (1)
7.30-9.30pm, Gordano School Hall, Portishead. 01275 847 909

Fridays

North Somerset Intercultural Dancing Association (E)
7.45-9.30pm, Nailsea Methodist Church, Silver Street. Free admission. 01275 854 366

Ballroom, Latin and sequence dancing (E)
2-4.30pm, Kewstoke Village Hall. 07437 203 642

T&A Burlesque (E)
6-7pm, Victory Hall, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare. 01934 627 122 or 07732 799 918

Clevedon Sequence Dance Club (E)
7.45-10.30pm, Walton St Mary's Church Hall. 01275 847 293

Social dance (1)
8-11.30pm, Somerset Hall, Portishead. £5. 01275 831 884

Streetdance (2)(4)
7-8.30pm, Claverham Village Hall. For 8-15-year-olds. 01934 838 017

Social dance (4)
8-10.30pm, St. James Hall, Winscombe. £4. 01934 516 852

Saturdays

Chelis Theatre Company (E)
2-5pm St. Saviours Church Hall, Weston-super-Mare. Drama, dance and singing for 6-18-year-olds. 01934 625 301

Sundays

Social dancing (E)
7.30-10.30pm, Hutton Moor Leisure Centre, Weston-super-Mare. £5. 01934 518 529 www.westonsocialdancing.co.uk

Avon Dance Club Tea Dance (Monthly) 3-6pm, Somerset Hall Portishead. 01934 823 128

Clubs, societies, music groups and more can all register to be part of a new online digital database.

North Somerset Council's new online directory is full of information for families and adults and it is also the place to find out about local clubs and associations.

This databases replaces the previous listings website www.clearasmud.org.uk so organisations must make sure they register on the new site.

Sign up at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/onlineDirectory



Celebrate Clevedon's Marine Lake restoration



Festival-goers can enjoy a fantastic line-up of music, fireworks, field and lake activities at a popular event to promote Clevedon's Marine Lake.

Clevedon Tides Festival returns to Salthouse Fields from Friday 18 to Sunday 20 September and this year's event celebrates the completion of the £850,000 six-month restoration of the lake.

The lake's official opening will take place next spring to coincide with the anniversary of its original opening but visitors can enjoy a full weekend of activities both in and out of the water next month.

The restoration project was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and supported by North Somerset Council, Clevedon Town Council and Marlens (Marine Lake Enthusiasts).

It included...

- Reinforcing and raising the existing sea wall. A fibre-reinforced concrete inner wall has been installed against the existing sea wall.



- Installing a new, larger sluice to allow the lake to be managed more effectively.
- De-silting and exposing the lake bed for the first time in 80 years. About 16,000 tonnes of silt has been returned to the estuary, under the terms of a Marine Management Organisation licence.
- Providing better access in and around the lake, including a ramp at the west end near Wains Hill, refurbished steps and hand railing, new slipway access at the east end, and new surfacing on the lower promenade.
- Installing a children's water play area.

Music, fireworks, fun and more

Take to the water and try sailing or canoeing or zip about with zorbing during the popular Clevedon Tides Festival.

Visitors can enjoy a host of both land and water-based activities during the annual festival, from Friday 18 to Sunday 20 September, organised in support of Marlens.

More than 300 children from six local primary schools will visit the lake on the Friday and that evening the film *Grease* will be shown at the town's inaugural drive-in cinema.

Saturday's activities will include a Victorian-style pushball competition, a tug of war competition, and a 'busk off' with musicians competing for a slot on the stage.





A classic passenger ship, the 1949 Balmoral, will set sail from the pier in the evening during the firework display, and homemade lanterns can be seen during the lantern procession.

A skateboard competition will be held on Sunday, with competitors from Clevedon, Nailsea and Weston-super-Mare.

Art displays will also be featured along with seafront and around the town, as well as literary events run by Clevedon Community Bookshop.

The festival is free but visitors who give £1 will be entered into a raffle to win a kayak.

 www.facebook.com/clevedontides
www.marlens.org.uk



Community gets involved

Public interest in Marine Lake's restoration remains high and plans are in place to keep the community engaged.

Marlens and the marine lake ranger Jo Tasker have hosted several public visits to the site during the renovation. Students from Weston College and Clevedon School have also visited to learn about the civil engineering project.



Volunteers are now needed to help in a variety of roles, whether in a technical position, as guides, or working with local schools to develop educational opportunities and resources.

Artists are also invited to use the lake as inspiration and submit work for an exhibition next year, organised by Clevedon Art Club.

For more information contact Jo Tasker: **01934 427 277** or joanna.tasker@n-somerset.gov.uk

Writing on the lake



Wordsmiths are invited to put pen to paper and write about their memories, influences or imaginations of Clevedon's Marine Lake.

