



Autumn sunset from Southam toward the Malvern Hills

DROP IN

If you are feeling in need of company, delicious food or just a change of scenery then pop into the “Drop In” 2:30 till 4:30 (loosely) at the Village Hall. There you will find a warm welcome and all of the delights mentioned.

Wednesday 14th October 26

Wednesday 28th October 26

Wednesday 11th November 26

Wednesday 25th November 26

All at 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm



DROP-IN to the Village Hall for a cup of tea and slice of cake and join the increasing numbers dropping in twice every month

**Contributions for the December/January Newsletter by
15th November 2026**

Contact

billm2021@yahoo.com

Telephone – 07989 894 337

Letters – White Oaks, Southam
Lane, Southam.

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

Village News

A warm welcome to Jack Derrick who has taken up residence in “Lance House” Old Road. Jack is very anxious to convert his 2 years of overgrown, scorched garden into a wonderful landscape. So, good luck Jack.

Sadly Southam has lost a very community minded member of the village with the passing of Chris Cooper on the 27th of July 2026. Chris was a member of the Parish Council; helped with car parking at the village hall and a strong supporter of the WII! Neighbourhood watch was his great interest which he did for 25 years and very efficiently too. Sadly for the last 10 years Chris, due to ill health, found it difficult to pursue this activity. He is greatly missed.

To Jennie and family we send our true heartfelt condolences.

Edna Smith

Phone: 01242 520137

email: ednajsmith@btinternet.com

The Church of the Ascension, Southam



Note: On the 8th of November 2026 there will be a Remembrance service at the Southam War Memorial at 3:00pm. Refreshments served in the Village Hall afterwards.

Services

4 th October 2026	Holy Communion	Southam Church	9:30am
11 th October 2026	Holy Communion	Southam Church	9:30am
18 th October 2026	No Service	--	--
25 th October 2026	Breakfast Church, Harvest Festival	Southam Village Hall	9:30am
1 st Nov 2026	Holy Communion	Southam Church	9:30am
8 th Nov 2026	Holy Communion, Remembrance Sunday	Southam Church	9:30pm
15 th Nov 2026	No Service	--	--
29 th Nov 2026	Breakfast Church	Southam Village Hall	9:30am

Edna Smith – 01242 520 137

SOUTHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE REPORT

WI contribution for October 2026 -
November 2026 Southam Newsletter



At our August meeting, we all enjoyed lunch at the Italian in Cleeve followed by a craft workshop in the village hall where we had a choice of block printing cards, a tote bag or a tea towel.

In September, our talk was 'The Work of a Literary Translator' by Josephine Murray who is a French-English literary translator & journalist. Her speciality is translating children's books & cookery books. Her talk was about a remarkable lady called Patricia Crampton (12/12/1925-1/12/2016) who translated books for both adults & children from 7 different languages, including the Miffy books by Dick Bruna. She was also a translator at the Nuremberg war trials & a campaigner for translator's rights.

In October, the talk will be on the 'Coleshill-UK Defence Centre'. This meeting is another of our **open meetings** on Tuesday 6th October at 19:30 in the village hall. As usual **everyone** is welcome so do feel free to come along.

Southam WI meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 19:30 in the village Hall. We are a friendly group with a varied programme of events and we always welcome new members who can come to 3 **free** meetings before deciding on whether to join, so why not give us a try? For more details of what we do, please contact one of the Secretaries (details below).

Pauline Cook-McAnoy Tel: 01242-520133

Isabel Henchy Tel: 01242-221440 – email: issy@henchy.uk

Secretaries

Southam Gardening Club

Future meetings include:

Thursday 15th October – Salvias by Robert Champion

Thursday 19th November – Water Gardens by Marion Stainton

Thursday 10th December – Christmas Social and Quiz

Meetings are generally held on third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

All are welcome, no gardening experience necessary, you don't even need to have a garden!

For more information contact gill.donovan1961@gmail.com or phone 07980 699036

If you wish to be added to the email distribution list, please email gill.donovan1961@gmail.com

Southam Village Hall



Southam Village Hall Newsletter Contribution – October-November 2026

Film Nights
Friday 30 October 2026
Friday 13 November 2026
Doors open at 7pm
Bar and refreshments available

Autumn Fayre
Saturday 28 November 2026
10am-12noon

Pub night and Christmas Light switch on
Saturday 28 November 2026
6pm onwards

August-September 2026 Report

The committee had a working party on Saturday 25 July 2026 to work through the list of maintenance tasks.

Anita Wilcox



Shelley Made This....

If you are looking for a bespoke, one-off hat or headpiece for a special occasion please contact me. Based in Southam.

