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Official Town Guide 2012–2013



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Welcome to Yeovil

LOCATED on the Somerset/Dorset Border, with the River Yeo running alongside it, Yeovil is surrounded by rolling hills and lush countryside.

Despite the recent economic recession, Yeovil still offers excellent employment opportunities and housing as well as highly rated health and educational facilities. Yeovil is home to AgustaWestland plc, the world's second largest helicopter manufacturer, and to Pittards plc – which has a worldwide reputation for producing high quality leather goods.

For those visiting Yeovil we also have Yeovil Shopmobility; this is a **loan** scheme providing powered scooters, as well as powered and manual wheelchairs to enable people with limited mobility to shop and use other pleasure/leisure facilities in Yeovil. Their aim is to enable people with mobility impairments to take increasing control of their own affairs and to pursue personal choice, to advance and improve their quality of life. Anyone with limited mobility can use Shopmobility, whether through permanent or temporary disability, illness, accident or age. You do not have to be disabled to use the service. You will find more details on page 19.

We have a vibrant town centre, yet within minutes, you can be in tranquil surroundings in our Green Flag Award winning Yeovil Country Park. Our year round floral displays attract many compliments and in 2010 and 2011 we were awarded Gold and Silver Gilt in the South West In Bloom competition.

You can be sure of a warm welcome in Yeovil and I hope you will find this guide useful when planning your visit.



Clive Davis, Mayor of Yeovil

Birchfield Community Primary School

Birchfield Road, Yeovil, Somerset BA21 5RL

Tel: 01935 427609

E-mail: office@birchfield-pri.somerset.sch.uk

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OFFICIAL GUIDE

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YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

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TOWN TWINNING



Town Twinning seeks to bring together the people of Yeovil with those in our twinned Towns.



Yeovil is twinned with Herblay in France, Taunusstein in Germany and Samarate in Italy.

Yeovil Twinning Association is a voluntary body whose aims are to promote exchanges of individuals and groups between Yeovil and its twin Towns giving those who take part the opportunity to learn more about the culture, language and people of another country.



The Mayor of Yeovil is Patron of the Association.

**Anyone wishing to join the Association should contact
Secretary: Barbara Stimpson. Tel: 01935 424647**



COMUNE DI SAMARATE

A Mini History

THE name of Yeovil, which has had at least 70 variations of spelling, is derived from the River Yeo, dividing Somerset and Dorset at its south-eastern extent.

Evidence of early man – is shown by the discovery of Bronze Age artefacts found on Wyndham Hill and Hendford Hill. There are numerous examples of Roman discoveries – Westland Road is the site of a farmstead and settlement which probably continued after Roman times until Saxon days; an excavation at Lufton revealed a Roman villa site.

The Saxons were much in evidence in the Yeovil area and a Saxon church is known to have existed by the year 950. A Saxon ‘Hundred’ (an administrative division of the county thought to have contained a hundred families) regularly gathered at a ‘moot’, or meeting, around a stone sheltered by trees at the crossroads now in Mudford Road which overlooked the whole of the domain. The moot is commemorated in the name ‘The Hundred Stone’ to this day and the stone may still be seen.

After the Norman Conquest, the Domesday survey of 1086 revealed 22 freemen occupying a ‘tenement’ or Town ship; this developed into a tiny self-governing borough, separated from the Manor of Hendford, by the twelfth century. The borough was placed under the lordship of the Rector of St John’s Church with the day-to-day civil administration in the hands of a body of burgesses with a Portreeve, or Provost, at its head. At this time the centre of Yeovil became known as the Borough, which was then the market place.



St John’s Church



Butchers’ Shambles c1830

In Medieval times, the Black Death, said to have reached England via Weymouth Harbour, took its toll in Yeovil; the workforce was greatly reduced and in 1348 the disease accounted for three vicars appointed between October and the following January.

In the late fourteenth century, the entire rebuilding of St John’s Church took place under the direction of Robert de Sambourne, Rector of Yeovil. The building seen today – a superb example of the early perpendicular style of architecture – is much as it would have appeared soon after its completion in the early 1400s. Of particular interest is the east window depicting the Last Supper. Judas Iscariot is depicted, very unusually, with a black halo.

Yeovil was a market town from its earliest days. In 1633, Thomas Gerard wrote that the market was ‘one of the greatest I have seen.’ The Market House and a butcher’s ‘shambles’ stood on much of what is now the open space in Yeovil known as the Borough. Difficult times followed, financially, however as the Town along with many others was required to pay a levy to King Charles the First. In addition, two devastating fires in 1623 and 1640 did tremendous damage to the small Town, causing further hardship and loss of dwellings to scores of people.

The Civil War broke out in 1642. Local hardship and resentment at the King’s levy fostered support for the Earl of Bedford, who besieged the King’s forces under the Marquis of Hertford in Sherborne Castle with a force of 7,000. There were several indecisive skirmishes, however whilst garrisoned in Yeovil the Earl received news that the Marquis’s troops had gathered on the hill above the entrance to the Town. The Earl mustered his forces and the Battle of Babylon Hill ensued. The Royalist forces were made to retreat back to the safety of Sherborne Castle and thus passed Yeovil’s brief moment of fame in the war.

The Plague again took hold in 1645, said to have been brought in from London by people fleeing its ravages. So many of the townspeople perished that grass grew in the streets. A petition presented to Ilchester Quarter sessions in 1647 stated that ‘manie hundred souls had died’ and that no-one would undertake to bury the dead. Later that year a similar petition was presented by the Yeovil Overseers of the Poor at Wells Sessions complaining of being unable to meet the increased demands on them – not only from children and widows resulting from the plague but also because of the 1640 fire which had rendered so many homeless and impoverished. There was further resentment against being asked to contribute towards the maintenance of Cromwell’s army in Ireland.

Under Oliver Cromwell’s Commonwealth, Yeovil was not a prosperous or happy place. Many alehouses were closed, certain ‘sporting’ events were banned, neighbour watched neighbour for signs of Royalist sympathies and even church weddings were prohibited for a while.

In 1660 the restoration of the monarchy under Charles II was greeted with relief in the Town and there was a gradual return to former relaxations and prosperity as agriculture and the market flourished. A lending library was also established and there was free education for a number of children in the grammar school.

The Portreeve gradually increased his responsibilities, his powers and the dignity of his office. He acquired a new mace in 1776 and it was gilded the following year. This is the mace still used on ceremonial and civic occasions by Yeovil Town Council’s Macebearer.

By the early 19th Century the bounds of Yeovil’s ancient manorial borough represented only about a third of the rapidly expanding Town, which had become famous for the gloving industry. The increased population in that third alone rendered inadequate the powers possessed by the old governing body.

In 1830, Town Commissioners were appointed under parliamentary authority for the purpose of ‘paving, lighting, watching, watering, repairing, widening and otherwise improving the streets, lanes and other public passages and places within the Town of Yeovil, and for regulating the Police thereof’. The Commissioners also built a house to accommodate their Surveyor and Police force (all three of them!) in a building in Union Street – now the Town House, which houses the present Yeovil Town Council offices and Council Chamber.

Parliamentary Reform was also in the air at this time. Civil Riots broke out in Yeovil in 1831 when the second Reform Bill was rejected and a reform candidate was defeated at Blandford. Yeomanry troops from Mudford and Martock were called out and some of the crowd were arrested and taken to the Mermaid Hotel (now Yeovil’s oldest public house). As a mob assembled and broke all its windows, the 3rd Dragoon Guards were called out to assist the Yeomanry and the riot was quelled. Grateful townsfolk presented commemorative jugs to officers of the local Yeomanry – three inscribed ‘riot jugs’ may be seen in the museum of South Somerset whilst another is held in the Mayor’s Parlour at the Town House.

Special Commissioners were appointed in 1846 following increasing demands for an extension of the authority of the old corporation. This body cleared the Borough of the old Market House and shambles and commissioned the building of a new Town Hall in High Street, opened in 1849. Manorial rights acquired from the Phelps family were then passed to the Commissioners.

In 1854, the Municipal Borough of Yeovil was created by Act of Parliament, following further demands for an increase in local powers to satisfy the needs of the rapidly growing Town. The last Portreeve, Benjamin Ryall, handed over the mace and ancient borough seal into the custody of the new corporation consisting of twelve councillors with John Ryall Mayo as the first Mayor and John Batten as Town Clerk. In 1882 a chain of office was added to the Mayor’s regalia.

The first Council meetings were held in the Town Hall until 1898 when a building known as the Borough House, standing back from High Street was converted for use as offices with a council chamber. This house was used by the Council until 1924 when it was pulled down for the construction of King George Street and the building of new Council Offices.



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Yeovil grew rapidly in the late 19th Century, its rural and agricultural surroundings had made it the market Town for the produce of South Somerset and new municipal services included water, sewage disposal, a hospital, public baths, a cemetery, allotments, recreation grounds, public lighting and a local fire brigade. The coming of the railway had also vastly increased the Town's transport links. Yeovil had an important cattle market, was celebrated far and wide for its gloving industry and its engineering works at Petters foundry (now the AgustaWestland site) was soon to be given a tremendous boost by the dawn of the aviation age in the early 20th Century. Not many people know that the first oil engine was made in Yeovil by Petters.



The Riot Jug – now in the custody of the Town Council

In two World Wars, Yeovil played its part. Servicemen and women served in every theatre of war and many lives were sacrificed. The Town suffered many losses from sporadic enemy bombing in World War II, including its fire station, and the Westland aircraft works was a prime target. In 1919 the Borough War Memorial was erected, the scene of the Town's annual Remembrance Day Ceremony, followed later by a memorial at Preston Road and other memorial plaques in the Town.

By the 1930s Westland Aircraft of Yeovil was established as a manufacturer of military and civilian aircraft. On 3 April 1933 two Westland aircraft, designed and built in Yeovil, made the first ever flight over the summit of Mount Everest. Tensing and Hillary, the summiteers used oxygen-breathing apparatus developed by Normalair of Yeovil, then a subsidiary of Westland.

In 1935 a fire destroyed the Town Hall in High Street. A scheme to build a new Town Hall and Civic Centre at Hendford Manor House met some opposition and the outbreak of war meant it was never built (a watercolour of the architect's vision still exists, however, at the Town Council offices). The Law Courts were built in Petters Way in 1939, Maltravers House was constructed to house local authority and government departments in 1969 and in 1974 the Johnson Hall (now including the Octagon Theatre) was erected as a civic entertainment centre.

Post-war projects also gave Yeovil a new dual carriageway through the town centre to meet the heavy demands of motorised traffic, a new pedestrianised shopping centre with multi-storey car park, a college of further and higher education, a purpose built police station and many new housing areas to meet its continued population growth. With the invention of the helicopter (1947), the Westland site rapidly adapted to become a supplier to national and international civil and military markets.

Local Government reorganisation in 1974 spelt the end of the old Yeovil Borough Council. Amalgamation with various local rural districts produced a new Yeovil District Council, later re-named South Somerset District Council with subsequently built new offices at Brympton Way. A municipal body of Charter Trustees with a Charter Mayor had also been formed in 1974 but in 1982, at the culmination of a long and successful campaign, the Trustees were superseded by elevation to a new Yeovil Town Council with parish status.

In 1985, Yeovil Town Council was granted the use of the armorial bearings originally obtained from the Corporation in 1954 on its 100th anniversary. In 2004, The Council celebrated 150 years of local democracy since the inception of the first Yeovil Municipal Borough and Town Mayor in 1854 and in 2012 the Council celebrated the 30th anniversary of its formation as a new town council.

Of necessity, this is a shortened version of Yeovil's history. Further details may be obtained from Yeovil Public Library (0845 345177) in King George Street, which has an extensive local history section. Another source of information is the Yeovil Archaeological and Local History Society – contact details may also be obtained from the public library. A useful section on Yeovil's history may be viewed at www.yeoviltown.com. For fascinating displays of Yeovil's history, a visit to the Community Heritage Access Centre is a must. Visits by appointment only – for more information telephone 01935 462855.



The Town Council

History

ON 3 July 1854, an Act of Parliament was passed which created a municipal borough in the Town of Yeovil. Under the Act, a burgess roll was prepared for the first municipal election of councillors to serve on the new Corporation, and the Mayoralty was established.

For over a century, the Town was administered by Yeovil Borough Council. This came to an end in 1974 when local government was re-organised and the Borough Council was abolished.

Between 1974 and 1982, Charter Trustees were elected to look after the civic interests of the Town. However, it quickly became apparent that the Town needed its own Council to look after its affairs and, after a long campaign, the Government acknowledged the case for a separate Town Council for the former Borough.

The Town Council was formed in 1982, meeting initially at Petters Way, then Preston Road and then Brympton Way. The Town House was acquired in 1989 and all meetings are now held in the Council Chamber at these premises.

In 2005, Yeovil Town Council became the first large council in Somerset to be awarded Quality Town Council status. Introduced by the Government as part of its modernising local government agenda, Quality status provides an independent assessment of local councils, and those with Quality status can be seen to be representative, competent, well managed, and able to take on an enhanced role. The Town Council was re-accredited with this prestigious award in 2009 following a further review of its performance.

In 2012 the Town Council celebrated the 30th anniversary of its formation.

Locally elected and locally funded, the Town Council provides Yeovil with a democratic structure, which serves the interests of the Town and is directly accountable to its people.

The Town House

The Town House was originally built in 1849 by the Town Commissioners to provide a Police Station and a residence for a "Superintendent", who was also the Town surveyor and rate collector. Taken over by the County Constabulary in 1857, the building remained a police station until 1938.

After many years of multiple uses, Yeovil Town Council acquired the building and, after restoration and conversion, re-opened with a council meeting on the 140th anniversary of the first meeting held there by the original Town Commissioners.



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The adjoining building was purchased in 1994 and converted into the Mayor's Parlour, which is situated on what was the exercise yard in front of the three police station cells. The cells still exist – though they are no longer used for their original purpose!

In recent years, the Town House has been extended to provide improved meeting facilities. These include a more spacious reception area and better access facilities for disabled persons – including a lift to the first floor, a wheelchair accessible toilet including baby changing facilities, a hearing induction loop and disabled parking provision in front of the building.



The Town House

Anyone wishing to learn more about the way the Town Council operates is welcome to visit the Council's Offices, which are located in Union Street, Yeovil. The Offices are open on weekdays (excluding public holidays) from 8.30am to 4.00pm.

The reception is a useful source of information about what's going on in Yeovil and also has information and contact details of local voluntary and community organisations.

Yeovil Town Council Committees

The activities and responsibilities of the Town Council have grown steadily over the years, and most of its work is overseen by various Committees appointed by the Council. The powers and duties of these Committees are set out on page 13:

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Management of recreational and leisure facilities including a number of community halls. The Committee also oversees a variety of community safety initiatives, traffic regulation, traffic calming and the management, repair and maintenance of the Town House and public toilet facilities.

Grounds and General Maintenance

Management of most of the open spaces and play areas in the Town and the management of over 300 allotment plots on a number of sites owned by the Town Council. The Committee also keeps a watching brief over the Sunningdale Doorstep Green and Yeovil Cemetery, of which the Town Council is the principal owner.

Planning and Licensing

Consideration of all planning applications within the Town area; responsibility for the licensing of taxis, private hire vehicles and their drivers; street trading, street canvassing, busking and charitable collections.

Policy, Resources & Finance

Dealing with matters concerning policy, resources and general finance decisions on behalf of the Town Council. Determines applications for grants from local groups and organisations, oversees personnel issues and generally advises the Town Council on corporate matters.

Promotions and Activities

Overseeing the delivery of a variety of related activities, initiatives and events directly and in partnership with other stakeholders in the Town, including Yeovil in Bloom, the Annual Flower and Gardeners' Market, the Yeovil Town Centre Partnership, the Town Centre Streetscene and the Christmas Lights display. The Committee is also responsible for the publication of the Town Guide and other promotional literature, customised souvenirs, the use of the Town Crest and the work of the Town Crier.

For further details about the Town Council and Committees contact the Town Clerk on 01935 382424.

Town Centre Initiatives

The Town Council is a member of the Yeovil Town Centre Partnership, which delivers improvements in key areas using theme-based action groups. The Partnership represents the interests of local traders, local authorities, police and other stakeholders in the Town Centre.



Yeovil Flower and Gardeners Market

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Yeovil Youth Council

As part of a drive to encourage more young people to play a part in the democratic process, the Town Council has set up and supports the Yeovil Youth Council, which has been allocated an annual budget of £1,300 to help it achieve its aims and objectives.

These objectives are:

- Representation of all young people in Yeovil on any issue of concern to them
- Liaison with existing and new youth organisations in the Town
- Improvement of the image and status of young people in Yeovil
- Involvement in the organisation of special events for young people in Yeovil
- Seeking to further understanding between groups of young people in the Town

All the Community Schools in Yeovil and Yeovil College are represented on the Youth Council, which meets in the Town House on a monthly basis.

Representatives are aged between 12 and 19 and are elected by their fellow students to serve on their behalf.

Amongst the issues discussed by the Youth Council is the provision of skate parks in the Town. Members of the Youth Council have been directly involved in the design of these facilities, which have been provided to meet local demand and have recently secured funding from Yeovil Recreation Charity for new ramps at Yew Tree Skate Park.



Yeovil Youth Council



**Members of Yeovil Youth Council
with David Laws MP**

The Youth Council has also played a major part in encouraging local young people to take part in a survey of their shopping and leisure preferences in Yeovil. The results of this exercise have been considered by the Town Centre Partnership as part of its aim to introduce new initiatives and improvements into the centre of the Town, and have been fed into the Yeovil Vision.

The Youth Council has also organised a collection of toys, which they distributed amongst children living at the Yeovil Women's Refuge and those staying at the Children's Ward at Yeovil District Hospital.

Another exciting project undertaken by the Youth Council has been the production of a Young

Person's Survival Guide – listing a wide range of useful contacts on issues affecting young people. Copies of this guide have been circulated to Yeovil College and all the Community Schools in the Town. They have also received funding towards the costs of a street art project in Yeovil Town Centre and have helped to design and paint the new mural.



Historic Plaques

TO help Yeovil celebrate the Millennium, the Town Council affixed historic “blue” plaques to a number of buildings across the Town Centre. The plaques are a fun way of learning about the past use of many of Yeovil’s most famous landmarks.

Each plaque explains the historic significance of the building to which it is attached. These include Yeovil’s oldest licensed premises, the Mermaid Hotel in the High Street, which is a former coaching inn and was known as “The Miremaid” in 1629.

Another property is Penn Villa in Penn Hill, which was built around 1840 and is the former residence and dental surgery of William Hunt and his son William Alfred, 19th century pioneers in the use of dental anaesthetics. The premises are still used as a dental surgery today.

A free leaflet has been produced, in the form of a walking trail, highlighting the location of each plaque and giving the background to the historic connection of each building.

Copies are available from the Town Council’s Offices at 19 Union Street, the Tourist Information Centre, Petters House and Yeovil Library in King George Street.

Much of the cost of producing the plaques was met by contributions from the occupiers of the buildings participating in the Scheme, with the balance being met from the Town Council’s Millennium Fund.