Writers from anywhere of any age can submit prose, short stories or non-fiction up to 500 words.

Winning entries will be included in an anthology launched next spring.

The competition is free to enter and the closing date is Sunday 1 November.

Submit work online at www.marlens.org.uk or www.clevedoncommunitybookshop.coop, email enquiries@clevedoncommunitybookshop.coop or send hard copies to Clevedon Community Bookshop in Copse Road.

New changes to Nailsea bus services

New and improved bus routes and timetables are now running between Nailsea and Bristol thanks to government funding.

The new routes came into effect in August after operators First and Abus won a joint bid to the Department for Transport's Local Sustainable Transport Fund.

North Somerset Council consulted with local residents in February and the bus operators then submitted their proposals about how they would improve services between Nailsea and Bristol.

As a result, these changes have now been made...

- Services X8 and X9 now operate between Nailsea and Bristol only, with a combined frequency of every 15 minutes into the city centre. The X8 runs through Backwell and along the Long Ashton bypass while the X9 goes through Wraxall and Long Ashton. This means Wraxall now has a bus every 30 minutes, which is a significant increase and was desperately sought-after by villagers.
- Service A2 now extends into Clevedon and Portishead with buses alternating between the two towns.

This replaces the X8 in these areas and provides Clevedon and Portishead with a bus link to Bristol Airport for the first time.

- Late evening journeys have also been introduced on the X8 between Nailsea and Bristol after requests for more night journeys.
- Some X54 and 55 journeys have now been amalgamated into the X8 and X9, with a number of journeys operated by Abus. All First standard tickets can be bought and are accepted on Abus journeys.



- Carmel Bristol is now operating service X54, with a peak-time return journey between Nailsea and Bristol.

For more detailed route and timetable information visit www.travelwest.info/nailseabus or call operator First: **0117 244 4040**

New bus link for Portbury Docks

People working in Portbury Docks can now commute by bus from Portishead, Clevedon and Weston-super-Mare.

First's X5 service now serves a dedicated bus stop near the port, just off Junction 19 of the M5.

Buses arrive at 7.52am, 8.54am and 9.55am and depart at 4.25pm, 5.30pm and 6.33pm.

To download the X5 timetable visit www.travelwest.info/x5



Pedal power around Long Ashton

Families can get on their bikes and join a fun family quiz, while cycling around Long Ashton this month.



The Great Bike Hike returns on Sunday 27 September along Long Ashton's Festival Way cycle route.

The event, co-hosted by North Somerset Council and Birdwell School, is aimed at all ages and abilities.

It is not a race and riders can start anytime between 11am and 1pm, to make sure they finish by 2pm.

The route covers about three miles along a small part of the Festival Way and quiz questions will be posted on the way.

Cyclists can continue along the route into Ashton Court but the quiz questions are only posted between Birdwell School, in Hollis Close, and the crossing at Ashton Road.

This year's theme and activities taking place at Birdwell School will be announced in early September.

See www.facebook.com/goforlife.northsomerset for updates.

For more information about the event and how to register visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/thegreatbikehike or call 01275 882 730



Encouraging and helping people
to live healthier and more active lives



Unlocking new potential with the Young Persons Key

Boredom is now being kept at bay thanks to a new website for young people in North Somerset.

North Somerset Council has joined forces with education and arts company Boomsatsuma to give a new lease of life to the Young Persons Key (YPK).

A new listings website has been set up to showcase all the activities available for young people living in North Somerset, whether sports, arts, music or more.

Boomsatsuma is the largest employer of creative apprentices and interns in the South West and it is committed to providing engaging opportunities for young people in the community.

Visit www.getupgetout.uk



Book in early to get your flu jab

Seasonal flu jabs will soon be available and doctors are encouraging patients in at-risk groups to get booked in.



James Benton

The flu vaccine is available any time from October to next February but it is better to have it sooner rather than later to give you the best protection against the virus.

Flu is a common viral respiratory infection which can be spread easily by coughs and sneezes, and even people with mild or no symptoms can still pass it onto others.

Common symptoms include fever, chills, headache, aches and pains in joints and muscles, and extreme tiredness.

Every year many people have time off work or are admitted to hospital with complications caused by the virus and about 11,000 people in England died from flu in 2012/13.

Healthy people usually recover within a week but some people are about 10 times more likely to develop

complications, if they are in an at-risk group.

James Benton knows how serious the flu can become.

The 38-year-old father-of-four suffered from severe flu last winter.

He said: "I contracted what I thought was 'man flu'.

"My wife was away for a long weekend and I started feeling ill on the Friday. I struggled into work but by the evening had a really bad head cold and my temperature had gone up to 101F. I called my mum and she collected the children for me.