SHELLEY: 07590575840
HATS@SHELLEYMADETHIS.COM

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Southam Village Hall Reservation procedures:

To book the Village Hall go to the Hire the Hall page on the village website (<https://southam-pc.gov.uk/hire-the-hall/>) and follow the instructions. If you do not have internet access please text or call the bookings secretary on

07712 695 207.

2026 HIRE CHARGES

“Occasional Bookings” – for one off bookings - £25/hour
(£20/hr for Southam residents) £100 deposit

“Regular Bookings” - £14/hour (£12/hr for Southam Residents)



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Welcome Zanny

We have a new member of the Cleeve Common Trust Team we would like to introduce you to! Our new Participation Officer.



Hi, I'm Zanny. You'll usually find me out on a hill somewhere or swimming in open water! I'm passionate about encouraging more people to spend time outdoors and discover the amazing places we have right here in Gloucestershire.

My role with Cleeve Common Trust is focused on helping more people discover and enjoy Cleeve Common, particularly people and communities who may not currently feel that the Common is somewhere they can easily access or enjoy. We're keen

to better understand how we can reduce barriers to spending time outdoors and create opportunities that are genuinely useful, welcoming and relevant to the people we're hoping to reach.

If you're part of a community group, school or organisation and would like to experience Cleeve Common together, please do get in touch on welcome@cleevecomon.org.uk

Are the Sheep on the Common?

Now autumn's here we start to get asked if the sheep are off. Nope! They stay on until the beginning of November.

We'll announce on our website and social media when they've gone. But when they do, if you walk your dog here, then please remember our neighbours have sheep out all year round.

Our herd of Belted Galloway cattle are on the Common year-round. These grazing animals are busy at work looking after our rare calcareous limestone habitat!



Cleeve Common Trust Events Autumn 2026

Our 2026 Events listings can be found here

www.cleevecommon.org.uk/events-calendar or follow us on Eventbrite, Facebook or Instagram. Please remember to book on.

Saturday 17th October, 10:30am. **Ranger for the Day**. A family event getting hands on with some nature conservation tasks in Wardens' Wood, followed by some bushcraft fun. £3.96 per person

Friday 30th October, from 12:30pm. **Family Fun Friday Halloween Special**. Follow our trail to find a pumpkin then take inspiration from the creatures found on Cleeve Common to carve your own Halloween Pumpkin. £3.96 per pumpkin.

Continued on the next page

Thursday 12th November, 7:30pm. **The Birds & Wildlife of Cleeve Common Talk.**
With Conservation Officer Giles & local birding legend Arthur Ball. £6.50 per person
at **Southam Village Hall**

Saturday 14th November, 10am. **Wild Autumn Lino Printing** Join us for an
autumnal wildlife of Cleeve Common inspired lino print making workshop. £45 per
person



Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 90 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Shopping list

- Tinned meat/fish
- Tinned veg/fruit
- Cooking sauces
- Coffee/Tea
- Milk (longlife)
- Fruit juice (longlife)
- Rice pudding/custard
- Jam/spread
- Tinned potatoes
- Table sauces

North Cotswold Foodbank
northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk

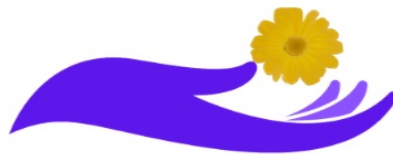
Registered Charity in England & Wales (1181310).



We now have a drop off point outside the village hall for donations to the North Cotswold Foodbank. Please leave donations of non-perishable food under the bench seat!



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Parish Council News

Southam Parish Council Report for Aug and September 2026



E-Updates

Hopefully everyone who signed up for our emails, are now receiving the regular E-updates. If you would like to receive them, please send your email address to clerk@southam-pc.gov.uk so that you can be added to the list. Updates are also available on the Parish Council website. **www.southam-pc.gov.uk**

Newsletter

The Newsletter is now being circulated in the main by SPC Update email, but a team of volunteers are still delivering several hard copies, if specifically requested by residents.

Parish Council Meeting

Our next meeting will be Tuesday 13th October 7.30PM. There was no September SPC meeting.

County & Borough Councillor Updates

SPC receive monthly updates from Cheryl Agg Gloucestershire County/TBC Borough Councillor and Nigel Adcock Tewkesbury Borough Councillor and these are posted on our website.

Local Government Reorganisation Update – Single unitary council

Following the National Government announcement on the future structure of local government in Gloucestershire, to create a single unitary authority, which will replace existing county, city, district and borough councils on 1 April 2028, National Government have asked Councils across the country to pause implementation while the review takes place to align it with the new Government's priorities. More details will be shared with residents when we receive them.

