



SOMERS DAY in LYME REGIS

Every year in July the life and achievements of Admiral Sir George Somers K.T. are celebrated. He was an Elizabethan seafarer, and politician born in Lyme Regis in 1554.

1581 – He married in Lyme Regis to Joanne Heywood. They had no children.

1584 – He took first command of a privateering vessel the 'Lion' of Chichester and also promoted privateering voyages.

1585 – He is recorded as being the agent for Sir George Carey, Captain General of the Isle of Wight and Vice Admiral of Hampshire.

1587 – He purchased Berne Manor, Whitchurch Canonorum near Lyme Regis, which remained his home for the rest of his life.

1596 – He became the burgess of Lyme Regis and commanded the town force. He also purchased Upwey Manor, near Weymouth.

1600 – He became a Naval Officer commanding royal warships on the Spanish Main and home waters.

1601 – He helped repel a Spanish invasion at Kinsale in Ireland.

1603 – He was knighted by James I for his naval service.

1604 – He was appointed Mayor and MP for Lyme Regis

1609 – As Admiral for the Virginia Company, he led the 'third supply' fleet aboard the flagship 'Sea Venture' to relieve the Jamestown settlement. A hurricane shipwrecked the 'Sea Venture' on the uninhabited islands of Bermuda. All 150 people aboard survived. He built two new ships: 'Deliverance' and 'Patience' and continued his voyage to save the ailing Jamestown at the end of the 'starving time'.

1610 – He returned to Bermuda for fresh supplies but died there aged 65. His heart was buried in St George's Bermuda.

1611 – His body was returned to Lyme Regis for interment at the Church of St. Candida & Holy Cross in Whitchurch Canonorum.

1984 – The annual Admiral Sir George Somers Commemoration Parade and Ceremony was inaugurated.

1996 – Lyme Regis & St George's Bermuda officially twinned.

2016 – The 20th anniversary of the twinning between Lyme Regis and St George's. was celebrated with the unveiling of a bronze statue, by Ronald Mall.

2017 – Lyme Regis and St George's tripled with Jamestown to form the 'Historic Atlantic Triangle'.

2019 – The Gig Clubs of Lyme Regis and Bermuda twinned.

2026 – The 30th anniversary of the Twinning between Lyme Regis and St George's Bermuda was celebrated with the unveiling of a commemorative stone in the gardens of the Alexandra Hotel.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME: For further information please contact Phil Street, 24 King's Way, Lyme Regis Dorset, DT7 3DU. Tel 07824625435 email: philwstreet@outlook.com