"I had an emergency prescription of tablets but I was delirious and basically lost two days, over the Saturday and Sunday.

"It felt like someone had got a syringe and pulled the life force out of me."

By Monday, James started to recover and began to eat and drink a little.

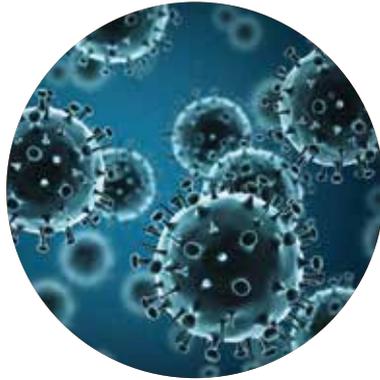
He said: "By then, it felt like the worst cold symptoms I had ever had in my life, which I had for the next few days. I was ill for about 10 days in all.

"I strongly advise anyone to get the flu jab if they are entitled to it. I never want to feel like that again."

Are you in an at-risk group?

Free flu jabs are available for...

- people aged 65 and over
- those with underlying health conditions such as respiratory, cardiac, kidney, liver and neurological diseases, diabetes or immunosuppression
- children over six months of age with a long-term illness
- pregnant women
- carers
- two to seven-year-olds (via a nasal spray)
- people with learning disabilities.



How does the vaccine work?

The vaccine stimulates your immune system so it can recognise and fight off the virus if you come into contact with it later.

There are some fairly common, but mild, side effects. However, the vaccine does not give you a mild dose of flu because it does not contain the active virus.

How do I get it?

Anyone entitled to a free flu vaccine will be able to get it at their GP surgery, except children in years 1 and 2 who will receive it at school.

Many surgeries have special flu clinics and you may not need to book an appointment. Check dates and times with your surgery.

Many pharmacies in North Somerset also offer a free vaccination service for eligible people aged 16 to 65 who may find it difficult to get to their surgery or would prefer to have it at a pharmacy.

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/fightflu

Will the vaccine work?

Last year there was some concern in the media that the flu vaccine wasn't as effective as usual, because a new strain had developed which wasn't included in the 2014 vaccine.

This year's vaccine will include protection against this new strain along with two others that have been identified as the most common in circulation.

This is why it is very important to have the flu vaccine every year – it continues to offer the best and only real protection against flu.

 www.nhs.uk/flu-jab





Watch out for **junk mail** scams

Overseas criminals are mugging people in their own homes using mass marketing scam mail, North Somerset Council's trading standards team are warning.



Junk mail is a nuisance for many but also an on-going crime against some of the most vulnerable people.

Modern technology means documents can be created in vast quantities and distributed around the world.

They are personalised to make them seem believable and, once the victim is hooked, the quantity increases because their details are sold onto criminal networks.

A number of older residents in North Somerset have lost significant amounts of money after buying into international lottery scams.

Trading standards officers are intervening and supporting residents to stop responding to these 'exciting' letters.

Principal trading standards officer Helen Heskins said: "Some people cannot stop responding. This can lead to unpaid bills, going without food and even suicide.

"We need to safeguard victims from this on-going financial abuse which can destroy confidence, create more isolation as it gets out of control, divide families and lead to losses of thousands of pounds."

Mr Jones, who is in his 80s, had responded to postal competitions for a number of years since his wife passed away.

He sent cheques to clairvoyants who claimed he had won some money. He enjoyed the letterbox clattering with post every day and wrote the date he received the letter and when he replied.

One day he received a call from a foreign lottery and decided to make a debit card payment of £18.

In one month more than £900 was taken from his account by a foreign lottery company and he sent £280 in cheques to scammers.

As a result he became overdrawn and was paying bank charges. He only has his state pension to live on.



What you can do

- get information and advice at www.thinkjessica.com
- understand how the criminals work and talk to family and friends about the risks
- let trading standards know if you're concerned about someone who receives several scam letters a day, orders new cheque books regularly, always pops to the post office or waits in for the postman. They may be trapped in a cycle of letters, phone calls and payments to scammers.

Report it at community.mailwatch@n-somerset.gov.uk
or call
Citizens Advice Consumer Services: 03454 040 506

Navigating through care options

Free, impartial advice is available to adults in North Somerset who would like to stay as independent as possible but don't know where to turn.



The care navigator service is for anyone over the age of 18 who lives at home, in a care home, or has been discharged from hospital and needs help steering through the options available.

The service aims to be short-term, responsive and client-led, providing advice to the person, their families and carers.

It supports people who have more than £23,250 in savings (or £46,500 in joint savings) and are therefore responsible for paying for their own social care, or those who do not want an assessment of their care needs.

Care navigators use their local knowledge to help meet people's needs. This could be accessing community and voluntary services, lunch clubs and more, as well as

home care, residential or nursing homes stays and day centre services.

Care navigator Pauline Simpson said: "This service ensures that people paying for their own care receive the same level of advice and support as someone funded by social services.

"The options available can be quite overwhelming so we can help to steer people through the choices to find the right care and get the best value for money."

Audrey and her husband Dennis*, who are in their 70s, received advice from the team after Audrey was discharged from hospital in May.

She said: "We have always managed by ourselves and it felt quite uncomfortable to admit that we needed help from outside, rather than friends and relatives.

"But our daughter lives three hours away and while she could come down in an emergency, we knew we'd need to organise help."

The care navigator helped Audrey arrange care twice a week, advised which benefits the couple might be entitled to, and told them about the Motex equipment and demonstration centre in Weston where they could try out equipment.

Audrey added:
"The service I have received from both the care navigator and care agency has been excellent. I have been very impressed."

"I want to stay in my own home as long as possible and this has helped me to achieve my goal."

People can choose whether to receive the care navigator service through telephone calls or home visits.

*not their real names

 Call Care Connect for more information or a referral:
01275 888 801
care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk





Older people get their voices heard



Older people in North Somerset are getting their voices heard by joining groups which aim to promote inclusion and combat isolation.

Senior Community Link (SCL) are engagement and consultation groups for anyone in North Somerset aged 50 and over.

They act as a channel for two-way communication between older people who use services and the organisations which provide them.

Guest speakers are invited to talk about wide-ranging issues, whether health services, policing, housing, social isolation or public toilets.

Barbara Seaton, chairperson of SCL West, said: "North Somerset Council, on a limited budget, has to support a very big population of older people.

"The council needs to know whether its policies are meeting a real need or missing the target and this is where the SCLs come in.

"We scrutinise the council's policies as a group with experiences of living life as older people."

North Somerset Council developed its first older people strategy in 2007 and was keen to establish a direct dialogue with this age group.

SCL was established in 2009 with help from Age UK Somerset after funding ended for the previous Partnership with Older People panels.

The groups are organised geographically and there is also a SCL for people from black and other minority ethnic communities.

Members meet throughout the year and representatives from each SCL can then raise important issues at North Somerset Council's older people champions group.

Councillors sit on this group so it means members can have a direct conversation with them about their issues.

Ursula Marks is chairperson of the Clevedon-based SCL North group and has been involved for many years.

She said: "If anyone has any problems with a public service, we will try to help.



Where are the SCL groups?

All SCL groups are unique and have their own approach to the work they undertake.

- SCL BOME, for any black or minority ethnic person
- SCL North, covering Clevedon and Portishead
- SCL West, covering Weston-super-Mare
- SCL South, covering Worle, Castle Batch and Locking Castle
- SCL East, covering Yatton, Winscombe, Wrington, Sandford, Backwell and Nailsea



“We are a community group for over 50s but the issues don’t just effect older people. A lot of the issues face younger people as well, such as public toilets closing.

“It’s a place for people to get information but the social aspect is also very important. We always have tea and biscuits.”

Andrew Williams, chairperson of the SCL South group, has been involved in older people’s issues since he moved to Weston-super-Mare in 2007.

The 65-year-old said: “We are the link between older people and the council, we are creating a dialogue. We discuss just about anything; hospitals, police, transport issues.

“The social aspect is very important as well. We deal with people who are isolated and try to improve their quality of life. We always have tea and coffee and have get-togethers in August and at Christmas.

“You only have to give a couple of hours once a month, so it’s not a lot of time but we get so much out of it.”

Since April this year, SCLs have been hosted by not-for-profit housing and support organisation Curo, with funding from North Somerset Council.

This means Curo provides the SCLs with support, including promoting and publicity, increasing membership, admin support such as booking

meeting rooms, as well as arranging minibuses to collect people who wouldn’t otherwise be able to get to the groups.

Eighty-one-year-old Gordon Pears chairs the Portishead SCL North group.

He said: “What has motivated me to keep going has been a deep sense of personal satisfaction that I am doing something useful to improve the lot of older people in the community I live.

“We have no authority to impose our will upon these organisations so it is surprising that we are able to have such an influence.

“We campaigned for years to keep public toilets open, with some success, and we have championed

local transport issues and helped to get bus services improved.

“I have been surprised and delighted at the desire of councillors and officers to listen to and respond to the information we give them.

“They in turn seek our views on future plans and polices, so we are able to help shape the future as well as influence the present.”

Alun Davies, adult care manager at North Somerset Council, said: “SCLs are entirely independent of the host organisation, the council and any public service.

“Their role is to be an independent voice, to reflect the views and issues of older people to the council and other public bodies.”