GCC Highways/Community Speedwatch

We have recently renewed our maintenance contract for the vehicle automated signs and are investigating whether solar panels can be added to our existing equipment to reduce battery replacement. We are also in regular contact with GCC's Local Highways Manager to improve road safety and reducing speeding in our community where feasible. Speed-watch data from Cleeve Hill, New Road, Old Road and Southam Lane is collected regularly by Bill Motion and John Dovovan and shared with the Police.

Neighbourhood Watch

SPC regularly receive updates from John Donovan, our Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, and these are uploaded onto the SPC website.

We have received reports of both vehicle crime and burglary in the surrounding areas. Please be vigilant and take care of yourselves and your property.

For advice on keeping your property safe, you can find plenty of crime prevention advice at **www.gloucestershire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention**

Footpaths

A big thank you to Cotswold Voluntary Wardens for work carried out on three of our public rights of way. Teams cleared two fallen trees on ASM25 above Bentley Lane (a footpath and bridleway to access Cleeve Common). They repaired and upgraded a stile on ASM28 (runs along south side of Queen's Wood) and they cleared thistle, bramble and other weeds on ASM7 from New Road to the footbridge.

Please can we encourage you to walk the footpaths and use the bridleways. It keeps the paths clear and open to all.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds - Parish Survey

Currently, we have £24,649.46 CIL funds to allocate. Several improvements to the Village Hall have been defined, including wireless microphones, a powered screen, a new motorized shutter for the kitchen and a short throw projector. We are also seeking to support the excellent work undertaken by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens on our footpaths. Further projects are being scoped including footpath works, improvement of Noverton balancing pond and a defibrillator within Noverton.

Noverton Balancing Pond Adoption

Work continues to improve the area around the Noverton balancing pond, following its adoption by TBC in the early part of 2026. We are in detailed discussions with TBC and Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust to determine how this area can be further improved for the benefit of residents and to enhance the biodiversity of the area.

War Memorial

Plants have been removed from around the War Memorial in preparation for cleaning and repair works which are due to be commenced by Kevin Paul on Wednesday 23 September 2026.

Planning Matters

We continue to get a regular flow of planning applications. Please refer to our website and SPC meeting agendas/minutes for applications, decisions and updates, being discussed by the Parish Council. Please be aware that residents can comment direct to TBC on any planning application by visiting the TBC planning portal.

Land East of Kayte Lane - We are regularly pressing TBC for updates regarding enforcement of the Planning Inspectorate's decision to dismiss the applicant's appeal. Previously TBC advised us that the High Court refused permission for the appellant to challenge the Inspectorate's decision, and subsequently, TBC also confirmed that the Court of Appeal has also refused the appellants' application for permission to appeal against the High Court's earlier decision, meaning that the appellants have now exhausted all appeal routes available to them.

We also continue to press TBC for updates on initiatives to provide additional traveller pitches in other appropriate locations, to mitigate the current unmet need.

Event Licence Applications

We have liaised with TBC Environmental Health regarding events at Cheltenham Tigers Rugby Club, Newlands (Cheltenham 7s 31st July and 1st August and Good Vibes 29th and 30th August) and also with TBC and CBC Environmental Health teams and residents from Prestbury regarding the Tribute Festival 29th August on the Racecourse. After the festivals, we have received noise monitoring data from TBC EHT that shows noise levels recorded were within the licensed levels.

Previously we have engaged with CBC and TBC EHTs regarding residents' complaints received during the Wychwood Festival 28th to 31st May and the Nationwide Festival 10th to 12th July 2026. We will continue to work with the Environmental Health teams to try to improve matters for future festivals and welcome feedback from residents to demonstrate the need for change as part of the planning for 2027 festivals.

Details of licence applications can be found on CBC's and TBC's licensing portals. Residents can comment on any licence application by visiting the portal.

Parish Clerk and RFO Recruitment

During July and August 2026 we have updated the job description and advertised the

Clerk and RFO role via several sources. The closing date for applications was Friday 18th September 2026. We will review applications received and interview preferred candidates, during the latter part of September with a view to complete an appointment during early October 2026.

Good Neighbours

Please can we ask you to remain vigilant and cut back your hedges and attend to overhanging branches on trees. Please check if there is any vegetation creeping out from your property onto the pavement. Fallen fruit, berries and leaves can cause a hazard on the pavement so please clear them as they drop. Many thanks.

Please follow our news items on our website www.southam-pc.gov.uk

Traffic Statistics Summary for July 2026 and August 2026.

Southam Lane (30 mph limit)

The July report continues the run of 2600 cars per day (going eastwards). However there is no data for August due to sign malfunction. The sensor is outside Manor Court.

Southam Lane	July 26	August 26
Average Vehicles per day (AADT)	2633	-
Average Speed (mph)	28.2	-
85% of vehicles going less than (mph)	34.5	-

During July we recorded 2 vehicles at 65 mph, 12 at 60 mph, 41 at 55 mph, 260 at 55 mph coming into the village.