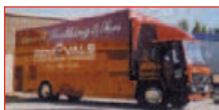


Plaque on the wall of the Town Council’s Offices



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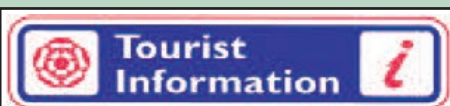
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Email : yeoviltic@southsomerset.gov.uk
www.discoversouthsomerset.gov.uk**

The Heart of the Country – The Mind of a City

YEOVIL, set as it is in the heart of the country on the Somerset/Dorset border, has grown from strength to strength in recent years and recent developments ensure that both residents and visitors alike can now enjoy the best of the rural countryside alongside a rapidly expanding town with extensive retail and leisure facilities that serve a substantial catchment area.

Over the years, the Town has grown and is now a bustling sub-regional centre with a vitality that belies its history as a market town.

Yeovil Vision, which has been set up to deliver a series of projects to enhance and improve the Town, and the development of the Urban Design Framework promise an exciting but solid foundation for the future of the Town over the next two decades.

Today, visitors will find an excellent selection of shops, sports facilities, theatres and leisure amenities.

The leisure corridor to the south of the Town includes Yeo Leisure Park, which has an 18-lane ten pin bowling alley, a ten-screen cinema, and a health and fitness suite, with themed restaurants alongside them. The beautiful Countryside Park offers relaxing country walks within five minutes of the Town centre.

South Western Terrace and the east end of Yeovil offer a wide range of quality restaurants.

Yeovil boasts two theatres, offering varied programmes to suit most tastes and plenty of evening entertainment with a selection of pubs, clubs and music venues.

For those who like to browse amongst the shops, they will find quality stores, many nationally known names, and a good choice of smaller independent and specialist outlets.

The Quedam Shopping Centre, beautifully designed to replicate a village street, runs parallel to the main shopping area and offers a first-rate selection of shops alongside a multi-storey car park. Twice a week – on Tuesdays and Fridays – a street market is held in lower Middle Street where there are bargains galore. There is also a Farmers' Market in the Town Centre on the fourth Saturday of the month.

Yeovil has been nationally recognised for its crime reduction initiatives and holds the Safer Business Award.

No less than eight car parks in the Town Centre have achieved the Safer Car Park Award. All these initiatives ensure that your visit will be a pleasant, safer and an enjoyable experience.

Central to the Town is the beautiful St John's Church, with the grounds spectacularly bedecked in summer through the Yeovil in Bloom scheme, which decorates the Town in stunning floral displays each year.

Yeovil, set in the heart of the country, has the mind of a city and aspires to provide the best of all worlds for everyone.



Yeovil Vision

Turning Vision into Reality

Turning Vision into Reality – the Process of Change for Yeovil Continues

Yeovil is an ambitious town that looks forward to the future with the strap line *“the heart of the country – the mind of a city”*.

Yeovil Vision reflects the desire for change and its objective and ambition are to deliver high quality projects that will enhance residents’ and visitors’ lives. It continues to work in partnership with public, voluntary and public sector partners to help bring forward and promote new and ongoing projects.

There are a number of wide-ranging projects and themes being actively pursued including retail and leisure developments, opportunities to further boost the economy and improvements to the town’s infrastructure.

The recently completed Reckleford project has successfully tackled what used to be a well-known traffic ‘hot spot’ and has reinstated two-way traffic along the eastern end of the A30, removing congestion and creating a green gateway to the town.

The Glove Factory development, which, started in February 2010, is a small eco friendly development, which includes 27 houses (one of which is a code 6 zero carbon house), 10 apartments, two new shops and a third shop with accommodation above. Office space has been created above a restaurant in the former Glove Factory building. These units are currently being marketed – for more information visit <http://glovefactory.co.uk/>. The development has also improved pedestrian links to the Country Park and Penn Mill Station and has successfully regenerated an important area of the town centre.

The recently completed phase 2 of the Princes Street Enhancement Scheme fulfils a project to refurbish and revitalise this historically important street in the centre of Yeovil and provides a superior environment for shopping and dining.

If you would like to know more about the work of Yeovil Vision, please contact the Area Development Team on (01935) 462734 or visit www.yeovilvision.co.uk



Yeovil in Bloom

The idea of the “Bloom” grew from Fleurissement de France, which started in 1959 and was first held in the UK in 1963.

Yeovil in Bloom was initiated and has been funded and managed by the Town Council since 1996. It was developed to enhance the visual quality of the town and bring the local community together.

The Town’s annual entry into South West in Bloom competition involves contributions from local businesses, schools, residents, and community groups. The floral displays are designed and maintained by South Somerset District Councils Horticultural Service under the direction of the Yeovil in Bloom Steering Group.



Yeovil in Bloom

All our roundabout displays and thousands of daffodil swathes attract visitors from all over the South West year after year.

Yeovil has won a Gold award four times 2005, 2008, 2009 and in 2010; this represents a fantastic effort by hundreds of people including the shops and companies in the town who sponsor hanging baskets and roundabouts.

The Royal Horticultural Society launched an “It’s your Neighbourhood Scheme” in 2001 to encourage local people to take ownership of their immediate environment. Groups get together to litter pick, create community gardens, allotments and orchards, grow and plant floral bedding displays and hanging baskets and fruit and vegetables. They raise money by organising coffee mornings and barbeques. This not only starts to create a feeling of community but also inspires more challenging projects.

If you would like more information about Yeovil in Bloom please contact, Yeovil in Bloom Promotions Officer, Lesley Jelleyman on 01935 462837.

Sponsors include

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Quedam Shopping Centre
Meridian Business Support
Yarlington Housing Group





Pen Mill Infant & Nursery School



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website: www.penmill.somerset.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M M House BA

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Shopmobility

SHOPMOBILITY schemes actively encourage inclusion and equality by providing a variety of equipment, which enables people to access their local centre either independently or with family and friends. Shopmobility is for anyone young or old, whether their disability is temporary or permanent. It is available for those with injuries, long or short term disabilities – anyone who needs help with mobility. Shopmobility is about the freedom to get around and having your independence. You do not need to be registered disabled to use the service.

Yeovil Shopmobility lends manual wheelchairs, powered chairs and powered scooters to members of the public with limited mobility, to shop and to visit leisure and commercial facilities within the town or shopping centre. Long term hire of transportable equipment is also available.

Yeovil Shopmobility is situated in the Quedam Shopping Centre Car Park.

For more information or to use the service telephone 01935 420889 or visit our website www.yeovilshopmobility.co.uk



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Yeovil Country Park

Opportunities to enjoy and conserve wildlife and countryside

Each day many people take the five minutes walk from Yeovil Town Centre, either past Penn House or the Octagon Theatre, through to the historic park of Penn Hill. A short stroll past Goldenstones takes you to the woodlands, waterfalls and wildlife of the lake and Valley Garden of Ninesprings. From here a walk along the Yeovil – Taunton old railway line takes you to Summerhouse and Wyndham Hills. These hills offer peaceful locations to admire the view. To the north, landmarks of Yeovil Town, to the east, Cadbury Castle and to the south the Dorset hills. Lastly, crossing Sherborne Road, there is a tranquil stretch called Riverside Walk.

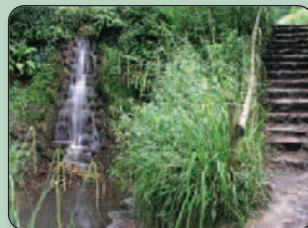
These five sites, whilst retaining their individual names, are now collectively known as the Green Flag Award winning Yeovil Country Park.

Exploring Yeovil Country Park

You can explore Yeovil Country Park on a good network of paths. There is a cycleway along the old railway line and in Ninesprings there is an Easy Access Trail with gentler gradients, improved paths and wide kissing gates. Guided walks and events take place throughout the year, and at the end of May the park is alive with attractions for the Annual Country Park May Fayre.



Lime Trees



Waterfall, Yeovil Country Park



**HM Queen Elizabeth II
visiting Yeovil
Country Park**

In May 2012, Her Majesty The Queen accompanied by His Royal Highness The Duke Of Edinburgh visited Yeovil Country Park – to attend a special country fayre – as part of her Diamond Jubilee Tour of the South West of England.

The Ranger Team

The park has a small but dedicated Ranger team. You will often see them out and about, clearing litter or carrying out projects. The rangers are incredibly knowledgeable about the site and will happily answer any questions that you may have.



**Yeovil Brownies welcome the
Royal Couple**

Get involved

Become a Volunteer Ranger and you can plant trees, survey wildlife, check nest boxes and get involved in any other activities. Volunteer Rangers receive training and all the equipment they need and meet every Thursday throughout the year. Alternatively join the Community Friends' Group for the park who meet monthly to fundraising and develop projects.

Contact

For further information please telephone: 01935 462462

Website: www.southsomersetcountryside.com

or Email: countryside@southsomerset.gov.uk

Chamber of Trade and Commerce

PROVIDING a strong voice for businesses, practical support and opportunities to network with like-minded local business people.

The Yeovil Chamber has been an active voice on behalf of the local business community since 1920. Yeovil Chamber of Trade and Commerce, with over 160 member companies representing all types of business from sole traders to AgustaWestland, provides a strong voice for businesses, practical support and the opportunity to meet and network with business people from a wide range of sectors.



The views and concerns of the Chamber's members are channelled directly through links with key local organisations, local government, statutory bodies and other decision makers to provide a real influence on local policies. The Chamber exists to support business and individuals who want to improve their own businesses, and to encourage improved performance in the local economy.

Whether it's helping an individual business to get appropriate road signage or lobbying for improvements to the local transport strategy, the Yeovil Chamber is effective in getting things done. Managed and run by and for local businesses as a powerful voice uniquely positioned at the heart of the local economy, the Chamber seeks to support and represent its members and the whole business community at local and regional level.

In consultation with members, the Chamber aims to be an effective pressure group, engaging and influencing policy and decision makers as a mature, responsible and independent voice for the business community.

- Securing recognition of the importance of the business community
- Enabling business people to network and share ideas
- Working with local government and other bodies to achieve change
- Lobbying for improvements to public services
- Promoting Yeovil and the local economy
- Representing members' concerns and supporting business activity

For more information about the Chamber and details of how to join, please ring 01935 427427 or email secretary@yeovilchamber.org



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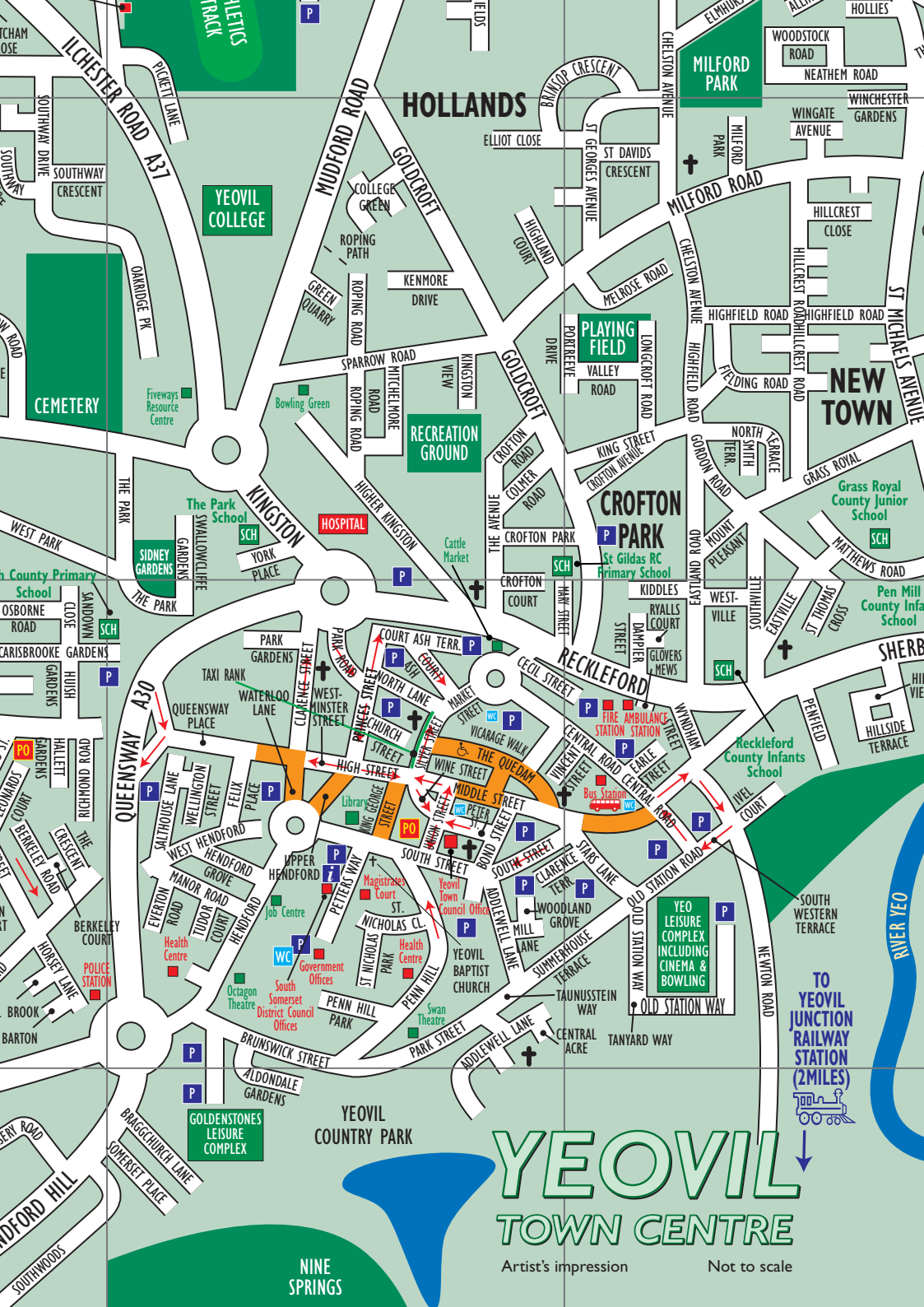
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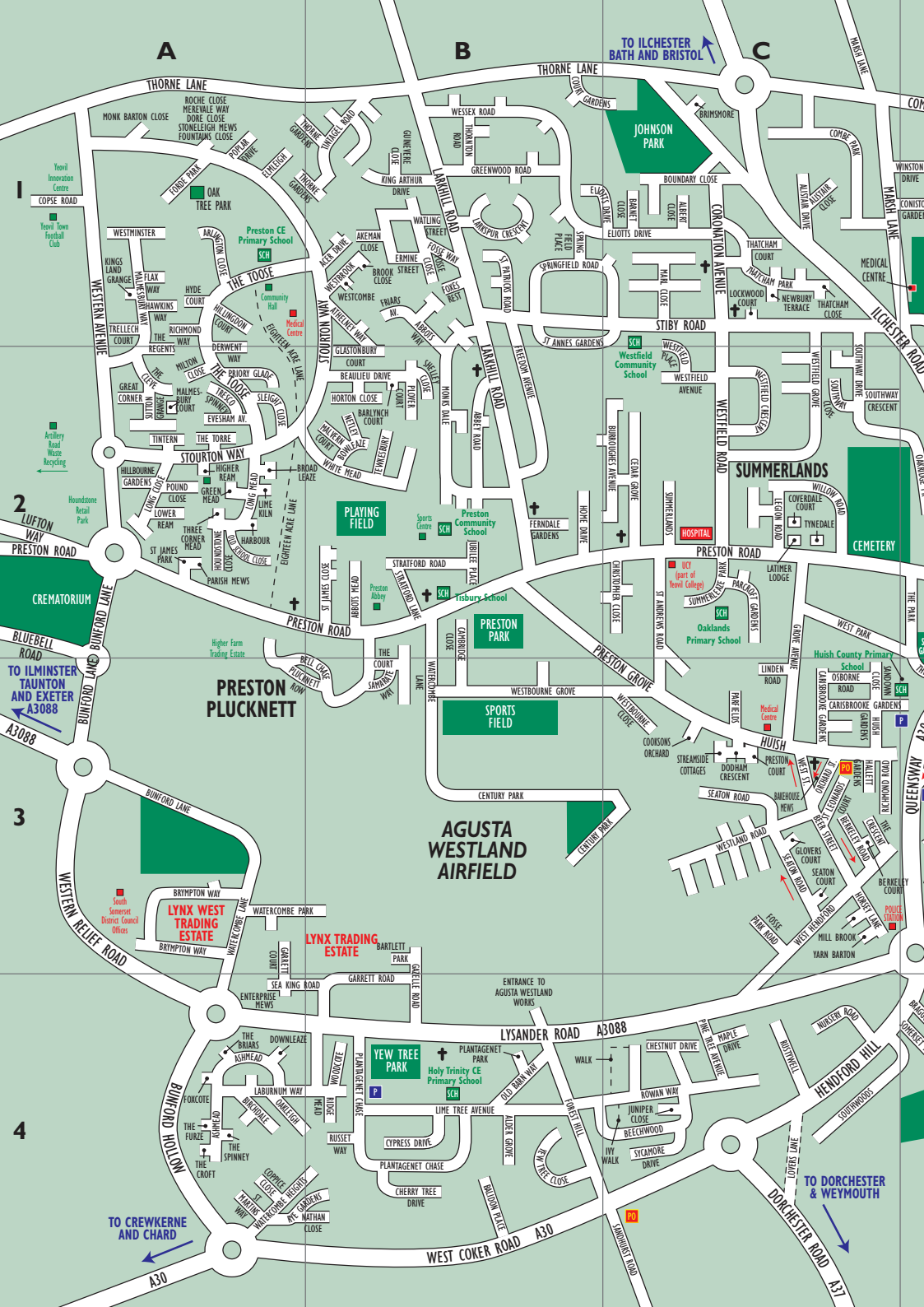




YEovil TOWN CENTRE

Artist's impression

Not to scale



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TO ILCHESTER
BATH AND BRISTOL

TO LILMISTER
TAUNTON AND EXETER
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AND CHARD

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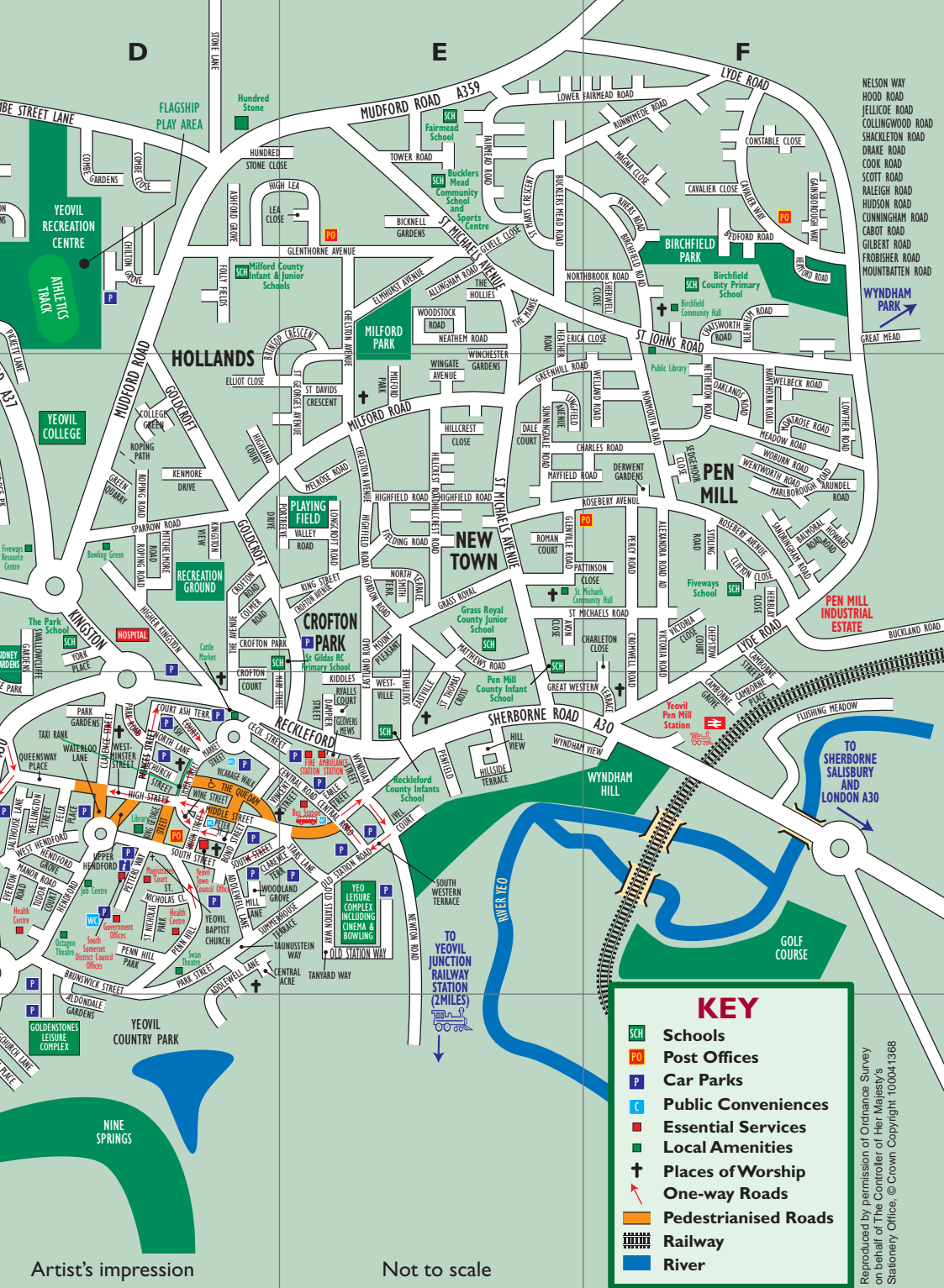
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ESTATE

LYSANDER ROAD A3088

WEST COKER ROAD A30

DORCHESTER ROAD A37



Artist's impression

Not to scale

KEY

- SCH Schools
- PO Post Offices
- P Car Parks
- C Public Conveniences
- Essential Services
- Local Amenities
- Places of Worship
- One-way Roads
- Pedestrianised Roads
- Railway
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Yeovil District Hospital

YEovil District Hospital is a high performing general hospital with 345 beds providing services including accident and emergency, intensive care, maternity, paediatrics, surgery, outpatients and therapies.



The Trust also has a private patients' facility, the Kingston Wing, which offers single en-suite rooms with a personal service in state-of-the-art clinical facilities.

The hospital is running a £2.4m fund-raising campaign to support a major investment in refurbishing the Women's Hospital. The Trust is updating the 44-year-old building to provide modern facilities to support the high quality care it provides to around 10,000 women of all ages each year. Thanks to local support a new coffee shop has been opened and a birthing pool is on its way.

Find out more about how you can support us – become more involved in developing the hospital's services by joining the free membership scheme or be a hospital volunteer – contact 01935 384233.

To find out more about the hospital go to www.yeovilhospital.nhs.uk



Attractions in and around Yeovil

Yeovil, the major town in South Somerset, has numerous attractions to offer.

Barwick Park Follies

Barwick Park has 4 follies – Jack the Treacle Eater, the Fish Tower, Messiter's Cone and the Needle. The first three can be seen from Two Tower Lane, off the A37 just south of Yeovil, and the needle is further down the A37 at the Halstock turning.

Jack the Treacle Eater is a tall arch of rough stones surmounted by a round tower with a pointed cone roof and its entrance at the top of the arch. At the very top is a statue of Mercury recalling the servant lad, Jack, who apparently ran to London with nothing but a jar of treacle to sustain him.

The Fish Tower, 50 feet high and adjacent to Two Tower Lane. Originally this folly had a large gold-coloured weather vane, in the shape of a fish, inside an iron cage.

Messiter's Cone, 75 feet high, stands on a squat cylinder cut into three arches and has a ball as a crown.

The eyeless Needle is a stark obelisk piercing the sky.

Goldenstones Pools and Leisure Centre BA20 1QZ

Set in the beautiful country park of Ninesprings, Goldenstones offers first class facilities at unrivalled prices. South Somerset's premier leisure facility includes a 25m swimming pool, separate teaching pool, gym, sauna, steam room, spectator area and workout studio.

Want to change your lifestyle or lose weight? Let us help! Following our highly successful Springs Journey programme, we provide one to one instruction and expert advice. We are so confident about our 5-step programme that we guarantee results or you get your money back! Springs Journey is absolutely free when you join one of our gym memberships.

Voted one of the best Swim Schools in the country, Goldenstones Swim School offers lessons 7 days a week for 50 weeks of the year. Following the Amateur Swimming Associations National Plan for Teaching Swimming, children can start from nursery level (6months old) and progress up to stage 10 where you have a choice of competitive swimming, rookie lifeguard or mini polo. For more details please give us a call on 01935 845888.

Ham Hill Country Park TA14 6RW

Offering superb views of the South Somerset Moors, Exmoor and the Mendip Hills, Ham Hill Country Park has something for everyone. The Green Flag Country Park extends over an area of 400 acres, with a range of habitats to discover including wild flower meadows and mature woodlands. There are many archaeological features to explore such as Iron Age ramparts, Medieval strip lynchets, and Victorian quarries.

To learn more about Ham Hill including organised events, historical and wildlife information and to download suggested walks or free activity packs visit www.southsomersetcountryside.com or telephone 01935 462462.

Community Heritage Access Centre BA22 8RP – Access to Your Heritage

The Community Heritage Access Centre at Lufton, Yeovil stores your heritage - objects and photographs that belong to you. We look after them on your behalf and make sure you have access to them through research visits, bookable tours and special outdoor events. Why not come along and take a look at your glass collection, your firearms, your Roman finds or your Riot Jugs? Or find out how the town centre looked in the 1960's, and you'll find out why your neighbourhood is the way it is today. History informs the way we are today. Please use this special facility as it is for us all.

The Community Heritage Access Centre is located at 7 Artillery Road, Lufton Depot, Yeovil. Opening hours are 9am-5pm, Mondays to Fridays throughout the year. *Visits by appointment please*. Charges apply for answering enquiries and photographic reproduction for research and commercial purposes.

Donations gratefully received. For further information, telephone 01935 462855.

Crown and Victoria Inn



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Octagon Theatre BA20 1UX

The Octagon is South Somerset's premier theatre, presenting a full programme throughout the year of drama, dance, concerts, musicals, opera and pantomime. There is a popular Café bar and licensed bars. All facilities are fully accessible to the disabled and there is an infra-red system for the hard of hearing. For information and bookings and/or to go on to free mailing list, telephone 01935 422884 or visit our website: www.octagon-theatre.co.uk

Swan Theatre BA20 1QT

This small and intimate theatre on Yeovil's Park Street is owned and run by the Swan Theatre Company for staging its own productions and those of other local amateur groups. Visit our website at www.swan-theatre.co.uk or telephone 01935 428646.

Yeovil Country Park BA20 1QZ

Yeovil Country Park incorporates Ninesprings, Wyndham Hill, Summerhouse Hill, Penn Hill and the Riverside Walk. Situated just off Yeovil's Town Centre and easily accessed from Goldenstones Leisure Centre car park.

The Ninesprings area of the park consists of 40 acres of wooded valleys, open parkland, grottos, springs, streams, waterfalls and lakes. Ideal for strolling through, Ninesprings also has a fully equipped children's play area. Telephone (01935) 462462 or visit www.southsomersetcountryside.com.

Yeovil Golf Club BA21 5BW

This 18-hole course has fantastic views and is situated off the A30 to the East of the Town. There is also a 9 hole pay and play course. Telephone (01935) 422965.

Yeovil Town Football Club BA22 8YF

Football fans are welcome to Huish Park stadium to watch our nationally famous Yeovil Town Football Club in action. Telephone 01935 423662 for fixture information.





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SWAN THEATRE

The Swan Theatre is one of the great little theatres of the South West. The Swan Theatre Company presents 6 plays each year for 6-night runs. Plays include comedy, costume & serious drama. The Swan is run entirely by volunteers who are committed to maintaining its high standards and to extending a warm welcome to new members and audiences.

Other local theatre groups also perform at the the venue.

SWAN THEATRE
138 Park Street, Yeovil BA20 1QT
Email: swantheatre@gmail.com
Website: www.swan-theatre.co.uk
Answer phone: 01935 428646

Yeovil Recreation Centre and Athletics Arena BA21 4AW

Yeovil Recreation Centre is a large outdoor sporting complex to the north of the Town off Mudford Road, offering a wide range of recreational opportunities for the whole family. The site hosts South Somerset's Flagship Playspace, 9 hole pitch and putt course, a 9 hole mini golf course, refreshments kiosk, 2 tennis courts, rugby and football pitches, a multi-use games court and an 8 lane synthetic athletics track (home to the largest track and field athletics club in Somerset).

Yeovil Recreation Centre also offers a large open space for informal recreation and is a great place for a picnic in the summer! For booking enquiries and information on opening times, please contact the Yeovil Sports Grounds booking line on 01935 462616.

Website: www.southsomerset.gov.uk/ycr Email leisurebookings@southsomerset.gov.uk

Yeo Leisure Park BA20 1NP

Multiplex cinema, ten-pin bowling, health and fitness suite. Located in Old Station Road, just off the Town Centre.

Jungle, Jungle BA22 8RP

Specially designed children's indoor activity centre and play area at Artillery Road, Lufton, Yeovil. Telephone 01935 433833 or visit www.junglejungle.co.uk.

Rug Ratz BA21 3AR

Children's indoor play centre in the Abbey Hill industrial estate. Telephone 01935 476989.

Milford Hall BA21 4QD

Recently refurbished hall and meeting room available for community use. Telephone 01935 382424 or e-mail ytic@yeovil.gov.uk for details.

Monmouth Hall BA21 5NP

Hall situated off Monmouth Road, available for community use. Telephone 01935 382424 or e-mail ytic@yeovil.gov.uk for details.

St Michael's Hall BA21 5AG

A recently refurbished popular venue for soft play and trampoline parties. Also extensively used for gymnastics and trampoline coaching. Please contact Goldenstones Leisure Centre on 01935 845888 for details.

Milford Adventure Playground and Skate Park BA21 4QD

Children's adventure play area incorporating skate park and multi-use games area (major improvements taking place during spring/summer 2012).

Yew Tree Adventure Playground and Skate Park BA20 2PY

The play area, which is located off Lysander Road/Forest Hill, was extensively refurbished in 2010 and now includes a timber fort, aerial zip wire, wigwams, extra high slide and buddy swing. There is also a skate park and basketball area.

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Community Heritage Access Centre

SSDC Lufton Depot, BA22 8RP

The storage facility for the Museum of South Somerset.

We are open by appointment,
Monday – Friday, 9.00 – 5.00pm.

Tel: 01935 462855 or e-mail:
heritage.services@southsomerset.gov.uk



Attractions in South Somerset

YOU'LL never be at a loss for something different to see or do in South Somerset. Browse the unique collection of over 250 rare and exotic cars at Haynes Motor Museum at Sparkford, or see Britain's naval aviation history brought dramatically to life at the Fleet Air Arm Museum at Yeovilton.

Experience what rural life and times through the ages were really like at South Somerset's many museums. Take a nostalgic trip down the trackbed of the old Somerset and Dorset Railway on the narrow gauge Gartell Light Railway at Templecombe. Enter the mystical world of Terry Pratchett at the Discworld Emporium in Wincanton.

Watch cider making the traditional way at Perry's Cider Mill at Dowlish Wake and Burrow Hill Cider at Kingsbury Episcopi. Take a quiet stroll around Town Tree Nature Gardens, near Martock. Historic Sherborne Abbey and Castle and Montacute House are all just a short drive from Yeovil, and Tintinhull House, Forde Abbey and Barrington Court are also easily accessible – just three of the many classic gardens for which South Somerset is justly famous.



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www.somerset.gov.uk/childrencentres

Oaklands Children's Centre Tel: 01935 848942
 Preston Grove, YEOVIL, BA20 2DU

Reckleford Children's Centre Tel: 01935 475938
 Eastland Road, YEOVIL, BA21 4ET

Birchfield Children's Centre Tel: 01935 475482
 Birchfield Road, YEOVIL, BA21 5RL

Jigsaw Children's Centre Tel: 01935 420362
 South View, Barwick, YEOVIL, BA22 9TH

There are 4 Children's Centres in Yeovil where families will find information, activities and groups where they can come along and enjoy meeting other families while the children play. Family Support Workers are available to give advice and guidance on family related matters if required.

SureStart

As well as Goldenstones Pools and Leisure Centre, you can make a splash at the Crewkerne Aqua Centre, Wincanton Sports Centre or the Cresta Pool in Chard. Sailing and fishing are available at Sutton Bingham Reservoir very near Yeovil and it is a pleasant picnic spot.

You can also explore the countryside on foot or bicycle, take a leisurely drive through the quiet lanes or enjoy the charms of the countless historic Towns and villages.

For more information about other attractions in South Somerset, and any further information, please contact the Yeovil Tourist Information Centre on 01935 462781.



Economic Development

The new Economic Development Strategy will be published in the summer of 2012. In line with SSDC's refreshed corporate plan there will be a strong emphasis on two focus area, namely Jobs and Housing. Yeovil is expected to grow as a town over the period 2012–26 and part of our strategy is to ensure that a sustainable balance exists between the number of jobs created and the housing growth allocation for Yeovil.

Two of our major ongoing projects are the creation of employment land on the Lufton Business Park and assisting with the creation of new high-value businesses at the Yeovil Innovation Centre. Additional fully-serviced land is now ready for development at the Lufton Business Park and a steady stream of successful new businesses are establishing themselves at the purpose-built Innovation Centre. Both projects are helping us to create inward investment for Yeovil and helping us to create employment opportunities within the high-tech sector.

Taylor's Coach Travel

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Yeovil has shown a high degree of resilience during the economic downturn and this remains the case, with the local economy proving more stable than either the regional or national economies. Yeovil remains an excellent choice for those seeking to start or expand their business or for those wishing to relocate their businesses to the area.

Further details on our projects can be obtained from the Economic Development Team. Please telephone 01935 462462.



South Somerset Disability Forum

Registered Charity 1091404, 20 South Street, Yeovil, Somerset, BA20 1QE
Opening hours Tues – Thursday 9.30am – 2.00pm, Telephone: 01935 706766
Email: ssdf1@hotmail.com Web: www.southsomersetdisabilityforum.co.uk
Facebook: South Somerset Disability Forum

The South Somerset Disability Forum actively promotes Access for All and Equal Opportunities and we challenge discrimination. We provide services such as Disability Access Reviews, Disability Awareness Workshops and Equality Training. We hold regular Public Meetings and Coffee Mornings, sell Blue Badge parking vouchers, promote wheelchair challenge events and produce our 'News and Views' Newsletter. We also act as a third party hate crime reporting service.

We work closely with local authorities checking planning applications and with the NHS, Police and Fire Departments. Our volunteers are actively involved in highlighting equality and inclusiveness to promote disability awareness in our communities e.g. dropped kerbs, parking issues, accessible public transport and improving access to public shops and services, leisure facilities and the countryside.

Members of the public and like-minded groups are always welcome to join us in our campaign for a better quality of life for people with disabilities. We would be pleased to meet you, so please get in touch.



Town Criers' Competition

Town Criers from far and wide come to Yeovil each year to keep up the ancient tradition of Crying and compete in the Annual Open Town Criers Competition. All are members of the Ancient and Honourable Guild and enjoy a fantastic day as guests of Yeovil Town Council providing a colourful and warm spectacle to entertain shoppers throughout the day as each competitor performs their home town Cry and a Cry of their own choice in the Open Air Entertainment Area in the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress.

The formal system of Town Criers dates back to the Middle Ages, when a reliable and trusted person with a clear, loud voice was required to keep citizens informed of matters of national and local importance. The historical significance of the Town Crier is greatly valued and is celebrated at this event, which brings colleagues together from all over the country.



Town Criers

Events in and around Yeovil

Farmers' Market (4th Saturday of the month)
 Aldon Horse Trials (March)
 Yeovil and Sherborne Literary Festival (April)
 Abbey Hill Steam Rally (May)
 Lufton Manor Summer Fete (May)
 Town Criers' Competition (April/May)
 Yeovil Country Park May Fayre (May)
 Sherborne Castle Country Fayre (June)
 Royal Bath and West Show (May/June)
 Yeovilton Air Day (June)
 Somerset Steam Spectacular (July)
 SomerZest (Aug)
 Ham Hill Country Park Experience Day (Sept)
 Yeovil Flower and Gardeners' Market (Sept)
 Buskfest (Sept)
 Somerset Arts Week (Sept/Oct 2011)
 Yeovil Lions Fireworks Spectacular (Nov)
 Yeovil Christmas Lights Switch On (Nov)

Middle Street, Yeovil and Montacute House Park
 Aldon, Yeovil
 Brympton House, Yeovil
 Yeovil Showground, Barwick Park
 Lufton, Yeovil
 The Triangle, Yeovil
 Ninesprings, Yeovil
 Sherborne, Dorset
 Showground, Shepton Mallet
 Fleet Air Arm Museum, nr. Ilchester
 Low Ham, Langport
 Octagon Theatre, Yeovil
 Ham Hill, Stoke Sub Hamdon
 Middle Street, Yeovil
 Town Centre, Yeovil
 All over South Somerset
 Yeovil Showground
 Town Centre, Yeovil

This is only a small sample of local periodic events. Full details of these may be obtained from the Tourist Information Centre, Petters House, Petters Way, Yeovil 01935 462781.

Details of local events are available on www.yeoviltown.com



Secondary, Higher and Further Education

BUCKLER'S MEAD ACADEMY

Buckler's Mead Academy recently celebrated its 50th Anniversary and is looking forward to the next 50 years from a position of great strength and with ambitious plans.

Ofsted

We have had a series of very positive OFSTED reports in 1999, 2004, 2008 and 2011. In 2011 the Inspectors commented on "many outstanding features Care, guidance and support of the students are outstanding Behaviour is good Excellent and well-targeted support for all students." Two additional single subject/theme OFSTED inspections have both resulted in straight "outstanding" judgements!

Technology College

As Somerset's first specialist Technology College we have over 400 computers and all rooms have interactive whiteboards. Across the school these facilities have had a 'good impact' (OFSTED). Pupils benefit from state of the art facilities which prepare them well for life after school in the 21st Century.



Investors in People

At Buckler's Mead we have a deeply founded belief that by appointing top quality staff and training and supporting them fully we are able to provide the very best education for our pupils. We are a six times' Investor in People – unique in Somerset – and are very proud of the quality of our staff and what they do for the pupils.

Sports Development Project

We recently began our £2million Sports Development Project in association with the English FA, who wish Buckler's Mead to become a "Centre of Excellence". In October 2009 a fantastic new floodlit all weather pitch was opened – reputedly one of the best 120 pitches in Europe! Next phases of the project will see multi surface play areas, new fitness and dance studio, new grass pitches, etc. Our link with the English FA will provide a Centre of Excellence, not just for football but for sport in the Yeovil area.

All in all, Buckler's Mead continues to grow and develop. Already highly successful, we have ambitious plans for future progress. You are cordially invited to become part of that success story.

Sara Gorrod, Headteacher

THE PARK SCHOOL

The Park School is a co-educational day and boarding school running through from Kindergarten to sixth form. We balance traditional values, based on our Christian foundation, with a creative, modern approach to the world around us. We provide a happy and secure environment where children show an eagerness to thrive and learn together. Pupils achieve success through excellent teaching and encouragement of individual talents. Pastoral care is a real strength and boarders regard themselves as one happy, extended family. Following the opening of our new boarding house this term, we are pleased to offer 'Flexi-boarding' to pupils who would like to stay for one or more nights.





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We offer a wide range of subjects throughout the school and from September Spanish will be available from Year 9, in addition to French and German. BTEc Sport is available at GCSE and A Level and new A Level subjects in September include Economics and Classical Civilisation.

We teach the traditional subjects favoured by universities and we are currently ranked in the top schools with fewer than fifty 6th Form students, with 100% pass rate for the sixth year running.

Do contact us to arrange a visit or taster day and come and see for yourself what we have to offer.

Jane Huntington, Headteacher

PRESTON SCHOOL – A Business & Enterprise Academy

Preston School is a highly successful 11-16 Specialist Business and Enterprise Academy, judged by Ofsted (March 2009) as a good school with outstanding features.

Our values are simple and clear. The most important person is the learner, who is central to all that happens. To achieve our motto 'Excellence for all', it is crucial for the learning process to be active, fun and adapted to suit all learners. The curriculum needs to be relevant to each individual and the outcomes from their time here must prepare them for life beyond the school.

As a Business & Enterprise Specialist Academy we have a special remit, to develop and share best practice in business and enterprise learning. Our curriculum and the associated learning experiences support the local economy in the following ways:-

- Supporting business productivity
- Encouraging new enterprise
- Delivering skills for the economy
- Competing in a global market
- Promoting innovation

To learn more about Preston School please visit our website (www.prestonschool.co.uk). Alternatively, please come and visit us – you will be made most welcome!

Tony Bloxham, Principal



WESTFIELD ACADEMY

Westfield Academy is a co-educational school of approximately 820 students aged from 11 to 16 years. Westfield opened its doors as an academy for the first time on 1 August 2011. The greater flexibility, local decision-making and enhanced funding that academy status brings are being used to further improve the quality of education being enjoyed by our students.

At Westfield our motto is 'Success For All' and we want to ensure that all our students are happy and supported to fulfil their potential. Our aim is that all students should have the opportunity to become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens. We are also determined to be at the heart of the community, so that we can provide a really outstanding all-round education for young people in Yeovil and the surrounding villages.

We have an excellent record of academic achievement and a highly thought of curriculum providing a wide range of opportunities for all students. Westfield is well known for its wide ranging and high quality extra-curricular programme. We strongly believe in providing a broad education for our students, which includes activity additional to the curriculum.



Our staff have high expectations of our young people and our students enjoy an orderly learning environment, excellent relationships and high quality learning experiences. We aim to ensure that every student makes the most of outstanding opportunities to maximise their life chances. We are very proud of Westfield and reserve a warm welcome for visitors. I would encourage you to visit us on any normal school day – we would be very pleased to show you around and answer any questions you may have.

For more information visit our website www.westfieldacademy.co.uk

Chris Hunt, Principal

YEovil COLLEGE

Yeovil College has been serving the community in and around Yeovil for more than 125 years.

The College was first formed in 1887 when Somerset County Council began formally organising Science and Art classes in Yeovil. In 1947, the first Principal was appointed to lead Yeovil Technical College and when secondary education in the Yeovil Borough was reorganised in 1974, Yeovil College became one of the early tertiary colleges to be formed in England.

Today, Yeovil College remains passionate about its role as a key provider of education and training in South Somerset and North and West Dorset. It remains committed to its role as a tertiary college for the whole community and currently supports around 9000 full and part-time students.

Education and Training for the Whole Community.



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Yeovil College offers a wide range of full and part-time courses from Foundation Learning up to degree level.

In 2011, students on full-time A Level courses achieved an outstanding 99% pass rate. 78% of students achieved A*-C grades, ranking Yeovil College alongside some of the UK's very best sixth form colleges. Meanwhile, students on equivalent vocational courses achieved a 95% pass rate, including a record 67 Triple Distinctions at Extended Diploma level.

The College also offers a range of part-time courses for students who want to extend their skills and knowledge so that they can return to work, progress to a higher level or simply learn something new.

Local employers also benefit from an extensive range of professional development and training programmes matched to companies' needs. Bespoke courses can also be identified and delivered in the workplace.

A College for the Future

Continued investment in buildings and resources has allowed us to create an attractive, modern campus for our students, including high quality teaching rooms, up-to-date equipment and a superb Learning Centre, complete with virtual library and over 1500 ebooks and thousands of ejournals.

Yeovil College has recently opened new Hospitality, Hair and Beauty training areas, collectively called Nexus, and is developing a new £1.1 million A Level Academy to meet the specific needs of its sixth form students. These specialist areas join other dedicated classrooms, workshops and salons specifically designed to give students the very best learning environment to help them succeed.

Beside the College's main campus at Mudford Road, our Construction Skills Centre at Lufton offers students purpose-built training rooms and workshops for plumbing, electrical and site carpentry.

Beyond Yeovil, we are proud to provide training at sites in Shaftesbury (North Dorset Skills Centre) and Bridport (Matrix).

Find Out More

For more information on Yeovil College, call 01935 423921 or visit www.yeovil.ac.uk

James Hampton, Principal

UNIVERSITY CENTRE YEOVIL (UCY)

Higher Education available locally

Situated on Preston Road in the heart of Yeovil, the University Centre Yeovil offers the opportunity to study degree-level and professional courses locally.

The University Centre Yeovil represents a unique partnership between Bournemouth University, the University of the West of England, the University of Gloucestershire, Swansea Metropolitan University and Yeovil College which allows students to study recognised Higher Education qualifications in Yeovil.

Our courses allow students to retain significant levels of employment whilst studying which helps them keep debt to a minimum. Courses are timetabled, where possible, to cater for the needs of students in employment or with childcare requirements.

Courses to Suit Every Career

The University Centre offers nearly 50 different Masters and Honours degrees, Foundation degrees, Higher Diplomas and professional qualifications, including Accounting, Legal Executives and Marketing courses. The list of courses has rapidly evolved over the past few years in line with demand. In particular, the Centre has gained an excellent reputation for subjects including Nursing, Computing, Business and Graphic Design.

For those who would like to take a Higher Education course but lack confidence, the College also offers a number of Access courses. This helps students gain the confidence and skills they need to take their education further.

Student Support

Like any university, the Centre provides a range of support services along with specific staff to help students fulfil their potential. They include:

- HE Learning Advisor able to provide advice and guidance on a range of issues, such as study skills and time management, as well as specific learning difficulties, such as dyslexia
- Student Liaison Officer who provides the link between students and the student unions at the partner universities

Additionally a range of support services, such as a faith advisory, is available through the Yeovil College campus.

Dedicated Campus

The University Centre has its own, dedicated campus on Preston Road. It is equipped with a 100 seat lecture theatre, 17 teaching rooms, an AppleMac design suite, three state-of-the-art PC suites and an open study area with ample computer access. There is also a café and a large social area.

Additional resources, including extensive library, fitness centre and sports hall, are available at the nearby Yeovil College campus.

Find Out More

For more information on the University Centre Yeovil and the opportunities it can offer you, call 01935 845454 or visit www.ucy.ac.uk.

James Hampton, Principal



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Fire Safety Advice

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- Imagine seeing flames destroying your possessions and blocking your escape

You can prevent most fires in the home by being aware of the dangers that will help you avoid the risks of a fire starting.

If you feel that you would like some more advice or if feel you have specific risks within your property call us on 0800 7311 822 to talk about the possibility of a home safety visit by Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service personnel.

**Remember, if a fire breaks out in your home
always get out, stay out, and call 999**

Local Information

All information in this guide is believed to be correct at time of going to press, however the publishers accept no responsibility for errors or omissions.

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Patient Transport Services	
Non-Emergency	01935 384477
Emergency	999

ANIMAL WELFARE RSPCA

(24 hrs.)	0300 1234999
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BANKS

Abbey National	
17 Vicarage Street	0845 7654321
Alliance & Leicester plc	
32 Vicarage Walk	01935 706103
Barclays	
King George Street	0845 7555555
Cheltenham & Gloucester plc	
King George St	01935 475588
Halifax	
King George Street	01935 640108
Lloyds TSB	
9 High Street	0845 3000000
HSBC	
1 Middle Street	0845 7404404
National Westminster	
2 Hendford	0845 6002803
Nationwide	
36-38 Middle Street	01935 640000



Yeovil Recreation Centre

Santander	
28 Middle Street	01935 422870

CHAMBER OF TRADE

5 Coronation Avenue	
Secretary, Gina Farnborough	01935 804 999

CHEMISTS

Abbey Pharmacy	
The Forum, Abbey Manor Park	01935 478243
Boots the Chemist	
37 Middle Street	01935 426673
John Preddy Co Ltd	
Preston Grove	01935 433971
Lloyds Chemist	
72 Hendford	01935 423393
Penn Hill Pharmacy	
9 South Street	01935 706604
Co-operative Pharmacy	
63 St John's Road	01935 421768
Superdrug Stores plc	
15 High Street	01935 422829

CHURCHES & RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

Baptist

Yeovil Baptist Church	
South Street	01935 434404

Church of England

St John's Church	
Town Centre	01935 427745
St Andrew's Church	
Preston Grove	01935 475396

St James Church	
Preston Road	01935 414097
St Peter Church	
Coronation Avenue	01935 429398
St Michael and All Angels Church	
St Michael's Avenue	01935 475752
The Gateway	
Yeovil Community Church	
Addlewell Lane	01935 433146
Holy Trinity Church	
Lysander Road	01935 415266
United Reformed Church	
Princes Street	01935 411302

Roman Catholic

Church of the Holy Ghost	
Higher Kingston	01935 423549

Methodist

Vicarage Street	01935 432173
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Other

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter	
Day Saints, Forest Hill	01935 426817
Elim Pentecostal Church	
Southville	01935 429214



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YEovil & DISTRICT BRANCH

Registered Charity No 203644

Each year the Branch fosters, rehabilitates and finds loving homes for over 100 unwanted cats and kittens in the area and helps to reunite over 100 lost cats with their owners via its Lost and Found Register.

To adopt, report a stray or lost cat or volunteer to help
Please telephone **01935 412755** and visit
The website www.yeovilcatsprotection.info

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28 Vincent Street, Yeovil, Somerset, BA20 1JQ
Email - yeovillingpanachetoning.co.uk



Country Park Gathering

Jehovah's Witness
Kingdom Hall, Eastland Road 01935 431902
South Somerset Muslim Cultural
Association and Yeovil Mosque,
Westminster Street 01935 412685
Salvation Army, Southville 01935 410895

CINEMA

Cineworld
Advance Booking 0871 200 2000

CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

See Welfare

CEMETERY 01935 423742

CREMATORIUM 01935 476718

ELECTRICITY

(Emergencies)
Western Power Distribution 0800 365900
Scottish & Southern Energy 08000 727282

FIRE SERVICE

Reckleford 01935 382000
Emergency 999

FLOODLINE 0845 9881188

GAS SERVICE

Emergencies 0800 111999

EDUCATION

Primary (Age range 4-11 years)

Birchfield 01935 427609
Grass Royal 01935 423863
Holy Trinity CE 01935 472902
Huish 01935 474984
Milford Infants 01935 475426
Milford Junior 01935 474477
Oaklands Primary School 01935 425447
Pen Mill 01935 474224
Preston C of E VC 01935 471131

Reckleford Infant & Nursery 01935 475938
St Gildas RC 01935 423630

Secondary Schools

Bucklers Mead Academy 01935 424454
Preston Academy 01935 471131
Westfield Academy 01935 423747

Special Schools/Special Needs Centre

Fairmead Learning Support 01935 431834
Fairmead 01935 421295
Fiveways 01935 476227

Further and Higher Education

Lufton Manor College 01935 403120
Yeovil College 01935 423921
University Centre 01935 845454

Independent

Park School 01935 423514

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Local Offices
Jobcentre Plus
Federated House, Hendford 01935 463100
Registrar of Births, Deaths and
Marriages, Maltravers House
Petters Way 01935 411230
Inland Revenue 0844 4740101
Valuation Office Agency
Quantock House, Paul Street
Taunton 01823 308200
VAT Enquiries 0845 0109000

GUEST HOUSES/HOTELS

Details available from the
Tourist Information Centre 01935 462781

HEALTH CENTRES, HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

NHS Direct 0845 4647
Hendford Lodge Medical Centre 01935 470200
Penn Hill Surgery
St Nicholas Close 01935 470800
Preston Grove Medical Centre 01935 474353
Yeovil District Hospital
Higher Kingston 01935 475122
Yeovil Health Centre (Boots)
37 Middle Street 01935 709269
HOUSING (Social Rented) 01935 462462

LAW COURTS

County Court, Hendford 01935 382150
Magistrates Court, Petter's Way 01935 426281

LIBRARIES

King George Street	0845 3459177
Sunningdale Branch Library	
Monmouth Road	0845 3459177
Music & Drama Library	
King George Street	01935 472020
Reference Library	
King George Street	0845 3459177

MARKETS

General:	
Lower Middle Street	
(Tuesdays and Fridays)	01935 462462
Farmers:	
Upper Middle Street	
(4th Saturday of the month)	
www.somersetfarmersmarkets.co.uk/markets/yeovil	

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

David Laws MP	
Liberal Democrat Office	
5 Church Street	01935 423284

MUSEUM OF SOUTH SOMERSET

Community Heritage Access Centre	
By Appointment	01935 462855

POLICE

Avon & Somerset Constabulary	
Somerset East District	
Horse Lane	101
Emergency	999
Neighbourhood Watch	101

POST OFFICE

Delivery/Sorting Office	
103 Huish	01935 476186
Enquiries	0845 722 3344

SHOPMOBILITY

01935 420889

SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices	
Brympton Way	01935 462462

SOUTH SOMERSET DISABILITY FORUM

20 South Street	01935 706766
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SWIMMING POOL

Goldenstones Pools and Leisure Centre,	
Brunswick Street	01935 845888



The Octagon Theatre

THEATRES

Octagon Theatre	
(Box Office)	01935 422884
Swan Theatre, Park Street	01935 428646
(Box Office – Tourist Info Centre)	01935 462781

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

01935 462781

VOLUNTEERS

South Somerset Association for Voluntary & Community Action SSVCA	
Yeovil Business Centre	
Houndstone	01935 475914

WATER

Emergencies	0845 600 4600
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WELFARE SERVICES & ADVICE CENTRES

Citizens' Advice Bureau	
40-42 Hendford	01935 421167
Age UK	0800 169 87 87
Adult Learning and Leisure	
72 South Street	01935 410555
Samaritans	
24 Hour Service	0845 790 9090

YEovil LIBRARY

King George Street	0845 3459177
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YEovil TOWN COUNCIL

Town House, 19 Union Street, BA20 1PQ	
Town Clerk – Alan Tawse	01935 382424

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Yeovil has a wealth of Clubs, Societies, Organisations, Society and Community Associations and Support Groups and much has been omitted from this guide due to lack of space. Full details can be obtained from the SSVCA and Yeovil Library.

A-Z of Sport and Leisure

ATHLETICS

Yeovil Olympiads Athletics Club
01935 433388

BADMINTON

Aerosystems Badminton Club 07890902005
SSDC Badminton Club 01458 241266
Wessex Wanderers Badminton Club
01935 415315
Yeovil Graduates Badminton Club 01963 422130
Yeovil – Shuttlebusters
Badminton Club 07890 902005
Yeovil – Westland Badminton Club 01935 705260

BASKETBALL

Yeovil Jets Basketball Club 07850766909

BOWLS AND BOWLING

East Coker Short Mat Bowls Club 01935 864174
Odcombe Short Mat Bowls Club 01935 862861
Yeovil – Westlands Bowls Club 01935 703620
Yeovil Bowls and Squash Club 01935 474142

BOXING

Yeovil Amateur Boxing Club 01935 479794

CANOEING

Sutton Bingham Canoe Club 01935 421153

CRICKET

Hardington & West Coker
Cricket Club 01935 445310
Westlands Sports Cricket Club 01935 705033

CYCLING

Cyclists Touring Club 01963 32840
Yeovil Cycling Club 01935 410790

DANCE

Yeovil Sequence Dance Club 01935 415520

DISABLED SPORTS

Yeovil Apollo Swimming Club 01935 479992

FOOTBALL

East Coker Cockerels FC 01935 864410
Lufton College of FE 01935 403120
Westlands Sports FC 01935 420246
Yeovil - Lyde United FC 01935 471700
Yeovil - Normalair RSL FC 01935 420254
Yeovil - Pen Mill FC 01935 425984

GYMNASTICS

Jumping Beans Pre School
Gym Club 01935 429012
Orchard Gymnastics 01935 425682
Spirit Gymnastics Club 01935 824071
St Michaels Gym Club 01935 425956

HOCKEY

Yeovil and Sherborne
Hockey Club 01749 813301

MARTIAL ARTS

Panthers Martial Arts Academy 01935 426753
Somerset Karate 01935 428286
Wessex Higashi Karate Kai 01935 423749
Yeovil Judokai 01935 420638
Yeovil Tae Kwon Do 01935 423106

NETBALL

Stanchester Netball Club 01935 825430

ORIENTEERING

Quantock Orienteers 01823 321900

RUGBY

Ivel Barbarians Rugby Club 01935 432052

RUNNING

Yeovil Town Road Running Club 07929 054576

SAILING

Sutton Bingham Sailing Club 01935 477196

SQUASH

Westland Squash Club 07976517088

SWIMMING

Yeovil & District Swimming Club 07919540737

TABLE TENNIS

Westlands Table Tennis Club 01935 479669

TENNIS

Yeovil Tennis Club 01935 389868

TRAMPOLINING

Swift Trampoline Group 01935 471595

TOWN TWINNING

Secretary 01935 424647

VOLLEYBALL

Yeovil Volleyball Club 01935 479603

Notes

THE PARK SCHOOL



01935 423514

www.parkschool.com