New members are always welcome. To find out more contact June Chainey on **0300 123 2463** • scl@curo-group.co.uk



Supporting young people to



Leaving home at 16 would be daunting for anyone but some young people face independent living without close family to support them.

Young people who have been living in foster or residential care often aren't ready to live on their own at 16 and need more time to develop life skills such as cooking and budgeting.

North Somerset Council's supported lodgings scheme acts as a stepping stone by bringing together care leavers aged 16 to 18 with hosts, people who can rent out a room in their home, offer advice and help build a young person's confidence.

To be eligible for the scheme the young person must demonstrate their commitment to finding employment or further education, mutually agree house rules and gain increasing

responsibility for themselves until they're ready to move on.

Hosts receive training and support, as well as an additional income.

Paul Fuller, supported lodgings co-ordinator, said: "We don't want the young person to fail at this critical time in their lives.

"We welcome people from all walks of life to become hosts. You'll be helping young people and making a valuable contribution to society."

Host Lynn said: "You don't need to be around all of the time but you do need to be supportive.

"You're encouraging them to do things for themselves and it is so rewarding helping them prepare for independence."



be independent

Supported Lodgings

a pathway to independence



Sixteen-year-old Rick is currently living with foster carers but will be moving out soon to start a new chapter of his life.

He said: "I'm starting to plan ahead with the help of my leaving care adviser, but I'm nervous. I've never shopped for meals, but I love food.

"I want to be a mechanic but I struggle to find the confidence to apply for jobs.

"We've decided that the best thing for me is to live with a supported lodgings host who can show me the ropes, just until I've found my feet.

"I'll have the support of my leaving-care adviser too, which is cool."

The young person receives financial support and help from a personal adviser until they are 21, and a pathway plan records their goals.

Could I be a supported lodgings host?

Anyone aged 21 or over with a spare room, who enjoys being with young people, could become a host.

It is not as hands-on as fostering so suits people who may be working full or part-time.

You don't need specific qualifications or experience, and you do not need to own your own home.

You are not offering a permanent home but a stepping stone, which

could be anything from two months to three years, depending on the young person's progress.

What's involved?

You are providing a safe home for a care leaver, being there to support them and encouraging their independence.

House rules will form part of the placement agreement.

In return hosts will receive training, a generous support package and guidance from a dedicated co-ordinator.



Who are the young people?

Most young people looking for supported lodgings hosts are 16 to 18-year-olds who have been living with foster carers or in residential homes.

The majority do not have close family they can depend on and they've

decided they're not ready to live independently.

To live with a host, they must demonstrate their commitment to finding employment or further education and agree house rules.

What are hosts expected to provide?

You'll provide the young person with a comfortable room of their own, a key to the house, use of communal rooms and facilities, at least one meal a day and emotional support if needed.

Any other advice on cooking, shopping on a budget, managing laundry, saving money or applying for jobs will be gratefully received.

What are the benefits of being a host?

Hosts receive comprehensive support and training, a weekly allowance to cover costs, and free membership to the Fostering Network, including comprehensive insurance.



Call the supported lodgings team to find out more: **01275 888 999**

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/supportedlodgings

Rewarding recycling

The first winners of a scheme to get more people recycling their food waste have now been chosen with each lucky recipient picking up their £50 prize.

Feed Me and Win!

Recycle your food to win

£50
VOUCHER



Feed Me and Win is a new scheme by North Somerset Council and the other West of England authorities - Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, and South Gloucestershire - to reduce the amount of food waste being sent to landfill.

To be in with a chance of winning a £50 voucher to spend in a shop of your choice, simply put your food bin out for recycling.

One winner from each council area is chosen at random every week. Winners can also donate their £50 to a British charity.

Mrs Kemp, from Portishead, was one of the first residents in North Somerset to win.

She said: "Winning this prize was unexpected but if I can win, anyone can, just for doing something we all should be doing."

"I am passionate about recycling and it is great that food waste can be captured to generate electricity, instead of it going to landfill where we have no space for it."

Funding for the scheme comes from the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Anyone with a kerbside waste and recycling collection is eligible to win. The scheme will run until March next year.

How can I win?

To be in with a chance of winning, just put your food recycling out by 7am on your collection day.

Make sure your food bin is clearly labelled with your address so it can be matched to your property.

The more often you use the service, the more chance you have of winning.

Winners will receive a hand-delivered notification card through their letterbox telling them how to claim.

What can I recycle?

- any cooked or uncooked food, including meat, bones, egg shells and vegetable peelings
- teabags and coffee grounds
- pet food
- food that is past its use-by-date – just remove any packaging first.



Did you know?

- you can line your food caddy with a plastic carrier bag, compostable liner, brown paper bag, kitchen roll or newspaper
- on average, 21 per cent of general household waste is food waste that could have been recycled
- it is cheaper for the council to recycle food waste than it is to send it to landfill. Every year 10,500 tonnes of food waste is produced in North Somerset, of which more than 4,000 goes to landfill. Recycling all food waste would save more than £170,000 a year.
- food waste in landfill releases methane, a harmful greenhouse gas. So as well as saving money, recycling food waste is good for the environment
- food waste has real value - it is taken to an anaerobic digestion plant in Weston-super-Mare where the gases produced are used to generate electricity and heat, and the processed food is turned into fertiliser.

 To order a food recycling bin and/or a kitchen caddy contact Council Connect: **01934 888 802**
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/foodwaste
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/feedmeandwin



Award for waste and recycling team



TV presenter Nicki Chapman (left) with Colin Russell, waste service manager at North Somerset Council, Andrew Prestit, recycling and waste contracts officer at North Somerset Council, and Jude Ferguson, chair of Weston College Corporation.
 Photo courtesy of Weston College

An innovative scheme to improve recycling rates was recognised at an annual awards ceremony hosted by Weston College.

The college's Business Awards celebrate positive partnerships between the college and employers and North Somerset Council's recycling and waste team, along with its contractor Kier, scooped Work Experience Provider of the Year.

The accolade was in recognition of the work the team has been doing with long-term unemployed college students.

Students have been carrying out surveys, speaking to residents and monitoring recycling rates in areas where recycling performance is poor.

This has helped the council improve recycling rates in those areas and helped the students gain confidence and improve their skills.

To date, 30 students have gained full-time employment since taking part in the project.

Mentors needed to support young people



Kind-hearted adults who could spare a couple of hours a week supporting young people in North Somerset are being invited to become volunteer mentors.

Mentoring project Junction 21, managed by North Somerset youth offending service, is on the look-out for volunteers who could support people aged 10 to 23 who are vulnerable for a variety of reasons.

This might include young people living in care, at risk of offending or anti-social behaviour, or because of their poor behaviour and attendance at school.

The next training programme starts in October and volunteers who successfully complete it will be matched with a young person who they'll meet regularly for at least a year.

The youth offending service, which includes members of the police, social services, health, education and probation, supports young people to deal with any issues and helps them become positive and responsible adults.

Full training is given and mentors who complete the course will gain a

national-recognised qualification in mentoring skills.

There is also monthly group supervision, twice-yearly social events, on-going training and personal expenses are covered.

The project has recently received Approved Provider Standard accreditation from the Mentoring and Befriending Foundation.

Potential volunteers are checked by the Disclosure and Barring Service, two references will be needed, and anyone in recovery must be free from substance issues for at least five years. Some offences may stop people working with young people.

Junction 21 wants people who...

- can spare a couple of hours a week for a minimum of 12 months
- are committed to helping and supporting young people
- can empathise with young people.

**Junction
21**

What do new mentors think?

The training was really informative and prepares you to be a mentor.

It was both fun and focused in equal measures.

Great facilitators, really helpful and knowledgeable.

i To request an application pack and find out more contact Steve Coggins: **01275 888 360, 07776 170 028**, or **junction21@n-somerset.gov.uk**

Get vocal, be heard

Consultation is an important part of North Somerset Council's work – gathering feedback and making changes where possible.



While the council can't act on every suggestion, it makes an effort to recognise good ideas and works to include residents' ideas where possible.

You said:

What are you doing to help traffic flow around the Cabstand junction?



We did:

North Somerset Council engineers held a consultation exercise in June asking for feedback on plans to improve Portishead's busy Cabstand junction.

Some changes had been made to the original design and the impact of new housing developments meant that a review of the area was needed to improve traffic flow and pedestrian access.

Initially engineers had suggested installing a series of traffic calming measures at the junction, but feedback from the consultation showed a strong preference for a mini-roundabout.

As a result, a mini-roundabout was installed in August on a trial basis.

CCTV is being used to monitor the roundabout and signs have been installed to advise drivers of the trial, as well as inviting further feedback on the scheme.

After the trial, a decision will be made on what final measures can be put in place.

People can still send comments about the scheme to cabstand@n-somerset.gov.uk or call **01934 426 279**.

You said:

Can you put more rubbish and recycling bins along Weston's seafront please?

We did:

Sixty-eight new bins were installed in Weston-super-Mare in time for the summer holidays.

This includes 37 recycling points for plastic bottles and drinks cans and 31 bins for other litter that cannot be recycled.

These extra bins will help increase the council's recycling rate and bring it in line with best practice examples for on-street recycling.

Additional bins are being left in storage so they can be brought out during busy times of the year to cope with demand.

During quieter times, some bins will be put back into storage so the seafront will appear less cluttered.





YOUR VIEWS



Dear Editor,

Thanks North Somerset Council for adding 30 minutes to my daily commute by putting traffic lights at Downside Rd/A38. Traffic flow is now much slower.

By email

Editor's reply:

Our highways team has monitoring equipment and cameras in place to look at this length of road. We will look at the results and make alterations to the phasing of the traffic lights if they are needed.

We have had some positive comments from locals who find they can now get out of Downside Road much more easily than before the traffic lights were installed.

Dear Editor,

I have just replaced my green recycling boxes and was surprised when I broke an old one into small

pieces that it was taken out of the recycling boxes by the collectors and left.

Didn't expect North Somerset Council to issue boxes that cannot be recycled.

Brian Cherry, Clevedon

Colin Russell, recycling and waste service manager:

Recycling boxes are made out of hard plastic, so they are not recyclable through the kerbside scheme or any other outlet because of the small quantity we would receive.

It is something we are actively looking at, though, and a small hard plastic recycling trial took place at Portishead recycling centre recently but this wasn't successful. We are continuing to look at other options.

Old boxes can be exchanged and we offer these for reuse. They are popular at sites such as allotments.

Send your items to
Editor, North Somerset Life
North Somerset Council
Floor 1, Town Hall
Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1UJ or email
editor@n-somerset.gov.uk

@NorthSomersetC

NorthSomersetCouncil

NorthSomersetC

Items submitted without a valid name and address will not be considered for publication. Please tell us if you do not want your details published. Due to space restrictions letters may be edited.

We can't show all of your photos in *Life* but you can see them at pinterest.com/NorthSomersetC



Heather Oakley



Trudy Williams



Pete Williams



Many topics are covered on Twitter and Facebook and last month these issues were raised.

@NorthSomersetC send a letter telling ppl to enter voter info on 'registerbyinternet.com'. Sounds very dodgy.

North Somerset Council
The link is legitimate, set up by central government not North Somerset Council.

Your security is maintained by the unique reference number. Any queries should be directed to 08001 979 871.

I need to get rid of a corner bath. Do you collect items like this?

North Somerset Council
Visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/bulkywaste

@NorthSomersetC
Re: Feed me and win competition. I left my address on the food bin but the paper I wrote it on was still there this afternoon. Do I need the

extra label with road name?

North Somerset Council
The label needs to be a permanent fixture. It can't hurt to put the road name too, especially if there are a few roads in close vicinity.

North Somerset *Life* is the award winning magazine for the people of North Somerset.

Your copy should be delivered with your post unless you use Royal Mail's opt out service to block unaddressed mail. You can download this issue and back issues from www.n-somerset.gov.uk/nsi or pick copies up from council buildings.

Coming in the next issue

- **Winter special – your guide to roads, recycling and more this winter**

Your next issue of *Life* will be delivered from:

Monday 2 November



www.n-somerset.gov.uk

Report it. Request it. Pay for it.

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/connect

8am – 6pm Mon – Fri

Council Connect for all streets and open spaces enquiries:

01934 888 802

Care Connect for all social services enquiries:

01275 888 801

care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk

Main switchboard:

01934 888 888

Emergency (out of hours):

01934 622 669

North Somerset Council
Town Hall

Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ

Tide timetables for Weston-super-Mare

Tide facts

Approximate high water times at:

Clevedon: 10 min

Portishead: 18 min

later than

Weston-super-Mare.

Weather conditions which differ from the average will have an effect on the differences between predicted and actual tide times.

Strong winds can hold the tide in or push the tide out. Air pressure can also cause fluctuations in predicted levels.

Tidal predictions for Weston-super-Mare have been computed by the Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory.

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www.n-somerset.gov.uk/tidetimes