No useful recordings in August.

Old Road (30 mph limit)

The concern in Old Road is the difficulty crossing so close to the blind corner, specifically when crossing from Sunset Lane to the pavement on the west side of Old Road.

Old Road	July 26	August 26
Average Vehicles per day (AADT)	959	949
Average Speed (mph)	23.9	23.9
85% of vehicles going less than (mph)	28.5	28.5

During July we had 1 vehicle recorded travelling at 50 mph, 9 at 45 mph and 101 at 40 mph.

During August we had 1 vehicle recorded travelling at 55 mph, 9 at 45 mph and 120 at 40 mph.

New Road (30 mph limit)

New Road had another closure this month which reduced the average daily traffic for the month.

Continued on the next page

New Road	July 26	August 26
Average Vehicles per day (AADT)	1862	1413
Average Speed (mph)	29.5	27.7
85% of vehicles going less than (mph)	34.8	33.0

During July we had 3 vehicles coming into the village at 60 mph, 17 vehicles at 55 mph, 169 at 50 mph and 1106 at 45 mph.

During August we recorded 1 vehicle travelling at 60 mph, 6 at 55 mph, 46 at 50 mph, 367 at 45 mph coming into the village.

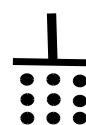
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This Newsletter will be available for download on the Southam Parish Website, at <https://southam-pc.gov.uk/>. Click on the Menu at the top right of the screen and select 'Village Groups and Village Hall' from the list which appears. This brings up a list of items including the Newsletter, currently fifth in the list. Click on the Newsletter item and this will take you to a page which has the Newsletters displayed as icons with a name including the date of publication, select the appropriate icon and a PDF file will be displayed.



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USEFUL NUMBERS

Tewkesbury Borough Council	01684 295 010
Glos CC Roads - Hazards & Repairs	01452 425 000
NHS Direct	111
Dental Help Line – info on dental access centres for pain relief	01452 318 858
Gloucestershire Adult Social Care Helpdesk	01452 426 868
Vicar – Reverend Tim Garrett	01242 673612
Village Agent –	-----
Southam Footpaths Coordinator – Pam Sissons	cllr.p.sissons@southam-pc.gov.uk
Southam Webmaster –	--
Neighbourhood Watch – John Donovan	01242 526 011
Southam Village Hall	chairsouthamvh@gmail.com
PCSO – Trevor May	101

Southam Parish Council			
Chairman	Mr S Lennon	07973 335 427	cllr.s.lennon@southam-pc.gov.uk
Deputy Chair	Mrs R Prince	07941 789 996	cllr.r.prince@southam-pc.gov.uk
Clerk	--	--	clerk@southam-pc.gov.uk
Members	Joyce Calam	07855 673 679	cllr.j.calam@southam-pc.gov.uk
	Marilyn Harris	07854 185 170	cllr.m.harris@southam-pc.gov.uk
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WHAT'S ON in Southam Village Hall



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



KEEP FIT
Over 50's Classes
Every Wednesday --
9.30am to 10.30am



SOUTHAM ART GROUP
Every Thursday morning
10.15am to 12.15pm
Village Hall

SOUTHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MEETS AT 7.30pm, 2nd TUESDAY OF EACH
MONTH – SOUTHAM VILLAGE HALL

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information

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Mobile: 07376 051 863
[facebook@tinashortcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/tinashortcommunity)

Classic Chinese Exercise Classes

Every Tuesday
Qi Gong 12.00 - 1.00pm
Contact Jeff 07970 303 694

Martial Arts Classes for 7–16-year-olds
Every Wednesday and Thursday 6pm - 7pm

£25pm First two classes free!

Email:
strikingandgrapplingacademy@gmail.com
Website: www.strikingandgrappling.com

Craft and Chatter Group

Tuesday 18th Aug – 14:00 – 16:00
Repeats every month on the
third Tuesday

Southam Village Gardening Club

Third Thursday of the month
7.30pm start. Friendly monthly
meetings, with presentations on a
wide range of gardening topics
All are welcome, green fingers
not required.



U3A Folk

First and Third Wednesday of the Month
2:00pm to 4:00pm



BRIDGE CLUB

First and Third Monday of the month,
7.00pm – 10.00pm

Drop In Bi-Monthly

Southam Village Hall
Tea, sandwiches, cakes and chat
2nd and 4th Wednesdays
2.30pm to 4.30pm

U3A Table Tennis
First/Third of the month Friday at
Southam Village Hall 2.00pm to
4.00pm, Bishops Cleeve U3A



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SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER



CHOCOLATE CHRISTMAS TREE WORKSHOP

SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER



SANTA'S AFTERNOON TEA

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER