



**CCS**  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR SOMERSET  
SUPPORTING ACTION  
IN YOUR COMMUNITY

# THATCH NEWSLETTER

August 2015

## NEW RECRUITS, TRAINING AND UPDATES



### 7 New recruits for the Somerset Village Agent Project!

CCS is delighted to announce 7 new additions to the Somerset Village Agent team, following its successful funding award from the The Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund. The new team members will work across 74 new parishes enabling the project to cover just over 56% of the county.

CCS is pleased to welcome its first ever Community Agent; Steve Ballinger taking a post in Burnham-on-Sea and Highbridge.

This is an exciting opportunity, working with and funded by the Clinical Commissioning Group. The role is specifically focused on improving the quality of life for people with long-term health conditions.



CCS is also excited to announce a new post; a dedicated Health and Wellbeing

Officer - Nathan Fox who will be working with flood affected areas in Somerset. This role is funded by Somerset's Masonic Charities through the Somerset Community Foundation and aims to address some of the long-term and ongoing impacts of the floods.



The Village Agents brand also now has a fresh new look and logo. To see if a Village Agent is in your area... look out for the new logo! For information on the Somerset Village Agents visit: [www.somersetccc.org.uk/sva](http://www.somersetccc.org.uk/sva)

### Digital Community Training Event

CCS are running a FREE training event on 'How digital technology can help your community'.

This training is open to all. Aimed at Community Buildings, Parish / Town Council's, Community Groups and anyone interested in technology to improve your communications within your committee, community and with other organisations.

Date: Thursday 3rd September  
Venue: Holford & District Village Hall  
Time: 12 noon - 3 pm  
Refreshments will be provided



Only 6 spaces left

If you would like to book your FREE space please complete the booking form

Complete the booking form [here](#)

Or if you would like to hold this event in your community please contact CCS on 01823 331222.

### Somerset Community Oil Scheme

Join now and save money on your heating oil. Last month we paid 32.85ppl, this is our lowest price ever for the scheme!

For a small annual subscription of £24 (domestic users inc VAT) you can become a member and save on average 3.85 pence per litre.

Check out our website for more information: [www.somersetccc.org.uk/oil](http://www.somersetccc.org.uk/oil) or contact Marion by email [info@ofps.co.uk](mailto:info@ofps.co.uk), or by phone 01993 225011



### Trustee Recruitment

CCS has an exciting opportunity for a volunteer to join our team of trustees. We are a locally based charity steeped with history and have been supporting communities for almost 90 years. We are a registered charity and Company Limited by Guarantee, the Trustees of this charity also become Directors of the limited company.

We are looking for a new trustee who is community minded, willing to assist with the leadership and direction of this Somerset wide organisation and to be part of a vibrant team that drives forward our vision.

We are specifically looking for people with backgrounds in charity fundraising, strategic business planning and good knowledge of influential local contacts.

Get a flavour of our work and some of the projects we are running by visiting our website .

Interested?

Visit our recruitment page [here](#) or please contact CCS on 01823 331222 or email: [info@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:info@somersetccc.org.uk)

### SARI in Somerset...

Stand Against Racism & Inequality (SARI) has been working throughout the former Avon area (Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire) for over 20 years, supporting victims of hate crime to solve their cases and to overcome the trauma caused by such abuse. We have also been working with many other partner agencies to achieve a best practice response to hate crime via training, consultancy and strategic interventions.

We are pleased now to announce that we are now working across the County of Somerset and can offer casework support, training or advice to victims and agencies.

Our casework service is completely free and confidential. Victims will be assigned a trained caseworker who will provide them with emotional and practical support, speak to other organisations (like the police, council, or housing associations) for you, and take any action that you agree with.

SARI is also able to challenge agencies when the response is not working for the victim or their family in a constructive and effective way.

If you have been a victim of hate crime, or know somebody who has been, please get in touch. By reporting it, there is a much greater chance of it stopping, and you will be making your own community a safer place.

Call our free 24 hour emergency line on 0800 171 2272

Email us at [sari@sariweb.org.uk](mailto:sari@sariweb.org.uk)  
Or visit us online at [www.sariweb.org.uk](http://www.sariweb.org.uk)

To read the full press release visit:

<http://somersetccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/SARI-in-Somerset-article.pdf>

### WE ARE A CHARITY PLEASE DONATE

CCS like other charities relies on fundraising to deliver work across Somerset. You can help us do this in a number of ways:

- Recycle your stamps
- Raise money for FREE when you make purchases online with 'Easy fundraising' - simply follow the guide and support Community Council for Somerset
- Make a one off Donation - online or by cheque
- Become a Friend of CCS
- Donate in Memory

To find out how you can support CCS [click here](#)