Welcome to the Cambridge Society of Somerset
We are a part of the University of Cambridge Global Network, which enables alumni to meet locally at networking events often combined with stimulating talks and/or visits.

Our group covers the whole of the historic county of Somerset. We meet five or six times a year at various locations in this widespread area. We have a close relationship with neighbouring groups in Devon and Dorset, and our members are frequently invited to attend their activities.

Membership is open to Cambridge alumni, their partners and others with an interest in the University. Guests are also welcome at most of our meetings. There is no membership subscription, but when pricing each event a small amount is added to cover the Society’s overheads.

The Society is run by a small Committee, elected at the AGM each year. Their principal task is to arrange the programme of activities, and suggestions on possible speakers and venues are always welcome.

Membership form below. For further information please contact the Secretary: kate.norman@cantab.net
These are some of the events we have enjoyed recently:

- Visit to the Church and Church House, Crowcombe with presentation by Peter Meneer giving “a vignette of Somerset life and characters over five centuries”.
- Talk at Bridgwater and Taunton College by Emeritus Professor John Bryant: “GM Crops: What’s the Latest”. Lunch in their Quantock Restaurant prepared and served by students from their catering school.
- Talk by Gordon Seabright, Chief Executive of the Eden Project, on their achievements and future objectives, preceded by lunch at Monk’s Yard, Horton Cross.
- Summer Social Evening in a member’s garden.
- Lunch meeting at the Shrubbery, Ilminster followed by talk by Helen Rappaport illustrating her recent book “Caught in the Revolution: Petrograd 1917.”
- All-day visit to Highgrove Royal Gardens.
- Lunch meeting at the Martlet Inn, Langford Budville, followed by talk by Barbara Bond on “Great Escapes - MI9’s escape and evasion mapping programme in the Second World War”
- Private tour of Orchard Wyndham House.
- Presentation at the Shrubbery, Ilminster by Dr Graeme Fairchild, Reader in Psychology at Bath University, on his research into the causes of adolescent anti-social behaviour: “Underneath the Hoodie”.
- Talk and tour of Bath Abbey; Lunch in the Pump Room.
PROGRAMME FOR 2021-22

4th November 2021

We meet for lunch at The Montague Inn, Shepton Montague, when Julian Orbach, writer of many county guides, will speak on ‘The Architecture of Somerset’

28th January 2022

Dr Barbara Bond, a trustee of the MapAction charity, will tell us of the charity’s work in providing local maps to assist volunteer organisations attending sites of worldwide disasters. The venue will be Bridgwater and Taunton College, with their excellent tradition of providing a meal prepared by catering students as part of their training

March/April 2022

After lunch at Monks Yard, Horton, Ilminster, ex-BBC producer Alan Tongue’s illustrated talk ‘Calling the Shots’ will introduce us to the challenges of presenting music on television

May/June 2022

A private guided visit to Mapperton House and Gardens, followed by lunch in The Coach House. Mapperton is widely regarded as the finest Jacobean Manor House in the country

29th June 2022

An evening Summer Social, with drinks and refreshments, in the garden (wp) of a members’ home in Wiveliscombe

Further events in preparation
- Amanda Foreman, writer and broadcaster, on ‘Women in History’
- a wine-tasting with Ian Gibson, Master-of-Wine
- meeting with Stephen Moss, Chairman of the Somerset Wildlife Trust
- presentation on the work of the Soil Association, and organic farming
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please return this form or the requested information to the Secretary at: kate.norman@cantab.net or by post to The North Wing, Crowcombe Court, Crowcombe, Taunton TA4 4AD

NAME ............................................................................................................

COLLEGE ................................................................. MATRIC YEAR .............

PARTNER’S NAME ....................................................................................

COLLEGE ................................................................. MATRIC YEAR .............

EMAIL .............................................................................................................

POSTAL ADDRESS ...........................................................................................

............................................................................................................................

TELEPHONE .......................................................................................................

Additional optional information:

DEGREE SUBJECT ......................................................................................

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS AND AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST ..................

............................................................................................................................

............................................................................................................................

The information you supply will be used only for the legitimate purposes of the Society. A copy of our Data Protection Policy statement is available on request.