September 2015

Date	AM		PM					
	Time	Height (m)						
1 Tue	09:19	13.02	03:04	0.08	21:41	13.18	15:25	0.28
2 Wed	10:02	12.79	03:47	0.22	22:25	12.74	16:07	0.53
3 Thu	10:45	12.21	04:30	0.61	23:09	11.95	16:47	0.99
4 Fri	11:29	11.35	05:09	1.15	23:55	10.95	17:26	1.55
5 Sat	–	–	05:49	1.75	12:15	10.40	18:10	2.14
6 Sun	00:48	9.97	06:39	2.34	13:11	9.57	19:07	2.71
7 Mon	01:53	9.24	07:46	2.86	14:24	9.10	20:37	3.09
8 Tue	03:14	9.03	09:23	2.97	15:53	9.26	22:08	2.79
9 Wed	04:39	9.52	10:37	2.46	17:11	10.03	23:12	2.14
10 Thu	05:43	10.36	11:33	1.82	18:06	10.86	–	–
11 Fri	06:31	11.07	00:01	1.57	18:50	11.42	12:17	1.35
12 Sat	07:11	11.49	00:40	1.25	19:28	11.69	12:55	1.13
13 Sun	07:47	11.66	01:14	1.14	20:01	11.78	13:29	1.08
14 Mon	08:20	11.72	01:48	1.14	20:31	11.82	14:01	1.08
15 Tue	08:49	11.74	02:18	1.15	20:59	11.82	14:31	1.09
16 Wed	09:16	11.70	02:46	1.17	21:28	11.71	14:59	1.15
17 Thu	09:44	11.48	03:16	1.26	21:56	11.39	15:29	1.31
18 Fri	10:14	11.02	03:43	1.48	22:27	10.85	15:56	1.62
19 Sat	10:43	10.42	04:10	1.80	22:57	10.24	16:25	1.99
20 Sun	11:14	9.83	04:39	2.14	23:34	9.66	17:00	2.35
21 Mon	11:55	9.30	05:19	2.46	–	–	17:49	2.69
22 Tue	00:26	9.16	06:18	2.81	13:03	8.90	19:05	3.03
23 Wed	01:50	8.88	07:48	3.12	14:47	9.03	21:06	3.00
24 Thu	03:29	9.32	09:47	2.79	16:14	9.96	22:26	2.22
25 Fri	04:49	10.35	10:53	2.01	17:22	11.13	23:26	1.50
26 Sat	05:51	11.43	11:57	1.37	18:19	12.13	–	–
27 Sun	06:45	12.27	00:27	0.91	19:08	12.81	12:51	0.81
28 Mon	07:32	12.82	01:15	0.43	19:54	13.21	13:37	0.41
29 Tue	08:16	13.11	02:00	0.14	20:37	13.37	14:20	0.22
30 Wed	08:58	13.17	02:42	0.09	21:19	13.24	15:01	0.27

October 2015

Date	AM		PM					
	Time	Height (m)						
1 Thu	09:40	12.91	03:23	0.29	22:02	12.75	15:40	0.58
2 Fri	10:21	12.30	04:02	0.73	22:46	11.90	16:18	1.08
3 Sat	11:04	11.39	04:38	1.30	23:31	10.85	16:54	1.67
4 Sun	11:49	10.37	05:15	1.91	–	–	17:36	2.28
5 Mon	00:20	9.81	06:01	2.51	12:42	9.48	18:30	2.85
6 Tue	01:22	9.02	07:02	3.04	13:53	8.93	19:50	3.29
7 Wed	02:41	8.75	08:46	3.28	15:20	9.01	21:41	3.06
8 Thu	04:10	9.21	10:11	2.76	16:42	9.74	22:44	2.37
9 Fri	05:16	10.08	11:05	2.06	17:39	10.61	23:32	1.75
10 Sat	06:04	10.87	11:50	1.53	18:22	11.23	–	–
11 Sun	06:44	11.36	00:12	1.38	19:00	11.55	12:27	1.25
12 Mon	07:20	11.60	00:46	1.22	19:33	11.68	13:00	1.14
13 Tue	07:50	11.71	01:19	1.17	20:01	11.76	13:32	1.10
14 Wed	08:19	11.79	01:50	1.15	20:30	11.82	14:04	1.08
15 Thu	08:47	11.81	02:19	1.15	21:00	11.79	14:34	1.11
16 Fri	09:17	11.68	02:50	1.23	21:32	11.56	15:04	1.25
17 Sat	09:49	11.33	03:17	1.43	22:03	11.12	15:33	1.53
18 Sun	10:21	10.80	03:44	1.73	22:38	10.55	16:02	1.88
19 Mon	10:56	10.22	04:13	2.04	23:18	9.97	16:36	2.21
20 Tue	11:41	9.67	04:54	2.35	–	–	17:28	2.53
21 Wed	00:13	9.45	05:55	2.69	12:48	9.26	18:45	2.84
22 Thu	01:29	9.16	07:25	2.98	14:18	9.30	20:34	2.85
23 Fri	03:01	9.46	09:16	2.77	15:46	10.03	22:00	2.24
24 Sat	04:21	10.33	10:29	2.11	16:56	11.06	23:02	1.60
25 Sun	04:27	11.32	10:33	1.51	16:55	11.99	23:06	1.06
26 Mon	05:22	12.14	11:31	0.97	17:46	12.64	23:55	0.60
27 Tue	06:10	12.67	–	–	18:33	13.01	12:16	0.58
28 Wed	06:54	12.96	00:39	0.35	19:16	13.14	12:59	0.41
29 Thu	07:37	13.03	01:19	0.32	19:59	13.02	13:38	0.47
30 Fri	08:18	12.83	01:58	0.50	20:42	12.58	14:16	0.74
31 Sat	08:59	12.28	02:34	0.89	21:26	11.81	14:52	1.19

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